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Ahl hopes fade for 80th St. house

By Deborah Kolben
The Brooklyn Papers

The fate of an old, white house on a Sycamore-lined Bay Ridge block is playing out with all the ups and downs of a Shakespearean drama.

Residents along 80th Street between Fourth and Fifth avenues are fighting hard to save the house from a Staten Island developer who told one resident he was looking to demolish the house and replace it with a five-condominium-apartment building whose units would sell for upwards of \$450,000 each.

While negotiations are presumably still in the works, members of the newly formed 80th Street Block Association were getting nervous this week when the developer, Joseph Cammarata, had the water and sewer feeds to the house shut down.

"Things are going ahead, we're not going to wait forever," said Gary Rosen, the attorney for Cammarata.

Bay Ridge businessman

Greg Ahl, a Community Board 10 member, and his fiancée, Joan Insera, have been trying to purchase the house at 435 80th St. ever since they learned it was up for sale.

But the two-family house was bought by Cammarata for \$790,000 on May 30.

For the past two months, Ahl, who grew up in the house along with eight brothers and sisters, has been trying to buy it from Cammarata for \$800,000.

But the developer refused that offer, coming back with the figure of \$825,000, citing architectural, legal and inspection fees.

Rosen said his client would be losing money if he sold the house for the offered price.

This week, the block association raised an additional \$10,000 to add on to Ahl's bid. Cammarata also refused the offer, jacking up the price to \$830,000, according to Ahl.

While Ahl may be stepping out of the picture, a new player has stepped in.

Former Giuliani administration commissioner Rose-

mario O'Keefe, who narrowly lost the Bay Ridge City Council seat in a five-way special election in February, said this week that she had been looking at the house.

While she has said she will not be seeking a rematch with Councilman Vincent Gentile this November, O'Keefe may enter negotiations to purchase the century-old house.

"It's too new to comment," O'Keefe told The Bay Ridge Paper on Tuesday. "We don't want to jinx ourselves."

Asked why she was interested in the house, O'Keefe, who lives on Bay Ridge Parkway, said she and her husband were "great restorers."

"The problem is that the property is worth more without a house on it than with a house on it," said Al Piro, an 80th Street resident who believes the current zoning, which allows for a development, is at the heart of the matter.

"Until the politicians get together and change the zoning this is going to happen over and over again," added Piro.

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

Under that special zoning, it is also illegal to knock down a three-story home and replace it with condos.

"The special district has to be fine tuned, not eliminated," said Victoria Hofmo, president of the Bay Ridge Conservancy, who has been fighting against the proliferation of what she calls "Fedders houses," named because of the Fedders air conditioners used in the row-house construction.

While the residents have appealed to CB10 three times asking for a demolition hold, Hofmo says their pleas have fallen on deaf ears.

"They don't even try," said Hofmo.

Craig Eaton, a real estate attorney and chairman of the CB10 zoning committee, knows Cammarata and has been working to broker a deal between the interested parties and the developer.

Eaton did not return telephone calls seeking comment. Local elected officials have also jumped into the fray to save the house, but so far without much success.

State Sen. Marty Golden met with the 80th Street Block

Association on Monday night.

"We're concerned that it may be too late to stop this from going to condos," said Golden, who earlier this month had issued a press release congratulating Ahl for brokering a deal with Cammarata. That "deal" had been announced prematurely by Ahl who blamed what he called a miscommunication — Rosen immediately said that no deal had been brokered — on a bad phone connection.

But residents said this week that they weren't going to

back down.

"If he doesn't accept this bid, we are not going to make this easy," said Nancy Morgan, chairwoman of the 80th Street Block Association, who moved to the block seven years ago with her husband, Craig Miller, the pastor at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church.

In previous weeks, Cammarata had said that if a buyer did not step up to purchase the house he would sit down with neighbors to design housing that fit within the context of the block.

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Magic of Potter returns again

Harry Potter fans turned out in droves in Brooklyn Heights on June 20 as the witching hour drew near. The new book by J.K. Rowling, "Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix," went on sale at midnight. Patrons at the Court Street Barnes & Noble were entertained by Justin Connors, aka Justin the Magician (above), while they waited. Tyreek Hopkins, 11, (at left) was the first to buy the book there.



REPORTED IN THE 10/21/02 EDITION OF MODERN HEALTHCARE MAGAZINE BASED ON A STUDY BY SOLUCIENT

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Interventional Cardiologist
Chairman, The Cardiac Institute
 - Robert Frankel, MD**
Interventional Cardiologist
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Cardiothoracic Surgeon
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Cardiothoracic Surgeon
 - Yisachar Greenberg, MD**
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'Team' effort nabs burglar

By Deborah Kolben
The Brooklyn Papers

A thief with a hefty rap sheet was caught by Bay Ridge police this week in an early morning chase.

Police from the 68th Precinct were called to medical offices on Sixth Avenue Tuesday when someone phoned in a report that somebody had double-parked outside and broken into a building between 74th Street and Bay Ridge Parkway around 5:30 am.

When police officers Vito Buccellato and Jean Marie Endered arrived on the scene, the suspect, John Natland, tried to flee in a red Mercury Cougar.

That car had just been reported stolen a few blocks away at Seventh Avenue between 72nd and 73rd streets, police said.

Natland only made it a few blocks before officers Mike Frassetto and Abdul Almasrany intercepted the car.

The suspect quickly ditched the car and began to run.

