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Erin Go Bragh!



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Canarsie Courier

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Why Local News Matters

By Jibreel Jalloh

Ever feel lost in the national news cycle? Headlines flash by, leaving you clueless about what's happening right here in your community. That's where the *Canarsie Courier* comes in – your onestop shop for local news that matters.

Forget generic headlines and the constant flow of breaking news – the *Courier* reports on stories that impact you. They interview the parents, teachers and neighbors you might even know. They bring the facts so you'll have a better understanding of the issues and, most importantly, be part of the solution.

Here's the truth: strong local news is pivotal to a healthy community. It keeps folks informed about things that directly impact their life – from school board decisions to precinct council meetings. Without the *Courier*, we'd be flying blind, making it difficult to know what's happening at the local level week to week.

The Canarsie Courier isn't just a news source – it's a community champion. It's the voice of Canarsie, giving a platform to local businesses, events and the people who make our community special.

Imagine a Canarsie without the *Courier's* coverage of that amazing block party or the insightful interview with that inspiring resident?

Local news is under threat, but here's the good news: you can help! Supporting the *Canarsie Courier* is easier than you think. Here's how you can be a hero for local journalism:

- Subscribe! Every subscription, print or digital, makes a difference. A thriving *Canarsie Courier* benefits everyone.
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The *Canarsie Courier* has been in existence for over a century, keeping our community informed and connected. Let's work together to ensure it thrives for another hundred years. Let's keep Canarsie bright, informed and a place where everyone feels heard. Support the *Canarsie Courier*.

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 or send him an email at team@theflossy.org.

Parks, Streets and Websites Discussed at Community Board Meeting

By Linda Steinmuller

A renovated playground, a new website and a street co-naming were all approved by members of Community Board 18 (CB18) at its March 20th meeting.

Hickman Playground, located on Avenue N, between East 66th and East 68th Streets, will get a \$3.5 million makeover, which the board voted in favor of after a presentation was made by NYC Parks Landscape Architect Jacob Glazer. Suggestions from a recent community input session were also included in the plans.

The design phase of the project should be completed by May 2025. Glazer said the park, which has not been renovated in 25 years, will have new playground equipment, increased security, upgraded amenities and additional trees to provide much-needed shade.

One of the park's entrances, on East 68th Street, will be moved to the corner, where it is closer to a crossing guard. The 2- to 5-year-old play area will feature four bucket seats, a companion ADA swing and a "Tot" table where kids can sit. The 5- to 12-year-olds will enjoy a cable and rope play area and monkey bars, and a spray play area will be situated in between the two play areas.

Parks Committee Chairperson Nancy Walby was in favor of the plan, with three conditions: 1) change the color scheme of the playground equipment from blue and orange to dark blue and light blue, 2) remove design features that could be potential tripping hazards, especially for adults and 3) modify the playground equipment to make it more transparent from a distance to eliminate potential biding spots

Although everyone was in agreement that CB18's website could use some revamping, there was a lengthy discussion on the subject

at last week's meeting.

CB18 Treasurer David Price believes that updated technology will better engage our youth and the public at large and also provide "education and awareness as to who we are, what we do and what services we have." He said that the Budget Committee met with several vendors to overhaul CB18's communications in terms of social media presence, email news blasts and website upgrades.

Dashuan Simmons, the vendor that was recommended, provided a presentation, along with two other members of his team, on his company's proposal to redesign CB18's website.

The development of a new website would cost \$15,000, and Price confirmed that the amount will not exhaust their funds, as CB18 presently has an overage of about \$24,000. Plus, the funds must be used by June 30th or forfeited.

In addition to the cost of website development, there would be a fixed fee for a maintenance agreement. When questioned further by several board members, the team could not provide an estimate for the annual fee, citing the fact that it depends on what the board wants going forward.

Some concerns were expressed and a motion was made to table the proposal until the following month. That motion was not approved and ultimately another vote was taken and approved to go ahead with the proposal.

A Mill Basin toddler was brutally beaten and murdered by someone who was entrusted to care for him. To honor the 2-year-old boy, the board approved a request by his family to co-name the intersection of Avenue U and East 68th Street "Nasir Carter Parris Way."

The street sign will not only serve as both a tribute to the young boy but also as a symbol for community awareness and the prevention of child abuse.

In CB18 District Manager Sue Ann Partnow's monthly report, she shared that South Brooklyn Health (formerly Coney Island Hospital) held a Legislative Forum where a future look at the expansion of the hospital was presented, and it is "very impressive."

