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RALLY FOR AVIATOR



Photo courtesy of Evelyn Bukchin Gugel

Story on page 4



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Canarsie's Small Businesses Deserve More Support

By Jibreel Jalloh

Walk down Rockaway Parkway, Avenue L or Flatlands Avenue and you'll find a piece of what makes Canarsie special: vibrant, family-run shops, Caribbean bakeries and corner stores that aren't just places of business — they're anchors of community. But behind each storefront is a business owner fighting to keep their doors open, often without the resources or support they need to thrive.

A January 2023 report from the NYC Department of Small Business Services — the Canarsie Commercial District Needs Assessment — makes the challenges clear. Over 80% of businesses here are minority- or woman-owned, and yet 63% still don't have websites and 56% reported declining sales. These aren't just cosmetic issues — they're economic red flags. When corridors lack lighting, way-finding and maintenance, it reduces foot traffic, disincentivizes investment and chips away at the neighborhood's economic potential.

There's no shortage of pride in Canarsie. But pride alone won't fix

broken awnings, expand access to capital or build a local workforce pipeline. What's needed is sustained investment — city dollars, philanthropic support and technical assistance that reaches merchants where they are. The formation of the Canarsie Merchants Association is a hopeful start, but it needs funding, staffing and partnerships to reach its full potential.

We should be investing in digital training for local storefronts, youth employment tied to merchant support and corridor cleanups led by those who know the block best. These aren't luxuries — they're infrastructure for community wealth-building.

Canarsie is too often overlooked in citywide economic plans. That must change. Our neighborhood's spending power — over \$1.8 billion annually — is not reflected in the conditions of our streets or the opportunities for our entrepreneurs. We need support from the government to match the hustle and heart of Canarsie's business owners with real resources.

Canarsie's small businesses don't



just serve the community — they are the community. It's time we treat them that way.

Jibreel Jalloh is an award-winning organizer with experience working at the highest levels of government. He is the Founder and Executive Director of The Flossy Organization, a nonprofit dedicated to closing the advocacy gap through education and activism. Over the past few years, they have worked to end gun violence, increase transit option and secure investments in local green spaces. Jibreel recently won the prestigious Obama Foundation Scholar award at Columbia University. You can learn more at www.theflossy.org and follow @theflossyorg.

East New York

Early Spring Cleanup at Shirley Chisholm State Park

By Baqir Ahmad

A Penn Shoreline Cleanup was held at Shirley Chisholm State Park on Saturday, March 22nd, two days after the start of spring.

Volunteers gathered at the Penn Side Entrance of the state park, on Pennsylvania Avenue, where all the necessary materials for a cleanup — including garbage pickers, gloves and hand sanitizer — were provided to participants.

The team got to work, cleaning up the

shoreline along Fresh Creek at the Penn Water Access area for approximately two hours. They picked up washed up debris and litter along one of the nature trails. By the time they were done, the group collected more than 100 bags of litter, including a large amount of bottles and cans, along with a shopping cart full of large, discarded items. Needles were also safely disposed of.

"Local residents should keep Shirley Chisholm clean," Alex Manahan told the Canarsie Courier.



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Brownsville

Man Shot in Stomach on Bristol Street

By Baqir Ahmad and Linda Steinmuller

Officers from the 73rd Precinct responded to a call of a man shot in front of 370 Bristol Street on Saturday, March 22nd.

Police arrived at the location, right off of Livonia Avenue, around 8:15 p.m. where they found a 34-year-old male with a gunshot wound to his abdomen. The victim was taken by EMS to Brookdale Hospital in stable condition, police said.

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

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

Photo by Baqir Ahmad



East Flatbush

Man Stabbed During Robbery Gone Wrong



By Baqir Ahmad

The NYPD is investigating a stabbing that took place around 10:15 p.m. on Tuesday, March 18th.

Officers from the 67th Precinct responded to a call of a robbery in progress at 720 Rogers Avenue, off of Lenox Road, where they found a 48-year-old man with a stab wound to the back.

The victim was rushed by EMS to Kings County Hospital where he was listed in stable condition.

There are no arrests, and an investigation is ongoing.

Anyone with information regarding this stabbing 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 X @NYPDTips. All calls are strictly confidential.

Taxi Driver Shot on Flatlands Avenue, \$5,000 Award Offered

By Baqir Ahmad and Linda Steinmuller

A livery driver was grazed in the face when his passenger discharged a firearm, after threatening to kill him, in Canarsie early Monday morning.

The incident occurred around 1:40 a.m. on March 24th at the intersection of Flatlands Avenue and East 101st Street.

The suspect allegedly tried to rob the driver, Prince Ezenekwe, 54. He asked Ezenekwe to go back to his pickup location because he forgot something, but the driver refused. That's when the suspect got out of the car and threatened the driver with a gun.

The taxi driver put his foot on the gas pedal, as the suspect discharged his firearm, grazing him in the face. The driver's quick reaction could have saved his life. The suspect then fled on foot.

The victim managed to drive himself to Brookdale

Hospital, where he was reported to be in stable condition.

The New York State Federation of Taxi Drivers condemned the attack and is offering a \$5,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the gunman.

The suspect was wearing all black clothing and a ski mask; he is believed to be between 20 and 30 years old.

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

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

Photo by Baqir Ahmad



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Families Rally to Save Aviator Sports Complex

By Angela G. Nannetti

With 175,000 square feet of indoor sports space, two full-sized outdoor turf fields and two NHL-sized ice rinks, Aviator Sports and Events Center, located in Floyd Bennett Field, at 3159 Flatbush Avenue, is the largest sports complex in New York. Since opening 19 years ago, in what was once a series of airplane hangars, the facility has become a second home to thousands of young athletes who train there in ice hockey, figure skating, gymnastics, lacrosse, basketball, soccer and volleyball, but these young athletes and their families are now fighting to keep the Aviator open.

With the current operator's lease, set to expire on April 14th, the National Park Service (NPS) has been looking for a new operator to take over, one willing to improve the facility and expand its offerings. While the deadline for proposals ended on March 10th and families have discovered there is only viable bid on record, the NPS can take anywhere from four to six weeks to make their final selection, which, at the very least, would cause a major, but temporary, disruption to the youth sports programs.

