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## International Women's Day Celebration



*Photo courtesy of Robert Pearl*

**Story on page 2**



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## Canarsie Courier

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## Make Your Voice Heard at the Canarsie Civic Assembly Meeting

By Jibreel Jalloh

The Flossy Organization is hosting another Canarsie Civic Assembly Meeting on Wednesday, March 27th, at 7 p.m. at the Ghetto Shack (9320 Avenue L). This meeting is your chance to get involved and make a difference in your neighborhood.

Concerned about schools, sanitation or public safety? This meeting is a platform to share your voice and collaborate with your neighbors on solutions. By working together, we can build a stronger, more unified Canarsie with a collective voice that will be heard.

The meeting goes beyond just tackling problems. It's also about building connections with neighbors. By meeting and socializing, you can foster a stronger sense of community and create a network of support. This sense of connection is essential for tackling local challenges and creating a more vibrant Canarsie.

This isn't just a meeting; it's an

opportunity to take action and create positive change. The Flossy Organization, known for its creative and urgent approach to fighting inequities, will provide information and resources on how to get involved in local organizations and issue-based campaigns. Whether you're passionate about educational equity, environmental justice, anti-gun violence or anti-hate initiatives, this meeting can empower you to get involved and make a difference. Also, you'll be supporting a local business!

If you're looking to make a positive impact in your community, don't miss the Canarsie Civic Assembly Meeting hosted by The Flossy Organization on March 27th at 7 p.m. It's a chance to connect with your neighbors, address your concerns and work together to build a better Canarsie for all.

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).

## District 22: Schools Funded Appropriately

By Angela G. Nannetti, M.S. Ed.

Community District Education Council 22 (CEC 22) held their monthly meeting on Tuesday evening, March 12th, at P.S. 217, located at 1100 Newkirk Avenue, which was also streamed live to the public via Zoom.

The highlight of the meeting was a budget presentation given by District 22 Superintendent Matthew Melchiorre. Having served in numerous capacities throughout his illustrious career with the Department of Education (DOE) and developed extensive experience with school budgets, Melchiorre was especially qualified to provide what was a rather in-depth look at the way school funding is allocated.

According to the presentation, the

DOE will spend an estimated \$31,250 per student this year, with the largest portion (38% or \$14.9 billion) of their total \$39.4 billion budget going directly to K-12 schools and instruction.

Melchiorre explained that 81% of District 22's \$431 million budget comes from Fair Student Funding or FSF, ensuring that schools are funded based on a complex formula, which takes into account the amount of students enrolled and their individual needs. A student with special needs who requires physical or occupational therapy for example or the assistance of a speech pathologist and the support of a guidance counselor would be allocated more funding than a student who does not have special needs. Overall, the group appeared



District 22 Superintendent Matthew Melchiorre

pleased to learn that this method of funding ensures schools get precisely what they need, without being over or underfunded as has often been the case in the past.

The next meeting of CEC 22 will be held on Tuesday, April 2nd, at 6:30 p.m.; location to be announced.

## Sheepshead Bay

## Empowering Ukrainian Women: A Celebration of International Women's Day

By Robert Pearl

On March 11th, TraNa Relief Association held its International Women's Day 2024 Celebration for Ukrainian women refugees at Wise Bar & Grill. The event featured local women leaders from government and business to inspire and empower these recent arrivals on what they can accomplish as women in America.

It was a full program and night of celebration, with speakers from Senator Jessica Scarcella-Spanton's office with Olga Fiore; Director Galina Shumskaya of Manhattan School of Computer Technology; Anna Blostkina of Common Point Queens; Tanya Segal, Legal Advocate; and, of course, Natalia Travilina, founder of TraNa Relief

Organization. Co-volunteer and Liaison for Cultural Affairs Robert Pearl was also on hand to deliver the organization's presentation.

There were information seminars on education, job search and housing, as well as a slide presentation, award ceremony, music, singing and dancing. Every woman in the house received sweets gift and a fresh full stem rose, special thanks to Marine Florists!

In honor of the occasion, the senator's representative bestowed a Certificate of Recognition to Travilina, Pearl, Shumskaya and Segal, for individuals who perform exemplary service on behalf of their community and contribution.

Finally, a huge cake with

Congratulations from TraNa Relief to all Ukrainians and guests capped off the ladies' night. When asked how the evening went, the consensus among organizers and attendees was described as "a great successful event!"

TraNa Relief Association/Help Center/Центр Помощи, is a 501(c)3 charity non-profit organization currently serving local Ukrainian refugees in Brooklyn, helping people in need who have newly arrived to the U.S. to build safe, healthy and prosperous lives by supporting basic humanitarian needs, providing relevant resources, assisting in integration to the society and adapting to the new culture.

To learn more and donate, visit: [tranarelief.org](http://tranarelief.org)



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## Canarsie Teen Fatally Shot Steps Away from Home

By Lloyd Mitchell and Linda Steinmuller

A Canarsie teenager's life was cut short after he was shot twice outside his home early Tuesday morning.

Detectives and officers from the 69th Precinct are looking for a black four-door sedan that fled the scene following the fatal shooting, which occurred around 2:45 a.m. on March 19th, according to official sources.

