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Esophageal Cancer Awareness Walk



Photo by Brian Moreno

Story on page 10



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Our Local Community Board

By Jibreel Jalloh

Have you ever wondered who makes the decisions about what gets built in your neighborhood or how local issues get resolved? The answer often lies with your local community board. As residents of Canarsie, we all share concerns about our neighborhood—be it road repairs, zoning issues or public services like schools and parks. Community boards serve as an essential forum for us to voice our opinions and have a say in these matters.

Community boards play a crucial role in bridging the gap between residents and city government. They advise the borough president on a wide array of issues, from land use to zoning. They also advocate for community needs like improved public services. In essence, they are the voice of the community, offering an accessible platform for everyone to speak, ask questions and propose improvements.

So why should you get involved? Because an active role in your community board allows you to directly influence policies and decisions that shape your daily life. Ever thought your neighborhood could use a new government service, improved public transportation or safer streets for children? Your community board is the place to make those suggestions heard. And the more residents participate, the stronger the board's voice becomes in advocating for our community needs.

Meetings are usually held on the third Wednesday of every month at 1097 Bergen Avenue. Everyone is encouraged to attend. Even if you're not a board member, these meetings provide an opportunity to voice your opinions, hear what your neighbors think and get informed about what's happening locally. If you find you're passionate about community issues, you might even consider applying for a board seat to play a more direct role in shaping your community's future.

In addition to the general board, various committees focus on specific areas like housing, transportation, public safety and more. These committees offer a chance for even more specialized community involvement. For instance, if you're particularly passionate about public safety or local educational quality, joining a committee can allow you to focus on those specific issues. These groups do the deep dives, researching and proposing solutions that the board can advocate for collectively.

So, if you've ever asked yourself how you can make a tangible difference in Canarsie, look no further than your local community board. It's a concrete way to understand the intricacies of local governance, network with community leaders and, most importantly, make your voice heard. Your involvement could lead to actual changes, making Canarsie a better place for everyone who calls it home.



In the weeks ahead, I'll kick off a short series that will profile current community board members. You'll get to hear about their local favorites, their reasons for serving and their suggestions for improving our community. Stay tuned for these enlightening conversations. They offer yet another excellent way to understand the vital role community boards play and how you can be an active part of it.

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

Sixty-Ninth Precinct Clergy Council Welcomes New Commanding Officer

By Brenda Cox

On Wednesday, September 13th, the 69th Precinct Clergy Council, led by Reverend Cecil Moonsam, convened at 9720 Foster Avenue to pray after Roll Call, for the safety of the officers, as they usually do. In addition, the Council threw a get-together to welcome the new Commanding Officer, Captain Dion Hinds.

Clergy members took turns showing special prayers and blessings on the new captain and his team. "Today, we want to honor our new C.O.," Rev. Moonsam, who is also an auxiliary sergeant, told the officers. "As clergy, we're here to let you know you can talk to us and we will pray for you."

The reverend then presented Captain

Hinds with a plaque from the Clergy Council which read, "Presented To Captain Dion Hinds, Commanding Officer, 69th Precinct. Welcome To Our Precinct And Community. May God Bless You And Guide In All Of Your Endeavors."

The commanding officer thanked everyone for their generous welcome and good wishes.



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Elected Officials and Protestors Agree: "Close Our Borders!"

By Linda Steinmuller

Southeast Brooklyn and Rockaway residents continue the fight against sheltering 7,500 single adult male asylum seekers at Floyd Bennett Field, part of Gateway National Park. Canarsie native Curtis Sliwa and Sid Rosenberg, both 77 WABC radio hosts, led another protest at the entrance to the federal site on Thursday, September 14th, where hundreds of protestors gathered to voice their opposition to building a "tent city" at the location.

Elected officials, including Assemblywoman Jaime Williams, who is adamantly opposed to using Floyd Bennett Field to shelter migrants, were also in attendance and vowed to continue to advocate for their constituents. The Aviator Sports Complex is at the site; 30 different schools use the facilities, and parents are worried about their children's safety. "Every day, people are calling my office, concerned about their kids going there," Williams said.

She's calling for President Joe Biden to close our borders and said Governor Kathy Hochul should be ashamed of herself for wanting to put migrants at Floyd Bennett Field. Housing asylum seekers will cost the city millions of dollars, and city services will have to be cut, as recently announced by Mayor Eric Adams. "If we cut our officers, FDNY, EMS, Sanitation, who is going to pay for it? You will pay for it!" Williams exclaimed.

Sliwa is concerned with open borders too. "If we look at just one problem an open border provides, think of all the terrorists who have previously decided that New York City was their number one target," he said, firing up the crowd. "Look at the most recent groups crossing our borders. They are coming from countries like Mauritius, a hotbed of ISIS, al-Qaeda activity; Sudan, which is at Civil War; Nigeria where there are jihadists. Their number one location to strike is New York City. And we are making it so easy for them!"

"Mayor Adams is cutting our basic services. It's like he's saying, 'I gotta screw the people I was elected to represent in order to help illegal aliens and potentially some terrorists, sex traffickers, drug dealers, gang bangers – over American citizens.'"

"Why isn't he putting them in Central Park? Because there are contributors to Eric Adams on the East Side and West Side who said, 'Oh, no you don't.' Eric Adams answers to the rich. He has forsaken you!" Sliwa told the angry crowd.

The number of asylum seekers arriving in NYC since the spring of 2022 has recently surpassed 113,000 people.

