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**Vol. 104 No. 3**

**Thursday, January 18, 2024**

**20 Pages \$1**

1142 East 92nd Street, Brooklyn, NY 11236 • Tel: 1-718-257-0600 • Fax: 1-718-272-0870 • Email: CanarsieC@aol.com

## Migrants Displace Students



Photo by Loretta Chin

Story on page 3



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Reorganized by Walter S. Patrick in 1923*

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Photographers**Public Housing on Film: Razing Liberty Square Spotlights NYCHA's Challenges**

By Jibreel Jalloh

The screening of *Razing Liberty Square* at the Breukelen Houses Community Center (715 East 105th Street) in Canarsie on January 26th is crucial for NYCHA families, highlighting the struggles of Miami's Liberty Square and resonating with New York's public housing issues. This documentary, emphasizing climate gentrification and housing crises, mirrors the challenges in Canarsie, making it a case study for local understanding and dialogue.

NYCHA's efforts to address public housing disinvestment through programs like RAD and PACT have been met with mixed reactions. The RAD program focuses on leveraging private capital for repairs, and PACT involves private partnerships managing converted Section 9 properties. However, concerns about tenant risks and privatization impacts persist.

The vote at Nostrand Houses in favor of the NYC Housing Preservation Trust, supported by Mayor Eric Adams, indicates a significant shift in NYCHA's strategy, with potential to raise funds for renovations through public bonds.

In contrast, Haber Houses residents in Coney Island are protesting the potential privatization of their complex, fearing displacement and loss of tenant rights. They express mistrust in NYCHA and oppose



programs like PACT and the Trust, highlighting the complex dynamics and challenges in NYCHA's modernization efforts.

"Cinema is transformative and a vehicle for social change! This documentary film is bringing awareness to a timely matter that affects thousands of NYCHA families right here in Canarsie," said Eileen Level, Founder of PaleFO Cinema. "The community must attend, ask questions and receive information to make the best decisions for themselves and their future. This coming event is a reminder that movie theaters and positive social engagements can empower, educate, enlighten and entertain!"



The *Razing Liberty Square* screening at the Breukelen Houses Community Center represents a moment for community engagement in NYCHA's housing challenges. It not only mirrors the housing crises in NYC but also stimulates crucial discussions on public housing strategies and resident responses. This event highlights the need for collaborative solutions to address the complexities of public housing reform.

Jibreel Jalloh created a Canarsie-based advocacy organization that has fought for a range of investments, including ferry service and anti-gun violence programs. Jibreel graduated from Baruch College (CUNY) and is currently pursuing a master's degree at New York University. He's worked in the office of multiple elected officials, including Public Advocate Jumaane Williams and Congressman Hakeem Jeffries. Jibreel is a member of Community Board 18. Learn more at [theflossy.org](http://theflossy.org) or send him an email at [team@theflossy.org](mailto:team@theflossy.org).

**Bergen Beach****Migrant Crisis Intensifies in Local Neighborhoods Amid Evacuations**

By Robert Pearl

On Tuesday, January 9th, the Bergen Beach Civic Association (BBCA) held its first General Meeting of the New Year, at the Hudson River Yacht Club, at 2101 Bergen Avenue, where irate residents were charged up, expressing their anger and dismay over the growing migrant situation.

The escalating crisis in New York City has reached a critical juncture, causing significant disruptions in neighborhoods like Marine Park, Mill Basin and Bergen Beach, amid the attendees' sentiment that the Federal Government refuses to close the Southern Border. The epicenter of this drama stems from the migrant families being temporarily housed at Floyd Bennett Field, a location deemed environmentally unsafe, particularly with the looming threat of a Nor'easter storm.

BBCA President Sal Calise brought the meeting to order, immediately diving into the migrant situation. Residents complained about being approached for money near local businesses and shopping centers, including Key Food Plaza in Mill Basin.

Assemblywoman Jaime Williams has been a prominent voice against the housing of migrants at a federal site, passionately representing her constituents in the 59th Assembly District. "We warned them early on that the area was a known flood zone," she told attendees.

At the time of the meeting, an emergency

evacuation was underway as nearly 2,000 migrants from Floyd Bennett Field were relocated to James Madison High School. This abrupt shift has rattled the community, leading to heightened tensions and concerns among residents and local officials alike.

