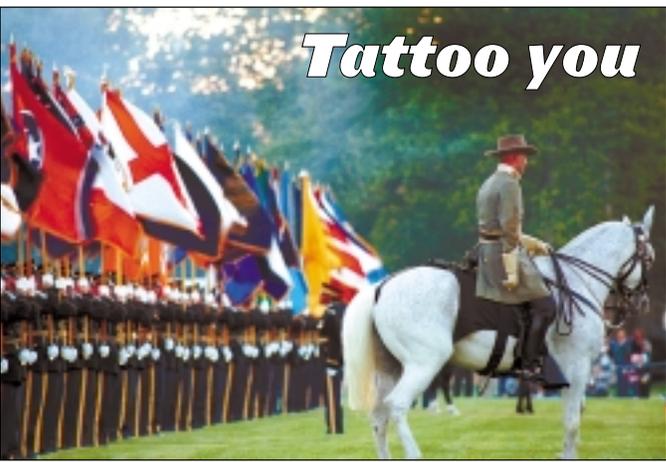


THIS WEEK IN
GO BROOKLYN
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 Keyspan Park gala a thunderous success
INSIDE

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The Brooklyn Papers
The Bay Ridge Paper
 Our neighborhood's independent voice

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The extraordinary military pageantry on display at the Fort Hamilton Army Base as part of the annual Twilight Tattoo on Saturday, June 8, includes mounted cavalry and a show of state flags.

Tattoo you

The Brooklyn Papers / Greg Mangro

THE VIG IS UP

Hynes busts sports-sharks

By Heather J. Wilson
 The Brooklyn Papers

The district attorney's announcement Wednesday read like a 21st-century pulp fiction novel — the arrests of a Colombo organized crime family loan-shark already wearing an ankle bracelet to monitor his whereabouts, a telephone company employee giving the loan sharks confidential information to track down delinquent debtors, and five guys who turned to hijacking trucks to pay back their debts.

If that wasn't enough, throw in Babe Ruth's baseball glove, Mickey Mantle's bat and Muhammad Ali's boxing gloves.

District Attorney Charles Hynes' announcement of 11 arrests marked the culmination of a nine-month investigation into a loan sharking operation allegedly run out of two 13th Avenue businesses in Dyker Heights — a now defunct candy store at 66th Street and a sports memorabilia store, Gamers Illusions, at 73rd Street.



DA Charles Hynes at Wednesday's press conference, with confiscated memorabilia, including Babe Ruth's glove. The Brooklyn Papers / Greg Mangro

Beeps battling over baseball

Boro chiefs bet on 'Clones, SI Yanks'

By Patrick Gallahue
 The Brooklyn Papers

Standing on the upper deck of a yacht called the *Romantica*, with an iron demigod James Molinaro shaking hands on a bet between the Verrazano Narrows Bridge — at

their backs, Brooklyn Borough President Marty Markowitz and Staten Island Borough President James Molinaro shook hands on a bet between the two boroughs.

With Markowitz refusing to set foot on Staten Island, the two boarded a ship that stopped somewhere near the middle of the Narrows — roughly 40 degrees 36 minutes north latitude and 74 degrees 3 minutes west longitude — to shake on a wager over the 12 regular season meetings between the Staten Island Yankees and the Brooklyn Cyclones.

The victorious borough president will have the opportunity to display the newly created "Borough Cup," furnished by the teams themselves, inside the victor's Borough Hall, and the loser will pay for dinner in a restaurant of the rival's choice on the opposing side of the barge.



Two borough presidents, Staten Island's James Molinaro and Brooklyn's Marty Markowitz, face off in neutral territory — afloat on the Narrows — to place bets on the upcoming season series between their respective baseball teams, while mascots Scooter the Holy Cow and Sandy the Seagull look on.

Galante guilty

Bar-stab murderer cops plea

By Heather J. Wilson
 The Brooklyn Papers

If not for the swiftness of Carmine Galante's plea hearing Friday, the courtroom would have been filled with the entirety of William Manolis' family, intent on hearing the fate of the man who murdered their beloved son, brother and cousin.

Manolis, a Bay Ridge resident and St. John's University student, was celebrating his 18th birthday in the early morning hours of April 4, 1999, inside the now defunct Bee Kee Bar at 9060 Fort Hamilton Parkway, when prosecutors charge, Galante stabbed him. Galante was on the lam for two years before police caught up to him.

hearing. And that is what he did, pleading guilty to second-degree murder for stabbing Manolis. He faced 25 years to life in prison if convicted at trial, but accepted a plea deal for 18 to life instead.

"I walked into the bar and I stabbed William Manolis," Galante told Judge Joel Goldberg as Manolis family members and friends filed into the Downtown Brooklyn courtroom.

Ridin' the Cyclones
 with Gerald Kuntzman

Ex-Clones year for Brooklyn

Get ready for the best baseball experience of your life. And I'm not talking to all you Brooklyn Cyclones fans, you already know how great it is watching your New York-Penn League champions play at Keyspan Park.

No, I'm addressing this column to the new crop of Cyclones players — whose identities are still as well-guarded as the location of Dick Cheney's secret lair even though the season opens on Tuesday.

As someone who covered the Cyclones inaugural (did I say championship?) season last year, I got to see the typical minor-league experience on every Cyclones road trip. In Burlington, the stadium is almost 100 years old and sits next to a high school soccer field. In Jamestown, a depressed New York panhandle town, the crowds are so small that foul pops rattle around the stadium like a pachinko ball.

In Williamsport, the locker room is so small, it looks as if the team had taken a men's room and thrown a few strips of green Astroturf on the floor.

See RIDING on page 4



A new report calls the B63 bus, which runs from Bay Ridge to Brooklyn Heights, the slowest in Brooklyn.

Study: B63's a slowpoke

By Heather J. Wilson
 The Brooklyn Papers

When Paul Marzan, a New York City Transit Authority bus driver for 17 years, was told by a passenger on Monday that a study had named his B63 route one of the slowest in the city, he said he could only shake his head.

The study, he told The Brooklyn Papers while driving his route in Bay Ridge on Tuesday, was unreasonable and his route, he added,

has never been regarded as slow. The report, released by the Straphangers Campaign and Transportation Alternatives on Monday, awarded the first ever "Pokey" awards to the 25 slowest bus routes in New York City. The Straphangers Campaign, a transit riders advocacy group that is part of the New York Public Interest Research Group (NYPIRG), also issued a comprehensive 90-page report advocating strategies that have boosted bus speeds elsewhere in the nation and around

the world. The report, released by the Straphangers Campaign and Transportation Alternatives on Monday, awarded the first ever "Pokey" awards to the 25 slowest bus routes in New York City. The Straphangers Campaign, a transit riders advocacy group that is part of the New York Public Interest Research Group (NYPIRG), also issued a comprehensive 90-page report advocating strategies that have boosted bus speeds elsewhere in the nation and around

through Boerum Hill and Brooklyn Heights. The route normally runs north along Fifth Avenue to Atlantic Avenue, but because of the Fifth Avenue reconstruction project, since January the bus has run up Fourth Avenue.

DA: B'Beach slasher trial to be a long one

By Heather J. Wilson
 The Brooklyn Papers

Prosecutors told The Brooklyn Papers this week they expect the trial of Louis Poveromo, charged with stabbing to death a Bath Beach woman in her apartment last year, to be a lengthy one due to the large amount of physical evidence and witness testimony they will present.

On Friday, Brooklyn Supreme Court Justice Michael Gary scheduled Poveromo's pre-trial hearing for July 1. The trial is slated to start Sept. 9.

witnesses and experts could be on vacation. "It is going to be a long trial ... and we didn't want it to interfere with people's vacations," Appel said. "There are a lot of witnesses, a lot of experts. We have DNA experts coming in, and the medical examining."

Poveromo, 27, was arrested last August at his parents' Bensonhurst home. He was indicted on two counts of second-degree murder and criminal possession of a weapon in the fourth degree in the murder of Jane Russo, whose naked body was found stabbed multiple times. Her throat had been slashed. Poveromo pleaded not guilty to all of the charges.

See STABBING on page 2



State Sen. Vincent Gentile rings school bell to kick off his re-election campaign outside PS 176 on 69th St and 12th Avenue. He said education would be a key campaign issue.

Gentile kicks off campaign

By Heather J. Wilson
 The Brooklyn Papers

State Sen. Vincent Gentile officially kicked off his re-election campaign Friday, ringing a brass school bell on the front steps of a Bay Ridge elementary school to signify the importance of education as a campaign issue in his race against City Councilman Marty Golden.

Flanked by community members, parents and students of PS 176 as school was letting out, Gentile used the 69th Street sidewalk in front of the school, between 12th and 13th avenues, for his podium as the Beatles' "Eight Days a Week" played on a cassette player at his feet.

See GENTILE on page 4

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Rudy to get DiMaggio jersey

By Heather J. Wilson
The Brooklyn Papers



Xaverian's Sal Ferrera with DiMaggio jersey behind him.

Former Mayor Rudolph Giuliani will be the guest of honor at the third annual Xaverian High School Joe DiMaggio Award Gala next Wednesday, June 19, in Manhattan.

The gala, beginning at 6 pm at the New York Sheraton on Seventh Avenue at 52nd Street, is held to benefit Xaverian. The Bay Ridge college preparatory school for boys, founded in 1957, is located at 7100 Shore Road. The money raised by the award ceremony is applied to the school's Real Academic Achievement, or REACH, program for college-bound, learning disabled students — the first of its kind in New York City.

Giuliani will receive the award for his leadership and achievements. Ferrera said, Xaverian will also present the former mayor with the No. 5 baseball jersey that DiMaggio wore when the Yankees captured the 1951 World Series. The jersey bears DiMaggio's autograph.

A number of celebrities, politicians and sports figures are scheduled to attend the event. Former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, a past recipient of the DiMaggio Award, will present it to Giuliani. Former baseball commissioner Fay Vincent is set to give the keynote address. Gov. George Pataki, former "Saturday Night Live" star Joe Piscopo, David Letterman, Danny Aiello, Knicks General Manager Scott Layden and a number of Knicks players are all expected to attend, Ferrera said. The high school baseball team and 30 other Xaverian students will also be in attendance.

According to Xaverian President Sal Ferrera, 100 percent of the graduating seniors enrolled in the REACH program have gone on to college.

The DiMaggio Award is an offshoot of another Xaverian award, the Concordia Award, of which DiMaggio himself was the first recipient in 1997. Following DiMaggio's death in 1999, Xaverian was granted

permission by his estate to name the award after him.

Giuliani will receive the award for his leadership and achievements. Ferrera said, Xaverian will also present the former mayor with the No. 5 baseball jersey that DiMaggio wore when the Yankees captured the 1951 World Series. The jersey bears DiMaggio's autograph.

Giuliani, Ferrera added, embodies the DiMaggio attributes of courage and grace that the Sept. 11 events revealed. Ironically, Ferrera said, DiMaggio thought highly of Giuliani, while Giuliani idolized the Yankee Clipper.

"Clearly the award is com-

ing full circle for excellence," Ferrera said. "Giuliani was a big admirer of Joe DiMaggio and DiMaggio was a big fan of Giuliani. Giuliani personifies all the characteristics of Joe."

This year, the award is of exceptional importance, Ferrera said, since the school lost 23 alumni in the World Trade Center attacks. Two family members of each former student killed on Sept. 11 have been invited to attend the dinner as special guests of the school.

"The mayor would like to meet all of the family members and speak with them. And we will have a moment of silence in honor of those lost," Ferrera said.

"This also increases the visibility of the school, and it brings the school to the attention of alumni around the country," Ferrera said of the event.

Anyone who would like more information or would like to reserve tickets for the gala can call (212) 213-1166 or log on to www.joedimaggioworld.com on the Web.

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WTC concrete going to Italy



Councilman Marty Golden with Leslie Rice, who lost her mother, Eileen, on Sept. 11, and Anthony Troia of the Verrazano Rotary Club pose with piece #0060 of the World Trade Center wreckage, on its way to Italy. *Brooklyn Papers / Greg Mangio*

By Heather J. Wilson
The Brooklyn Papers

At the request of the mayor of Rome, Italy, Councilman Marty Golden secured steel and concrete salvaged from the World Trade Center site to be shipped overseas for a memorial.

Rome Mayor Massimiliano Fiasoli contacted the Verrazano Rotary Club on May 1, and asked for pieces of the Twin Towers in order to create a memorial in the rotunda of Rome's city hall, explained Golden spokesman John Quaglione.

Through negotiations with the police department and the city's Office of Emergency Management, Golden obtained two pieces of steel and a pound of concrete for Rome's mayor.

The steel and concrete was put on display at a press conference Friday.

"It took a lot of time and effort, and there were a lot of rules and regulations the councilman had to work through to secure the materials," Quaglione said, noting that the president of the Verrazano Rotary Club, John Blandi, would be transporting the steel and concrete by plane this weekend.

"[The attacks] are something that bonded us in brotherhood," Quaglione said. "About 11 percent of those who died, or 287 people, were Italian Americans."

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STABBING...

Continued from page 1

Ken Taub, the deputy Brooklyn district attorney in charge of the homicide division, said at the time of Poveromo's arrest that he was confident that the DA's office would return a conviction in the case.

"The evidence that led to the arrest, makes me think that we have a strong case," Taub said.

The evidence presented at the indictment consisted of statements by the defendant and witness testimony, as well as bite-mark evidence and DNA evidence, Taub said.

Morak's defense team partner this week questioned the efficacy of the state's case against his client.

"There is no direct evidence whatsoever that connects our client to the crime," said Mitchell Schuman, Poveromo's other defense attorney.

"It is completely a circumstantial case," Appel said the DNA evidence was the most significant part of the prosecution's case, but did not elaborate on what, specifically, the evidence showed.

Russo, 35, was found murdered in her Bay 17th Street apartment on July 15, 2001. Police said there were no signs of sexual assault, and would not comment on whether Russo had engaged in consensual sex prior to her murder.

She also had a bite mark on her arm that allegedly incriminated Poveromo, police said.

Poveromo, who had gone out on a date with Russo prior to her murder, had been a suspect in the police investigation since the discovery of her body. He had gone to Russo's apartment the night of the murder to "hang out" according to police.

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BROOKLYN CYCLONES
 CHAMPIONS

Cop car hits 3 pedestrians

By Heather J. Wilson
The Brooklyn Papers

After losing its brakes, a police cruiser responding to an emergency call around 11:50 am on Monday, June 10 mounted a sidewalk near Fifth Avenue and 86th Street and struck three pedestrians.

Police said the three individuals, a 53-year-old woman, a 58-year-old man, and a 15-year-old boy, sustained minor injuries.

They were transported from the scene to Victory Memorial Hospital, where they were treated and released.

3 mug him

Three men grabbed a 20-year-old man walking to the train station along 20th Avenue at Benson Avenue around midnight on June 10.

The victim reported being grabbed from behind and held, while one man took more than \$200, two credit cards, his watch, eyeglasses and MetroCard. The victim was told not to move and the men then fled on foot in an unknown direction. Police have no suspects.

Catches bandit

A 42-year-old woman caught the person who stole her purse, with the help of police, right after it was snatched from her hands shortly before 2 pm on June 7, at the north-

62/68 Pct.

east corner of Fourth and Bay Ridge avenues.

The woman identified the perpetrator upon a canvass of the area.

A 21-year-old male suspect was caught by police holding her bag and another person's stolen check and they arrested him.

The purse was returned to the woman with nothing missing.

Bike thief

A man out for a ride on his bike, had it stolen from him by a knife-wielding bandit around 10 pm on June 10 at 72nd Street and 21st Avenue.

After the victim first refused to give up the bike, the attacker then brandished a knife.

Upon seeing it, the victim handed over the bike, and the thief rode away southbound on 21st Avenue.

Rob woman, 90

A 90-year-old woman reported that she was robbed of \$550 around noon on June 8, after two men followed her from a bank at 75th Street and Fifth Avenue to a diner at 72nd Street and Fifth Avenue.

One perpetrator began speaking with the woman in Spanish, while covering his face with a scarf, while the other reached into the

woman's purse and stole an envelope containing the money. The two men then fled in a burgundy minivan.