As the commanding officers of NYPD police precincts rotate approximately every two years, Partnow was part of the interview process to select a new commanding officer for the 63rd Precinct to replace Deputy Inspector Rachael Kosak. Two captains from other precincts were interviewed, but a decision has not been released yet.

In park news, Amersfort Park and Remsen Park drainage issues are being addressed, and ideas to stop double parking and triple parking in Canarsie Park are being explored, Partnow said.

Traffic lights and/or multiple stop signs have been approved for installations at the following locations: Avenue J and East 59th Street, Avenue P and Hendrickson Street, Avenue I and East 51st Street, and Avenue M and East 52nd Street.

The Office of Cannabis Management (OCM) is investigating smoke shops that are selling cannabis illegally, and the CB18 office has received several complaints from residents that were sent to OCM. Currently, there is only one store in Brooklyn, located on Coney Island Avenue, with a cannabis license, and that is not our district, Partnow explained.

The next meeting of CB18 will take place at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, April 24th, at 1097 Bergen Avenue, as well as virtually.

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East Flatbush

Teen Shot to Death in Alley of Apartment Building

By Lloyd Mitchell

The NYPD is searching for the gunman who fatally shot a teenager on Sunday, March 24th.

Officers from the 67th Precinct found Bryan Henriquez, 17, of Flatbush, suffering from gunshot wounds to the neck and torso in the rear of 256 East 37th Street, an apartment building located between Snyder and Church Avenues, around 7:45 p.m.

EMS rushed the victim to Kings County Hospital where he was pronounced dead.

There are no arrests, 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/, or on Twitter @NYPDTips. All calls are strictly confidential.





Bling Bishop Convicted of Fraud and Extortion

By Linda Steinmuller

Following a two-week trial, a unanimous jury convicted a Canarsie preacher on two counts of wire fraud, one count of attempted wire fraud, one count of attempted extortion and one count of making false statements to federal law enforcement agents, according to a March 12th press release issued by the U.S. Attorney's Office, Southern District of New York.

When sentenced, Bishop Lamor Whitehead, 45, who led Leaders of Tomorrow International Ministries, at 922 Remsen Avenue, could face a maximum sentence of 20 years in prison for each of the fraud and extortion charges and a maximum of five years in prison for making false statements.

Whitehead, who was arrested in December 2022, pleaded not guilty in federal court and was released on a \$500,000 bond. This came a few months after he was robbed at gunpoint during Sunday services, when three men rushed into his Canarsie church, stealing approximately \$1 million worth of jewelry.

According to the allegations in the indictment and the evidence at trial, Whitehead stole from his own parishioners, sought to defraud and extort a businessman, and committed loan fraud.

The Rolls-Royce driving preacher, who owned a \$1.6 million home in Paramus, New Jersey, induced one of his parishioners to invest approximately \$90,000 of her retirement savings with him by promising to use the money to help her buy a home. He then spent the money on luxury goods and other personal expenses and, when she demanded to be paid back, he continued to lie to avoid returning the

He extorted a businessman for \$5,000, then attempted to convince the same businessman to lend him \$500,000 and give him a stake in certain real estate transactions in return for favorable actions from Mayor Eric Adams, even though he knew he could not obtain the favors he promised.

The bishop, who wore outrageously expensive jewelry and Gucci suits, submitted a fraudulent application for a \$250,000 business loan, including doctored bank statements that falsely claimed he had millions of dollars in the bank and hundreds of thousands of dollars in monthly revenue. When speaking with FBI agents who were executing a search warrant outside his New Jersey mansion, Whitehead falsely claimed that he had no cell phones other than the phone he was carrying when, in fact, he had and regularly used a second cell phone, which was inside his house at the time.

U.S. Attorney Damian Williams said, "As a unanimous jury found, Lamor Whitehead abused the trust placed in him by a parishioner, tried to obtain a fraudulent loan using fake bank records, bullied a businessman for \$5,000, tried to defraud him out of far more than that and lied to federal agents. Whitehead's reprehensible lies and criminal conduct have caught up with him, as he now stands convicted of five federal crimes and faces time in prison."

East Flatbush

Fire Suppression Units Snub Out All Hands Fire





By Lloyd Mitchell

Firefighters quickly snubbed out a fire on the first floor of a private dwelling in East Flatbush on Palm Sunday.

Units consisting of 65 members used three hose lines to knock down the main body of fire at 298 East 54th Street, between Snyder and Church Avenues, around 1:40 pm. on Sunday, March 24th.

Firefighters were forced to break several windows to ventilate the heavy smoke conditions. After conducting a search throughout the building, it was determined that there were no trapped residents.

