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25 CENTS



Support Our Troops Wear Blue Every Briday

Point Of View

Laundry & Cleaning Tips

We at the Queens Times thought that our readers would be interested in the following Laundry and Cleaning tips. We hope that they help you make some of your cleaning problems an easier chore.

Laundry Tips: Treat tough stains with a few basic household tips that are environmentally safe and that may serve as an alternative option to dry cleaning or discarding a garment.

To treat blood, pour hydrogen peroxide on the stain and let it sit for 10 minutes. Rinse with cold water. Hydrogen peroxide is a disinfecting agent and requires only a few minutes to lift most stains and kill germs. In addition to blood, hydrogen peroxide also treats grass stains (follow the same application technique as described for treating blood stains). It is not necessary in either case to scrub the garment.

To treat deodorant stains, use a normal kitchen sponge to apply white vinegar to the stained garment. Wait 30 minutes. Rinse the stain and then add a detergent with bleach alternative to the stain (assuming it is safe to do so). Wait five minutes and then place the garment in the washing machine as directed. Use the hottest water safe for the fabric.

To treat grease, use cornstarch or baby powder. Sprinkle a generous amount of either powder over the stain. Allow the powder to absorb the stain for approximately 24 hours. Use a toothbrush, dry kitchen sponge or the back of your hand to brush the powder off. Watch as the grease particles come off, along with the powder.

(Continued on page 2)

Elmhurst Lunar New Year Celebration



Pictured marching at the Elmhurst Lunar New Year Celebration is Council Member Daniel Dromm, Council Member Peter Vallone, Jr., Steven Wong from the Hotel Chinese Association of NY, Warren Chan from the Asian Community United Society, Robin "Bing" Wong from the Elmhurst Neighborhood Block Association, Fr. Peter Lai from St, James Episcopal Church and John Yu from the Hotel Chinese Association of NY. Photo by Bob Grant.

Congressman Crowley Hosts 14th Annual Black History Month Celebration



(Top Center) Rep. Joe Crowley and Council Member Julissa Ferreras and the 2013 Black History Month Celebration honorees (Back Row: George Gibson, George R. Dixon, and Crowley; Front Row: Borough President Helen Marshall, Ferreras, Barbara Jackson, Rep. Marcia Fudge, Aleatha Williams, and Anne Cotton Morris); (Bottom Left) Rep. Marcia Fudge delivers the keynote address; (Bottom Right) The Antioch Baptist Church Choir performs during the celebration. Photo by Dominick Totino Photography. See story on page 2.

Meng Celebrates Black History Month



Pictured above: In honor of Black History Month, U.S. Rep. Grace Meng (D-Queens) hosted a discussion with African American Community Leaders from Queens at the Flushing Library.

U.S. Rep. Grace Meng (D-Queens) celebrated Black History Month by sponsoring a round table discussion with African American community leaders from Queens.

A dozen community leaders from Meng's district participated. Topics included a variety of local

and national issues.

The event took place last Wednesday at the Flushing Library on Main Street.



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Point Of View

(Continued from page 1)

Always treat stains early and never allow them to set. If a stain does set, you may have to work harder to lift it from the fabric.

Cleaning Tips: In any room of your house, including the basement and garage, you may notice an occasional odor. While an odor coming from a bathroom or hall closet where rain gear and shoes may be stored is common, it may also indicate a larger problem. In most cases, odors on fabrics, fur-

niture and even the human body are typically the result of bacteria buildup. If areas of your house have a persistent pungent or even slight odor, you most likely have an overgrowth of bacteria---in which case, putting out baking soda or spraying a room or carpet deodorizer will not combat the larger issue.

To clean the room or space of all bacteria, remove all items and use a natural or commercial disinfecting agent to clean the entire area. Vinegar and water, hydrogen peroxide, bleach and water, and commercial household cleaning products are all suitable disinfecting agents. Use vinegar and water on wood panels to prevent damaging the wood and other delicate surfaces. Once the room is completely clean, add a box of baking powder to keep new smells or the odor of mildew from becoming trapped.

Mayor Bloomberg Signs Councilman Gennaro's 'Green' Bills Into Law

Legislation will help prevent flooding, preserve biodiversity in city parks and give residents, business owners a renewable energy online resource

Councilman James F. Gennaro (D-Fresh Meadows), chairman of the Council's Committee on Environmental Protection, celebrated three critical pieces of "green" legislation signed into law by Mayor Michael Bloomberg that will help the city address the challenges posed by climate change.

The first bill authored by Gennaro, Intro 75A, directs the city Parks and Recreation Department to create a stormwater resistant plant manual that will help reduce severe flooding events like that experienced by the city in the wake of Superstorm Sandy.

"This bill is part of our ongoing efforts to manage and reduce runoff from big storms that cause catastrophic damage to many low-lying areas. By directing city Parks to identify and install



Councilman James F. Gennaro (D-Fresh Meadows) looks on as Mayor Michael Bloomberg signs one of three bills originating in the Council's Committee on Environmental Protection, which Gennaro chairs, into law. (Photo credit: William Alatriste)

plantings that capture rainwater, we will reduce the occurrence and severity of these flooding events while also beautifying the city," Gennaro said. "I'd like to thank Council Speaker Christine Quinn, my Council colleagues and Mayor Bloomberg for supporting this crucial piece of legislation that will help safeguard some of our most vulnerable areas from damaging floods post-Sandy.

Congressman Crowley Hosts 14th Annual Black History Month Celebration

(Continued from page 1)

Rep. Joe Crowley (D-Queens, the Bronx), Vice Chair of the House Democratic Caucus, along with special guests Rep. Marcia Fudge (OH-11) and City Council Member Julissa Ferreras, celebrated Black History Month at Queens Theatre in the Park in Corona. Congresswoman Fudge, who serves as Chair of the Congressional Black Caucus, delivered the keynote address and Crowley and Ferreras honored several local leaders for their contributions to the community. The annual event brings the community together to celebrate the achievements of African Americans throughout our history and celebrate New York's rich diversity.