It was widely reported that Mayor Eric Adams' office confirmed the relocation of migrants from Floyd Bennett Field to James Madison, citing safety concerns due to the impending storm. The decision, however, sparked outrage as students were transitioned to remote learning to accommodate the temporary shelter arrangement.

"The situation has spiraled out of control, disrupting our homeowners, citizens and everyday life," Williams said.

Residents expressed growing frustration over the aggressive solicitation by migrants for food, money and clothing.

Williams acknowledged the grievances, emphasizing her commitment to address the concerns raised by her constituents. "This crisis is escalating and unsustainable. I took an oath to serve and represent the people of my district, and I will continue to speak out on this issue," she declared.

Williams, a resident of the district she serves, has been actively monitoring the situation at Floyd Bennett Field. Despite her efforts to investigate the grounds, she has been denied access to the migrant tent city, which was once a pristine recreation area visited by thousands of New Yorkers.



Along with other elected officials, she drafted a public letter urging Mayor Adams to address the issue of migrant panhandling and ensure the safety and well-being of local residents. "This is an abuse of the taxpayers," she declared. Her office has received several complaints from residents who are upset about the excessive solicitation from migrants, as stated in the letter.

Other pressing concerns, including quality of life issues and safety measures, were addressed at the meeting. Officer Belkin of the 63rd Precinct advised community members on how to handle situations involving migrants on their properties. Additionally, Community Board 18 District Manager Sue Ann Partnow dispelled rumors regarding potential developments, including homeless shelters or jails, asserting that no such plans were underway.

As the migrant crisis continues to unfold, the community remains vigilant, advocating and asking for solutions that prioritize the well-being and safety of all residents.

The Canarsie Courier (USPS 088-040) is published weekly by the Canarsie Courier Publications Inc., 1142 E. 92nd Street, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11236. Subscriptions are \$20 per year in Brooklyn (\$40 everywhere else). U.S. periodicals postage paid at Brooklyn, New York. Postmaster: Send address changes to Canarsie Courier, 1142 E. 92nd Street, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11236. Subscriptions are nonrefundable and payable in advance. The Canarsie Courier reserves the right to edit, classify, index, or reject any and all material (copy, ads, photos, letters, etc.) not consistent with the policies of this publication. All articles, letters, pictures, advertisements and other materials herein are the exclusive property of Canarsie Courier Publications Inc. and may not be reproduced without written permission of the Publisher. All materials contained herein are copyrighted ©2011 by Canarsie Courier Publications Inc. Views of columnists contained herein are their own, and do not necessarily reflect the opinions or principles of the owners of the Canarsie Courier. The advertisements in the Canarsie Courier are, to the best of our knowledge, accurate representations of the products and services offered. However, no endorsement by the Canarsie Courier is intended or implied. All ads are read back to the advertiser, who is responsible for checking the published ad after the first insertion. Credit will only be given for the space occupied by the error for the first week. Credit will not be given after first insertion for any reason. Only original contest and sweepstakes coupons will be accepted. Prizes must be claimed in person by the winner no later than 14 days from the date of publication.



## Sheepshead Bay

# Parents and Lawmakers Rally over Chaos Caused by Evacuation of Migrants to Safety at Local School

By Loretta Chin

There was a storm brewing and it wasn't just about the weather.

A crowd of community leaders, parents and advocates gathered for an emergency rally led by D45 Assemblyman Michael Novakhov on Wednesday morning, January 10th, outside of James Madison High School, at 3787 Bedford Avenue, to express their outrage over the decision to place students on remote learning so their school could provide emergency housing for migrant families.

According to reports, city officials evacuated about 500 families, representing nearly 2,000 migrants from the Floyd Bennett Field tents, on Tuesday night and transferred them to the school out of an "abundance of caution" to ensure their safety during the storm, which had predicted winds of over 70 m.p.h. Some of the backlash included hate calls and a bomb threat at the school that was cleared earlier.

Migrant families slept on chairs or the gymnasium floor overnight and were sent back to Floyd Bennett Field by 4:30 a.m., while thousands of students remained home on Wednesday.

D59 Assemblywoman Jaime Williams, who has an ongoing lawsuit to dismantle the migrant tent encampment, has called for the shutdown of Floyd Bennett Field from the beginning as an unsafe and unsustainable location for the migrants. Williams said her daughter attends the school and was home that day submitting missing work.