The fire was placed under control at 2:10 pm. The cause and origin of the blaze will be determined by the FDNY Fire Marshal's Office.





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Third Annual Urban Community Gardening Initiative Hosted by Canarsie Merchants Association

On March 13th, the Canarsie Merchants Association hosted our 3rd Annual Urban Community Gardening Initiative in collaboration with the Canarsie Civic Collective. The Gardening Initiative is a part of our greening efforts which allow us to share gardening with the community by distributing seeds, compost and potting soil at the beginning of the growing season. We began preparing the garden on March 6th, but due to the rain, we were not able to host the event.

For the past two years, on Wellness Wednesdays, we held the event in front of Capital One Bank. Every Wednesday, along with our community partners, we provide food and resources to the community. Since we began in 2022, over 300 families have received veggie and herb seeds and daffodil bulbs to participate in our annual Canarsie Daffodil Watch. To promote healthy choices and well-being in our community, we

have a weekly "Veggie of the Week," highlighting a specific vegetable and providing recipes for people to create at home. This ongoing initiative encourages our community members to make nutritious decisions and prioritize their health. We believe that everyone deserves access to fresh, healthy and locally-grown produce. That is why we set out to create a community-based initiative that would bring the farm-to-table experience right to the community.

At Capital One, we incorporated a twist into our ongoing Wellness Wednesday initiative by combining it with the gardening event. In addition to distributing food to the community, we provided ready-made bags containing veggie and herb seeds, compost and potting soil so that people could return home and create their own mini gardens. We provided the tools, resources and guidance needed to help people get started, and



we created a vibrant and supportive community where everyone could learn from each other. The community was excited to participate in this event again.

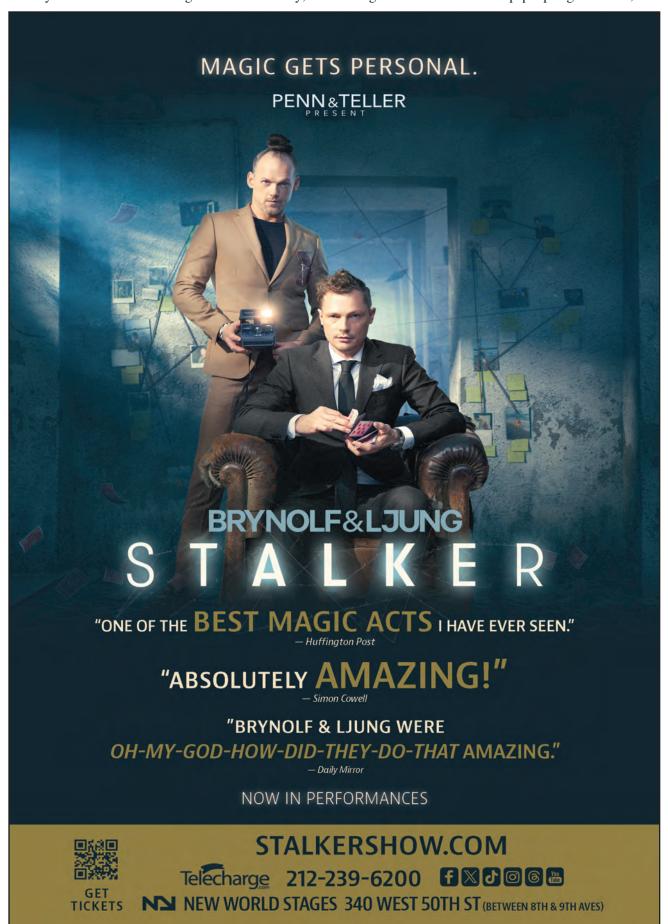
As part of our growth strategy to expand beyond our location in front of the bank, we hosted the event also at the Canarsie Neighborhood Garden. There was a fun activity of I SPY where participants could tick off each item they found as they explored. Everyone had an opportunity to explore the garden and see development that is happening right in their community. They also received their ready-made bags to start their own gardens.

There was a salad demonstration by Taylor Chambers, who showed the community you can make a simple healthy meal using the seeds provided to you. Our spring salad was a delicious mix of Brussel sprouts, bulgar, carrots, assorted sweet peppers, radish, mixed greens, assorted lettuce, sweet potato and red onion. We offered French and Caesar dressings as toppings and shopped locally at Canarsie Blend for delish banana bread, cheese rolls and the infused water with strawberry and lemon slices.