Many parents, like Evelyn Bukchin Gugel, are concerned that if the new operator is not in place prior to the expiration of the current lease, and in time for the start of the spring sports season, it could have a more permanent effect, leaving the Aviator defunct, and young athletes will be forced to relocate to other facilities and join other teams in time. "The timing of this transition

is critical," she explained. "We are seeking assistance to encourage NPS to expedite the selection process and ensure a smooth transition before the expiration of the current lease."

That's exactly what families were asking for, as they poured into the Aviator complex on Thursday evening, March 20th, for a rally, urging NPS to expedite their selection, in order to keep the complex open and operational for local kids. Young athletes held up handmade signs that read, "Savior, Find a Way" and "Aviator's Future is Bright, Congressman Jeffries, Tell NPS to Pick a Bidder Tonight!" as they bravely chanted, "Aviator will not go!"

With the clock ticking, and everything on the line for these young athletes, it is still unclear if a selection can be made in time to save their sports programs at Aviator Sports and Events Center.

*Photo courtesy of
Evelyn Bukchin Gugel*



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An Evening of Honor and Community Celebration



By Robert Pearl

Bordeaux Steakhouse, at 1922 Coney Island Avenue, was the scene of a distinguished award celebration of leadership, service and outstanding contributions to the community on Monday, March 17th. Under the guidance of Rabbi Yirmi Levi of Mill Basin Sephardic Congregation, the event brought together esteemed honorees, city officials and community leaders for a night filled with appreciation, camaraderie and warmth.

Levi opened the evening with heartfelt remarks, acknowledging the contributions of the awardees and expressing his deep appreciation for those who have supported and protected the community. Among the honored guests at the dais were Judge Mark Partnow and esteemed members of the NYPD: Captain Ronald Perez, Chief Richie Taylor, Community Affairs Officers Thomas Podd and Detective Tricia Navarro-Caraballo, Giancarlo Proietti and other officers from the 63rd Precinct.

Levi spoke of his fondness for Councilwoman Mercedes Narcisse and praised her unwavering dedication to the district and the community. She was accompanied by her husband, Dr. Charles, who was also celebrating his birthday that evening, marking a double occasion for the councilwoman. The Honorable Judge Rachel Freier presented the award to Narcisse for her contributions.

The evening was further graced by the presence of other notable figures, including Rabbi Avrohom Hecht, members of Shomrim and volunteers from the lifesaving Hatzolah ambulance service. The Honorable Judge Bruce M. Balter was called to the dais to present an award to one of the honorees. Additionally, Community Board 18 District Manager Sue Ann Partnow also played a significant role in the event by presenting an award and reading its inscription with words of distinction.

Perez was presented with a Certificate of Honor for his unwavering dedication and commitment to upholding justice, public safety and community leadership. His humility and deep connection with the people of Brooklyn and the area served by the 63rd Precinct were evident in his speech, as he expressed gratitude and reflected on his time serving the community. During his words of appreciation, it was then disclosed that his short tenure as commanding officer of the 63rd Precinct will end, when he is transferred to the 71st Precinct serving Crown Heights in the near future.

Navarro-Caraballo, Podd and Proietti, known for their perseverance and dedication, were honored for their role in fostering positive police-community relationships. In an emotional moment, Levi emphasized the essential function that these officers play in strengthening neighborhood bonds and ensuring public safety.

Another highlight of the event was an enjoyable performance by a magician, who captivated the audience with his illusions and engaging table tricks.

Guests enjoyed an exquisite kosher steakhouse experience, engaging in meaningful conversations that underscored the strong unity within the Jewish community of Mill Basin, the NYPD, elected officials and beyond.

The gathering was a testament to the resilience and solidarity of the community, underscoring the invaluable partnerships between religious leaders, law enforcement, public officials and dedicated volunteers who work tirelessly to serve the people.

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Remembering Christian Montrose: A Year Without Justice

By Bristol Hendrix

March 19, 2025, marks one year since the tragic loss of Christian Josiah Joel Farrell-Montrose. On the anniversary of his passing, family, friends, elected officials and the Canarsie community gathered in solemn remembrance, honoring his memory and calling for justice.

His mother, Amanda, in a powerful and emotional statement, expressed her grief and determination: "I want to thank God for His grace and mercy. He has brought me through, and I'm living this moment because of Him."

Christian, known as Josiah to his loved ones, was a young man full of ambition, love and kindness. He dreamed of becoming a firefighter and a mechanic — passions he pursued with dedication. He was known for his warm heart, his big, bright smile and

his unwavering commitment to his family and community. Josiah's mother and father have not stopped fighting for their son and will not rest until his killer is identified and charged.

"Josiah had a big, beautiful smile — even when he was upset or if I was upset with him, he would say, 'Mama, you know I appreciate and love you,' and then give me a big hug," Amanda said.

Born on May 11, 2004, Josiah was a hardworking young man who graduated from Abraham Lincoln High School. He was a role model to his siblings and a beloved uncle. But on March 19, 2024, a car pulled up to the Montrose home and shot Josiah. His family rushed him into the home, but by the time they got to Brookdale Hospital, he was pronounced dead. Josiah was returning home from dropping a friend off. His mother had asked him to stay home with the family,



but he told her. "Mom, you would do the same thing." No one knew that would be the last time they saw or heard his voice.

A Community in Mourning

The vigil, held at the site of Josiah's passing, at Avenue K and East 104th Street, was filled with emotion as community members spoke out against gun violence and the pain of unresolved cases. "Gun violence does not occur in silence. It's a culmination of different issues around us. Many young men out there are not feeling love. We need to address this at its root," one speaker said.

Eric Waterman of East Flatbush Village, Inc. emphasized the need for the community to come together in the fight against violence. "We are unfortunately in an assembled club of families who have lost loved ones. But we must use our pain for purpose, support one another and work together to prevent more violence."

Councilwoman Mercedes Narcisse stood in solidarity with the family, pledging to advocate for solutions to address gun violence and to ensure Josiah's legacy is honored.