"It is very disruptive when you come and take over our school," she said. "For all the parents that had to stay home today because their kid had to do remote learning — that is wrong," she said, adding that it's not fair to the migrants as well.

"Is this the American Dream, to be shuffled from shelter to shelter, from shelter to the school and back?" she asked.

Williams called for a more sustainable plan, mentioning the existing emergency evacuation plan route down Flatbush Avenue to Brooklyn College, which was not followed.

Things became heated as others raised voices about concerns related to the effects of interrupted learning, gun safety, and migrant health and hygiene at the school related to disease, viruses, lack of vaccinations and head lice. Desiree Joy Frias, an attorney and organizer from South Bronx Mutual Aid, spoke out against the allegations, providing a voice for the migrants, but was shouted down. Police came in to erect barriers as the crowd became agitated.

D46 Assemblyman Alec Brook-Krasny said that the migrant shelter was located at Floyd Bennett Field and not the armory in Park Slope because it was a conservative area of the city. "They're afraid to lose their vote," Brook-Krasny said of the current administration. "That's what the whole thing is about."

"To be clear, we saw this coming," said D62 Staten Island Assemblyman Michael Reilly who spoke of legislation he introduced in the Assembly, as well as by Senator Jessica Scarcella-Spanton in the Senate, to prevent schools and daycares from being used as migrant shelters. He urged voters to "back the bill."

The question remained about what will happen when the next storm comes along. According to reports, NYC Emergency Management Commissioner Zachary Iscol indicated that it would be unlikely that James Madison High School will be used to house migrants again.



Assemblymembers Jaime Williams, Michael Novakhov and Alec Brook-Krasny address the crowd. Advocate Desiree Joy Frias holds a sign welcoming migrants.



Advocate Desiree Joy Frias berates Assemblyman Michael Novakhov for his concerns about what the migrants might be bringing to the schools.

## Division of Consumer Protection Offers Tips to Avoid Costly Mistakes With Gym Memberships

As we begin a New Year, many of us will be setting new goals and resolutions, like getting fit and healthy. Many will join a gym or renew their gym membership. The NYS Division of Consumer Protection (DCP) shares practical tips on what you need to know before signing up or a renewing a gym membership.

### Before Signing up for a Gym Membership:

#### Carefully review the contract before signing it:

Read the fine print and be aware of any hidden fees that may come with it. While the advertised monthly fee may seem reasonable, gyms often include additional fees for things like initiation, cancellation and maintenance.

#### Be aware of add-ons:

When signing up for a gym membership, it's important to understand the fees and policies that come with it.

- Initiation or registration fees are typically non-refundable, so

be sure the location and schedule are convenient to you.

- Look out for annual maintenance charges. Read the contract carefully and understand the terms regarding this annual surcharge.
- Locker rentals are often not free, so ask ahead to plan where you're going to keep your belongings. Some gyms require you to purchase your own padlock or locker assignment.
- Termination fees are important to consider in case you need to cancel your membership. Make sure you understand the gym's policies regarding termination to avoid any unexpected charges.
- Premium classes and personal training sessions may come with additional charges. While the first training session may be offered for free, subsequent sessions will likely come at a cost.
- Be sure to check the equipment requirements before attending a class to avoid any unexpected charges. Classroom extras

such as yoga mats, steps and stretch band may require a rental fee if you don't have your own equipment.

### When Cancelling or Renewing a Gym Membership:

- NYS law requires businesses with automatic renewal programs to disclose the terms of auto-renewal offers clearly and conspicuously, cancellation policies and minimum purchase obligations.
- A business that allows auto-renewal must also provide simple user-friendly cancellation options for consumers to make it easier to unsubscribe or cancel memberships. They must provide a toll-free telephone number, email address or other cost-effective, timely and easy-to-use option for consumers to cancel after agreeing to a contract.
- If it is believed a company is not following the law when offering recurring services or free gifts, consumers should file a complaint with DCP at [dos.ny.gov/consumerprotection](https://dos.ny.gov/consumerprotection).

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## Kings Plaza

## Sliwa to Adams: Close Floyd Bennett Field!

By Loretta Chin

Curtis Sliwa, Guardian Angels founder and opponent to our current mayor in the last mayoral election, clutched flyers that headlined “Adams! Do Your Job!” as he led a rally to close the Floyd Bennett Field migrant encampment on Thursday, January 11th, outside of Kings Plaza’s heavily trafficked corner of Avenue U and Flatbush Avenue.