Police arrived at East 104th Street, near Avenue K, where they discovered the victim, Christian Montrose, 19, with gunshot wounds to the mouth and torso, just steps from his home.

Montrose, a recent high school graduate, was sitting in the driver's side of his red car when gunfire erupted.

Distraught family members told *PIX11 News* that he was a great kid that enjoyed working on cars and wanted to become an auto mechanic. There is no known motive for the crime.

Montrose was taken to Brookdale Hospital where he was pronounced dead, police said.

No arrests have been made, and an investigation is ongoing.

Anyone with information regarding this shooting is asked to call the NYPD's Crime Stoppers Hotline at 800-577-TIPS (8477) or for Spanish, 888-57-PISTA (74782). The public can also submit their tips by logging onto the Crime Stoppers Website at [crimestoppers.nypdonline.org/](http://crimestoppers.nypdonline.org/), or on Twitter @NYPDTips. All calls are strictly confidential.

Photos by Lloyd Mitchell



## East New York

## Pedestrian Killed After Being Struck by Driver



By Lloyd Mitchell

A 36-year-old man was struck and killed while crossing the dreaded Linden Boulevard at Ashford Street on Monday afternoon, March 18th.

The victim was standing in the crosswalk when he was struck by a 59-year-old male driver who was traveling eastbound in a Chevy Malibu GT around 1:20 p.m., according to police.

Officers from the 75th Precinct found the pedestrian with trauma to the body, lying in the roadway. Paramedics rushed the victim to Brookdale Hospital where he unfortunately succumbed to his injuries.

Members of the NYPD Highway Collision Investigation Unit processed the scene. The driver is not expected to face charges at this time.

Photo by Lloyd Mitchell

## East Flatbush

## Officers Shoot and Kill Gun-Toting Suspect

By Lloyd Mitchell and Linda Steinmuller

Officers from the 67th Precinct shot and killed an armed man who was chasing a couple down an East Flatbush street Monday evening.

Police were called to Linden Boulevard and Remsen Avenue, where it was reported the man was firing shots around 5:55 p.m. on March 18th. Officers assigned to the Brooklyn South Community Response Team conducted a canvass of the area and located the gunman, about one block away, at Remsen Avenue and East 57th Street. Four officers observed the man firing shots at the

man and woman, according to police. Cops then shot the 20-year-old unidentified man numerous times.

At a press conference later that evening, NYPD Chief of Patrol John Chell said that the officers put their police cruisers in between the victims and the suspect, saving their lives. A gun was recovered at the scene.

"Once again, tonight, we see New York City police officers running toward danger, stopping the threat and saving two people's lives," Chell said.

Paramedics brought the gunman to Kings County Hospital where he was pronounced dead.

The couple was not injured by gunfire, and Chell said there was no motive for the shooting at this time. However, a 60-year-old man, who was working on a car across the street from the chase scene, was shot twice in the mayhem, but it is unclear whether he was shot by officers or the perpetrator. The victim is recovering in an area hospital.

Later developments have unfolded since the press conference. Witnesses have come forth stating the shooter was chasing muggers, although this has not been confirmed as of press time.



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## Older Adults Have a Lovely Time at NYPD Appreciation Dinner

By Brenda Cox

The much-anticipated 2nd Annual Older Adults Valentine's Day Appreciation Dinner – postponed from February 17th due to snow – took place on March 9th in the spacious auditorium of Holy Family Church, at 9719 Flatlands Avenue. And given the torrential downpours that occurred that evening, one might not expect to see so many older adults elegantly dressed, out and about, but they were.

Commanding Officer of the 69th Precinct Captain Dion Hinds welcomed everyone to the shindig, which was certainly an affair to remember. The event, a collaborative effort between the 69th Precinct and the 69th Precinct Community Council (headed by Gardy Brazela), was co-emceed by Community Affairs Officers Samuel Maria and Nicole Rostant. It was filled with fun, laughter, great food and dancing.



Members of the NYPD, 69th Precinct Community and Clergy Councils, and elected officials in attendance at the March 9th Valentine's Dinner.

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"All of you who came out here today, you are blessed!" State Senator Roxanne Persaud told them, referring to the heavy rains as "abundant showers of blessings." And House Minority Leader, Congressman Hakeem Jeffries, took time off his busy schedule to stop by and greet the guests.

Officer Rostant told the gathering, "This evening is dedicated to honoring and celebrating the invaluable contributions that you, older adults, have made to our community. Your wisdom, experience and unwavering support play a role in the shaping of our community. For us, it was important to not only recognize but to show our appreciation to you for all that you have done. Without your guidance and dedication, we would not have been able to achieve many of our goals, nor learn as much as we have, from your abundant knowledge and experiences. As police officers, we hold the utmost respect for every one of you."

"This is beautiful," said Councilwoman Mercedes Narcisse. "This is a time of love and we need love more than ever in our lives right now."