The officers pursued on foot, running through backyards until the suspect took cover in a shed behind a house on 76th Street between Sixth and Seventh avenues.

Natland, 29, was arrested just after 6 am and was taken to the 68th Precinct. He was charged with burglary, grand larceny and resisting arrest.

"The vast number of burglaries are committed by one person," said Deputy Inspector Matthew Pannilo, the commanding officer of the 68th Precinct, who said he hoped this arrest could prevent other burglaries in the area.

Natland was recently arrested in Bensonhurst for stealing a car, Pannilo said.

Buccellato, who was among the first officers on the scene, called the arrest a "team thing." More than 10 officers responded to the call.

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Ed Weintrob / Cheers for Vic Cantone, Paper cartoonist

Vic Cantone hasn't drawn for The Brooklyn Papers in quite a while, but he remains one of our most loyal readers, and I one of his ardent fans.

When Vic's cartoons graced our front pages in the 1990s, he'd hop on the Long Island Railroad from his home in Bethpage, sketchboard and inks in hand, and find an open desk in our Court Street office—ready to express his view, or ours. One week, amidst an exploding controversy in Bay Ridge over plans by developer Charles Katz to build what The Papers labeled a

"mega-mall," Vic captured the spirit of all the protagonists, including Katz (depicted as a well-fed feline) and then-City Council candidate Marty Golden. It was a great cartoon, one of my favorites, and it would have stood the test on its own. Then, one of our staffers suggested the addition of fleas to the space around Katz's face, and fleas became a trademark in Vic's ongoing mega-mall rendition.

After the U.S. Supreme Court library porn ruling on Monday, Vic called to remind me of his February 1999 cartoon that featured a mop-



The Brooklyn Papers covered each side of the library computer porn issue, and Vic's cartoons exposed sensitivities on all sides.

Over the years, Vic contributed to the Daily News, was syndicated

by King Features and was active in local press organizations. He'd send me the latest editions of "Best Editorial Cartoons of the Year," an annual volume in which one or more of his Brooklyn Papers cartoons would invariably be represented; my son, a budding cartoonist, loves to page through them.

We dropped our editorial page a few years back to devote more space to news coverage, expecting to resume it "any day now." We also stopped running cartoons on our front page. Vic stood by, reading each week's editions, calling period-

ically to let us know he had lots of ideas. We weren't ready to resume the editorial page, we'd demur.

Several months ago, Vic was diagnosed with Lou Gehrig's disease. Drawing with either hand is beyond him now, and the disease progresses.

Recently, he made it to his son's graduation, with honors, from Northeastern University, an accomplishment and a joy for both parent and child. And his wife encouraged him to attend a Deadline Club awards dinner—it was a difficult trip from Bethpage to Manhattan

—at the Marriott Marquis, where he was presented with an award for distinguished service.

"At least Lou Gehrig was a champion," Vic said the other day. As is Vic Cantone.

A Maimonides win

It's said you can tell the quality of an individual by his or her friends; on that basis, evidenced by those in attendance at Monday's Borough Hall reception for Pamela Brier, the new president and CEO of Maimonides Medical Center, the hospital is clearly privileged in its leadership.

Among the recognizable faces was Brier's husband, Peter Aschkenasy, whose smile is as warm as his wife spoke. Peter, former owner of Gage & Tullner, is active in Brooklyn's arts community.

Hospitals are an institution. On the one hand, they are big businesses, very big, that tend to be imposing entities—and not always appreciated—by the institutions.

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Albany tougher on trucks

Stiffer fines, jail time for those who stray from allowed routes

By Deborah Kolben
The Brooklyn Papers

Truckers who stray from designated routes beware.

New legislation passed unanimously last week will mean truck drivers can be thrown in jail and face fines of up to \$2,000 for deviating from their city's decades-old designated truck routes.

That's a hefty increase from the previous \$50 fine, a penal-

ty which some politicians and residents had complained amounted to little more than a slap on the wrist.

"We needed to strengthen the laws," said state Sen. Marty Golden, one of the bill's sponsors. "And by raising the summons amount we'll make the truck driver think twice before he or she turns off the route and decides to take a shortcut."

Residents in Golden's district, especially in Bay Ridge and Bensonhurst, have long complained of truck noise and vibrations rattling houses along residential streets.

"The current fines of \$50 are treated as a cost of doing

business, like tolls or gas," said Assemblyman Joseph Lentol, who sponsored the legislation in the Assembly.

Most truckers are aware of truck routes but often choose to ignore them, opting for more direct paths. Because the \$50 fines amount to little more than a nuisance for drivers—many of whom calculate the amount into their shipping costs—it is often more cost effective for drivers to pave their own way.

But under the new laws, truckers will be fined \$200 to \$500 for the first offense and could face 15 days in jail. A second offense, if committed

within 18 months of the first, will carry a minimum fine of \$500 to \$1,000 and/or imprisonment for up to 45 days. Repeat offenders with three or more violations within 18 months will face a fine of up to \$2,000 and jail time of up to 90 days.

"This is great news for Brooklyn neighborhoods that have been inundated with trucks that are polluting and endangering our residential communities," said Borough President Marty Markowitz. "Hopefully, these increased fines will be a stronger incentive to keep these trucks on the roads where they belong."

Bob Cassara, transportation committee chair for the Bay Ridge Community Council, said the increased fines for wayward drivers has been a longtime coming.

