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Watchtower may sell several Heights sites



A press at the Watchtower printing facility at 117 Adams St.

By Patrick Gallahue
The Brooklyn Papers

The announcement by the Watchtower Bible and Tract Society of New York, better known as the Jehovah's Witnesses, that it was looking to sell its high-rise book and video distribution plant at 360 Furman St. raised a flurry of a local excitement over the possible development opportunities.

And there could be more to come. A tour granted to The Brooklyn Papers this week by the Watchtower Society revealed that various consolidations of their Brooklyn Heights buildings could occur in the near future, leading to a surplus of Watch-

EXCLUSIVE

tower property in the neighborhood that the religious order might want to sell off.

As reported by The Papers in February, the Watchtower Society is planning to build a dormitory on the second largest undeveloped lot in the city (after Ground Zero), on Jay Street. With the local population of Jehovah's Witnesses remaining

steadily at about 3,000, the new building could allow several of their Heights holdings to hit the market.

"[If built] we'll look at consolidating some of our residential operations,"

said Watchtower spokesman Richard Devine. "We'll see how the process goes."

He added, however, that Watchtower had no current plans to dispose of its residential properties.

Watchtower owns 31 buildings in Brooklyn Heights and DUMBO totaling approximately 3 million square feet.

The Watchtower Society was primarily driven to develop the three-acre parcel — bounded by Jay, Front, Bridge and York streets — because of a dearth of parking after the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey declined to extend the Watchtower's lease on Pier 5, which

See **MAY SELL** on page 6



The lobby of the Watchtower building at 360 Furman St.



POT OF GOLD: The hazy weather last Friday, July 11, gave boats in New York Harbor a curious view, a rainbow over Red Hook. The phenomenon, captured here by Brooklyn Papers photographer Tom Callan, only lasted a few minutes.

New turf for old field

City christens 2 new Parade Grounds fields

By Patrick Gallahue
The Brooklyn Papers

Parks Department and elected officials couldn't wait Tuesday to try out a newly renovated Parade Grounds baseball field.

Right after cutting the ribbon on the new baseball field in Flatbush, Brooklyn Parks Commissioner Julius Spiegel and City Council parks committee chairman Joseph Addabbo, rolled up their sleeves, picked up bats and took a few cuts at some fat pitches tossed by Brooklyn Cyclones pitchers Matthew Lindstrom and Steve Correa.

"[For] these executives ... one last chance at making the minor leagues," quipped Prospect Park Administrator Tupper Thomas.

The officials cut the ribbon on fields 7 and 8 in the Parade Grounds, one for soccer the other a baseball diamond, on Coney Island Avenue between Caton and Parkside avenues.

The completion represents an ongoing renovation on the long-neglected fields.

"The Parade Grounds, once again, are the pride of Flatbush," said Borough President

See **PARADE** on page 6



Cyclones pitchers Steve Correa and Matt Lindstrom (kneeling) were on hand to celebrate the opening of the refurbished Parade Grounds fields Tuesday. Joining them (left to right): Prospect Park Alliance Chairman Henry Christensen, Borough President Marty Markowitz, CB14 Chairman Alvin Burke, Councilman Joseph Addabbo, city Parks Commissioner Adrian Benepe, Independence Community Bank CEO Alan Fishman, Bonnie baseball team manager Jerry Katsky and Prospect Park Administrator Tupper Thomas.



Brooklyn Cyclones pitcher Matt Lindstrom pitches one in as mascot Sandy the Seagull looks on.



The commissioner of Brooklyn's parks, Julius Spiegel, takes a cut.

2 more cruise lines eyeing piers in Hook

By Patrick Gallahue
The Brooklyn Papers

Carnival Cruise Lines is not the only passenger ship company interested in the Columbia Street waterfront, according to the current operators of the South Brooklyn Marine Terminal.

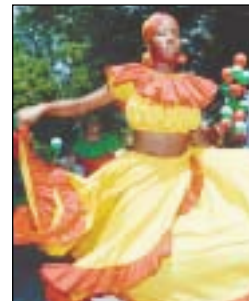
Sai Cancani, owner of American Stevedoring and American Warehousing, told The Brooklyn Papers this week that he's been approached by two other companies, MSC Cruises and an alliance of smaller cruise line companies, that are interested in setting up docking facilities on Pier 8, at the foot of Congress Street.

"They would be interested in Pier 8," Cancani told The Papers this week. "It would look beautiful having two passenger piers."

Carnival Cruise Lines has expressed interest in docking at Pier 7 and has put forth a proposal to the city.

Catucci currently leases Piers 6-11 from the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey. But his lease runs out in April and the Port Authority and city Economic Development Corporation recently obtained a consultant to investigate the "best possible uses" for Piers 6-12. Abstract possibilities that have been mentioned so far include box stores, housing and Carnival's passenger ship

See **CRUISE** on page 6



Market day

The Fort Greene Greenmarket, in Fort Greene Park near the Washington Park and DaKaB Avenue entrance, celebrated its opening Saturday with a performance by the Bedford-Stuyvesant Dance Juniors. The market will operate every Saturday.

Going postal? Not on Sunday

GPO may end Sunday hours

By Patrick Gallahue
The Brooklyn Papers

The General Post Office in Downtown Brooklyn, closed on Sundays for the summer, may remain that way even after Labor Day, due to declining business, a post office spokesman said.

According to Pat Bellantoni, a spokesman for the Postal Service in Brooklyn, the agency will look at keeping the branch at 271 Cadman Plaza

East closed on Sundays unless the number of users picks up.

"If we do not see a volume change we may choose to keep it closed on Sunday," he said.

For the third year in a row, the post office has closed its main Brooklyn branch on Sundays, from July 1 to Labor Day, to save money on what are historically the slowest days.

The doors remain open from 9 am to 3 pm so the public can access stamp machines and scales.

"What we noticed is the businesses in Downtown, Cadman Plaza, on Sundays, just wasn't there," Bellantoni said. "That Downtown area practically shuts down on Sunday."

While the businesses do not patronize the Cadman Plaza Branch on Sundays, some residents and officials were less than thrilled to hear that their packages would not be accepted on Sundays. "I was dismayed to hear that the post office in Downtown Brooklyn was considering a decision to stay closed permanently on Sundays," said Brooklyn Heights Rep. Nydia Velázquez. "As New York City's most populated borough, Brooklynites deserve nothing less than a post office that is open seven days a week."

See **POSTAL** on page 6



Circus on the boardwalk

Winn's Thrills of the Universe circus came to Coney Island last weekend as part of Circus Day festivities to wow crowds with their high-wire motorcycle trapeze act (above). Closer to earth, Miss Saturn (right) twirled hula hoops.



INSIDE THE PAPER

Classifieds last 3 pages
Cyclones page 9
Ed Weinrob page 5
Home Improvement GO 7 and back page
GO Brooklyn 2 years after page 6
Health, Mind & Body page 6
Parent page 4
Police Blotter page 2
Real Estate page 11

Pull-out and save: What to Recycle
2 PAGE AD IN THE CENTERFOLD

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Mugged in P'Park by man with a badge

By Patrick Gallahue
The Brooklyn Papers

If you're going to be approached by anyone in Prospect Park at 3 a.m., you would hope it was a cop — or so you'd think.

A Clinton Hill man told police he was confronted, frisked and then robbed by a man who flashed what appeared to be a police badge.

The victim was walking near the Vale of Cashmere section of Prospect Park, off Flatbush Avenue behind the Brooklyn Museum of Art, on July 11, when he was confronted by three men. One held up a badge hanging around his neck and then ordered the man to turn around and place his hands on his head.

The robber then frisked the victim and, according to the police report, took \$185 out of his pocket. The bandit then ordered the victim to leave the park.

The Internal Affairs Bureau was notified and police are investigating.

Nab bike bandit

Police nabbed a burglar on July 14 as he attempted to

make off with a 14-year-old's bicycle from a building on First Street between Fourth and Fifth avenues.

After the thief broke in through a cellar door at around 9 p.m., a 62-year-old neighbor looked out her window to see him walk out with the bicycle. She called police, who searched the area and caught the suspect with the bike in his possession.

According to police, he was in possession of a hypodermic syringe at the time of his arrest.

Big mouth

A criminal blabbermouth talked a man out of \$8,200 over the course of a month.

The victim, 33, of Berkeley Place between Sixth and Seventh avenues, lost his cell phone on June 11, which was then picked up by the chatterbox, who raked up a series of unauthorized charges to his account totaling \$8,200.

The victim got his bill on July 10 and reported the phone stolen.

POLICE BLOTTER

Dentist robbed

A burglar was busted trying to break into a dentist's office on Eighth Avenue between Garfield Place and First Street.

According to police, the burglar bent the bars to a security gate and then forced his way through the interior door. The office was closed on July 12 at around 8:30 p.m. and a neighbor, who discovered the bars were bent at 8 a.m. on July 14, called police.

An inventory of stolen items was not included in the police report.

F train snatch

A 35-year-old Queens woman was robbed on a southbound F train as it passed the Seventh Avenue Station at Ninth Street on July 12.

According to police, shortly before 2 p.m., the mugger grabbed the victim by the throat and yanked a gold chain off her neck. The suspect then escaped to the street.

The mugger was described as a 25-year-old black male

standing about 6-foot-3, and weighing 185 pounds.

Gunsight mug

A 26-year-old Park Slope man was attacked on Park Place, between Fifth and Sixth avenues, on July 11.

Two men grabbed the victim at around 11 p.m., police said. One of the perpetrators pointed a gun at him and said, "You are not going anywhere. Empty your pockets."

The victim handed over his cell phone and credit cards and the muggers fled.

Shopping cart picked

A Park Slope woman's wallet was lifted as she shopped at a supermarket on Seventh Avenue between Carroll Street and Garfield Place.

According to police, on July 9, at 11 a.m., the victim, 41, placed her purse in a shopping cart. She lined up to pay, and then she felt a shove from behind before she realized her wallet was gone. The victim lost \$60, credit cards and identification.

When she called the company to cancel her cards, the perpetrator had changed an unlisted amount worth of MetroCards.



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Nab 3 in multiplex rob

By Patrick Gallahue
The Brooklyn Papers

Crime really doesn't pay. A group of boys allegedly robbed four children in a movie theater but didn't even recover the cost of a ticket.

According to police, three boys demanded money from a group of teenagers at the U/A multiplex on Court Street at 4th Ave. on July 12 at 3 p.m.

The delinquents managed to squeeze a total of \$8 out of the victims, police said. Cops were notified and they conducted a canvass of the area and caught three suspects, ages 12, 13 and 14.

Stroller bandit
A stroller-bomber reached into a baby carriage and took a Heights' mother's wallet on July 10.

The victim, 30, told police she had her wallet stolen in a com-

POLICE BLOTTER

partment in her baby's stroller. She took her eyes off the carriage for a moment to pay attention to the child at around 3:30 p.m.

Forty-five minutes later she stepped into a store on the corner of Court and Schermerhorn streets, and when she approached the register she realized the compartment was unzipped and her wallet was gone.

The victim told \$120, gift cards to Toys 'R Us, Bloom-

ingdale's and Banana Republic, as well as credit cards and identification.

Tireless Cooper
A BMW Mini Cooper was rolled on Deen Street off of four of its tires.

According to police, the increasingly popular car was parked between Smith and Hoyt streets, at 4 p.m. on July 11.

When the victim, 28, returned to the tiny car shortly before

noon the next day, its tires were

Bagel rolled

A 69-year-old woman placed her bag on the floor as she waited to order at a Cobble Hill bagel shop on Court Street between Bergen and Congress streets.

The victim told police she put her bag down at around 1 p.m. on July 13, and moments later it was gone. She lost two credit cards and her identification.

A train mug

A 48-year-old man was reading the newspaper on a Manhattan-bound A train, on July 11, when he was attacked by three

men as the subway stopped at the High Street station at Cadman Plaza East.

The victim said the trio set upon him at 5:30 a.m. and demanded his bag. After handing over his property, two of the men punched him in the face and ribs. The group made off with \$45, a MetroCard, blue jeans and a T-shirt.

Eatery robbery

A Brooklyn Heights eatery was broken into on July 10.

According to police, the restaurant, on Court Street at the corner of State Street, closed at around 2 a.m. When an employee arrived to open the business at 8 a.m. the next day, the front windows had been shattered.

A complete list of stolen items was not in the police report.

Fired CB2 manager Alabi sues

By Patrick Gallahue
The Brooklyn Papers

A former Community Board 2 district manager, who was fired last month, is suing the board and the city to get her job back.

Olaime Alabi claims that the board did not follow proper procedure when it dismissed her in June. According to Alabi's attorney, Roosevelt Seymour, the board violated its own bylaws when it dismissed her because only 23 of its 49 members voted for her removal while the suit claims, does not constitute "a majority" as is required.

CB2's bylaws state: "Removal of a District Manager shall require a majority vote of the Board by signed paper ballot, with each member's vote

recorded and listed in the meeting minutes."

Twenty-three purportedly voted in favor of the resolution and we're saying it would require at least 26 votes, because there are 50 members," Seymour said.

Seymour said the suit seeks reinstatement and compensation for lost wages.

Reached this week, Alabi declined to comment on the suit. Neither CB2 Chairman Shirley McRae nor the city's attorneys returned calls for comment.

Alabi filed an Article 78 proceeding, a lawsuit to challenge the action of a governmental body, in Brooklyn Supreme Court two weeks ago. Papers were served to the CB2 office last week.

The action raises a number of questions due to ambiguity in the bylaws as to what constitutes

a majority.

In the section on "Quorum and Voting" the bylaws read: "A majority of the appointed members of the board shall constitute a quorum of the Board. Any action, determination or decision of the Board shall be authorized by a majority vote of the members present and authorized to vote."

There are 49 appointed members of CB2.

When asked about "majority" versus "quorum," Seymour simply reiterated his contention that Alabi's removal was illegal.

Following the recommendation of the CB2 Finance and Personnel committee, the board voted 23-16 with one abstention to remove Alabi. Members voiced disparate opinions over whether or not the committee's charges—including an unwillingness to fol-

low McRae's directions—warranted dismissal. The fact that there was little love lost between Alabi and McRae caused some to speculate that the firing was personal.

"It's about the process and fair play," said CB2 member Ken Diamondstone, who opposed Alabi's firing and also unsuccessfully challenged McRae for the chairmanship last year. "They need to obtain a majority, and 23 is not a majority of 50."

Board member Bill Harris had a different view. "It's a frivolous, ill-considered action, which will not produce any favorable results for the plaintiff," said Harris, a former immigration and corporate lawyer, who voted to fire Alabi. "The board has spoken and as far as I'm concerned the matter was settled."

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Brooklyn Artisans Gallery

Custom place settings by ceramic artist Matt Yanchuk and much more are on display at Brooklyn Artisans Gallery on Court Street.

Ten years ago, a group of artists opened a store that was unique in the Cobble Hill neighborhood: Brooklyn Artisans Gallery, at 221A Court St., a cooperative of artists and artisans creating handmade, one-of-a-kind items.

"Since that time, the gallery has become known as the neighborhood gift shop for that special item," says ceramic artist Matt Yanchuk. "We've been here long enough to have a customer base. The people who come here know what they want—something they won't be able to find anywhere else."

Yanchuk, one of the five current members of the co-op, makes decorative and functional ceramic bowls, cups and plates in both black-and-white patterns and colors.

Items made by other members of the co-op include stained glass panels, picture frames and boxes by Ronette Peters; ceramic stoneware plates, vases and bowls by Judy Belter; ceramic tiles that Joan Hardin makes and sets into box lids, cutting boards and other items; and wooden clocks, cutting

LEGAL NOTICES

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Court, Kings County on the 18th day of July, 2003, bearing the Index Number N03360/2003, a copy of which may be examined in the Office of the Clerk, located at CIVIL COURT, KINGS COUNTY, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York, 11201, in room 007, grants me rights to Assume the name of Hope Page Petrucelli. My present name is Hope Page MacIntyre. My present address is 115-16 Rockaway Beach Blvd., Rockaway Park, NY 11686. My place of birth is Richmond County, Staten Island, NY. My date of birth is 08/28/1976.

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Court, Kings County on the 18th day of July, 2003, bearing the Index Number N03360/2003, a copy of which may be examined in the Office of the Clerk, located at CIVIL COURT, KINGS COUNTY, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York, 11201, in room 007, grants me rights to Assume the name of Alexander Lane Lawrence. My present name is 446 Rutland Road, #20, Brooklyn, NY 11203. My date of birth is 02/26/74.