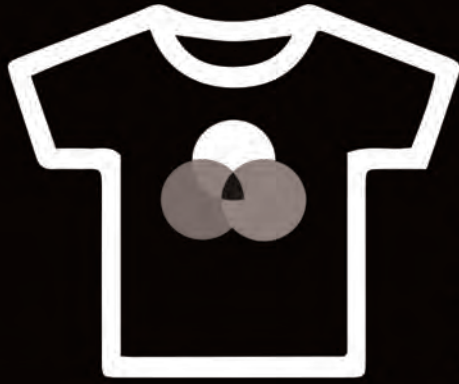
DJ Chineze Golden Touch made sure he included some "oldies but goodies" that only those of a certain age could truly appreciate. Dorothy Lee paused her dancing to deliver greetings from Assemblywoman Jaime Williams, who was recently successful in getting a Scammers Law passed. It not only prohibits unsolicited calls from scammers but requires them to pay a fine if they call you more than once.

Assemblywoman Monique Chandler-Waterman, who joined the party late, commended the older adults for braving the weather and coming out, all gussied up, to celebrate with each other. "Even though it's raining, it's beautiful here with all the flowers and all the beautiful outfits. I'm glad to be here," she told the guests. "Love you. Love you. Love you."



Assemblywoman Monique Chandler-Waterman (center) and "the ladies in red" -- Jennifer Viechweg-Horsford, Brenda Cox, Clover March and Sandy Miller.





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## Councilwoman Narcisse Updates the Community at State of the District Address

By Brian Moreno

Residents gathered on Tuesday evening, March 5th, as Councilwoman Mercedes Narcisse briefed constituents on the current status of District 46 in her annual State of the District Address, at P.S. 203 Floyd Bennett School, 5101 Avenue M.

Council District 46 covers Canarsie, Bergen Beach, Flatlands, Georgetown, Gerritsen Beach, Marine Park, Mill Basin and Sheepshead Bay, and Councilwoman Narcisse addressed issues that affect these communities, such as the restoration of parks, economic and health reforms, and the present handling of the migrant situation.

Students were involved throughout the program – Girls Scouts from P.S. 276 recited the Pledge of Allegiance, and there were poetry readings by P.S. 203 students Marwa and Habe Khan. Community resident Felina Backer sang “The Star-Spangled Banner,” and clergy from various

faiths gave the invocations, recited prayers and recounted stories of Narcisse helping out throughout the neighborhood. Dr. Mecca Nelson praised Narcisse’s efforts in co-naming a street in Canarsie after her late husband, U.S. Army Sergeant Mario Nelson, who was killed in action in the Iraq War.

“I’m here to ensure every New Yorker has access to the best possible medical care and services,” Narcisse told attendees. “I also have the privilege to serve on the Committee on Health, Education, Parks, Transportation, Criminal Justice and Subcommittee on COVID Recovery.”

Narcisse introduced a bill that would require the commissioner of the NYC Department of Veterans’ Services to submit an annual report summarizing the mental health services offered and provided by city agencies to veterans, ensuring transparency and accountability. Also, a resolution was introduced to call on the state legislature and

governor to sign legislation to fully fund the Medicaid program to cover 100% of the course of care at New York City hospitals by Fiscal Year 2028, including a significant down payment in the Fiscal Year 2025 state budget.

Narcisse also recalled that the previous year, she partnered with the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce to provide over \$15,000 to local businesses to install new awnings on their businesses.

“I’m a business owner in Canarsie and have a nonprofit, and I follow Councilwoman Narcisse to find out what’s going on in the community and find out how we can support it,” said Heidi Washington. “She’s been relentless in pushing certain policies and standing up for her community, and tonight just shows all the things that she has been involved with.”

As the city continues to grapple with the migrant situation, Narcisse pointed out that it is a struggle as it has “continued to stretch out our resources and compassion.” The crisis has divided the community, as many are concerned about what is to come, though Narcisse understands the residents’ emotions and remains committed to not taking them personally and continuing to represent District 46.

“As an immigrant myself, I cannot stand for anyone to say anything that reinforces any anti-immigrant sentiments,” said Narcisse. “However, as an immigrant and legislator, I would say we need to put our political ego aside and come together on all levels to pass sweeping immigration reform that controls the border and allows for more human processes for those seeking us out.”

Narcisse stated she understands the backlash of handling the situation at hand but will continue to ensure that people’s needs, including migrants, are met and dealt with.



Councilwoman Mercedes Narcisse’s State of the District Address.

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# First Meeting of Mill Basin Civic This Year Was Jam-Packed

By Loretta Chin

Mill Basin residents and invited guests filled the multi-purpose room of Mary Queen of Heaven Church, 1395 East 56th Street, on Tuesday, March 12th, in anticipation of the Mill Basin Civic Association's first meeting of the year, where there were many new speakers and some unexpected announcements.

It came as a surprise for many to learn from Mill Basin President Paul Curiale and Board Member Terri Cadet-Donald that the 63rd Precinct Commanding Officer Deputy Inspector Rachael Kosak would be moving on from her position soon and new candidates would be interviewed that Thursday. Cries of "What? What? What?" were repeated throughout the room.

"It's something the NYPD does — they move people around," Cadet-Donald said. "It was great while it lasted."

Other news for some was that Naomi Hopkins has replaced

Michael Ien as the current chairperson of Community Board 18 (CB 18), State Senator Kevin Parker has replaced State Senator Roxanne Persaud as Mill Basin's representative due to redistricting, Assemblywoman Helene Weinstein will be retiring by the end of the year, and there are two new Neighborhood Coordination Officers (NCOs) for the 63rd Precinct's Sector C, which covers Flatlands and Mill Basin.

