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CULTURE COMIC CON AT P.S. 276



Photo by Brenda Cox

Story on page 18

**Our office will be closed Thursday, November 28th,
and Friday, November 29th, in observance of
Thanksgiving Day**



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Canarsie Firehouse Remembers Monsignor John Delendick

By Lloyd Mitchell

The FDNY honored Monsignor John Delendick on the first anniversary of his death caused by a 9/11 related cancer by dedicating a plaque in his honor at Engine Company 257, Tower Ladder 170 and Battalion 58, located at 1361 Rockaway Parkway, on Friday, November 22nd.

The monsignor survived both collapses of the World Trade Center on 9/11. Despite that, he spent many days bringing families comfort, officiating at memorial and funeral services, and caring for the loved ones of those lost for years after.

He was a fixture at various FDNY events. Retired Fire Captain David Roth said, "Father was the light of this firehouse. He had been with us through the challenging times of the Vandalia Avenue fire in which Tower Ladder 170 lost three firefighters, Steve Pollard's accident on the Belt Parkway in 2019 and the Timothy Klein fire in 2022. He loved this firehouse and we loved him."

Father Delendick served the FDNY since 1996 and was the on-call chaplain for the Canarsie firehouse. Retired firefighter David Price said, "You never had to worry about Father getting a meal here; all you had to do was give him a time and he'd bring the stories. We all loved his sense of humor. What a great man."



FDNY Commissioner Robert Tucker talks about his friend Monsignor John Delendick.



The FDNY honored Monsignor John Delendick on the first anniversary of his death from 9/11 related cancer by dedicating a plaque at the Canarsie firehouse.

Kings Plaza

Over One Thousand Turkeys Distributed!

By Linda Steinmuller

Thanks to Kings Plaza Mall, 1,500 turkeys were distributed through local officials to be divided up by various elected officials and nonprofits who planned to give away Thanksgiving meals to their constituents, congregants and members of the community.

Turkeys were distributed to Congressman Hakeem Jeffries, Assemblywomen Jaime Williams and Monique Chandler-Waterman, State Senators Roxanne Per-

saud and Kevin Parker, Councilwomen Mercedes Narcisse and Farah Louis, as well as Community Board 18, Millennium Development and Mary Queen of Heaven Church.

The turkey distribution took place on Thursday, December 21st, at Kings Plaza Mall, ensuring those who are not able to purchase turkeys and all the fixings have a very Happy Thanksgiving!

Photos courtesy of Macerich/Kings Plaza



Volunteers at Kings Plaza Mall help load up a truck for delivery.



Councilwoman Mercedes Narcisse, Dawn Simon and Councilwoman Farah Louis.



Emma, State Senator Roxanne Persaud and Dawn Simon

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Marine Park

Residents Rally Against Illicit Spa in School Zone

By Robert Pearl

A vibrant community response unfolded in Marine Park following the swift NYPD raid and closure of the Linglong Harmony Spa, at 3401 Avenue S, which had been operating for just one week before being shut down on allegations of promoting prostitution. The spa, located in a school zone and across from places of worship, drew the ire of residents, local leaders and elected officials like Assemblywoman Jaime Williams, who initially alerted authorities to the suspicious activities.

The protest on the evening of Wednesday, November 20th, organized by Williams and supported by civic organizations such as the Marine Park Community Association and the Coalition for Better Communities, drew hundreds of residents to the corner of East 34th Street and Avenue S. Speakers denounced the spa's presence in the neighborhood and vowed vigilance to ensure it does not reopen.

"This isn't just about one business. It's about protecting our community and our children," said Williams. She recounted how her office received complaints about the spa's activities and how a phone inquiry revealed that they "did not accept females," raising immediate red flags. Williams praised the 63rd Precinct's Commanding Officer, Captain Perez, and the NYPD Chief of Department, Chief of Patrol and the Vice Squad for their swift action in shutting down the establishment, which led to the arrests of two individuals and the padlocking of the premises.

Neighborhood leaders and elected officials stood alongside residents to emphasize the importance of unity in safeguarding the area. "This is our community, and we will not allow this kind of activity to take root here," declared Ron Canterino, chair of the Coalition for Better Communities.

Marine Park Community Association President Rob Mazzuchin described the weeklong operation of the spa as "an insult to the neighborhood," pointing out the brazen way it advertised illicit services and disrupted the community. Several residents noted a spike in suspicious activity, including increased foot traffic late at night and reports of break-ins nearby.

As the rally came to an end, participants pledged continued efforts and ongoing vigilance to monitor the property and report any attempts to reopen. "This isn't over yet," said Greg Borruso, president of the 63rd Precinct Community Council, as well as longtime business owner of Marine Park Hardware. "We'll be watching, and if they try to come back, we'll be here to stop it," Borruso concluded, incidentally providing the NYPD with the padlocks.

The landlord of the property, who addressed the crowd, claimed he was misled by the real estate broker and spa's tenants, pledging to work with authorities to resolve the lease issue. "We were hoodwinked," he stated, expressing regret over the situation and solidarity with the community.

The protest also served as a warning to others and as a broader message against similar establishments at-

tempting to operate in residential neighborhoods. Civic leaders highlighted the need for ongoing vigilance, with one attendee noting, "If it can happen here, it can happen anywhere."

Williams reinforced the importance of community engagement in addressing such issues, urging residents to report suspicious activities and work together to maintain neighborhood standards. "We stand united," she concluded. "This is our community, and we will protect it."

The fight to preserve the character and safety of Marine Park continues as residents remain committed to ensuring the spa does not reopen or inspire similar businesses in the area.



Community unity -- irate residents unite against illicit business at 3401 Avenue S.

East New York

Pedestrian Fatally Struck by Unmarked Police Vehicle

By Baqir Ahmad and Linda Steinmuller

A pedestrian, believed to be homeless, was struck and killed by an unmarked NYPD van last week on Pennsylvania Avenue, about 50 feet north of Riverdale Avenue.