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Court, Kings County on the 18th day of July, 2003, bearing the Index Number N03360/2003, a copy of which may be examined in the Office of the Clerk, located at CIVIL COURT, KINGS COUNTY, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York, 11201, in room 007, grants me rights to Assume the name of Christina Grogan Smith. My present name is 41 Oakland Place, Apt. #28, Brooklyn, NY 11201. My date of birth is 05/25/1969.

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Court, Kings County on the 18th day of July, 2003, bearing the Index Number N03360/2003, a copy of which may be examined in the Office of the Clerk, located at CIVIL COURT, KINGS COUNTY, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York, 11201, in room 007, grants me rights to Assume the name of Gabriela Gonzalez. My present name is 755 Park Avenue S., #1, Brooklyn, NY 11203. My date of birth is 02/08/60.

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Court, Kings County on the 18th day of July, 2003, bearing the Index Number N03360/2003, a copy of which may be examined in the Office of the Clerk, located at CIVIL COURT, KINGS COUNTY, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York, 11201, in room 007, grants me rights to Assume the name of Christopher Campos. My present name is 348 20th St., Ft. L., Brooklyn, NY 11215. My date of birth is 01/08/63.

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Court, Kings County on the 18th day of July, 2003, bearing the Index Number N03360/2003, a copy of which may be examined in the Office of the Clerk, located at CIVIL COURT, KINGS COUNTY, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York, 11201, in room 007, grants me rights to Assume the name of Nadine Amador. My present address is 141 Avenue A, #4L, Brooklyn, NY 11201. My place of birth is Brooklyn, NY. My date of birth is 03/19/62.

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Court, Kings County on the 18th day of July, 2003, bearing the Index Number N03360/2003, a copy of which may be examined in the Office of the Clerk, located at CIVIL COURT, KINGS COUNTY, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York, 11201, in room 007, grants me rights to Assume the name of Eliah Gluskin. My present address is 330 Lenox Rd., #2E, Brooklyn, NY 11224. My place of birth is Brooklyn, NY. My date of birth is 03/19/62.

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Court, Kings County on the 18th day of July, 2003, bearing the Index Number N03360/2003, a copy of which may be examined in the Office of the Clerk, located at CIVIL COURT, KINGS COUNTY, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York, 11201, in room 007, grants me rights to Assume the name of Kym Lorenne Lawrence. My present name is 420 Neptune Ave., #20, Brooklyn, NY 11224. My place of birth is Brooklyn, NY. My date of birth is 02/28/60.

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Court, Kings County on the 18th day of July, 2003, bearing the Index Number N03360/2003, a copy of which may be examined in the Office of the Clerk, located at CIVIL COURT, KINGS COUNTY, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York, 11201, in room 007, grants me rights to Assume the name of Kym Lorenne Lawrence. My present name is 420 Neptune Ave., #20, Brooklyn, NY 11224. My place of birth is Brooklyn, NY. My date of birth is 02/28/60.

NOTICE OF SALE, SUPREME COURT, KINGS COUNTY, CHASE MANHATTAN MORTGAGE TRUST, OF THE HOME EQUITY LOAN TRUST 1997, IN THE POOLING AND SERVICING AGREEMENT DATED AS OF NOVEMBER 1, 1997, Plaintiff vs. THOMAS MONTHE, ET AL., Defendants.

Plaintiff's Motion for Summary Judgment, filed on November 22, 2002, and the Court's Order on Plaintiff's Motion, filed on December 22, 2002, are hereby incorporated by reference into this Notice of Sale. Pursuant to the terms and conditions contained in said judgment and terms of sale, approximately amount of judgment \$96,943.37 plus interest and costs, INDEX NO. 27002/01, Donald H. Greene, Esq., REFERENCE.

NOTICE OF SALE, SUPREME COURT, KINGS COUNTY, CHASE MANHATTAN MORTGAGE TRUST, OF THE HOME EQUITY LOAN TRUST 1997, IN THE POOLING AND SERVICING AGREEMENT DATED AS OF NOVEMBER 1, 1997, Plaintiff vs. THOMAS MONTHE, ET AL., Defendants.

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'FIREHOUSE 12' GO FREE

Buscemi, Millman, DeBlasio among those arrested in protest

By Deborah Kolben
The Brooklyn Papers

While actor Steve Buscemi once performed standup comedy, he wasn't laughing on his way into court this week.

The "Reservoir Dogs" star and 11 others who were arrested in May while protesting the closing of Engine Company 204 in Cobble Hill appeared at the Red Hook Community Justice Center for their appointed court date Monday morning.

Facing charges of criminal trespass and disorderly conduct, Judge Patricia Henry informed the "Firehouse 12" that they would not have to serve time as long they stayed out of trouble.

The charges will be dropped and their records wiped clean as long they are not arrested during the next six months, the judge told them. That came as a relief to the group, who could have — but never likely would have — faced up to a year in jail.

The 12 were arrested on May 25 when the group, including Councilman Bill DeBlasio and Assemblywoman Joan Millman, stormed the two-story brick firehouse on Degraw Street to protest the mayor's forced closing.

While the rush inside the firehouse was led by the widow of a 9-11 firefighter victim, the fire marshal refused to arrest her. The other 12 were led away in plastic handcuffs to the 78th Precinct in Park Slope.



The 12 defendants (and three lawyers) assemble in front of the Red Hook Community Justice Center on Monday before their court hearing for criminal trespass and disorderly conduct during a May 25 protest of the closing of Engine 204.

Engine 204 is one of six firehouses in Brooklyn, Manhattan and Queens that Mayor Michael Bloomberg shut down to help close the budget gap.

"These six firehouses were actually penalized because they had a quicker response time," said Buscemi, a former fire-

fighter who was stationed at Engine 55 in Manhattan from 1980 to 1984. The Park Slope visited his former firehouse and volunteered at Ground Zero following the attacks on the World Trade Center.

"It was worth getting arrested for," Buscemi said of the protest.

Gathered outside the court house following the verdict, members of the group pledged to continue the fight.

"Lives and property are at risk. We have to open all the firehouses," said Millman.

"Why is the mayor so adamant against this? Did a fireman snub him? Did he not pass the test?" asked Lori Burch, who formed the group Mothers Against Closings to protest the shuttering of Engine 204. She was also arrested in May.

Attorney Ken Thompson, a former assistant U.S. attorney who prosecuted the Abner Louima case, defended the Cobble Hill 12 pro bono.

"We believe in what you do," said Thompson, who pledged to see the case through to the end and get the defendants' fingerprints back after six months has passed.

"We are going to continue the struggle," said DeBlasio, noting that it would only take \$6 million to keep the firehouse open. "There are lots of ways to protest that don't involve arrest."

DeBlasio has vowed to appeal the lower court's ruling that all but one Queens firehouse had no basis for suing to stop the city from closing them down.

But staying out of trouble may be more difficult for some.

"I'll have to stay inside and never go out," joked Buscemi.

When asked if this was his first arrest, he flashed a grin and declined to comment.

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P'Park-goers on edge after attack, rape

Cops sketch Terrace rapist

By Patrick Gallahue
The Brooklyn Papers

A 45-year-old woman was attacked in Prospect Park on July 10, only a week after another woman was brutally raped in Windsor Terrace.

The latest victim was stretching at Lookout Hill, inside the park off Prospect Park South and Terrace Place, at around 10:45 am when the suspect, described as an Arab-looking male, between 25 and 30 years old, threw her to the ground and demanded money, police said.

But she fought back and as the woman struggled with her assailant a jogger running by began to approach them and the thief took off. The victim was taken to New York Methodist Hospital in Park Slope and treated for minor injuries. The attacker had been holding a shirt during the attack, which he dropped during his flight. It has been recovered as evidence.

The morning attack stunned park advocates and spread more fear through an already jittery community.

On July 3, a 25-year-old woman was raped near the park, on 16th Street at 10th Avenue, as she walked home from the subway. The rapist attacked the woman from behind, battered her and then dragged her into a nearby alley where he raped her. The assailant stole her purse before fleeing the scene.

Police this week released a sketch of the suspect (above). While rapes are down in the 78th Precinct, which includes Prospect Park, from eight this time last year to seven so far this year, some who have advocated for increased security in the park reiterated their concerns.

Following a sexual assault in Prospect Park last January and another in Lincoln Terrace Park in Crown Heights last year, Park Slope Councilman Bill DeBlasio signed on to a resolution to analyze the efficiency of the Parks Enforcement Patrol (PEP) and to evaluate the safety of the city's parks.

"I'm very concerned," DeBlasio told The Brooklyn Papers this week. "I think the 78th Precinct is doing a very good job in the park and the [PEP] is doing a good job as well, but I think this is still an area of some vulnerability that needs to be addressed."

DeBlasio added that there ought to be greater coordination between the PEP, a division of the city Department of Parks and Recreation, and the police department including the use of the city's CompStat analysis, a statistical breakdown of the week's crime, complaint and summons activity.

Tupper Thomas, the Prospect Park administrator, said that figures are shared between the local precinct and PEP. She noted that crime is down in the city's parks and that the incidents appeared to be isolated.

"It doesn't mean that crime doesn't happen," Thomas said. "But the likelihood of succeeding is a whole lot less than it was many years ago because it's so populated and we have very good police protection."

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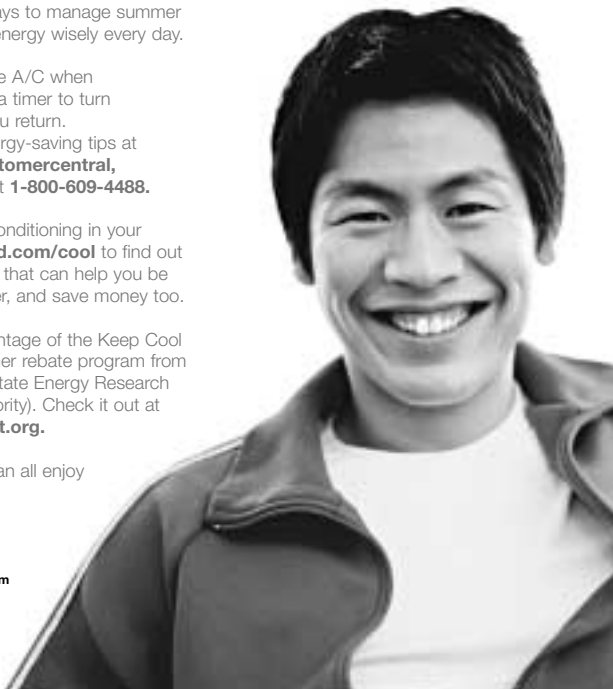
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Sing out

The Renaissance Street Singers gave an impromptu performance in front of Key Food on Montague Street Sunday.

Beep takes civics to ball games

By Deborah Kolben
The Brooklyn Papers

He may not be buying peanuts and Crackerjacks, but Borough President Marty Markowitz is taking them out to the ballgame.

In an effort to unite local community groups and show his appreciation for the work they perform, Markowitz is inviting civic leaders to attend Brooklyn Cyclones baseball games.

Kicking off the effort Fri-

day night, community board members and activists from Bay Ridge and Bensonhurst trekked out to Coney Island to watch the single-A Mets affiliate notch a 7-0 win over the New Jersey Cardinals.

In addition to downing foot-long Nathan's hot dogs, the assembled crowd mingled, talked local politics and enjoyed the Friday night fireworks spectacular over the boardwalk.

"It was like our very own

fireworks display, you could almost reach out and touch them against the sky," said Peter Killen, a retired police detective from the 68th Precinct and former president of the Bay Ridge Community Council.

While Markowitz was responsible for bringing the group together, the self-proclaimed diarch of Brooklyn's professional baseball teams — the old Dodgers and new Cyclones — the fireworks were not his doing.

While Markowitz often laments the day the Dodgers left Ebbets Field in Flatbush, the arrival of the Cyclones in Coney Island two years ago perked him right back up.

"What better way to honor these organizations, the backbone of Brooklyn, for their tireless efforts in improving the quality of life throughout Brooklyn than a day or evening in the most spectacular setting in the world for a ball game — Coney Island," Markowitz said.

The Cyclones have donated 50 tickets to every game for Borough Hall to distribute to community groups, youth groups and church organiza-

tions. Tickets to six of those home games will go toward taking community leaders out to the park.

Park Slope, Midwood and Ditmas Park community leaders attended a game on July 16. Rounding out the season, Sunset Park commu-

nity leaders will attend on Aug. 1, Bedford-Stuyvesant and Fort Greene leaders on Aug. 8, Williamsburg and Greenpoint on Aug. 15, and East New York on Aug. 17, which, by the way, is Brooklyn Papers Day at the stadium.

Monty Bomber a court no-show

By Patrick Gallahue
The Brooklyn Papers

The second explosives-related case involving convicted Montague Street bomber Stephen Alster was adjourned on Wednesday after he failed to show up in court — even though he's already in custody.

"The indication from [the Department of] Correction is that he's here," said Alster's defense attorney, Richard

Guierrez. "But nobody knows where."

Judge Neil Firetop was incredulous. "He's in a wheelchair," the judge exclaimed.

According to the city Department of Correction, Alster is on Rikers Island, brought from an update prison for his hearing. The attorney for Alster's co-defendant, Andras Scott, was also unable to make it to court and so the status conference was adjourned until Aug. 6.

In the past two months, Alster has been shuttled between Green Haven Correctional Facility — where he's serving time upstate for the 2001 bombing of a woman's home on Montague Street — and Rikers Island, to face new charges for hatching the plot from prison to plant an explosive device in her car two years later.

Alster, 66, and Scott, 29, a jailhouse acquaintance, are charged with planting five PVC pipes filled with gasoline and Sheetrock screws, as well as a .38-caliber revolver and a .380-caliber automatic, in the backseat of Police Officer Yenny Thomas' 1992 Isuzu SUV, parked on Montague Street near the promenade, on March 31.

Investigators believe Alster hatched the plot to cast his earlier conviction into doubt.

He is serving 20 years to life for bombing Thomas' home in 2001. During his trial, prosecutors said that Alster bore an obsessive crush on the much younger Thomas that led him to set off a pipe bomb in her apartment building during a party to celebrate her graduation from the police academy.

While being held on Rikers Island in 2001, Alster met Scott, who was serving time on weapons charges, and the two kept in touch in frequent phone calls and visits to Green Haven by Scott after he was released.

Wednesday marked the second bizarre court appearance — or non-appearance — for Alster in this latest case.

When he was arraigned on May 28, he did not answer several of Firetop's questions before he blurted out, "I can't hear, I'm deaf!"

His attorney entered a not guilty plea on his behalf.

The oddity of the appearances are not reserved for Alster, either.

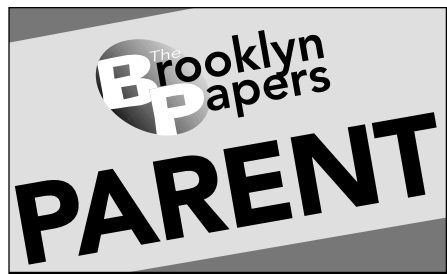
During Scott's bail hearing, on May 28, his attorney, William Alford, said he knew who "actually committed the crime."

"I have his name, telephone number and address," Alford told Firetop as he requested bail. "He's readily available to surrender."

Before Alford would disclose the suspect's identity, however, he said he was negotiating with the district attorney's office for a dismissal or leniency for his client.

"If someone else committed the crime then have him arrested," Firetop responded before denying bail.

Guierrez said he was not aware of anyone else implicated in the case.



Crabby day-camper

Q: "My 12-year-old son comes home from water-sports camp acting much crabrier than he ever did after a school day. I'm thinking of cancelling other weeks he's signed up for, but he loves going." —a mom

A: Your camper could be getting too much sun, irritated by dirty air, not drinking enough fluids and going to bed too late — but otherwise he's having a blast. Look back at your grumpy kid's bedtime and check into the day's schedule to be sure there are breaks for drinks, rest and shade.

Does your child's day camp offer alternate activities during the hottest part of the day? And when the level of ozone, the main pollutant in smog, is high in your area, are campers running around at full throttle and running out of breath?

Camps should restrict activities during the peak heat of the day and high traffic times, when the ozone level is higher," says Deborah Bryan, president and CEO of the American Lung Association of North Carolina. Just like on rainy days, she says, camps need backup plans when the ozone level gets high.

"Even though red-zone days may be some of the brightest, sunniest days, put them in your bad-weather plan," she says. "No child should be out exercising on red-zone days."

Kids breathe faster and more deeply when active, so they take in even more polluted air as they exercise. They may feel short of breath but are reluctant to admit they need a break.