Of the over 60 attendees, some of the special guests included Michael Benjamin, representing Parker; Flatlands Civic Club, Inc. President Joan Gilbert; Hopkins; former Mill Basin Civic President Pat Weerbrouck; Sector C NCO Liliana Cruz; Youth Sergeant Pierre; and Explorer Dwhyte Drysdale who spoke about and raised funds for the precinct's Explorers youth programs. Special thanks went to Josephine Politi of Palermo Bakery who donated four cheesecakes for the meeting.

Residents aired concerns about safety in the area and prob-

lems with migrants begging, flooding at corners, trees in need of pruning, buckling and lifting sidewalks, and the usual car problems.

Related to car problems, Cadet-Donald delivered a message from one of the nuns living in the convent upstairs who asked that people not park near the hydrant by the church. She also asked that police on the midnight tour give out tickets to cars that park there nightly because the nuns were concerned for their safety in case of fire.

CB 18 District Manager Sue Ann Partnow announced that trees would not get cut until 2026, but Saye Joseph, Chief of Staff for Councilwoman Mercedes Narcisse, said that her office will try to fund a nonprofit to help and collected addresses from those in need of services.

In other updates, Partnow said that National Grid is continuing infrastructure work that began last year on Avenue U by Lowe's, which will increase traffic throughout March, a new traffic light will be installed on East 59th Street and Avenue J, and there will be a redesign of Hickman Playground on Veterans Avenue and East 66th Street.

She also asked residents to give CB 18 a 60-day notice before having a block party and to apply online for the limited number of remaining permits, but at least 50% of the block must agree to it first.

Curiale advised residents to call 311 to establish a timeline record of complaints about buckling sidewalks and to take photographs to protect from liability issues. He also advised residents not to give money or anything from their houses to migrants who come ringing their doorbells because to do so would encourage more to come.

Information for the new Sector C NCOs Liliana Cruz and Edwin Cruz is as follows: [Liliana.Cruz2@nypd.org](mailto:Liliana.Cruz2@nypd.org), 917-318-3728, and [Edwin.Cruz5@nypd.org](mailto:Edwin.Cruz5@nypd.org), 917-698-3462. They currently work from Tuesday to Saturday, 1-9 p.m.

Civic members suggested various fundraisers, a talent show and a 50/50 raffle at their next meeting to raise funds for the Explorers. "Let's hear it for helping our kids," Curiale shouted.

Staff from Williams' and Narcisse's office spoke about available resources, Lydia Kirchner (aka QT the Clown) let everyone know that she will be unavailable for events after April 19th due to knee surgery, and Curiale said there will be an installation of new officers for the Mill Basin Civic in late April or May at Glen Terrace. Mill Basin Civic meets on the second Tuesday of each month.




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## Fact Sheet

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has received a Brownfield Cleanup Program (BCP) application and Draft Remedial Investigation Work Plan from SPEQ88 LLC for a site known as 749 Van Sinderen Avenue, Brooklyn, NY, site ID #C224405. This site is located in the Borough of Brooklyn, within the County of Kings, and is located at 749 Van Sinderen Avenue. Comments regarding this application must be submitted no later than April 20, 2024. Access the application and other relevant documents online through the DECinfo Locator:

<https://www.dec.ny.gov/data/DecDocs/C224405/>. The documents also are available at the document repositories located at the Brooklyn Public Library New Lots Branch, 665 New Lots Avenue at Barbey Street, Brooklyn, NY, 11207; and at the Brooklyn Community Board 5, 127 Pennsylvania Avenue, 2nd Floor, Brooklyn, NY, 11207. Information regarding the site and how to submit comments can be found at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/60058.html> or send comments to Patrick Powers, Project Manager, 625 Broadway, 12th Floor, Albany, NY, 12233-7016; at [patrick.powers@dec.ny.gov](mailto:patrick.powers@dec.ny.gov); or call (518) 402-9758.

To have information such as this notice sent right to your email, sign up with county email listservs available at <https://nydecprod.prod.acquia-sites.com/environmental-protection/site-cleanup/regional-remediation-project-information/environmental-cleanup-email-newsletters>.



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## South Brooklyn Republicans Rally with Assemblywoman Williams on Key Community Issues

By Robert Pearl

Amid a torrential downpour, concerned citizens packed the Knights of Columbus, at 3052 Nostrand Avenue, for the South Brooklyn Republican Club meeting on Wednesday, March 6th, eager to hear from special guest speaker Assemblywoman Jaime Williams, a Democrat who serves her district working in a bipartisan manner with Republicans.

Councilwoman Inna Vernikov emphasized the importance of bipartisan collaboration, acknowledging Williams as a dedicated colleague in government, even across party lines. She echoed the sentiment of Richard Barsamian, the GOP Brooklyn Chairman, who stressed the significance of having members from both sides of the aisle who unite on matters impactful to the community, garnering applause in agreement.

Williams, upon her return from Albany, first made her routine visit to Floyd Bennett Field (FBF) before attending the meeting. She spoke about flooding issues at the FBF migrant shelter, affecting migrants' access to tents, and expressed her advocacy for shutting down the facility, citing a pending lawsuit and

the crucial support of Councilwoman Vernikov. Since the meeting, the court case was dismissed (see *"Judge Dismisses Floyd Bennett Field Lawsuit to the Surprise of Elected Officials,"* page 14).