“When Mayor Adams immediately removed the 2,000 migrants from the tents, transferred them over to Madison High School, everyone on this issue agrees, that was a mistake,” Sliwa said. He held numerous rallies to tell the

mayor not to place the tents on a floodplain, which would be a danger to anyone residing there.

The protest came the day after another rally held outside of James Madison High School where dangerous high winds and rain prompted an emergency evacuation of migrants to the school on Tuesday night and resulted in the displacement of students who had been placed on virtual learning the following day.

“The thing is, both Democrats and Republicans, we’re on the same page,” Guardian Angels Senior Director of Operations Arnaldo Salinas told the

*Canarsie Courier*. “It’s not that we’re heartless or we don’t have compassion; it’s that enough is enough — if you’re going to do something, have a plan for it.”

Sliwa suggested moving the migrants to the Park Slope Armory at 8th Avenue and 15th Street several times throughout his speech. “Go to the Mayor’s office and make him an offer he can’t refuse because he’s gonna be looking for a way out of this; he knows it’s a disaster in the waiting,” he said.

There were numerous police officers on the scene who Sliwa said should have been on the streets patrolling because they were a pro-police group. There was also a drone overhead, which angered someone in the crowd who shouted, “Look how they’re watching us, look!”

Sliwa then gathered the crowd who were mostly residents of Bergen Beach, Mill Basin, Marine Park and the Rockaways to go out in traffic to hand out flyers. “We’re asking them to lobby and go after one person, and only one person is responsible for this, and that’s Eric Adams,” he said.

Assemblyman Michael Novakhov, who led the rally at Madison High, told the *Canarsie Courier* that, unfortunately, rallies are the only tool that they could use to deliver the message to

the city that something is wrong or else they wouldn’t listen to them.

“They listened to us and saw us walking out yesterday morning, and then the city said they would not house migrants in James Madison High School,” he said. “So, it works.”

Although it was said that Sliwa planned to block traffic to hand out flyers, he and his Guardian Angels only did it when traffic was stopped by the red light. He announced further actions to be taken until the tents are taken down.

A number of migrants watched from across the street at the bus stop as they waited for the bus to return them to Floyd Bennett Field and heard chanting to “close the border” as the crowd dispersed among the cars.



Curtis Sliwa calls for the permanent closure of the Floyd Bennett Field tent shelters.



Curtis Sliwa and Assemblyman Michael Novakhov, who led the rally in front of Madison High School the previous morning.

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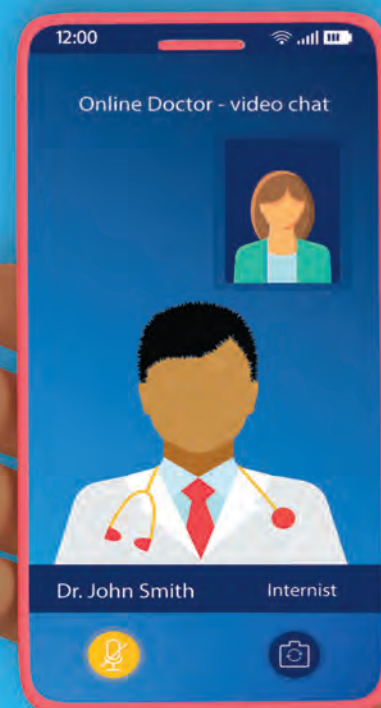
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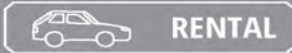
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## District 22 Hopes to Shield Students from Pending Budget Cuts

By Angela Nannetti, M.S. Ed.

Members of Community District Education Council 22 (CEC 22) held their monthly meeting in a virtual format on Tuesday evening, January 9th, due to inclement weather, allowing members of the community to participate without having to risk their safety amid the strong wind and heavy rain affecting the area.

It was fortunate then that so many were able to attend the important meeting, which explored various aspects of the budget, including a presentation from the School Construction Authority (SCA). SCA Director of Internal Affairs Yvette Knight provided an overview of the \$19.4 billion 2020-2024 Capital Plan and detailed the allocation of funds into three major categories: capacity, capital improvement and mandated (regulatory) repairs, which were broken down further into various subcategories. Knight also presented the proposed \$17 billion 2025-2029 Capital Plan, but it was unclear if it might be affected by Mayor Adam's citywide budget cuts, which are being made to offset the high price of illegal immigration.