"Black History Month is a time to pay tribute to the struggles of those who came before us and the subsequent achievements that have helped to transform our nation. While it's important we stop to celebrate the progress our nation has made, we must also not lose sight of what lies before us and the need to make further advancements in building a better, stronger nation for every American," said Rep. Crowley. "I share Congresswoman Fudge's

commitment to the issues that will keep the nation moving forward – strengthening America's middle class, increasing access to an affordable college education and improving voting rights protections. Marcia is a tireless fighter and it is a great honor to have her here in Queens for our 14th Annual Black History Event."

'It is an honor to join Congressman Crowley in hosting the annual Black History Month celebration," said Council Member Julissa Ferreras (D-East Elmhurst). "Any opportunity that allows us to come together and reflect upon the achievements of the African-American members of our community not only enriches our heritage and diversity within New York City, but it also reminds of us of how vital it is to reflect on each milestone our country has made in recognizing equality for people from all walks of life. I am proud that we are able to recognize some of the amazing work that has been accomplished by the African-American pioneers and leaders who are here with us tonight."

Congresswoman Marcia Fudge of Ohio served as this year's keynote speaker and honored guest. A dedicated public servant, Congresswoman Fudge has focused her efforts on giving a voice to those who need it and championing the causes that make our nation stronger. In 2000, she became the first African-American female mayor of Warrensville Heights, OH and in 2008, she was elected to the House of Representatives. In January, Congresswoman Fudge was sworn in as the 23rd Chair of the 43-member strong Congressional Black Caucus. Established in 1971, Congressional Black Caucus has consistently been the voice in Congress for people of color and vulnerable communities. Known collectively as the "conscience of the Congress" and for more than 40 years, Members of the Congressional Black Caucus have joined together to empower America's neglected citizens and to address their legislative concerns

"I am honored to join Rep. Crowley and members of his community to celebrate Black History Month and to recognize the local leaders who are continuing the rich legacy of African American leadership in this country," Congresswoman Fudge said. "The civil rights movement of today may not look the same as it did

(Continued on page 3)

Prepare Now For Natural Disasters By Jason Alderman

Natural disasters are inevitable, unpreventable and often come without warning. No part of the world seems to be spared, whether it's a hurricane, earthquake, tornado, drought or flood. Even though such catastrophes can't always be predicted, their likely aftermaths often can, including property loss, power or water service disruption, scarcity of food and supplies or overtaxed relief organizations.

Superstorm Sandy was a powerful reminder of why it's vital to develop a family disaster plan. By planning ahead and knowing what you might need under dire circumstances, you can save yourselves a lot of time, money

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) offers great suggestions for developing a family emergency plan, building an emergency supply kit, and learning what to do before, during and after emergencies - even a plan for family pets (www.fema.

Once your physical safety has been assured, you'll inevitably need to access important financial and legal records, whether to file insurance claims, apply for loans or simply withdraw cash. Taking these few steps now will make accessing such information much easier when the time comes:

Create a log of all account numbers, toll-free emergency numbers, contact information and passwords for your bank and credit card accounts, loans, insurance policies, utilities and other important accounts. Update it regularly and save copies in secure, offsite locations such as a safety deposit box or with a trusted friend living in another area. You can also email the list to yourself in an encrypted, password-protected file, save it on a CD or USB drive, or use a cloud-based storage service like Dropbox that will let you access it from any Internet connection.

Make PDF copies of tax returns, insurance policies and legal documents and save offsite in the same manner as above, in case your files or computer are destroyed by fire or flood. Also make digital copies of invaluable family photos, documents and memorabilia that money can't replace.

Document your possessions. If you should ever need to file an insurance claim or claim a tax deduction for lost, stolen or damaged property, it'll be much easier if you have an inventory of everything you own – photos or videotape are even better. A few available tools:

- The IRS' Casualty, Theft and Loss Workbook (IRS Publication 584) includes a worksheet for cataloging and estimating the value of your possessions.
- The Insurance Information Institute maintains a free, secure online home inventory software

application that lets you access your home inventory, anywhere, anytime (www.iii.org).

Your insurance company's website likely contains a downloadable inventory form.

Make sure you fully understand what is and isn't covered by your insurance policies for natural disasters. You may need additional coverage for damage associated with hurricanes, tornados, earthquakes and other weather conditions. Also:

- Document any damage with photos or video before you start cleanup or repairs.
- Keep track of expenses you incur to prevent further damage, for temporary housing or to move your possessions for safekeeping, as they may be reimbursable under your insurance claim.
- Don't delay submitting your claim, since insurers often settle claims in the order filed.

FEMA provides information on how you might be able to get government assistance before, during and after a disaster at www.disasterassistance.gov. Bottom line: Develop a family

emergency plan now and make sure everyone knows what to do when disaster strikes.

Jason Alderman directs Visa's financial education programs. To Follow Jason Alderman on Twitter: www.twitter.com/ Practical Money.

Avella Seeks Landmark Designation For Flushing Meadows Corona Park

State Senator Tony Avella has asked the Landmarks Preservation Commission to review landmark designation for Flushing Meadows Corona Park

Avella stated, "The 1,255 acre Flushing Meadow Corona Park is the Borough of Queens' most prominent park, which provides open space and recreational benefits to thousands of borough residents and low and middle income families. The Park is a valuable asset for the City and the residents of Queens not only because of its green space and natural areas, but also due to its embodiment of historical structures and leading cultural and educational institutions.