For both kids and adults, the body has no natural defense against the irritant ozone. It penetrates deeply into lungs, going straight into small airways, Bryan says. "It's like a sunburn of your lungs," says Bryan, who heard the analogy in a report presented by Phil Bromberg, M.D., an expert on environmental lung disease. The cumulative effect of the "sunburns" is a growing medical concern.

One option: A half-day camp in the morning limits working parents, but assures your child will spend the hottest part of the day out of the sun and smog.

Elements aside, until a child leaps into the fray, it's tough to know whether the day camp you chose last spring is worth the expense and is a good match this summer.

One 7-year-old had a miserable time at his first baseball camp, partly because he didn't come with a buddy. His mother knew the age range was 7 to 12, but had no way to know older kids would dominate the camp and tease her son relentlessly.

Lesson for next summer: When there's an age range such as 7 to 12, check how the teams will be divided. Other tips: • Teach your child to be responsible for playing it safe in the sun. Hat, sunglasses, sunscreen and T-shirt should all be marked off on the day-camp checklist. But these items are useless if they never make it out of your child's backpack. Don't count on young counselors to keep after your camper to reapply sunscreen and wear a hat and sunglasses.

• Ask if water breaks are offered throughout the day. It's easy to get dehydrated in the sun, leaving your child feeling zapped and lightheaded from not drinking enough fluids.

• Talk to other parents about day camps before making next summer's plans. One couple felt ripped off after their 12-year-old son spent much of the time on the Internet.

Parent-to-Parent
By Betsy Flagler



"Is your child fit enough to withstand the rigors of an all-day sports camp? Ask for a specific schedule and credentials of the camp directors. One lean 10-year-old boy who has been to soccer camp for three summers said full days of drills, instructional videos, soccer games and

swimming were ok now for his more experienced age group but were too tough on hot days and no fun for some "buddy" 8-year-olds who had built up to practicing several times a week.

• Don't forget to save day-camp records as possible child-care expenses for tax deduction purposes.

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Ed Weintrob / Fulton Street mayhem and the fall of A&S

On Christmas Eve, for several years in the late '70s and early '80s, I'd wander onto Fulton Street as dusk approached and watch the genesis of a mini-riot. Those were the days, not far removed from John Lindsay's "fun city" regime, when allowing lawbreakers some latitude was the Big Apple norm. Everyone knew it was coming; police brass, having distributed a memo cautioning merchants, would conveniently remove their officers from view. One year, as the youthful mob assembled in Albee Square, I stood across the

street with two cops, watching the almost military precision of the riot's organizers. When the signal was given for the mob to march, the officers glanced at each other, then quietly walked toward Livingston Street — out of sight. At least once, the riot began inside the old Mays department store, with bandits looting merchandise and robbing consumers. Mays responded by suddenly shutting down, throwing onto Fulton Street thousands of bag-toting shoppers in a recipe for chaos. That year, the pandemonium was



up beneath sticky-finger Christmas trees, others were immediately sold on the street, within a block or two of A&S. Eventually, police did arrive, sirens blaring, and ended the dis-

turbance. I remained vexed by the scene's incongruity, shamed by what I had witnessed.

For a long while, Fulton Street was Brooklyn's crown jewel. As late as 1978, when The Brooklyn Papers began publication, it was home to A&S, Mays, Korvettes and Martin's, the grande dame of Brooklyn department stores.

Although not as elegant as the "white glove" Martin's, A&S was unique, Brooklyn to its core. Even after local owners had ceded control to Ohio-based Federated De-

partment Stores, A&S remained a leader in the borough's civic affairs, but the times were changing.

My advertising director, Kevin Dunn, accompanied me to a meeting with the store's new advertising/marketing director, A&S did advertise with us now and then, running civic-booster stuff, which was fine as far as it went, but we were pushing for "real" ads, the kind that would turn our readers into shoppers.

While we were well prepared with demographics, numbers and all sorts of tempting deals, it would be for naught. Our conversation

was better than cordial, but the bottom line was this: the ad boss at A&S *hated* being in Brooklyn (and as the years passed we realized that most everyone at the top of A&S would rather be somewhere else). She described how the store had to send a limousine to bring her from Manhattan to Fulton Street for her job interview and how, now that she worked there, she'd park her car in a lot a couple of blocks away (the A&S garage, adjacent to the store, was just too dangerous, she said, holding her "heart in her hand," she'd

race to retrieve her vehicle at day's end. We'd never convince her that Brownstone Brooklyn was an A&S market.

A&S wanted out, and began expanding, unsuccessfully, beyond New York. Rival Macy's, however, fared even worse and went bankrupt, after which A&S' parent, Federated, acquired Manhattan-based Macy's and moved what was left of the A&S corporate staff from Fulton Street to 34th Street, and converted the Fulton store to a Macy's.

Continued next week.

Residents vent anger to DOT over truck routes

By Patrick Gallahue
The Brooklyn Papers

If it had been held on a local road, the truck route meeting held at Borough Hall Tuesday night would have constituted a traffic jam.

Residents lined up to voice their recommendations and complaints to the city Department of Transportation (DOT) about trucks rumbling through their neighborhoods.

The meeting was part of the DOT's 12-month Truck Route Management and Community Impact Reduction study to formulate new policies to keep trucks off residential streets.

"There's no other quality-of-life issue as disruptive to our communities," Borough President Mary Matarazzo said at the meeting.

The people in attendance represented a cross section of practically every neighborhood in the borough, there to share their truck traffic horror stories with the DOT. Compared to some of the town hall meetings that led to the assembly, however, tempers remained controlled and many in attendance expressed gratitude that something was finally being done to keep trucks from crashing through their neighborhoods and causing damage to homes, cars and residential streets.

Transportation Department officials presented their agency's findings from a sample survey to identify trouble spots. The results, culled from 619 responses, found among the top 10 most frequently listed streets of concern were Fourth Avenue, Atlantic Avenue, Flatbush Avenue, Columbia Street, Hicks Street, Fifth Avenue and Third Avenue.

In Park Slope, Eighth Avenue, Ninth Street and Third and Fourth streets were also identified as trouble spots.

"Where we need to see the change most is in truck sizes," said Judy Stanton, executive director of the Brooklyn Heights Association. "All of our streets are narrow local streets. We

are sandwiched between Atlantic Avenue and the Brooklyn-Queens Expressway and trucks have to leave Atlantic Avenue and the highway in order to make deliveries on local streets."

In Brooklyn Heights, practically all of the north-south streets — Hicks, Henry and Clinton streets, for example — were identified in the survey as being tormented by big rigs.

"When they're making local deliveries they're legal," Stanton said. "The problem is they're way, way too big for anybody's street, certainly our streets."

"The message that I have heard and that others have heard has been very clear," said Bob Cassara, a member of the Bay Ridge Community Council, Dyker Heights Civic Association and Community Board 10. "Keep the trucks in the designated truck route."

Among the most frequently listed streets of concern in Bay Ridge, Dyker Heights and Bensonhurst were Third through Sixth avenues, Fort Hamilton Parkway, 11th Avenue, 86th Street, Bay Ridge Parkway and 16th Avenue. But even designated local truck routes, such as 86th Street and 16th Avenue were the sources of complaints.

Signage was a frequent request from those in attendance, but the DOT doesn't traditionally use "negative signage," claiming that if they put signs on every non-designated truck route it would clutter the majority of Brooklyn's streets.

"I agree, you can't put them on all the streets, that would be crazy," Cassara said. "But you do need to look at it from the large streets where trucks operate."

David Woloch, the DOT's deputy commissioner for external affairs, said, "The issue is one that's on the table."

Suggestions ran the gamut from requiring transponders to track trucks' movements to supporting a bill introduced by Greenpoint-Williamsburg Assemblyman Joseph Lentol and Bay Ridge state Sen. Mary Golden that

would increase fines for errant truckers. The most popular recommendation was stricter enforcement.

"I recall at one point our precinct was very proud ... they said, 'We had given out 45 tickets for the month,'" Cassara said. "Forty-five tickets! On my block in one hour I could get 100 trucks."

Stanton suggested reworking the Hagstrom maps so that the Brooklyn Heights promenade over the BQE does not look like a highway, a factor, she said, that ends up directing trucks to Columbia Heights where they get stuck.

"And they have to turn right and they can't and they knock down trees," Stanton said.

David Stein, project manager for the DOT, agreed that Hagstrom brand maps were not the best resource for commercial vehicles and said it pointed out the need to get the proper truck routes into truckers' hands.

A constant complaint, however, was the effect the trucks were having on people's quality of life.

Windsor Terrace residents offered stories of sleepless nights, property damage and gridlocked traffic on narrow tree-lined streets.

"Sunday you get a bit of a reprieve," one woman from Windsor Terrace said, who also added that she hadn't slept well in two years. "But it goes on all night."

Residents of Dean Street said that since the start of the Atlantic Avenue water main project, which was completed last year, their block became the de facto truck route and remained so even after the project was finished.

"I appreciate the study and I'll be waiting with bated breath," said Dean Street resident Elba Vasquez. "But I want to know about what we can do now to alleviate the problem."

Said Cassara, "I've seen it where we raise a nuckus about it, the police come out, do a little enforcement they go away and the trucks come back."

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Matt Alfonso binds pages for bibles printed at 117 Adams St.

MAY SELL...

Continued from page 1
the organization used as a 700-car parking lot. That pier is part of the plan for a Brooklyn Bridge Park along the Heights waterfront.

Given the pace of condominium and apartment development in DUMBO, Devine said they opted to make the property residential.

"We're not in terrible need of residential," Devine added. "Our residents are pretty stable. But given the direction of DUMBO and the interests of the community it doesn't serve anyone's interests to put up a parking garage and walk away."

The lot will have to pass through the city's Uniform Land Use Review Procedure (ULURP) to rezone the land from light manufacturing to residential. If built, the 138,000-square-foot lot could host as many as 1,000 units.

Still working with the Department of City Planning on an environmental study of the plan, the Watchtower Society has yet to file a ULURP application for the Jay Street property. A date is not yet set on when the application will be submitted, Devine said.

The interest that the Watchtower Society has already generated over 360 Furman St. is sizeable, but Jehovah's Witness leaders say they will not seriously negotiate until appraisals and analyses are complete. Speculation among business leaders in Brooklyn has widely suggested that the 1-million-square-foot building could be converted to a residential property.

The 12-story building is currently used for storage, shipping and laundry services for the 3,000 members, which will be consolidated at 117 Adams St. in space made vacant by the relocation of printing operations to Wallkill, N.Y.

The Watchtower Society needs more space to hold its newer, faster 140-foot presses, a spokesman said. The new machines will be able to print 90,000 signatures, or sections of a book, in an hour compared to the current rate of 32,000. A bible, for instance, contains 26 signatures.

Inside 360 Furman St., columns are spaced about every 20 to 25 feet. Ten-foot by 15-foot windows flood the floors with light. The first, second and third floors are connected by a mile and a half of conveyor belts, which transfer books that are to be shipped around the world. Last year alone, 37.5 million pounds of literature and videos were distributed from the Furman Street building to international and domestic locations.

The building is shaped like a giant letter "H" with the east-west core holding 14 freight elevators, some big enough to carry 30-foot trucks.

The building, like other Watchtower Society structures, is in good shape and has an in-house maintenance crew that regularly paints and cleans it.

Newly printed bibles at 117 Adams St.

CRUISE...

Continued from page 1

Catucci, who is struggling to keep his company on the piers, has spoken favorably about bringing cruise ships to the property as a continued maritime use.

"I use [piers] 7 and 8 now for cocoa and we told them if the passenger terminals want to come into Pier 8 I will move the cocoa out because we want that business. Because it means more jobs," Catucci said.

Kevin Catucci, his son, who serves as American Stevedoring's executive vice president, said discussions include using American Stevedoring as the stevedores, those who load and unload ships, for the cruise ships.

"They see us as the natural and common sense operator," Catucci said. "Who else would they go to in Brooklyn?"

The city EDC is conducting its own study on the cruise ship industry to explore the feasibility of expanding the city's capacity for passenger ships to include Brooklyn.

Janet Patterson, a spokeswoman for the agency, declined to comment on whether or not the city has been approached by companies other than Carnival.

New Jersey-based MSC Cruises did not return calls for comment. MSC, which also operates a 32-year-old shipping company, entered the cruise ship industry in 1988.

The four-ship fleet cruises to the Mediterranean, South America and the Caribbean from ports in Fort Lauderdale. Its largest ship accommodates more than 1,500 passengers.

Carnival Corporation vessels range in capacity from 208 passengers to 3,000.

The EDC is in ongoing negotiations with Carnival for Pier 7 at the foot of Pacific Street. Carnival's plans include ships docking on either side of Pier 7 with a replacement of the existing storage shed for parking and, possibly, trade shows in the off-season.

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Coming down on Court Street

Demolition crews are in force on Court Street these days. At left, a former Chinese restaurant at Court and State streets is making room for condos. At right, the garage at Court and Atlantic Avenue will be replaced by a residential-commercial hybrid.



Fees for landmarks may rise

By Patrick Gallaue
The Brooklyn Papers

A proposal by the city Landmarks Preservation Commission to impose fees for alterations to buildings that are either landmarked or in an historic district has residents of Brooklyn Heights and Park Slope seeing red.

"We have been asked to look at ways to raise \$1 million," said Mark Silberman, general counsel to the Landmarks commission. "We believe [the fee proposal] will."

The city's Office of Management and Budget requested that Landmarks find ways to raise \$1 million a year in future fiscal years. One such method suggests subjecting homeowners to a fee for mandated permits on renovations or alterations to their historic homes.

Under the proposal, homeowners seeking a "certificate of no effect," which determines that the requested remodeling will have no effect on protected architectural features, or a "certificate of appropriateness," which certifies that alterations to a landmarked building are in context, would have to pay a surcharge.

Alterations that cost \$5,000 and under would cost a flat fee of \$50 with each additional \$1,000 in alterations adding \$3 to the levy. That means an owner undertaking a \$6,000 project would have to pay a \$53 surcharge; the fee on a \$50,000 project would be \$185.

The Landmarks commission, which issues about 8,000 permits a year, estimates that the fees could raise more than \$1 million annually for the agency.

There are more than 23,000

landmarked buildings in New York City.

The commission held a public hearing on the proposal on July 8 and fielded comments from a number of angry preservationists, who claimed it was an unfair tax on the maintenance of historic homes. They also argued that it could discourage people from obtaining approvals or, even worse, from seeking to have their buildings or neighborhoods landmarked.

Carl Sierman, a member of the Park Slope Civic Council, called the fee "an additional tax on people who for circumstance, or because they desire to do so, have taken on the additional burden of living in an historic landmark. It's difficult enough to keep up a landmark."

Judy Stanton, executive director of the Brooklyn Heights Association, suggested tougher enforcement to raise revenues. She added that it is already more expensive to seek permits in a landmark district and she worried that it could discourage compliance with the law.

Silberman responded that it was unlikely that someone would flout the law to save \$185 on a \$50,000 project, risking much greater costs if caught by Landmarks or the Department of Buildings.

For groups like the Park Slope Civic Council, which has spent the past decade pushing for an expansion of the neighborhood's landmarked district west to Sixth Avenue, there's a fear that additional fees could discourage grassroots support for the extension.

Silberman conceded that limiting the growth of historic districts was a concern, but he added that the costs were cal-

culated to be nominal enough so as not to discourage neighborhoods from becoming landmark districts.

He said there would not be a need for an additional bureaucracy to be created in the agency to collect the fees because either a "certificate of no effect" or a "certificate of appropriateness" requires submission of approvals from the Buildings Department. That agency would collect the fees, Silberman said.

The Landmarks commission budget is currently \$3 million a year, the majority of which is dedicated to preservation, said Silberman.

The imposition of fees does not require any legislative approval, Silberman said. He said there were no timelines for a decision on the fees and that Landmarks commissioners were still reviewing public comments.

Among the groups to voice their opposition in addition to the Brooklyn Heights Association and the Park Slope Civic Council were the Bay Ridge Conservancy, Community Board 6, Citizens for the Preservation of Windsor Terrace, the DUMBO Neighborhood Association and the Prospect Park South Association.

Schumer tells Chamber: Boro needs transport cash

By Patrick Gallaue
The Brooklyn Papers

Sen. Charles Schumer sounded his support for some of the borough's most pressing transportation initiatives on Monday at a breakfast hosted by the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce.