Photos by Charles Jones



East New York

Three Injured in All Hands Fire

By Lloyd Mitchell

It took a little over one hour for firefighters to contain a house fire at 106 Louisiana Avenue on Monday morning, September 18th.

Firefighters arrived around 6:15 a.m. to fire showing from the second-floor window of a two-story wood framed, attached private dwelling, located between Dewitt Avenue and Linden Blvd.

Units consisting of 65 firefighters utilized three hose lines to knock down the fire, and the fire was placed under control by 7:20 a.m. A trio of residents suffered minor injuries. The cause of the fire is under investigation by the FDNY's Fire Marshal's office.



East Flatbush

Police Make Gruesome Discovery Inside Home

By Lloyd Mitchell

Detectives from Patrol Borough Brooklyn South and officers from the 67th Precinct are investigating the death of two females who were found inside an East Flatbush home on Monday, September 25th.

Officers responded to a 911 call of a wellness check at 1296 New York Avenue, between Avenue D and Clarendon Road, around 2:30 p.m. after a 38-year-old family friend was unable to contact the pair. They found a 37-year-old woman and a 14-year-old girl dead in the home, with trauma and stab wounds to their bodies, police said. A

dead dog was also discovered at the location.

The Medical Examiner's office will determine the cause of death.

There are no arrests, and an investigation is ongoing.

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



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Contentious Discussion About Floyd Bennett Migrant Camp Disrupts Community Board Meeting

By Amanda Salazar

The September 20th meeting of Community Board 18 (CB 18) was taken over by a discussion of the asylum seekers and the migrant camp that is in the works at the National Parks Service's Floyd Bennett Field.

The board, located at 1097 Bergen Avenue, represents Canarsie, Bergen Beach, Flatlands, Flatbush, Georgetown, Marine Park and Mill Basin and acts as the link between residents and the city government.

This month, emotions soared high when CB 18 Chairperson Michael Ien allowed attendees to question Councilwoman Mercedes Narcisse about her thoughts on the incoming migrant camp. The questions came as a response to her absence at a community meeting the previous night, where the topic was also discussed.

One attendee asked Narcisse if she's in favor of the

migrant shelter or if she's in support of the lawsuit to block the camp.

Narcisse noted several times that the migrant shelter is a state and federal initiative and is thus out of her hands as a member of the New York City Council. She also attempted to avoid giving her personal thoughts on the situation in favor of satiating both sides. Many attendees appeared to be unsatisfied by this response.

"The minute I heard about it, I said, 'Damn, we don't want to have that facility to be used because it's not suitable,'" she said. "We need to make sure that it's suitable for folks to come in, if they *have* to come in."

The Floyd Bennett Field camp is a contentious topic. Some residents fear that the migrants could bring crime to the community, while others don't want to see their taxes going to house and educate undocu-

mented immigrants. Other residents just don't want access to the national park to be altered. A different group of residents don't want the camp because they feel the park, which is in a flood zone and has no existing housing structures, is unsuitable to house people.

The heated conversation resulted in a change to the scheduled agenda. A public hearing with a representative of the NYC Department of Environmental Protection about flooding in Bergen Beach last April was postponed until the board's October meeting because of the migrant talk.

Assemblywoman Jaime Williams, who is one of the officials who brought the lawsuit against the camp, spoke. "Our governor — plain talk, bad manners — made a deal in the night with the Biden Administration with no consciousness whatsoever to reach out to the local electeds who represent you here in the 59th," she said. "That's an issue. Guess what, I'm your assembly member. When I took my oath, it was to represent *you*, not to represent the governor or the mayor."

The migrant discussion also brought other politicians out of the woodwork. State Senator Kevin Parker, whose visits to the district are infrequent, also addressed the matter, having to speak over cries of, "Where have you been?" from the attendees.

"Let me just be clear where I am on this: I represent *you*," he said. "If this community is saying to me that they don't want anyone improperly housed at Floyd Bennett Field, then that's my position."

Beyond the migrant conversation, the meeting included a conversation about curbside composting. Department of Sanitation Senior Program Manager of Organics Outreach Andrew Hoyles spoke about the rules around the city's new mandatory composting program.

Beginning October 2nd, Brooklynites will have to start setting out their lawn clippings and leaves in a separate bin designated specifically for compost. While it's only mandatory to compost yard waste, as opposed to throwing it in the trash, it's also highly encouraged to put food waste and food-soiled paper into the compost bins as well. This reduces the amount of organic waste going into landfills and will, hopefully, aid the city's rat eradication efforts, as well. Compost will be collected on recycling days.



Councilwoman Mercedes Narcisse responding to a constituent question.



State Senator Kevin Parker talking about the migrant camp at Floyd Bennett Field



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"Migrant Issue Will Hurt Us" Says Former Governor Cuomo to Crowd at TJ Club

By Brenda Cox

On Thursday, September 14th, former Governor Andrew Cuomo made his first public, political appearance since leaving office in 2021, at the Thomas Jefferson (TJ) Democratic Club, 77 Conklin Avenue. The former governor addressed a packed room of fellow leaders, including State Senators Roxanne Persaud (SD 19) and Kevin Parker (SD 21), Assemblywoman Jaime Williams (AD 59), District Leader Frank Seddio, former Councilman Alan Maisel, TJ Club President Henry Bolus, CB 18 District Manager Sue Ann Partnow and a host of community members. In Cuomo's speech, he spoke about two major issues he believes are damag-

ing to the Democratic Party.

Cuomo has been praised by many for his vision on issues like marriage equality and abortion rights but especially his leadership during the COVID-19 pandemic, of which New York City was the Nation's epicenter. His daily briefings were viewed nationally and internationally as everyone looked to New York for guidance. "I think it's one of the most historical things that's ever been done by a governor but more importantly by a person making sure he was taking care of his people," Seddio stated.