She also addressed concerns about migrants encroaching on neighborhoods, highlighting the lack of infrastructure and the absence of a decision on the facility's construction before their arrival. She acknowledged constituents' complaints about migrants walking around their neighborhoods – from Mill Basin to Gerritsen Beach – knocking on doors, soliciting and panhandling.

Williams emphasized the community-centric approach to politics in Southeast Brooklyn, distinguishing it from other regions. She decried legislation against the NYPD, advocating for law enforcement and condemning reckless measures that undermine their effectiveness.

Discussing recently passed legislation in Corrections (Intro 549-A), Williams criticized its impact on crime rates, calling for a reevaluation of the values it promotes. She echoed sentiments from guest Herman Jiminian, President of the Correction Officers Benevolent Association, regarding the enabling of criminals.

She passionately addressed the alarming antisemitic incidents at Origins High School, condemning the reckless trend of students dressing as Hitler and verbally abusing others, including teachers who should not fear going to school. On the emerging antisemitic incidents in Origins, she said, "If this story did not break, it would have been swept under the rug," firmly declaring that antisemitism will not be tolerated, whatsoever.

The assemblywoman touched upon the recent transfer of migrants during a Nor'easter storm to James

Madison High School, underscoring the lack of planning and its disruptive consequences. She also scrutinized the City of Yes proposals, expressing concern over changes to residential neighborhoods, by doing away with old zoning laws, saying that these elected officials feel that one- and two- family homes should not exist.

Highlighting the importance of community unity, Williams urged attendees to set aside politics and blame, focusing on shared goals. She denounced constant pressure and criticism, asserting her commitment to standing up for what is right. Drawing parallels with states like Arizona, Texas and New Jersey, she emphasized the simplicity of the solution to the border crisis is "not rocket science" but something the federal government refuses to do – close the border! The meeting concluded with a sense of shared purpose and a call for community-driven solutions.



Officers of the South Brooklyn Republican Club with Councilwoman Inna Vernikov and Assemblywoman Jaime Williams (both pictured center)



Assemblywoman Jaime Williams

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## Food Pantry Versus Local Community

By Bristol Hendrix

For years, Children of the Light Food Pantry, located at 1171 East 95th Street, has served the community as a place where hundreds of thousands of people can come for free food, no questions asked. However, while they provide food for residents and nonresidents of Canarsie, the work they are doing prevents those who live on East 95th Street, between Flatlands Avenue and Avenue J, to live comfortably.

The *Canarsie Courier* spoke with several homeowners on the mostly residential block who said that since the pantry opened, parking has been a nightmare, and they must plan the days and times they go out because they can't find a parking spot.

Residents also say the streets haven't been swept for years because the pantry blocks off the road on street cleaning days. In addition to the pantry blocking off the roadway, the fence supply store at the corner of Flatlands Avenue and East 95th Street also takes up a majority of parking spaces and roadway – this leaves no space for the city to properly sweep the streets.

"The pantry gets deliveries at late night hours, and we can't sleep," one neighbor told the *Canarsie Courier*. "There is no set time when deliveries happen, and the drivers block the roadway day and night to drop off the food."

Residents say they've raised these issues at community meetings, but nothing has been done. Residents living on the south end of East 95th Street, closer to Avenue J, told the *Canarsie Courier* that sometimes pantry guests leave their empty boxes at the end of the street. They also urinate in front of their homes and lean against their fences. The pantry does provide porta-potties, but it's not clear at this time if they are being used.

Homeowners are worried that these occurrences will



Children of the Light Food Pantry at 1171 East 95th Street

bring down property values and ultimately make their homes less appealing to potential buyers and investors. One of the weekend staff members informed the *Canarsie Courier* that the pantry does clean up after each service session and asks patrons not to loiter in front of residents' homes. He said they feed 100,000 people each month, with people coming from New Jersey, The Bronx and Long Island to get food.

Across the country, there has been a spike in food pantry use by Americans, and that is no different for Canarsie and Brooklyn residents. The Robin Hood Foundation published findings from their "Poverty Tracker," which revealed that since the pandemic, food pantry use increased by 30% among U.S. citizens and 80% among non-U.S. citizens.

Food pantries are now a necessary part of many Brooklynites' means to supplement their monthly groceries. Food insecurity is growing as inflation goes up, with grocery prices rising by 25%, according to the *Washington Post*. Here in Canarsie, small grocery stores have higher food prices than branded stores like



Food deliveries block the roadway.

Aldi, Trader Joe's and Target.

The *Canarsie Courier* visited the pantry and spoke to clients from all parts of Brooklyn as well as Canarsie. Sheila, who lives in the East 100s, says she never has a problem getting food from the pantry and

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she comes every week; she just has to come early. Other Canarsie residents who wish to remain anonymous, but live in the East 90s, say they do get food, but the pantry staff are sometimes rude and treat them poorly. Overall, there were mixed reviews from pantry visitors; many felt they were doing a great job while others thought they could be doing better.

The *Canarsie Courier* reached out to Brooklyn Borough President Antonio Reynoso to see what the residents of East 95th Street could do to have more access to their roadway. As of press time, the *Courier* did not receive a response.