Additionally, Assemblywoman Monique Chandler-Waterman and State Senator Roxanne Persaud's office sent heartfelt letters to the family, expressing their support and reaffirming their commitment to justice.

A Mother's Fight for Justice

Josiah's mother, still grieving, refuses to give up in her pursuit of justice. "Some coward took my son's life. They didn't just take one person — they destroyed an entire family and a whole community. Not a day goes by that we don't feel this pain."

Amanda called on the Brooklyn District Attorney's office to take action, demanding accountability and progress in the investigation. The family, alongside community members, urged law enforcement to prioritize solving Josiah's case and bring those responsible to justice.

She also made an impassioned plea to the youth, urging them to put down their guns and choose life over violence. "Enough is enough. We must break the cycle. Choose life over death, love over hate and purpose over destruction," Amanda and others present cried out.

Clergy members present at the vigil led prayers for peace and healing, offering words of comfort to the grieving family. There is a group of mothers who have lost their children to violence who created a support group, and they were on hand to help hold the Montrose family up in prayer and support. This is a club no one wants to be in.

As the vigil ended, candles flickered, illuminating the faces of those determined to keep Josiah's name alive. The fight for justice continues, and his mother's words remain a powerful reminder that the loss of one life ripples through an entire community.

"To the people of Canarsie and beyond — justice for Christian Montrose is not just a family's fight. It is a community's demand," Narcisse said.

Christian Josiah Joel Farrell-Montrose leaves behind his twin sister, two brothers and an older sister, and his mother and father.



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Community Board 18 Gets “Notified”

By Linda Steinmuller

A representative from NYC Emergency Management gave a presentation on “Notify NYC” at the March 19th meeting of Community Board 18 (CB18), held at the board’s headquarters, 1097 Bergen Avenue.

NYC Emergency Management Program Manager Tyler Rosa said it’s the agency’s job to alert New Yorkers about information that may “impact your health, safety and quality of life.”

The Notify NYC program is the city’s official source of verified information about emergency alerts and important city services – and it’s totally free, Rosa explained.

The alerts, available in 14 languages, cover 16 different topics and can be customized to manage your preferences. Users can receive alerts via the agen-



Members of Community Board 18, with Greg Borruso chairing the March 19th meeting.




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The Canarsie Community Development, Inc. and researchers from the Consortium for Climate Risk in the Urban Northeast (CCRUN) and funded by U.S. NOAA (National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration)!

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cy’s mobile app, social media, text or email. You can even call 311, and a representative will walk you through the sign-up process.

Topics include large-scale emergencies, weather emergencies, subway disruptions, traffic delays, road closures, planned events such as fireworks, and public health, including air quality alerts, and public beach and pool closures.

Alerts can also be tailored to specific communities that experience common issues.

For instance, Marine Park had two large brush fires last fall, and Notify NYC alerted residents to keep their windows closed to avoid smoke inhalation. As we live in a coastal area, the program can alert residents about coastal storms and flooding, as well as water body advisories when local bays become polluted after rainstorms.

People that live in basement apartments can receive special alerts when flooding might impact them, and “L” train riders can receive information about train suspensions.

Rosa urged those who are already signed up to tell everyone they know to sign up at NYC.gov/Notify.

“The goal is to keep New Yorkers informed,” Rosa said. “Spreading information makes New York a healthier, safer, happier place.”

The Budget Committee has \$20,000 in available funds. CB18 Treasurer David Price said that the committee met on March 10th, where they proposed budget allocations to support critical community events and communication challenges.

They approved three allocations: \$3,500 toward a community baby shower, \$2,500 toward a youth summit and \$5,000 on communications and social media, for a total of \$11,000.

A vote was taken, and approved, by the entire board at the March 19th meeting.

The remaining \$9,000 must be spent by the end of the fiscal year, which is June 30th. Another meeting will be scheduled to determine how to allocate that funding, and feedback is welcome.

Price noted that CB18 struggles with promoting the many activities that occur throughout the community. As CB18 does not have a communication committee, the budget committee will be taking a more proactive approach to promote awareness and increase communication outreach efforts.

CB18 District Manager Sue Ann Partnow stressed the importance of attending civic meetings to keep informed about important issues in the community.

One of the issues is NineDot’s plan to install two lithium-ion battery storage facilities on Flatbush Avenue and Quentin Road. Marine Park Community Association President Rob Mazzuchin proposed that CB18 send a letter to NineDot, copied to the City Council, Mayor and the Governor, “opposing the installation of any lithium-ion battery storage facil-

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ity in our district or any other location.” The board voted to approve the proposal.

In her monthly report, Partnow shared that a proposed seven-story building at 5502 Flatlands Avenue and a 10-story building at Ralph Avenue and Glenwood Road are in the works. Another developer is seeking a variance to build a large condo facility on East 66th Street and Dakota Place in Mill Island. The Planning and Zoning Committee will be meeting to discuss the proposals, and some of the developers’ lawyers will be in attendance.

The opening of the Carol Pino Learning Farm will take place on Friday, May 16th, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. The farm is located on East 71st Street and Avenue N, behind P.S. 312.

A National Grid pipeline inspection project, from Bay Ridge to Avenue U and Hendrickson Street, will begin sometime in April and last for six weeks. Construction crews and equipment will disrupt traffic flow, and residents are encouraged to avoid the area if possible. Partnow said that Traffic Control will be present to contain the flow of vehicles.

Five males were arrested for mailbox phishing on Utica and Flatlands Avenues. Partnow said they were caught with 40 checks. Residents are advised to use gel pens to prevent check washing, especially if using local mailboxes to mail your checks.

As part of the Jamaica Bay Greenway Reconstruction project, construction on the Paerdegat Avenue North Connector (a bike path that connects roadways and bike lanes from Jamaica Bay to the rest of Brooklyn) will begin in May. To promote pedestrian safety, the “right on red” option to make a right turn from Flatlands Avenue onto Paerdegat Avenue North (East 76th Street) will be removed.