The incident occurred around 6:10 p.m. on Wednesday, November 20th. An unidentified woman was lying in the roadway when an unmarked warrant squad van, traveling northbound on Pennsylvania Avenue, struck the victim, causing injuries to her head and torso, police said.

The victim was rushed by EMS to Brookdale Hospital where she was pronounced dead.

The 33-year-old male operator of the NYPD vehicle, along with two male passengers, 31 and 29, were all taken to an area hospital in stable condition, police sources said.

An investigation remains ongoing by the NYPD Highway District's Collision Investigation Squad.

Photo by Baqir Ahmad



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Community Council Meeting Highlights Community Issues and Honors 63rd Precinct Officers

By Robert Pearl

The 63rd Precinct Community Council held its monthly meeting on Tuesday, November 19th, at Purpose Life Church, 1895 Flatbush Avenue, bringing together residents, law enforcement and local leaders to address neighborhood concerns and celebrate the achievements of dedicated officers.

Captain Abdullraha Hussein, executive officer of the 63rd Precinct, provided updates on crime prevention efforts and ongoing initiatives. He brought up Crime Prevention Officer Ainsley Carter who highlighted measures to combat issues like car theft, pickpocketing and scams targeting seniors during the holiday season. He urged residents to lock their vehicles, secure valuables and stay alert for suspicious activity, emphasizing the precinct's



commitment to maintaining safety through increased patrols and community collaboration.

The highlight of the evening was the presentation of the Cop of the Month Award, honoring Police Officers MD Rahman and Rosa Santizo. Their swift response during an October uptick in violence at the Glenwood Houses led to the apprehension of a suspect fleeing a shooting scene and the recovery of a firearm. Hussein commended their bravery and quick action, stating, "Their dedication and vigilance helped de-escalate tensions in the area and prevented further violence."

Assemblywoman Jaime Williams attended the meeting and discussed several key issues, including the recent fire at Marine Park Golf Course, which had been addressed with the help of local authorities, FDNY and Captain Ronald Perez, commanding officer of the 63rd Precinct. She also spoke about community concerns surrounding an alleged illicit massage parlor on Avenue S. Williams emphasized the importance of community engagement and praised the precinct for their efforts to maintain neighborhood safety.

Additional updates were shared by representatives from local elected officials. Alex from State Senator Roxanne Persaud's office reiterated the senator's commitment to working with the precinct and addressing constituents' concerns. Community Board 18 District Manager Sue Ann Partnow gave updates from the Sanitation Department, informing residents about new garbage disposal regulations, which will require all black bags to be placed in secure bins starting January 1st, with bins featuring sanitation logos becoming mandatory by June 2026. She clarified that bulk collection occurs on the first pickup day, with recycling on the second.

Council President Greg Borruso announced that the next meeting will take place on Tuesday, December 17th, at the John Malone Community Center, 2335 Bergen Avenue, as the council adjusts its schedule due to the Christmas holiday.

During the open forum, residents raised concerns about yellow school buses being parked overnight in the neighborhood, with one attendee stating, "The neighborhood looks like a depot." Hussein acknowledged the issue and suggested that residents contact the bus depot directly while also offering to assist with complaints.

The meeting concluded with a reaffirmation of the partnership between the precinct, elected officials and the community. Attendees expressed gratitude for the precinct's proactive approach and praised the honorees for their outstanding service. The 63rd Precinct Community Council continues to provide a platform for collaboration, ensuring the neighborhood's safety and well-being.

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Matthew McConaughey *Stand Up To Cancer Ambassador*
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Hundreds Gather for Assemblywoman Jaime Williams' Turkey Giveaway

By Robert Pearl

Despite rainy weather, hundreds of individuals, including many senior citizens, braved the elements on Thursday, November 21st, for Assemblywoman Jaime Williams' Annual Thanksgiving Turkey Distribution at her District Office, 5318 Avenue N. The event, held from 2 to 4 p.m., provided much-needed support to residents of the 59th Assembly District in advance of the holiday.

Participants lined up around the block to receive Thanksgiving essentials, including fresh turkeys and an impressive array of produce such as apples, avocados, carrots, celery, potatoes, onions, beans, rice, greens, cabbage, tomatoes and cucumbers. The distribution showcased the community's commitment to ensuring everyone could enjoy a warm and nutritious holiday meal.

Williams and her dedicated team, joined by volunteers from East Flatbush Village and Laborers Local 79, worked tirelessly to distribute the goods. Despite the challenging weather, the volunteers stayed energized with coffee and donuts provided by the assemblywoman. "Rain or shine, this community comes together to support one another," said a volunteer. "It's heartwarming to see so many people turn out."

Residents who registered in advance expressed gratitude for the event. "This is a lifeline for so many of us, especially seniors," said one attendee. "It's not just the food—it's the sense of care and connection we feel when we come here."

The event's success was a collaborative effort, drawing praise from attendees and volunteers alike. "Thanksgiving is about coming together, and today, we showed what unity truly looks like," Williams said. She also thanked the volunteers, and Kings Plaza Mall, JCC of Canarsie, Met Council, Food Way and the Campaign Against Hunger for the food donations.



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Flatlands Civic President Encourages Members to Get "In the Know"

By Dara Mormile

Sharing vital information is one benefit of attending community meetings. So when the Flatlands Civic Club, Inc. (FCC) met remotely via Zoom on Thursday, November 21st, President Joan Gilbert took the opportunity to remind members that it's also important to be present at other meetings, including local precinct gatherings – like the Neighborhood Coordination Officers' (NCOs) Build the Block sessions — and Community Board 18.