During a half-hour speech, delivered at the New York Marriott on Adams Street in Downtown Brooklyn, Schumer highlighted the need to continue funding Rep. Jerrold Nadler's push for a Cross-Harbor Freight Tunnel between Brooklyn and either Staten Island or New Jersey, and Rep. Nydia Velázquez's work to replace the crumbling Gowanus Expressway with a tunnel.

While applauding developments within Downtown Brooklyn and around the borough, New York's senior senator said, "We have to keep our whole system of transportation [working]."

Schumer pledged support for the Transportation Equity Act of 2003 — the third iteration of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21) — which would provide the state with \$13.5 billion over the next six years for roads, subways, bridges and ferries.

"It's going to be a real fight,



Sen. Charles Schumer addresses the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce at the Brooklyn Marriott Monday.

it may not get done this year," Schumer said, though he later added, "I'm willing to bring the Senate to a halt."

With the city's massive transit needs there have been disagreements in Washington over the formula for dispersing TEA-21 funds, with critics charging that it gives an inordinate amount to cities with larger infrastructure costs.

Kenneth Adams, president of the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce, said of the speech, "He drove home the importance of the TEA-3 funding for the New York City region, specifically for Brooklyn, because we have a lot of really

important transportation projects in the pipeline that require ongoing federal support."

The chamber is currently attempting to secure federal money for a transportation access study of Red Hook.

A hugely ambitious plan that was cited by Schumer in his speech was the effort to have the 5.7-mile Gowanus Expressway — which connects the Brooklyn-Queens Expressway to the Belt Parkway, running from Hamilton Avenue, in Carroll Gardens and Red Hook, to 65th Street in Bay Ridge — replaced with a tunnel.

Other projects that could benefit from greater federal

funding include the Cross Harbor Rail Freight Tunnel, which would establish a rail freight connection from Brooklyn to New Jersey, either through Staten Island, or directly, to move goods more efficiently between the city and points west. Nadler has spent the past decade working to advance the plan.

The congressman, whose district includes the waterfront from northern Bay Ridge to Carroll Gardens, was among those in the audience Monday, along with Bay Ridge Councilman Vincent Gentile, Ridge Assemblywoman Adele Cohen, Bedford-Stuyvesant Assemblywoman Annette Robinson, Bed-Stuy Councilwoman Tracy Boyland, Flatbush state Sen. Kevin Parker and former Brooklyn Heights Councilman Kenneth Fisher.

In his speech, Schumer also cited the need to pressure President George Bush to come up with the money he promised for the No Child Left Behind Act, which was passed in 2001, and to develop more affordable housing.

"When people want to live here the consequence is that the price of housing goes up," Schumer said. "And we particularly have to make sure that middle class and working families can afford housing."

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Slope armory sportsplex gets go-ahead

By Patrick Gallaue
The Brooklyn Papers

A proposal to convert the 14th Regiment Armory in Park Slope into a public sports facility for residents and nearby schools seems to be back in the city's sights.

The City Council, at the behest of Park Slope Councilman Bill DeBlasio, appropriated \$250,000, which will be matched by Mayor Michael Bloomberg, in this year's capital budget, equaling money allocated by the city last year.

More importantly, the city, which had been wavering as to whether a sports facility would be built in the Park Slope armory, or one in Bedford-Stuyvesant, has committed to the Park Slope plan, according to the head of the group that will build the facility.

Richard Kahan, president of Take the Field Inc., who last year said the first armory to be dedicated funding for construction would be built, this week said, "The city's preference is to go first with Park Slope."

"I think this is really the last money that we need to complete the design," DeBlasio told The Brooklyn Papers this week. "My hope is that in the course of this coming year we'll be able to come to an agreement with the state and the city to fully fund the project."

Take the Field, a non-profit organization dedicated to rebuilding public school athletic facilities in New York City, introduced designs last year to convert the vacant drill floor of the armory into a sports facility encompassing a track, basketball, volleyball and tennis courts.

The garrison portion of the building is suggested for use

as a community space.

Kahan said the council's funds would enable his organization to prepare bid documents and possibly even have some construction money for the building on Eighth Avenue, between 14th and 15th streets.

The only downside, it seemed, was that \$500,000 allocated by Borough President Marty Markowitz to further study the proposal — an allocation seen as curious in the first place by critics who said the half-million should be going to design and construction — was axed from the capital budget.

At the time of the allocation, Kahan expressed some confusion over it since the organization had requested money for construction. Kahan said this week that he remained unsure of how Markowitz intended the money to be used.

Markowitz told The Papers on Tuesday that it was supposed to study financing and identify potential operators.

"We're still committed to it," Markowitz said. "The only question is when."

Since the mid-1980s, armories throughout the city have been utilized for homeless shelters, but in the early-'90s a state Appellate judge ruled that warehousing hundreds of homeless people on drill floors was unhealthy and inhumane, creating new opportunities for the open cavernous spaces. The Park Slope armory currently hosts a 70-bed women's facility on the upper floors, although the drill hall has remained unoccupied for years.

Kahan estimated building at the armory would take approximately \$5 million more, which the group hopes will be government funded.



Wine in Prospect Park as mayor KOs beer on beach

In the wake of Mayor Michael Bloomberg's crackdown on the consumption of beer on the beach at Rockaway Park, concertgoers were allowed to drink wine without being cited and despite the city's open-container law, during the New York Philharmonic concert in Prospect Park last week. The mayor (photo left) stuck with water, while, in right photo, Brooklynites Gayle Sanders, Charles Sinclair and Mike Ambrosio enjoyed wine. The disparity between those favoring wine and beer had some New Yorkers complaining of classism.



Chamber moves to Elm Place

By Patrick Gallaue
The Brooklyn Papers

The Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce is getting ready to move its offices from 101 Willoughby St. to 25 Elm Place, just off Fulton Mall.

"We signed a lease to go to 25 Elm Place, basically, so that we could expand the chamber offices and incorporate our new Business Solutions Center," said Chamber President Kenneth Adams.

The largest chamber of commerce in New York City, the Brooklyn chamber boasts more than 1,200 members. Founded in 1918, the business association was created to promote economic development in Brooklyn. The Business Solutions Center was established this year to offer services for small businesses and entrepreneurs such as counseling, referrals and access to government programs.

The staff of about 30 employees will be swapping their current 3,500-square-foot digs in the Verizon Building, at 101 Willoughby St., for 5,000 square feet in the J.W. Mays building on Elm Place, between Fulton and Livingston streets.

The chamber was instrumental in creating the recently released Downtown Brooklyn plan, which sets the stage for an expansion of the commercial, residential and retail capacities in the neighborhood, to which Mayor Michael Bloomberg pledged \$100 million over the next 10 years.

"I think it's a very important place in the redevelopment of Downtown Brooklyn and I'm happy to lay our stake in the ground," Adams said.

Groups seek to preserve ol' Bay Ridge

By Deborah Kolben
The Brooklyn Papers

Ever since a developer bought up a century-old house on a quiet tree-lined block in Bay Ridge and announced plans to knock it down and construct condos in its place, residents have been paying a lot more attention to preservation.

Following the news of the developer's purchase of 435 80th St., Councilman Vincent Gentile assembled a task force on preservation to closely examine what legislative changes can be made to protect the character of Bay Ridge.

Gentile announced the new task force back in April at the release party for a new Bay Ridge historical guide published by the Brooklyn Historical Society. The group has been meeting ever since.

According to several task force members what's at the root of the preservation problem is not developers, but misguided zoning laws that would allow for a five-condo property to replace a single, wood-frame house.

"This is about doing zoning changes," said Victoria Hofmo, a co-chair of the task force and president of the Bay Ridge Conservancy.

The 80th Street house isn't the first example of failed preservation. Over the past few years, old houses from Shore Road to Fifth Avenue have been bulldozed to make room for newer, bigger developments.

The Special Bay Ridge Zoning District, established in 1978 to preserve the character of the neighborhood, maintains housing construction at three stories or less on residential streets, and no greater than eight stories on the avenues.

But it also allows developers to build up to property lines and prohibits cars from parking behind houses.

"This is about fine tuning the special district, not dismantling it," said Hofmo.

"There's a wave of developers coming in and buying old houses and making new developments that are inconsistent with the character of the block... if that happens enough it will change the ambience of the neighborhood," said Gentile.

While Community Board 10 has been toiling away for the past three years examining what changes should be made to the zoning, this maverick group hopes to have something in place in just a few months.

Asked why he formed a separate task force when CB10 already had one, Gentile said, "We can't do enough."

But according to task force members, there's more to the story. When Gentile's office in February he got to work finding replacements for many CB10 members, saying the community board had become more closely aligned with business interests than with preservation.

Gentile dumped several members in June who had been put on the board by his predecessor, Marty Golden.

Asked about Gentile's new group, CB10 Chairman Stephen Harrison said he had not been contacted.

And the task force might want to keep it that way.

Afraid that the community board's involvement might stall the process, the task force plans on forging ahead and hopes to have a proposal for the City Council outlining suggested changes to the special zoning by fall.



The Fire Department was called in after a huge crack appeared in an exterior wall of 373 Baltic St. on July 11.



Baltic building cracks up

By Patrick Gallaue
The Brooklyn Papers

The city may have to order the demolition of a building in Boerum Hill after threatening cracks were discovered in the structure's walls.

On July 11, the city Department of Buildings evacuated the three-story walkup at 373 Baltic St., between Smith and Hoyt streets, fearing that the cracks

could threaten the stability of the building.

Sid Dinsay, a Buildings Department spokesman, said the engineer on a construction project next door, at 375 Baltic St., noticed the building was tilting and called the agency to investigate.

There is construction underway to build a four-story residential building at 375 Baltic St.

Inspectors determined the cracks may have been growing and ordered an evacuation.

"The building was entirely vacated and we are still waiting for a final determination as to whether or not the building will be demolished," Dinsay said.

The cause of the fractures are still being investigated but the Buildings Department issued the owner, Sooklal Ramkissoon, a violation for "failure to maintain."

Ramkissoon could not be reached for comment.

'Star' power

Vickie Natale, a music teacher at Mark Twain School for the Gifted, in Coney Island, who was recently named "Ultimate Adult Singer Champion" on CBS' Star Search, sang the National Anthem at KeySpan Park Monday.

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Digging in on Coney Island

Sun, sand, surf and... hard labor? Coney Island welcomed some serious digging at its annual sandcastle competition on Saturday.

Condos, no shelter, for 176 Johnson St.

By Patrick Gallaue
The Brooklyn Papers

Residents of Bridge Plaza are breathing a sigh of relief upon hearing that a major conversion from manufacturing to residential to host approximately 50 condominium loft apartments.

The eight-story building at 176 Johnson St., between Gold and Prince streets, is undergoing a conversion from manufacturing to residential to host approximately 50 condominium loft apartments.

The developer of the condos, Ron Herschko, purchased the building from Joshua Gutman, who many believed had plans to build a homeless shelter there. David Behin, of the Developers Group, the exclusive brokers and consultants on the property for Herschko, said construction could begin within the next six months and be ready for occupancy in about 14 months.

The apartments would be in the range of about 1,000 square feet each.

"That would be a good thing that it's not [becoming a shelter]," said Julie Ibelli, secretary of the Bridge Plaza Civic Association. "We're really trying to build up the residential base and work with residents to continue our greening efforts and our beautification efforts."

Earlier this year, Bridge Plaza residents fur-

iously protested the siting of a shelter at 200 Tillary St.

A non-profit organization, Consumer Information and Dispute Resolution Inc., proposed converting 200 Tillary St. into a shelter and counseling facility for 200 homeless women with medical disabilities.

Gutman is also widely believed to be a partner in the corporation that owns 200 Tillary St. The properties' proximity to one another, and their previous mutual ownership, led many to believe that the intent was to create a facility on Johnson Street right beside the Tillary Street facility.

Gutman did not return calls for comment as to why he sold 176 Johnson St. Bridge Plaza residents have long worked on beefing up the residential population of the area.

In May, Community Board 2 unanimously approved a plan being put forward by the Department of City Planning to convert swaths of manufacturing blocks to residential, retail and commercial.

A toy factory until 1990, various tenants passed through 176 Johnson St. until 1999, when Gutman purchased the property.

The architect for the new development is Clinton Hill-based Scarano & Associates Architects.

Cyclones grab President's Cup

Take season series with 7th straight over Yanks

By Gersh Kuntzman
For The Brooklyn Papers

Well, that was quick. Expanding the bare minimum of time, the Cyclones clinched the 12-game season-series against the Staten Island Yankees on Tuesday night by winning their seventh consecutive game against their cross-Narrows rivals.

The President's Cup, a trophy that bides its time in the borough hall of the series-winning team, will return to Brooklyn from its one-year tenure in Staten Island — and no one was crowing louder than Brooklyn Borough President Marty Markowitz.

"All is finally right in the world of baseball!" Markowitz said. "Our beloved Cyclones have proven once again that the best baseball is played right here in Brooklyn. Staten Island never had a chance."

But the Cyclones are only just beginning their march through the New York-Penn League, which I know will end with yet another pennant for Brooklyn!

Where once the Clones and the Stankies had a hotly contested rivalry, this year's teams are grossly mismatched. The Cyclones are 21-7 and in first place while the Yankees are 8-19 and so deeply buried in last place that they're ready to come out the other side and play the Chinese national team.

(As this went to press, the Yanks beat the Clones 6-4 Wednesday night. See game summary for details.)

The series clincher on Tuesday night was classic Cyclones. After falling behind 3-2, the Brooklynians rallied with three runs in the sixth and then held on as Staten Island tried to chip away.

The Cyclones sealed the victory in the bottom of the ninth thanks to first baseman Ian Bladergreen's magnificent catch. David Reaver's heads-up play and Yonier Garcia's aggressive defense of home plate — a play they'll be talking about even as they're praying each other with Champagne later this fall (see game summary below for the full description of the play).



Right fielder Ender Chavez (pictured far right) made a one-bounce throw to catcher Tony Piazza that cut down Auburn Doubledays Aaron Hill at the plate in Monday night's come-from-behind win at Keyspan Park.

nominal sequence of events). After the game, several Yankees players rushed back onto the field to take on Garcia. But the Cyclones, led by the always-outspoken pitcher Tanner Osberg just glared at the hapless club in pinstripes and displayed seven fingers — the number of times in a row that the Cyclones had now beaten the Yankees.

Staten Island Borough President James Molinaro said that his team was merely being kind to the representatives from Brooklyn. "We felt we should give back the trophy as a gesture of friendship to the people of Kings County," he told The Brooklyn Papers.



pers. "They should get to see this beautiful trophy before we win it back for three or four years. Besides, I can't stand to hear Marty crying anymore."

As always, Markowitz got the last word: "Staten Island, which I consider a southwest-ern Brooklyn suburb, must finally come to grips with the fact that we are and always will be the 'Kings' of the diamond!" Reaver appreciates all of the loving care Staten Island temporarily provided our trophy, but it's finally coming home to where it belongs."

Null said.

Mos Def-initely a weird one

The Cyclones dugout has often been filled with bold-faced names like Spike Lee dropping by Keyspan Park to mingle with Brooklyn's real celebrities. But just because a guy is trailed by a camera crew and an entourage, doesn't mean he's instantly recognizable.

A good start and one of the greatest Clones games ever

By Gersh Kuntzman
For The Brooklyn Papers

Cyclones 1 Cardinals 0

July 10 at New Jersey (Game 1)
Blake Whealy's wheels were the story in this pitchers' duel. The only run came home after Whealy singled in the second inning, score second and third, and then scored on a wild pitch. Met reliever Mike Stanton,

who's rehabbing his injured knee, started the game and pitched two shutout innings. Ryan Danly (1-0) pitched another 4 2/3 for the win. Closer Robert Paulk came in with a runner on second, but got the game's final out.

Cyclones 3 Cardinals 1

July 10 at New Jersey (Game 2)
Again, the Clones got in front early, with back-to-back singles

by Rashad "The Park" Parker and Ian "The Blade" Bladergreen. Blake Whealy then hit a deep sac fly to score Parker. After the Cardinals tied it in the third, the Cyclones got two in the fourth, with Whealy and Shawn "The Canadian" Brown singling. After Whealy scored on an error, David "The Reaver" Reaver drove in Bowman with a single.

Greg Ramirez pitched four strong innings, but left with a no-decision. Bryan King (1-0) — briefly a Cyclone in 2002 — got the win, allowing just one hit in two strong innings. Carlos Muniz picked up his seventh save of the season, despite allowing his first two hits of the season. **OY!**

Cyclones 7 Cardinals 0

July 11 at Brooklyn

The Clones picked up their league-leading sixth shutout of the season on the arms of Ivan Maldonado (4-0, 2-40 ERA), Taylor George and Rafael Castro. Maldonado left in the fifth (having given up only two hits), so George got the win with 2 2/3 innings of no-hit relief. The Clones scored early and often in a sloppy defensive game for the Cardinals. Yonier Garcia's second-inning two-run homer and David Reaver's sixth-inning, two-run double were the big blows. The Cardinals made three errors.