Double-parked cars receive \$105 tickets while truckers, who pose a serious danger to the community, Cassara said, walk away with a measly \$50 ticket.

Cassara became interested in the truck problem seven years ago, when he asked the city to place a sign on Bay Ridge Parkway notifying trucks that it was not a legal truck route. When the city refused, Cassara got involved.

But the real question mark about curbing truck traffic may be enforcement. "Enforcement has been nonexistent. The only time we have seen police out in force has been when either the community has brought a little pressure to bear on the precinct or the local politicians," said Cassara, who added that truckers who flood Bay Ridge, many from the Verrazano Narrows Bridge, all but ignore the designated

truck routes along 65th Street, 85th Street and Seventh Avenue.

John Kachny, executive director of Transportation Alternatives, an anti-car group, said the new laws would put some teeth in the old laws, but would not solve the problem.

"Tough laws are part of what's going to help. More coordinated police enforcement, better signage and better maps will help. They will provide some relief to some neighborhoods," said Kachny, "but the big problem is that truck traffic is to increase 30 percent in the next two decades."

The legislation also comes on the heels of a citywide study that began in April to re-examine the truck routes that were put in place in 1978.

With the new legislation passed last week, Park Slope Councilman Bill DeBlasio hosted a town hall meeting Tuesday night in Windsor Terrace to address the truck concerns of residents there. That meeting attracted more than 100 community members who complained of rattling houses and cars demolished by trucks barreling down their streets.

Earlier this year, Downtown Brooklyn Councilman David Yassky introduced a resolution to support the state truck legislation that passed last week, and in January, Queens Councilman John Liu introduced a bill that would require truck drivers to carry truck route maps in the five boroughs.

The Department of Transportation will be hosting public hearings on the new truck routes in all five boroughs. The next meeting will be at 6 pm on July 15 inside Borough Hall, at Joralemon and Court streets, at 6 pm.



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POLICE BLOTTER

Jesus statue stops traffic

By Deborah Kolben
The Brooklyn Papers

Some believers have long placed claims on coming face to face with Jesus.

But drivers coming down Fifth Avenue in Bay Ridge Monday night didn't need to take a leap of faith when they caught a glimpse.

Police were called on June 23 to Fifth Avenue and 75th Street to remove a five-foot concrete statue of Jesus that had been placed smack dab in the middle of the street.

Police believe the statue, which is being stored at the 68th Precinct right now, belonged to a local church.

N train robbers

The 20th Avenue N-line subway station played host to a pair of June 22 holdups.

Three men attacked a man while he was waiting on the southbound side of the station at 4 am.

One suspect grabbed the victim, 34, from behind and held a knife to his cheek while another punched him in the face and removed his wallet. The men fled with \$60.

But they didn't go far. Ten minutes later another man was approached by three men on the northbound platform.

This time one of the bandits put his hands around the victim's neck while another removed his wallet, which contained \$89 and a MetroCard.

The suspects made their getaway on a southbound N train.

Italian job

A 25-year-old man from Italy was walking along Madeline Court and 68th Street after a night at a bar around 3:30 am on June 22 when he was approached from behind by a man speaking Italian.

The bilingual bandit, described as in his mid-40s, said he was from Calabro, Italy, and then said he had a knife. Switching to English, he told the victim to fork over his wallet.

Cells out

Two men entered a cellular phone store on Third Avenue, between 76th and 77th streets, on Tuesday afternoon and pretended to be interested in shopping.

But they had other plans. When one of the men walked behind the counter at 1:20 pm on June 17, the owner yelled at the two of them. They responded with punches and kicks before pulling out a knife.

The suspects fled with four cell phones valued at \$200 each in a hunter green Toyota Camry with tan interior and tan decals, police said.

Rolls lights out

It may be among the finest luxury cars in the world, but without headlights, it won't do you much good.

The owner of a 1957 Rolls Royce reported to police this week that the car's headlights, valued at \$2,000, were stolen from where it was parked, on 18th Avenue between 61st and 62nd streets on June 17 at 7 pm.

Pricey donut

A teenage boy who stopped to get a donut on his way to school was approached just outside the shop, on 11th Avenue and 65th Street, around 9:30 am on June 12.

The victim, 13, told police that the man who stopped him took his cell phone.

Held open door

A woman who held open the door to her Shore Road apartment building for a stranger, at 11:25 pm on June 19, soon regretted it.