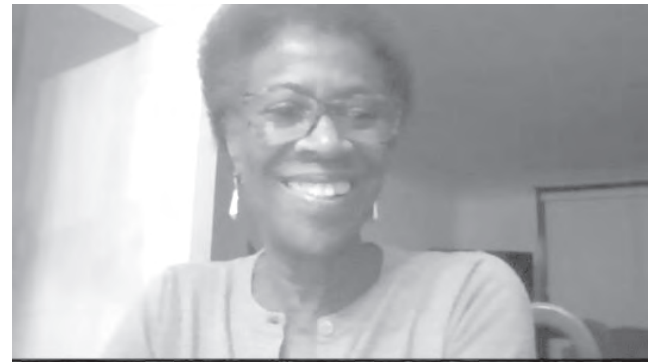
Those not "in the know" were shocked to hear about a shady business operating in nearby Marine Park, at East 34th Street and Avenue S, where officials cracked down on an unscrupulous "spa" that was offering illegal services.

"I want more people in our group to attend

events in the community. For example, last Tuesday, Jewell and I went to the 63rd Precinct meeting and it was very purposeful," she said. "What's great is that precinct officials host their meetings at two locations during the year, and it gives more people a chance to attend on either side of the command."

Jewell Stoute then relayed some updates, including the installation of speed bumps on East 55th Street, between Glenwood Road and Foster Avenue.

"We got an update from Sue Anne Partnow, [district] manager of Community Board 18, who told us about the use of secure garbage bins. We're reminded that new garbage disposal regulations will soon go into effect for homeowners of buildings with nine or less families," she said. "The



Sanitation Department wants to do away with only putting out black bags, and residents have to start utilizing bins with a secure lid."

The FCC member reported that, starting January 1, 2025, the Sanitation Department won't accept bags placed at curbside.

"If you put those bags out, they'll issue a warning for a while without a ticket – so you can get used to the whole system," Stoute said. "After the warning period, they'll begin issuing tickets. As of January 2026, everyone will have to use or purchase special garbage bins from the city. Apparently the only place you can get them at this point is through the vendor that's providing them to the city."

Stoute added that recycling and composting regulations won't change.

Gilbert then interjected, "We need more people from the Flatlands side [of the neighborhood] to be present and acknowledge what's going on. I was disappointed to not see all of us represented – and I'm not singling out anyone here on the call... but it's important to tell your neighbors and share this information. We learned some details about the homicide that took place in September at East 56th Street between Flatlands Avenue and Avenue L."

Some of the 13 members on the call – who evidently don't follow social media or news feeds – asked about the outcome.

"There was a person of interest connected to the homicide," she said, "but then there was a shoot-out on Flatbush where this suspect targeted a specific age group, so that person isn't connected to that homicide anymore."

Being able to address the precinct's captain and the NCOs is one benefit of attending meetings, Gilbert said, adding that the next scheduled 63rd Precinct meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 17th, at 7 p.m. at the John Malone Community Center, at 2331 Bergen Avenue.

Gilbert and Stoute understand that parking and transportation may be deterrents for some members but encouraged everyone to at least show up to a meeting or two where ample vehicular access is available.

Despite the fact that no elected officials – or their representatives – spoke at the virtual FCC meeting, Gilbert thanked politicians, including Assemblywoman Jaime Williams, for continuing to fight for residents' quality of life. According to the civic president, the housing monstrosity planned for 5602 Flatlands Avenue isn't going to happen and the 174 unit, seven-story mixed use building proposal has been "squashed" thanks to resounding protests and the collaborative efforts of residents and politicians.

The FCC will reconvene with a regular business meeting in March 2025. However, the civic will be a part of the holiday festivities at the Fox Playground Holiday/Tree Lighting event on Wednesday, December 18th. You can reach out to Gilbert for more information: flatlandscivic@gmail.com.

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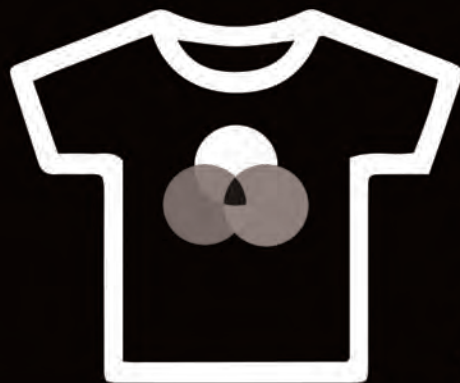
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Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Liquor Licenses

By Linda Steimmuller

A presentation by the NYS Liquor Authority (SLA) provided insight into the somewhat complicated process of applying for an alcoholic beverage license and a surprise visit from the Brooklyn Borough President were some of the highlights at the November 20th meeting of Community Board 18 (CB18), held virtually and in person, at 1097 Bergen Avenue.

SLA Chair Lily Fan gave an informative presentation on the criteria for obtaining a liquor license in New York. She was accompanied by David Stoler, the Zone 1 Regional Director responsible for individual licenses in the five boroughs.

While Stoler is the go-to person for any issues on individual licenses, Fan told attendees that they could reach out to her regarding policy issues.

She said that the agency, which is "140 strong" and



Members of Community Board 18 at November 20th meeting.



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has 77 staffers handling the licensing, processes 86,000 applications per year. As the agency is short-staffed, and Fan is hoping next year's budget will allow for increased staffing, the current wait time to process an application is five months, as there is a backlog.

Fan said while there is a high bar for issuing a license, it's hard for the agency to cancel licenses.

"Out of 59,000 applications, and 23,000 restaurants, about 100 get canceled."

The SLA relies on the community to inform them of any complaints against businesses that have a bad reputation. If there is excessive noise at an establishment, or criminal activity, the police should be notified first, followed up by a call to 311. Detailed complaints should be filed on the SLA website.

Fan said complaints "need to come in often. If it's happening a lot, a complaint should be filed every time. We need a bunch of complaints and from multiple sources." With 25,000 renewals every year, Fan advised the board that it's not the time to request stipulations unless you are able to get the applicant to agree to them.

Following her presentation, CB18 Chairperson Naomi Hopkins asked Fan how much her agency weighs the decision of the community board, to which Fan replied that they take it extremely seriously. In fact, when reviewing a record that does not have a letter from the community board, she will have her office reach out to the board and ask for one.

If a denial is recommended, it will go for review by the three members of the "full board," of which Fan is a member.