However, CEC 22 President Tracy Jordan and Superintendent Julia Bove shared the unfortunate news that those budget cuts may soon impact other aspects of student life, like school food and certain sports and fitness programs. They explained that the highly anticipated addition of jerk chicken, previously expected to be included on lunch menus this February, will likely never make it to school cafeterias after all. While the quantity and caloric value

of school food is expected to remain the same, they have been warned that the variety of food choices offered may soon be limited, the extent of which still remains to be seen.

Also expected is the loss of an invaluable sports and fitness program called CHAMPS, which offers elementary and middle school students the opportunity to participate in supervised physical activities like tennis and soccer, before and after school, and on the weekends. Much more than just kicking a ball around for a few hours, this extensive program allows students to build confidence, learn discipline, develop teamwork skills, maintain a healthy weight and even improve their mental and emotional health.

While the District is making every effort to retain CHAMPS and limit the way these budget cuts will directly affect its students, the situation is tenuous and dynamic. With several of the budget cuts the mayor originally announced, having already been rescinded or otherwise amended at the government level, there is still hope that kids won't have to suffer the consequences of a crisis they had no hand in creating. As one District 22 parent told the *Canarsie Courier*, "Our kids shouldn't have to worry about things being taken away from them; they have enough to deal with every day."

The next meeting of CEC 22 will be held on Tuesday, February 6th at 6:30 p.m., in person (location to be determined) and streamed live via Zoom.

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## South Brooklyn Republican Club Launches 2024 Election Year with Resolve

By Robert Pearl

The South Brooklyn Republican Club kicked off their first meeting of the year on Wednesday, January 10th, launching into the heart of the 2024 election year in a crowded room pulsating with anticipation.

Club President Jay Cohen, a former NYPD detective, led the assembly in the customary Pledge of Allegiance, followed by the Star-Spangled Banner and a brief moment of silence, honoring fallen service members, first responders and victims of global conflicts.

Welcoming both familiar faces and newcomers to the club, Cohen set the stage for an evening filled with insights from prominent speakers, addressing critical issues affecting their communities, city, state and nation.

Recently-elected Brooklyn Republican Party Chairman Richard Barsamian provided a comprehensive overview, highlighting the pressing issues of the moment — from the

prominent migrant crisis and rising antisemitism to crime, public safety and broader quality of life concerns for New Yorkers.

Barsamian emphasized the urgency of individual action, urging attendees to engage with their communities, speak to neighbors, coworkers, friends and family, and actively participate in the upcoming November election. He framed this year's mission as not just electing local Republican candidates but fostering collaboration with like-minded individuals across party lines to improve the everyday lives of New Yorkers.

Donald Cranston, the former Republican/Conservative candidate for the 46th Council District, echoed Barsamian's sentiments. Cranston, now working with Assemblywoman Jaime Williams' office, highlighted their vocal efforts in raising alarms about Floyd Bennett Field (FBF) as an unsuitable place for living, particularly for the thou-

sands of migrants currently housed there.

Cranston revealed the passage of a bipartisan bill in the House of Representatives, prohibiting the placement of migrants or facilities in federal parks. However, he expressed frustration that the bill has been sitting on Senator Chuck Schumer's desk for three months without any action.

Councilwoman Inna Vernikov (District 48) addressed the abrupt transfer of 2,000 migrants from FBF to James Madison High School overnight due to a Nor'easter. This unexpected move, leaving parents and the community outraged, resulted in early dismissal for students and a shift to remote learning the following day. The lack of communication from the Mayor's office or city officials added to the discontent.

Curtis Sliwa, head of the Guardian Angels and former mayoral candidate, stopped by, and having organized several rallies throughout the boroughs, he emphasized the need to close the tent city in FBF, particularly during the challenging winter season.

The keynote speaker of the evening, Gavin Wax, Executive Director of the National Constitutional Law Union and current President of the New York Young Republicans Club, wasted no time in labeling the city's situation a "national disgrace." He criticized policies favoring migrants over taxpayers and expressed concern about the future under the current Democratic majority leadership. Referring to the recent shutdown of Madison High, he said, "This is America Last, in our city."

Wax speculated that the crisis, evident in the closure of the high school, might extend to more schools and public facilities. He anticipated unoccupied apartments, regulated by strict rent laws, could be kept empty and then allocated to migrants instead of aiding struggling citizens, such as low-income, homeless and the elderly.