Happy family

A woman, 64, reported her 37-year-old daughter to police June 7, for allegedly using her personal information to obtain credit cards.

The daughter reportedly obtained three credit cards in the name of her mother, who lives at 19th Avenue and 66th Street, and stole numerous pieces of jewelry including two pairs of earrings, a ring, and a number of chains.

Jumped on 5th

A woman walking along Fifth Avenue at 82nd Street around 8 pm on June 7 reported that she was hit by a stranger with a shoe heel while another perpetrator slapped her with a stick, pulled her hair, and punched her in the face.

The victim was outside her place of employment at the time of the attack.

The victim told police the beatings were an ongoing problem. Police reported injuries to her right eye and back.

Costly trip

A woman returning to her Wakeman Place home at 15th Avenue from a trip to the store around 9:30 pm on June 6, reported a number of items missing.

The woman said she could not recall whether or not she had locked the front door

upon leaving for the store. Four hundred dollars, credit cards, keys to her home and her car, a debit card, a duffel bag, and a Fort Hamilton Army Base pass were all reported stolen.

Subway rob

A 21-year-old man reported being attacked by three other men around 4 am on June 9, at a train station at 62nd Street and Eighth Avenue.

The man said he was surrounded by the three men and then held by one as another removed \$15, a MetroCard and his bank cards. The third perpetrator stood as a lookout, but went through the victim's backpack although he did not take anything.

The victim then boarded the next northbound train while the perpetrators remained at the train station to see that he left.

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CYCLONES...

Continued from page 1

set Park shortly before 1 pm.
Calling Staten Island "the bedroom community of Brooklyn" — for all its residents who enjoy Brooklyn's many activities only to retire to their homes across the Narrows — and "the southwestern suburb of Brooklyn," Markowitz thanked Molinaro, who, he said, "knows he has no chance of winning, for being a good sport."

Earlier in the day, Markowitz held a ceremonial raising of the Cyclones team flag over Borough Hall, where the beloved Brooklyn Dodgers banner once flew.

The Dodgers flag, which flew for almost half a decade under the previous administration, was eventually presented to outgoing Borough President Howard Golden, who was term-limited out of office this year. Golden had pledged to keep the banner aloft until the Dodgers were brought back to the Borough of Kings, a dream that Markowitz has put to rest to rally Brooklyn behind its existing professional baseball team.

The challenge was first made to Molinaro earlier this year, but was held in limbo over a lack of neutral venue to execute the wager.
"We had played with some ideas," Molinaro told The Brooklyn Papers. "At one point the lower deck of the Verrazano was closed for repairs. Now it's open but we didn't want to stop traffic."

The apparent reticence of accepting the bet could have been a survival mechanism in the face of what last year proved to be a daunting foe.

The Cyclones and the Yankees met eight times last year, with the Cyclones racking up six wins against two defeats. The rivals met again in the first round of the playoffs, battling to advance in the New York-Penn League's McNamara Division.

Again, the Yankees accumulated, two games to none.

On Sept. 10, the Cyclones came one game closer to walking away with the Division Championship, winning on the road in the first of three games against the Williamsport Crosscutters. But the games were halted following the tragedy of the next day and the championship contest was cancelled with both teams named "co-champions" of the New York-Penn League 2001 season.

The Cyclones finished last season with a 52-24 record and set the all-time short-season class-A record for attendance in a single year. They have already virtually sold out for this coming year.

The management of the team, set aside 200 bleacher seats for each game, which will be sold on game days beginning at 10 am.

The Yankees filled their Richmond County Bank Ballpark to about 75 percent capacity and "this year we expect to be around 90 percent," said Josh Getzler, the chief operating officer of the Staten Island Yankees.

Fuel into an already burning rivalry will doubtless kindle even greater interest in the two minor league squads.

Citing the antagonism between the Dodgers and the Giants, Yankees' CEO Stan Getzler, said, "The great rivalry that existed then has been recreated, like it's in the bloodstream. It just happened, we didn't make it happen."

As the 117-foot Romanica launched towards the Verrazano, the "great rivalry" toned down a bit. Cyclones mascot Sandy the Seagull, joined its Staten Island counterpart, Scooter the Holy Cow, at the bar for a glass of water and Markowitz made small talk with Molinaro and his staffers.

As the boat, donated for the day by VIP Yacht through New York Waterways, came to a halt below the bridge, Markowitz, dressed in a Cyclones Jersey and team baseball cap, pitched a few friendly barbs at Molinaro, as he had all morning. Molinaro, who was similarly outfitted in a nylon S.I. Yankees jacket, offered a few swings back — and the games of summer began.

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Bishop Daily testifies in Boston

By Devlin Barrett
Associated Press

Diocese of Brooklyn Bishop Thomas Daily testified about sex abuse by priests in a closed-door session on Monday, a day after Long Island's top Catholic official offered a "sorrowful apology" for the excesses that have rocked the church's reputation. "I wish to proclaim: abuse of a minor by a priest, never again," the Rev. William F. Murphy declared in an emotional sermon, eliciting a burst of applause from congregants at St. Agnes Cathedral in Rockville Centre on Sunday. Daily was giving a sworn deposition in the case of defrocked priest John J. Geaghan, who has been accused of molesting more than 130 children in the Boston archdiocese. Daily served there from 1971 to

1984, beginning as Cardinal Humberto Medeiros' secretary. He said in March that he regretted some of the decisions he made during that time. A spokesman for the Diocese of Brooklyn, Frank DeRosa, said Daily "cooperated fully with the deposition and used his memory to the best of his ability." A lawyer for victims in the Boston case said Daily's deposition, at a hotel near LaGuardia Airport, could take most of the day. "We are basically questioning him on two tracks, one about what he knew as far as complaints against Father Geaghan, and what he did after he was told what he was told," said the lawyer, Mitchell Garabedian. "He received knowledge from a woman that seven people were molested. We want to know what he did with that information," Garabedian said. Garabedian said the other line of in-

quiry concerned a purported settlement in which the church was to pay \$15 to \$30 million to victims of sex abuse. Plaintiffs in the case say the church reneged on the agreement. The church has said the settlement was not final. Garabedian would not speculate on Monday's meeting but said that in previous sworn statements, Daily "answered some questions but not all questions. He has a lot of 'I don't recall' in there." Patrick McSorley, 27, who identified himself as one of the victims in the Boston case, said he expected "a lot of finger-pointing, because that's all we've gotten in the past." McSorley said he was 12 when the alleged abuse occurred. During a break, McSorley told reporters that Daily seemed evasive and sometimes angry during the questioning. Daily leads the Brooklyn Diocese that

serves 1.6 million Catholics in Brooklyn and Queens. Last month, he gave prosecutors information on more than 30 priests accused of sexual misconduct with minors over the past 20 years, and agreed to provide information on all such future cases without prior screening by the church. Murphy, whose domain covers 134 parishes with 1.6 million members in Nassau and Suffolk counties, said that while "a few priests" were responsible for the abuse scandal, it was "a tragedy of huge proportions that has struck at the heart of the church." "We offer our sorrowful apology to all those who have been harmed," Murphy said. A special grand jury is investigating alleged sex abuse incidents and efforts to conceal them in the Long Island diocese.



Chi Otsuka (right) and Melody Go rehab a tree on Shore Parkway Saturday.

GENTILE...

Continued from page 1
passes Bay Ridge and Dyker Heights, but also includes portions of Sheepshead Bay, Marine Park, Borough Park, Bayside, Gravesend, Marine Park and Gerritsen Beach. The stop in Bay Ridge was not Gentile's first campaign stop. He kicked-off his campaign that morning at a Hiernan Hall on East 27th Street at Gerritsen Avenue in Gerritsen Beach. Gentile said the decision to hold his initial kickoff in Gerritsen Beach was based on the fact that Gerritsen Beach and Marine Park are alien territory to the two-term state senator, whose current district includes Bay Ridge, Dyker Heights and Bath Beach and a portion of Staten Island. "That is new territory for me as well as my challenger," Gentile said, a reference to Golden, the two-term Bay

Ridge-Dyker Heights councilman. "It was important for me to set the tone out there." The race for the Bay Ridge-Dyker Heights state Senate seat is expected to be the most hotly contested — and expensive — race in the city pitting two elected officials who are popular in Bay Ridge and Dyker Heights but virtual unknowns in the eastern portion of the district. The three-term state senator will leave behind his 23rd district, which was redrawn to include far more of Staten Island and none of his Bay Ridge-Dyker Heights constituents, to run against the Republican Golden for whom it is widely believed in political circles, the 22nd district was specifically redrawn in an attempt by the state GOP to gain back a seat they lost in Manhattan last year. Every 10 years, the Legisla-

ture is required to redraw the Assembly and Senate lines to reflect population shifts measured in the census. Golden, a former cop turned proprietor of the Bay Ridge Manor banquet hall, has served as councilman in this same neighborhood. Gentile has represented since 1996, winning two landslide elections. But Dyker Heights Assemblywoman Adele Cohen said at Gentile's campaign kickoff Friday that there was no question that Gentile would win. "We have an amazing team," she said. "We have Republican support, and Yimie is going to knock them out." Since being elected to the Republican-controlled state Senate in 1996, Gentile has been a strong advocate for senior citizens, children and tenants. He pushed for the expansion of the EPIC CARE program, which enables seniors to rent out of pocket expenses and continues to fight for better rent control laws. He

also was a prime advocate for universal pre-kindergarten classes. Gentile holds that education reform and tenant's rights are his two major campaign issues. Specifically, Gentile has been working with Tenants and Neighbors, a statewide tenant advocacy group that is currently pushing their "Rent 2002" campaign, which calls for extending the current rent laws through 2006, in time for another gubernatorial campaign. PS 176, Gentile said follow-

ing his speech, is highly over-crowded. District 20 schools, he said, all need to be examined for their funding needs. The formula for funding needs to be examined in order to obtain more money to fulfill those needs. "If the Republicans in the state Senate treated us fairly, we could be getting \$300 million more, and that would provide us with the resources for capitol improvement projects and other buildings to deal with the over-crowdedness," Gentile said.

Bike path gets fix-up

By Heather J. Wilson
The Brooklyn Papers

The waterfront bike path between the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge and Bay Parkway got a little tender loving care from over 75 volunteers on Saturday as part of a \$10,000 community project. Volunteers painted over 75 benches, and pruned, fertilized and mulched 75 trees. The Bay Ridge Parks and

Waterfront Council coordinated the project with volunteers from Goldman Sachs and supplies from Let's Paint Fifth, a local paint store. Benjamin Moore Paints and the cooperation of the Department of Transportation. The waterfront cleanup is one of many projects intended to create a \$10,000 grant from Borough Hall. Waterwalk funds have also been raised through community events and grants from the city and state.

woman, the project will be completed sometime next year and will have eight educational stations between the 69th Street Pier and Bay Parkway. The stations will offer sculptures and literature pertaining to the local fish, ships that use the Narrows and migrating birds indigenous of the area. Waterwalk is being completed under a \$10,000 grant from Borough Hall. Waterwalk funds have also been raised through community events and grants from the city and state.

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RIDING...

Continued from page 1
When a baseball team does well at home, sportswriters like to credit the "home cooking." But in the Cyclones' case, it was not just a tired journalist's cliché. The team was adopted by a group of women fans, who called them the Clonettes and delivered homemade meals to the team. "I'll everyone in Brooklyn that I say hi," McGinley added before hanging up. He almost sounded homesick for his days in the lowest levels of the minor leagues. Like McGinley, former and

present teammate Brett Kay, a gritty catcher who won a few games with his bat and a critical playoff game last year with his glove, missed the major-league, minor-league experience he got in Brooklyn. With his plastic-framed, prescription-less glasses and shabby-cycling clothing, Kay always resembled a dot-com millionaire more than a ballplayer. And his lifestyle certainly matched his look. The only player who was lucky enough to score a Manhattan apartment, Kay immersed himself in New York life more than his teammates, most of whom were housed at Xaverian High School in Bay Ridge. "I'll the new players that

Brooklyn is the greatest show on Earth," said Kay. "I played in the College World Series in front of 27,000 people and it didn't compare to anything in Brooklyn. I feel that I was hosed to have played there. It's the center of the baseball universe." Kay's Cyclones teammates all took advantage of living in the big city. Even though the grueling schedule left them with only one real day off a week, a few players were able to mix pleasure with duty. First baseman Jay Calguri, now toiling for the Capital City Bombers in Columbia, S.C., was the only player who saw a Broadway show (he saw "The Lion King") and pronounced it "great." And when Spike Lee needed to do a photo shoot for the October 2001 issue of Harper's Bazaar, did he call up his

beloved New York Knicks? No, he went to KeySpan Park with a few fashion models and after the game, surrounded the models with some genuine eye-candy: a bunch of Dey Cyclones. "Spike wanted us to just stand around the models and look like ballplayers, but one of us weren't dirty enough, so before he started shooting, he told us to slide around and get dirty," said pitcher David Byard, who is now moving down South Atlantic League batters in Columbia. With his David Wells good looks, Byard wasn't exactly in model material. But he was a Cyclone — and in New York, that made him a star. The Cyclones' catchers even landed them on MTV's "Total Request Live," where Sean Combs — yes, Puffy Daddy (or P. Diddy) himself — was impressed. "Yo, Cyclones! Wansup?" Combs asked, poking his head into the green room and walking off with one of the Cyclones' spare jerseys as a souvenir.

Once on the air, the Cyclones were like a boy band. Their "teenage girls" started screaming in unison when host Carson Daly asked which Cyclone had a home in the game the night before. Sheepsilly, Forrest Lawson (who's also tearing up the "Sally" league) admitted that he had touched 'em all the night before. Daly, noticing Lawson's reluctance to stand in the spotlight that everyone in this age of celebrity craves like candy, prodded. "You should've gone with it, bro... there are chicks in the room."

GUILTY...

Continued from page 1
Galante answered. But when Goldberg questioned Galante on whether or not he understood that stabbing a person in the chest could kill them, Galante haltingly answered, "Yes." According to Hale, Galante's guilty plea to depraved murder translated into an admission that he stabbed Manolis in the chest while knowing he could kill him by doing so. "The defense" offered this to Hale said of the plea agreement. "We would not have done this without consulting the [Manolis] family." "He knows what he did," said Galante's court-appointed lawyer, George Sheinberg, after the plea. "He accepts his responsibility for it. You want to spare the family the anguish of the trial, I think he did the right thing. He stood up like a man, and most defendants don't do that. "That is a nice family, and I looked out there. I even felt bad, but you can't say anything," the lawyer said. Sheinberg said the plea hearing did not draw any of Galante's family members or friends to the courtroom. "His mother is not feeling well," Sheinberg said. Outside of the courtroom, after Galante had been plea back into handcuffs and escorted out, George Manolis paced silently. His son's cousins, aunts, uncles, grandparents and friends filed in and out of the courtroom, hugging and crying all around him. "He, he, she, said, would not bring him any relief. "He killed my son for nothing. We are living the same day we heard the news," she said. "I am dead with my son." George said of his only son. "He was always smiling, from the day he was born. He was a happy kid. You can't find this kid today."

collapsed to the floor and died. Shortly after the murder police arrested Rocco Castellano, then 18, of Gravesend, and charged him with second-degree murder as Galante's accomplice. Those charges were later dropped. "He wasn't the right guy," Hale said. "That was found through investigation." Galante, who police found dead April covering in the basement of a house on Long Island, pleaded guilty. His first lawyer, William Martin, told Goldberg he's prepping proceedings to go to trial underway on May 23 that could not represent his client due to a "conflict of interest."

Manolis' death, Maria said a Billy Manolis Tree of Giving provides money and goods to orphanages at Christmas has been created. Also, scholarships and awards in her son's memory, given through the family's church, Kimisis Theotokou on 18th Street at Fifth Avenue, have been established. The church bears a stained-glass window made in Manolis' memory. And the Greek Orthodox athletic league Manolis belonged to also keeps his memory alive by wearing his number 4 on their uniforms. "There is not a day at the cemetery where a memo, a letter, or something is not left," Maria Manolis said. "There is always someone there, three years later. People have not forgotten."