CB18 District Manager Sue Ann Partnow said that there have been cases where a business obtained their liquor license without going through the community board. "An applicant was contacted to attend a meeting with the SLA committee, but the business said that they already got their license."

Another incident involved a case where the police and the civics were against issuing a particular establishment a license. The applicant did not show up to a meeting, but they received their license two weeks earlier.

"How can they issue a license when everyone said it should be denied?" Partnow asked, also stating that SLA's response was, "That's what their decision was."

Fan said that she was surprised to hear that and will take a closer look into the matter.

She confirmed that liquor must not be sold within 200 feet of a school or church, if those institutions are exclusively used for that purpose, and cannabis licensing is not part of her agency.

Brooklyn Borough President Antonio Reynoso announced that \$3 million was recently allocated for modifications to Canarsie Park in conjunction with Councilwoman Mercedes Narcisse.

In addition, by working with Councilwoman Farah

Louis, \$1.5 million has been allocated for funding to local schools.

He acknowledged that he doesn't believe in "One Brooklyn" because what's happening in Canarsie is not what's happening in Williamsburg. "In Williamsburg, we need more bike lanes, less cars. In Canarsie, you need two buses to get to the 'L' train!"

When the floor was opened for comments and questions by the community board and residents, the migrant shelter at Floyd Bennett Field, the City of Yes and congestion pricing were some of the hot topics, which the majority of attendees were opposed to.

Regarding the mayor's comment that the migrant issue will "destroy our city," Reynoso said, "The city does not get destroyed" and accused the mayor of not handing the issue properly.

Reynoso said that the City of Yes [for Housing Opportunity] was going to pass the following day, "whether you like it or not." He claimed that it was a "nominal change to a city text amendment," and not the "end of the world," stating that if the Department of City Planning gets everything they asked for, 100,00 units of housing, at most, will be added to the entire city, as opposed to the 400,000 units that have been added since Mayor Adams took office. Reynoso does not believe that this will change the character of any neighborhood. "The sky never falls on New York City. We always make it through. This fear of the sky falling makes us make decisions that are not healthy for the long term of the city."

He also agrees with congestion pricing, saying that too many people take their cars to the central business district every day. "Two million people go to the central business district every day; 90% get there by train." To the 140,000 people who drive there every day, he stated, "No sensible New Yorker thinks it is a good idea to take a car to the central business district."

He admitted that the trains are not reliable, clean or safe but said that the city has to make it "so vehicles are no longer a need."

"We have three million parking spots. The problem is too many people are buying cars. What do we do when we have too many cars in our system?"

Some board members expressed that the BP was pacifying them and not really hearing what they had to say.

To Williamsburg residents, driving may not be a priority, but to the residents of CB18, it's our culture and way of life, according to Hopkins. "We are a driving culture," she said.

In the district manager's monthly report, Partnow spoke about local wildfires "due to dry conditions,

encampments and mischievous kids." She said they met with FDNY, NYPD, NYC Parks and the Marine Park Golf Course manager and had a tour of the affected areas, which Assemblywoman Jaime Williams organized.

The DOT will be implementing a pedestrian safety improvement at the intersection of Flatbush Avenue and Avenue T, which was approved by CB18 in 2018. The improvement will shorten the crossing distance on Flatbush Avenue by extending the curb and the median.

Two speed bumps were installed on East 55th Street, between Glenwood Road and Foster Avenue.

Due to extended design delays and external agency approvals, the playground reconstruction at JHS 278 Marine Park will be delayed and is scheduled for fall 2025.

The next meeting of CB18 will take place on Wednesday, December 18th.



Lily Fan, chair of the NYS Liquor Authority, gives a presentation on how to obtain a liquor license in New York State.



Brooklyn Borough President Antonio Reynoso, surprise guest at the Community Board 18 meeting.

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Georgetown

Tons of Turkeys at Brooklyn Holiday House

By Amanda Salazar

A flock of turkeys sit together on the lawn, surrounded by hundreds of orange twinkling lights. To their left is a fall harvest scene with happy *Disney* and *Peanuts* scarecrows. To the right is the first Thanksgiving scene featuring pilgrims and Native Americans.

This is what Thanksgiving looks like at Brooklyn's Home for the Holidays, a private home in Georgetown that goes all out for every major holiday with huge decorative displays, this November.

The decorating is done by Austin Ferrazzano, a 23-year-old resident of the home who has been creating the displays for at least a decade.

"I wouldn't know what I'd be doing if I don't do the display," he said. "The community appreciates it so much."

Each holiday gets its own spotlight, and Thanksgiving is no exception.

"I think Thanksgiving is an important holiday," Ferrazzano said. "It breaks down the barriers [as it's] not a religious holiday. It's one that everyone can understand and appreciate, and understand the meaning behind that we can all be thankful for something or someone."

The home is decorated for Christmas and Hanukkah throughout November, surrounding the Thanksgiving display that's in the center of the yard. However, the December decorations don't get lit until after Thanksgiving is over, to give the fall holiday its own time to shine.

"People still do appreciate the Thanksgiving [decor]," he said. "I don't get as many people as I obviously do for Christmas or Halloween, but I dare not skip over a holiday."

The Thanksgiving display is lit every night from 5 to 10 p.m. until Thanksgiving night. Christmas and Hanukkah lights will sparkle beginning December 1st, and on December 6th, there will be a community lighting event, featuring performances and holiday cheer.

Brooklyn's Home for the Holidays is located at 1102 East 72nd Street.



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CHICKEN WINGS
choose one: buffalo / sweet thai / Bbq

STUFFED MUSHROOMS
seafood stuffing / button mushrooms

SALMON CAKE
served aioli sauce

MAIN COURSE CHOOSE ONE

1.5 LB WHOLE LOBSTER
seafood stuffing / baked potato / choice of butter

TURKEY BREAST
classic stuffing / cranberry sauce

RIBEYE
16oz prime cut / mashed potatoes

STUFFED SHRIMP
broiled colossal shrimp / seafood stuffing / rice pilaf

1LB SNOW CRAB LEGS
steamed / baked potato / corn

DESSERT CHOOSE ONE

KEYLIME CHEESECAKE

NO SUBSTITUTIONS
CHARGES MAY APPLY IF ANY

Please inform your server of any allergies or dietary restrictions.