"Due to its unique history, serving as host to two World Fairs in 1939 and 1964, plus hosting the General Assembly of the United Nations from 1946 to 1950 ,it certainly qualifies as historically significant. It's importance as a Queens treasured park cannot be overstated and as such deserves landmark recognition," stated

Avella is asking for the landmarking of Flushing Meadows Corona Park at the same time it is under the threat of devastating development interests. Currently, the Mets organization is floating the idea of building a Mall in the park, the United States Tennis Association is proposing to expand, taking away parkland and Major League Soccer is proposing to build a stadium eliminating 13 further acres of parkland.

Avella has publicly stated his strong opposition to all three proposals.

"Parkland is scared. The City should not be entertaining these proposals which would radically reduce open and recreational space for the hundreds of thousands of Queens residents who use this park on a yearly basis. Instead, the City must landmark this vital borough park to ensure its continued usage for generations to come and send a clear message that parkland is not for sale!," Avella concluded.

Crowley Hosts 14th Annual Black History Month

(Continued from page 2)

decades ago, but communities of color are still facing basic threats to our rights as we did before. It is critical for us to pay attention to the issues that are currently being threatened like voting rights and the economic and social injustices that continue to undermine every individual's right to pursue their version of the American dream in this country. I'm proud to celebrate the work of African American leaders here in New York and to share what Members of the Congressional Black Caucus and our colleagues like Rep. Crowley are doing to support their efforts and to be their voice in Congress back in Washington, D.C.'

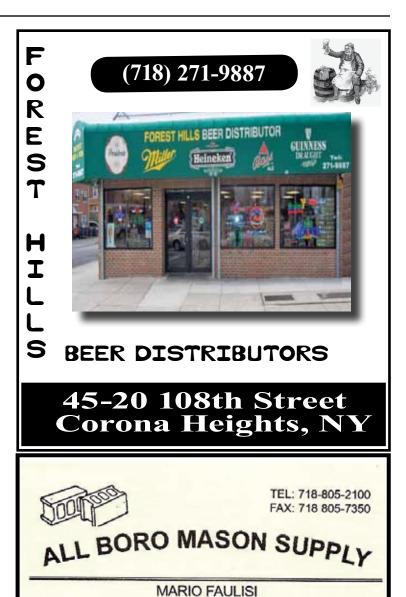
During the event, Crowley and Ferreras honored several

local leaders for their contributions to the community. This year's honorees include George R. Dixon, District Leader, 35th Assembly District; George Gibson, President, Corona/East Elmhurst NAACP; Barbara Jackson, District Leader, 35th Assembly District; Anne Cotton Morris, President, Woodside Houses; and Aleatha Williams, President, Youth Leaders on the Move.

"Tonight, we honor five outstanding New Yorkers who, among countless other forms of community service, have dedicated themselves to teaching our young people about our nation's history, the importance of selfrespect and self-improvement, and the need to stay focused in the classroom and off the street," said Crowley. "Their work is not only making a difference in our community today, but it's making an investment in a brighter future for the next generation of New Yorkers.'

Attendees of the event were treated to musical performances by the Antioch Baptist Church Choir and a dance performance by Titilayo Derricotte. The invocation was led by Pastor Gilbert Pickett, Sr., Mount Horeb Baptist Church, and the benediction was delivered by Minister Sharon Bierria, Eternal Love Baptist Church.

Crowley has hosted an annual Black History Month event every vear since 2000. Recent guests of honor include former President Bill Clinton, U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder, and former NBA great Len Elmore.





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BEATRICE MUNGAI RUGGERI AKA BICE by Merle Exit

Beatrice Mungai Ruggeri (BiCE to her family and friends) opened her first restaurant in Milan in 1926. In the years which followed, BiCE along with her brothers and sisters developed what became the pinnacle of Tuscan style cuisine in Milan. When her sons Remo and Roberto started to work in the Milan restaurant, they changed the typical trattoria into an International restaurant, and thus began a new era for the Ruggeri family's restaurant concept. Bice New York, located at 7 East 54th Street, opened in 1987.

It is an atmosphere of spacious white cloth tables, lots of wood and Italian artwork. You enter into the bar and lounge area that lends itself to partying, but on an upscale level.

Silverio Chavez runs the kitchen here featuring Northern Italian cuisine. Chef di cuisine Eric Rucinski was on hand the evening that I sampled much of their signature dishes starting with the Insalata Gloriosa, a salad of romaine lettuce, asparagus, hearts of palm, avocado, corn, tomatoes and olives tossed with a tangy anchovy dressing. I think that us Americans have gotten used to eating salad as an appetizer vs the Italians who have it after a meal. Delicious combination on this one. Pound out some fresh raw beef tenderloin so that it looks as if it was sliced and call it Carpaccio. Not only is it served with your typical thin slices of parmesan cheese, the rest of it consisting of hearts of palm and arugula, is served in a basket made of parmesan cheese along with a lemon dressing.

Here is what Eric tells me about the Burrata. "Burrata translates to buttered in English. It is a soft centered cream based cows milk cheese made from mozzarella, cream, sugar and butter. The spe-

cial we were running that night was served on top of an arugula salad dressed with lemon and olive oil, accompanied by fresh roasted peppers, cherry tomatoes and garnished with 50 year old balsamic. I toss the burrata with an extra virgin olive oil, salt and pepper in order to enhance the sweet cream flavor of the cheese."

I love pasta that is made on the premises. There were a few that I sampled. One was the Ravioli Della Massaia Con Salsa Di Furnghi, veal and spinach ravioli with champion mushroom sauce. Another one was the Casoncelli Alla Bergamasca con Sugo Di Vitello, Tartufo Nero E Rosmarino...in other words.... Veal and Parma ham ravioli with black truffle, with a rosemary veal sauce.