The three-term governor, who also served in various positions of government including NYS Attorney



Former Governor Andrew Cuomo (third from left) with Alan Maisel, Sue Ann Partnow, Jaime Williams, Roxanne Persaud and Frank Seddio.

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General, outlined the two major impediments he foresees for the Democratic Party in the upcoming Presidential Election. “It’s going to be the issue of crime from the last election plus the issue of migrants from this election,” he announced candidly. He warned that the Democratic Party should not repeat the mistake of downplaying the crime issue. Cuomo was even more blunt regarding the current “controversial” migrant issue and delivered an ominous message to his party – “Politically, this is going to hurt us!”

The migrant issue is a hotbed topic that local leaders insist should not be

their responsibility for a variety of reasons. As Cuomo emphatically stated, “This is a federal responsibility. Period! Not the state! Not the city!”

Assemblywoman Williams agreed and did not mince words either as she repeated Mayor Eric Adams’ prediction that “the migrant issue is going to destroy our city!” She blasted Governor Kathy Hochul who “came and embraced us here at the TJ Club” during her run for governor but did not bother to consult her or Senator Persaud or any of the other leaders before deciding to house 7,500 migrants in their district, at Floyd Bennett Field. “It’s most disrespectful!” Williams fumed.

According to Williams and other leaders who are familiar with the location, Floyd Bennett, formerly an aviation field, “is one of the most isolated areas in Brooklyn that is a transit desert but overall, a flood zone.” Williams described how she found herself ankle-deep in water after visiting the area on two separate occasions recently, after it had rained. She also expressed concerns about the inevitable, across-the-board slashes that are contemplated for NYPD, FDNY, sanitation, teachers and other vital services in order to facilitate the influx of migrants to New York City.

Williams and her counterparts have already filed a lawsuit to prevent the “tent city” from being erected.



Former Governor Andrew Cuomo, guest speaker at the Thomas Jefferson Democratic Club on September 14th.

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Marine Park Residents Join the Fight Against Housing Migrants at Floyd Bennett Field

By Loretta Chin

Frustrated, angry and anxious Marine Park residents, eager to discuss the threat of plans to house thousands of migrants at Floyd Bennett Field (FBF), packed the Carmine Carro Community Center at 3000 Fillmore Avenue on the evening of Tuesday, September 19th, for the first meeting of the Marine Park Community Association (MPCA) after the summer hiatus.

MPCA President Rob Mazzuchin stated, "There is no mistaking the fact that the majority of the Community is against the migrant camp at Floyd Bennett," in their monthly community newsletter describing what had occurred over the summer. "We're fighting this every way we can and we need you to fight it every way you can," he said.

After receiving word in August of plans to house 2,500 single adult male migrants at FBF and three



Marine Park residents and supporters, united and vocal about their opposition to placing thousands of migrants at Floyd Bennett Field.

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bipartisan protest rallies citing issues related to the illegal use of national park land for a migrant camp; violation of the NYS Constitution and state, federal and local laws; security; public health; the lack of an environmental study and proper infrastructure to safely house migrants in a flood zone; improper vetting; and more, city officials received notice on the eve of Rosh Hashanah that a one-year lease between the city and the federal government to house migrants at FBF was effective as of September 15th.

The initial lease allows for the use of four parcels of land totaling about 30 acres, including a portion of runway 19, a portion of Hangar B/Seaplane Parking Lot and two Campground areas at a monthly rental rate of \$1,733,750, and a Management and Oversight Rent in the amount of \$7,000,000 annually to temporarily shelter and provide services to a maximum of 2,000 migrants. Officials fear that the number is subject to change and may swell to as many as 7,500.

D59 Assemblywoman Jaime Williams, D32 Councilwoman Joann Ariola and D23 Assemblywoman Stacey Pheffer Amato formed a bipartisan coalition that has led the fight, with others, to halt the placement of a migrant camp base at FBF from the beginning.

Williams announced that court papers had been filed the evening before and signed by a judge; she also plans to testify before Congress on Wednesday, September 27th. A court date is set for October 3rd.

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at the Richmond County Supreme Court. The lawsuit includes 39 plaintiffs consisting of a bipartisan group of elected officials, civic presidents, community leaders and residents.

"This is going to impact every single person in this state financially," Williams said, citing the over \$20 million annual cost to house the migrants. "Where is that coming from?" she asked and then pointed to everyone and said, "You, the taxpayers," stating that it was an abuse of taxpayer dollars.

Residents expressed concern about their safety and that of their children. They were worried about how it would affect the values of their homes and the stability of their neighborhood. Others said that priorities should be placed on helping those already in the U.S. who are homeless, struggling with housing or who have paid their dues by entering the country legally and need help too.

"They have all these different pronouns to describe the illegal migrants. 'No, they're not illegal, they're seeking asylum.' Do you think 100,000 plus will be granted asylum? I don't think so, but at the end of the day, you want to put them in our backyard in a residential community," Williams said.

Williams described how migrants placed in a location with few transportation options and no place to go could end up wandering through nearby neighborhoods, major shopping area parking lots and street medians, causing a strain on the police and other essential services, affecting the quality of life in the area.

Another concern was for the people and children who use FBF, which is a very active site with a multitude of activities serving the community. Others suggested using the Jacob Javits Center or Central Park as alternative sites.

"It's citizens over politics," Williams said. Many agreed that it was not about politics, but a bipartisan issue affecting the majority of citizens in the community.