Partnow said she did a walkthrough on East 34th Street and Avenue S with the DOT, Councilwoman Mercedes Narcisse and Don Cranston from Assemblywoman Jaime Williams’ office. They are waiting for a decision from the DOT to see whether a light or an all-way stop sign will be added to the dangerous intersection.

Homeless encampment cleanups are scheduled for March 21st in Marine Park and March 24th at Fresh Creek. Parks have also seen a rise in graffiti.

CB18 is sponsoring the Community Baby Shower, which will be held at P.S. 276 in Canarsie on Sunday, May 4th. The event will teach young mothers how to care for their babies and provide valuable resources. Unfortunately, Canarsie qualified for the event because the neighborhood has one of the highest maternal mortality and morbidity rates.

The next meeting of CB18 will take place on Wednesday, April 9th, at 7 p.m. at 1097 Bergen Avenue. Please note that the meeting will take place one week earlier than usual to accommodate those celebrating the Easter and Passover holidays.



NYC Emergency Management Program Manager Tyler Rosa gives a presentation on Notify NYC.



Marine Park Community Association President Rob Mazzuchin discusses a controversial lithium-ion battery storage facility.

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JCC of Marine Park Distributes Food for Passover

This year, once again, the Jewish Community Council of Marine Park (JCCMP) held their annual Pesach Food Distribution on Sunday, March 23rd.

The initiative helps serve over 200 families in and around the Marine Park community by distributing cases of food and other holiday essentials.

This year especially, due to the high cost of eggs, the JCCMP was able to give each recipient a full case of eggs to help ease the cost of cooking and

baking for Pesach.

Additionally, recipients were given gift card vouchers to Glatt Mart so they can purchase meat or other food items they see fit. Several volunteers from within the community came to help pack and hand out the boxes, as well as elected officials including NYC Public Advocate Jumaane Williams.

A special thank you to Shmira for helping with security and helping organize the event.

Courtesy of JCC of Marine Park



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East New York

Councilman Chris Banks Hosts Women's Herstory Celebration

By Bristol Hendrix

The Penn-Wortman Community Center, at 895 Pennsylvania Avenue, was alive with energy and inspiration on Saturday, March 22nd, as Councilman Chris Banks hosted the highly anticipated Women's Herstory Celebration. The event, which honored the achievements and resilience of women, featured an afternoon filled with performances, tributes and community engagement.

Women of all ages and backgrounds were honored for their dedication and commitment to community. Banks also honored all the women on his staff for their time and dedication to District 42.

Attendees were treated to a moving performance by Victory Music and Dance, a group that paid homage to the strength and contributions of women throughout history. The atmosphere was electric as the performers captivated the audience with their powerful interpretations of identity, struggle and triumph.

A standout moment of the evening was a poetic tribute that echoed the voices of women across generations. Verses spoke to the experiences of black and brown women, the weight of history and the fight for recognition. The performance, which referenced themes from "Four Women" by Nina

Simone, moved the audience to silence as they reflected on the resilience of women who have shaped history.

Banks, known for his dedication to community upliftment, emphasized the importance of honoring women's contributions not just in March but year-round. "Women are the backbone of our families, our communities and our society. Today, we celebrate their strength, perseverance and the progress we continue to fight for," he said.

The celebration, supported by organizations such as CAMBA, Victory Music and Dance, NYS Latino and Grubhub, also provided a platform for local women leaders and honorees who have made a lasting impact in Brooklyn.

As the event concluded, attendees were encouraged to continue uplifting and supporting the women in their lives. "It's more than just one day — it's about building a future where women's voices are heard, respected and valued," one attendee said.

With a powerful blend of culture, history and community spirit, the Women's Herstory Celebration at Penn-Wortman Community Center was a resounding success, reinforcing the importance of recognizing and honoring women's contributions in East New York and beyond.



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Marine Park

Massive Rally Cry to NineDot Energy Lithium Battery Storage Facilities – Shut Them Down!

By Robert Pearl

A sea of passionate residents, activists and political leaders gathered at Flatbush Avenue and Quentin Road on Friday, March 21st, to protest the construction of two Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) along the busy avenue. The protest, organized by New Yorkers First and led by Chairman Ron Canterino, brought together hundreds of participants concerned about the potential dangers of lithium-ion battery storage facilities in residential areas.

With fears mounting over the risk of chemical leaks, explosions and uncontrollable fires, the rally included Assemblywoman Jaime Williams, Councilwoman Mercedes Narcisse and notable



Assemblywoman Jaime Williams



New Yorkers First Chair Ron Canterino (right) with Public Advocate candidate Gonzalo Duran.

figures such as mayoral candidate and Guardian Angels founder Curtis Sliwa and activist Scott LoBaido from Staten Island. Residents living near the site, including Claudia Greco and her husband Edward Rohrlich, along with local business owners, also took to the microphone to voice their concerns.

Community Outcry: "A Miniature Chernobyl"

Residents are alarmed by the planned energy storage sites, spearheaded by NineDot Energy, which are set to be constructed on Flatbush Avenue at Quentin Road. One site borders multiple residential properties and directly shares walls with two businesses. Protesters described the facilities as a looming catastrophe and a public safety threat, with no mitigation or evacuation plan, loudly chanting in unison, "Shut it Down!" Sliwa, standing with protesters, referred to the area's future as a potential "miniature Chernobyl."

Williams, a vocal opponent of the project, has already introduced legislation in the New York State Assembly calling for strict regulations on BESS facilities, including a mandate that such projects be at least 250 feet away from homes, schools and businesses. She highlighted the risks, stating, "If a fire breaks out, the FDNY's current protocol is to 'let it burn.' What does that mean for our families, our homes and our property values?"

Narcisse reinforced the community's outrage, stating, "Our message is loud and clear. We will not be left in the dark. We deserve transparency, safety and a real say in what gets built in our neighborhoods."

Assemblyman Michael Novakhov also addressed the rally-goers to express his opposition, revealing that a similar facility is planned for Assembly District 45. "Why are they coming to our districts? Because it's cheaper to buy real estate here. But our real estate is cheap; our lives are



Resident Claudia Greco, whose house abuts the lithium-ion battery storage site.