There are several pantries in the area that need more awareness and could

possibly help alleviate the massive number of people who go to the pantry on East 95th Street.

I.S. 285 Meyer Levin, located at 5809 Beverley Road, at Ralph Avenue, has a pantry open to the public, Monday to Friday, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Principal Hendrickson says the pantry was established in Fall 2023, and they need more people to be aware of the free service they are providing for the community.

P.S. 268, located at 133 East 53rd Street, has a pantry that is open on Tuesdays and Fridays at 2 p.m. The Canarsie Merchants Association also distributes free food every Wednesday, between 12 and 2 p.m., weather permitting, in front of Capital One Bank, located at 1425 Rockaway Parkway.



People waiting on line at the food pantry.



I.S. 285 Meyer Levin food pantry

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## Judge Dismisses Floyd Bennett Field Lawsuit to the Surprise of Elected Officials

By Loretta Chin

A Kings County judge quietly dismissed a lawsuit raised by a bipartisan team of elected officials, civic leaders and residents to close a migrant tent shelter at Floyd Bennett Field that has housed approximately 2,000 asylum seekers since November.

The case, Jaime Williams vs. The State of New York, was dismissed by Judge Peter Paul Sweeney on March 6th without notifying the public, and it was the *Canarsie Courier* that uncovered the dismissal and broke the news to elected officials on March 13th.

An injunction that was filed last fall to halt the building of the migrant camp at Floyd Bennett Field had been moved from Staten Island to federal and finally a Brooklyn court. The case was heard in February, and the *Canarsie Courier* inquired about its status at a Mill Basin Civic Association meeting held on the evening of March 12th, where a representative

from Assemblywoman Jaime Williams' office said there was no information available at the time.

Inquiries were made to both Williams' and Councilwoman Joann Ariola's offices the next day to confirm information the *Canarsie Courier* discovered on the New York State Unified Court System website that appeared to show the disposition of the case on March 6th.

Communications Director Ray Vann from Ariola's office confirmed the information, which neither Williams nor Ariola were aware of until the *Courier's* phone call and email on March 13th. Although there was mention of a memorandum in the court record, there was no connecting link for the decision on the court website.

Williams and Ariola then issued an immediate joint statement expressing their extreme disappointment and disgust that the judge dismissed the case without notifying either party or the public.

"We ask that Judge Sweeney publish the memorandum explaining exactly why he has decided this way, and we will continue to do what we can to push for an immediate closure of the tent complex at Floyd Bennett Field," Ariola said.

Williams was appalled by the decision. "We would love to know why he feels it is prudent to place 2,000 human beings in a flood zone in the middle of a

National Recreation Area," she said. "This is a disgrace and an insult to every taxpaying citizen [who] resides in the area around Floyd Bennett Field and a disservice to the people who are being forced to live in this compound."

The *Canarsie Courier* reached out to Councilwoman Mercedes Narcisse, whose 46th Council District covers the Southeast Brooklyn neighborhoods most affected by the case, for her reaction to the decision and joint statement. She released the following additional statement on March 14th:

"Last week's court decision regarding the use of Floyd Bennett Field to house migrant families highlights the pressing need for a coordinated, multi-level government intervention. We must focus on comprehensive solutions that address the continued arrival of migrants, reform our immigration policies and ensure that the families already housed at the site don't continue to languish at the ill-suited location without the prospect of becoming productive members of society."

Subsequently, the "DECISION + ORDER OF MOTION" filed March 8th was received and entered as a "NOTICE OF ENTRY" on the court website on March 14th, rendering the decision public.

The conclusion of the 35-page decision cited that "The court, having considered the parties remaining contentions, finds them unavailing" based on lack of standing, failure to meet a "threshold burden of establishing that they suffered injury-in-fact" and other burdens of proof or validations of arguments put forth by the plaintiffs.

All three elected officials recently toured the Floyd Bennett Field migrant camp on February 1st (see "*Canarsie Courier Exclusive! — Pols Meet with Migrants During Tour at Floyd Bennett Field*," *Canarsie Courier*, February 8, 2024).



Councilwomen Mercedes Narcisse and Joann Ariola, and Assemblywoman Jaime Williams and staff, at Floyd Bennett Field on February 1st to tour the facilities and meet with migrants.



Floyd Bennett Field's first migrant tents from October 2023; additional tents have since been added.

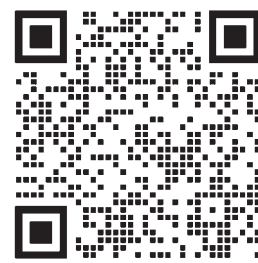


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Notice of Formation of 1896 EAST 4TH STREET, LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 02/15/24. Office location: Kings County. Princ. office of LLC: 901 Ave. K, Brooklyn, NY 11230. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Philip J. Michaels, c/o Norton Rose Fulbright US LLP, 1301 Ave. of the Americas, NY, NY 10019. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

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## KINGS COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

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Notice of Formation of And SMWHR. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 02/20/2024. 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 Jessica Palmer: 367 St Marks Ave PMB1129, Brooklyn, New York 11238, US. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

## KINGS COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of 5819 FIVE STAR BARBER SHOP LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 02/26/2024. 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 JOWEL MARTINEZ: 5819 4TH AVE, BROOKLYN, N.Y. 11220. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