Despite the challenges, Wax expressed hope in the South Brooklyn Club's organizing efforts and the potential impact of electing common-sense politicians. Wax also co-authored a book with Troy Olson, Legislative Director at the NYC Council, called *The Emerging Populist Majority*.

The meeting concluded with a 50/50 raffle, book signing giveaway and a Q&A segment for the attendees. The big ask was the desire to have former President Donald Trump hold rallies in New York during the 2024 election cycle.

The South Brooklyn Republican Club meets on the first Wednesday of every month at their headquarters located at 3051 Nostrand Avenue (Knights of Columbus) and is open to the public. Interested individuals can stay informed about upcoming events and speakers by signing up for their mailing list or following them on Instagram and Facebook @SouthBrooklynRepublicans.



Meeting of the South Brooklyn Republican Club on January 10th.



Councilwoman Inna Vernikov

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## MLK Day of Service Volunteers Clean up Canarsie Pier

By Arthur De Gaeta

On Monday, January 15th, community volunteers along with Assemblywoman Jaime Williams descended upon the Canarsie Pier to clean up the shoreline in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day – the civil rights leader placed an emphasis on volunteerism and community service.

There were also volunteers from AmeriCorps, the domestic version of the Peace Corps. Armed with grabbers and trash bags, teams spread out picking up litter along the shoreline and by the picnic area. It was a successful day of giving back - the same way Martin Luther King Jr. gave back.

The National Park Service event was held in collaboration with Assemblywoman Jaime Williams, State Senator Roxanne Persaud, Councilwoman Mercedes Narcisse and the Jamaica-Bay Rockaway Parks Conservancy.



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## District 18 Community Education Council Holds First Meeting of 2024

By Brenda Cox

The District 18 Community Education Council (CEC) held its first meeting of 2024 on Monday, January 8th, at their District Office, 1106 East 95th Street. Due to sparse attendance, there was no quorum, so some items on the agenda were tabled for the next meeting. The discussions focused mainly on reports and updates from District 18 Superintendent Celeste Terry, regarding the schools' and students' performances throughout the District.

The superintendent made special mention of P.S. 135 and M.S. 763. Before winter break on December 22nd, both reported the highest attendance rates, at 90% and 93%, respectively, causing D18 to beat 33 other districts, in attendance, on that day.

She stated that as of January 3, 2024, overall attendance reported was 91%, just shy of the 92%

goal, and chronic absenteeism was 30% as of December 21st. "We do not want to get to 34%!" Terry warned. Other schools with 90% or higher attendance for the week of December 11th were P.S./I.S. 66, P.S. 115, P.S. 208, I.S. 211, P.S. 233, P.S. 235, P.S. 244, I.S. 285, M.S. 366 and M.S. 961.

Terry also mentioned several D18 "upcoming signature events," including Parent and District Leadership Summit, D17/D18/D22 Spelling Bee competition, Debate League tournaments, D18 Student Advisory Council Youth Summit and My Brother's Keeper grant updates. She stated that Teacher Trainings had been scheduled for January and March, well ahead of the District's curriculum rollout in September, the objective being to ensure that teachers and students remain up to speed, particularly in areas of ever-changing technology.

Joseph Surpris, a United Federation of Teachers (UFT) representative for D18, reported that those plans could be affected by the drastic budget cuts proposed by Mayor Eric Adams. He stated that last year, District 18 lost \$9 million in "unnecessary" cuts and this January, the mayor proposed another \$1 million which will definitely impact D18.

Surpris mentioned that the Panel for Educational Policy (PEP) who votes on such matters is comprised of 23 members, 13 of whom are appointed by the mayor. He said that to keep the process beyond reproach, UFT proposed that the mayor be allowed to appoint only 10 members and that other entities such as the Comptroller, Public Advocate or City Council Speaker be granted the authority to select the remaining three.

"We don't have a lot of issues with mayoral control; however, we are proposing a system of checks and balances," he stated. The union rep also announced that UFT had filed a lawsuit in Manhattan Supreme Court to prevent the Adams' administration from implementing the proposed cuts for city schools and distributed a release from UFT which stated, among other things, "the cuts also undermine students' rights to 'a sound basic education' as provided for under New York State's constitution."