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not! We know how dangerous these can be and now they want to build them right in our backyards. This is unacceptable, and we must stand together to stop it!"

Protesters March and Unveil "Mr. NineDot Energy"

After a series of fiery speeches, the protest escalated into a march that moved from the first proposed site to the second, located just one block away. Demonstrators chanted in protest and carried banners highlighting the risks of lithium-ion battery fires and toxic air pollution. A key spectacle of the evening was the unveiling of a massive 20-foot inflatable rat, dubbed "Mr. NineDot Energy," symbolizing community disdain for the company's project.

NYC Public Advocate candidate Gonzalo Duran, who traveled from the Bronx to support the rally, stressed that Marine Park is not alone in this fight. "They're trying to push these dangerous facilities into residential neighborhoods all across the city, from Staten Island to Queens to the Bronx. We must stand together and stop this before it's too late."

Jospeh Youngstein and his wife Segal, a couple who lives with their 9-month old baby right next to the facility, spoke passionately about the impact this project would have on his family. "I bought my house two years ago, and now I find out this is going in my backyard? These batteries can overheat and explode, and a chemical fire can spread through the entire neighborhood," he said with anger and dismay.

Dawn Carmada, whose husband owns Frank's Pizza, a business in the neighborhood for 40 years, also voiced her concerns. The pizzeria is located right next to the lithium-ion battery site, making it particularly vulnerable to any hazards. She voiced her indignation, "This is a residential community; this is not where NineDot should've put this facility, and I have something to say," she declared before leading the crowd in chanting, "Hey hey, ho-ho, NineDot's gotta go!"

Curtis Sliwa: "We Will Not Back Down"

Curtis Sliwa, a prominent figure in the movement, delivered an impassioned speech, vowing to continue fighting against NineDot's project. "These facilities belong in industrial zones, not in the middle of our neighborhoods. The political elites don't care because they don't live here. We will not allow this to happen on our watch!"

Sliwa also revealed that at a recent community board meeting, officials admitted that yet another battery storage warehouse is being planned for Georgetown. "They are dropping these facilities on us like bombs. We need to mobilize, organize and make it clear that our neighborhoods are not for sale."

Next Steps: Community Vows to Keep Fighting

The rally concluded with a strong call to action. Protesters were urged to continue raising awareness, contacting elected officials and preparing for additional demonstrations.

Sal Calise, VP of New Yorkers First, emphasized the need for sustained activism. "This is just the beginning. We need to show up, speak out and demand that our voices be heard. If we don't fight back now, our entire city will be at risk."

With tensions high and opposition growing, the battle against lithium-ion battery storage facilities in residential areas is far from over. Marine Park residents and their allies have vowed to keep up the pressure, ensuring that their community remains safe from what they see as an impending environmental and public safety disaster.



Assemblyman Michael Novakhov with Curtis and Nancy Sliwa.



Curtis Sliwa marches with the crowd to the second lithium-ion battery site on Flatbush Avenue.

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LEGAL NOTICES



KINGS COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of absolute chaos LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 02/23/2025. 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 Andrew Gayda: 97 Cambridge Pl Apt3 Brooklyn NY 11238. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

KINGS COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of ZODA ENT LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 03/12/2025. 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 ZODA ENT: 500 8th Ave, New York, NY 10018, USA. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

KINGS COUNTY LEGAL NOTICE

File No. 2015-2358/A - SURROGATE'S COURT- KINGS COUNTY - CITATION

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
BY THE GRACE OF GOD FREE AND INDEPENDENT,

TO: NYS Department of Taxation & Finance; Olga Nikishin, Esq.; Cartiga Consumer Funding, successor in interest of Law Cash Tracy Jean Paul by and through her guardian Erlande Jean Paul Roodson Brutus, whereabouts unknown; and Marvens Brutus, whereabouts unknown.

To Roodson Brutus and Marven Brutus if living and if dead, to their heirs at law, next of kin and distributees whose names and places of residence are unknown and if they died subsequent to the decedent herein, to their executors, administrators, legatees, devisees, assignees and successors in interest whose names and places of residence are unknown and to all other heirs at law, next of kin and distributees of Roodson Brutus and Marven Brutus, the decedents herein, whose names and places of residence are unknown and cannot after diligent inquiry be ascertained.

Being persons interested as creditors, legatees, devisees, beneficiaries, distributees or otherwise of the estate of the MILFORT BRUTUS, deceased, who at the time of death resided at 1323 Sutter Avenue, Brooklyn, New York 11208.

A Petition having been duly filed by ERLANDE JEAN PAUL, who is domiciled at 1280 East 84th Street, 2nd Fl., Brooklyn, New York 11236.

YOU ARE HEREBY CITED TO SHOW CAUSE before the Surrogate's Court, Kings County, at 2 Johnson Street, Room 319, Brooklyn, New York 11201, on April 10, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.,

WHY the account of the proceedings of ErlandeJean Paul as administratrix of the estate of MILFORT BRUTUS, deceased, a copy of which is attached, should not be judicially settled, and

WHY the administratrix should not be empowered to compromise and settle a certain claim for the personal injury matter of the decedent, against defendants Joan Wilkinson, Ayanna Kashad, Carisma Marseille-Macker, ELRAC, Inc., ELRAC, Inc. a/k/a Enterprise Rent-A Car and Enterprise Rent-A-Car a/k/a Enterprise Holdings, Inc. and/or EAN Holdings, LLC, for the sum of \$125,000.00 and to discontinue any claim for conscious pain and suffering, and

WHY the entire recovery of \$125,000.000 should not be allocated to the cause of action for decedent's past pain and suffering, and

WHY the provisions in the limited Letters of Administration issued to the petitioner on December 15, 2015, restraining the compromise or collecting upon the aforesaid claim and cause of action, should not be modified to permit said compromise, and

WHY the filing of a bond should not be dispensed with, and

WHY Empire Fire and Marine Insurance Company and TriState-Consumer Insurance should not pay to Avanzino & Moreno, P.C. and Olga Nikishin, Esq. out of the proceeds of the settlement for the claim of personal injury, the sum of \$3,925.13 as and for legal disbursements, and