Next was another pasta recommended by Eric who says: "Tagliolini Con Aragosta is one of Bice's signature dishes. It consists of chunky lobster morsels, a mix of Chanterelle, Portobello & Shitake mushrooms, for the sauce a blend of lobster bisque & tomato sauce reduce to a 1/3 to get that rich flavor". And flavor is certainly had!

It is not unusual for an Italian or Mediterranean restaurant to serve "Branzino", a white and meaty textured fish. Some restaurants of old have brought the actual dead fish to your table to inspect. Most have the time to serve it whole and either filet it for you at your table of just leave it up to you to dig in. Bich prefers to do this: Spray a 1/2 to 1/4 inch thick plank of food ready cedar wood with cooking pan spray, add seasoned fish and cherry tomatoes and place in a 400 degree preheated oven. Cook fish until an internal temperature of 140 degrees is achieved, or the fish becomes opaque and flakes easily.

Meanwhile, add shallots to a hot

sauté pan with olive oil and sauté until translucent.

Add brussel sprouts, sundried tomatoes and garlic. Sauté until hot throughout and colors have become bright and vibrant; add salt and pepper to taste. Place vegetables on the bottom of serving dish. Remove fish from oven, and let rest for 5 minutes. Place cherry tomatoes in a bowl, and dress with herbs, truffle oil, salt and pepper. Layer branzino on top of vegetables, and garnish with tomato and herbs."

One other delicious dish was the Osso Bucco. I will quote Eric on this. "It's one of the oldest, and most traditional dishes Bice serves. It's roots can be traced back to the 19th century. For some time, farmers were responsible for it's popularity, because of it's toughness, it was not a commonly sold cut of veal. Bice adheres to the traditional standard of the dish, and serves it with Milan styled risotto and gremolata. The braising liquid is of course, a secret. Although you can find hints of cinnamon, fresh herb, and wine."

Dessert is always a must for me. With much to choose from I opted for the Italian Cheesecake served with fresh berries and vanilla ice cream. I was also able to taste a few of their other ice cream flavors since they were made at the restaurant. Hazelnut, chocolate and a raspberry sorbet.

Only one drawback to Bice is that although they are "handicapped accessible", there is a long flight of stairs and no option for the restrooms. I use a cane and when I asked they did not mention an option of sending me "next door", which is what they do for those who can't handle the stairs. Odd way for me to get some exercise after a meal. Otherwise, I highly recommend dining here.

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It's In Queens!

(Feb. 28 through March 6)

Consider the following: outrageous comedy, wormy compost, geographical trivia, community theater, German wine, live jazz, intergenerational theater, performance art, a walking tour with food, lantern-making, historicalto-modern lectures and an international film festival. Queens never ceases to amaze! Here's the rundown.

- · Feb. 28, Comedy Show Featuring Lisa Corrao, 8 pm. Lisa Corrao has recently participated in the Women in Comedy Festival, the Boston Comedy Festival, the She-Devil Comedy Competition and Comedy Central's South Beach Comedy Festival. This middleschool-teacher-turned-comedian will headline a show with NYC comics Gabe Pacheco, Lucas Connolly, Miguel Dalmau, Scott Sharp and special guest Gene Harding. \$15/\$7.50 in advance when purchased online using coupon code LISAVIP. Laughing Devil Comedy Club, 47-38 Vernon Blvd., LIC, (347) 913-3845, www. laughingdevil.com.
- Feb. 28, NYC Compost Project in Queens, 5:30 pm. This handson workshop teaches the essentials

of indoor composting with worms. Ideal for those who want to compost food scraps but do not have access to an outdoor space. Learn great facts about red wiggler worms, how to set up a worm bin, and how to maintain the system. \$5 and registration required via compost@queensbotanical.org, Queens Botanical Garden, 43-50 Main St., Flushing, (718) 886-

- 3800, www.queensbotanical.org. · March 1, Sixth Annual Panorama Challenge NYC Team Trivia Game, 6 pm. Participate in the world's only geographical triviabased game night involving the world's largest architectural model The Panorama of the City of New York. This challenge involves audio clues and laser-pointers highlighting assorted NYC landmarks, bridges, neighborhoods, parks and more. \$10 suggested donation with all proceeds supporting the City Reliquary Museum in Williamsburg. Queens Museum of Art, New York City Building, Flushing Meadows-Corona Park, (718) 592-9700, www.queensmuseum.org.
- March 1&2, The 39 Steps by the Parkside Players, 8 pm. A man with a boring life and no passion

meets a mysterious woman who claims to be a spy. When she is murdered in his apartment, he finds himself running across Britain from the police and enemy spies, while searching for an answer to a question of national importance: What are The 39 Steps? \$14/\$12 seniors. Grace Lutheran Church, 71st Road and Union Turnpike, Forest Hills, (718) 353-7388, www.parksideplayers.com.

- March 2, German Wine Tasting Party at Historic House, 5 pm. Back by popular demand, Barbara and Bruce Goonan will host a German wine tasting. Participants (21 and over) will receive a complimentary wine glass inscribed with the Onderdonk logo and enjoy light refreshments. \$40 with required registration. Vander Ende-Onderdonk House, 1820 Flushing Ave., Ridgewood, (718) 456-1776. www.onderdonkhouse.org.
- March 2, Jazz at St. Albans with Camille Thurman, 5 pm. St. Albans native Camille Thurman is a multi-talented saxophonist, vocalist and composer. Her lush, velvety sound and her ability to sing four octaves recall Ella Fitzgerald. Free, but donations welcome. St.

Albans Congregational Church, 172-17 Linden Blvd., Jamaica, (718) 657-8282.