Other than State Senator Simcha Felder who introduced himself earlier as their representative due to redistricting, residents wanted to know where their elected officials stood on the matter and why they were not present at the meeting, vowing to confront them at the Community Board 18 meeting the following evening.

A petition was circulated and voter registration cards were distributed as constituents were urged to use the power of their votes at the next election.

The day after the meeting, Governor Kathy Hochul announced that after meeting with President Biden, White House officials announced that eligible individuals from Venezuela, who have continuously resided in the United States on or before July 31, 2023, will be eligible to apply for Temporary Protected Status. This would allow the state to expedite work authorizations for eligible migrants and assist them out of the shelter system.

The *Canarsie Courier* reached out to the Mayor's press office for information and received this statement on September 20th: "Floyd Bennett will host [approximately] 2,000 people and open in the coming weeks," a representative said, but that remains

to be seen in light of the recently filed injunction, announcement by Gov. Hochul and plans to file an injunction on the federal level.



Assemblywoman Jaime Williams updates residents about the latest developments and plans to go to court on October 3rd to halt plans to illegally use national park land to house migrants.

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Marine Park

Run for the Future at the Fifth Annual Esophageal Cancer Awareness 5K

By Brian Moreno

Despite the cold weather and gray skies, family, friends, loved ones and supporters gathered at Marine Park on Saturday morning, September 16th, to participate in the 5th Annual Esophageal Cancer (EC) Awareness 5K Run/Walk.

The event was organized by Dara Mormile, the Brooklyn Chapter leader of the Salgi Esophageal Cancer Research Foundation, who created the run/walk in 2019 to not only honor the memory of her father, Joseph Mormile, who passed away due to EC in 2010, but also to raise donations and bring awareness to the disease.

"In January 2019, I began a partnership with the Salgi Esophageal Cancer Research Foundation and pursued a 5K race event in Brooklyn's own Marine Park with a race organization, elitefeats, where I could promote education on the disease and give others the tools to take their digestive health seriously. My hope and goal is for participants and volunteers to help spread knowledge about EC so we can change the stories of the future into those of survival," as written by Mormile on Salgi's website.

Returning runners and newcomers from various backgrounds came to the park to honor those who passed away, support the cause and bring awareness and support to those seeking treatment of the disease.

"Our friend Bennett, unfortunately, had his father pass away from EC a couple years back and reached out to us and said, 'Hey, you guys want to come out and do a run in honor of my father,'" said Steven Trombetta. "So yeah, we decided to come out and support our friend."

Local officials also came to provide support, such as a representative from State Senator Roxanne Persaud's office and Councilwoman Mercedes Narcisse. Both spoke of lobbying for mandated screenings, more treatment and awareness for EC. While as a nurse, Narcisse also talked about how she supported Mormile and her father during their time of need.

According to the American Cancer Society, key statistics of EC are that it has risen over 733% in the past four decades and is considered the fastest-growing cancer in the United States and the Western world. EC risk factors include: Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease, persistent heartburn, obesity, poor nutrition, tobacco use, excessive alcohol consumption, inactivity and Barrett's esophagus. Unfortunately, there are no routine or standard screenings to detect EC in its earlier stages. In 2023, EC is anticipated to be diagnosed in 21,560 people and to be the cause of 16,120 deaths.

Before participants gathered at the starting line, Amy Suznovich, an opera singer who lost her father to EC, performed the National Anthem as she has done in years prior.

Due to construction in the park's oval, the main course was two loops around the park's perimeter on the sidewalk.

The men's winner was Zadraire Guillou, who came in at 21:09; the women's winner was Kristen Horn, who finished at 24:07. They each won a \$50 Amazon Gift Card. Second-place winners were Tomer Shoham and Kiera Haggerty, who each won a \$25 Amazon Gift Card.

"The place doesn't matter," said Shoham. "What matters is that we are off the couch and here to support a good goal, and at the end of the day, if we can donate to a good cause and fighting cancer, why not?"

Afterwards, family members and one battling EC came forward to give speeches about how EC has impacted their loved ones and their struggles.

Michael Flores participated in the 5K and is battling Stage III Junction EC. He spoke of his experience, particularly with his diet and chemotherapy, stating, "We're all here for the same cause to make people aware of this cancer. It is good to know that there are a lot of us out there. As I said, it is not as rare as they say it is because multiple of us are going through it. So, I say one step at a time."

Danielle DiVanna, daughter of John DiVanna, spoke fondly of her late father and his connection to many people. "Our dad was diagnosed with EC and passed away two years ago. We found the Salgi Foundation online and they were a good support system," said DiVanna. "We sent the message out to many friends and family, and my dad impacted many people's lives, so they all came to show their support. It's incredible. I get emotional thinking about it."

Over 200 people participated in the 5K, and over \$2,000 were raised on the initial day, though Mormile plans to extend the donation time as she hopes to match or exceed last year's donation of \$14,000.

"I feel stronger about this year's event," said Mormile. "More people are coming out; more people are seeing the value in raising awareness. It became more meaningful to so many families. I'm proud of that."

Visit Salgi.org and salgi.org/research/ to learn more about the Salgi Foundation. Visit Mormile's EC Awareness YouTube survivor series channel at youtube.com/user/diggydiggydara or email her at DaraMormile@hotmail.com.



The 5th Annual Esophageal Cancer Awareness 5K.