We are grateful to Floyd, Max and Ron at the Canarsie Neighborhood Garden for allowing us to host the event prior to the opening of the season on April 1st. Harold Jones, founder of CCDI, Maria at Fresh Creek Nature Preserve, Calvin at TriniJam who joined us at the Community Garden for the cleanup, our interns from Medgar Evers College and a fellow gardener, Lennox James, who assisted us at the bank to share about the importance of using compost and growing your own food. Thank you to Taylor Chambers who is also the founder of the non-profit organization Unleavened, who is our lead for the Green & Clean Team for assisting with this event. We are also grateful to Beraca Baptist Church for their dedicated volunteers who lent a helping hand in cleaning and planting the garden. We hope everyone had a wonderful time, and we look forward to seeing your gardens on social media.

Courtesy of Canarsie Merchants Association







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Changing of the Guard: Bergen Beach Civic Welcomes New President as Sal Calise Bids Farewell

By Robert Pearl

After six years of dedicated service, Sal Calise, president of the Bergen Beach Civic Association (BBCA), is passing the torch to Michael Trotta. Calise, who assumed office in May 2018, leaves behind a legacy of commitment to the safety, cleanliness and unique character of Bergen Beach.

Reflecting on his tenure at the March 12th BBCA meeting, held at the Hudson River Yacht Club, 2101 Bergen Avenue, Calise expressed pride in his efforts to fulfill residents' needs and preserve the neighborhood's identity. "I did my best to keep the neighborhood safe and clean and get the residents what their taxes pay for. I protected Bergen Beach to keep it the unique neighborhood that it is today," he stated, when asked about his service to the community.

Calise's departure from his role as president coincides

with the end of his term limit on Community Board 18 (CB18), where he served as a board member for two terms. However, he reassures the community that he will remain involved and continue to attend meetings as a Bergen Beach resident, despite stepping down from his official positions.

During the meeting, the BBCA Board conducted its official election process, unanimously approving and adopting the proposed slate of officers for the upcoming term. The transition to President-elect Trotta will be formalized at the next meeting, marking Calise's final official gathering as president.

Trotta pledges to continue the association's traditions, including the publication of *The Beachcomber*, BBCA's newsletter, which serves as a vital communication tool for residents, providing local news, updates, issues and happenings in the area.

Residents raised various community concerns, including issues with bus parking, illegal dumping and enforcement of pet regulations, emphasizing that no one should walk their dogs where "NO PETS" signs are posted, especially in parks where children play, as the Parks Department will issue summonses. Despite the challenges, the Department of Sanitation was commended for their efforts to maintain neighborhood cleanliness.

Significant progress has also been made with the cleanup along Avenue Y, and the area between Avenue Y and the Belt Parkway, though ongoing funding limitations hinder project completion of this initiative.

As Calise concludes his tenure, members and attendees extended their gratitude for his steadfast leadership and unwavering dedication to Bergen Beach's well-being. Amid the transition, they express confidence in Trotta's ability to continue advancing the community's interests.

The changing of the guard at the BBCA marks a significant moment in the neighborhood's history. With new leadership on the horizon, residents remain optimistic about the future, poised to address challenges, and embrace opportunities for growth and improvement. As stated by the BBCA, "Our voice does get heard and does carry weight," reflecting on its influence as an organization respected by the city and state.

In bidding farewell to Calise and welcoming Trotta, Bergen Beach residents affirm their commitment to preserving the spirit and vitality of their beloved community.

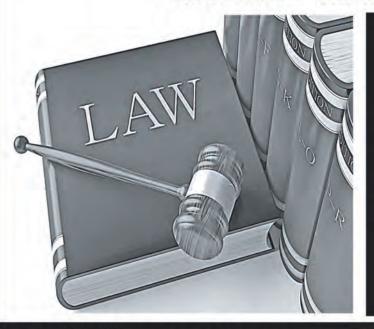
The next meeting of the BBCA will take place on Tuesday, May 14th, at the Hudson River Yacht Club. There is no meeting scheduled for April.



BBCA President Sal Calise passes gavel to Michael Trotta, incoming president.