- March 2, Theatre By The Bay presents The Wizard of Oz, 8:30 pm, March 3 at 3 pm, repeats weekends until March 16. Theatre By The Bay is a non-equity amateur theatre group open to anyone. Its goal is to present highquality theatrical productions that are family friendly and utilize an intergenerational cast and crew. \$20. Bay Terrace Jewish Center, 13-00 209th St., Bayside, (718) 428-6363, www.theatrebythebayny.com.
- March 2, Money for Nothing and Dance for Free, 3 pm. Set in No Longer Empty's contemporary art exhibition How Much Do I Owe You?, this site-specific dance explores themes of commodification, physical exchange and economy in and around the artworks and the architecture of the vacant bank building. Works will also explore the value and devaluing of the art of dance and the role that economics plays in the quest to create art while sustaining artist's life. Free. The Clocktower, 29-27 41st Ave., Queens Plaza

North, (646) 645-5506, www. nolongerempty.org.

- March 3, Walking Tour of Flushing's Chinatown, 11 am. This immigrant destination and commercial center has come to rival its Manhattan antecedent. Taiwanese rather than Cantonese at its core, Flushing's Chinatown hosts a variety of overseas Chinese groups. Rezoning and greater land availability support unusual real estate developments including office buildings, hotels, residential condos, specialty shops, cultural institutions and malls. \$15/\$10 for One Flushing members and possibility for dim sum beforehand. Meet near restrooms at New World Mall, 40-21 Main St., Flushing (718) 353-0551, www.geognyc.
- March 3, Lunar Lantern Making, 5 pm. According to Buddhist beliefs, the lighting of a lotus-shaped lantern symbolizes a devotion to performing good deeds and brings light to the dark parts of the world that are filled with agony. Be part of a ceremony and learn how to make a beauti-

(Continued on page 10)

Queens Times Weekly ...

HOROSCOPE

For the Week of ... 2/28/13 - 3/6/13

For Entertainment Purposes Only

ARIES

(Mar. 21 - April 20)

You will have the stamina and the know how to raise your earning power. Concentrate on your job. Your lucky numbers are: 1,2,3

TAURUS

(Apr. 21 - May 21)

You may be somewhat emotional concerning a rather private matter. Changes at home will be necessary. Your lucky numbers are: 9,1,7

GEMINI

(May 22 - June 21)

This is not the time to lend or borrow money or possessions. Make plans to mix business with pleasure. Your lucky numbers are: 5,6,7

CANCER

(June 22 - July 22)

You will be tempted to shop till you drop. You are best to keep your money tied up in a safe and secure place. Your lucky numbers are: 6,3,1

(July 23 - Aug. 22)

You can dazzle members of the opposite sex with your quick wit and aggressive charm. You should make special plans for you and your lover. Your lucky numbers are: 5,1,7

VIRGO

(Aug. 23 - Sept. 23)

Your temper may get the better of you if a colleague has tried to ruin your reputation. Your lucky numbers are: 7,1,8

(Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)

There's lots to be done and if you meet your deadline you'll be in your boss's good books. Your lucky numbers are: 3,5,8

SCORPIO

(Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)

Be prepared to take advantage of your good fortune. A trip to visit relatives should be rewarding. Your lucky numbers are: 3,4,5

SAGITTARIUS

(Nov. 23 - Dec. 21)

You will find the perfect outfit if you shop this week. Take time to listen to children and help them with projects that seem impossible to them. Your lucky numbers are: 3,6,7

CAPRICORN

(Dec. 22 - Jan. 20)

Past partners are likely to reappear. Minor health problems may lower your vitality. Your lucky numbers are: 1,2,3

AQUARIUS

(Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)

Spend time with the one you love. Pleasure trips will be satisfying. Don't let the reactions of others get you going. Your lucky numbers are: 6,7,8

PISCES

(Feb. 20 - Mar. 20)

Try communicating with others it will be your best bet. Try to curb your tongue and let others at least get a word in. Your lucky numbers are: 6,4,1

Did you know ...?

Alexander Graham Bell, inventor of the telephone, was originally an instructor for deaf children and invented the telephone to help his deaf wife and mother to hear.

The highest point in Pennsylvania is lower than the lowest point in

Green tea has 50 percent more vitamin C than black tea.

The screwdriver was invented before the screw. The 'Screwdriver' was invented by oilmen, who used the tool to stir the drink



Lhevinne Classical Concert Series Returns To Kew Gardens On March 8th

Featuring the Talents of The Lautreamont String Quartet

The Friends of Maple Grove Cemetery proudly announce that on Friday, March 8 at 8 PM, The Lhevinne Classical Concert Series returns to The Center at Maple Grove, 127-15 Kew Gardens Road, Kew Gardens, NY. Free parking on premises. A pre-concert wine and cheese reception is scheduled for 7:30 PM.

There is limited seating and tickets are \$25, \$20 for seniors, and \$15 for members. Checks are payable to Friends of Maple Grove Cemetery (include name and number of tickets). Online payment (PayPal) via: www. friendsofmaplegrove.org.

Goldfeder Demands Timeline on Federal Funding Disbursement

More than a hundred days after Sandy, many residents are still waiting on plans to disburse \$1.77 billion in federal assistance

Assemblyman Phil Goldfeder (D-Rockaway) is urging Mayor Mike Bloomberg to present a reasonable timeline for disbursement of approximately \$1.77 billion provided to New York City in federal relief assistance. Residents and families throughout Southern Queens and Rockaway that were devastated by Hurricane Sandy are in desperate need of additional funding and require more information to better determine their rebuilding and recovery options.