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East Flatbush

DJS-1 Appreciation Block Party

By Leslie-Ann Angus-Torres

The world is full of some phenomenal people. Right here in East Flatbush, we are lucky to have one of them living among us, DJS-1. For over a decade, DJS-1 has been impressing partygoers and music lovers with his signature mash-up mixes of Hip Hop, R&B, Reggae and Rock. He is not just a great DJ but also a compassionate individual who supports and always gives back to his community.

DJS-1's dedication to the community can't go unnoticed, and he certainly shows his appreciation. He celebrated those families with a DJS-1 Appreciation Block Party on Albany Avenue earlier this month. This was the 2nd Annual "DJS-1 Appreciation First Saturday Block Party," and a party it was.

DJS-1 and Elite Learners partnered to make this event miraculous. Elite Learners' Executive Director Camara L. Jackson launched Elite Learners, Inc. in 2016. Their slogan is "Each One, Teach One to Reach One." Their reach has definitely been felt in this community. They provided games, snacks and bouncy houses for the children to enjoy.

There were performances galore. Not only did DJS-1 co-host with DJ Mix Myles, his 8-year-old son, who is blazing in the music mix scene, but DJ Corey had the attendees jamming on the dance floor.

Monia Amore was a show stopper. She captivated the crowd. The partygoers were vibing to her new single, "At The End of The Day." Amore also sang many more songs which one attendee, Arlene Linton, remarked, "Her songs are on fire."

The event featured many more artists like Jerry Wess, a Brooklyn battle rapper, who has made a name for himself. Wess collaborated with Live Wire, another very talented hip hop artist. Wess was also sharing information about his new venture, Wess Films, which partners up with schools to teach our youth media production. Swooptick, also a phenomenal rapper/entertainer, was in attendance.

DJS-1 Appreciation Block Party was surly a vibe. The vendors that came out were no short of just simply amazing. Lakeisha Johnson, owner of Loa's Vegan Delite, donated meals to all the families that came out, and it was delicious. School supplies with affirmations were provided by ASOM (Amazing Shades of Melanin). Elissa Thomas-Bey, founder of ASOM, gave away wonderful gifts that highlighted the notion that beauty comes in all shades. The Hands on Workshop Experience was definitely there doing educational-based arts that they have been doing in the community for eight years now. Leslie-Ann Angus, founder/owner of the organization, said, "We have to teach children the way they learn." The H.O.W. table gave away art painting kits and

creative clay craft supplies.

All the vendors were spotlighted by DJS-1 during his, as he calls it, "The Vendor Walk." So many came out to give back to the community – Powell Martial Arts, Elleemgstylez, DJ Mama KiM, Community School New York Edge and Ruth Fleury, who is an author of children books. She shared with the children a book she wrote called, *Hyper Kid, So They Say!* The families gravitated to her books. One parent said, "I can really relate to this book." The vendor walk also included Sisters With a Goal (SWAG), in which they provided wonderful Nickelodeon attire and toys for every child who came to the block party.

Check out DJS-1 on WBLS 107.5 FM on Saturdays from 8 to 10 p.m. This event is an annual celebration. Hope to see you next year!





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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Happy Birthday, Kayla!



Happy 18th Birthday, Kayla, on October 2nd. We want to wish you a Happy Birthday. May all your dreams come true.

Love, Grandma, Mom & Dad, Marissa, Aunt Dominique, Ken, Uncle Ricky, Aunt Happy and cousins: Arianna, Cadence, Michael, Zack, Madison.

District 22 Superintendent Holds Back-to-School Town Hall

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

School District 22 Superintendent Julia Bove hosted a very well-attended, virtual "Back-to-School Town Hall" meeting on Tuesday evening, September 19th, via Zoom, to address the most pressing concerns families have at the beginning of this school year.

The superintendent began the meeting by identifying her five primary goals for the District, the first of which was improving literacy through the new English Language Arts (ELA) curriculum. She explained that reading and writing are essential to success in every other subject and that the new K-5 "Into Reading" and Grade 6-8 "Into

Literature" programs will give students a solid foundation on which to build on.

She also emphasized the importance of math proficiency and identified the subject as the primary gatekeeper for higher learning. The superintendent said that algebra, which is introduced in 8th or 9th grade, is one of the subjects students have the most trouble with. She explained that if students do not get the extra support they need to pass the class, many just give up on math altogether and that without it, they cannot graduate high school or attend college.

Bove said that she is dedicated to ensuring that the growing number of multilingual and students with Indi-

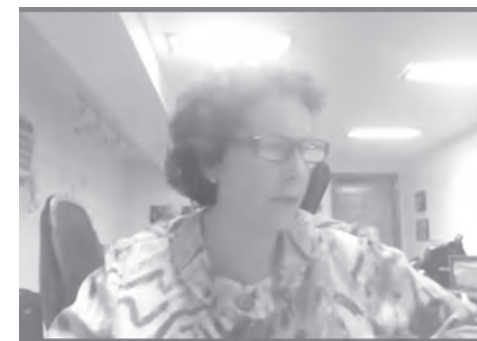
vidualized Education Programs (IEPs) continue to have all of the support they need, reducing chronic absenteeism (18 or more unexplained absences throughout the school year) and retaining middle school students by celebrating all the District has to offer.

Borough Safety Director Craig Edwards was also in attendance for the meeting and shared an extremely informative presentation on the most current school safety protocols. Edwards explained that schools have four primary emergency responses: **evacuation** (formerly known as a fire drill, but also applied to bomb threats, gas leaks or carbon monoxide exposure), **shelter-in place** (putting the entire school in a virtual cocoon when an emergency is happening outside the school, such as shots fired), **hold** (when students are to remain in their classrooms while there is an emergency going on in the hallways or elsewhere) and **soft/hard lockdowns**. In a soft lockdown, there is no immediate danger. Doors are locked and the school's Building Response Team conducts a sweep. During a hard lockdown, there is an immediate threat. Doors are locked and police officers conduct a sweep. Edwards explained that each school must submit their safety plan by week's end and conduct eight drills by the end of December.