Consuming raw or undercooked meats, poultry, seafood, shellfish, or eggs may increase your risk of foodborne illness especially if you have certain medical conditions.

South Shore Manor Residents Celebrate Thanksgiving Early

By Brenda Cox

Residents of the New South Shore Manor, an assisted living facility located at 1041 East 83rd Street, enjoyed a happy Thanksgiving dinner one week early, on Thursday, November 21st, compliments of the 69th Precinct Community Council and Power Guard Pest Control.

The lavish meal consisted of fruit, salad, mac and cheese, rice, vegetables, fried chicken, fish, turkey, cakes, assorted pies and beverages.

A number of auxiliary officers and volunteers assisted with the serving. Captain Dion Hinds, com-

manding officer of the 69th Precinct, thanked Community Council President Gardy Brazela and his team for hosting the dinner and conveyed his pleasure at being part of the exercise. "This is my second year and I love every minute of it," he stated before wishing everyone "a happy and healthy Thanksgiving."

Noria Grant, administrator of New South Shore Manor, and Leon Watts, president of the facility's council, also expressed their gratitude to everyone, wishing them and their families a "blessed and happy Thanksgiving," on behalf of the 71 residents and staff.



Community Affairs Officer Samuel Maria serving food to residents.



69th Precinct Community Council (in blue), NYPD and South Shore Manor staff.



An auxiliary officer and a volunteer serve Thanksgiving dinner to South Shore Manor residents.



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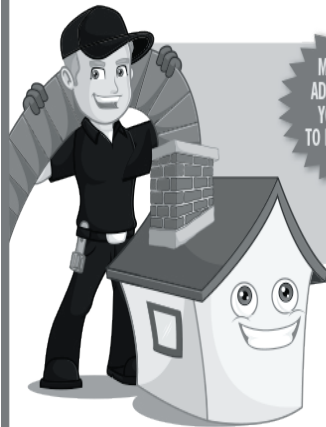
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Illicit Massage Parlor and Fire Safety Discussed at Joint Civic Meeting

By Amanda Salazar

A new massage spa in Marine Park was the talk of the town at the Tuesday, November 19th, joint meeting of the Marine Park Community Association and the Madison-Marine-Homecrest Civic Association (MMHCA) at the Carmine Carro Community Center, 3000 Fillmore Avenue.

Linglong Harmony Spa Inc. is a massage spa that opened up at 3401 Avenue S, on the corner of East 34th Street, in late August. With almost no online presence and some suggestive advertising, the spa has gained a reputation for being a front for an illegal business. A protest outside of the spa was hosted the following night to advocate for the busi-

ness's closing.

The spa is located across the street from a preschool and synagogue, and just two blocks away from Marine Park.

Assemblywoman Jaime Williams said that the NYPD Vice Unit was looking into the situation and that Councilwoman Mercedes Narcisse was also aware of the issue. She also said there's a similar shop on Avenue N in Mill Basin.

"This is not something that we want," Williams said. "It's a disgrace to our community, our traditional family values. We have to stand by that."

MMHCA President Elizabeth Morrissey showed the *Canarsie Courier* an image that Linglong Spa was allegedly using to advertise. The image featured



Assemblywoman Jaime Williams discusses the Avenue S spa.

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a scantily clad young woman in a suggestive pose — hardly a normal advertisement for a standard spa.

“I know all eyes are there and they are working on it,” Community District 18 District Manager Sue Ann Partnow said of the situation. “Let’s hope this doesn’t go anywhere and they close it down.”

With all the recent brush fires and wildfires throughout Brooklyn as of late, fire safety was another hot topic at the meeting. FDNY Fire Safety Lt. Don DePierro spoke at the meeting to give advice on how to reduce the likelihood of starting a fire and how to handle it once a fire is set.

Smoking or lighting fires in parks or other areas with lots of dry leaves is a big cause for fires in the city, especially lately.

Aside from the borough-wide fire issue, the upcoming holidays also bring more home-based fires thanks to cooking, candles and flammable decorations.

While cooking, make sure the area around your stove is clear, especially of paper, dish towels and oven mitts. Additionally, don’t allow children to play in the kitchen while food is cooking.

The charging of large lithium-ion batteries, such as the ones used in electric bicycles, is another common firestarter. It’s unsafe to use non-approved batteries in your products as they can be untested and less stable. It’s safest to use the battery that came with the e-bike and with the charger. Never leave a charging battery unattended or leave a battery charging overnight.

“They store a lot of energy and once they are compromised, it’s like letting a genie out of a bottle,” DePierro said of the batteries.

To protect your home from fires, be sure to have smoke detectors throughout your home and check their batteries regularly to ensure they’re working.

It’s also important to have a carbon monoxide detector that’s separate from your smoke detector. While

they do sell smoke-carbon monoxide combo detectors, they’re not as good as having two separate devices. Carbon monoxide detectors should be installed low to the ground, while smoke detectors should be on the ceiling.

Once a fire is started, you should immediately call 911.

It’s good to have a fire extinguisher on hand so you can try to control the burn while you’re waiting for the FDNY to arrive. Extinguishers are best kept vertically mounted on a wall but should be taken down and turned upside down once a month to be kept fresh. The expiration needle should also be checked once a month to ensure it’s still in the green. A good spot to mount an extinguisher is just outside of the kitchen.

The next event with the two civics will be a holiday party on Tuesday, December 17th, at the Carro Center.



FDNY Fire Safety Lt. Don DePierro talks fire safety.



Dozens of residents in attendance at the November 19th joint meeting of two civics.