Rohan Narine, from the Department of State Consumer Education, delivered a PowerPoint presentation on Child Identity Theft – what it is, how it happens, its impact and consequences, as well as how to prevent, detect and resolve it. Some of the helpful tips shared were:

- Set reasonable boundaries around technology and monitor online activities.
- Always ask why and how your child's social security number will be used. Only give it out when absolutely necessary.
- File an Identity Theft victim report with the FTC.

More information on Child Identity Theft can be obtained from the NYS Department of Consumer Education.

The next meeting of CEC 18 will be held on Monday, February 5th, at 7 p.m.

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## East Flatbush

## Community Comes Together to Honor The Legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

By Brenda Cox

There was standing room only at Alliance Tabernacle, 3304 Clarendon Road, on Sunday afternoon, January 14th, when a multitude of clergy leaders, elected officials and the community came together for a celebration "Remembering King: Reclaiming His Voice, His Life and Legacy for Justice." The event was hosted by the NYC Mayor's Office of Faith-Based and Community Partnerships, in collaboration with the GodSquad, one day prior to what would have been the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King's 95th birthday.

Senate Majority Leader Hon. Charles Schumer referred to Dr. King as "one of the most preeminent thinkers, change agents and leaders in our world's history" and said it was no coincidence that Dr. King's birthday "is the only holiday on our calendar that is dedicated to a single man." Schumer expressed pride in the fact that as a young congressman, in the 1980's, he "worked hard to pass legislation to make MLK's birthday a national holiday."

The senator noted that despite all that Dr. King had accomplished in his young life, bias, hate and discrimination still exist. He stated that many, including himself and House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries, are following in the civil rights activist's "amazing footsteps" by continuing the fight [in Washington] for equality and social justice. "We stopped the MAGA Republicans from shutting down the government. We protected vital priorities like housing, healthcare and small businesses" and added that they are working to "eliminate the burden of student loan that's on the backs of young people." He praised the youths of Flatbush Leadership Academy and encouraged them to read Dr. King's *Letter from Birmingham Jail*.

The majority leader pointed out another major achievement -- the diversity of the federal courts. Two thirds are now people of color, 50 of them women, including Ketanji Brown Jackson, the first black woman to serve on the Supreme Court. He stated, "Dr. King believed that we should have people of color in positions of power and there's no greater power than being a federal judge." He ended by saying, "We shall overcome because the arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends towards justice."

To emphasize the degree of injustice Dr. King fought

against, Pastor Gilford Monroe, New York's Faith Leader, had Rev. Charles Galbraith bring a glass jar filled with jelly beans on stage. And to be sure its symbolism was not lost on anyone, he explained that during the 1960's, blacks were not permitted to vote unless they were able to guess the number of jelly beans in the jar. That was one of many acts of discrimination and inequality that Dr. King fought against.

A plethora of esteemed speakers, including Congresswoman Yvette Clarke, Mayor Eric Adams, Councilwomen Farah Louis and Rita Joseph, District Attorney Eric Gonzalez, Rev. Reginald Bachus, Rev. Dr. Ann Marie Bentsi-Addison, Rev. Conrad Tillard, Bishop Dr. Cheryl Ault-Barker, Rev. Tisha Dixon-Williams, Dr. Jamie Kowlessar, as well as co-hosts Rev. Galbraith and Pastor Rich-

ard Hinds, reaffirmed Dr. King's legacy by citing excerpts of his iconic speeches, supported by scripture verses, in their tributes.

The occasion was also marked by musical renditions, poetry readings and a huge birthday cake with the inscription, "Honoring the 95th Birthday of Dr. MLK Jr."



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## Shooting Hoops, Not Guns: First Anti-Gun Violence MLK Basketball Tournament

By Baqir Ahmad

The Canarsie Educational Campus, located at 1600 Rockaway Parkway, held the high school's first MLK Invitational over the holiday weekend in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

The basketball tournament, held on Saturday, was about more than just shooting hoops and playing for pride – the event's goal was aimed at stopping senseless gun violence impacting our teenagers, some of them local, like Canarsie High student Javel Lawton. Tragically, the 15-year-old who previously lived at the Bayview Houses was Brooklyn's first gun-related homicide this year. Lawton was visiting friends at the Bayview Houses when he was fatally shot on January 2nd.

In attendance were community activ-

ists, coaches and elected officials. Ramel Young, the director of Flossy Basketball, was disheartened when he heard how Javel lost his life to senseless gun violence and hopes this brings an end to deadly shootings.