WHY the balance of the settlement, to wit the sum of \$121,074.87, should not be distributed as follows: a) Avanzino & Moreno, P.C. - Legal Fee \$20,179.15; b) Olga Nikishin, Esq. - Legal Fee \$20,179.14; c) Cartiga Consumer Funding - Funding; creditor \$22,575.00; d) NYS Dep't of Taxation & Finance \$0; e) Erlande Jean Paul-Petitioner \$54,070.79; f) Tracy Jean Paul - infant daughter \$1,356.93; g) Roodson Brutus - son \$1,356.93; h) Marvens Brutus - son \$1,356.93;

WHY the lien to Cartiga Consumer Funding of \$22,575.00 should not be satisfied, and

WHY the balance of the settlement, to wit the sum of \$58,141.58, should not be distributed pursuant to NYS EPTL § 4-1.1 as follows: \$54,070.79 (\$50,000 + \$4,070.79) to Erlande Jean Paul, widow of the decedent and administratrix of the estate, and \$1,356.93 equally to each of decedent's three surviving issues: Tracy Jean Paul, Roodson Brutus and Marvens Brutus, and

WHY upon payments as hereinbefore mentioned, the said administratrix should not be permitted to execute and deliver general releases and all other necessary papers to said defendants, or the defendants' insurance companies Empire Fire and Marine Insurance Company and TriState-Consumer Insurance, releasing them from all claims arising out of the aforesaid action for past pain and suffering, together with any other papers necessary to effectuate the said compromise.

DATED, ATTESTED AND SEALED February 26, 2025
HON. BERNARD J. GRAHAM, Kings County Surrogate, LISA FRATHIS, Chief Clerk

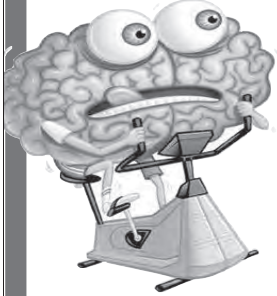
IVAN HMELEV, ESQ., Attorney for Petitioner, 26 Court Street, Suite 2015, Brooklyn, New York 11242
Telephone No. (718) 802-1616, Fax No. (718) 802-0189

(NOTE: This citation is served upon you as required by law. You are not obligated to appear in person. You have the right to have an attorney appear for you. If you fail to appear it will be assumed that you do not object to the relief requested. You have a right to have an attorney-at-law appear for you).

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KINGS COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of Anemoia Parfums, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 02/08/2025. 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 Anemoia Parfums, LLC: 390 Wythe Avenue, 6G, Brooklyn, NY 11249. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

KINGS COUNTY LEGAL NOTICE

IT IS THE POLICY OF LINDEN CENTER FOR NURSING AND REHABILITATION NOT TO DISCRIMINATE IN ITS CARE OF RESIDENTS BASED ON RACE, CREED, COLOR, NATIONAL ORIGIN, GENDER, SEXUAL PREFERENCE, DISABILITY, AGE, MARITAL STATUS OR SOURCE OF PATIENT PAYMENT.

KINGS COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Z++ LLC Articles of Org. filed NY Sec. of State (SSNY) 03/10/2025. Office in Kings Co. SSNY design. agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to 440 Kent Ave Apt 15E Brooklyn, NY 11249. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

KINGS COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

1123 REALTY LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 07/14/98. Office: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 1499 Coney Island Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11230. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