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2 family, semi detached, brick & frame, 6 BRS, 2 1/2 bathrooms, basement has 2 BRs, with stand up shower. Vacant. \$1.1 million

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## THIS WEEKEND'S OPEN HOUSES

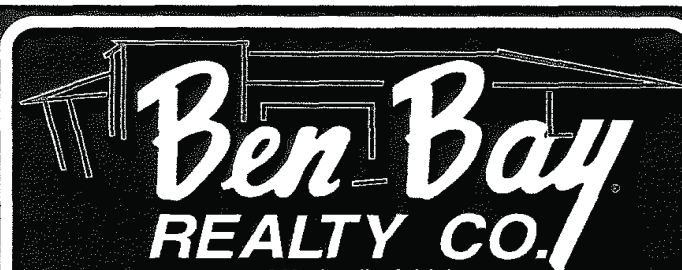
### OPEN HOUSE

**Saturday 1-3 PM**  
**105-67 Flatlands 7th Street**

**Canarsie:** Detached 2 Family split with cathedral ceilings on 41 X 100, 3 BR, 2 baths over 1 BR apartment. Delivered vacant. Asking \$1,095,000.

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## ATTENTION FREELANCE PHOTOGRAPHERS!

Got an eye for photography? The Canarsie Courier is looking for photographers to cover various events in our community during weekends and weeknights. Professional equipment is helpful, but not necessary. If you have samples, please e-mail links of your work, along with your resume, if available, to: CanarsieC@aol.com.



## FREELANCE WRITERS WANTED!!!

We are looking for **EXPERIENCED WRITERS** to cover meetings, events and human interest stories in Canarsie and surrounding areas!

**Please send your résumé with writing samples to:**

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**Editorial Department**  
**1142 East 92nd Street**  
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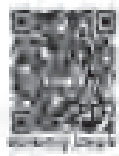
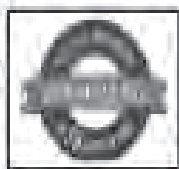
# ACTION CLASSIFIED

**"All real estate advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation, or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make such preference, limitation or discrimination. We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal, opportunity basis."**

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- **EAST NY, BK** | Sat. 3/23 & Sun. 3/24, 1-2PM | 200 Cozine Ave. Unit# 9F (Bet. Vermont & Van Siclen)
- **BENSONHURST, BK** | Sat. 3/23, 2-3PM & Sun. 3/24, 3-4PM | 6810 20th Ave (Bet. Bay Ridge & 68th St)
- **EAST FLATBUSH, BK** | Sun. 3/24, 12-1PM | 733 East 48th St
- **CROWN HEIGHTS, BK** | Sat. 3/23, 1-2PM & Sun. 3/24, 2-3PM | 910 Park Pl. Unit 1A 1B (Bet. Park Pl & New York Ave)
- **CROWNHEIGHTS, BK** | Sat. 3/23, 2-3PM & Sun. 3/24, 1-2PM | 125 Rogers Ave (Bet. St Marks & Sterling Pl.)
- **MARINE PARK, BK** | 2023 Kimball Street (Bet. Ave T & S)
- **ELMHURST, QNS** | Sun. 3/24, 3-4PM | 40-12 73rd St



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## ROOMS FOR RENT

### Canarsie/Seaview/N:

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 rooms for Rent  
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**(646) 420-7401**

Canarsie: Large furnished, living room, dining room, free WIFI, no pets/smoking, \$1,300. Broker (917) 371-7384

OMB: Furnished, share kitchen/bath, no pets/smoking, \$1,000. Broker (917) 371-7384

Canarsie: Furnished, share bath, no pets/smoking, w/balcony, \$325 weekly. (347) 644-7635

ENY: Furnished, share kitchen/bath, all new & modern, everything included, Available Immediately. Beverly Branche Broker (929) 855-7576

Flatbush/ENY: Furnished, share kitchen/bath, \$650 monthly, close to all transportation, no smoking/pets. MP Realty (646) 474-6640

Canarsie: Small furnished, share kitchen/bath, no pets, \$700 monthly. (718) 360-6592

Mill Basin: Furnished, share kitchen/bath, no smoking/pets, \$275 weekly. (646) 610-0823; (646) 327-8921

Canarsie: Unfurnished, share kitchen/bath, no pets/smoking, near all. (917) 932-7398

E 83/Ave L & M: XXX Large Furnished, parquet floor, mint condition, \$1,050. Broker (646) 515-4794

OMB: Furnished, share kitchen/bath, no pets/smoking, utilities included. Owner (347) 453-7962; (347) 742-9828

E Flatbush: Furnished, share kitchen/bath, no pets/smoking, \$1,100. Broker (646) 404-2306

E Flatbush/Canarsie: Unfurnished, share kitchen/bath, close to all transportation, newly renovated, no smoking/pets, \$225 weekly or \$925 monthly. M P Realty - Leonard (646) 474-6640

Canarsie: Furnished, share kitchen/bath, no pets/smoking, near transportation/shopping. (917) 716-7080

## ROOMS FOR RENT

Canarsie: Unfurnished, share kitchen/bath, no pets/smoking, near transportation/shopping, \$950. (917) 538-4824