The safety director also explained that all newly constructed schools now

come equipped with state-of-the-art video surveillance equipment, that older schools are currently being retrofitted and that all of the software across the board is being refreshed to provide the best quality available with the ability to zoom and conduct facial recognition. He discussed emergency supply bags, buzzer systems, door alarms, Walkie Talkies and ID cards. While ID cards in elementary and middle schools are not standard practice and Walkie Talkies are not provided for free, they are available for purchase at the discretion of a school's SLT and Principal, who can make allocations within the safety budget for such measures.

While many questions were fielded throughout the meeting, anyone with additional concerns was encouraged to contact the District Office, and all were assured that each and every question would be answered by the superintendent's team.



District 22 Superintendent Julia Bove

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Marine Park

Madison-Marine-Homecrest Civic: No to Migrant Camp at Floyd Bennett!

By Brian Moreno

Residents gathered at the Carmine Carro Community Center in Marine Park to voice their concerns about a migrant shelter in Floyd Bennett Field at the first meeting of the Madison-Marine-Homecrest Civic Association (MMHCA) since the summer break.

On September 15th, New York City signed a lease agreement with the federal government to allow for tent-style shelters to be placed at Floyd Bennett Field to house 2,000 male migrants at a monthly cost of \$1.7 million. Locals are displeased with the decision and are concerned about how elected officials will deal with the crisis since it could have long-term effects on the communities they represent.

At the September 21st meeting, attendees voiced their concerns, including background/criminal checks, health status, country of origin, how many additional migrants are expected at the site and how they will be kept track of.

Councilwoman Mercedes Narcisse provided background information on the situation and spoke of her limitations as a councilmember. Still, she told constituents some of the things she could do, such as trying to bring as many judges as possible to vet the migrants.

Other concerns included how services will be provided to migrants if they stay, if they are meeting asylum requirements and how they will find employment. Some offered solutions such as closing the borders or emulating other cities such as Los Angeles as examples to follow. Narcisse said all solutions are being looked at, and she will continue to find ways to deal with the situation.

Assemblywoman Jaime Williams shared similar

sentiments and told attendees that she followed up on a previous promise she made – to file a lawsuit against Mayor Eric Adams and Governor Kathy Hochul to stop the placement of a migrant camp on a federal site. The suit is similar to how a judge in Staten Island issued a temporary restraining order (TRO) to prevent the former St. John Villa Academy from being used as a shelter for migrants. That suit was shortly overturned as the city appealed it hours later.

“It’s exactly what Staten Island did; the TRO would prevent the migrants from coming here,” said Williams. “We don’t have anything built and it’s to prevent them from moving onwards with any type of structure. Floyd Bennett is not an ideal space to be used to house migrants. I don’t know if you’ve been to Floyd Bennett, but it’s a flood zone, the slightest of rain. What are we doing here when there’s no infrastructure in place and you’re going to be pissing away \$1.7 million a month and over. In one year, we’re talking about over \$20 million. We’re not even incorporating how much it’s going to cost to put all those services there and to actually build that infrastructure out.”

Williams will continue her efforts as she has a court hearing on October 3rd and is scheduled to speak before Congress on Wednesday, September 27th.

“People are angry, but I think they’re more fearful for their families, their communities and the changes overall,” said MMHCA President Elizabeth Morrissey. “It’s not a solution. They’re just plopping them [migrants] here and nothing to help them. There’s no services. No one’s been talking about what kind of services we can provide. We’ve had brush fires at least twice a year. This is not a solution. This

is a Band-Aid that is going to hurt when it gets ripped off.”

Co-founders of the Marine Park Pickleball Associates (MPPBA), Bob Spieler and Mike Chaiet, discussed the state of the pickleball courts in Marine Park. The courts were constructed earlier this year and are already in poor condition; notably, their poles and concrete are deteriorating. Spieler and Chaiet asked for help from Narcisse, Williams and the civic board to fix the courts and perhaps even convert a few additional tennis courts into pickleball courts. The MPPBA plans to put up additional courts around Brooklyn, give new members introductory lessons and form teams in high schools.



Assemblywoman Jaime Williams talks about her plan to use a TRO to stop a migrant camp in Floyd Bennett Field.



Bob Spieler and Mike Chaiet, cofounders of the Marine Park Pickleball Associates, discuss the current situation of the pickleball courts.

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National Suicide Prevention Month: How to Help

By Melissa Clark

Certain months are dedicated to awareness, appreciation or prevention. As we slip into the fall and the weather gets slightly cooler, we commemorate September as Suicide Prevention Month. We remember those who took their lives, individuals who are struggling and recognize others who make an impact.

Declared in September 2008 as National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month, we must understand the well-being of our overall physical and mental health. As per the CDC, in 2022, there were 49,449 self-inflicted deaths in the United States alone. Of those numbers, 39,255 were male, while 10,194 were

female, with ages ranging from 25 to 44 being the highest in deaths.

There are several reasons why people choose to end their lives. Some choices include bullying, shaming or humiliation, financial problems, job loss, a break-up, academic failure, depression and medication intake. Actress and artist Kathrina Miccio recalls her longtime friend, stand-up comedian and actor Richard Jeni, who took his life on March 10, 2007. Jeni was a Brooklyn native who appeared on shows such as *The Tonight Show Starring Johnny Carson* and *The Tonight Show with Jay Leno* and in character parts in films such as *The Mask* with Jim Carrey. According to the coroner's office, Jeni was consuming anti-depressants along with a sleeping aid.