Doubledays 10 Cyclones 0

July 12, at Brooklyn

You know it's a bad sign when Matthew Lindstrom (3-1) gives up an earned run, his first in more than 23 innings. The loss also snapped a seven-game win streak. The only Cyclones offense consisted of singles by Rashad Parker and Ian Bladergreen, and a double from David Reaver.

Doubledays 6 Cyclones 5

July 13 at Brooklyn

The pesky Auburn team — in first place in the Pinckney Division — pulled out a squeaker. It looked like another

nizable.

On Monday night, rapper Mos Def showed up to do a few segments for ESPN 2, chatting with Rashad Parker, Jonathan Slack and Ian Bladergreen about how little he knows about baseball. The players humored Mr. Def as he shared his belief that the Cyclones would win because the Auburn Doubledays were wearing their light gray pants.

"I see pants like that on a baseball player and I just think, 'I'm gonna yank 'y' butt!'" he said the must have had a point, because the Cyclones went on to win. He also complimented Bladergreen for "having a real baseball man."

Most Cyclones preferred to use the time to sign autographs or stretch while Mos Def did his pre-game rap. Pitcher Matt Lindstrom walked by and noticed the commotion in the dugout. "Who's that?" asked Lindstrom, a decidedly unhip Morman. Told it was Mos Def, he was unimpressed. "Who?" he asked, and walked off.

Undeterred, pitcher Matteo Miramontes bought a portable camera and took a picture with the rapper.

"He's the greatest," Miramontes said. "I listen to him all the time. This is the sweetest thing about playing baseball in New York."

Being like Mike

For a while, Mike wanted all of us to be like Mike, but Tony Piazza is taking it to ridiculous extremes. First, the Wyoming-bred Cyclone with one of the most beloved surnames in Mets history gets drafted by the Mets. Next, he finds himself catching for a Mets farm team.

But before Tuesday night's game in Staten Island, Piazza was working out at first base — just like the Mets Catcher Who Shares His Name while doing once he returns from the disabled list.

Mike and Tony aren't related, but sometimes you have to wonder. It turns out, there's a logical explanation for all these Piazza parlor games. The Cyclones' new Piazza was ready to play first if Ian "Iron Man" Bladergreen — who has played every game this season, a true rarity in the minors — needs a day off.

"I wasn't complaining, believe me," said Bladergreen. "I'll take all the playing time I can get."

Ridin' the Cyclones

with Gersh Kuntzman

2003 Clones: The Best Team Ever?

The question is preposterous. The question is premature. The question is unanswerable. But with the 2003 Brooklyn Cyclones off to a record-setting 21-7 start, the question must be asked:

Is this team the best Cyclones team ever?

"I'm not even going to answer it," said manager Tim Teufel.

"I don't even like the premise of that question."

"I just think it's a bit premature," added Marty Haber, a.k.a. "Party Marty," the Cyclones' human mascot.

Even the one man on the planet who could answer the question took the Fifth. "There's no way you can answer it yet," said Cyclones announcer Warner Fueselle, who has seen every single Cyclones game, whether in the "catbird seat" at Keyspan Park or in those cramped closets reserved for the "visiting press" at the other New York-Penn League stadiums. "It's just too early to tell."

Sure, maybe the question is unfair. Even under the best of circumstances, you can't compare teams from different years. The level of competition varies greatly, especially in the minor leagues. And because our favorite players move up and down the professional ranks faster than Scott Kazmir fastballs, we're not really even rooting for the Cyclones as a team, but as a bunch of guys who wear the same uniforms (heck, appropriately, don't have the players' names sewn onto them).

But this is why I get the big money, to answer what the so-called experts think is unanswerable. And here is that answer: This year's team is the best team in the history of the minor leagues. And better than the 2001 team. Yes, that's a franchise with one of the richest histories in minor-league baseball. So I don't make this claim lightly.

Longtime Cyclones-watchers — and, remember, we're going back two whole YEARS here — say that nothing will match the excitement of the 2001 team, which won the New York-Penn League championship in its inaugural season. But if you take away the emotion — all that "Baseball has come to Brooklyn!" hype — it is undeniable that this year's team is every bit as talented as that team.

A rational look at the evidence will back me up:

Wins and (few) losses

In its first 27 games, this year's Cyclones are 21-7 (an amazing .750 winning percentage). The 2001 team was only 20-8 (a disappointing .714 winning percentage) over the same period. This year's team is just thousands of a percentage point off the pace to break the all-time NYPL record for best record ever (the Oneonta Tigers went 53-16 in 1974 with a .768 winning percentage).

Pitching

The staff this year has been nothing short of great. Again, sticklers will point out that the 2001 team can answer that like Ross Peebles, Jason Sobie, Mike Cox, Blake McGinley, Lenny DiNardo, Matt Gahan and David Byard. But this year's team has Matt Lindstrom, who is not only fluent in Swedish, but went four starts without giving up an earned run. He's 10th in the league with a 1.57 ERA and has allowed the opposition a meager .165 batting average. And starter Ivan Maldonado has been just as unhittable. He's a league-leading 4-0 with a 1.36 ERA. And is there a better bullpen in all of baseball? Carlos Muniz and Robert Paulk have saved 15 of their 16 opportunities (and Paulk ended up getting the win in his one blown save). In 21 2/3 innings, the pair has given up just nine hits, and two earned runs while striking out 34.

Hitting

OK, so you got me here. This year's team is not exactly Murderers Row, what with a middle-of-the-pack (but improving) .253 batting average and a mere eight home runs (Keyspan has always been stingy, but not THIS stingy). But when you see hitters like Ian "The Blade" Bladergreen (.308), David "The Grinn" Reaver (.353), Jon "Pick Up The" Slack (.298) and Blake Whealy (.306) do their jobs every single game, there's hope. And the team's 44 stolen bases lead the league by a dozen. Remember, the vaunted 2001 team didn't bust out of its own hitting doldrums until roughly this point in the season.

"I'd like to see more pop in the bats," said Teufel, smashing a paper cup with his own piece of lumber. "But we've been a real hum and eggs team this year. What that means is that we're getting it done one way (home) or another (eggs). If our pitching falters, the hitters come back. If the hitting isn't there, the pitching is."

Defense

Is there a better infield than Shawn Bowman (3B), Reaver (SS), Whealy (2B) and Bladergreen (1B)? And is there a faster outfield than Rashad Parker (LF), Jon Slack (CF) and Ender Chavez (RF)? Yes, this team has made its errors, but Cyclones pitchers have given up a mere eight unearned runs, the fewest in the league. That means this team gets the job done — even after making a mistake.

Team chemistry

Outside of a laboratory at Pfizer, it's impossible to judge an intangible like chemistry, but this team has it. Thanks to a roster with a lot of guys who are basically the same age, this year's Cyclones are the team that works and plays together.

When I asked some players who they're "team leader" is, they all pointed to Blake Whealy.

"They can keep pointing," said Whealy, who's making his second tour of duty as a Cyclone. "It's mostly a team effort. We're all just hanging out all the time together, eating, playing cards, whatever. It's like college. And like college, it's all for one, one for all."

The best thing, Whealy said, is that everyone is loose. "We can make fun of each other and no one gets upset." Principal targets, of course, are Bowman — the youngest guy in the league — and Paulk — the youngest LOOKING guy in the league. "I mean, Bowman's Canadian, for Pete's sake, so we have to razz him," Whealy said. "And Paulk looks like he's 13, but when he gets on the mound, he overpowers everyone. It must be some Jedi mind trick."

The intangibles

Most important, the magic is back at Keyspan. Like the 2001 team, this year's team is never out of a ballgame. On Monday night, the Cyclones fell behind 4-1 to the best hitting team in the league, the Auburn Doubledays. But it wasn't over. Every time the Doubledays threatened, the Cyclones turned in a highlight film-worthy defensive gem. Ender Chavez threw a guy out from deep right field. Later, he robbed a hitter of a sure home run, jumping high over the outfield wall. And an inning later, he again jumped against the wall for an amazing catch and turned and fired the ball back to first for the double play. Inspiring performances like that have defined this team.

So, are you with me?

"You make a compelling argument," said Cyclones General Manager Steve Cohen. "But I'm not ready to say they're the best. But let me say this — If I were to rank all the Cyclone teams through history, this year's team would be in my all-time top three."

See? I'm onto something here.

Gersh Kuntzman is also a columnist for the New York Post and Newsweek online. Check out his other hyperbolic ramblings at www.gershiv.com.

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WHO'S ABUW.

The Papers' Pick for Cyclones Player of the Week

David Reaver

Although his kind of baseball doesn't always show up in the papers the next day, we like the way this lunch-pail-style Marylander plays the game. Solid with the glove at short, Reaver

has suddenly brought his bat into the equation. Over his last six games (not including Wednesday night's game), he's batting .500 with 5 RBIs, including a key one in Tuesday night's season-series clincher with the Yankees.



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Help in seller's market

Buyers beware. Real estate broker who greets you at that Sunday open house may not be who she seems.

That is to say, despite the ice tea and cookies she may gingerly offer up on a hot afternoon as she points out the "to die for" view of the Brooklyn Bridge, the broker doesn't really care what you see as long as you cough up the dough.

Nope, her heart (and contract) lie with another.

And that "other" is the seller, to whom she is contractually bound to get the best possible terms.)

So when the broker tells you how beautiful the floors are and what wonderful light the apartment gets, don't

count on her to offer up too much of the small infestation of rodents or the next-door neighbor with a penchant for watching loud, late-night, alien films.

Enter the buyer's agent. You heard right—a buyer's agent.

That is somebody who—it's about time—represents not the seller's but the buyer's best interests.

A buyer's agent will hold your hand, screen apartments before dragging you there, investigate a building's history, negotiate deals, and even, in some cases, find crafty ways to snag apartments that some other poor bloke can no longer afford.

But more on that later.

In a normal real estate market (read: not the five boroughs of New York City) buyers and sellers are more often both coming to the table with

LOCATION LOCATION LOCATION

By Deborah Kolben
The Brooklyn Papers

someone on their side.

While the concept of a buyer's agent is almost unheard of in these parts, the rest of the country (and even the surrounding suburbs) have caught on, with approximately 7,500 buyer's agents nationwide registered with the Real Estate Buyer's Agent Council (REBAC) of the National Association of Realtors.

About 400 of those are in New York State, with only seven in New York City.

"It's a unique market," said Janet Branton, executive director of RE-

BAC, asked why the trend was so slow to catch on in New York City.

"It's common practice statewide," says Sal Privitera, a spokesman for the New York State Association of Realtors, who noted that buyers' agents became more popular in the late-1990s, when the market heated up.

In most cases, the buyer's agent earns a percentage of the sale.

"Some people do retain buyer's agents (in New York City), but the instances where that happens are few and far between," says Christopher Thomas, president of William B. May Brooklyn, a leading real estate firm.

Thomas points to the pending sale of the swanky former schools chancellor's residence at 80 State St. in Brooklyn Heights as a prime example of what sometimes might retain their own agent.

The city is placing the seven-bedroom townhouse on the auction block on July 23.

Although the building was reserved as the residential quarters of the city schools chancellor, more have lived there since Rudy Crew, whose replacement, Harold Levy, opted to stay at its Upper West Side co-op.

When it was not used by the chancellor, the townhouse rented for a healthy \$8,000 per month.

The property will be auctioned, with bids starting at \$1.25 million. It is expected to go for around \$3 million.

With the chancellor's house, however, a buyer's agent for the school would be established before the purchase, Thomas said.

Brooklyn-based real estate

broker Mark Crutchfield has been representing buyers for the past five years.

With an advertisement on craigslist.com, a popular free listing service, Crutchfield is trying to woo buyers with his real estate savvy.

"I love looking for the diamond in the rough," says Crutchfield, which could be a godsend for buyers who may love a diamond, but sure as heck don't have time to go out mining for one, let alone bargaining it down to an affordable price.

Now, back to those poor blokes.

While New Yorkers have, at their worst, pursued celebrities in search of a rent-controlled apartment, Crutchfield uses the newspaper in another way.

Each week, foreclosed apartments are listed in the newspapers and go up for bid. In fact, Crutchfield went through those mind-boggling listings and brings the findings to his clients.

While most brokers, when asked about buyer's agents, didn't know exactly why they weren't popular in New York City, a few hedged a guess.

Split commission. In most cases, the buyer's agent earns her keep from the sale of the property, splitting the seller's agent's commission in half.

For more information about buyer's agents, contact REBAC at (800) 648-6224.

If you have a tip about real estate in northern or western Brooklyn or have a property-related question, send an e-mail to RealEstate@BrooklynPapers.com. Be sure to include your name and telephone number.

By Deborah Kolben
The Brooklyn Papers

Brooklyn Heights

A three-bedroom apartment at the newly constructed State House Condos, at 60 State St. in Hicks Street in Brooklyn Heights, recently sold for \$990,000.

The asking price had been \$1.19 million. Monthly common charges are \$457.60.

The first-floor condo is located in a four-story, 11-unit building with a shared deck and underground garage.

Parking spaces go for an additional \$47,500.

"It's all top-of-the-line luxury construction," said Sandra Dowling, of Brooklyn Heights Real Estate, who is co-broker of the properties with Michael Dowling Real Estate.

The kitchen is equipped with a Sub Zero refrigerator, Bosch dishwasher and Viking range. In addition to 2.5 bathrooms, the 1,629-square-foot apartment boasts a separate laundry room with a washer and dryer.

While the building only

BUYING AND SELLING



Three bedroom duplex in this building at 392 11th St. in Park Slope sold for nearly \$600,000.

opened in May, apartments listed at \$590,000 to \$1.25 million have been on the market since last summer.

Bay Ridge

A corner house recently sold for \$835,000 after being on the market for just two days.

The asking price was \$850,000.

"Over 50 people showed up to the open house," said Kathy McCall, a broker with Velsor Realty, who noted that Bay Ridge prices have been on a steady rise.

The three-bedroom house at 7820 Ridge Blvd. features a separate door to the neighborhood's biggest quality of life problems, buyers of this property need not worry—the house comes with a two-car garage.

Despite a lack of parking being one of the neighborhood's biggest quality of life problems, buyers of this property need not worry—the house comes with a two-car garage.

Park Slope

A three-bedroom apartment at 392 11th St. just sold for \$590,000, \$30,000 below its asking price.

The duplex condo is outfitted with two private terraces and 3.5 bathrooms. It also features a washer-dryer, maple kitchen with granite counters and stainless steel appliances, oak floors, two marble baths and central air.

The 1,868-square-foot apartment also comes with parking and provides view security. The building was completed in 2002.

The monthly common charges cost \$304. Corcoran Brooklyn was the broker.



House at 7820 Ridge Blvd. was on the market for just two days.

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Bay Ridge

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Bay Ridge

80th Street, 2 Family House - 1st floor rental. Newly renovated 5-1/2 rms, 2BR, new kitchen and bathroom fixtures, newly painted, walk-in closet, backyard and carport. No pets. Asking \$1600. No Fee. Call Owner: (718) 748-4141

For Rent / Brooklyn

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Bensonhurst

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Bensonhurst

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Sunset and Columbia St., across the Brooklyn Queens Expressway, carpeted 2 bedroom, one flight up, bedrooms are same size. Washer and dryer included, 4 blocks from F/G train (Carroll St) 10 minutes to Manhattan. Quiet neighborhood. No pets or smoking. Looking for low maintenance tenant with good credit. Available now! Rent \$1,500. Owner (917) 733-8906.

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For Rent / Brooklyn

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July 21, 2003

Insight on tap

In his new book, Brooklyn brewmaster pairs beer, not wine, with culinary delights

By Tina Barry
for The Brooklyn Papers

Garrett Oliver, brewmaster of the Brooklyn Brewery, is on a crusade. His mission: to end beer's stigma as a second-class substitute for wine.

To that end he has written his second book, "The Brewmaster's Table: Discovering the Pleasures of Real Beer with Real Food" (HarperCollins, \$29.95). His first, "The Good Beer Book," co-written with Timothy Harper, was published in 1997 (Putnam/Berkley Books).

"The whole point of 'The Brewmaster's Table' is that beer has a much wider range of flavors to offer to food than wine does," Oliver told GO Brooklyn in an interview at the brewery.