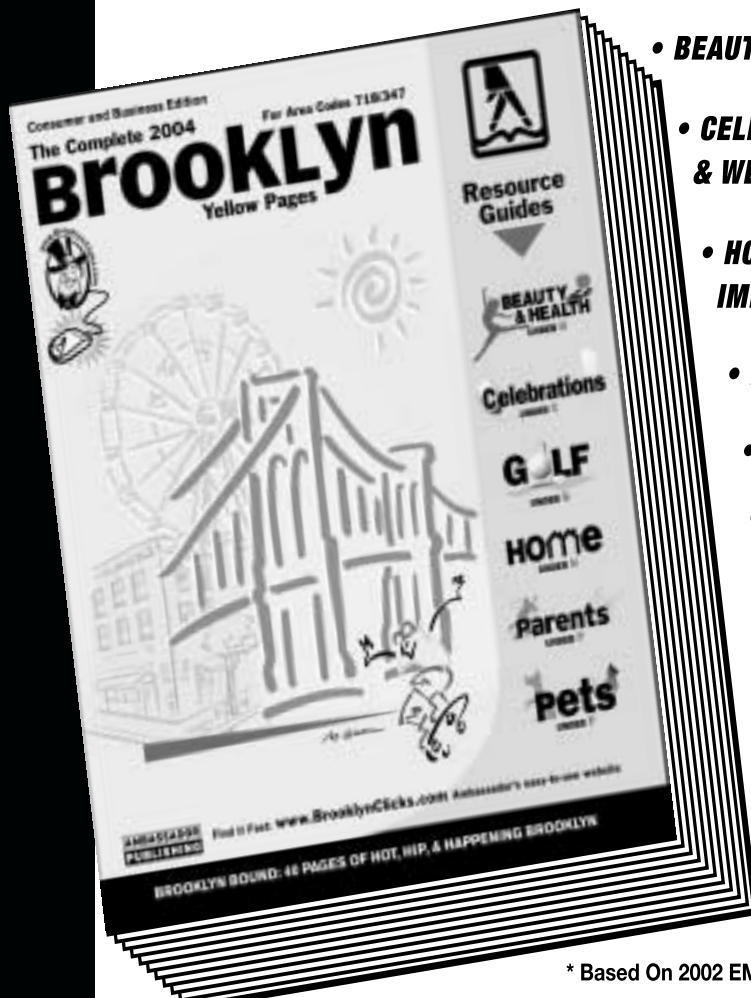
The victim, 34, told police that she was pushed to the floor by the man, who had followed her in.

When the woman screamed, neighbors came out to help and the attacker fled in a waiting black car with tinted windows.

The suspect made off with the victim's black leather purse, which reportedly contained \$100.

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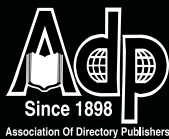
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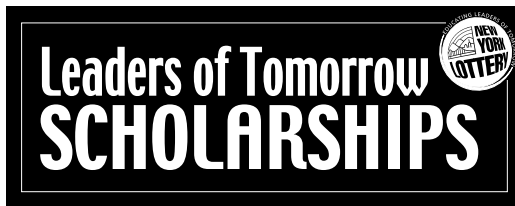


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Lottery Announces Scholarship Winners

The New York Lottery recently announced the winners of the 2003 Leaders of Tomorrow (LOT) Scholarships. In their fourth year, the Leaders of Tomorrow Scholarships recognize high school seniors with demonstrated leadership skills and commitment to community service. 1,181 scholarships are being awarded statewide. Each recipient will receive a \$4,000 scholarship, paid annually in \$1,000 increments and applied toward tuition costs at an accredited New York college, university, community college or trade school. Awards this year represent a commitment of more than \$4.7 million by the New York Lottery.

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Pediatric neurology at Methodist

New York Methodist Hospital
Romaine Schubert, MD, pediatric neurologist at New York Methodist Hospital, searches her office for Sponge Bob Square Pants.
"Sponge Bob is missing. That's the problem with having good toys," she said, struggling.
Toys are one tool that Schubert uses to evaluate her pa-

tients for neurological abnormalities.
"It's very important for children to be relaxed during an examination. Most of my patients don't even know they are being evaluated. To them, it's just 'play,'" said Schubert.
During "play," Schubert observes how well a child cooperates, pays attention, and uses his or her body and language.
These clues help Schubert make a diagnosis and/or iden-

tify the need for further testing.
Schubert treats children with disorders such as autism, epilepsy, attention deficit disorder (ADD), learning disabilities, complex metabolic diseases, migraine and other headaches, pain stemming from a compressed nerve, brain tumors and hereditary degenerative diseases such as Tay-Sachs disease, among other conditions.
Parents often visit her office

because their child is failing in school or not playing well with other children.
The child might be having pain or headaches, rages, or other problems.
These problems are important clues.
"Years ago, children were grouped together. Often, the blanket explanation was that they were 'slow,'" said Schubert. "Today, we know more about the function of the brain

and we have more sophisticated diagnostic tools and treatments. An MRI can show malformation which would not have been detected and treated years ago."
Children with epilepsy may be treated with anti-convulsant medications.
If medications are not effective, Schubert may refer the patient to a neurosurgeon for epilepsy surgery.
Behavioral medications, such as Ritalin or Strattera for ADD are often life changing.
"These medications often help the child to focus. I've seen children go from failing in school to getting straight A's.

Of course, these medications are not appropriate for every-one and I may make lifestyle recommendations before prescribing medications," she said.
In some cases, Schubert may refer patients to a psychiatrist or may work closely with her patients' psychiatrists. Other times simple changes, like modifying a child's sleep routine, can have a profound impact.
In addition to diagnosis and treatment, Schubert offers advice and advocates for her patients. Again, a simple change, such as a new school placement, can make a world of difference in a child's life.

Students display science projects at Maimonides

Maimonides Medical Center
Twenty-eight middle school students from District 20, participating in the Junior Fellows Program, showed off the results of their scientific and health research in front of a packed house of physicians, family members and teachers, during a recent "Poster Board Session" at Maimonides Medical Center.