Galante is the nephew and namesake of slain Bonanno crime family boss Carmine Galante, who was gunned down by a masked attacker in July 1979 while finishing dinner on an outdoor patio of Joe and Mary's Restaurant in Bushwick. The Bee Kee Bar became infamous in the neighborhood after the murder, as a problem bar that allegedly allowed underage drinking. It closed for good shortly after the Manolis murder.

Galante was named down by a masked attacker in July 1979 while finishing dinner on an outdoor patio of Joe and Mary's Restaurant in Bushwick. The Bee Kee Bar became infamous in the neighborhood after the murder, as a problem bar that allegedly allowed underage drinking. It closed for good shortly after the Manolis murder.

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New Ground is supported by Lutheran Disaster Response through Lutheran Disaster Response of New York (www.ltrny.org), in partnership with Koinonia.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on the 7th day of June, 2002, bearing the Index Number N00483/2002, a copy of which may be examined at 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: 1. Assume the name of Maria Veresa Mercedes Montero. My present name is: Jose Philip Rubenstein. My present address is: 301 Ontario Blvd. #4F. My place of birth is: Brooklyn, NY. My date of birth is: 4/20/84.

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on the 7th day of June, 2002, bearing the Index Number N00483/2002, a copy of which may be examined at 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: 1. Assume the name of Gary Melamed. My present name is: Igor Melamed. My present address is: 458 Neptune Avenue #10A, Brooklyn, NY 11224. My place of birth is: Odessa, Ukraine. My date of birth is: 04/81.

LEGAL NOTICE

WORLD TRADE CENTER BUSINESS RECOVERY AMENDED ACTION PLAN INVITATION FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

To assist businesses affected by the World Trade Center tragedy, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development is providing a \$700 million Community Development Block Grant to New York State. These funds are available in the form of loans and grants to qualified businesses impacted by the WTC disaster that commit to job retention, job creation and investment in New York City, with a priority on Lower Manhattan.

Empire State Development, New York State's economic development agency, in cooperation with other agencies, has amended the original Action Plan for New York Business Recovery and Economic Revitalization. Some of the amendments to this plan include expanding the definition of eligible applicants for the grant program.

We invite public comment on this amended plan. The Amended Action Plan is available online at www.wtcshs.com. Or, to find out locations where you can pick up a copy of the plan, call 1-800-1-LOVE-NY.

Comments may be e-mailed to: WTCpendingspan@empirestate.ny.us or sent to: Amended Action Plan, Empire State Development, P.O. Box 4458, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10017.

Comments must be received no later than June 24, 2002.

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Stilt Walker 12:00pm-3:00pm
Free Hot Dogs and Soda 1:00pm-3:00pm
DixieLand Band 12:00pm-3:00pm
American Pride Sweepstakes Drawing 4:00pm-4:30pm

Saturday June 22, 2002
"Brooklyn Cyclones" Day
Meet Brooklyn Cyclones Manager and Coach, former New York Mets Stars Howard Johnson and Bob Ojeda 11:00am-1:00pm
"Grand Slam" Sweepstakes Drawing 1:00pm-1:30pm
Free Hot Dogs and Soda 2:00pm-4:00pm
Watch for more upcoming events!

Come in and Enter our "Sizzling Summer" Sweepstakes!

Grand Slam Sweepstakes June 1 to June 22

100 boys and girls, ages 7 to 15, participate in a special Baseball Clinic conducted by coaches and players from the Brooklyn Cyclones on Saturday, July 27, 2002, 9am-12pm, at KeySpan Park in Coney Island (Rain date: July 28).

25 Family Four Pack Tickets to a Brooklyn Cyclones' game on Ridgewood Savings Bank Night, Labor Day, Monday, Sept. 2, 2002 vs. the Williamsport Crosscutters at 7pm.

- Merchant Madness Sweepstakes June 10 to June 29
- American Pride Sweepstakes June 10 to June 15
- New York Aquarium Sweepstakes June 17 to June 29
- St. John's Soccer Clinic Sweepstakes June 17 to June 29



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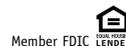
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BRCC celebrates its 51st year with gala

By Heather J. Wilson
The Brooklyn Papers

It was one of those nights when local elected officials and community activists shed politics to dance with their spouses, and an event to recognize a community's progress becomes a simple party.

On June 6, at the El Caribe Country Club in Mill Basin, the Bay Ridge Community Council (BRCC) Dinner Dance celebrated another successful year for the 51-year-old council, its members and community. The event is also held to install the organization's new officers.

In a banquet room decorated in a multitude of lights and white linens, outgoing BRCC President Alexander Conti introduced Peter Killen, the president elect and the evening's master of ceremonies. The ceremony, which took place as dinner attendees ate a multi-course meal, included an introduction by Killen of all the elected officials in attendance. They included Kevin Dempsey, representing Gov. George Pataki; Thomas Curitore, represent-

ing Mayor Michael Bloomberg; Mary Markowitz, state Sen. Vincent Gentile; Assemblywoman Adele Cohen; and City Councilman Mary Galden.

"And also a very dear friend of the Bay Ridge Community Council, Justice of the Supreme Court Kings County, the Hon. Gerald H. Rosenberg, who will preside over the installation of the officers of the Bay Ridge Community Council," Killen told the attendees following the introduction of the elected officials.

During the ceremony, the podium was visited by Alfredo Versace, who presented the Presidential Award to the outgoing president. Conti reflected on the ways in which all members of a community improve the quality of life for that community as a whole.

"I would also like to thank my dear friend, Peter Killen, for the guidance," Conti said during his speech. "I cannot think of a finer, more deserving person for this position."

That said, Rosenberg approached the podium and installed the 2002-2003 BRCC officers. Ilene Sacco, first vice president; Dawn Hansen, sec-

ond vice president; Alexander Deeb, treasurer; Gloria Melnick, executive secretary; Rene Adams, corresponding secretary; Barbara Foran, historian; and Jane Kelly, parliamentarian. Last but not least, Killen was installed as the new president.

While Rosenberg went through the installation motions with Killen, his daughters, Cynthia Killen, sat and watched. Cynthia said her father would do well in the president's position.

"He works [in Bay Ridge] and he has lived here," she said. "He has been involved in a lot of organizations and he is personable and well liked. I am very proud of him."

Following the installation of the new members, Rosemarie O'Keefe was named the winner of the council's prestigious Civic Award.

The Civic Award is bestowed annually each June at the organization's anniversary dinner dance. Recipients must be nominated by a member or organization on its letterhead,



Borough President Marty Markowitz and outgoing BRCC President Alexander A. Conti flank Bay Ridge activist and former Giuliani administration community assistance commissioner Rosemarie O'Keefe, who received the Civic Award.

The Brooklyn Papers / Greg Mango

not be an elected or appointed public official who receives a salary, and meet the following criteria: an individual or individuals who have rendered

outstanding and/or sustained service in promoting the welfare of the people of Bay Ridge, Dyker Heights and Fort Hamilton; an individual or in-

dividuals who are preferably residents of Bay Ridge, Dyker Heights or Fort Hamilton. As explained by Conti, O'Keefe served on numerous

BRCC committees for several years. O'Keefe eventually became involved in politics, and then joined former Mayor Rudolph Giuliani's staff.

"I feel like I have been on a very long journey," O'Keefe said in accepting the award. That long journey, as explained by her speech, has included grassroots efforts to clean up the Bay Ridge community, establishing the Bay Ridge Block Association, and dealing with the aftermath of Sept. 11 beginning as soon as the World Trade Center towers fell.

According to Judge Rosenberg, O'Keefe deserved the Civic Award more than any other community member.

"I met Rosemarie through my wife, and at first she had no political aspirations and she was mainly a community activist. She was instrumental in starting the Bay Ridge Block Association and she was always concerned about keeping streets cleaned," Rosenberg said. "We used to go out onto Third Avenue and

sweep the sidewalks ... There is no person I know that is more concerned about her community than Rosemarie."

The ceremony was closed with a benediction by the Rev. Richard Doscher of St. Phillip's Church of Dyker Heights, leaving the rest of the evening to be enjoyed to the music of the band The Generation Gap, and the El Caribe Venetian Hour, as well as entertainment by magician Andy Roberts.

The Bay Ridge Community Council was created in 1951 by Vincent Kassenbrock and Walter Kassenbrock as an umbrella organization of a dozen civic, social, professional and educational groups. Today it includes a membership of 110 organizations in such areas as the arts, sports, schools, medicine, religion, veterans and seniors affairs, as well as civic, fraternal and social groups. The BRCC works to promote the moral, social and economic welfare of Bay Ridge, Fort Hamilton and Dyker Heights.



New officers for the BRCC were sworn in, including (at top) President Peter Killen, (above) Rene Adams (corresponding secretary), Ilene Sacco (first vice president), Dawn M. Hansen (second vice president), Gloria Melnick (executive secretary), Alexander Deeb (treasurer), Jane F. Kelly (parliamentarian), and Barbara L. Foran (historian).

The Brooklyn Papers / Greg Mango



From School District 20: Carlo Sciscurra and Superintendent Vincent Grippo.

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Maureen Stramka and Assemblywoman Adele Cohen share a laugh.

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Former president and new executive secretary Gloria Melnick with outgoing President Alexander A. Conti.

BP / Greg Mango

The Bay Ridge Paper

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The Brooklyn Papers

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Business (not) as usual

Bloomberg's Adopt-a-Company helps one Brooklyn biz, could help others

By Heather J. Wilson
The Brooklyn Papers

An initiative launched by Mayor Michael Bloomberg to aid small businesses affected by Sept. 11, has succeeded in helping the only Brooklyn business involved in the program so far, even if it has not attract-

ed much of a response from small businesses in the borough as a whole.

Adopt-a-Company, a public-private initiative designed to support small businesses affected by the terrorist attacks, is a voluntary, pro-bono program that partners larger companies with suffering small

businesses to boost their foot traffic, client referrals and provide other assistance, taking them under their wing.

"I remember the days when I started my company ... it would have been helpful for me to have somebody I could run ideas by," Bloomberg said at a press conference following a Brooklyn Chamber of Com-

mence luncheon in April, where he reiterated the importance of Brooklyn as the borough with the most small businesses.

The program is a joint effort of the city Economic Development Corporation (EDC) and Department of Business Services. Small businesses eligible for adoption need to be located in New York City and have 50 or fewer employees. Sponsors can be located anywhere in the United States.

According to Mike Ross, of the New York Small Business Development Center, there are more than 37,000 businesses in Brooklyn with 500 or fewer employees. Brooklyn businesses with 50 or fewer employees, he said, make up a significant portion of those businesses.

But only one small business in Brooklyn — Let Them Eat Cake Ltd. — has become an adoptee thus far under Bloomberg's initiative.

According to Gloria Tarigo, the owner of Let Them Eat Cake, which offers catering of gourmet baked goods, Adopt-a-Company has helped keep the company afloat after it essentially fell short of customers following Sept. 11.

"Nine-11 devastated us," she said. "By January, I was looking for a way for us to survive."

Much of Tarigo's business was dependent on her account with the Statue of Liberty. She lost that account, however, and a large part of her profit base when tours to the island were stopped after 9-11.

It was only four and a half years ago that Tarigo moved her business from Hudson Street in Lower Manhattan to 193 Columbia St. between Sackett and DeGraw streets in the Columbia Street Waterfront District, just west of Carroll Gardens. But a lot of her accounts, she said, were still in Manhattan.

Tarigo found out quickly that gourmet baked goods were not in high demand in the months after the towers crumbled.

"Here I am in Brooklyn and I'm fairly insulated from this," she recalled. "I was able to move my car and go to the bank and do all the things you could not do in Manhattan, but I was still in trouble."

"Nine-11 happened and most people had to worry about themselves and their family. I had to worry about myself, my family and my

business," Tarigo said. "I had 22 years of investment in this company."

Angel Roman, an administrator with the Small Business Development Center — which was launched at Williamsburg's Broun College in January 2000 as part of a federal program that brings small lenders into city neighborhoods and rural towns where small businesses have potential, but little access to financial aid — said that Brooklyn was home to a number of small businesses that could not hold on after Sept. 11, just as in Manhattan.

"Businesses really had to bear down and develop strategic plans during this time regardless of location," he said.

"Realizing she could not be the only small business owner in trouble, Tarigo started to look for assistance to keep her business afloat. After some

searching, she came upon the EDC program. One explanation of Adopt-a-Company's goals, Tarigo said, and she was sold.

Proskauer Rose LLP, one of the nation's largest law firms, adopted Tarigo's company. Now, about 20 companies city-wide have been adopted by the law firm.

According to Steven Kayman, a Proskauer Rose partner and the overseer of the company's involvement in the program, small businesses like Tarigo's benefit from the large firm's assistance because of its connections, networking power, sophistication in business matters, and overall knowledge of owning and operating a business.

For Let Them Eat Cake, Kayman said the firm has provided some legal advice such as advice on how to develop new customers.

"They are also trying to get me some grant money," Tarigo said, noting it may not be easy to do so because grant monies for businesses affected by Sept. 11 tend to be earmarked for those located below 14th Street in Manhattan. But Proskauer Rose, she said, is clever.

"We are saying Brooklyn is below 14th Street," Tarigo said. "We were affected in Brooklyn. It is a new program and it is going to catch on here once people know about it more. Moving here was one of the smartest things I ever did, and I love this borough. I want people to share the kindness I have experienced here in trying to make it."

For further information on Adopt-a-Company, e-mail to info@newyorkbiz.com, call (212) 618-5767 or visit the Web site at www.adopt-a-company.org.

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Brooklyn Papers HEALTH, MIND & BODY



Borough President Marty Markowitz, wearing a "President Marty" yarmulke, checks out a sampling of Start Fresh products presented by Suzanne Bressler. *BP/Tom Callan*

Marty gets 'Fresh'



The gym, at 1800 Coney Island Ave. in Midwood, provides the gender-segregated workout opportunities required by Orthodox Jews: Start Fresh provides a nutritionally sound diet program for kosher consumers. Brooklyn-based Start Fresh, the original kosher weight loss program when it began in Flatbush 22 years ago, now reaches kosher dieters worldwide through its new Start Fresh.com Web site.

In the photo above, Markowitz, posing with a StartFresh.com T-shirt, is flanked by Start Freshers Robert Bressler, Marilyn Horowitz, Miriam Kowalsky and Suzanne Bressler.

But only one small business in Brooklyn — Let Them Eat Cake Ltd. — has become an adoptee thus far under Bloomberg's initiative.

According to Gloria Tarigo, the owner of Let Them Eat Cake, which offers catering of gourmet baked goods, Adopt-a-Company has helped keep the company afloat after it essentially fell short of customers following Sept. 11.



Sadie Bernstein has a big smile for her great, great granddaughter, 1-year-old Sarah Daube, at Bernstein's 105th birthday party at the Lerbberg Senior Center on Bay Parkway June 6. With Sarah are her parents, Stacy (Sadie's great granddaughter) and Michael Daube.

BUS...

Continued from page 1

8.5 mph, that runs in Staten Island.

"We are as much a victim of traffic, more so than people that drive passenger vehicles. As congestion increases, it decreases bus speed. Congestion in New York City has been increasing, and so it is a problem for us citywide," said TA spokesman Paul Fleurbaey.

"We can only drive the buses as fast as traffic will allow us."

In response to the study, Bay Ridge Councilman Marty Golden said he is calling on the TA to institute more supervision along the B63 route to expedite service.

"If it was something that was irregular, delays because of traffic, roadwork or an emergency, we could tolerate it," Golden said in a June 11 press release. "New Yorkers have patience. But this is every day, and after awhile, patience runs thin and frustration sets in."

Bus driver Marzan said delays because of traffic and roadwork are, in fact, regular delays.

"There has been construction on Fifth Avenue, and that slows us down," he said.

While the study was completed after the reconstruction project began in January, the B63 was simply rerouted to Fourth Avenue and will continue to be for the duration of the two-year construction project.

That project is being completed in two one-year phases. During the first phase, which is just beginning, two sections of Fifth Avenue, from 65th Street to Bay Ridge Parkway and from 86th Street to 97th Street, will be completed at the same time.

Traffic on both of those sections of the avenue has been converted to one-way, and will be returned to two-way when the construction moves to the center section, between Bay Ridge Parkway and 86th Street, early next year.