Surprised? Oliver expects that reaction. "Most people don't really know what real beer is," he added. "They think of beer as this bland, mass-marketed drink. That's not the real thing."

In "Brewmaster's Table" Oliver offers the reader a definitive study of beer and a glimpse into his own life before discovering "real beer" and the "better life" that evolved after his education abroad.

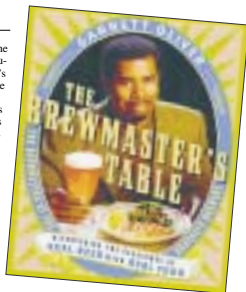
Oliver's beer research began a few months after graduating from Boston University, in 1983, with a degree in broadcasting and film that, he said, "Qualified me to drive a cab."

Without steady employment tying him to the States, Oliver moved to London where he hoped to find film work for a subsidiary of HBO. The job never materialized, but he stumbled upon what was to become a passionate hobby, and later, his career.

"I got into Victoria Station with a year's worth of clothes in my backpack. I needed a drink, so I went to a pub and had my first pint of British beer. It was amber-colored, one of those British pints that are huge. The beer was totally different from anything I had before. All these varied layers of flavor. It wasn't terribly carbonated. It wasn't very cold. But it was fascinating," Oliver recalled.

During the year Oliver spent in London, he grew to appreciate the variety of beer he encountered and the Brits' relationship to beer and beer making. "In England, the pub is a very different place than you have here. There, beer is part of their lifestyle," said Oliver. "They don't consider themselves beer fans, but they'll say, 'The beer is nice today. Or the beer is not so nice today.'"

A nice beer, he explains, is one that has



finished its fermentation at the pub and is served appropriately "aged," unlike commercial beer, which is finished in the brewery.

"Beer-making in England and the other countries I visited [Belgium and Germany] is a real art form," said Oliver.

Back home, Oliver began making "small independent films. The kind you might find a VHS copy of in Kim's Video in the cult department," he said.

Trying to find the kind of beer he enjoyed in Europe was futile. "When I returned to New York in 1984," said Oliver, "there were basically three beers sold: Bud, Coor's and Miller. They tasted like seltzer water. That was it. There was nothing! I mean it was like going to the store and instead of having this whole aisle of different bread — pita bread, and flat bread and this and that — there was only Wonder Bread. I couldn't deal with it."

An understanding friend bought Oliver a home beer-making kit. In his kitchen brewery, he experimented with different techniques and managed to prepare

beer that reminded him of the richly flavored pub offerings he savored abroad. To share his enthusiasm, Oliver became one of the founding members of the New York City Homebrewers Guild, a group that is still in existence.

In 1989, Oliver turned his hobby into a career. "One day I was at the Manhattan Brewing Company, in SoHo, borrowing some yeast, or equipment or something," he said, "and an English brewmaster, Mark Witty, was there. When he mentioned that his as-

"I love wine. I've sat on wine panels for the New York Times. But at the end of the day, beer just has this wonderful peacock display of flavors to work with and to pair food to."

— Garrett Oliver



Tapping his knowledge: Garrett Oliver, brewmaster of the Brooklyn Brewery, served up his favorite drink at the Brewery's Critics Choice Summer Beer and Food Fest in June. Oliver has written "The Brewmaster's Table" (inset) to explain the versatility of beer for fine dining.

stant was leaving I virtually grabbed him by the lapels and shouted, 'Give me the job!'

Two weeks later, Oliver quit his day job to become Witty's apprentice. Although he questioned his sanity — "I was making half as much money to work in a room full of boiling liquid in the middle of July" — he had found his calling.

"The challenges involved in beer making were, and still are, endlessly fascinating," said Oliver. He joined Brooklyn Brewery in 1994, as brewmaster, a title he defines as, "The person in charge of beer production. You're responsible for the recipes, all the procedures, the staff, ordering the materials, quality control — everything."

"The Brewmaster's Table" attempts nothing less than to give the reader a full understanding of beer — what ingredients go into it, how it is brewed, and who produces what.

Oliver writes vividly about his encounters with certain beers. "There had to be something wrong here — the beer tasted like cloves and bananas. I wasn't at all sure I liked this beer, but Germany was clearly

going to be more interesting than I'd imagined," he writes of a Bavarian wheat beer.

In a tiny cafe in Belgium, Oliver notes: "The barkeep poured a drink with a startlingly pinkish hue and handed it to the fellow next to me. 'What is that?' I asked, assuming that it was some sort of soft drink. 'It is kriek,' he answered, 'a beer made with cherries.' I stood there like an idiot, dumfounded and staring. ... 'Welcome to Belgium,' he said."

Food pairing, or the combination of real beer with real food, is discussed at length. In his section on the Belgian Ale Tradition, Oliver describes Belgian pale ale as possessing "a delicate fruitiness often met by light notes of licorice, aniseed, fennel, or orange peel or cinnamon."

Oliver suggests matching the pale ale with roasted chicken. "A good Belgian pale ale can turn a simple roasted chicken from an ordinary meal into a culinary event," he writes. "Herbs are the key. Some sage, thyme, or rosemary on the skin, under the skin, or in the stuffing will link up with the herbal flavors in the beer and really light up

See OLIVER on page GO 6

ART

Art in the park

The opening of the 21st annual Brooklyn Working Artists' Coalition sculpture show in Empire-Fulton Ferry State Park will be celebrated with live music on July 19. Jan Bell will host the lineup on the Little Red Hen Music Stage, while visitors peruse the works of 30 artists, including John Jerard's *Mandala* (pictured). The show was curated by Ursula Clark and Richard Brachman.

The marathon reception for the show, with the theme, "What's going on," will run from noon to 6 pm. The exhibit will be on display from 8:30 am to 8:30 pm, daily, through Sept. 14. Enter on Main Street at Dock Street in Fulton Ferry. For more information, call (718) 596-2507 or visit the Web site at www.bwac.org.

EXHIBIT

Pioneer woman

"This is woman's hour ... The Life of Mary Baker Eddy" is on display at the Robert J. Kibbee Library of Kingsborough Community College, 2001 Oriental Blvd., now through Aug. 15.

Eddy (1821-1910) was a noted healer, founder of Christian Science, founder and publisher of the *Christian Science Monitor* (at age 87), and author. In 1992, her "Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures," published in 1875, was recognized by the Women's National Book Association as one of 75 written by women whose "words have changed the world."

Videos, interactive listening stations, news clippings and photographs tell the story of this 19th-century reformer. "This is Woman's Hour ..." was prepared by The Writings of Mary Baker Eddy in Boston, Mass., in conjunction with the National Park Service and featured as an "untold story" at the Women's Rights National Park in Seneca Falls, N.Y., from March through May of 1998.

The exhibit is open Monday through Thursday, 9 am to 5 pm, in July, and Monday through Thursday, 9 am to 5 pm, in August. The library is closed Fridays-Sundays. For more information, log onto www.marybakereddylibrary.org. — Lisa J. Curtis

MUSIC



Sound of Sirens

They'll be singing "Me and Giuliani Down by the School Yard (A True Story)" at the Siren Music Fest in Coney Island on Saturday, July 19.

Based in Brooklyn by way of Sacramento, Calif., !!! (pronounced Chk, Chk, Chk or any three repetitive sounds, according to the band's Web site), the band responsible for that anthem, is just one of the seven that will perform on the festival's main stage from 1 pm to 9 pm, while more perform on the Stillwell Avenue stage at Astroland Amusement Park.

Bring sunscreen, water and a cap to take in this outdoor festival. The Patron at 1 pm, The Kills at 2 pm, !!! at 3 pm, Sahara Hotnights at 4 pm, Hot Hot Heat at 5 pm, The Datsuns at 6 pm and Modest Mouse at 7:30 pm on the Main Stage.

On the Stillwell stage, The Witnesses will perform at 1:30 pm, Brooklyn's Oneida at 2:30 pm, The Dirts at 3:30 pm, Northern State at 4:30 pm, Ted Leo & the Pharmacists at 5:30 pm, Radio 4 at 6:30 pm and Lil'Wid at 8 pm.

DDs will perform between band sets throughout the day, so there will never be a dull moment. The outdoor festival will be held rain or shine, and like the best things in life it's free. For more information about the festival, call (212) 475-3333 or log onto the Web site at www.villagevoice.com/siren.

— Lisa J. Curtis



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Bay Ridge Sushi

6819 Third Ave. at 68th Street, (718) 491-0662 (AmEx, MC, Visa) Entrees: \$7.95-\$17.95.
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Of course, Bay Ridge Sushi hasn't forgotten all the other Japanese treats, and neither will you, as you select from their plentiful menu. There are loads of hand rolls, like the shrimp tempura roll and the smoked salmon roll. Or try the pork with ginger sauce, or maybe the seafood tempura with lobster. Just make sure to leave room for the tempura green tea ice cream!

Casa Calamari

8602 Third Ave. at 86th Street, (718) 921-1900 (AmEx, MC, Visa) Entrees: \$5.50-\$13.50.
Boasting a large sidewalk cafe, Casa Calamari is a fun, family style place that makes the most of its corner windows, its open kitchen and its raw bar. On the menu you'll find an "oyster index" to guide you through the many varieties: Pearl Point, Spiny Creek and Nantucket are just a few. In addition to appetizer faves like Buffalo wings and eggplant rollatini, you'll find pasta, grills, Italian specialties and loads of seafood choices. The chilled seafood sampler (\$25) includes a 1-pound lobster, two cherry-stone clams, two little neck clams, four oysters and jumbo shrimp. Golden fried calamari can also be ordered with fried shrimp. Or go for the broccoli ribs, cheese and parsley sausage platter.

Casa Pepe

114 Bay Ridge Ave. at 69th Street, (718) 833-8865 (AmEx, MC, Visa) Entrees: \$7.95-\$22.
The courtly Spanish and Mexican style of Casa Pepe will put a grin on your lips and a fiesta in your heart. You'll find Mexican favorites, like fajitas, chimichangas, enchiladas pasadero — soft corn tortillas filled with salmon and pico de gallo — and beef or chicken tacos. But wait, there's a whole other world here, the stirring cuisine of Spain as well. Bisteque torteno (chole sirloin steak in a four-pepper sauce), ternera a la plancha (veal sautéed with red pepper, garlic and white wine), paella Valenciana (chicken, seafood and Spanish sausage with saffron rice), and, of course, arroz con pollo. Casa Pepe has a party room that can accommodate 120 guests as well. Also open for Sunday brunch, noon to 3:30 pm. Garden seats available in season.

Chef Natale

7803 Third Ave. at 78th Street, (718) 921-0717 (AmEx, MC, Visa) Entrees: \$13-\$19.
Born in Palermo, Chef Natale gained much of his culinary experience as a chef onboard several Italian cruise ships. His cooking style carries the influence of Sicily, Milan, Naples and Rome. Popular dishes in this intimate, casual restaurant include octopus served Sicilian style in balsamic vinaigrette dressing; and veal shank Milan in a puree of carrots, celery and onion-white wine sauce, served over risotto. Chef Natale also serves fresh seasonal fish — salmon, monkfish, striped bass, swordfish and tuna. Desserts are made on site, including chocolate mousse cake, tiramisu, creme caramel, cheesecake and ice cream.

Elia

8611 Third Ave. at 86th Street, (718) 748-9891 (AmEx, MC, Visa) Entrees: \$15-\$24. ★
Whitewashed brick walls, exposed beams and soft

★ = Full review available at

Brooklyn
papers.com

Abbreviation Key: AmEx= American Express, DC= Diner's Club, Disc= Discover Card, MC= MasterCard, Visa= Visa Card

Fresh fish: Barracuda restaurant on 71st Street and Third Avenue features Atlantic baby grilled calamari with lime dressing (above).

Greek music make this restaurant the closest replica of a Greek "tastatoran" (a small town tavern) you'll find off the Greek Isles. Veteran executive chef Roger Clasterback works with chef Helen Papagostolou, who has a great love for the cuisine of her homeland, to create authentic Greek specialties — grilled seafood octopus served in aged red wine vinegar, clams in Santorini wine broth with Greek chilies, whole seasonal fish in a lemon olive oil and fresh herbs dressing. End-of-dinner treats include paper-thin baklava and Samos Muscat, a fruity golden dessert wine from the island of Samos.

Hunters Steak & Ale House

9404 Fourth Ave. at 94th Street, (718) 238-8899 (AmEx, DC, Disc, Visa) Entrees: \$13.95-\$31.95.
The classic steak house — with a couple of twists. Your meal will be enhanced not only by the stained glass, mahogany and hunter green decor, or, but by the Horse and Jockey Club (featuring OTB racing feeds and betting), and the Cigar and Cognac Room (with low-profile easy chairs). On to the eats: flat mignon with a red wine mushroom sauce, vegetable and potato, is heavenly. Porthouse, T-bone and New York sirloin steaks rank high too. Veal Marsala, baked half chicken and broiled salmon round out the menu.

Pearl Room

8201 Third Ave. at 82nd Street, (718) 833-6666 (AmEx, MC, Visa) Entrees: \$16-\$24. ★
Diners who haven't been to this Bay Ridge eatery recently will be pleased with extensive renovations: an expanded dining room with a suspended ceiling that seems to float, state floors, pillars and terra cotta restrooms. The dining is casual and the cuisine is continental, with an emphasis on fresh fish and seafood. Sesame wood-fired, fresh lobster and crab cakes are popular dishes. But Pearl Room also serves flat mignon, shell steaks, chicken and veal dishes, salads and pastas. The most popular dessert is the fried ice cream. Garden and sidewalk cafe seats available.

Pietro's Trattoria

8227 Fourth Ave. at 87th Street, (718) 238-8600 (AmEx, MC, Visa) Entrees: \$9.95-\$16.95.
Pietro's is anything but seduced, but diners get the best light and the least neighborhood bustle here. There's a large, open dining area in which to enjoy the rich and tasty foods offered. For openers, try the zuppa di musselle, simmered with plum tomatoes, parsley and garlic, or the gnocchi sorrentino, potato dumplings tossed with fresh mozzarella and marinara sauce. Then come the wonderful entrees: boneless chicken scarpafello, prepared with sweet sausage, garlic and white wine, sole livornese, simmered with capers, onions and black olives, served with mussels, clams and linguini, or shrimp scampi, broiled in garlic butter and white wine. End with caprese and dessert.

Ridge Bay Restaurant-Diner

9404 Fifth Ave. at 74th Street, (718) 748-1858 (AmEx, MC, Visa) Entrees: \$1.95-\$8.99.
Ridge Bay has great breakfast specials and daily lunch specials with dessert included. The most popular entrees at this Bay Ridge diner are the leg of lamb, pot roast, roast turkey, shell steak and chicken labab over rice. Ridge Bay Diner opens up at 7 am and closes around 10 pm, if it's dining out of the picture, they also offer free delivery.

Yiannis

6901 Fourth Ave. at 69th Street, (718) 238-7510 (AmEx, MC, Visa) Entrees: \$11-\$21. ★
The menu at this Bay Ridge eatery includes exotic dishes like grilled octopus, Greek favorites like mussels steamed with ozo, and lobster cooked in a clay pot in a wood-burning oven with mussels, clams, shrimp, and scallops with Moroccan spices. Also try the whole grilled fish, and what owner and chef Nicholas calls "the last thing you eat anywhere." All in a friendly atmosphere at moderate prices.

Long last love

Despite setbacks, a Prospect Heights restaurateur opens his dream Italian bistro

By Tina Barry
for The Brooklyn Papers

In conversations with chefs and restaurateurs, I've heard these words repeated like a mantra, "We want our cafe-bistro-restaurant to be the kind of place where people drop in, chat, drink wine, become family."

I never doubt their sincerity. Chefs and their partners are a warmhearted lot who share a fantasy — a bustling restaurant packed with diners who, visit after visit, become friends.

Albano Ballerini shares that dream. A former photographer of "small, sparkly things," Ballerini resembles the late Dean Martin (if Martin wore hipster glasses and a beaded fez). He endured two years of construction horrors to transform a space on Vanderbilt Avenue into Aliseo Osteria del Borgo (named for the trade wind that blew Columbus into America), a cafe reminiscent of the one owned by his family in Marche, Italy.

The saga of his renovation — rife with daily firings and rehiring — has the comic and tragic makings of a great screenplay.

Ballerini's labor of love opened on Valentine's Day. The quirky space, one small room with vintage rose-strewn wallpaper, brick walls and a huge front window, which Ballerini referred to as "sort of shabby chic" — serves as the perfect stage set for Ballerini, a charming and attentive master of the house who is adept at sensing an opening for conversation and knows when to step back and let a diner eat in peace.