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LEGAL NOTICES



KINGS COUNTY SUMMONS

Supplemental Summons and Notice of Object of Action Supreme Court Of The State Of New York County Of Kings Action To Foreclose A Mortgage Index #: 525029/2024 Regain CRF Fund I LLC Plaintiff, vs Beatrix Andrew As Heir To The Estate Of Irad Andrew, Randy Andrew As Heir To The Estate Of Irad Andrew, Samuel Andrew As Heir To The Estate Of Irad Andrew, Gail Andrew As Heir To The Estate Of Irad Andrew, Unknown Heirs Of Irad Andrew If Living, And If He/She Be Dead, Any And All Persons Unknown To Plaintiff, Claiming, Or Who May Claim To Have An Interest In, Or General Or Specific Lien Upon The Real Property Described In This Action; Such Unknown Persons Being Herein Generally Described And Intended To Be Included In Wife, Widow, Husband, Widower, Heirs At Law, Next Of Kin, Descendants, Executors, Administrators, Devisees, Legatees, Creditors, Trustees, Committees, Lienors, And Assignees Of Such Deceased, Any And All Persons Deriving Interest In Or Lien Upon, Or Title To Said Real Property By, Through Or Under Them, Or Either Of Them, And Their Respective Wives, Widows, Husbands, Widowers, Heirs At Law, Next Of Kin, Descendants, Executors, Administrators, Devisees, Legatees, Creditors, Trustees, Committees, Lienors, And Assigns, All Of Whom And Whose Names, Except As Stated, Are Unknown To Plaintiff, People Of The State Of New York, United States Of America On Behalf Of The IRS, New York City Environmental Control Board, New York City Parking Violations Bureau, New York City Transit Adjudication Bureau, New York Methodist Hospital, Cavalry SPV I, LLC, As Assignee Of Citibank, N.A., Washington Mutual AMM, Everbank USA John Doe (Those unknown tenants, occupants, persons or corporations or their heirs, distributees, executors, administrators, trustees, guardians, assignees, creditors or successors claiming an interest in the mortgaged premises.) Defendant(s). Mortgaged Premises: 1369 East 101st Street Brooklyn, NY 11236 To the Above named Defendant: You are hereby summoned to answer the Complaint in this action, and to serve a copy of your answer, or, if the Complaint is not served with this Supplemental Summons, to serve a notice of appearance, on the Plaintiff(s) attorney(s) within twenty days after the service of this Supplemental Summons, exclusive of the day of service (or within 30 days after the service is complete if this Supplemental Summons is not personally delivered to you within the State of New York). In case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the Complaint. The Attorney for Plaintiff has an office for business in the County of Erie. Trial to be held in the County of Kings. The basis of the venue designated above is the location of the Mortgaged Premises. TO Unknown Heirs of Irad Andrew Defendant In this Action. The foregoing Supplemental Summons is served upon you by publication, pursuant to an order of HON. Carolyn Mazzu Genovesi of the Supreme Court Of The State Of New York, dated the Sixth day of March, 2025 and filed with the Complaint in the Office of the Clerk of the County of Kings, in the City of Brooklyn. The object of this action is to foreclosure a mortgage upon the premises described below dated January 31, 2007, executed by Irad Andrew (who died on May 24, 2021, a resident of the county of Kings, State of New York) to secure the sum of \$284,500.00. The Mortgage was recorded at CRFN 2007000202639 in the City Register of the City of New York, Kings County on April 19, 2007. The mortgage was subsequently assigned by an assignment executed January 4, 2022 and recorded on January 19, 2022, in the City Register of the City of New York, Kings County at CRFN 2022000027355. The mortgage was subsequently assigned by an assignment executed April 3, 2023 and recorded on April 6, 2023, in the City Register of the City of New York, Kings County at CRFN 2023000086696. The property in question is described as follows: 1369 East 101st Street, Brooklyn, NY 11236 HELP FOR HOMEOWNERS IN FORECLOSURE NEW YORK STATE LAW REQUIRES THAT WE SEND YOU THIS NOTICE ABOUT THE FORECLOSURE PROCESS. PLEASE READ IT CAREFULLY. SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME. IF YOU FAIL TO RESPOND TO THE SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT IN THIS FORECLOSURE ACTION, YOU MAY LOSE YOUR HOME. PLEASE READ THE SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT CAREFULLY. YOU SHOULD IMMEDIATELY CONTACT AN ATTORNEY OR YOUR LOCAL LEGAL AID OFFICE TO OBTAIN ADVICE ON HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF. SOURCES OF INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE The state encourages you to become informed about your options in foreclosure. In addition to seeking assistance from an attorney or legal aid office, there are government agencies and non-profit organizations that you may contact for information about possible options, including trying to work with your lender during this process. To locate an entity near you, you may call the toll-free helpline maintained by the New York State Department of Financial Services at 1-800-342-3736 or the Foreclosure Relief Hotline 1-800-269-0990 or visit the department's website at WWW.DFS.NY.GOV. RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS YOU ARE NOT REQUIRED TO LEAVE YOUR HOME AT THIS TIME. YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO STAY IN YOUR HOME DURING THE FORECLOSURE PROCESS. YOU ARE NOT REQUIRED TO LEAVE YOUR HOME UNLESS AND UNTIL YOUR PROPERTY IS SOLD AT AUCTION PURSUANT TO A JUDGMENT OF FORECLOSURE AND SALE. REGARDLESS OF WHETHER YOU CHOOSE TO REMAIN IN YOUR HOME, YOU ARE REQUIRED TO TAKE CARE OF YOUR PROPERTY AND PAY PROPERTY TAXES IN ACCORDANCE WITH STATE AND LOCAL LAW. FORECLOSURE RESCUE SCAMS Be careful of people who approach you with offers to "save" your home. There are individuals who watch for notices of foreclosure actions in order to unfairly profit from a homeowner's distress. You should be extremely careful about any such promises and any suggestions that you pay them a fee or sign over your deed. State law requires anyone offering such services for profit to enter into a contract which fully describes the services they will perform and fees they will charge, and which prohibits them from taking any money from you until they have completed all such promised services. § 1303 NOTICE NOTICE YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME If you do not respond to this summons and complaint by serving a copy of the answer on the attorney for the mortgage company who filed this Foreclosure proceeding against you and filing the answer with the court, a default judgment may be entered and you can lose your home. Speak to an attorney or go to the court where your case is pending for further information on how to answer the summons and protect your property. Sending a payment to your mortgage company will not stop this foreclosure action. YOU MUST RESPOND BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF (MORTGAGE COMPANY) AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT. DATED: March 19, 2025 Gross Polowy LLC Attorney(s) For Plaintiff(s) 1775 Wehrle Drive, Suite 100 Williamsville, NY 14221 The law firm of Gross Polowy LLC and the attorneys whom it employs are debt collectors who are attempting to collect a debt. Any information obtained by them will be used for that purpose. 85087

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Youth Entrepreneurs Shine at AD 58 Vital Voice Conference

By Bristol Hendrix

The AD 58 Vital Voice Youth-Led Conference, hosted by Assemblywoman Monique Chandler-Waterman in partnership with NYC Public Schools District 18, P.S./I.S. 66, and the AD 58 Taskforce, was an empowering gathering for young entrepreneurs and small business owners. The event, held on March 15th at P.S./I.S. 66, 845 East 96th Street, brought together elected officials, community leaders and aspiring business owners to provide funding opportunities, business plan support and job resources for youth and adults alike.

The conference featured the presence of prominent figures, including Congressman Hakeem Jeffries, State Senator Roxanne J. Persaud, and Councilman Chris Banks, who emphasized

the importance of economic empowerment and financial literacy for Brooklyn's youth.

"Young people in our community have the creativity and drive to be successful entrepreneurs, but they need access to resources and guidance," Chandler-Waterman said. "This event is about giving them the tools they need to build a strong future."

Empowering the Next Generation

The event featured various young entrepreneurs who showcased their businesses, sharing their journeys of overcoming challenges and learning how to navigate the business world. Among them was an 11-year-old entrepreneur, Karen, who proudly presented her line of perfumes, body wash and lotions.

"I started this for fun with my friends, but now I want to take it further," Karen said, inspiring attendees with her enthusiasm and ambition.

Other business owners included Michelle, who pivoted from sneaker reselling to launching a clothing brand, and Don, whose apparel brand integrates personal storytelling and deeper social messages. Each entrepreneur spoke about their motivation, the hurdles they faced in starting their business and their determination to succeed despite financial and informational barriers.

"I had no idea how to start a website or even register my business," one young clothing brand owner said. "But I learned, and now I want to help others avoid the struggles I faced."