Miccio told the *Canarsie Courier*, "Knowing Richard for over 20 years, I confronted him about the new anti-depressant he was taking along with the sleeping aid, Ambien. I was concerned about the paranoia I observed." Psychologist Dr. Kymberli Boynton, Psy.D / MA. Ed / LMFT, with over 15 years in the mental health field, stressed the importance of patients revealing to their doctors what medications they are taking. She explained, "Patients who take narcotics that cause drowsiness, you do not want to take them while you are alone. Medical management is critical, and when you're adding to the list

of prescriptions, be sure to let your doctors know what you are taking so they can see how it will interact, especially if you are seeing several doctors."

Although we can be shocked when we hear of a neighbor, family or friend who has taken their life, there are some signs that we can look out for, such as verbalizing their desire to self-harm or expressing that they are a burden to others and feeling hopeless, and not having a way out, according to Dr. Boynton. Other red flags to be aware of are social isolation, such as family and friend participation, personal hygiene, mood swings and substance abuse. So what can we do when we suspect our loved one exhibiting stoic behavior? Dr. Boynton recommends taking the person seriously when speaking of hurting themselves. "Even if they've cried wolf a million times, you never know if it's that one time that can make a difference." She also advises that the person has a solid support system.

Help is always at your fingertips! In Canarsie, Simone Muschett, LMSW, Founder and CEO of Resilient Young Minds, Inc. (RYM), started her organization in July 2017. At the time, she was an educator and noticed her students were struggling with issues at home that made it difficult to concentrate at school. Having the same issues as an adolescent, Muschett wanted to help the community and create a safe space to talk about how problems impact an individual but mostly find solutions. A Licensed Master Social Worker for over six years, Muschett formed a Suicide Awareness Program within RYM. Muschett promotes healthy ways throughout her program to help with activities such as yoga art therapy and teaches healthy habits to help with anxiety and depression.

On Saturday, September 16th, at Canarsie Park on a beautiful sunny day, Muschett, RYM Vice President Dr. Magalie Alexis and volunteers facilitated a Suicide Awareness Walk and safe space for those who wanted to share their stories. Muschett addressed the group about her organization, commended those who made it to the gath-



ering and sang a song to show that being vulnerable is okay. It's essential to the team that everyone participates. Muschett explained, "We want to be able to share our stories so others feel comfortable sharing their trauma, creating togetherness, connecting and having a sense of belonging."

East New York resident and social media influencer Lola Pierre, a survivor who lost her best friend to suicide last year, told the *Canarsie Courier*, "It's okay not to be okay, but it's not okay to stop trying, to stop living, to stop healing." Pierre attributes her father for motivating her every day. She explained, "While acting upon hurting yourself, you don't think about how it's going to affect your loved ones." Pierre said she does not want her father to grieve because she knows how it feels to mourn a loved one. She won Ms. Caribbean Full Figured USA last year, and her goal is to spread the word that no one is ever alone with what they are going through.

The next focus of the Suicide Awareness Program within RYM will be on men and providing positive ways to help them.

RYM is always looking for volunteers, sponsors and donations. To learn more, visit their Instagram [rym_inc](https://www.instagram.com/rym_inc) or email them at resilientyoungminds@gmail.com.

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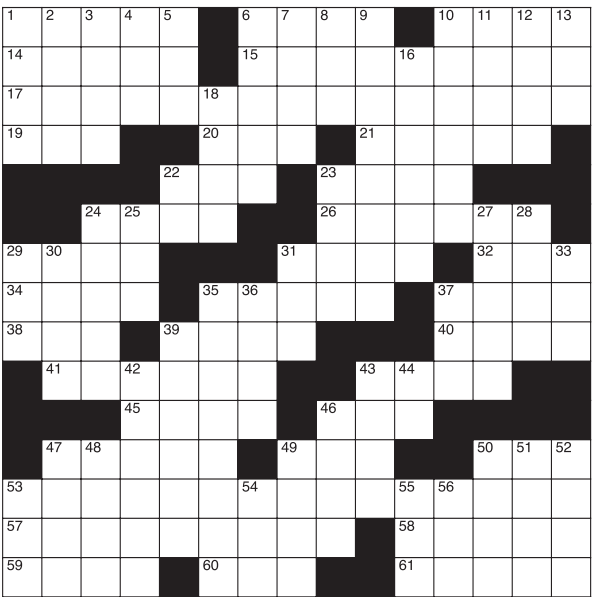
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OAK
OASIS
RAPIDS
REMOTE
RIDGELINE
SOIL
STREAM
VALLEY



CLUES ACROSS

1. Type of cat
6. Weaponry
10. Western Christian Church service
14. Significant eruption of pustules
15. Baltic nation
17. Start of American holiday season
19. Unhappy
20. Maintains possession of
21. Metrical foot of one long and three short syllables
22. Mountain pass
23. Vestments
24. Type of dish
26. Escaped quickly
29. Zoroastrian concept of holy fire
31. Wings
32. Political action committee
34. Touches lightly
35. Stood back from
37. Philippine Island
38. Popular winter activity
39. Type of amine
40. Small freshwater duck
41. Filled with love
43. Without (French)
45. Vetch
46. Swiss river
47. Describes a sound
49. Sign language
50. Hair product
53. Have surgery
57. Quality of being imaginary
58. Far-right German party
59. Drove
60. Former French coin of low value
61. Hard, durable timbers