Dishes are invented "at the whim of the chef" and change each evening. "It's a very Italian way," Ballerini said.

A dinner at Aliseo is eaten as they are throughout Italy — leisurely, in several small courses, accompanied by a glass or bottle of wine (30 of the reds and 10 of the whites are from Marche; all the wine is well-priced).

The meal gets off to a promising start with a dish of supernal, spicy, black olives and a basket of warm, Sullivan Street Bakery bread. Two cheery, salty, slightly oily slices of the pizza bianco (Italian for white), grilled on a panini press, weren't enough. Ten slices of the irresistible bread wouldn't have been enough.

Pull a stool up to the "bar" (total seating capacity of three) and you can watch Ballerini cutting thin pieces of meat on a deli slicer. One evening's selection of cured meat might include imported prosciutto, a smoked mortadella sausage from Bologna, and



DINING

Aliseo Osteria del Borgo (665 Vanderbilt Avenue at Park Place in Prospect Heights) accepts cash only. Entrees: \$7.50-\$14.50. The restaurant serves dinner Sunday through Sunday. Brunch is served on Sunday at 11 am. For reservations (parties of four or more), call (718) 783-3400.

cow, goat and sheep — are imported from Italy and served three ways: regular, artisanal and "stinky." (He's not kidding about the "stinky.")

Not every dish that emerges from Ballerini's tiny kitchen works, yet all are inventive and most are worth a try. Topping the list are firm, sweet yet salty, white anchovies brined in olive oil and brightened with lemon and parsley. The tiny, silvery white fish are delicious eaten right off the plate and even better when piled on a slice of the pizza bianco.

But I'd take a pass on the pastry puffs filled with salmon mousse served

hard sausages or salami for "something a little spicy and sweet."

Cheese is the meat plate's natural partner, and Ballerini takes his cheese selection seriously. More than 20 varieties, categorized by their producer —



Aliseo Osteria del Borgo's owner and chef, Albano Ballerini (above), has created some inventive dishes for his new bistro, including a sformatino di asparagi (left), an asparagus flan with ricotta, eggs and parmesan.

with a small mound of undressed, chopped endive and sweet cherry tomatoes. The pastry was delicate and the mousse rich and well seasoned, but chilling the appetizer resulted in limp puffs and an overly dense filling. The little bit of salad was more decorative than edible.

Hearty pastas are listed under "the comfort corner." There's a lasagna al pesto "from Anna Grazia Ballerini's treasure chest"; meat ravioli served with a tomato-based meat sauce or "Farmington" style; and baked ziti.

A daily offering is the cannelloni. Long pasta tubes are filled with a combination of ground veal, beef, turkey and pork (or a variation on the four) blended with ricotta and generously perfumed with shaved truffles. The dish is adorned with an untouchable bechamel sauce. More soothing than exciting, the pasta is a delicately flavored treat.

I doubt there's a prettier dish than the pork tenderloin stuff with figs.

The pale-pink fig center of the roast with its halo of white meat looks lovely sliced and fanned across a plate. Although the meat was a little dry (10 minutes less roasting time would have helped, so would an extra tablespoon of jus), the texture of the sweet, chewy fruit combined with the soft meat made a pleasant dish.

Desserts didn't wow me. A cherry tart had a nice cake-like crust with plenty of tart fruit, but the glaze was gummy; a huge "drunken strawberry" soaking in a glass of rum and Triple Sec-plashed white Vin santo is too simple to call dessert, but would make a nice, sweet accompaniment to the cheese plate.

Minor complaints aside, I'd return to Aliseo Osteria del Borgo. The wine is good; the simple plates are satisfying; and the chef cares enough to gamble on new dishes each day and try for

On a roll

If your morning latte at Starbucks is becoming too "been there, done that" then try Court Street newcomer The Bread Cafe.

Opened in June by Karyn and Vincenzo Ruggiero with baker Sal Scudero, the breezy, exposed brick cafe features every variation on the coffee bean, and a drink unique to their establishment: a cappuccino float made with vanilla ice cream.

Brooklynites who frequent Panatomic Bakery and Cafe in Bay Ridge and Royal Crown Pastry Shop in Bensonhurst are familiar with Scudero's artisanal loaves and light hand with pastry. At The Bread Cafe he's piling up footcaking and baking all manner of Italian sweet treats.

But save the pastry for dessert. Sandwiches and wraps like the grilled chicken, roasted pepper, vine-ripened tomatoes and arugula are house specialties. Can't deal with carbs? The vegetarian platter features grilled eggplant, arugula and fresh mozzarella. The fennel salad with shaved Parmesan, grapes, pears and Balsamic dressing is the answer to, "What can I eat when it's 95 degrees in the shade?"

Brooklyn Bread Cafe (436 Court St. at Second Place in Carroll Gardens, (718) 403-0234) accepts cash only. Sandwiches: \$3.50-\$5.99; Wraps: \$7; Salads: \$7. The cafe is open Monday through Friday, 6 am-11 pm; Saturday and Sunday, 7 am-11 pm.

— Tina Barry



Brooklyn Bread Cafe co-owner Karen Ruggiero displays the house salad, veggie platter and Caprese bruschetta sampler.

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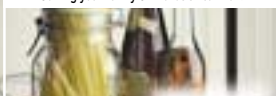
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Dino-mite!

Brooklyn Children's Museum plays host to a bevy of lifelike dinosaur panoramas

By Yoav Gonen
for The Brooklyn Papers

It's the closest thing yet to Jurassic Park, except without those carnivorous Velociraptors.

Walking down the ramp within the oval, metal tunnel in the Brooklyn Children's Museum that leads to their new exhibit "Dinosaurs!" is, at first, an innocuous experience, like passing through an underground airport tunnel.

There's the same, rounded shape, and neon lights along the wall. But instead of people movers, there's a man-made stream running through the middle.

Instead of people running for flights, children run to the sights. And instead of a voice announcing that the horizontal escalator ride is over, there's a distinctive roar that says this ride is just about to begin.

When the mechanical dinosaurs shrieked on Tuesday afternoon, so did the kids.

"I like meeting dinosaurs," said Kyle, 5, who attends PS 203 in the Flatlands neighborhood. Within minutes of entering the museum, the energetic Kyle, wearing a cast on his right arm ("I fell off a pole," he explained) lost his chaperone, his grandmother Antonia.

When she found him again, she told him, "I'm too old for you today." His response was that he wanted to go see the dinosaurs.

After seeing the exhibit for the third time since it opened in May, Kyle concluded, "They're not even real. If they were real they would destroy the entire place."

Then he ran away.

Asked if Kyle's affection for dinosaurs was a new thing, Antonia said, "Are you kidding? ... He's got dinosaur puzzles, dinosaurs that he painted. He says, 'Wouldn't it be nice if one of them was alive?'"

The dinosaurs are, in fact, incredibly lifelike, with eyes, heads and tails that move, and mouths that open when they growl. The 12-foot-tall Tyrannosaurus Rex has orange eyes that move with the head, a mouthful of sharp teeth that are each about five inches long, and little hands and a big tail that move as if with the breath of life.

The nearby mother and father Proceratops look like two hornless, beaked rhinos, standing around a nest of 12 eggs in various states of hatching. Some of the newborns flail around, while some of them still reside in half-broken

shells. The sporadic roar emitted by the couple sounds something like a loud, evil belch. It even startled a few adults.

Other dinosaurs include a Stegosaurus, whose name means "plated lizard," a flying Pteranodon, and a parent and baby Chasmosaurus, again with a resemblance to rhinos, and all of which are the creation of Kokoro Dinosaurs of Tokyo. They are in Brooklyn as a traveling exhibit that will run through Aug. 31.

"Opening weekend we saw 3,000 people come through," said Bahia Ramos, director of government and community affairs for the museum. She said the exhibit has helped people discover some of the other ongoing exhibits, like the live reptile area around the corner from the dinosaurs, with its 17-foot boa constrictor, Fantasia.

Although the dinosaurs were pro-



Cretaceous creatures: Brooklyn Children's Museum hosts an installation of animatronic dinosaurs that will thrill kids and adults.

duced elsewhere, Ramos said that the museum constructed the dioramas that house them. A volcano serves as the backdrop for the T-Rex, along with green plants and mesh plastic, which, when combined with the shadowy, jungle lighting, creates an eerie ambience.

"Some of the younger kids can be very scared," said Ramos, as can some of the older, supposedly bolder children, she added.

And without fail, the eyes and mouths of child after child expanded in either fear or wonder as they came out from the tunnel and first laid eyes on the 34-foot Apatosaurus (formerly known as a Brontosaurus), which serves as the centerpiece of the exhibit.

The older kids would often spot the monster and open their eyes wide and smile and try to touch it (it's not allowed), while the younger kids opened their mouths in fear and took a step or two backward.

Breani, 7, was of the latter group, and she ran quite readily in order to hold her aunt's hand.

"It's scary," she said, to the point that she didn't care to linger for too long in

the dimly lit 2,500-square-foot room. For kids who have finished with the main exhibit, there is also a paleontology area where they can search for fossils in the "dig box," create a dinosaur picture at the rubbing station, and operate the movements and growls of a robotic T-Rex skeleton at the push of some red buttons. But on Tuesday, the kids seemed enchanted enough with the dinosaurs themselves.

Mikheil Dunn, 10, of Long Island, circled around the Apatosaurus with excitement and said, "It looked at me and started roaring."

His friend was prodding him to pet the younger, smaller Apatosaurus on the head, and Mikheil kept hesitating when his hand neared the moving head and, especially, the closing mouth.

Kiera Dewar, 4, wearing a yellow dress and a matching bandana over her hair, on a whim decided to name the young Apatosaurus after herself. She was waving, smiling, and roaring back at her namesake, as well as at several other dinosaurs. She didn't stop smiling the entire time she was in the room.

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Screamin'omatic Pop-Soul
SAT • 7/19 • 7PM

THUR • 7/24 • 7:30PM
Film on giant 50-foot screen!
Classic indie film with live music by
ETHEL NEW Mixed String Quartet

FRI • 7/25 • 8PM
BROOKLYN PHILHARMONIC WITH LILLIAS WHITE

FRI • 8/01 • 7:30PM
Film on a giant 50-foot screen!
Silky Smooth
The Great
JODY WATLEY
Return of a Great Pop/R&B Diva

SAT • 8/02 • 7:30PM
Donnie

SUN • 8/03 • NOON-9PM
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Alternate Week Recycling Collection Starts JULY 28



Alternate-Week Recycling Calendar

July 2003						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
27	28	29	30	31		

August 2003						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Use the borough map on the next page to check your Recycling Day, and to see if your area is collected on the "A" Week or the "B" Week.

Then check the calendar here to see when to set out your recyclables for collection.

This is just to get you started. Soon you will receive a recycling guide in the mail with a calendar for the entire year.

For more information, call 311 or visit www.nyc.gov/sanitation.

Color Legend

- "A" Week
- "B" Week

What to Recycle

Now you can **RECYCLE PLASTIC BOTTLES & JUGS** along with metal!

Plastic Bottles & Jugs
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Place in CLEAR bags or BLUE-labeled recycling bins.

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Place in CLEAR bags or GREEN-labeled recycling bins.
Tie and bundle corrugated cardboard.

DO NOT RECYCLE:

- any glass items
- any other plastics

Place these items with your regular trash.

Help make recycling cost effective. ONLY recycle designated materials!



Continue to return **5¢ deposit** bottles and cans to the store for refund.

These changes to the Recycling Program affect all New York City residents and institutions.

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Thanks for doing your part, New York!

Brooklyn

Effective July 28, recycling collection for the whole borough will occur every other week.

Locate your neighborhood on the map below to find your Recycling Day and Recycling Week, either "A" Week or "B" Week.

Check the calendar on the previous page to see when to set out your recyclables for collection.

For more information, call 311 or visit www.nyc.gov/sanitation.

Recycling Days:

MON	Monday
TUE	Tuesday
WED	Wednesday
THU	Thursday
FRI	Friday
SAT	Saturday









Recycling Collection:

"A" Week	
"B" Week	

Street Lines:

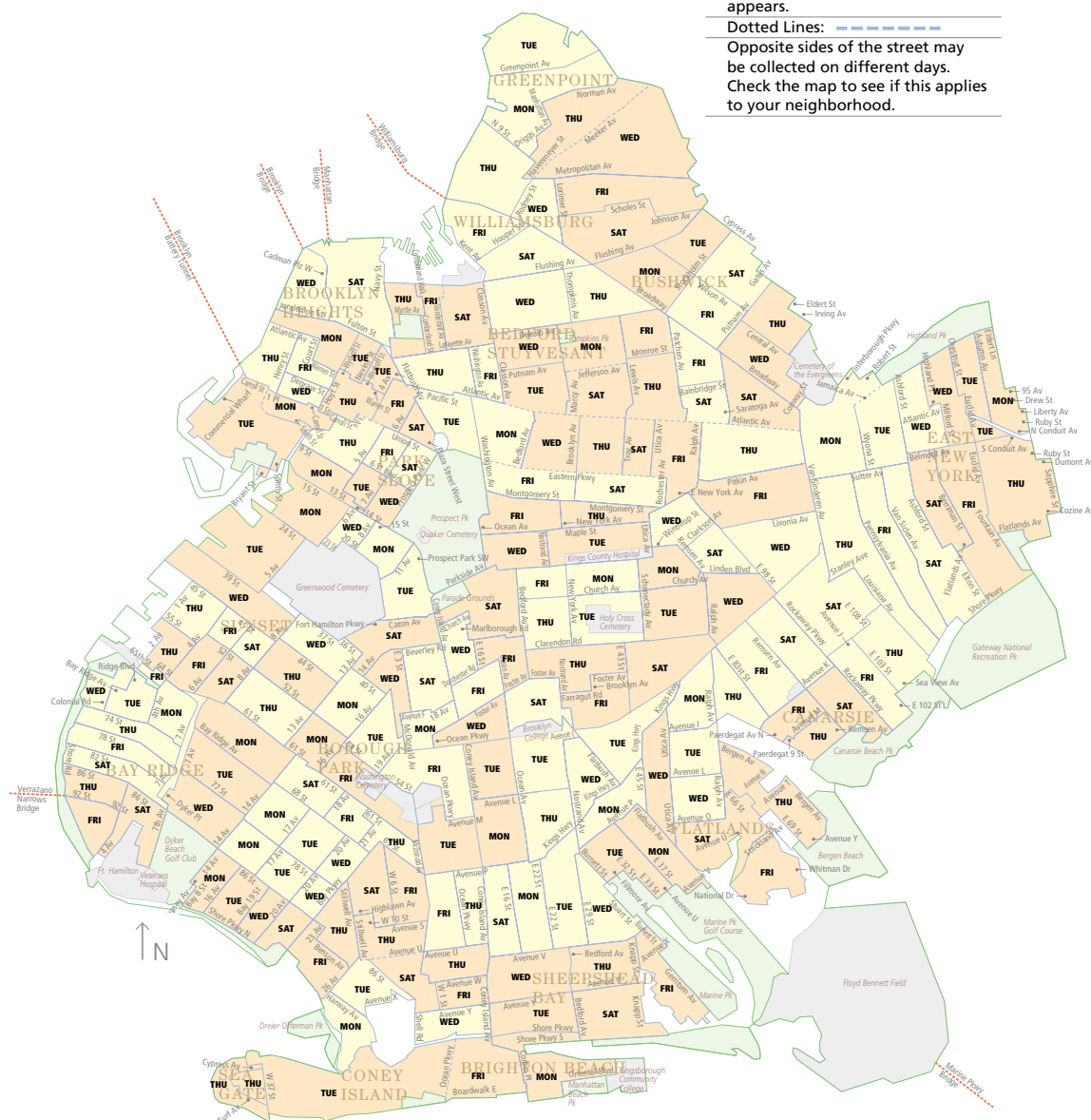
Solid Lines:

Both sides of the street are collected on the day where the street name appears.

Dotted Lines:        

Opposite sides of the street may be collected on different days.

Check the map to see if this applies to your neighborhood.



Where

Compiled by Susan Rosenthal

THURS, JULY 17

R&B FEST: BAM series of outdoor musical events. Today, Marla Reddison and Donnie perform. Noptz 2 pm, Metropolitan Commons, corner of Flatbush and Myrtle Avenues. (718) 636-4127. Free.