This is the third year in which physicians and residents from the Department of Pediatrics at Maimonides have participated in the New York Academy of Medicine's Junior Fellows Program. As part of the program, Maimonides pediatricians form a mentoring relationship with individual students from IS 187, IS 201, IS 220 and IS

259. The students learn about pediatric specialties, tour Maimonides' facilities and spend time discussing and refining their in-depth health research projects.
The poster board sessions were the result of a school year's worth of research on a specific health topic of each student's choosing. Each student gave a detailed presenta-

tion using a host of visuals including posters and PowerPoint slides. Once the Junior Fellows presented their research topics, they learned how to find electronic sources of information to better understand their medical topics and identify potential scientific solutions. The mentoring relationship formed with Maimonides physicians enabled the Junior Fellows to better evaluate the information they found. The result: 28 coherent and interesting presentations.

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Are you caught between these two health problems? Then you may qualify for Look AHEAD, a National Institutes of Health research project studying the long-term benefits of weight loss in people with type 2 diabetes.

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HISTORICALLY SPEAKING

Beer & Brooklyn: A 'heady' combo

By John B. Manbeck for The Brooklyn Papers

Beer, baseball and Brooklyn! What more could you want on a warm summer evening? Add Coney Island and you have a perfect match. With the Cyclones filling the seats at Kayspan Park and the Brooklyn Brewery filling kegs in Williamsburg, that rite of summer is in full swing.

But it's been a long time coming. Beer began disappearing from Brooklyn in 1949 with a strike just when the baseball season opened.

The old breweries and the Brooklyn Dodgers never recovered after the big guys — Budweiser, Schlitz, Pabst, Miller and Blatz — took over the market. Rheingold, Schlitz, Pils and Schaefer lasted longest here but were only a tip of the iceberg here.

More than 40 breweries once graced Brooklyn's streets with many umbrellas-decorated beer gardens adjoining them. By 1976, Schaefer, the lone holdout, turned out its lights and left Brooklyn. The Dutch opened their first brewery in 1629, only eight years after the Dutch West India Company was chartered to govern New Amsterdam.

its first "temperance agent" in the city directory. A decade later, six brewers operated in Brooklyn.

It all had to do with the large German population here. The Germans were the largest non-English-speaking immigrant group since the Revolution, although many came here before Bismark created the unified nation of Germany. Peter Minuet, one of the earliest and most famous, came from Westast am Rhein. Others included Baron von Steuben, the Revolutionary War general, and John Peter Zenger, father of "Freedom of the Press," not to mention the mercenary soldiers, the Hessians.

By the 1840s, food shortages, oppression and unemployment caused waves of new German immigrants. Initially, they settled in New York, in an area north of City Hall they called "Kleines Deutschland" meaning "Little Germany," although Germany did not exist as a country then.

Toward the end of the century, immigrants from central Europe moved into the same area because their Yiddish language communicated with the Germans. By then, however, the Lower East Side became overcrowded. Many Germans moved north to Yorkville where they found entertainment and beer at Jones' Wood before it became Central Park, but others boarded the East River ferries and moved across to Long Island City and Brooklyn. Williamsburg, and Beer.



Even Paul Newman shilled for Brooklyn's Rheingold beer in the 1950s.

Greenpoint and Bushwick promptly became known as "Dutchtown." Once in the City of Brooklyn, they're re-knowned as familiar to them. "Turnvereins," combined gyms, cultural and social halls that were mostly philosophical in meaning, advocated physical conditioning, naturalism and abolition of slavery, and grew along with robust "jaegerhaus," restaurants featuring hunting themes. On the menu of these establishments were red meats, cabbage, sausages and beer.

Jacob Ruppert and Julius Liebermann opened very successful breweries. By 1877, 78 breweries operated in the city of New York and Brooklyn, most with popular "summer beer gardens." Mesroble and Scholes streets in Williamsburg became known as "Brewer's Row" because of 11 breweries there. Edleberg, John Trommer, Eblings and Conrad Euriich's were among the 18 breweries in Brooklyn by 1884.

In 1898 — the year Brooklyn lost its independence — 45 operated here, more than in Milwaukee, Detroit and Washington, DC, together. The old Brooklyn Eagle newspaper claimed that every Brooklyn man, woman and child consumed two barrels of beer a year by 1907.

Germs enjoyed the "continental Sunday" relaxation after six days of work, instead of the Puritan Sunday practiced by Anglophiles. This meant they wanted to eat and enjoy life, particularly in summer. In Europe, the bachelors, staked out their beach real estate, protected by umbrellas, chairs and bedrooms. Coney Island offered a similar opportunity, just as it would for Russians a century later.

Two German entrepreneurs had established roots in Coney Island: Charles Felman, a baker, and Paul Bauer, a hotelier. Felman began his restaurant in an octagonal building across from the Sea Beach Rail Road in 1890. Bauer opened the

nearly West Brighton Hotel a bit later with a casino attached.

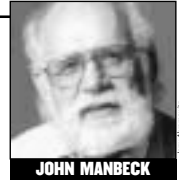
Both businesses grew with fine assortments of beer and a new snack that Felman introduced: a sausage tucked into a roll that could be carried away from the small frankfurter stand on the boardwalk. Down at the Brighton Beach Music Pavilion Anton Siedl, conductor of the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra, inaugurated his popular annual summer concerts at Brighton Beach.

On Surf Avenue, Irish bars joined the German restaurants. Victorious crowded the streets, lubricated by a "growler" or "bucket of suids." Irish waiters, who doubled as farmers, served a brew with a "Coney Island head" on the beer — more suids than liquid — to unsuspecting "trubs." Yet Lane's Irish House, Perry's Glass Pavilion, the Shamrock House, Paddy Shea's Gilsey House and Louis Stuaeh's restaurant thrived during the summer. More than 10,000

kegs of beer were sold in Coney Island in 1890.