A Community of Support

The conference was a resource hub where attendees could connect with business mentors, financial experts and local organizations offering guidance and funding opportunities. Representatives from the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce, NYC Small Business Services and national organizations such as the U.S. Small Business Administration were present to provide essential resources.

Workshops covered topics such as business planning, financial literacy and navigating the legal aspects of entrepreneurship. One recurring theme was the need for financial backing to support youth-led business ventures.

"Our community has brilliant ideas, but access to capital remains a major hurdle," one speaker said. "We need more investment in youth entrepreneurship."

Recognizing Achievements

The event also celebrated young leaders and entrepreneurs who have made an impact in their communities. Special recognition was given to individuals advocating for business development, community service and financial literacy. Attendees were encouraged to continue pushing for economic growth within their neighborhoods.

As the event concluded, Chandler-Waterman reaffirmed her commitment to supporting youth and small businesses in Brooklyn. "We're not stopping here. We're advocating for more funding, more resources and more opportunities for our community. Our young leaders are the future, and we will continue to invest in them."

With a message of empowerment, collaboration and resource-sharing, the AD 58 Vital Voice Youth-Led Conference was a significant step forward in fostering economic growth and entrepreneurship among Brooklyn's youth — the beginning of a journey toward financial independence and community-driven success.



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Nazareth's Lady Kingsmen Secure Basketball Championship Victory Under Coach Ron Kelley

Brooklyn/Queens Championship: Lady Kingsmen Triumph 63-57

The Lady Kingsmen, under the leadership of Head Coach Ron Kelley, have claimed the Brooklyn/Queens Championship title in a thrilling 63-57 victory on February 22nd. The Nazareth Regional High School girls' basketball team showed impressive skill and determination throughout the game, with Makylah Moore leading the charge. Moore put up an outstanding 30 points, dominating on offense. Her exceptional performance was complemented by sophomore Sanai Yates, who added 19 points to the scoreline.

The win marks another successful season for Kelley and his squad, showcasing the team's relentless drive and teamwork.

State Championship Glory: A Thrilling Finish

The Lady Kingsmen then went on to face their toughest challenge yet in the State Championship game on March 8th. Once again, Moore played a crucial role, finishing the game with 18 points and 10 rebounds. The team's defense was solid, and junior Arly Zapata emerged as a force on the boards, grabbing 18 rebounds and contributing 10 points.

As the game neared its end, it was Yates who sealed the deal for the Lady Kingsmen. With just three seconds left on the clock, Yates hit a crucial free throw and then secured a steal, ensuring her team's victory and their State Championship title.

Academic Excellence: A Team of Scholars

Off the court, the Lady Kingsmen continue to excel, with a team GPA of 93. Seven out of the nine players on the roster are also on the Honor Roll, showcasing their commitment to both academics and athletics. Kelley's leadership extends beyond basketball, fostering a culture of excellence both in the classroom and on the court.

The Lady Kingsmen have not only proven themselves as formidable competitors but as student-athletes who excel in all aspects of their lives. Their recent victories are a testament to their hard work, determination and commitment to success.

Nazareth Regional High School is located at 475 East 57th Street.

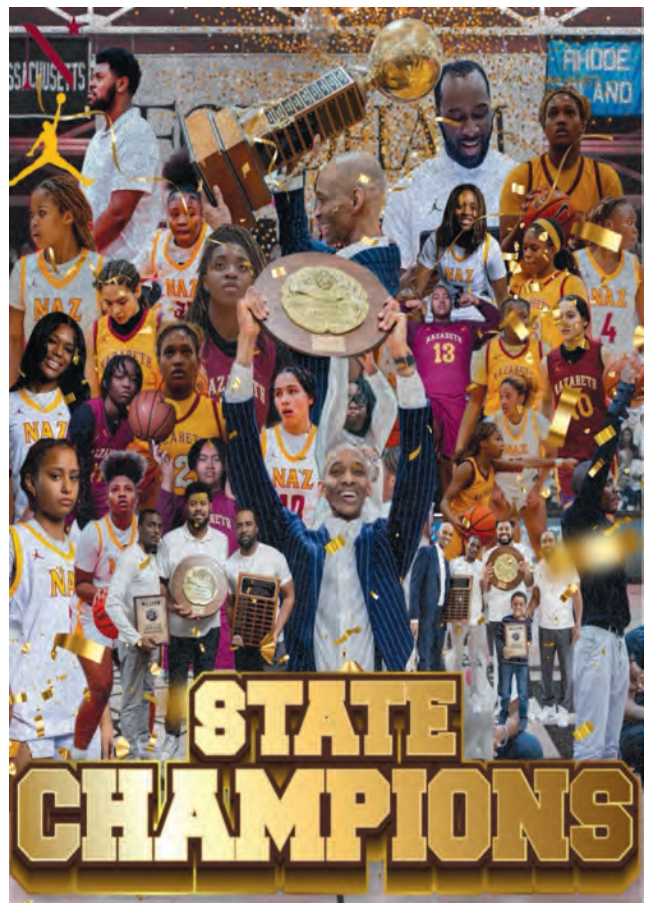
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DUSSE
\$39⁹⁹
750ml



CASAMIGOS BLANCO
\$40⁹⁹
750ml



JACK DANIEL'S
\$45⁹⁹
1.75L



GREY GOOSE
\$39⁹⁹
1.75L



SMIRNOFF
\$19⁹⁹
1.75L



BACARDI GOLD, BLACK OR WHITE
\$20⁹⁹
1.75L



MOËT NECTAR ROSE
\$44⁹⁹
750ml



LUC BELAIRE
\$19⁹⁹
750ml



ROSCATO ALL FLAVOR
\$10⁹⁹
750ml



XXI
\$9⁹⁹
750ml



TITOS
\$32⁹⁹
1.75L



SUTTER HOME
\$10⁹⁹
1.5L



FOLLOW US



2134 UTICA AVE. BROOKLYN NY 11234 718-400-9555

OUR HOURS ARE MON. TO THU. 10AM - 9PM, FRI. & SAT. 10AM - 10PM AND SUN. 12PM - 8PM

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