Crown Heights: Large Furnished, no smoking/pets, share kitchen/bath, near transportation, \$250 weekly. (718) 781-7852

Canarsie: Small unfurnished, share kitchen/bath, no smoking/pets, share living space, \$1,000 monthly. (516) 369-9797

Spring Creek: Unfurnished, share kitchen, private bath, no smoking/pets, \$1,000. (646) 361-6021; (917) 470-0222

E Flatbush: Unfurnished, share kitchen/bath, \$1,000 monthly. Exit All Seasons RE (347) 782-8571

Canarsie: Furnished, share kitchen/bath, no pets/smoking, \$1,100 monthly. Waite & Associates Realty (347) 433-7538

Nostrand Ave/Martense: Furnished, share kitchen/bath, no pets/smoking, \$1,400 monthly. (845) 326-6795 (929) 322-3393

## Exercise Your Brain.



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## UNFURNISHED APT

### Flatlands/Utica/Ave N Area

3 rooms, 1 BR, new kitchen  
 cabinets, new appliances,  
 ceramic floor, new tile bath, 2  
 Family vacant home, \$1,950.

**Owner  
 (917) 362-9505**

Canarsie/Brook Club Condo: Studio,  
 \$1,650, utilities not included. C- 21  
 Achievers (718) 251-6551

E37/ Farragut Road: Unfurnished,  
 WALK IN STUDIO, \$1,200 gas &  
 electric included, near buses, B6,  
 B8, B44, near trains, #2 & #5. Curtis  
 Chance Realty (718) 859-7300 (917)  
 679-3017

Flatlands Area: Spacious 1 BR, \$1,500  
 monthly, everything included. (718)  
 421-0190

Canarsie: 1 BR, living room, dining  
 room, eat in kitchen, hardwood floors,  
 \$2,000 monthly. Call or text (917)  
 364-4965

Canarsie: 2 BRs, 1st floor, newly  
 renovated, new bathroom/kitchen/  
 windows, HWF's, near transportation/  
 shopping. Text (347) 743-5089

E Flatbush/ Maple St: Newly reno-  
 vated 2 BRs, new appliances, HWFS,  
 EIK, Available Immediately, \$2,200,  
 Must See! Beverly Branche Broker  
 (929) 855-7576

Flatbush/Ave I: 2 BRs in elevated  
 building, EIK, lots of closets, near  
 Brooklyn College, \$2,500, near B41,  
 #2 & #5 trains. Curtis Chance Realty  
 (718) 859-7300 (917) 679-3017

Georgetown/E 73: Newly renovated 2  
 BRs, SS appliances, HWFS, near all.  
 Broker (347) 351-4090

Albany/Linden Blvd: SPACIOUS 2  
 BRs, large living room, hardwood  
 floors, lots of closets, close to trans-  
 portation, near B35, B46, B12 buses,  
 #2 & #5 trains, \$2,100. Curtis Chance  
 Realty (718) 859-7300 (917) 679-  
 3017

Canarsie/E98: Newly renovated X-  
 large 2 BRs, upper Level, front porch,  
 convenient to all, \$2,500. Broker  
 (347) 938-0850

E Flatbush: 2 BRs, 1 bath, near trans-  
 portation/shopping. (Text) 347-721-  
 6873

Flatbush/D: X- LARGE, completely  
 renovated 2 1/2 BRs, large LR, dining  
 area, HWF's, new appliances, EIK,  
 \$2,400, near B41, B8, #2 & #5, B.Q.  
 Curtis Chance Realty (718) 859-7300  
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Canarsie/Ave A/E95: Large 2 bed-  
 room on the 3rd floor. Huge bedrooms,  
 formal living room, hardwood floors  
 throughout. Close to schools, parks  
 and shopping. (347) 450-8605

OMB: Large 3 BRs, very good condi-  
 tion, no smoking/pets, \$2,900. Broker  
 (917) 371-7384

Canarsie: 3 BR, 2 bathrooms, eat in  
 kitchen, living room, dining room, ap-  
 pliances, hardwood floors, Available  
 at once. \$2,950. Call or Text (917)  
 364-4965

## UNFURNISHED APT

E Flatbush: 3 BRs, near transportation/  
 Hospital, Quiet street, no smoking/  
 pets, NO BROKERS! (917) 558-5713

Georgetown/Bergen Beach: Newly  
 renovated 3 BRs, 1 1/2 bath, with ter-  
 race, Move In Condition, \$2,800. Bro-  
 ker (917) 541-3679

Georgetown: 3 BR, 1 1/2 bath, split  
 level, HWFS, \$2,800. LJ Estates (917)  
 294-0612

Old Mill Basin/Ave K: Newly reno-  
 vated 3 BRs, 2 baths, large living  
 room, dining area, recessed ceiling  
 lights, central AC, hardwood floors,  
 lots of closets, use of back porch/back-  
 yard, \$3,000 neg., near buses, B46,  
 B82, B6. Curtis Chance Realty (718)  
 859-7300 (917) 679-3017

Flatlands Area/Ave I: 4 BRs, 2nd floor,  
 close to Brooklyn College, Medgar  
 Evans College, Kingsbrook Commu-  
 nity College, #2 & #5 trains. ABC Re-  
 alty (347) 499-5278

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