CLUES DOWN

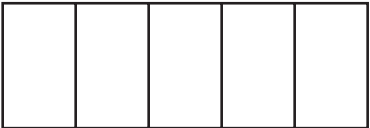
1. Body art
2. Middle East military title
3. Actor Pitt
4. Container
5. Speak incessantly
6. Relating to algae
7. Jacob __, journalist
8. Rock TV channel
9. Boat's cargo
10. Most wise
11. Within
12. Chinese industrial city
13. Scotland's longest river
16. Not capable
18. Footwear
22. Savings account
23. Capable
24. Vaccine developer
25. Tax collector
27. Fencing swords
28. Native religion in China
29. Promotional materials
30. A shot in a film production
31. Afflict in mind or body
33. A passage with access only at one end
35. Breathing devices
36. Employ for wages
37. Kids' TV channel (abbr.)
39. Popular Boston song
42. Made amends
43. Selling at specially reduced prices
44. Atomic #18
46. With fireplace residue
47. Unleavened cornbread
48. Draw out
49. Southwestern Alaska island
50. Where the Pyramids are
51. People of Nigeria
52. Smaller quantity
53. Destroy the inside of
54. City
55. Chivalrous figure (abbr.)
56. No (Scottish)



WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to the great outdoors.

R D S B I



Answer: Birds

Guess Who?

I am an actress born in Mississippi on September 30, 1982. I participated in the World's Our Little Miss Scholarship Competition in 1985. I gained fame on "Party of Five," a hit TV show, and went on to make various movies in the 1990s and beyond.

Answer: Lacey Chabert

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

CRYPTO FUN

Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to the wilderness. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 13 = R)

- A. 9 13 5 5 7
Clue: Provide shade and habitats
B. 24 26 9 3 24 24 13 7
Clue: Not inside
C. 2 1 17 1 23 14
Clue: Walking through wilderness
D. 23 6 9 26 13 5
Clue: Wildlife and plants

Answers: A. trees B. outdoors C. hiking D. nature

SUDOKU

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

Level: intermediate

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!

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!

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

ANSWER:

PUZZLE SOLUTION

T	A	B	B	Y		A	R	M	S		S	E	X	T
A	G	R	I	A		L	I	T	H	U	A	N	I	A
T	H	A	N	K	S	G	I	V	I	N	G	D	A	Y
S	A	D				H	A	S		P	A	E	O	N
						C	O	L		A	L	B	S	
						S	I	D	E		B	O	L	T
A	T	A	R							A	L	A	E	P
D	A	B	S			S	H	I	E	D		C	E	B
S	K	I				A	N	I	L			T	E	A
						E	N	A	M	O	R		S	A
						T	A	R	E		A	A	R	
						P	L	O	N	K		A	S	L
G	O	U	N	D	E	R	T	H	E	K	N	I	F	E
U	N	R	E	A	L	I	T	Y			N	A	Z	I
T	E	E	D			S	O	U			T	E	A	K



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-FORMATION OF LIMITED

LIABILITY COMPANIES (LLCs)



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NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of ACDC Consulting LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 2023-06-14. 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 United States Corporation Agents, Inc.: 7014 13th Avenue Suite 202 Brooklyn NY 11228. Purpose: Any lawful purpose

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of Clear Skies Legal PLLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 2023-05-22. Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of Professional Limited Liability Company (PLLC) upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY should mail process to Connor Yim: 2101 66th Street Brooklyn NY 07624. Purpose: Any lawful purpose

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

A Notice of Formation of 5901 Investor LLC, Art. of Org. filed Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 8/16/2023. Office location: Kings County. SSNY Designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: The LLC, 878 60th St, 1st Fl, Brooklyn, NY 11220. Purpose: any lawful activity.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of Simone US LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 2023-08-18. Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY should mail process to Nikki Ascher: 502 Warren street Apt 1 Brooklyn NY 11217. Purpose: Any lawful purpose

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

251SMA LLC, Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 08/24/2023. Office loc: Kings County. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 251 Saint Marks Avenue, Apt 4B, Brooklyn, NY 11238. Purpose: Any Lawful Purpose.

Notice of Formation of 72 AVENUE U LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 2023-08-17. Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated as agent of Limited Liability Company (LLC) upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY should mail process to David H. Perlman: 72 AVENUE U, Brooklyn, NY 11223. Purpose: Any lawful purpose

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of Formation of Space Audity Productions, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 2023-08-18. 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 Northwest Registered Agent LLC: 522 W Riverside Ave. Suite N Spokane WA 99201. Purpose: Any lawful purpose

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

323 PARK PLACE LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 08/30/23. 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, 323 Park Place, Brooklyn, NY 11238. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.



KINGS COUNTY NOTICE OF APPLICATION OF A LIQUOR LICENSE

Notice is hereby given that a license, number 1370688 for wine, beer and cider at retail has been applied for by the undersigned to sell beer, wine and cider at retail in a tavern under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at 340 Bedford Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11249 for on-premises consumption. She Said NYC LLC d/b/a With Others Brooklyn

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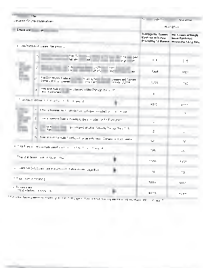
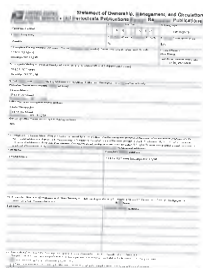
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