HANG UP And Drive

www.queenstimes.com

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Answer to Last Weeks Sudoku

2	7	8	1	9	6	5	3	4
4	6	5	7	3	8	9	2	1
1	9	3	5	2	4	6	7	8
9	1	7	8	5	3	2	4	6
5	4	2	6	1	9	3	8	7
3	8	6	4	7	2	1	5	9
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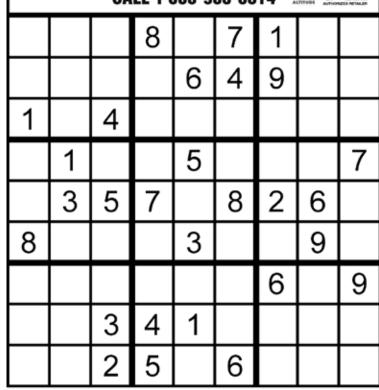
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OPERA ORGAN **PIANO PITCH**

Vallone Wishes Shandong Association A Happy New Year

On February 22nd, Council Member Peter F. Vallone Jr. attended the New York Shandong Association's Lunar New Year Dinner.

Vallone was greeted at the event by Mr. Lawrence Jiao, the President of the New York Shandong Association. The Council Member then wished those in attendance a Happy New Year and outlined his vision for Queens.

The New York Shandong Association also honored 60 students with Confucius Scholarships for their outstanding work.



Avella And Flushing Residents Protest Traffic Nightmare Created By Concrete Barriers Left In Place Due To Shoddy Construction Work On LIRR Overpass

Senator Avella was recently joined by several Flushing residents and business owners to protest the horrendous traffic conditions created by concrete barriers that have been left in place on the 149th Street LIRR Bridge because of shoddy construction work on the bridge. Constituents contacted Avella in September 2012 regarding the existing concrete barriers on 149th Street, between Roosevelt and 41st Avenue, near the Murray Hill station along the Port Washington Branch on the Long Island Rail Road (LIRR). Avella immediately contacted the LIRR who subsequently informed him that this was a Department of Transportation (DOT) reconstruction project.

DOT then informed Avella that they closed the bridge and installed the barriers in 2010 for demolition and reconstruction and the work was originally scheduled for completion in November 2011. After numerous delays, work was finally completed in May 2012. However, according to DOT, defects were identified in the bridge which prevented it from being reopened to vehicular and pedestrian traffic, though eventually it was reopened to pedestrian traffic at the request of the community.

DOT has been working with the



contractor to address the safety concerns and the bridge will not be opened to vehicular traffic until the contractor can demonstrate that the bridge can carry vehicular traffic or that corrective actions have been taken to address the deficiencies identified.

In the meantime, the concrete barriers remain in place and have essentially made this section of 149th Street a dead end street. This has created a traffic nightmare for area residents and local business owners are also suffering as a result.

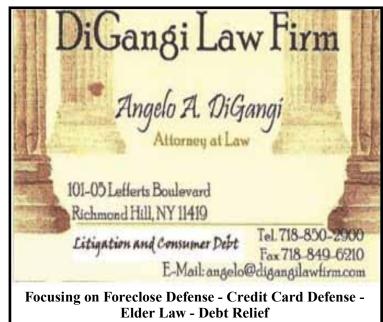
Avella stated, "This project has been plagued with delays and interruptions from the very beginning. It is clear that this contractor performed sloppy and substandard work that could have potentially put lives at risk. This is simply unacceptable and now the community is made to suffer because of these transgressions. These concrete barriers have been in place for over two years now and their continued presence due to this contractor's failures has severely disrupted traffic patterns on this street, frustrating area residents and business owners whose business are now suffering as a result."

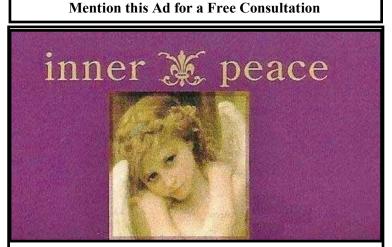
"This neighborhood has put up with these conditions long enough and the Department of Transportation must force the contractor to make the necessary repairs as soon as possible. The community deserves nothing less," concluded Avella

Council Members Hold Hearing on Mishandling of DNA

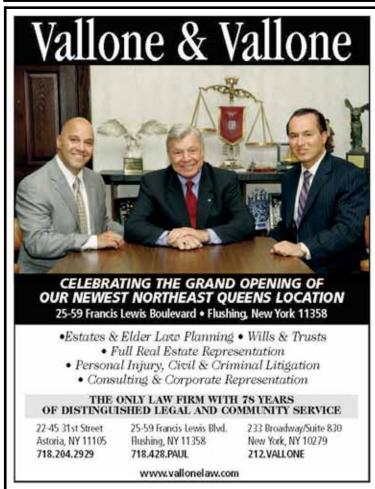


On Friday, February 15th, New York City Council Speaker Christine Quinn, Council Member Maria del Carmen Arroyo (Chair of Health Committee), and Council Member Julissa Ferreras (Chair of the Women's Issues Committee) held a joint oversight hearing on the Mishandling of DNA in Sexual Assault Cases by the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner .





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ASTORIA COMMUNITY DIVES INTO AMPHITH

Vallone, Parks Department and CB1 Present Plan for Astoria Pool Performance Center to Residents

On February 20th, Council Member Peter F. Vallone Jr., the Department of Parks & Recreation and Community Board 1 co-sponsored a presentation of the schematic design for the new performing arts space to be located at the Astoria Park diving pool.

During the meeting, which was open to the public, the Parks Department provided those in attendance with a detailed outline of the project and addressed any residents' questions or concerns.

Following nearly three decades of deterioration, Vallone advocated for the diving pool, which is located next to the Park's Olympic-sized swimming pool, to be repurposed as a performance space open to theater groups, schools and community organi-

The Council Member has allocated millions of dollars in



funding for the project, which will include pouring concrete into the pool, creating a new main entrance, installing new security fencing and gates, and restoring parts of the facade, among other improvements. The pool's signature three-level diving board will remain and be refurbished.