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Fresh Creek Residents Resist "City of Yes" Despite Pressure from Borough President

By Angela G. Nannetti

Members of the Fresh Creek Civic Association (FCCA) gathered at the Jamaica Bay Library (located at 9727 Seaview Avenue), on Saturday afternoon, November 23rd, where they discussed the disastrous impact the proposed "City of Yes for Housing Opportunity" is likely to have upon their small, tight-knit community.

The Fresh Creek community is one of just a handful of Brooklyn neighborhoods that have managed to retain their small-town feel, with one- and two-family homes on quiet, tree-lined blocks, where neighbors look out for one another and know each other by name. They are fighting hard to keep things that way, despite tremendous pressure from the City. The sister communities of Marine Park, Mill Basin and Bergen

Beach are in solidarity with Fresh Creek residents, in opposing the measure and have also been vocal in their strong opposition to the proposal, which they say would completely upend their way of life and, more so, their quality of life.

FCCA President Maria Garrett advised the group of a recent meeting of Community Board 18, attended by Borough President Antonio Reynoso, during which the elected official openly declared he was 100% in favor of the City of Yes, stating that the City needs more housing and people need somewhere to live. She explained that while she was not necessarily surprised by Reynoso's stance, considering he penned a 201-page report on housing in New York and served as chief of staff to former Councilwoman Diana Reyna, where he oversaw progressive policies and legislative reforms

for affordable housing, she was as unsettled by his position as the rest of those in attendance.

She shared that Councilwoman Mercedes Narcisse hosted a policy discussion on November 14th with NYC Council Land Use for a briefing on the modifications they are proposing to the City of Yes based upon the feedback they received, which is available at <https://council.nyc.gov/land-use/wp-content/uploads/sites/53/2024/11/ZHO-COUNCIL-MODS-SUMMARY.pdf>. "Our attorney here, Frank, wrote a nice letter about how and what we need in our community," said Garrett, explaining that much of his statement was used to inform said modifications, which will now go back to the Mayor's office and be voted on by the City Council in December.

"They want to put five or six-story buildings on Rockaway Parkway by the train," said Garrett of the already vastly congested corridor. "They call them mixed-use buildings with commercial units on the bottom and 25-50 rental units on top." She explained that having been born and raised in Brooklyn, she could recall a time when there were lots of tenement style buildings, with just three stories and two apartments on each floor, and how they were torn down in favor of the single-family, private homes that exist today for a reason.

"The New Yorkers are not going to live there," said Garrett of the potential new housing units. "The New Yorkers are moving out of New York; they're leaving because the price of the apartments is going to be too high for families to afford," she predicted, as evidenced by the gentrification of areas like Williamsburg and Park Slope over the last decade or two. "The people who will benefit from this are the corporations and the very wealthy people, not the middle class," she warned. "The corporations have the ears of the elected officials and they want it to pass. We need 26 council members to vote 'no' to block the measure."

While they certainly face an uphill battle, Fresh Creek residents and their close neighbors continue to stand their ground in opposition to the City of Yes in order to protect their quality of life and the future of Brooklyn as they know it.

The date and time of the next FCCA meeting will be announced at a later date.

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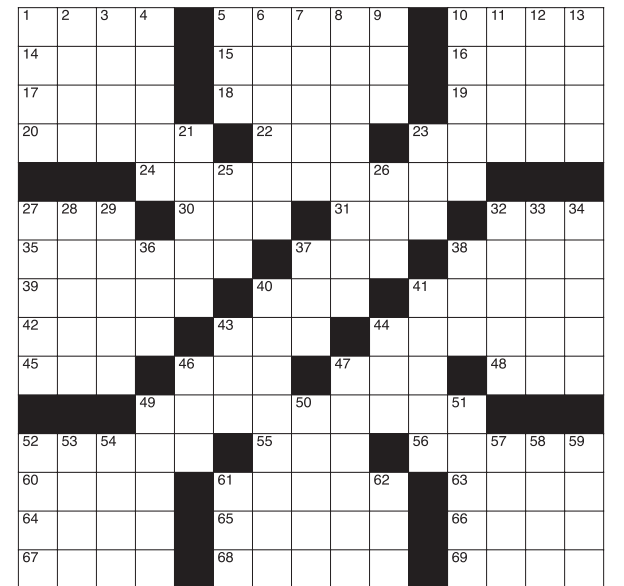


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 B S H Y R A T I L I M P Y U I B T S H D

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

WORDS

- ACTIVE
- ARMY
- CHIEF
- COMMANDER
- COUNTRY
- DEPLOYMENT
- DISCHARGE
- DRILL
- DUTY
- GUARD
- INACTIVE
- LIBERTY
- LIEUTENANT
- MARINES
- MILITARY
- NAVY
- OFFENSE
- OFFICER
- OPERATION
- QUARTERS
- RESERVE
- SERVICE
- TOUR
- VETERAN



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Long piece of squared timber
- 5. Emaciation
- 10. "Bewitched" boss Larry
- 14. Combining form meaning "different"
- 15. Current unit equal to 10 amperes
- 16. Older
- 17. Large, stocky lizard
- 18. Ringworm
- 19. Actor Pitt
- 20. Indian hand clash cymbals
- 22. Data at rest
- 23. Jeweled headdress
- 24. Indicators of when stories were written
- 27. Check
- 30. Cigarette (slang)
- 31. Arctic explorers (abbr.)
- 32. Yearly tonnage (abbr.)
- 35. Delivered a speech
- 37. A place to bathe
- 38. Postmen deliver it
- 39. Surface in geometry
- 40. More (Spanish)
- 41. ___ and Venzetti
- 42. Exclamation at the end of a prayer
- 43. Hawaiian dish
- 44. Aggressively proud men
- 45. Fellow
- 46. Mark Wahlberg comedy
- 47. Mock
- 48. When you expect to get somewhere
- 49. Songs
- 52. Pair of small hand drums
- 55. Play
- 56. Sword
- 60. Evergreens and shrubs genus
- 61. Filmed
- 63. Italian Seaport
- 64. Ancient kingdom near Dead Sea
- 65. Pores in a leaf
- 66. U. of Miami mascot is one
- 67. Snake-like fishes
- 68. Pretended to be
- 69. Body part