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8 Camarsie Courier March 28, 2024

Millennium Development's Free Programs for Older Adults Prove Invaluable

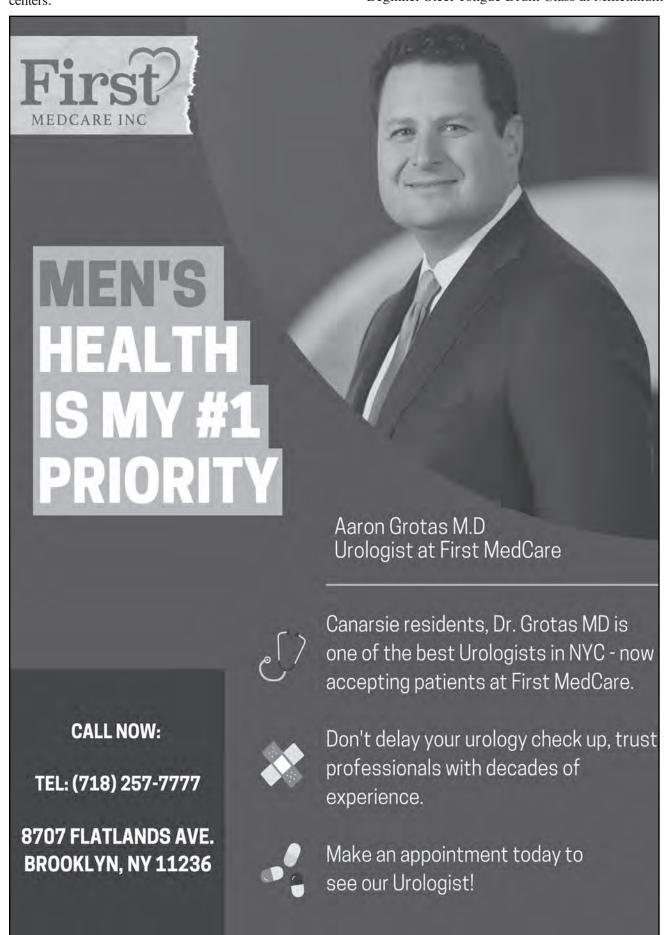
By Angela G. Nannetti

For the last 30 years, Millennium Development, a nonprofit organization headquartered in Bergen Beach, has been providing the community with a number of invaluable resources. Perhaps best known for their robust after-school and summer camp programs, the organization gives kids the opportunity to participate in sports, compete in debate championships, put on musicals, and try their hands at archery, knitting and chess, but what they offer older adults in the community is just as important.

Millennium's mission is to "enhance the community by cultivating and challenging the minds of today's youth, empowering families, encouraging, supporting the well-being of active adults, and advancing their participation in all aspects of community life." This is evident at their 12 after-school programs for youth and nine older adult centers



Beginner Steel Tongue Drum Class at Millennium Development's Penn-Wortman Older Adult Center.



At a time when seniors report feeling more lonely and isolated than ever before, Millennium Development offers free membership to programs at locations throughout Brooklyn, open to everyone age 60 and older, which include a nutritious free lunch, arts and crafts, Zumba, pickleball, yoga, chair aerobics, ping pong, billiards, holiday celebrations, field trips and, most important of all, companionship. The program, which runs Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., can be especially fulfilling for recent retirees who, after decades of adhering to a strict schedule as part of the workforce, often struggle to find a new purpose with more, unstructured free time.

to find a new purpose with more, unstructured free time. "I really miss the center," shared Maria Garcia, who can no longer attend since she moved to an assisted living facility just before the start of the pandemic. A seamstress for 40 years, she retired because her hands were too shaky to do the work anymore. "I'm a widow. I have no children; my brothers and sisters lived in different states, so it was lonely being at home. It was depressing sitting in front of the television watching soap operas and game shows all day long," Garcia said. "My hairdresser told me about Millennium Development – that her mom went there and I started going too. It gave me a reason to go out and to drive. It was nice to be around other people and try new things for a change," she said of her experience at the center.

The program for seniors has continued to expand significantly since Garcia attended and is absolutely flourishing in the hands of Millennium Development's Executive Director Paul Curiale, whom members of the community agree is truly dedicated to his work.

"I like to call him the 'everywhere man' because he's everywhere – every meeting, outing, protest," said Bergen Beach Civic Association President Sal Calise. "He is always thinking of kids and seniors and how he can improve activities for them. He really puts his heart and soul into it. He is a unique, grounded gentleman in a world of chaos, but no one can do it better than him. He makes our community a better place," he said.

That's a shining testament to the man at the helm – and the programs that are changing the lives of so many for the better.

To learn more about Millennium Development, visit milldev.org or call (718) 444-0101.

Facebook photos courtesy of Millennium Development



A computer class for older adults, just one of the many programs offered by Millennium Development.

Community Gathers to Discuss the Flatbush Avenue Bus

By Loretta Chin

A small, but impassioned group of citizens answered the call to attend a Community Meeting, held by an advocacy group to discuss issues on the Flatbush Avenue bus line, at CAMBA – P.S. 361, 1957 Nostrand Avenue, on Tuesday, March 19th.