"Astoria has been lacking in performance spaces for a long

time, but turning this eyesore into a beautiful amphitheater will give our Queens artists a backdrop to match their talents," said Council Member Peter F. Vallone Jr. "I am extremely proud to have provided over \$4.5 million in funding for this project."

Vallone was also instrumental in conceiving and funding Astoria Park's state-of-the-art skate park.

D.A. Brown Celebrates Black History Month

Queens District Attorney Richard A. Brown (on right) last week presented the 2013 William Tucker Garvin Public Service Award to Executive Assistant District Attorney Jesse J. Sligh in celebration of Black History Month. The William Tucker Garvin Public Service Award was established in 2001 when District Attorney Brown held a ceremony to honor the memory of Mr. Garvin, the first African-American Assistant District Attorney appointed in Queens County. Since then, the award has been presented annually during Black History Month to an individual of African-American heritage in recognition of his or her notable contributions to public service.



COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER SPEAKS WITH LOCAL GIRL SCOUTS ABOUT PUBLIC SERVICE

On February 23rd, Council Member Jimmy Van Bramer was invited to be the guest speaker at the Sunnyside/Woodside Girl Scouts Sleepover at St. Sebastian's Parish Center in Woodside. Nearly 200 Girl Scouts from Sunnyside, Woodside, Astoria, Jackson Heights, Elmhurst and Corona as well as their sister troop from Howard Beach attended the gathering. During the event, Council Member Van Bramer answered their questions and spoke to the local Girl Scouts about the importance of community service. Local Girl Scouts also presented the Council Member with a t-shirt featuring the Sunnyside/Woodside Girl Scouts' logo. In this photo, Council Member Van Bramer is joined with local mothers and troop leaders; Meridith Maskara, Jenn McGowan, Jennifer MacKay, Mary Egan,



Mary McKnight, Kelly Quinn, Malibika Das, Luan Suarez And Chrystal Salas, as well as Girls Scouts Troops (4074, 4222, 4289. 4581, 4547, 4208, 4247, 4269, Howard Beach.

4275, 4283, 4266, 4198, 4579, 4545) from Northern Queens and

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Three Superfoods That Can Improve Your Health

(StatePoint) In a world where fatty, fried and frosted foods are often the cheapest, quickest and most readily available options, it can be easy to forget the true purpose of eating -- to healthfully fuel our bodies.

"The higher-quality fuel you put in your body, the better you will function. The right diet can potentially prevent you from developing certain diseases and conditions," says Gerry Cysewski, Ph.D., coauthor of "Spirulina: Nature's SuperFood," and Chief Science Officer of Nutrex Hawaii, a nutritional supplement manufacturer.

And despite what many people think, healthful eating doesn't have to come at the price of taste or time. Foods rich in nutrition can make quick snacks and be incorporated easily into your favorite dishes.

Here are ideas for how to fit three superfoods into your diet: Blueberries

Skip the sodium overload of chomping on chips and lower your risk for heart disease, diabetes and even the common cold with some blueberries. Blueberries are full of flavor as well as antioxidants, phytoflavinoids, Vitamin C and potassium.

While they make for a great snack on their own, blueberries are also delicious as a yogurt, oatmeal or cereal topper. Spirulina

For a wealth of protein, vitamins, minerals and antioxidants, take a cue from the ancient Mayans and Aztecs and incorporate spirulina in your daily diet.

Hawaiian spirulina, a microalgaebased superfood, contains more than 100 nutrients, and a three gram serving contains higher levels of key antioxidants, enzymes, vitamins and minerals than five servings of fruits and vegetables.

"A single serving of spirulina is like a rainbow of good nutrition, containing the orange of beta-carotene for immune system support, the yellow of zeaxanthin for eye and brain health, the green of chlorophyll for anti-toxin health benefits, and the blue of phycocyanin for inflammatory balance," says Cysewski.

What's the best way to get your daily dose? Consider taking pill supplements, or if you prefer, mix



spirulina powder in dips like guacamole or hummus. Or for a tasty breakfast, lunch or snack, try this smoothie recipe:

Blend these ingredients together and serve immediately:

- 1/2 cup yogurt
- 1 cup of fruit juice (apple, orange or pineapple)
- 1 or more of the following: 1 papaya, 1 peach, 1 mango 1/2 cup of boysenberries or raspberries
- 1 teaspoon Hawaiian Spirulina powder

More information on the benefits of spirulina can be found at www.Nutrex-Hawaii.com.
Spinach

Popeye was onto something when he downed those cans of spinach. The dark leafy greens contain minerals, vitamins, pigments and phytonutrients that benefit eyesight, blood pressure, muscles, bones, skin and a healthy nervous system.

For a low-fat, low-calorie source of iron and protein, put the burger down and eat spinach instead. Opt for the fresh variety, swapping out iceberg lettuce in salads, or sauté lightly with olive oil and garlic for a great side. Spinach is also tasty in omelets and makes a healthy alternative to ground meat in lasagna.

With a little creativity, giving your body the right fuel it needs to stay healthy can be convenient and delicious.

Visit To Queens Middle School, De Blasio Urges Expansion Of After-School Programs

As part of his citywide tour to promote expanding early education and after-school programs, Public Advocate Bill de Blasio visited the after-school program at IS 126 in Long Island City, Queens yesterday. IS.126 currently houses the Jacob A. Kiis and City Year after school programs with the former accommodating at 75 students. De Blasio was joined by Principal Alex Agueira, Program Director Maria Alves, representatives from the Community Education Council and the Department of Education on his tour of the school's dance, sports, and academic programs.