One of the biggest Brooklyn brewers, William Ulmer, even opened his own amusement park at Gravesend Bay where he featured rides, a dance hall, a trolley line to the gate and his own beer. Today the destination of Bensons-hurst is still known as Ulmer Park.

The Liebmam family built a summer mansion in the Lincoln Beach section of Sheepshead Bay. Their Rheingold advertising department developed the later Rheingold girl campaign. But prohibition caused the greatest number of casualties, driving Ulmer and others out of the business. After the Volstead Act was repealed, only a few brewers remained in the borough: Liebmam, Schaefer, Trommers, Piel Brothers, Old Dutch, Emptre City and Edelberg. Then came the strike of 1949, the sale of Trommers to Piel's in 1951, and more closures until the final chapter in



JOHN MANBECK

1976. In his privately printed book, "Breweries of Brooklyn" (1976), Will Anderson detailed the demise of the industry.

The book so inspired Steve Hindy that he used it as research when he established the Brooklyn Brewery in 1987. Returning to the heartland of Brewers' Row, he acquired an old factory in Williamsburg and by 1996 had opened on North 11th Street. His first brew was the German-inspired "Brooklyn Beer Weisse." Steve Deputala opened his rival Park Slope Brewery in 1994.

German beer gardens may be more than replacing them are more upgrade saloons. Now Brooklyn Beer trucks deliver throughout the city. In late August, Hindy brings out the Post Road Pumpkin Ale and Oktoberfest brews. While his international distribution has spread to Japan and England, he declines to say whether he will try to break into the German market.

It's enough to make you want to wet your whistle! Brooklyn Papers columnist John Manbeck is the former Brooklyn borough historian. His latest book, "The Brooklyn Film" (McFarland & Company), which he edited with CUNY professor Robert Singer, is a collection of essays on the borough's relationship with the cinema.

In 1898, there were 45 breweries in Brooklyn; by 1977, there were none.

Help your child combat obesity

Q: "My son is 11 and seems to be very self-conscious about his weight lately. Although he has gained a few pounds, it's not anything major. I have noticed he's eating more often than usual. How can I encourage him to eat healthily without making him feel more self-conscious?"

A: Self-conscious? The feeling is sure to arise as nature unites physical and emotional changes at this stage. It's not unusual for boys to gain several pounds with the hormonal changes leading up to puberty, then drop the weight as they enter the adolescent growth spurt. "Parents and their children should not automatically be concerned by this weight increase," says Nancy Krebs, MD, head of the American Academy of Pediatrics' Committee on Nutrition. As childhood obesity emerges as a tremendous national health-care problem, parents need to know: Is my child gaining weight at a rate

that's in the normal range? The first step, Krebs says, is to talk to your pediatrician or health-care provider, who will look at growth charts to determine the appropriate weight range for your child based on gender, age, height and body build.

Your pediatrician can use body mass index charts to determine whether your child's weight gain during puberty is too rapid or excessive relative to his height gain, Krebs says. If your child is overweight, the doctor will explore why the nuts and bolts of how to plan healthy meals, but will refer you to a nutritionist.

"The most successful programs concerning not only on dietary modifications and physical activity, but also on boosting a youngster's self-esteem," Krebs says. As a similar approach worked for a mother who says she nurtured her kids through puberty by not mak-

ing a big deal about weight gain, serving nutritious meals and snacks, and by reminding them the awkward stage was temporary.

"My son and daughter had some hard days due to the weight gain as well as other emotional and physical changes," the mother recalls. "This can be an easier time for children to deal with if they understand there's nothing wrong with them." But a mother with her own agenda — "My child is fat!" — risks alienating her son if she singles him out for a diet. Instead, focus on making healthy food choices and fun activities for the entire family. For the young adolescent, it's still important for parents to be the gatekeepers for the food in the home and the eating habits of the family," Krebs says. And don't underestimate how your focus on healthier eating at home influences the choices your kids make away from home, she says. Keep in mind these factors

Parent-to-Parent By Betsy Flagler



increase a child's chances of weight problems: • A family history of obesity. If you're overweight and inactive, your kids are more likely to be the same way. • Too much TV and computer time, where sedentary virtual soccer inside wins out over calorie-burning games outside. • Super-sized fast food

meals with sodas instead of more balanced meals at home. • Stress that causes children to eat out of boredom, anxiety or for comfort, not hunger.

Disorders are the culprits in a few cases. How do these risk factors match your child's eating habits? Is he like most kids, according to the American Dietetic Association, in that: • Has too much fat in his diet? • Eats about half of the suggested five fruits and veggies a day? • Snacks in front of the television, and munches make up for nearly 20 percent of his total and saturated fat intake? • If so, snack in gradual changes. Become informed and pay attention to what food you buy and prepare for your family, but don't turn into the food police, says Elynn Satter, author of "Secrets of Feeding a Healthy Family" (Kelsey Press, 1999). Trust your child to regulate how much he eats, says Satter,

Brooklyn Papers PARENT advertisement with logo and title.

net potential. • Track how much of your family's food budget goes toward fast food. Agree on ways to cut back, and put the savings toward family outings. • A resource: The American Dietetic Association's consumer hotline at (800) 366-1655 offers referrals to dietitians. The organization's Web site is www.eatright.org. Parents concerned about

their children's calorie intake can obtain a copy of the new "Parent To Parent newsletter 'Getting Over Overeating'" by sending a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope and \$2 to Newsletter, P.O. Box 167, Wickliffe, OH 44092. If you have tips or a question, please call our toll-free hotline any time at (800) 827-1092 or e-mail us at p2tips@att.net.