Riders Alliance is a grassroots organizing and advocacy group that works together with bus and subway riders to create a more equitable public transit system across the city.

Bus riders on the Flatbush Avenue line and neighborhood residents were invited to the meeting to talk about the B41 bus route and how it could be improved.

After introductions by Senior Organizer Jolyce Race, Digital Strategist Derrick Holmes gave a brief presentation about the history of the city's transportation network from the 1920s to the present with a focus on Flatbush Avenue, which currently isn't working very well for anyone.

Aspects of the growth of the car industry and its related special interests have contributed to the present glut of extra cars, trucks, pedestrians, cyclists and scooters that has resulted in slower traffic and unsafe conditions on Flatbush Avenue.

According to Riders Alliance, the average speed of the B41 is 6.9 mph, and 164 people have been killed or seriously injured from 2016-2020. Transit equity also comes into consideration as demographic data has shown that 78% of Brooklyn bus riders were people of color, 67% were women and bus riders in Brooklyn earned \$43,000 per year or half the income of the average driver. Of the approximately one million people living near Flatbush Avenue, 59% don't have a car and 76% walk, bike or take transit to work.

One of the remedial efforts by the city was to implement the 2019 NYC Streets Plan, which required by law 20 to 30 miles of new bus lanes, starting in 2022, but only about five miles have been completed for 2023.

"If these are our streets, who should they be serving and what should that look like?" asked Holmes. He said it was up to them whether they should just give up, keep begging for progress or organize around the issue to hold power to account.

The purpose of the meeting was to get people to talk about how the current street design impacts their community and to imagine how to improve the situation. They discussed whether they could unlearn the idea that their street design was permanent and if they could begin to imagine a new world in which more equitable streets are possible.

One group member said that he was a driver who was willing to talk about new ways of thinking about it, but he was concerned because he also didn't want to cut out the cars.

"I can almost outrun the bus sometimes and I'm not fast," another group member said of the notoriously slow B41 bus route.

Participants had numerous complaints about changes to the street and subway designs that caused more problems than helped; long waits between buses and then having multiple buses bunch together when they do come; too many limited buses and not enough local buses; people in cars who ignore buses who honk at them; and feeling unsafe because of reckless drivers who disobey traffic rules.

Some suggestions were to put pressure on law enforcement to ticket and tow double-parked cars to improve traffic flow, enlist the City Council to put pressure on Mayor Adams to fulfill his promises and find ways to shift the culture from individualism and more toward the collective.

Another person commented that if only 20 people showed up to a meeting like this, then it would be hard to get attention from elected officials, but this was only the second meeting in the area so organizers are hoping that more people will become involved over time.

To learn more, visit Ridersalliance.org. Also see the mayor's remarks at the Better Buses for Brooklyn Rally with the Riders Alliance held in the summer of 2022 at youtube.com/watch?v=kJFYH3t0FII.



Riders Alliance Jolyce Race, Derrick Holmes and Caitlin Pearce are joined by community members.

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P.S. 236 Takes a Field Trip to the Canarsie Courier Office

By Linda Steinmuller

A group of young journalists paid a visit to the Canarsie Courier on Thursday, March 21st, to learn about a day in the life of a local newspaper and to share their experiences as part of their school's newspaper club.

Seven students (4th and 5th graders) from P.S. 236 Mill Basin School are members of the P.S. 236 Newspaper Club, which meets weekly on Friday mornings to produce their online newspaper, The P.S. 236 Times. The reporters focus on school-related activities, writing articles on everything from sports and spelling

bees, to school shows and toy drives.

Accompanied by Teacher and Newspaper Club Editor Suzy Ojalvo and one parent, these industrious students came prepared, wearing their official press passes and armed with reporter notebooks and pencils. And like all good reporters, they came with inquisitive minds and lots of

Stay tuned - you may see one of the talented reporter's articles in an upcoming issue of the Canarsie Courier.

P.S. 236 is located at 6302 Avenue U in Mill Basin.

Photo courtesy of P.S. 236



Newspaper Club students Ben M., Darla P., Isaac B., Ian P., Charlotte P., Joseph F.





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Sheepshead Bay

World Water Day Cleanup at Plumb Beach

By Brian Moreno

It's time for spring cleaning at Plumb Beach!

Jamaica Bay-Rockaway Parks Conservancy (JBRPC), along with a group of volunteers, gathered at the site, on Saturday, March 16th, in honor of World Water Day, to clean up Plumb Beach and restore it to its pristine form.