Fleurbaey said the TA has known for a long time that the bus speeds in New York City are not the fastest. A couple of months ago, he said, the TA looked to the police department and the city Department of Transportation for ways to speed up bus services. The three agencies are now examining traffic management techniques such as bus lane enforcement, the mounting of

traffic cameras on buses to record what impedes the progress of buses on a daily basis and bus stop design. And, Fleurbaey said, TA bus officials are involved with the NYPD's "Traffic-Shut" meetings, to help the police identify problem areas.

In the meantime, Fleurbaey said, ordinary obstacles such as double-parked vehicles keep the buses from making their way delay-free.

Shandia Susman, a Straphangers Campaign organizer, said this year's "Pokey" awards kicked off what will be an annual report on bus speeds. According to Susman, the group's biggest concern is that city residents already endure the longest commutes to work in the nation. Slow buses, she said, are the main reason why.

"The 'Pokey' report stresses that while traffic congestion is a key factor in slow speeds, factors such as long waits for passengers to board, not enough service and crowding on buses, out-of-synch traffic lights, and scheduling conflicts all play into bus 'pokiness'."

The report encourages the TA, among other things, to re-

design bus stops to reduce delay from buses maneuvering into and out of the stops; to install barrier-separated bus lanes to separate buses from vehicles; and to employ bus priority signals to keep late-arriving buses from screwing up the schedule.

But Marzan contended that sometimes buses have to go a little slow.

"This is not an easy job," Marzan said while pulling the B63 bus out from a Fourth Avenue stop. "You deal with the public and you deal with traffic. Our job is to carry passengers safely. To do that, you can't always go as fast as the other traffic. On this route, the traffic doesn't move too fast anyway."

"As Marzan pulled away from the stop, another B63 bus passed him.

"He is late," he said. "It happens. And what will now happen is if people were going to be waiting eight minutes, they will now be waiting 16. If you are running on time, there is a bus at a certain stop every eight minutes. But he is running late. It's a very tight schedule."

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Best Wishes to this year's Graduates!

from

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Montessori grads head to top HS's

Brooklyn Heights Montessori School

Brooklyn Heights Montessori School is proud to announce the high school placements of their graduating class of 2002. The staff, faculty and especially the students themselves, are thrilled at the number of acceptances the class received at some of the most competitive schools in the city.

"In just two years we've shown that we're doing a great job getting our students into high school both in Brooklyn and Manhattan," said Interim Head of School Philip S. Deely.

"In my year at BHMS I have been impressed with the diversity of abilities and interests of our students—they are scholars and athletes, performing artists and budding scientists. Their interests and abilities will ensure success in later years."

The students will be matriculating in the fall at Edward R. Murrow HS, Fiorello La Guardia HS of Music, Art and Performing Arts, Fontbonne Hall Academy, Mury Bergrtraum HS for Business Careers, Newtown HS, Packer Collegiate Institute and Xavier HS.

Acceptances were also received from Bronx HS of Science, Brooklyn Friends School, Brooklyn Technical HS, Columbia Grammar and Preparatory School, Elizabeth Irvn HS, Friends Seminary, Poly Prep Country Day School, Stuyvesant HS, Trevor Day School and Xavier HS.

BHMS established a middle school in the fall of 1999 and graduated its first class in June 2001, according to James Betts, director of the elementary and middle school.

The entire BHMS community wishes the graduating class of 2002 the best of luck in their new schools and in 2002 to come.

GRADUATION



CELEBRATE THE GRADS...

Continued from page 10

obtain sun at the time, from Harriet Packer, whose only request was that the school be named for her late husband, William Packer.

The school, which now has about 900 students in programs that run from pre-kindergarten through 12th grade, became a co-ed facility in 1972.

Poly Prep

Poly Prep Country Day School will hold its commencement ceremony on Friday, June 14, graduating 117 seniors at 10 a.m. on the front oval of the 26-acre campus in Bay Ridge.

Six seniors will be presented with major awards. The Poly Cup for dedication to the school and its ideals, will be awarded to Hayes Humphreys, who will attend Claremont McKenna. Jennifer Regan will get the Joseph Dana Allan Award for highest scholarship for junior and senior years combined with commensurate character. Regan, who also received a gold medal, summa cum laude by the National Latin Exam, will attend Johns Hopkins University.

Christine Capone will receive the Scull Plaque for excellence in scholarship and athletics. National Interscholastic Swimming Coaches Association of America named her to the 2002 Academic America Team. Capone will attend Harvard.

The Ernest Gold Roast Cup for most improved senior will be bestowed upon Erica Podolsky, who will attend the University of Hartford in the fall. The School Service Award will go to Irene Marinakis, who will attend Boston College.

The William M. Williams Intellectual Curiosity prize goes to David Willner, who will attend Bowdoin College. Willner was the recipient of a gold medal, summa cum laude by the National Latin Exam.

In recognition of Poly Prep's 25th anniversary of coeducation at the once all-boys institution, one of the school's distinguished alumnae, Diahann Billings-Burford, was chosen to present the keynote address at the 2002 commencement. Billings-Burford graduated from Poly Prep in 1990 and then attended Yale University where she received a bachelor's degree in psychology and teacher's preparation in 1994. In May 2002, she was awarded a juris doctor from Columbia University School of Law. She will begin practicing law in September at the firm of

Simpson, Thatcher and Barlett.

While a student at Poly Prep, Billings-Burford co-founded the school's Anti-Bias Coalition and Ujama, the school's Black Student Union, and served as a class representative for two years and as president of the student government during her senior year.

Senior Cameron Bossert will address the graduates as the chosen speaker of his own classmates. A gifted filmmaker, playwright and artist, Cameron received Poly Prep's 2002 Creativity Prize. His work, "New York: Out of Ashes," a historical, musical-drama debuted at the school in May. Cameron wrote the work in response to the events of Sept. 11.

"We are very proud of the Class of 2002. They have distinguished themselves academically and brought honor to Poly by their athletic, artistic and community service efforts. We wish each and every one of these remarkable young people all the best in college and life," said Headmaster David Harman.

Poly Prep's middle and upper school campus is located at 9216 Seventh Ave., and includes tennis courts, playing fields and two ponds. Built in 1917, the school's main building consists of classrooms including several spacious seminar rooms, a gymnasium, library, art studios, indoor pool, three-court squash center and a fitness and dance center.

Other facilities include a 380-seat theater, an assembly space and Commons Hall cafeteria. A state-of-the-art science facility, the Edwin and Nancy Marks Science & Technology Center, was dedicated in the fall of 2001.

St. Saviour HS

St. Saviour High School, at 611 Eighth Ave. in Park Slope, graduated 50 students on June 7, in a commencement ceremony at its namesake church on Eighth Avenue at Sixth Street.

Of its graduates, 31 garnered more than \$1.75 million in scholarship money.

Brienne O'Donnell, who won a full scholarship to Albetus Magnus College in Connecticut was the school's valedictorian and Cynthia Armand, preparing for Wesleyan University this fall, was honored as the salutatorian.

Sister Nancyclare Gilchrist, a St. Saviour's '79 graduate and a current assistant professor of education at the College of Notre Dame in Maryland, was the commencement speaker. Gilchrist is also a former faculty member at the all-girl's high school.

The 515-student school, run by the Sisters of Notre Dame, was listed among the top 96 high schools in the United States according to a two-year study by the University of Chicago published in the U.S. News and World Report in 1999.

Mazal Tov!

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- Bard High School Early College
- Bronx High School of Science
- Edward R. Murrow High School
- Fiorello H. LaGuardia High School of Music & Art and Performing Arts
- Packer Collegiate Institute
- St. Ann's School
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| Alexander Andon | Liana Gomez | Max Kraman | Michael Ramirez |
| Katherine Brender | Vitaliy Grigoryev | Bessie Leveson | Andrew Raphael |
| Alex Brooks | Benjamin Grossman | Miriam Levin | Jaime Ridolph |
| Caitlin Cahill | Cohen | Heather MacLeish | Juliana Sabinson |
| Emilie Chanin | Charazed Hamouche | Andrew Margon | Jack Sapperstein |
| Chantal Coleman | Leon Hartman | Robert Martinez | Ronald Sarnini |
| Sarah Conyers | James Henry | Dawson | Bettina Schlegel |
| Sara Covey | Jocelyn Immerman | Samuel Nathan | Lee Schweninger |
| Patricia Donovan | Austin Irving | Matthew Nielsen | Casey Scieszka |
| Roderick Elias | Erin Iwanova | Brian Oppenheim | Shahrazad Shareef |
| DeAnna Evans | | | David Smith |
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St. Saviour High School Congratulates the Class of 2002

- | | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| * Dana Marie Aloisio | * Kristen Elizabeth Fitzgerald | * Erin Eileen O'Shea |
| * Cynthia Emilie Armand | * Erin Marie Fitzgerald | * Christine Angelique Padilla |
| * Maiesha Baptiste | * Sophie Haas | * Rachael Anne Palumbo |
| * Maegan Siobhan Berliner | * Lauren Hammer | * Alexandra Pincay |
| * Elyse Marie Bernstein | * Quenzel Henriquez | * Sheena Erica Purcell |
| * Desirée Marie Blackwell | * Nikki Marie Iovino | * Emma Violeta Rosero |
| * Jennifer Bradley | * Lana Khaleel Jaber | * Ashley Monique Rougier |
| * Caitlin Mary Brunton | * Crystal Jacobowitz | * Katherine Cecilia Sabatino |
| * Lauren Marie Coyle | * Shanna Andrea Johnson | * Jacqueline Alexis Sall |
| * Rosana Curet | * Stefanie Kolokostas | * Winifred Alicia Samuels |
| * Jean Marie Cutrone | * Kristin Jeanne Layne | * Katherine Elizabeth Schiots |
| * Danielle Elaine DeRosa | * Allison Lewis | * Jihan Shareef |
| * Julianne DiBenedetto | * Elizabeth Ann Maio | * Elizabeth Ann Sloan |
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| * Krista Marie Dixon | * Cara Lynne McMahon | * Shana Minee Spence |
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| * Nicole Marie Finnegan | * Brianne Grace O'Donnell | |

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|--|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
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| * Barnard College, NY | * Johnson and Wales University, FL | * St. Peter's College, NJ |
| * Boston College, MA | * Long Island University, NY | * St. Thomas Aquinas College, NY |
| * City University of NY | * Loyola College, MD | * State University of New York |
| * The Honors College | * Marist College | * Albany |
| * Baruch College | * Manhattan College, NY | * Binghamton |
| * Brooklyn College | * Marymount College Barrytown, NY | * Fashion Institute of Technology |
| * College of Staten Island | * Marymount University, VA | * Geneseo |
| * Hunter College | * Mount Holyoke College, MA | * New Paltz |
| * John Jay College of Criminal Justice | * New York University | * Oneonta |
| * Kingsborough Community College | * Northeastern University, MA | * Purchase |
| * La Guardia Community College | * Pace University, NY | * Stony Brook |
| * Centenary College, NJ | * Penn State University | * Trinity College, CT |
| * College of Mount St. Vincent, NY | * Providence College, RI | * Union College, NY |
| * Coecorcia College, NY | * Quinnipiac University | * University of Bridgeport, CT |
| * Dominican College, NY | * Rutgers University, NJ | * University of Hartford, CT |
| * Drexel University, PA | * Sacred Heart University, CT | * University of Miami, FL |
| * Emerson College, MA | * Seton Hall University, NJ | * University of North Florida |
| * Fairfield University, CT | * Simmons College, MA | * University of Notre Dame, IN |
| * Flagler College, FL | * St. Francis College, NY | * University of San Francisco |
| * Fordham University, NY | * St. John's University, NY | * Wagner College, NY |
| * George Washington University, DC | * St. Joseph's College, NY | * Wesleyan University, CT |

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CELEBRATE...

9-11 loss heavy on minds of X-men

By Heather J. Wilson
The Brooklyn Papers

For the 268 Xaverian High School seniors, graduation day was bittersweet. The Ray Ridge Catholic high school, at 7100 Shore Road, lost 23 alumni in the Sept. 11 terror attacks. At commencement on Saturday, June 1, that loss echoed in the speeches and in the thoughts of the students, family members and staff gathered at Brooklyn College's Walt Whitman Auditorium.

Xaverian President Dr. Sal Ferrera said about 160 Xaverian alumni worked at the World Trade Center. The 23 who died, he said, ranged from a 1968 grad to a 1995 grad. The average age of the deceased alumni was 31. Ferrera said 11 deceased alumni worked for the Cantor Fitzgerald bond-trading firm, four were for other firms, one was a lost for the Windows on the World restaurant, and the other seven worked for various financial companies within the two towers.

"This had a heavy impact on the whole student body," Ferrera said. "We have had prayer services for them since September, and we have had [the victims'] pictures up in the main lobby. The fact that someone young, that went to their school, died, is something that hits home."

In the wake of 9-11, the high school set up its own modest memorial to those alumni who were thought to be missing, in one of its display windows.

Up until Tuesday, war was in a video game as far as the students were concerned," Ferrera said in an interview following the attacks.

Ferrera said this week that an eternal flame will soon be built in front of the school in honor of those 23 alumni now known to be dead.

A group of three friends that graduated in 1994 — the same year as Ferrera's son and the first year he was the school's president — were among the alumni Ferrera noted as missing back in September. Now, Richard Caggiano, Robert Tipaldi and Jade Safi will be among the alumni to be remembered with the eternal flame, he said.

The others who will be remembered are: Gregory Black ('82) a firefighter with Engine 201; Howard Gelling ('91), who had been working with the school to set up a scholarship to sponsor minority students; Richard Caggiano, ('94), who worked for Cantor Fitzgerald; Liam Colburn ('84), who worked for Bank America; Carl

Flickinger ('81), who worked for Cantor Fitzgerald; Joseph Howard, ('68), who worked for JP Morgan Chase; Vincent Cune ('82), a firefighter with Engine 22; Joseph Mascali ('74), a firefighter with Rescue 5; Michael Massaroli ('81), Cantor Fitzgerald; Charles Mauro ('81), a chef at Windows on at the World; Robert Maruch ('74), Cantor Fitzgerald; Mario Madone ('87), who worked for Euro Brokers; Dennis O'Beir, ('94), a firefighter with Ladder 105; James O'Brien, ('86), Cantor Fitzgerald; James Quinn, ('93), Cantor Fitzgerald; Gregory Reda, ('85), who worked for Marsh and McLennan; Jade Safi, ('94), Cantor Fitzgerald; Paul Slavio, ('92), who worked for Carr Futures; John Shurban, ('74), Cantor Fitzgerald; Patrick Sullivan, ('87), Cantor Fitzgerald; James Suzzoo, ('72), Cantor Fitzgerald; Robert Tipaldi ('94), Cantor Fitzgerald; and Thomas Wise ('75), Marsh & McLennan.

The eternal flame memorial will be dedicated on Sept. 8. Ferrera said the memorial service for those alumni missing was attended by students, who along with staff, held hope that the missing would be found alive.

The students also got used to assembly formats that mirrored the format of this year's graduation ceremony, for its pulling together of the student body to discuss the events of Sept. 11 and their consequences.

Police Commissioner Raymond Kelly was the commencement speaker and, according to Ferrera, spoke about the new world challenges that this generation will be facing.

Ferrera called for the graduates to be tough, wise, disciplined and compassionate, and noted the class' unique honor of being the first wartime graduating class in 30 years.

He applauded their achievements in academics and sports at a time of major and tragic distractions, clearly alluding to the terrorist acts.

Dr. Joseph Marino, Xaverian's principal, touched on the similarities of the 2002 graduates and those that fought in World War II. "They were about your age," Marino noted.

For the first time in memory, the NYPD Color Guard rendered the solemn procession of the American flag, in full formal dress.

"We had the police honor guard lead the students in," Ferrera said of the ceremony, noting those parents who work for the police and fire departments sat in uniform on the commencement stage. A special prayer touched on those lost.

Ferrera said the school has taken a sad turn in history and channeled it into goodness for the future.