Juggs Day School, Inc. advertisement listing preschool services, licenses, and contact info at 763 President Street.

Nature Oriented Day Camp advertisement for Kim's Kids Summer Camp, featuring daily trips and contact info for Call Dan Moinsterer.

Join The Bay Ridge Junior ALL SPORTS Summer Camp advertisement listing sports activities, dates, and contact info at 747 St. betw. 3rd & 4th Aves.

The Park Slope Day Camp advertisement listing summer and holiday programs for children from Grades K-8, with contact info at 768-4426.

New Term starting Mon, June 30th new class schedule advertisement listing dance, martial arts, swim, and gymnastics classes, with contact info for YWCA of Brooklyn.

The Brooklyn Heights Jewish Sports Academy advertisement listing weekly classes in various sports, with contact info for Simcha Weinstein.

Spring Rummage Sale advertisement for Saturday July 12th at 12-4pm, with contact info for Park Slope Child Care Collective.

Summer Camps Program advertisement for students entering grades 7 and 8 in September 2003, listing activities and contact info for Bishop Ford Central Catholic High School.

GO BROOKLYN

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The Brooklyn Papers' essential guide to the Borough of Kings

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Home plates

New Brooklyn restaurants offer French, Italian & global cuisines

By Tina Barry
for The Brooklyn Papers

Brooklyn's burgeoning dining scene continues to gobble up real estate. Here's the latest about three newcomers: Park Slope's Paradou, Williamsburg's Chickenbone and Aliseo in Prospect Heights.

Across the river

Set a date for June 27, when Paradou — named after a French village — opens on Seventh Avenue between 14th and 15th streets.

If you need references, ask any of the customers who patronize their restaurant of the same name in the meatpacking district in Manhattan. They love chef Robert Urbhus' charcuterie plates as well as his lusty pates and artisanal cheeses. He's cooking in the Slope, too.

Urbhus has wooed them with terrines of roasted tomato, basil and goat cheese and salads of grilled quail and lentils. His grilled sandwiches and crepes are crowd pleasers. Try the duck confit entree with seared foie gras, potatoes lyonnaise and spinach.

Have it with a glass of wine as Paradou is known for their French wines.

And Joel Durand — who uses ingredients like rose petals, and rosemary and violets from Provence — makes their knockout chocolate truffle for dessert.

You want casual? The one large room is white and airy. The tables are topped with wine boxes as is the bar (just wine for now, later they'll have a full liquor license), and the ceiling is tinted, Moroccan style, with golden fabric.

The Manhattan restaurant has been called a little bit of Provencal paradise due in large part to its lush, outdoor garden. The Park Slope version will be similar, and can seat 30 or 40.

Paradou (426A Seventh Ave., between 14th and 15th streets in Park Slope) accepts Visa, MasterCard and Discover. Entrees: \$10-\$20. Dinner is served Tuesday through Sunday. Brunch and lunch is served Saturdays and Sundays, noon-4 pm. The restaurant is closed Mondays. For reservations, call (718) 499-5557.

A bone to pick
Sourcing local ingredients is nothing new for chefs (does the name Alice Waters ring a bell?) yet few cooks take their foraging as seriously as Zaki Pelaccio, the man behind the catchphrase "Brooklyn global cuisine."

Pelaccio — who has been dishing out multi-ethnic, small-plate cuisine in Williamsburg since April — gets his ingredients from small, Brooklyn purveyors.

"Georgie, the 80-year-old woman in the neighborhood," says co-owner Zini Lardieri, who, she adds, has been selling fresh mozzarella for "like 70 years," supplies the cheese for Pelaccio's panini, and the "artisanal kielbasa" that gives his kielbasa bruschetta such bite, hails from Sikorski's, a butcher in Greenpoint.

Everything inside Chickenbone, except the enormous, steel-rimmed windows, is cedar, but don't let the ski lodge-chic or the hipster patrons fool you. Pelaccio hails from California's French Laundry restaurant and Manhattan's Daniel.

He's as serious about food as his mentors, yet has a playful side: a pumpnick-



Ski lodge-chic Inside the new Chickenbone restaurant in Williamsburg. (Below left) Co-owner Zini Lardieri (right, with co-owner Scott Spektor) says that many of the restaurant's fresh ingredients come from neighborhood purveyors.



el baguette is topped with slow-roasted salmon, watercress and wasabi oil, and one evening's soup du jour features fresh asparagus topped with a truffle oil poached egg. Wash it down with "the bone" — a rye cocktail laced with Tabasco — or lose it to the testosterone-laden bone with beef — the concoction plus a side of smoked beef with chilies.

It's a man's drink, but we like it, too. Chickenbone Cafe (177 S. Fourth St., between Roebling Street and Driggs Avenue) accepts Visa and MasterCard. Entrees: \$7-\$15. The restaurant serves dinner Tuesdays-Thursdays and Sundays from 6 pm to 1:30 am, Fridays and Saturdays, dinner is served from 6 pm to 2:30 am. The restaurant is closed Mondays. No reservations accepted. For information, call (718) 302-2663.