World Water Day is an annual United Nations-designated day observed in March, which focuses on the importance of fresh water and prompts the manageable usage of sustainable freshwater resources.

The team painted over the unsightly graffiti-filled historic Plumb Beach roundhouse and removed debris from the shoreline, marsh and greenway that runs along the Belt Parkway.

The event is supported by the National Park Service and Assemblywoman Jaime Williams, who stopped by and helped with the cleanup.

Residents, including Girl Scout members, from Canarsie to Bay Ridge, pitched in to help.



Plumb Beach roundhouse before the cleanup.

"It feels nice. You're helping the environment and getting rid of the pollution that's on the beach. That's my Silver Award Project," said Girl Scout Jaethea Jackson. "A lot of pollution is sent to the sea, and I felt bad for the sea animals, since most of them are dying because of that, so I wanted to help out."

"Today was a lovely day. It was our first cleanup since our original first cleanup for the year got canceled, but today was better weather, and we got a huge turnout," said Anil Pasram, stewardship coordinator for JBRPC. "We got a lot done; we repainted the Plumb Beach roundhouse and had volunteers on the greenway and the shoreline.

JBRPC is holding a Floyd Bennett Field! Public Arts Festival from April 19th to April 21st, in celebration of Floyd Bennett's rich history and future. The event will also feature site-specific digital art works projection - mapped onto the façade of two historic hangars.



Plumb Beach roundhouse after the cleanup.



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Marine Park

March "Mathness" Family Fun Night

Kerri Moser hosted a Pi Competition and a Family Fun Night on Friday, March 15th, in the school's gym, at 1925 Stuart Street.

Family Fun Night team members and Assistant Principal Laura Scarfogliero created an exciting event that sparked everyone's interest in Math. Algebra teacher, Ms. Wolf, organized a Pi Contest where an 8th grade student, Benjamin Xie, recited 900 digits of Pi.

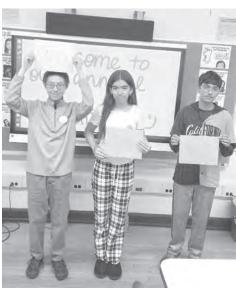
Staff, students, family and community members engaged in a night of Mathematics fun! Many interactive activity stations were spaced out around the school gym. The event aimed to increase a shared understanding of Middle School Mathematics concepts and raised expectations for Math knowledge. The March Mathness Family Fun Night activities included a Math Scavenger Hunt station, Escape Room station, Pi station, Geo Caching station, March Mathness Basketball contest station, Curriculum support, Gaming sta-

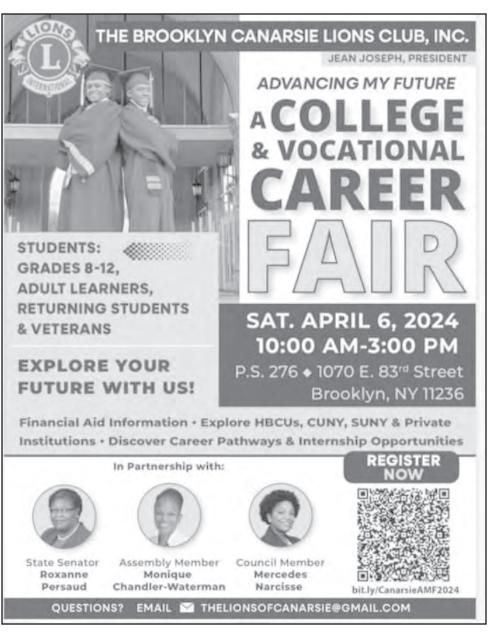


Marine Park JHS 278 and Principal tion, STEM project design, Book raffle and Estimation station. Attendees showcased their skills and won prizes. Our March Mathness event helped promote success in Math at home and at school.

> A big thank you to our MPJHS Community! March Mathness Family Fun Night Team Members and volunteers included: Ms. Esposito, Ms. Bianco, Ms. Wahl, Mr. Thuilot, Ms. Renna, Ms. Ferguson, Ms. Ayesha, Ms. Flynn, Ms. Desena, Ms. Alicheva, Ms. Gumbs, Ms. Weisberg, Mr. Chen, Ms. Kieran, Ms. Barr, AP DeGrotta, AP Cucos, AP Scarfogliero and AP Pistikos.