Seven scholarships at Xaverian have begun in the name of alumni who were lost Sept. 11, Ferrera said. And a grant program that offers one full year of paid tuition for children of police or fire officials, named the Fortis Fund, has also been established.

Ferrera said \$200,000 has been raised for the fund so far.

Among those recognized and awarded for their high school achievements this year were: Christopher Fell, Academic Excellence; Nicholas Moses, General Excellence; Ryan Kander, Scholar Athlete; Shaun Andrew Wyn, Outstanding Athlete; Ian Pinaivaiva, XBSB Award; Joseph Mogelnic, International Scholar; and Michael Spaurito, Student Leadership Award.

Brooklyn College graduates 2,466



Graduate Melissa Krolewski is all smiles at Brooklyn College's 77th commencement ceremonies on May 30 on the Flatbush campus. Degrees for 2,466 students were awarded, as was an honorary doctorate for filmmaker Paul Mazursky, class of '51.

Kearney honors its graduates



Awards were given to graduates at Bishop Kearney HS on 2202 60th Street in Bensonhurst. Pictured, left-to-right, from top left: Claire O'Emic (English); Ann Lindner (Catholic Studies); Mary Bellard (Social Studies); Elizabeth Alfano (General Excellence); Lauren Muzzo (French); Rosa Ortiz (Spanish); Kristin Salber (Science); Laura Nardulli (Math); Annalisa Caportorto (Italian); Ashley Corrao (Music); Jennifer Lopez (Art); Claire Trunk (Latin); and Catherine Herchenroder (Physical Education).

Continued from page 10

obituary sum at the time, from Harriet Packer, whose only request was that the school be named for her late husband, William Packer.

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In recognition of Poly Prep's 25th anniversary of education at the once all-boys institution, one of the school's distinguished alumnae, Diahann Billings-Barford, was chosen to present the keynote address at the 2002 commencement. Billings-Barford graduated from Poly Prep in 1990 and then attended Yale University where she received a bachelor's degree in psychology and teacher's preparation in 1994. In May 2002, she was awarded a juris doctor from Columbia University School of Law. She will be practicing law in September at the firm of Simpson, Thacher and Bartlett.

While a student at Poly Prep, Billings-Barford co-founded the school's Anti-Bias Coalition and Ujima, the school's Black Student Union, and served as a class representative for two years and as president of the student government during her senior year.

Senior Cameron Bossert will address the graduates as the chosen speaker of his own classmates. A gifted filmmaker, playwright and artist, Cameron received Poly Prep's 2002 Creativity Prize. His work, "New York: Out of Ashes," a historical, musical-drama debuted at the school in May. Cameron wrote the work in response to the events of Sept. 11.

"We are very proud of the Class of 2002. They have distinguished themselves academically and brought honor to Poly by their athletic, artistic and community service efforts. We wish each and every one of these remarkable young people all the best in college and life," said Headmaster David Hartman.

Poly Prep's middle and upper school campus is located at 9216 Seventh Ave., and includes tennis courts, playing fields and two ponds. Built in 1917, the school's main building consists of classrooms including several special seminars rooms, a gymnasium, library, art studios, indoor pool, three-court squash center and a fitness and dance center.

Other facilities include a 380-seat theater, an assembly space and Commons Hall cafeteria. A state-of-the-art science facility, the Edwin and Nancy Marks Science & Technology Center, was dedicated in the fall of 2000.

St. Saviour High School
St. Saviour High School, at 611 Eighth Ave. in Park Slope, graduated 50 students on June 7, in a commencement ceremony at its namesake church on Eighth Avenue at Sixth Street.

Of its graduates, 31 garnered more than \$1.75 million in scholarship money.

Brionne O'Donnell, who won a full scholarship to Albetus Magnus College in Connecticut was the school's valedictorian and Cynthia Armand, preparing for Wesleyan University this fall, was honored as the salutatorian.

Sister Nancyclare Gilchrist, a St. Saviour's '79 graduate and a current assistant professor of education at the College of Notre Dame in Maryland, was the commencement speaker. Gilchrist is also a former faculty member at the all-girl's high school.

The 315-student school, run by the Sisters of Notre Dame, was listed among the top 96 high schools in the United States according to a two-year study by the University of Chicago published in the U.S. News and World Report in 1999.

St. Saviour High School

Congratulates the Class of 2002

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *† Dana Marie Aloisio *† Cynthia Emilie Armand *† Maiesha Baptiste *† Maegan Siobhan Berliner † Elyse Marie Bernstein *† Desiree Marie Blackwell Jennifer Bradley Caitlin Mary Brunton Lauren Marie Coyle Rosana Curedi Jean Marie Cutrone Danielle Elaine DeRosa *† Julianne DiBenedetto *† Jacqueline DiPiero Krista Marie Dixon *† Marina Fernandez Nicole Marie Finnegan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kristen Elizabeth Fitzgerald Erin Marie Fitzgerald Sophia Haas Lauren Hammer Guenzel Henriquez Kristen Jadine Jayne Lama Khaled Jaber *† Crystal Jacobowitz Shanna Andrea Johnson Stefania Kokokotsas Kristen Jadine Layne Allison Lewis Elizabeth Ann Maio Jocelyn Martinez Cara Lynn McMahon Jelisa Mejia *† Brianna Grace O'Donnell 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Erin Eileen O'Shea *† Christine Angelique Padilla Rachael Anne Palumbo Alexandra Pincay *† Sheena Erica Parcell *† Enma Violeta Rosero Ashley Monique Rougier Katherine Cecilia Sabatino Jacqueline Alexis Salli *† Winifred Alicia Samuels Katherine Elizabeth Schotis Jihan Shareef Elizabeth Ann Sloan Alicia Nichol Smith Shana Mina Spence Stacy Valentin
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* NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY † SOCIÉTÉ HONORAIRE DE FRANÇAIS

Graduates have been accepted to the following Colleges and Universities

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Albertus Magnus College, CT Barnard College, NY Boston College, MA City University of NY The Honors College Baruch College Brooklyn College College of Staten Island Hunter College John Jay College of Criminal Justice Kingsborough Community College La Guardia Community College * Centenary College, NJ * College of Mount St. Vincent, NY * Concordia College, NY * Dominican College, NY Drexel University, PA Emerson College, MA Fairfield University, CT Flagler College, FL * Fordham University, NY George Washington University, DC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Iona College, NY Johnson and Wales University, FL * Long Island University, NY Loyola College, MD Marist College * Manhattan College, NY * Marymount College Tarrytown, NY * Marymount University, VA Mount Holyoke College, MA New York University Northeastern University, MA * Pace University, NY Penn State University * Providence College, RI Quinnipiac University Rutgers University, NJ Sacred Heart University, CT Seton Hall University, NJ Simmons College, MA * St. Francis College, NY * St. John's University, NY * St. Joseph's College, NY 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * St. Joseph's University, PA Peterson College, NJ * St. Thomas Aquinas College, NY State University of New York * Albany * Binghamton * Fashion Institute of Technology Geneseo New Paltz Oneonta * Purchase * Stony Brook Trinity College, CT * Unen College, NY * University of Bridgeport, CT * University of Hartford, CT * University of Miami, FL University of North Florida University of Notre Dame, IN University of San Francisco * Wagner College, NY * Wesleyan University, CT
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* Institutions that have offered Scholarship/Merit awards to 30 of our graduates totaling \$1.76 million.

Congratulations to the Graduates of the Class of 2002!

You have worked hard to reach this milestone in your life and you should be proud of your accomplishments

Your Future Is Bright and Full of Promise

Best Wishes Always and Much Continued Success

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June 6, 2002

Dear Brooklyn Graduates:

My name is James E. Davis, and I am the Councilman for the 35th Councilmanic District in Brooklyn. It is my honor to congratulate all graduating students this year for their hard work, and well-earned certificates, diplomas or degrees.

This is quite a milestone for our youth and their parents, as education is a top priority for this community. My messages go with each and every one of you. You now face new challenges and new careers. The community is proud of your strength of mind, accomplishments and success.

Keep up the good work, and best wishes for continued success throughout your lives.

Sincerely,

 James E. Davis
 Council Member

GRADUATION 2002



Congratulations to Brooklyn's Graduates of 2002

from State Senator **Velmanette Montgomery**



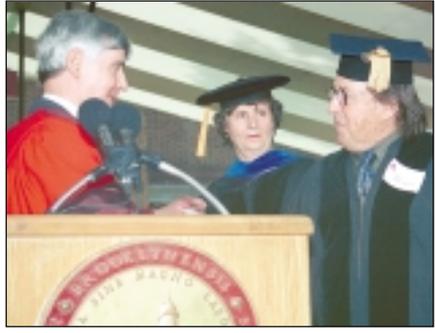
"Education can make mindful pursuits and wishes of the heart attainable. Education is, after all, the threshold to endless opportunity for personal enrichment and professional achievement. You've achieved the high educational standards expected of you. I applaud your accomplishments . . . join in the celebration of your graduation . . . and wish you a fulfilling and successful future."

Velmanette Montgomery

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Glad grads BP / Tom Callan

Brooklyn College's 77th commencement ceremonies May 30 included an honorary doctorate for filmmaker Paul Mazursky, class of '51 (at left with College President Christoph M. Kimmich and Provost Roberta S. Matthews. (Above) Graduate Melissa Krolewski is all smiles.

Congratulations to the Year 2002 Graduates, their families, and friends

Assemblymember **Jim Brennan**

416 Seventh Avenue
 Brooklyn, NY 11215

1414 Cortelyou Road
 Brooklyn, NY 11226



LIU celebrates

Valdectorian Ruth Molina speaks to her fellow graduates on Friday, May 17 at Long Island University. Above, LilyAnn Jee, valedictorian of the school's Arnold and Marie Schwartz College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences.

Long Island University / Alta Gupta

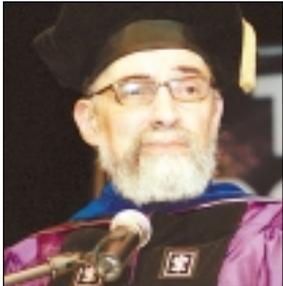
Congratulations to all the Graduates of the Class of 2002!

I wish you all the best in your future endeavors.



From COUNCILMEMBER
Bill de Blasio

District Office: 2902 Ft. Hamilton Parkway, Brooklyn, NY 11218



Touro takes off The Brooklyn Papers / Greg Mango

Touro College's 28th annual commencement June 11, featured words from Dean of Faculties Stanley Boylan (far right). Graduates included Abel Louis and Annette Allen (above).

It is a pleasure to congratulate the Brooklyn graduates of 2002 and their families.

My best wishes for your continued success.
 Good luck to you all!

COUNCILMEMBER
David Yassky
 33rd District
 114 Court St., Brooklyn, NY 11201



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Brooklyn Friends School Congratulates our Class of 2002

Classes are completed. School trips are over. Exams have been graded. College acceptances are in the mail. Feet are still healing from those high-heeled Prom shoes. And now it's time to say goodbye to the fabulous Brooklyn Friends School Class of 2002. We wish you happiness and inspired successes on every path you choose. Remember that you will always be a member of the BFS community! Congratulations to all!

2002 Special Citations for Academic And Personal Excellence

Bausch and Lomb Science Award	Dan O'Connell
Sodak Young Leader Award	Erini Morrison
Xerox Award in the Humanities/Social Sciences and Scholarship	Kenneth Magali
National Student Athlete Awards	Maurice Chen, Jennifer Hoang, Erin Morrison, Kenneth Magali, Victoria Rakotomahantso, Ian Thomas, Alip Vora, Amanda Welch
Wellesley College Award for Writing	Amanda Welch
New England Society History Award	Gideon Unleskes
The New York State Education Department Scholarships for Academic Excellence	Tamar Grestel, Becky Herman
Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership Conference	Halmat Ali, Balogun, Emma Skov-Eggs
Scholastic Writing Award	Tamar Grestel
Scholastic Art Award	Tamar Grestel
Brown University Book Award	Anelia Norvill
National Latin Exam	Sarah Nandi
BFS Foreign Language Prize	Rachel Braver
Public Advocate for the City of New York Award	Laurabeth Greenwald, David Wiener
Juan L. Millman, Assemblywoman 52nd District, Acknowledgement	Keith Gray, Lucy Joyce
Eliot Spitzer, Attorney General, Acknowledgement	Tamar Grestel, Ricky Keltner
BFS Exemplary Attendance Award	Sasha Blumberg, Jordan Foster, Glenn Hilson, Dana Jones, Jonathan Saenzmarch, Ngoc Gaskins, Zoe Stumpf, Alexander Wallace
BFS Pearl Award	Justin Beck, Rachel Braver, Dahlia Freudenthal, Laurabeth Greenwald, Ricky Keltner
BFS Community Leadership Award	Dahlia Freudenthal, Nell Miller, Aaron Woodson
BFS Community Spirit Award	Dahlia Freudenthal, Max Oberony
BFS Recognition for Raising Social Awareness	Camille Almasia, Zoe Stumpf
BFS Jack R. Ramey School Spirit Award	Elyse Bank
BFS Martin R. Norregaard Prize for Excellence in Writing	Rachel Braver, Gideon Unleskes
BFS Lany G. Adams Recognition for Academic Excellence	Nell Miller, Justin Singleton
BFS George Fox Award	

GO BROOKLYN

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The Brooklyn Papers' essential guide to the Borough of Kings

(718) 834-9350 • June 17, 2002



Stormy weather

'Dreams of Summer' gala at Keyspan Park; a Hollywood star visits Brooklyn College

By Lisa J. Curtis
The Brooklyn Papers

For the third year in a row, the heavens attempted to wash away the guests of the Brooklyn Hospital Center's annual gala fundraiser, and for the third year in a row, the guests in their finery laughed in the face of thunder, lightning and sheets of rain.

At the hospital's "Midsummer Nights Dream" gala in 2000, honoring Pete Hamill, the dinner tent came crashing down — miraculously before the guests were seated. (No one was injured.) After the rain abated, guests laid their tablecloths on the grass of Empire-Fulton Ferry State Park and had their dinners picnic-style with a view of the Brooklyn Bridge.

In 2001, the gala was moved to the awe-inspiring Ellis Island museum, where torrential rain lashed at the guests



2002 Founders Ball
Keyspan Park
May 31, 2002

who rode the ferry to and from the island.

On May 31, the party tent — pitched near second base in the middle of Keyspan Park on Surf Avenue in Coney Island — stayed securely anchored while the rain and wind did its worst.

"They have spunk," guest MaryAnn Rago said of the gala organizers, "because they still aren't inside."

This year's Founders Ball, held in the home of the minor-league Brooklyn Cyclones, was chaired by Robin Maddalena. Maddalena, who proudly told us she's ridden the Cyclone roller coaster, created a "Canadian of Summer" theme party with all the trappings of a Gatsby-esque soiree. The 800 guests were instructed to leave their black tie at home and come in "summer elegant" attire instead. Guests arrived in everything from suits to floral dresses to straw hats, with hospital president Frederick Alley sporting an ascot.

The cocktail hour was held in the open-air stands of the ballpark, with salty ocean breezes blowing over the guests, as they sampled delicious hors d'oeuvres from the sea — oyster shooters with sauce mignonette, fried clam rolls and coconut shrimp. For dinner, catered flawlessly by Manhattan's Great Performances, guests filed into the enormous tent on the field, to delight in seemingly bottomless baskets of Wellfleet seafood salad, braised short ribs of beef over risotto and for dessert, strawberry shortcake.

Spectacular table centerpieces of turf with wicker picnic baskets and floral arrangements evoked a bucolic mood, but the clouds rolled in anyway.

Plans for the promised fireworks by Grucci were washed away by the inclement weather, but the fearless guests danced the night away to the sounds of "Raindrops Keep Falling On My Head" and many other tunes performed by the inexhaustible Peter Duchin orchestra.

Brooklyn Borough President Mary Markowitz and his wife, Jamie, looking glamorous in her vintage Kenneth J. Lane chandelier earrings, took a moment to chitter chatter with us.

"We're here to celebrate Brooklyn Hospital, which does superb work delivering the best medical service," said Markowitz over the sound of rain beating on the tent walls. "And they help our water problem, too," he added, alluding to the city's drought and the rain dance-like effect of the Founders Ball.