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Piece of felted material
- 2. Ancient Greek City
- 3. Aquatic plant
- 4. Potentially harmful fungus (Brit. sp.)
- 5. Body art (slang)
- 6. One who follows the rules
- 7. Ordinary
- 8. Honorably retired from assigned duties and retaining one's title
- 9. Relaxing space
- 10. Japanese socks
- 11. Indian city
- 12. Rip
- 13. Icelandic book
- 21. Satisfies
- 23. Where golfers begin
- 25. Small amount
- 26. Snag
- 27. Determine the sum of
- 28. A distinctive smell
- 29. Exposed to view
- 32. Stain or blemish
- 33. Small loop in embroidery
- 34. River herring genus
- 36. Large beer
- 37. Deep, red-brown sea brew
- 38. Partner to cheese
- 40. At a deliberate pace
- 41. Gurus
- 43. Of each
- 44. Angry
- 46. Popular beverage
- 47. Flower cluster
- 49. Blocks
- 50. Those who benefitted from efforts of relatives (slang)
- 51. Polio vaccine developer
- 52. A (usually) large and scholarly book
- 53. Popular soap ingredient
- 54. NBAer Bradley
- 57. Popular movie about a pig
- 58. Musician Clapton
- 59. Not a sure thing
- 61. Recipe measurement (abbr.)
- 62. Father



SUDOKU

	6							
2								7
3	1							6
			7	4	1			
		6						
				9	4	3		
5	7	4						2
		4			1			8
9				3	7			

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Level: Intermediate

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

9	8	1	2	3	7	6	5	4
6	2	4	9	5	1	7	8	3
5	3	7	6	4	8	9	2	1
1	7	2	8	6	9	4	3	5
4	5	6	1	2	3	8	7	9
8	9	3	5	7	4	1	6	2
3	1	9	7	8	5	2	4	6
2	4	8	3	9	6	5	1	7
7	6	5	4	1	2	3	9	8

ANSWER:

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to veterans.

V N Y A

--	--	--	--

Answer: Navy

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

CRYPTO FUN

Solve the code to discover words related to veterans. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 26 = E)

A. 12 26 17 26 22 9 14

Clue: One who served in the military

B. 25 26 22 12 7 11 26

Clue: Participation in the military

C. 25 5 14 5 22

Clue: Show of respect

D. 12 9 3 5 22

Clue: Strength of mind or spirit

Answers: A. Veteran B. service C. honor D. valor

GUESS WHO?

I was a corporal in the United States Marine Corps born in New York on November 10, 1981. I was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor for serving with the 3rd battalion 7th Marines during the Iraq War — the first Marine recipient of this commendation during that conflict.

Answer: Jason Dunham

PUZZLE SOLUTION

B	E	A	M	T	A	B	E	S	T	A	T	E
A	L	L	O	A	B	A	M	P	A	G	E	D
T	E	G	U	T	I	N	E	A	B	R	A	D
T	A	A	L	S	D	A	R	T	I	A	R	A
				D	A	T	E	L	I	N	E	S
T	A	B	T	A	R	T	A	E	T	P	A	
O	R	A	T	E	D	T	U	B	M	A	I	L
T	O	R	U	S	M	A	S	S	A	C	C	O
A	M	E	N	P	O	I	M	A	C	H	O	S
L	A	D	T	E	D	R	A	G	E	T	A	
				S	E	R	E	N	A	D	E	S
T	A	B	L	A	R	E	C	S	A	B	E	R
O	L	E	A	T	A	P	E	D	B	A	R	I
M	O	A	B	S	T	O	M	A	I	B	I	S
E	E	L	S	P	O	S	E	D	N	E	C	K

P.S. 276 Hosts Culture Comic Con to Promote Literacy

By Brenda Cox

Saturday, November 23rd, was full of fun and excitement for scores of children who attended the inaugural Culture Comic Con held in the gymnasium at P.S. 276 Louis Marshall School, located at 1070 East 83rd Street. The event was hosted by Community School Director (CSD) Carmen Webber, in collaboration with TRIAD Consulting Strategies, and was opened to other schools and the community at large.

The event featured a diverse group of artists whose images and artwork were displayed on the gym walls. There were also vendors including Bulletproof Comics, Yasi Spin and Learn, Unlimited Epics Comics – The HURK Series, DRAKU, B. Brave Backpacks, The Surge Series and Legacy Comix, who sold a wide variety of comic books (some collectors' items) and other merchandise.

Upon entering, families who pre-registered for the event were presented with light-up bracelets and colorful bookmarks engraved with the words "YOU MATTER" (a slogan plastered around the school) and other positive affirmations. Students from grades 3 to 8 submitted their comic art in a contest which was judged by legendary comic artists Afrim Gjonbalaj (actor, screenwriter and stunt martial artist), Patrick Hickey Jr. (journalist, voice-over actor and Editor in Chief of Legacy Comix) and Desmond Labor of DRAKU. The winners would receive support in having their works published and sold.

Hickey and Gjonbalaj, who were also guest speakers along with 10-year-old Sincere Labor who appeared virtually, shared stories about their individual journeys and encouraged the students to follow their dreams. Gjonbalaj also conducted a workshop, teaching them how to collaborate and create a work of art.

The children were delighted to have their photos tak-

en with their favorite Cosplay action heroes, get their faces painted and enjoy a game of table tennis with Yasi the Champion. There was also an arts-and-crafts table with masks and a comic strip station where they were able to create. The event also had raffles and lots of giveaways, including free *Disney on Ice* tickets for the family with the best Cosplay costume and movie tickets for the individual with the best costume.

Webber stated the intent of the event was "a way to boost literacy and writing awareness in our community and also to get more parents involved in reading with their children as well as encouraging them to write."



Yasi the Champion (left) plays a game of table tennis with a student.



SK Wilbur displays colorful B. Brave Backpacks that tell Back stories.



CSD Carmen Webber (blue hair) and family in Spider-Verse costumes.