BAMCINEMATEK: "Kaurismäki Goes America: Ali Kaurismäki" presents "Take Care of Your Scarf, Tatiana" (1994). \$10. Pinnerman. Jim Jamach introduces 6:50 pm screening. 30 Lafayette Ave. (718) 636-4100.

SEMINAR: Neighbors Helping Neighbors hosts a homebuyer seminar. Learn about banking basics, credit, finding the right house, closing costs and more. \$25. 6-8 pm. Call for location. (718) 686-7746. ext. 14.

FUN GURU: Go-cart racing. \$20. 6:30 pm. Meets in Coney Island. Call for location and membership info. (718) 253-9496.

DANCING OF THE OGLOS: A live, hand-crafted Giglio tower is carried through the streets on shoulders of 150 men. Borough of Williamsburg. 718 384-0222. Free.

CONCERT SERIES: Borough President Mary Markowitz hosts the 25th annual Summer Season Concert Series. Tonight: Classic rock with WAR. 7:30 pm. Asner. 30 Lafayette Ave. (718) 636-4100.

BARGE MUSIC: chamber music program of all Mozart. \$35. 7:30 pm. Fulton Ferry Landings. (718) 624-2083.

FOOD TALK: Park Slope Food Coop talk. "Our Relationship with Food." Learn about whole foods, organic vs. conventional produce and the power of local food. 7:30 pm. 782 Union St. (718) 622-0050. Free.

CELEBRATE BROOKLYN: 25th season of Brooklyn's summer festival of music, dance, and film. 3-D with music by The Black Lagoon. 3-D glasses provided. 7:30 pm. Prospect Park Bandshell, Ninth Street and Prospect Park West. (718) 655-1982. Free.

PARK FILMS: Fourth annual Brooklyn Bridge Park film series presents "Cinderella." \$4. 7:30 pm. Prospect Park Bandshell, Ninth Street and Prospect Park West. (718) 622-0050. Free.

CIRCUS: Clyde Beatty-Cole Bros. at Marine Park. 10:30 am and 8 pm. See Sat., July 19.

FRI, JULY 18

BROOKLYN GRAND PRIC: Bicycle racing under aegis of Kappa Sports in Prospect Park. Race registration starts at 6 am. Details at kappasports.com/nyccs. Info@kappa.com.

YOUTH SERIES: Special. "The Black Lagoon." Youth Theater Series presents "Junk." \$3. 10 am and 2 pm. South Oxford Square, 138 South Oxford St. (718) 396-5658.

BUTTERFLY COUNT: Prospect Park's Audubon Center hosts a butterfly walk with a park guide designed to teach kids about butterflies. 2 pm. (718) 281-9000. Free.

BAMCINEMATEK: "Kaurismäki Goes America: Ali Kaurismäki" presents "Anja" (1985). \$10. 2, 4:30, 6:50 and 9:10 pm. 30 Lafayette Ave. (718) 636-4100.

CONCERT: Brooklyn Chamber Music hosts drummer Scott Napoli and his trio in a jazz performance. 5 to 7 pm. 38 Seventh Ave. Also, The Jamelabaz Band performs New Orleans jazz. 5 to 7 pm. In front of Canal, Third Street and Seventh Avenue. (718) 622-3300. Free.

TRAFFIC CALMING: LICHOW: Brooklyn gets cars out of Prospect Park, bike ride around the loop road to slow traffic. 6-7 pm. Call for location and membership info. (718) 253-9496.

PUPPET SHOW: Children and master puppeteer who took part in White Bro Productions' two-week workshop present Van Whitman on the waterfront. Presented with Brooklyn Bridge Coalition. Free. (718) 622-0050 or www.brooklynbridgecoalition.org.

BOXING: White-collar event. \$15 spectators, \$35 members. 7:30 pm. Gleason's Gym, 83 First St. (718) 797-2872.

BARGE MUSIC: chamber music program of all Mozart. \$35. 7:30 pm. Fulton Ferry Landings. (718) 624-2083.

CELEBRATE BROOKLYN: Stephen Mallouk and The Jicks perform. Also, singer-songwriter Shannon McNally. 7:30 pm. Prospect Park Bandshell, Ninth Street and Prospect Park West. (718) 655-1982. Free.

AQUA NIGHTS: NY Aquarium hosts an evening music series. Latin night with conga player. \$15. 8 children and seniors. 7:45 pm. Surf Avenue and West Eighth Street. (718) 265-SURF.

ROCKTOP FILMS: Summer series presents "New York Non-Fiction." Live music at 8 pm. Movie at 9 pm. One. 57 Thames St. (718) 417-7362. Free.

PRE-FIREWORKS FREAKS: Astroland Amusement Park presents entertainment with The Corey Island Show. 9 pm. Fireworks follow. Coney Island.

SOUTHWAY: musician Chris Lee. 125 Fifth Ave. at Sterling Place. Call (718) 230-6266.

CIRCUS: Clyde Beatty-Cole Bros. at Marine Park. 5 pm and 8 pm. See Sat., July 19.

VOLUNTEER OP: Brooklyn's first tourism center, which will be located in Borough Hall, is scheduled to open next week. Volunteers needed. Call (718) 622-3647.

SAT, JULY 19

OUTDOORS AND TOURS
GREENMARKET: in Fort Greene Park, Fort Greene. Field crops in season include orchard fruits, specialty items and vegetables. 8 am. Washington Park and DeKalb Avenue. (718) 789-9366.

GREENWOOD CEMETERY: Big Onion Tours offers an overview of history, architecture and people of this Brooklyn landmark. \$10. 1 pm. Meet at 25th Street and Fifth Avenue. (212) 575-4545.

TWILIGHT TOUR: Big Onion Tours takes a walk across the Brooklyn Bridge and through Brooklyn Heights. \$12. \$10 seniors and students. 5 pm. Meet at southeast corner of Broadway and Chambers Street. Lower Manhattan. (212) 493-1090.

PERFORMANCES
BARGE MUSIC: chamber music program of Brahms, Szymanowski, Harnadel and Dvorak. \$35. 7:30 pm. Fulton Ferry Landings. (718) 624-2083.

CELEBRATE BROOKLYN: The Duke Trucks Band and Tony Trischka Band perform jazz-rock. 7:30 pm. Prospect Park Bandshell, Ninth Street and Prospect Park West. (718) 655-1982. Free.

SUMMER CONCERT: Kingsborough Community College presents an evening program of swing music. Bring your own chairs. 8 pm. Rainbow Bandshell. 2001 Central Blvd. (718) 368-5640.

OPERA: Opera Company of Brooklyn presents Mozart's "The Abduction from the Harem." \$25. \$15 Brooklyn residents with ID. \$5 students. 8 pm. First Unitarian Church, 50 Monroe Place. (212) 567-3283.

SUNSET MUSIC SERIES: The Leaps perform at 8 pm. Chris and Meredith Thompson at 7 pm. The Jimmy Nunn Band at 10 pm. Shuttle bus from Park Slope, Brooklyn Heights and Carroll Gardens. Barge at Columbia Street Marine Terminal. Red Hook. (718) 624-4719. Free.

LIST YOUR EVENT...

To list your event in Where to Go, please give us as much notice as possible. Send your listing by mail: GO Brooklyn, The Brooklyn Papers, 28 Court St., Ste. 506, Brooklyn, NY 11242, or by fax: (718) 834-9278. Listings are free and printed on a space available basis. We regret we cannot take listings over the phone.

CREATURE FEATURE: Celebrate Brooklyn presents "Creature From the Black Lagoon" in 3-D with music by the Jazz Passengers at the Prospect Park Bandshell July 17.

By Susan Rosenthal
The Prospect Park Bandshell, 30 Lafayette Ave., will host a 3-D screening of the classic movie "Creature From the Black Lagoon" on Friday, July 17, at 7:30 pm. The film, which was released in 1954, is a horror movie about a prehistoric creature that lives in a lagoon and attacks people who swim in the water. The film is being shown in 3-D with music by the Jazz Passengers, a local jazz band. The film is being shown in 3-D with music by the Jazz Passengers, a local jazz band. The film is being shown in 3-D with music by the Jazz Passengers, a local jazz band.

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the Brooklyn Lyceum. At 3 pm, "Chitty Chitty Bang Bang" (1968). At 6 pm, "Singer in the Rain" (1952). \$5 for the earlier show, \$8 for the 6 pm show. 227 Fourth Ave. (718) 857-4816.

MON, JULY 21

SALT MARSH NATURE CENTER: Expert birders offer an early morning walk. 8 am. Also, talk on the importance of the natural environment. 7 pm. Salt Marsh Nature Center, 3302 Ave. U. (718) 421-2021. Free.

CITY KIDS: City Parks Foundation offers an instructional track and field program for city kids ages 8 to 14. 9:30 to 11:30 am. Mondays and Wednesdays. Red Hook Recreation Center, Hicks and Henry streets. (718) 699-4200. Free.

BOOKMAKING WORKSHOP: Teachers of grades 7-12 are invited to learn the fundamentals of making books. Simple stitching and binding techniques will be taught. \$30 to \$100 sliding scale. 10 am-4 pm. 37 Greenpoint Ave. (718) 383-9821.

BAMCINEMATEK: "One, Two, Three, Four: Billy Wilder" series presents "The Apartment" (1964). \$10. 4:30, 6:50 and 9:10 pm. 30 Lafayette Ave. (718) 636-4100.

GARDEN INSECTS: Brooklyn Botanic Garden hosts a talk on common insect pests. 7:30 pm. Brooklyn Botanic Garden, 990 Broadway. \$22. \$19 members. 4 to 8 pm. 1000.

BARNES AND NOBLE: Aaron Nagelski, of Honkoku, will be reading from and signing his book "Honkoku: The Zen Antidote to Road Rage." 7 pm. 106 Court St. (212) 330-7882.

CONCERT SERIES: Brooklyn Borough President Mary Markowitz hosts a summertime concert series. Tonight: annual gospel night. 7:30 pm. Wingate Field, 1100 Broadway. (718) 469-1912. Free.

JAMC: Don Slonoff's Jamc. Participants show up at 6:30 pm for warm-up, admission is free. Watchers invited at 8 pm. \$5. Brooklyn Lyceum, 227 Fourth Ave. (718) 857-4816.

CIRCUS: Clyde Beatty-Cole Bros. Circus at Marine Park. 10:30 am and 8 pm. See Sat., July 19.

FREE SPAYING: ASPCA provides free spay and low-cost spay and neuter surgery. Call for location and hours. (212) 876-7000. ext. 4003.

BASKETBALL CAMP: Bishop Kearney HS. \$10 for week. Girls only. Grades 5-9. 9:30 am-4 pm. 2202 60th St. (718) 634-0101.

TUES, JULY 22

BOOKMAKING WORKSHOP: Teachers of grades K-6 are invited to learn the fundamentals of bookmaking. Simple stitching and binding techniques will be taught. \$30 to \$100 sliding scale. 10 am-4 pm. 37 Greenpoint Ave. (718) 383-9821.

STORYTELLING: Fifth annual Readings in the Parks. Today, Crispus Attucks Playground hosts Tucker's Tales Puppet Theater. 10:30 am. Call (212) 360-6260. Free.

DANCERS IN THE PARK: Young Dancers in Repertory hosts dance classes for children. 10:30 am. Leif Erikson Park, 27th Street and Fifth Avenue. (718) 567-9620. Free.

READ AND REEL: Summer garden and literacy program for kids at Brooklyn Public Library. Red Hook branch. 7:30 pm. 106 Court St. (212) 330-7882.

KIDS ADVENTURE: Brooklyn Botanic Garden invites kids, ages 8-10, to learn about "Our Wild City." Find out about the wildlife in the city. Learn why trees grow out of sidewalks and how they impact city dwellers. Learn about urban environments. \$34. \$32 members. 1:30 pm. Brooklyn Botanic Garden, 990 Broadway. (718) 622-3300.

KIDSMOBILE: Brooklyn Public Library's traveling van parks at Sunset Park. 1:30-2:30 pm. 44th Street and Sixth Avenue. (718) 253-4545.

BAMCINEMATEK: "Kaurismäki Goes America: Ali Kaurismäki" presents "Lentäväkone Meek Moore" (1994). \$10. 4:30, 6:50 and 9:10 pm. 30 Lafayette Ave. (718) 636-4100.

BUSINESS PLAN COMPETITION: Brooklyn Public Library invites entrepreneurs to submit a business plan for a chance to win cash and free business services. 6-8 pm. 280 Canal Plaza West. (718) 622-7000.

PUBLIC MEETING: NYC Charter Revision Commission. Invited to observe, but not participate in hearing. 6 pm. Also, public forum on the Administration of Elections. 4 pm. Brooklyn Public Library, Grand Army Plaza. (212) 676-2060.

CONCERT: City Parks Foundation and BAM presents a series of concerts. Tonight: Original Pops with Fuzzy Haskins, Grady Thomas and Ray Davis. 7 pm. Fort Greene Park, De



Day tripper

Photo exhibit peeks into the lives of Brooklynites

By Deborah Kolben
The Brooklyn Papers

On a rainy Saturday in April, more than 100 photographers fanned out across the streets, alleyways, and subway stations of Brooklyn armed with cameras, rolls of film, and a mission.

The mission: to capture the breadth of culture in the borough's 69-plus neighborhoods. The results of those excursions, from Bedford-Stuyvesant to Bay Ridge to Brooklyn Heights, will adorn the walls of Borough Hall starting in early September.

Positive Focus, a nonprofit center for Brooklyn photographers, teamed with adayinthehell.org, a photography Web site, to sponsor the event, "A Day in the Life of Brooklyn."

"It's about documenting Brooklyn and the daily lives of the people and culture," explained Rob Lowell, a Positive Focus board member who helped organize the event.

Because of a copyright issue, (Harper Collins holds a copyright for a book series of the same name) the organization was forced to change the title of the show to



"Real Brooklyn, a Day in Our Life."

On April 26, each photographer set out to their designated section of the borough. Their only assignment was to document the neighborhood however they saw fit.

Each photographer submitted up to four prints from the day. (Because it rained much of the day, the con-



Photographs selected for "Real Brooklyn, a Day in Our Life," include images by (left to right) Hank Gans, Brooklyn Papers photographer Tom Callan and Carolina Salguero.

test was extended for a second day).

Sifting through more than 400 prints, judges last month selected 80 photographs to hang in the Borough Hall show.

The selection is an eclectic cross-section representing the diversity of Brooklyn. There's Hank Gans' shot of a heavily rouged, deep-red lipstick Junior's counter-

lady, her hair in a bun with a dark pink bow as she offers up a straw-

berry cheesecake, a glimmer of a smile on her face. Contrast that with Carolina Salguero's stark, black-and-white image of what appears to be a gruff, older longshoreman standing below a dock rigging, the only other image visible a light bulb casting light on a dock structure in the background.

Amy, a nose-pierced Laundromat employee, is captured matching socks at a Carroll Gardens

Laundromat on the corner of Henry and President streets in a photo taken by Brenda Mills while Sherri Natti shot a young boy in an East Flatbush barber shop watching closely in the mirror as the barber takes an electric razor to the back of his head.

A photo by Brooklyn Papers photographer Tom Callan was selected for the show's promotional material.



EXHIBIT

A selection of images chosen for "Real Brooklyn, a Day in Our Life" can be viewed online at www adayinthehell.org/brooklyn. Positive Focus can be reached at (718) 854-4639. The exhibit will be on display at Borough Hall (Joralemon Street at Court Street in Downtown Brooklyn) starting with an opening reception on Monday, Sept. 8, from 5:30 pm to 8 pm, through Sept. 30. A smaller selection of photographs from the exhibit will be on display at Photo District Gallery, 37 W. 20th St., in Manhattan, starting Aug. 21 for four weeks.

Assigned to DUMBO, Callan shot photos of the Brooklyn Bridge from the roof deck of the Sweeney building, but the photo that caught the judges' eyes he took from the Q train platform at Pacific Street. The shot peeks into one of the train's windows and catches a crowded, but not packed, subway car carry-

ing a typical cross section of riders of various ethnicity. All are looking in different directions — one reading a newspaper, a couple who may be in conversation — and seem oblivious to the photographer on the platform. All that is, except for one youngster in the far right of the window wearing a hooded, New York emblazoned sweatshirt, who is muzzling for the camera.

Callan attributed the photo's success to good timing and being in the right place at the right time.

The Brooklyn Heights-based photographer says he often travels with his camera out and ready because otherwise "you see a perfect shot but you can't capture it."

"The judges liked the fact that it had the Brighton Beach sign and that the train was going out that way heading towards Brooklyn. It captured the essence of the event," said Lowell, adding, "It's all about celebrating Brooklyn."



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