(Markowitz said that although he's got that new job in Borough Hall, he's still going to produce his star-studded



Star power: Academy Award-winning actress Celeste Holm was honored by Brooklyn College's theater department on May 14.



Home run: (1) During the Founders Ball 2002 cocktail reception, members of the Brooklyn Philharmonic Orchestra performed by home base at Keyspan Park in Coney Island. (2) (Left to right) Park Slope Civic Council President Bernie Graham and Rosemary Graham with Brooklyn Borough President Marty Markowitz. (3) Gala Council Chairman Robin Maddalena and Brooklyn Hospital Center President and CEO Frederick Alley at the award ceremony in the park's new Brooklyn Dodgers museum. (4) The honorees: Rory Dolan, Peter Sherman, Chernareddy Swaminathan, Richard Hayden and Joseph Rosalie with Seth Faison, chairman of the hospital's board of trustees. The Brooklyn Papers / Tom Galan

Coney Island concert series, which will begin in July.)

The 2002 Founders Medals were bestowed upon Richard Hayden, managing partner at Swanke Hayden Connell Architects, who has served as trustee of the Brooklyn Hospital Center for 19 years, and to the Brooklyn Philharmonic Orchestra. The award was accepted by Philharmonic board member Joseph Rosalie.

The center bestowed Walter Reed Medals to the chairman of Brooklyn Hospital Center's department of ophthalmology, Rory Dolan, to Peter Sherman, chairman of the dentistry department and to Chernareddy Swaminathan, the director of internal medicine at the center's Caledonian Campus.

The event raised \$700,000 earmarked for the Diagnostic Cardiology Center program of the 157-year-old Fort Greene-based hospital. Individual tickets to the ball began at \$500.

Hollywood legend

Renowned stage and film actress Celeste Holm received the first annual Alfred Drake Award presented by Brooklyn College's theater department chairman Sam Leiler on May 14 at the Gershwin Theater.

Holm played Ado Annie opposite Alfred Drake as Curley in the 1943 Broadway production of "Oklahoma." (At the tribute, the impressive Holm lip synced along with a recording of her "Oklahoma" showstopper, "I Cain't Say No.") The 83-year-old actress is no stranger to accolades having received a best supporting actress Academy Award for her performance as Annie Detrey in "Gentleman's Agreement" (1947) and Oscar nominations for her roles in "All About Eve" (1950) and "Come to the Stable" (1949).

OPERA



Mamma mia

The Vertical Player Repertory presents Pietro Mascagni's 1890 opera in one act, "Cavalleria Rusticana," on June 15 at 8 pm and on June 16 at 4 pm at 219 Court St. between Warren and Wyckoff streets.

Directed by Franco Iglesias, "Cavalleria Rusticana" features Michael Scott Harris as Turiddu, Twyla Mura as his mother Mamma Lucia (above left), Judith Bar Ness as his forsaken lover Santuzza (above right), Celina Guerrero as Lola, his mistress, Gustavo Antonio Ahualli as Lola's husband, Alfio, and the Vertical Player Chorus.

Set in a Sicilian village, "Cavalleria Rusticana," or "Rustic Chivalry," is a verismo opera — aimed at treating common life — based on a short story by Giovanni Verga about the womanizing anthrope, Turiddu.

Now in its fourth season, Vertical Player's intimate venue, a former factory turned sculpture studio, offers the audience "exciting proximity to the performers," according to Vertical Player's Judith Barnes.

On June 22 at 8 pm, Vertical Player Rep hosts a vocal recital featuring soprano Beth Anne Hutton, mezzo soprano Anna Tonna and pianist Ismael Wallace. Suggested admission for "Cavalleria Rusticana" is \$20. For reservations call (212) 539-2696. — Lisa J. Curtis

MUSIC

Folk hero

Music legend/radio host Oscar Brand to perform in Slope

By Adam Stengel
for The Brooklyn Papers

Oscar Brand is a folk singer, recording artist, songwriter, guitarist, bawdy song balladeer, sea chanteur performer, radio broadcaster, television program host, emcee, Broadway composer, playwright, actor, author, storyteller, musicologist, historian, children's recording artist, honorary Ph.D. and one of the creators of "Sesame Street."

And he's coming to Park Slope for one magical night of songs, stories, laughter and love at the Good Coffeehouse on Friday, June 14.

The Good Coffeehouse has been offering its Friday night concert series for nearly 30 years. The concerts are held in the 100-year-old historic meetinghouse of the Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture, on Prospect Park West at Second Street.

Brand's show will feature his comprehensive repertoire of folk songs and stories, including his current favorite song, "Touch the Earth," which appears on his CD, "American Dreamer." He will be performing two sets.

Anything is possible. Be prepared to participate; be prepared to sing; be prepared to answer questions. Most importantly, be prepared to witness history.

In a telephone interview with GO Brooklyn, Brand delighted us with his stories, whetting our appetite for the upcoming event.

The Canadian-born Brand has been playing music since his childhood in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

"When I was about 4 years old, we didn't have indoor plumbing," he said. "We had an outdoor bathroom that we shared. I started whistling and singing while I was in the outdoors, so that someone would know I was there."

Hundreds of thousands of miles later, by way of Borough Park, Oscar Brand still whistles and sings so that people "know I'm here."

Oscar Brand

Brand's family came to America when he was 9 and soon moved to Brooklyn. In the early '30s, Brand was one of the "Dodger Rooters," a group of young people who were given free admission to Brooklyn Dodgers games "as long as you remembered to cheer."

Growing up, folk music was in Brand's blood, and he began to write songs even before he could play an instrument.

"Woody Guthrie used to accompany me on guitar when I played a show," said Brand. "He loved to laugh at me."

Guthrie was more than just a friend to Brand, he also was part mentor. For instance, Brand didn't even know to copy-right his songs until he saw Guthrie doing it. "I had recorded nine albums of material before I ever copyrighted a song," he said.

Six decades later, Brand has recorded more than 100 albums (three of which are complete and ready to be distributed now), including the very successful 1999 release "Presidential Campaign Songs: 1789-1996" on the Smithsonian label; "Party at Oscar's Place," a successful children's album; and nine albums of bawdy songs.

Brand counted Guthrie and Leadbelly among his friends, and he's written songs for Doris Day, Ella Fitzgerald, Harry Belafonte, the Smothers Brothers and the Mormon Tabernacle Choir. His career spans history, geography and crossing all genres.

He is currently the host of the longest continuously running radio show in the country, "The Old Timey Show" on WBAI.

See BRAND on page GO 4

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Top secret

Hidden in Brooklyn Heights, Alicia's is a delicious, affordable secret

By Tina Barry
for The Brooklyn Papers

Residents of Brooklyn Heights, I am about to divulge your best-kept secret.

I know that I should leave well enough alone. Let you keep this restaurant to yourself, and since I've dined there, keep this treasure for myself, too. I've given this a lot of thought, and I've decided that it would be selfish, unforgivable really, not to let people in on the secret.

The restaurant I refer to is Alicia's Cafe and Eatery, Alicia's is the kind of comfortable place that every neighborhood wants, but few are lucky enough to have. Owner Wayne Anderson opened his cafe last October on Columbia Street at Jerusalem Street with the intention of serving "the kind of food the neighborhood would enjoy."

With Alicia's (pronounced Ah-lee-see-ah, named for Anderson's youngest sister), Anderson tapped into the dining needs of the neighborhood. By serving dishes that provide the culinary comfort diners crave, in a casual setting, with prices that max out at \$10 (that is not a misprint) — he has concocted a formula that satisfies all the needs of his community.

The area surrounding Alicia's is mostly residential. Trees shade quaint turn-of-the-century homes, their porches adorned with flower boxes spilling petunias or marigold brownnesses with high ceilings and ornate marble fireplaces. As I walked along the narrow streets toward Alicia's, I was reminded of Georgetown in Washington, D.C., or some of the blocks that seem untouched in the far-west West Village.

Anderson has found a soul mate with the one-named chef Sibbe (See-hah). Sibbe's cooking reflects the ethnic diversity and appreciation for fresh flavors

that can be attributed to many years manning the kitchen in San Francisco's better restaurants. Described by Anderson as "American eclectic," Sibbe's dishes reflect that region's ethnic diversity and appreciation for fresh, clean flavors, yet it satisfies a New Yorker's craving for savory, uncomplicated food.

Working out of a kitchen no larger than the smallest New York City studio apartment, Sibbe wisely chooses to focus on a limited number of dishes — quality over quantity. There are just five appetizers and seven entrees. Two desserts are offered, which change from night to night.

An appetizer of large, grilled shrimp artfully arranged over crisp, grilled slices of bread blasts the palate with smoky and sharp tastes. Five tender shrimp that retain that hot-off-the-grill taste, were enhanced by the freshness of lime. Topped with a light wine and parsley sauce, the shrimp gave our mouths a sensory wake-up call. Less exciting were timidly flavored, tiny mussels served in a light tomato and wine sauce that had a bad case of the blahs.

Anything but blah were two entrees: the grilled salmon and the two-listed, pan-seared pork chop. You've had salmon before and grilled, poached, steamed or sautéed it's become a dining cliché. But Sibbe's rendition features the fish chocked with crunchy slices of fried potato. The salmon is seared to a brittle crust on the outside, rare on the inside. Served over garlic mashed potatoes, not so pungent that they overpower the fish, and

nothing but the mellow balsamic-laced sauce, the dish had everything a diner could ask for: crunch, creaminess and just enough sharpness to give the dish a little kick.

The chop, lightly seasoned then pan-seared, arrived with two sides: jasmine rice that absorbed the mushroom and wine sauce, and bok choy sautéed in garlic and wine. The chop was juicy and that bok choy — mellowly soft and mellowed with sweet garlic — a shameless scene-stealer.

Don't be a baby and wimp out on dessert. One that I tried was as close to baby food as you'll want to get — delicious, sophisticated, sweetly scented baby food that is, a bowl of soupy rice pudding, heavily flavored with cardamom, came topped with a dollop of pineapple custard, and a squiggle of loosely whipped cream that melted slowly into the pudding.

It was a bowl of pure, unadorned cobbler — a little heavy on the cobbler topping — was recommended by the chef. Apples and a luscious house-made vanilla bean ice cream.

Different house-made ice cream served with a similar, simple, well-priced menu. Plenty of rich coffee and such luscious indulgences as shrimp and grits and oatmeal topped with fruit and a nut-but-ter sauce are all part of Alicia's lunch brunch.

It seems like a high-risk endeavor. Open a cafe far from any other restaurant in the area, in a residential street, and hope that good word of mouth will fill your tables. The risk has paid off for Anderson. Few who visit find the cafe a come regulars. So will you.

DINING

Alicia's Cafe and Eatery (10 Columbia Place between Jerusalem and State streets in Brooklyn Heights) accepts Visa, MasterCard and Discover. Entrees are priced \$7-\$10. For reservations, call (718) 524-6006.



(Top) Alicia's Cafe and Eatery at 10 Columbia Place in Brooklyn Heights serves a grilled salmon with garlic mashed potatoes that makes this fish new again. (Above) Alicia's chef Sibbe with owner Wayne Anderson.

Anything but blah were two entrees: the grilled salmon and the two-listed, pan-seared pork chop. You've had salmon before and grilled, poached, steamed or sautéed it's become a dining cliché. But Sibbe's rendition features the fish chocked with crunchy slices of fried potato. The salmon is seared to a brittle crust on the outside, rare on the inside. Served over garlic mashed potatoes, not so pungent that they overpower the fish, and

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WHERE TO GO

compiled by Susan Rosenthal

THURS., JUNE 13

- OPEN HOUSE:** Polytechnic University invites transfer students to learn about programs. 10 am to 6 pm, 4 MetroTech Center. \$800 polytech. Free.
- DINNER:** Brooklyn Housing and Family Services hosts its annual fundraising dinner. Housing and Family Services, 110th Street, 110th St. 7:30 pm. \$15. \$10 for seniors.
- TOWN HALL MEETING:** Hanson Place. Central United Methodist Church hosts meeting to discuss downtown Brooklyn development. 7:30 pm, 144 St. Francis. \$7.
- HALCYON CAFE:** Fiction reading with writers Henry Israel, Joanna Goodman and Michael Monahan. 7:30 pm, 227 Smith St. (718) 260-WAXY. Free.
- BARGE MUSIC:** Chamber music of Shakespeare, Britten and Schubert. 7:30 pm, Fulton Ferry Landing. (718) 624-2083.
- SEASONAL EATING:** Park Slope Food Coop offers a talk. Seasonal whole foods to strengthen immune systems. Prepare a summer dish and share recipes. 7:30 pm, 782 Union St. (718) 622-5550. Free.
- GALLERY PLAYERS:** presents its fifth annual Black Box Series. 12 plays have their premieres. \$15, \$12 seniors and children under 10. 8 pm, 199 14th St. (718) 595-0547.
- TWO BOOTS:** Honky tonk music with the Jags Addicts. No cover. 10 pm, 514 Second St. (718) 499-3232.
- IRS WORKSHOP:** Internal Revenue Service offers a one-day workshop for small and medium-size tax-exempt organizations on how to comply with exemption and tax law requirements. 8:30 am to 5:30 pm. Pre-registration necessary. (877) 829-5500.
- BAM:** "Maria Stuart." 7:30 pm. See Sat., June 15.

FRI., JUNE 14

- OPEN HOUSE:** Register for nursery school program for 3 and 4 year olds at 7th Street Church. 9 am to noon, 749 9th St. (718) 429-7972.
- BUSES AND RAILS:** "NYC Public Transportation: Are the Buses and Rails Getting You Where You Need to Go?" is a talk sponsored by state Sen. Valmarante Montgomery and Borough President Mary Markowitz. 10 am to 2 pm, Borough Hall, 207 Jerusalem St. (718) 643-6160. Free.
- FATHER'S DAY CELEBRATION:** Park Slope Senior Citizens Center offers a music program by the Jazz Elders. \$1.50 donation. 1 to 3 pm, 463A Seventh St. (718) 892-3726.
- BAMCENMATEK:** presents "The Independent: John Sayles' film series. Today's feature is "Matewan" (1987). \$9, 2, 4.30 and 7 pm. Q & A with John Sayles after 7 pm screening. 30 Lafayette Ave. (718) 636-8100.
- CARIBBEAN CARNIVAL DINNER DANCE:** Event honors Carlos Lozano, father of Brooklyn's 35-year-old West Indian American Day Carnival and Parade. Senator Hillary Clinton a honorary chair of event. 5:30 pm, Brooklyn Museum of Art, 200 Eastern Parkway. Call for ticket information. (718) 625-1515.
- DINNER DANCE:** Columbian Lawyers Association of Brooklyn hosts its 36th annual event. 6 pm. Call for ticket information. El Caribe, 3945 Grand Ave. (718) 975-0158.
- FISH TALK:** Brooklyn Aquarium Society offers a talk, "The Private Lives of Cats." \$5 donation. 7:30 pm. Refreshments served. New York Aquarium, West Eighth Street and Surf Avenue.

Flower power

Thelma Hill Performing Arts Center's "Urban Dandelions" program will take place June 15 and June 16 at 7:30 pm at Long Island University's Triangle Theatre (Flatbush and DeKalb avenues) featuring works by new and established dance companies: Skeleton Dance Project, Soloists and Andrea E. Woods & Dances and Neighborhood Theater (pictured). The program was curated by choreographer Marlies Yearby.

A reception honoring Diane McIntyre and Ella Moore, this year's recipients of the THPAC Lifetime Achievement Awards, will be held following the June 16 performance. Admission is \$15, \$12 seniors and students (performance only) and \$40 (performance and post-show awards reception). For a complete schedule of THPAC's 2002 season, call (718) 875-9710.