Courtesy of Marine Park JHS 278





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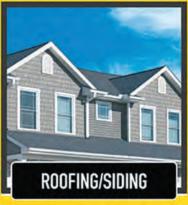
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Marine Park

Irish Women Celebrated for Women's History Month and St. Patrick's Day

By Loretta Chin

On a cold and rainy afternoon, reminiscent to some of the weather in Ireland, a stalwart and determined crowd assembled in the Carmine Carro Center, at 3000 Fillmore Avenue, to celebrate both St. Patrick's Day and Women's History Month in a captivating presentation worth coming out for on Saturday afternoon, March 23rd.

The Marine Park Alliance (MPA) hosted and named the event Erin Go Bragh, which means "Ireland Forever." It was just the beginning of many bits of information about Ireland, aka the "Emerald Isle," that MPA volunteer Kristy Di Cario shared that day.

Di Cario spoke of several women of Irish descent throughout history and of their land of origin to the shores of America, recognizing their famous and not so familiar achievements in an educational slideshow presentation. The program was rounded out by some entertaining trivia and traditional Irish step dance performances by the O'Malley Irish Dance Academy.

"We are honoring Irish women this month," Maureen O'Malley-Byrnes, director of the dance academy, said. "We have the hardest working population of Irish women on the planet right here, and you're going to see a whole lot of it today." She said that for March alone, this would be their 33rd performance.

A great time was had by all as guests were invited to join the dancers on the floor for a traditional Irish quick step dance lesson, which turned out surprisingly well after a few instructions were given and the music set them in motion.

This year, MPA Chair Maria Carro-D'Alessandro presented a bouquet of flowers and the Rose Marie Carro Woman of the Year Award, named in honor of her mom, to Gail Kroog Sullivan, Founder and Director of The Brooklyn Dance Center and Ensemble.

Sullivan was recognized for her outstanding community service through dance. She is an accomplished instructor who has promoted dance through her school at community centers, raising funds for many charitable events.

"Gail is probably one of the most loyal — the most faithful and selfless person I know," said longtime friend Di Cario, who spoke about how Sullivan raised money for many causes, including Breast Cancer Awareness and Superstorm Sandy Relief. "I can't think of anyone else more deserving to receive this honor."



Kristy Di Cario showcases the achievements of famous Irish-American women.



MPA Chair Maria Carro-D'Alessandro and Gail Kroog Sullivan give it a try with MPA board member Margot Perron right next to them.



Award and bouquet of flowers to Gail Kroog Sullivan.





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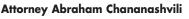
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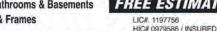
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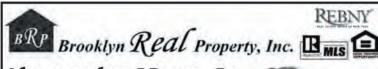
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Brownsville/Crown Heights: Newly renovated 1 BR, washer/dryer, heating & cooling & hot water, \$2,800. (917) 225-9953

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

Canarsie: Walk In 2 BRs, very good condition, all utilities included, \$2,500. Broker (917) 371-7384

E Flatbush: Walk up 2 BRs, newly renovated, \$2,500, pay cooking gas & light. Broker- Leonite (718) 207-3917

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

UNFURNISHED APT

Flatlands/E50's/Ave I: Beautiful newly renovated 2 BRs, 1st floor, all new appliances, Near #6 Bus. Broker (917) 312-7775

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 (917) 679-3017

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

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

Albany/Linden Blvd: SPACIOUS 2 BRs, large living room, hardwood floors, lots of closets, close to transportation, 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 transportation/shopping. (Text) 347-721-6873

Canarsie/Ave A/E95: Large 2 bedroom on the 3rd floor. Huge bedrooms, formal living room, hardwood floors throughout. Close to schools, parks and shopping. (347) 450-8605

Canarsie/E86: 3 BRs duplex, 2 baths, newly renovated, \$2,800 negotiable, close to all transportation/shopping. FMM Premiere Properties - Kenneth (917) 420-9513

ENY: 3 BRs, newly renovated, top floor, \$3,200 monthly, near transportation/shopping. (917) 370-7850

Coney Island/W 24: SPACIOUS, 3 BR duplex, in elevated building, large living room, eat in kitchen, new appliances, 24 hour security, laundry on premises, \$2,400, SECTION 8 OK. Curtis Chance Realty (718) 859-7300 (917) 679-3017



UNFURNISHED APT

Old Mill Basin/E52: Newly renovated 3 BRs, 2 baths, large living room, dining area, central AC, hardwood floors, lots of closets, use of back porch/back-yard, \$3,000 neg. Close to transportation/shopping, near buses, B46, B82, B6. Curtis Chance Realty (718) 859-7300 (917) 679-3017

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

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

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 terrace, Move In Condition, \$2,800. Broker (917) 541-3679

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



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