"We didn't know while planning this that this was going to happen. It's very unfortunate Javel lost his life," Young said. "But it's something to help us heal. It might not heal the family, it might not, but it's what we need over here."

Councilwoman Mercedes Narcisse told the *Canarsie Courier* that events like these give students "an opportunity, a place to nurture, to breathe and plant seeds."

Coaches and team directors told the students that they can expect this event to continue each and every year during MLK weekend.



A nonprofit organization in New York, NY is seeking sealed bids for the sale and installation of security related enhancements. This project includes the installation of Impact Resistant Doors. Selection criteria will be based on price, reputation/experience, and quality of materials proposed. Specifications and bid requirements can be obtained by contacting us at [rabbimiz@gmail.com](mailto:rabbimiz@gmail.com). All interested firms will be required to sign for the proposal documents and provide primary contact, telephone, fax and email address. Bids will be accepted until 12 pm February 15, 2024. Work is to commence by March 4, 2024 and completed by June 20, 2024. Minority and Women Owned Businesses are Encouraged to Apply.

A nonprofit organization in New York, NY is seeking sealed bids for the sale and installation of security related enhancements. This project includes the installation of Blast/Impact Resistant Windows or Film. Selection criteria will be based on price, reputation/experience, and quality of materials proposed. Specifications and bid requirements can be obtained by contacting us at [rabbimiz@gmail.com](mailto:rabbimiz@gmail.com). All interested firms will be required to sign for the proposal documents and provide primary contact, telephone, fax and email address. Bids will be accepted until 12 pm February 15, 2024. Work is to commence by March 4, 2024 and completed by June 20, 2024. Minority and Women Owned Businesses are Encouraged to Apply.

A nonprofit organization in New York, NY is seeking sealed bids for the sale and installation of security related enhancements. This project includes the installation of Security Lighting and a Public Address System. Selection criteria will be based on price, reputation/experience, and quality of materials proposed. Specifications and bid requirements can be obtained by contacting us at [rabbimiz@gmail.com](mailto:rabbimiz@gmail.com). All interested firms will be required to sign for the proposal documents and provide primary contact, telephone, fax and email address. Bids will be accepted until 12 pm February 15, 2024. Work is to commence by March 4, 2024 and completed by June 20, 2024. Minority and Women Owned Businesses are Encouraged to Apply.





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**NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY**  
Notice of Formation of CHINO PRODUCE LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 2023-12-07. Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of Limited Liability Company (LLC) upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY should mail process to CHINO PRODUCE LLC: 273 EAST 2ND STREET 2FL BROOKLYN NY 11218. Purpose: Any lawful purpose

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**KINGS COUNTY NOTICE OF APPLICATION OF A LIQUOR LICENSE**  
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Notice of Formation of Studio David Spector L.L.C.. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 2023-04-07. Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of Limited Liability Company (LLC) upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY should mail process to David Spector: 830 Putnam Ave Apt 2b Brooklyn NY 11221. Purpose: Any lawful purpose

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NOTICE OF POSTPONEMENT OF SALE

THE BELOW SALE WAS ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED FOR JANUARY 4, 2024 AT 2:30 P.M. AND IS BEING POSTPONED TO JANUARY 25, 2024 AT 2:30 P.M. AT THE SAME PLACE. BERNARD M. ALTER, REFEREE.

SUPREME COURT. COUNTY OF KINGS. ANNETTE RENAUD, Pltf., vs. LISA A. RENAUD, Def., vs. CHASE BANK, N.A., Counterclaim Def., Index #3189/2016. Pursuant to interim judgment of partition and sale, I will sell at public auction in Room 224 of the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams St., Brooklyn, NY on January 25, 2024 at 2:30 p.m. prem. k/a 80 Hancock Street, Brooklyn, NY 11216 a/k/a Block 1837, Lot 23. Said property located at the point on the southerly side of Hancock St. distant 290 ft. easterly from the corner formed by the intersection of the southerly side of Hancock Street with the easterly side of Bedford Avenue; being a plot 100 ft. x 20 ft. The property is being sold pursuant to the interim judgment of partition and sale. BERNARD M. ALTER, Referee. ROTTENBERG LIPMAN RICH, P.C., Attorneys for the Defendant-Counterclaimant., The Helmsley Building, 230 Park Avenue, 18<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York. NY 10169. #101066



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