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Eric L. Adams Mayor

From Trinidad to Canarsie: Calvin Sennon's Mission to Uplift a Community

By Sara R. Hendrix

In the vibrant neighborhood of Canarsie, Calvin and Latoya Sennon have brought the rich flavors and warmth of their Trinidadian roots to life through their restaurant, **TriniJam**, located at 9501 Flatlands Avenue. Since opening on August 8, 2020, Trini Jam has become a local favorite, offering more than authentic Caribbean cuisine—it's a hub for connection, culture and community growth.

"Canarsie is a hidden gem," said Calvin, who moved to the neighborhood with his wife to build both their dream business and a brighter future for their community. Drawing on their Trinidadian heritage and their passion for giving back, the Sennons have also launched **Visit Canarsie**, a nonprofit organization dedicated to showcasing the neighborhood's unique charm and driving its development.

Their journey is one of flavor, dedication and a deep commitment to building something meaningful—one plate and one initiative at a time.

What sets TriniJam apart? According to Calvin, it's a dedication to quality and community. "We cook for people who know food—fresh, healthy and affordable meals made daily," he explains. The restaurant has become a gathering place for Canarsie residents, offering more than food—it delivers a family vibe and a sense of belonging.

Despite the challenges of opening amid the COVID-19 pandemic, the Sennons persevered, overcoming obstacles like financial strains and supply chain issues. Their adaptability, resourcefulness and commitment to their community have transformed TriniJam into a symbol of strength and a model for other small businesses in the area.

Visit Canarsie is an initiative designed to highlight the neighborhood's charm while fostering development and connectivity. The organization has spearheaded events like back-to-school giveaways, collaborations with District 18 schools and community partnerships with local merchants and officials.

TriniJam also hosts a monthly Fish Fry on the last Friday of each month, featuring food and drink specials, and live music. The event's goal is to build community within Canarsie. By inviting elected officials, community members, residents and influencers, Fish Fry is a great way to have a staple event in the community.

"We want to create a hub that showcases Canarsie's rich culture, beautiful outdoor spaces and sustainable living practices," Calvin said. Their vision includes a dynamic center for educational programs, workshops and guided tours to immerse locals and visitors alike in the unique heritage of Canarsie.

Calvin reflects on the challenges of being a business owner and community leader, noting that success requires persistence, collaboration and a passion for making a difference. "It's not just one person; it's bigger than that," he emphasized. "It's about leaving Canarsie better than we found it."

Through their efforts, the Sennons are countering negative stereotypes about Canarsie by highlighting its hardworking, resilient residents and the potential for growth and positivity.

Visit Canarsie's upcoming plans include a Christmas toy drive and party on December 22nd, a festive occasion that invites the community to come together for a season of giving. Beyond events, the Sennons aim to expand Visit Canarsie's capacity, using social media and local partnerships to attract visitors and encourage economic growth in the neighborhood.

For the Sennons, Canarsie isn't just where they do business—it's home. Calvin notes the neighborhood's convenience and charm, from its proximity to JFK Airport and the city to its welcoming atmosphere. "We live here, and we want to serve our neighbors while setting a positive example for the next generation," he said.

Calvin's advice to aspiring entrepreneurs? "Get started now. Whatever you're passionate about, start small and keep moving forward. It won't be easy, but persistence pays off."

The Sennons' story is an example of this philosophy. From launching a thriving restaurant to building a nonprofit that uplifts their community, they exemplify the power of passion, hard work and vision.

As Canarsie grows and evolves, the work of Calvin and Latoya Sennon stands as a shining example of what's possible when local businesses and community initiatives join forces to create a brighter future for everyone.

For more on Trini Jam and Visit Canarsie, visit visitcanarsie.org or follow them on Instagram at [@visitcanarsie](https://www.instagram.com/visitcanarsie).





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LEGAL NOTICES



KINGS COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of TIDY HAVEN CLEANING COMPANY LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/04/2024. 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 LEGALCORP SOLUTIONS, LLC: 11 BROADWAY, SUITE 615, NEW YORK, NY, 10004. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

KINGS COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of Brooklyn Baby Clothing LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 09/23/2024. 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 Si Eun Kim: 22 Fayette St. Brooklyn, NY, 11206. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

OSWEGO COUNTY LEGAL NOTICE

FAMILY COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF OSWEGO In the Matter of JS, A Child under the Age of Eighteen Years Alleged to be Neglected by James Pearson, Respondent. File #25628. Docket NN-2405-21. A Permanency Hearing Order was entered on September 18, 2024, by Hon. Allison J. Nelson. A copy of the Order can be found at Oswego County Family Court under Docket NN-2405-21.

KINGS COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of AIM with Ebone LeGall, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 10/25/2024. 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 Ebone LeGall: 320 7th Avenue, #142. Brooklyn, NY 11216. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

KINGS COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of PUZZLELOVE LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/04/2024. 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 KATRINA SCOTT: 818 HART ST UNIT 7, BROOKLYN, NY, 11237. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

OSWEGO COUNTY LEGAL NOTICE

FAMILY COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF OSWEGO In the Matter of JS, A Child under the Age of Eighteen Years Alleged to be Permanently Neglected by James Pearson, Respondent. File #25628. Docket B-1053-24. A Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order of Disposition (Permanent Neglect) was entered on September 18, 2024, by Hon. Allison J. Nelson. A copy of the Order can be found at Oswego County Family Court under Docket B-1053-24.

KINGS COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of Alchemy Finishing Solutions LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 10/28/2024. 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 Patrick Tyner: 169 54th St Unit 301 Brooklyn, NY 11220. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

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Canarsie: 3 BRs, 1 1/2 baths, patio, newly renovated, new appliances, redone HWF's, new heating etc., close to L train, \$2,900, Viewing will begin Nov16 by appointment only., (917) 562-8254

Canarsie/Paerdegat: Totally renovated 3 BR, 1 1/2 bath, split level, with patio, all street parking available. \$3,200. (347) 610-4542

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