Winds of change

It took two years for Albano Ballerini, the chef and owner of Aliseo Osteria, to complete the renovations to his Prospect Heights restaurant.

"I did most of the work myself. Me and three contractors, but I had to fire them regularly," Ballerini said with a laugh.

Opened in February, Ballerini's labor of love (named for the trade wind that buoyed Columbus to America) has a "sort of buxy-chic," he said. He described his 24-seat

restaurant as "totally funky." One off-white, distressed brick wall faces another covered with vintage wallpaper; a three-seat counter serves as "the focus of attention"; and "a gold-tin ceiling holds everything together."

Dishes hail from Marche, a region of Italy along the Adriatic coast, where Ballerini's father, "a master gelato maker," owns a cafe. The menu changes daily, depending on the freshest ingredients of the moment.

"We try not to be like the usual cafe," he said. One evening's "lasagna" featured crepes made from porcini mushroom flour, layered and filled with two sauces: a bechamel cream sauce and a meat sauce.

"And," said Ballerini, "I use truffles a lot."

This selection of 20 to 25 varieties of cheese, some artisanal, are imported from Italy and are "the best in Brooklyn — on a par with the big guys in Manhattan," he said. Pair the cheese with what Ballerini describes as "the largest selection of wine focusing on the Marche region," and it's amore.

Aliseo Osteria (665 Vanderbilt Ave., between Park Place and Prospect Place) accepts cash only. Entrees: \$11-\$20-\$14.50. The restaurant serves dinner Mondays-Saturdays, and brunch and dinner on Sundays, from 11 am to 11 pm. For information, call (718) 783-3400.

MUSIC

All-American

Classical music may at times seem the province of, primarily, dead Europeans, but Bargaemus's holiday program flies in the face of such a fallacy.

Yes, it's an all-American program on both July 3 and July 4, with at least one name that might raise eyebrows.

Not Brooklyn-born Aaron Copland, whose Sonata for Violin and Piano is on the bill; and certainly not George Gershwin, whose tragic death at age 38 robbed this country of one of its most fertile musical minds.

In fact, the Gershwin selections — arrangements from the opera "Porgy and Bess" by the great violinist Jascha Heifetz, along with a rarely performed arrangement of Gershwin's seminal work, "Rhapsody in Blue," for solo piano — are enticing in themselves.

But opening the concerts is the Sonata for Violin and Piano by Keith Jarrett... yes, that Keith Jarrett. As violinist Mark Peskanov, who programmed these concerts and will perform the piece with pianist Steven Beck, says, "It's a jazzy, wonderful-sounding piece" by a composer for whom jazz is but one musical outlet.

Maybe Peskanov is trying to sell tickets, but he insists about Jarrett that "if he wasn't born in Brooklyn, he sure wished he was."

Concertgoers on July 4 will receive a bonus (for \$25 extra): East River fireworks. As Bargaemus's founder Olga Bloom says, "The police explained that the fireworks will be right outside our front door." Accordingly, the recital's start time has been moved up to 6:30 pm and the audience can linger on the barge after the show to watch the fireworks.

Peskanov and Beck will perform Jarrett, Copland and Gershwin on July 3 at 7:30 pm and July 4 at 6:30 pm at Bargaemus, on Fulton Ferry Landing in Brooklyn Heights. Tickets are \$30 on July 3 and \$55 on July 4. For more information, call (718) 624-2083 or visit www.bargaemus.org. — Kevin Filipiski



MUSIC

He's their man

Celebrate Brooklyn pays tribute to Leonard Cohen

By Lisa J. Curtis
for The Brooklyn Papers

Nick Cave and Laurie Anderson are just the latest two in a long list of respected artists who have accompanied Celebrate Brooklyn's June 28 tribute to the Canadian music god, Leonard Cohen.

The one-night-only event, "Come So Far For Beauty," is being organized by Hal Willner, who has also recruited Rufus Wainwright, Kate & Anna McGarrigle, Martha Wainwright, Mark Ribot, The Handsome Family, Linda Thompson, Teddy Thompson, Steve Bernstein, Rob Berger, Perla Batalla and Julie Christensen — who have accompanied Cohen on his last two tours — to perform songs by the poet and songwriter.

This official tribute has been OK'd by Cohen himself, according to Willner, and is sponsored by the Canadian Consulate.

Performance artist Anderson is a frequent visitor to Brooklyn, having performed with her band at St. Ann's Warehouse last fall, and created a multimedia production, "Songs and Stories from Moby Dick," which opened the Brooklyn Academy of Music's 1999 Next Wave Festival.

Obviously, Laurie Anderson is one of the premier performance artists of our time," said Celebrate Brooklyn Director Jack Walsh. "Her interest was piqued by this project and what it means. We're thrilled she's going to be a part of it."

Cave, of Nick Cave & The Bad Seeds fame, "performs fairly irregularly" in the area, said Walsh.

"He's an incredibly interesting artist who has a very long career as a great storyteller, sort of from the dark side," Walsh said. "He's a gloomy balladeer, uniquely suited as an interpreter of Leonard Cohen's work."

According to Willner, Cave will be rehearsing Cohen's "I'm Your Man." for the show, but anything could happen and Willner hesitated to say what any artist might be performing, chalking it up to both wanting to keep the evening

See COHEN on page GO 4

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