- PROSPECT PARK TOUR:** Tour guide Matthew Wells leads expedition around Prospect Park. \$12. 1 pm. Meet at Grand Army Plaza. (718) 499-1748.
- BENSONHURST BUFFET:** Adventure on a Shorething house a snacks-and-sights safari of Brooklyn's "Little Italy." \$5. Meet at 4 pm at northwest corner of 64th Street and 18th Avenue. (212) 255-2663.
- SPRING TWILIGHT TOUR:** Brooklyn Center for the Urban Environment offers small area tour. Bennett Field and along beach of Dead Horse Bay. 8 to 9 pm. Call for ticket information. Meet at contact station on Flatbush Avenue across from Floyd Bennett Field. (718) 788-8500.
- PERFORMANCES:**
- ROYAL DRAMATIC THEATRE:** "The Tempest." \$50 preferred seating or \$12 open seating. 7 pm. Opening night reception follows performance. St. Francis College, 182 Remsen St. (718) 393-6546.
- BAM:** US premiere of Ingrid Bergman-directed production of "Maria Stuart." The Royal Dramatic Theatre of Sweden performs play about struggle for power between England's Protestant Queen Elizabeth I and the Catholic Mary, Queen of Scots. \$65, \$45, \$25. 8 pm. Howard Gilman Opera House, 30 Lafayette Ave. (718) 636-4111.
- BARGE MUSIC:** Chamber music of Mozart and Beethoven. 7:30 pm, Fulton Ferry Landing. (718) 624-2083.
- DANCE:** Thelma Hill Performing Arts Center presents "Urban Dandelions," featuring Skeleton Dance Project, Soloists and Andrea E. Woods & Dances. 7:30 pm, Long Island University Triangle Theatre, DeKalb Ave. Long Island University. (718) 875-9710.
- GALLERY PLAYERS:** Black Box series features new plays. \$15, \$12 seniors and children under 10. 8 pm, 199 14th St. (718) 595-0547.
- CONCERT SERIES:** Kenyon Borough Community College begins its

Fri., June 14

OPEN HOUSE: Register for nursery school program for 3 and 4 year olds at 7th Street Church. 9 am to noon, 749 9th St. (718) 429-7972.

BUSES AND RAILS: "NYC Public Transportation: Are the Buses and Rails Getting You Where You Need to Go?" is a talk sponsored by state Sen. Valmarante Montgomery and Borough President Mary Markowitz. 10 am to 2 pm, Borough Hall, 207 Jerusalem St. (718) 643-6160. Free.

FATHER'S DAY CELEBRATION: Park Slope Senior Citizens Center offers a music program by the Jazz Elders. \$1.50 donation. 1 to 3 pm, 463A Seventh St. (718) 892-3726.

BAMCENMATEK: presents "The Independent: John Sayles' film series. Today's feature is "Matewan" (1987). \$9, 2, 4.30 and 7 pm. Q & A with John Sayles after 7 pm screening. 30 Lafayette Ave. (718) 636-8100.

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DINNER DANCE: Columbian Lawyers Association of Brooklyn hosts its 36th annual event. 6 pm. Call for ticket information. El Caribe, 3945 Grand Ave. (718) 975-0158.

FISH TALK: Brooklyn Aquarium Society offers a talk, "The Private Lives of Cats." \$5 donation. 7:30 pm. Refreshments served. New York Aquarium, West Eighth Street and Surf Avenue.

SAT., JUNE 15

- COFFEE HOUSE:** Bay Ridge United Methodist Church hosts an evening of music. 7:30 to 9:30 pm. Voluntary donation. Fourth and Ovington avenues. (718) 491-5863.
- ECO BOOKS:** Three activists lead "Connecting the Issues," a discussion of issues relating to water. 7:30 pm, 837 Union St. (718) 628-8878. Free.
- BARGE MUSIC:** Chamber music of Shakespeare, Britten and Schubert. 7:30 pm, Fulton Ferry Landing. (718) 624-2083.
- GOOD COFFEEHOUSE:** Folk-music performance. Originals brings his repertoire of songs and stories. \$10, \$6 children. 8 pm, 53 Prospect Park West. (718) 784-2972.
- RECIETAL:** Soprano Christine Moore and pianist Beth Levin perform recital of songs including works by Bach and Vivaldi. \$10, \$5 children and seniors. 8 pm, Brooklyn Conservatory of Music, 56 Seventh Ave. (718) 622-3300.
- EAST END ENSEMBLE:** Jazz group "Fingerless" performs. No cover. 9 pm, 273 Smith St. (718) 624-8878.
- MODA CAFE:** Magazine launch party for "56 Series." 9 pm, 294 Fifth Ave. (718) 832-8897. Free.
- COMEDY NIGHTS:** New not-for-profit organization, Comedy Heals, hosts its first fundraising event. \$15, \$9.30 pm, Comedy Friendship, 339 Eighth St. (718) 675-1776.
- TWO BOOTS:** Jazz performed by Sound and Savant Trio. No cover. 10 pm, 514 Second St. (718) 499-3232.
- SUMMER CLASSES:** Spoke the Hub Dance offers morning and evening classes for the summer semester. Call for class schedule. 748 Union St. (718) 833-5158.
- SUMMER MEMBERSHIP:** NYCA offers special summer membership. \$100. Includes membership, group food from Memorial Day to Labor Day. Call branch near you, rates vary. Park Slope branch (718) 748-7100. Flatbush branch (718) 469-8100. Greenpoint branch (718) 389-4700.
- DINNER THEATER:** "Last Supper." 7 pm. See Sat., June 15.
- RYAN REPERCUTS:** "The Little Prince." 8 pm. See Sat., June 15.
- SHAKESPEARE:** "The Tempest." 8 pm. See Sat., June 15.
- GALLERY PLAYERS:** Black Box Series. 8 pm. See Sat., June 15.

Performance culminates with full dinner. Voluntary offering is \$25 to \$40. 7 pm, 410 16th St. Reservations. (718) 499-7758.

SHAKESPEARE: Kings County Shakespeare Company begins its season with "The Tempest." \$50 preferred seating or \$12 open seating. 7 pm. Opening night reception follows performance. St. Francis College, 182 Remsen St. (718) 393-6546.

BAM: US premiere of Ingrid Bergman-directed production of "Maria Stuart." The Royal Dramatic Theatre of Sweden performs play about struggle for power between England's Protestant Queen Elizabeth I and the Catholic Mary, Queen of Scots. \$65, \$45, \$25. 8 pm. Howard Gilman Opera House, 30 Lafayette Ave. (718) 636-4111.

BARGE MUSIC: Chamber music of Mozart and Beethoven. 7:30 pm, Fulton Ferry Landing. (718) 624-2083.

DANCE: Thelma Hill Performing Arts Center presents "Urban Dandelions," featuring Skeleton Dance Project, Soloists and Andrea E. Woods & Dances. 7:30 pm, Long Island University Triangle Theatre, DeKalb Ave. Long Island University. (718) 875-9710.

GALLERY PLAYERS: Black Box series features new plays. \$15, \$12 seniors and children under 10. 8 pm, 199 14th St. (718) 595-0547.

CONCERT SERIES: Kenyon Borough Community College begins its

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Strangers on a train

One-man-show imagines the stories inside straphangers

By Paulanne Simmons
for The Brooklyn Papers

Harmed commuters, desperate beggars, cripples of all sorts — in the subway, we see them all. Writer-performer Michael Schwartz puts these onstage in his hilarious, heartrending and ultimately brilliant one-man show about seven people waiting for a train that never arrives.

"In the Shadow of the Third Rail" which premiered last January at Stamford's Unitarian Universalist Society, plays for one more week at Park Slope's Brooklyn Lyceum. If you miss your train, don't worry; if you miss this show, it would really be a shame.

Schwartz has an expressive and mobile face, an athletic body and a marvelous gift for accent. With no scenery and a few props — a phone, wheelchair, handbag — he creates intense situations and utterly believable characters. At the same time, he demolishes the fourth wall, commenting on the actions of the people in the audience and inviting them into the action onstage.

Schwartz first appears as Ali, a paraplegic Pakistani taxi driver paralyzed by a

passenger's bullet just when he has finally succeeded in bringing his wife and children to America.

"Why are most taxi drivers immigrants?" he asks. "Because the Statue of Liberty is hauling a cab!" Just as the Lady of the Harbor never gets her taxi, Ali never gets his dream to come true. Ali metamorphoses into Link, a man who thinks he's a squirrel and plans to take over the world "for the last true urban wildlife."

"We don't want your food; we want your finger," he tells a young lady in the audience. Schwartz crawls, climbs and capers on- and offstage with movements so like a squirrel, many show it will be looking for his tail.

Schwartz grabs a pocketbook and becomes Sarah, a depressed lead-acid administrator addicted to antidepressants and anesthetized by TV commercials, which she can recite at will. Her cell phone is a lifeline to her husband who is somewhere above ground in the not very reassuring world of recession, war and AIDS and desire. Her life is driven by materialism.

"While the president does the fighting,



Tunnel vision: Michael Schwartz is the star and author of the one-man-show "In the Shadow of the Third Rail," on stage through June 15 at the Brooklyn Lyceum.

Katy Haberstein

we've got to do the shopping," she admonishes her husband. One of Schwartz's most moving characters is Pavlos, a man with cerebral palsy who shares with Joseph, a suicidal subway singer, a love song he has secreted by written for a woman he once met in a hospital. As Pavlos sings his poignant song about a girl whose tears turn to rain, and Joseph listens, Schwartz executes a series of seamless transitions that are truly breathtaking. Pavlos reminds Joseph, and even sniffs the air with movements so like a squirrel, many show it will be looking for his tail.

Wanda, a homeless panhandler, wanders among the audience looking for a handout. And Jose, a Latin American immigrant who lost his eyes to a fire in the chicken factory where he was employed, searches for people who want lessons in salsa dancing so he can earn money to pay the school where he is studying to become a Gestalt psychotherapist.

Many of Schwartz's characters are so real, and their suffering is so acute, they are actually painful to watch. Yet just as

hapless commuters endure the harassments and opportunities they confront every day, the audience endures, and in the end enjoys (in a revelatory way), Schwartz's performance.

If Schwartz turns the stage into a subway platform, he also turns the subway platform into a microcosm of the world. His characters are the victims of a society not civilized enough to care for its most vulnerable citizens — the crippled, the impoverished, the insane — or even for their home, the very earth itself.

Alli always has his bag for a link because the fact that a squirrel can no longer get cross-country by hopping from tree to tree, Pavlos relates that the woman he fell in love with was the only one who didn't think he was retarded, and he was the only one who didn't think she was insane.

"In the Shadow of the Third Rail" is so intense that many people may be almost relieved when it's over. But however that gets home, taking the subway will never again be the same.

THEATER

"In the Shadow of the Third Rail" has three more performances: June 13, 14 and 15 at 8 pm at the Brooklyn Lyceum, 227 Fourth Ave. at President Street in Park Slope. Tickets are \$15, \$12 online, \$10 seniors and students. For reservations, call (718) 875-4816.

series with "Summon the Heroes," a homage to America's heroes. 8 pm. Park Slope. \$10. 2001 Oriental Boulevard. (718) 565-5000. Free.

MUSIC: Benadette Szezech and Thulani Davis present an evening of music and poetry collaborations. 8 pm. Lafayette Avenue Presbyterian Church, 85 South Oxford St. (718) 972-3085.

EAST END ENSEMBLE: presents Brooklyn Brew-Ha-Ha, a state-of-the-art stand-up comedy. 8 pm. 223 Smith St. (718) 624-8978.

GALAPAGOS: Showstoppers perform post-rock. 8 pm. 70 North Sixth St. (718) 782-5188.

OPERA: Vertical Player Repertory presents "Cavalletti" featuring an opera in one-act. \$20. 8 pm. 219 Court St. (212) 539-2696.

MOOD CAFFE: Acoustic music with Magic Carpet Cleaners. 9 pm. 294 Fifth Ave. (718) 832-8897. Free.

PARLOZ JAZZ: Jim Morehead and Dave Palozzo host a jazz session in their home. Concert features swing cornetist Ed Polzer with guest Dave Cook from NYC. 8 pm. 110 W. 119th St. (718) 855-1981.

TWO BOOTS: Folk pop music with Mary McBride. No cover. 10 pm. 514 Second St. (718) 499-2323.

FRAN REPERTORY: "The Little Prince," by Antoine de Saint-Exupery. 8 pm. 2 pm. Harry Womersley Theatre, 2445 Bath Ave. (718) 996-4802.

CHILDREN
BROOKLYN CHILDREN'S MUSEUM: Father's Day Workshop featuring Harlem Blues and Jazz Band. 1:30 and 3 pm also. Early Learners Workshop features a talk on sun safety. 10:30 am to noon. Fathers admitted free with a paying child. \$4 museum admission. 145 Brooklyn Ave. (718) 735-4400.

GROWING TOGETHER: Prospect Park YMCA offers a program for caregivers' parents and their daughters ages 9 to 11.

10 am to 6 pm. 357 Ninth St. Call for information. (718) 768-7100. ext. 128.

KIDS PERFORMANCE: Park Moms hosts its annual McCarran Park Live! Today, North American Culture Laboratory performs a capella songs, silk walking and more. 11 am. Corner of Briggs Street and 2nd Avenue. (352) 553-5242. Free.

PUPPETWORKS: "Pinocchio," \$7. 50 children. 12:30 pm. 338 Sixth Ave. Reservations only. (718) 234-1165.

WYCKOFF HOUSE: Kids are invited to make their clothing, and to make puppets on their own. 1 to 3 pm. 2816 Clarendon Road. (718) 429-5460. Free.

KIDMUSIC: Children's concert featuring music of "Papa" Haydn. Appropriate for children 6 and older. \$15. 10 children. 3 pm. Bargeville. (718) 624-4061.

OTHER
BLOOD DRIVE: First Reform Church. 11:30 am to 5 pm. Seventh Avenue and Carroll Street. (800) 933-BLOOD.

SOCIAL RUGBY: Beginners or advanced. men and women. 11 am to 2 pm. Prospect Park, between Tennis and Tennis Houses. (212) 842-2607.

AUTHOR AWARDS: Pen Open Book Award-winning authors meet from their local and award houses. 2 to 5 pm. Reception. Brooklyn Museum of Art, 201 Eastern Parkway. (212) 334-1660. Free.

RECEPTION: Snack Medion opening reception for exhibit "Hash Brown Potatoes." 4 to 7 pm. 54 Water St. (718) 834-8761. Free.

SUN, JUNE 16
Father's Day
OUTDOORS AND TOURS
SEVENTH HEAVEN: 28th annual Park Slope street fair. Entertainment, food, music, antique cars and more. 11 am to 6 pm.

LIST YOUR EVENT...

To list your event in Where to GO, please give us as much notice as possible. Send your listing by mail: QD Brooklyn, The Brooklyn Papers, 26 Court St., Ste. 206, 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.

Seventh Avenue will be closed to traffic from Flatbush Avenue on or after 12:30 pm. (718) 234-1165.

WATERFRONT BICYCLE TOUR: Greenway Dredgers Canoe Club and Waterfront Greenway Task Force host a tour. 10 am. Meet at steps of Borough Hall, 100 Water Street. (718) 243-0849.

BIRD WALK: Beginning birders are invited to learn about Green-Wood Cemetery and its birds. Limited number of people will walk. 9 am. Call to sign up. (718) 875-6121. Free.

SPRINGFEST 2002: Brooklyn Botanic Garden concludes its Sunday series. Bluesgrass gospel music with The Singing Company. 2:30 to 3:30 pm. Greenwich Morris Men perform traditional Morris dancing. Also, Anne Rovey, author of "Government Vegetables" and New York Times garden writer is guest speaker. \$3. 10 am to 4:30 pm. 1000 Washington Ave. (718) 623-7200.

EVERGREEN CEMETERY TOUR: Joe Foster and Anthony Salemore host a tour of final resting place of hundreds of notable Americans, and highlight land-saving of the environment. 11 am. Enter at corner of Bathwick Avenue and Corney Street. (718) 455-5300. Free.

FULTON ART FAIR: Noon till dusk. Fulton Street and Stanton Street. (718) 707-1457. Free.

CALL THE CREEK: Salt Marsh Nature Center explores Garterman Creek by canoe. 1 pm. Reservations required. Call for fee. (960) 366-4444.

ON THE WATERFRONT: Red Hook Waterfront concludes its 10th annual arts festival with a Father's Day program featuring live music, dance and food. 3 to 6 pm. Silent auction at 3 pm. Board Street Pier, 499 Van Brunt St. (718) 596-2507.

WILLIAMSBURG ART: 12nd Street Art of Manhattan hosts a tour of art scene in Williamsburg. Visit

studio in this art colony with a member of NYU's Visual Arts M.A. program. 3:30 pm. Noon to 2:30 pm. Call. (212) 415-5500.

GREEN-WOOD CEMETERY: Learn about Green-Wood's historical, sociological, architectural, artistic, horticultural and geological appeal during a tour led by John Cashman. 8 pm. Meet at main entrance at Fulton Street and 26th Street. (718) 469-5277.

PERFORMANCES
DANCE: Second annual Lifetime Achievement Awards feature music by new and emerging dance companies. \$15. \$12 seniors and students. 8 pm. Performance of "Urban Dandelions" and after-performance award reception. 7:30 pm. Long Island University Triangle Theater. Duffield and Flatbush avenues. (718) 875-9710.

SHAKESPEARE: Kings County Shakespeare Company presents "The Tempest." 8 pm. Also, children's programming and a community event. 7:30 pm. See Sat. June 15.

BARGE MUSIC: Chamber music of Mozart and Fauré. \$35. 4 pm. Fulton Ferry Landing. (718) 624-2053.

OPERA: "Cavalletti Rusticana," 4 pm. See Sat. June 15.

CHILDREN
PUPPETWORKS: "Pinocchio," 12:30 pm. See Sat. June 15.

DANCE: Children's dance workshop. \$10. 2 pm. Thelma Hill Performing Arts Center. 30 Third Ave. (718) 875-9710.

KIDMUSIC: Children's concert featuring music of "Papa" Haydn. 3 pm. See Sat. June 15.

OTHER
HEALTH FAIR: Hosted by Maimonides Medical Center at Boro

Park YM-YWHA. Screening and lectures on health topics. 10 am to 4 pm. 4912 4th Ave. (718) 283-9002. Free.

BROOKLYN BOTANIC GARDEN: Learn how to garden with fragrance. Class covers fragrant plants from the gardener's perspective and the chemistry of fragrance. \$33. 9 am to 10 am to 2 pm. 1000 Washington Ave. (718) 623-7200.

WORKSHOP: Prospect Park YMCA hosts a full day workshop which discusses effective communication between 9 to 11 year-old girls and their mothers. 10 am to 4 pm. Call for registration information. 357 Ninth St. (718) 768-7100, ext. 126.

MON, JUNE 17
JOB FAIR: School District 21 hosts a job fair for teachers. 10 am to 12:30 pm and from 1:30 to 4 pm. St. 303 Boro. 21st West Ave. (718) 714-2000. Free.

ENTREPRENEUR SERIES: "You Can Do It Too" series. Learn how to help start or grow a business, hosted by Brooklyn Public Library's Business Branch. Stanley Kaplan, of Stanley Kaplan Educational Center, is guest speaker. Learn how Brooklyn-born entrepreneur and SAT test prep guru turned his local tutoring operation into an international corporation. 4 pm. 280 Cadman Plaza West. (718) 623-7000, ext. 4. Free.

LECTURE SERIES: Congregation "The Rebbe," The Messiah and The Scandal! "Tonight's talk" series. 8 to 9 pm. 117 Remsen St. (718) 800-1827. Free.

SHAKESPEARE: Kings County Shakespeare Company begins its 2002 season with "The Tempest." \$12. 8 pm. St. Francis College, 182 Remsen St. (718) 396-0546.

TUES, JUNE 18
PROSTATE SCREENING: Mobile medical unit outside office at 9025 Third Ave. (718) 6044. Also, concert at Borough Hall. 209 Joralemon St. (800) 227-3421. Free.

BAGELS AND MORE: National Council of Jewish Women, Manor Midwood branch, presents

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Sunday 12:00pm - 10:00pm

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WHERE TO GO...

Continued from previous page...
 enters The Singer's Forum. Noon. East Midwood Jewish Center, 1625 Ocean Ave. Call for ticket info. (718) 376-8164.

BAMCINEMATEK: "Frantank Vlach: Pure Film" series. "Mudry Waters Can't be Satisfied" 2002. \$9. 7 pm. G & A with Robert Gordon and Morgan Neville after screening. 20 Lafayette Ave. (718) 636-4100.

PRODUCE IN THE GARDEN: Spoke the Hub Dance offers a series of workshops in the Garden of Union. Today. Dancing Green with Robina Zumborg and Friends. 5 pm. Union Street between Fourth and Fifth avenues. (718) 857-5158. Free.

BOOKCOURT: Author Colette Brooks reads from her book "In the City." 7 pm. 163 Court St. (718) 875-3677. Free.

ASTROLOGY TALK: Park Slope Food Co-op offers a talk. "Beyond Sun Sign Astrology: Learn meaning of all 10 astrological planets." 7:30 pm. 782 Union St. (718) 622-0560. Free.

AUCTION: at Madison Jewish Center. All attendees are invited to bring an item to be auctioned off. 7:45 pm. 2989 Nstrand Ave. (718) 339-7755.

GALAPAGOS ART SPACE: Gozilla Press hosts a benefit featuring several entertainers. 8 pm. Call for ticket info. 70 North Sixth St. (718) 782-5188.

Weds, June 19

HEALTH SCREENING: Councilman Mary Golden hosts a prostate cancer screening. Mobile medical unit outside 68th Precinct Station House, 633 65th St. (718) 239-6044. Free.

OPEN HOUSE: at Polytechnic University. 10 am to 6 pm. 4 Metrotech Center. (800) polytech. Free.

READING: City Parks Foundation hosts Readings in the Parks. School children are invited to attend a reading by Queen Nur. 10:30 am. Von King Cultural Arts Center. 670 Lafayette Ave. (212) 260-8290. Free.

AQUARIUM ON WHEELS: Aquarium's Aquaport visits Brooklyn Public Library. Read Hook branch. Appropriate for children 5 to 12. 4 to 5 pm. 7 Wilson St. (718) 925-0203. Free.

GARDENING: Brooklyn Botanic Garden offers a class on thoughtful container gardening. \$33. \$29 members. 6 to 9 pm. Pre-registration necessary. 1000 Washington Ave. (718) 623-7220.

AWARD DINNER: Xavierian High School pays tribute to Rudy Giuliani during its third annual Joe DiMaggio Award Gala. Silent auction, DiMaggio memorabilia, dinner and awards. 6 pm. NY Sheraton, Seventh Avenue and 52nd Street, Manhattan. Call for ticket information. (212) 213-1166.

MEETING: Working session of Community School Board 15. Board candidates appear at public forum. 7 pm. 360 Smith St. (718) 330-9950.

BAMCINEMATEK: "Green for Danger" (1946). \$9. 7 and 9:20 pm. Cinemaclub with Elliott Stein after 7 pm screening. 20 Lafayette Ave. (718) 636-4100.

JAZZ: Mother Cabrini Park hosts a jazz concert by Hank Jones. 7 pm. President Street, between Van Brunt and Columbia streets. (718) 625-7734. Free.

BOOKCOURT: Post Priscilla Becker and author Jonathan Ames read from their works. 7 pm. 163 Court St. (718) 875-3677. Free.

MEETING: of Bay Ridge Historical Society. Speaker offers a presentation about recent discoveries among the pyramids and the urban center that thrived 1,500 years ago. 7:45 pm. Shore Hill Towers, 9000 Shore Road. (718) 745-5928. Free.

GALAPAGOS ART SPACE: Applause-a-meter decides who wins the top cash prize of \$99.99. Open to all entertainers.

Sign up at 8:30 pm. 70 North Sixth St. (718) 782-5188. Free.
SHAKESPEARE: "The Tempest." 8 pm. See Sat.
MEETING: 68th Precinct Community Council discusses about summer programs available to youth in community. 7:30 pm. 333 65th St. (718) 439-4220.

THURS, JUNE 20

RHYTHM AND BLUES FEET: Brooklyn Academy of Music summer outdoor lunchtime concert series. North Mississippi All-Stars play R & B music. Noon to 2 pm. Metrotech, corner of Flatbush and Myrtle avenues. (718) 636-4100. Free.

HEALTH TALK: Lutheran Medical Center offers a talk. "Caring for the Diabetic Foot." 2:30 pm. Refreshments served. Shore Hill Community Room, 91st Street between Shore and Colonial Roads. (718) 636-0200. Free.

HEALTH NEWS: H.I.P. offers an update on changes and issues in health. 5 to 7 pm. HSBC Bank. 200 Montague St. Free.

RECEPTION: Long Island University presents a series of sculptures by six professional sculptors, mostly from Brooklyn. Opening reception for artists takes place outdoors. 6 to 8 pm. DiFiore building, 6th and 8th avenues. (718) 488-1198. Free.

ECO BOOKS: Author Joel Kovel reads from his book, "Enemy of Nature." 7 to 9 pm. 837 Union St. (718) 623-6998. Free.

DEMOCRATIC DINNER: Brooklyn Independent Democrats hosts a dinner to honor NYC Comptroller William Thompson, Borough President Marty Markowitz and others. 7:30 pm. El Caribe Country Club, 5945 Strohland Ave. (718) 533-1200.

MIDWIFE TALK: Park Slope Food Co-op offers talk "Today's Midwife and Modern Birth Centers." Birth video and questions and answers. 7:30 pm. 782 Union St. (718) 622-0560. Free.

MEETING: Union Center for Women summer registration. 7:30 pm. 9500 Fourth Ave. (718) 748-9708.

CELEBRATE BROOKLYN: 24th season of outdoor music, dance, word and film kicks off with New Orleans. Dr. Demento performing bagu boogie and voodoo funk. 7:45 pm. Prospect Park Bandshell, Ninth Street and Prospect Park West. (718) 855-7882. Free.

HALCYON CAVE: Fiction reading with writers Peter Dinklage, El Hankowitz and Ron Drummond. 7:30 pm. 227 Smith St. (718) 260-WAWY. Free.

BARBENASC: All Beethoven program of chamber music. \$35. 7:30 pm. Fulton Ferry Landing. (718) 624-2083.

GALAPAGOS ART SPACE: Underground music by DJ Salsinger. 10 pm to 2 am. 70 North Sixth St. (718) 782-5188. Free.

DINNER THEATER: "Last Supper." 7 pm. See Sat.

SHAKESPEARE: "The Tempest." 8 pm. See Sat., June 15.

FRI, JUNE 21

ZEN OF DRAWING: Salt Marsh Nature Center meditative artists-to-experience with DJ Salsinger. U. (718) 421-2021. Free.

GARDEN PARTY: Magnolia Tree Earth Center annual Habitat Caribou Foundation's Day event. \$50. 5:30 to 8:30 pm. 677 Lafayette Ave. (718) 387-2116.

DINNER THEATER: "Last Supper." 7 pm. See Sat., June 15.

CELEBRATE BROOKLYN: Opening weekend continues for the 24th season of outdoor performances of music, dance, word and film. Hailon. "The Lion of Egypt" plays traditional music. \$3. 7:30 pm. Prospect Park Bandshell, Ninth Street and Prospect Park West. (718) 855-7882.

TWO ROOTS: Raving Neals plays klezmer music. No cover. 10 pm. 514 Second St. (718) 409-3253.

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BRAND...

Continued from page GO 1

dio show in history, the "Folk Song Festival" airing every Sunday night at 10 pm on WNYC, 820 AM. He is an American (er, Canadian) Institution, a national treasure.

"My songs are part of a series of musical windows on America," said Brand. "You listen to the songs and you will know more history than if you read a hundred books."

Brand plans to continue working "until they have to carry me out." He stays current by keeping up with as much new music as he can listen to. He considers it a duty to maintain his work as a "bellwether: troubadour, folk singer... for we

are the repositories of a tremendous songbook confided in us by those singers, writers and artists that came before."

Brand still travels the world with his songbook and stories. "As long as you have a guitar," he says, "you're safe." In this post-9/11 world, that's a comforting thought.

MUSIC

Oscar Brand will perform as part of the Good Coffeehouse series, Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture, 53 Prospect West at Second Street in Park Slope on Friday, June 14 at 8 pm. Doors open at 7:30 pm. Tickets are \$10, \$6 children. For more information, call (718) 748-2972 or visit the Web site at www.bscoc.org.

Brand's "Folk Song Festival" airs every Saturday night at 10 pm on WNYC, 820 AM.

Adam Stengel is a singer-songwriter who has produced an album titled "Train of Thought." He is also a music attorney.

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PARENT

8 THE BROOKLYN PAPERS • WWW.BROOKLYNPAPERS.COM June 17, 2002



Using their heads
Billy Loesch, Robert Davis and Andrew Kozak sport helmets in the second annual Bay Ridge Bicycle Ride on Saturday. The ride along the Narrows is designed to encourage the use of helmets.

Should you wean kid off her comfort item?

Q: "My 4-year-old daughter sucks on the leg of a Beanie Baby as her comfort item to fall asleep with. I wash it at every opportunity. We have gone through several as I tried to dissuade her by cutting off the legs, losing it or giving it away to babies."

"My pediatrician and his partner disagree about what to do, her dentist was not adamant about taking it away, and my friends have different opinions." — a mom

A: One father recalls how his beloved blue blanket mysteriously disappeared when he was 4. Months later, when he caught his dad polishing the family's '57 Chevy with it, he screamed, "My blanket, my blanket!"

Particularly at times of transition, including separation from mom and dad at bedtime, kids benefit from the ability to soothe themselves and control their own little rituals. It's unlikely that an adult's arbitrary timetable — "You're 4, so it's time to stop this" — will convince a child to give up her habit. What's more likely: a power struggle. "Ask yourself: Does this really need to be addressed?" says Peter Stavinoha, Ph.D., a neuropsychologist at Children's Medical Center of Dulles.

"It's obviously soothing to the child. It's a comfort item she's not going to give up easily."

The Beanie Baby already is confined to bedtime and isn't to give up her habit. What's a hygiene or dental problem, there's no need to insist the child change the ways she's meeting her needs, Stavinoha says.

"As adults, we forget that we have our own comfort items, such as having a glass in hand at a cocktail party," he says. "A familiar object gives

a child the sense that things are staying the same." Similar to what parents have found with thumb-sucking and pacifiers, nagging often makes matters worse. Much of the time, if you leave it up to the child and don't make an issue of it, she'll give up her lovey as part of the natural course of her development, Stavinoha says.

Laura Perkins Cox, a mom, says she's glad her 3-year-old daughter has fuzzy blankets to help her feel secure.

She describes the girl's daily ritual: "She spits on her 'Ba Bop,' then puts the wet spot under her nose while she sucks her thumb."

"As sticky as this sounds, I have learned to live with it and be glad that she does not stick the 'Ba Bop' up her nose, as one of our cousins did as a young child, or stuff the 'Ba Bop' in her panties, as one of my friends used to do."

Many toddlers resist having their loveys washed, but Cox's daughter has six different blankets and brings one to the laundry each morning, then picks out a fresh one from her mom's closet.

"I am grateful every day for 'Ba Bop,' because I see how much it supports and helps my daughter cope with her world," Cox says. "My friends whose children do not have a lovey wish their children would find one."

There are limits, though: "Ba Bop" stays in the car on short shopping trips, and isn't allowed outside.

"At this time of development, kids are testing their autonomy," Stavinoha says. "Don't butt heads with that sense of independence, but try to work out a solution that acknowledges that independence."

Parent-to-Parent



By Betsy Flagler

to be nonchalant. If you get into a power struggle over a dirty, stuffed doll or a tattered blanket, the child likely will just hold on tighter, he says.

Sepi Frichard, a mother and grandmother, agrees. "Apparently the mother is turned off by this behavior, but it's not hurting anyone. The more attention she draws to it,

the more the child wants to do what the mother doesn't want her to do. Pick your battles. It's a small thing."

Another mother is confident her own preschooler soon will decide to give up her blanket: "I doubt that it will be in the limo at the prom or on her bed at college," she says.

Can you help?

Q: "I have a 3 1/2-year-old daughter and a 4-month-old son. I'm trying to figure out how to keep my daughter from being so destructive. She has gotten a hold of scissors and cut the comforter on the bed. She has gotten a hold of a pen and has written on clothing and bedding." — a mother in Buffalo, NY

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