"These are phenomenal programs keeping kids on-task and off the street. During these dif-

ficult middle school years when too many students fall off the right path, after-school programs can make a definitive impact on kids' lives. We need to make sure every student who needs a classroom or afterschool activity or a studio when the bell rings at 3 p.m. has a place to go," said Public Advocate Bill de Blasio.

Last October, de Blasio proposed a comprehensive education plan which included initiatives to extend the learning time from 3-6 p.m. for over 100,000 middle schoolers. This plan would be implemented by awarding school-based grants to build out additional learning periods after school, using commu-

(Continued on page 10)

Letter to Editor

In today's global economy, workers increasingly require a college education for successful careers. But, sadly, New York City's public schools are not equipping our youth to succeed in college.

The situation is worse than you think.

When my office researched the question of how New Yorkers were doing in terms of college degrees, we were shocked by what we found: Four out of five New York City public high-school students don't graduate from college with any kind of degree. Moreover, New York is only in the middle of the pack of American cities in terms of the educational attainment of its population, lagging Seattle, Boston, Washington, DC, San Francisco, and Minneapolis.

So we devised a plan to put New York at the top of the pack. Our goal is to raise the proportion of New Yorkers with college degrees to 60 percent by the year 2025, from about 42 percent Citywide now. If you think that 42 percent sounds low, the problem is even more serious in your borough than it is elsewhere in the City. In Queens, only about 31 percent of the population has attained either an associate's or bachelor's degree.

So what's our plan?

Our "Beyond High School NYC" initiative has published research, proposed educational reforms, and identified strategic investments in public education designed to boost the number of New Yorkers with post-secondary degrees.

Our key report, "The Power of Guidance," proposed to more than double the number of school counselors. That would reduce the counselor-to-student ratio to 1:100, from an average of 1:259 today.

We also propose using earlyintervention systems to help students stay on-track for college, by expanding collaborative programs with colleges and college students and investing more in summer programs that help college-bound high-school graduates matriculate.

New York City must create a college-going culture in our public schools and give students the support they need. By investing in the hands-on efforts we've outlined, we can ensure that more students enroll in the right college and have the tools they need to graduate.

We can find the money. By diverting funds from what is now spent on wasteful high-tech contracts, we can invest more in college counseling and support, so City schools could get more bang for their buck in terms of increasing college enrollment and graduation.

Failing to properly invest in public education deprives the next generation of a chance for prosperous and fulfilling lives – and it weakens New York City's ability to compete in the global economy.

It's time we reverse our City's education gap and make sure every public high-school graduate has a shot at succeeding in college. By JOHN C. LIU

John C. Liu is New York City Comptroller.

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Queens Sports

Royals Seek To Dominate Season by Robert Elkin

Christ The King's varsity basketball team enters into the Catholic High Schools Athletic Association Intersectional playoffs as the favorite to win the whole thing and advance into the New York State playoffs after the Royals turned in an excellent season, as the program is constantly growing under the top coaching headed by varsity mentor Joe Arbitelllo.

The Royals don't think it will be that simple to get by Bishop Loughlin if they do meet in the finals. The meeting will be the fourth time that they would have played this season should they meet again. Both teams have top high school all-Americans on their teams. They include Jordan Fuchs, Jon Severe, and Andre Walker on Christ The King with Walker only a junior and therefore has another year left at the school. Loughlin has the one two punch of two juniors Mike Williams and Khaddeen Carrington. Carrington could become their top career scorer some time next season.

Now both teams are headed into the final playoff series to determine the top team in the City, which includes the Catholic Schools from Westchester as well as the five boroughs in Class 'AA.'

"We take one game at a time," Loughlin head coach Edwin Gonzalez said af ter the recent setback at the hands of Christ The King for the Diocese of Brooklyn championship in Class 'AA.' "Our first game in the final round is March 3 at Fordham University in The Bronx.

We're playing well, we're a real good team, and we're the top team," Christ The King assistant varsity coach Greg Lemko said.

"We're the team to beat. Pressure! Our team doesn't find any pressure. We're confident that we can take the Intersectional title. But we also know that on any given day anybody could beat us.'

Anybody with a 23-3 record should win the title. And that's just Christ The King's record for the regular season is. Bishop Loughlin takes into their first contest a 20-7 record

The Royals took all three meetings against the Lions from Brooklyn during the regular season. And two of the three games went down to the last season with thrilling plays from both teams.

"We have to come in with a good practice," Lemko added.

For six seniors on the CTK team the last one played at their Middle Village home was their last one. However, after their college days are over, if they do desire, then they might come back to be an assistant coach at first in the fast growing program that started in the days of the coaching of Bob Oliva, who also stressed academics as well as basketball.

We'll work hard in practice and hope to win each time that we play," Walker said. "Next year I'll be the leader on this team.

While Walker scored 15 points, last week, Severe, who is yet undecided about college, netted game high of 26, and junior Adonis Delarosa, a 6-10 center, added 10 markers for the winners.

Defense proved to be the decisive factor in the game. And they broke away from a close game in the second half to win rather easily. Carrington was contained to seven field goals but still managed to tally 21 points.

If they play like they did in the

third and fourth quarters of the Diocese of Brooklyn final, they school have trouble in taking the Intersectional Title.

Meanwhile on the lower levels of the CTK program, Justin Foreman seems as if he will be promoted to the Varsity next season as he had a very promising and productive Junior Varsity averaging close to 24 points a game.

Teammate Jared Rivera only a freshman on the same Junior Varsity team has been scoring close to 20 points an out ing and Tyrone Cohen has been scoring at an 18 point a game clip. Yashan Bright is also a double figure scorer and is taking down close to 9.7 caroms an outing to lead the rebounders.

Defensively, Kenon Johnson is averaging close to four steals a contest, to head the defense for the Royals.

On the college front, the Red Storm from St. John's drew a setback when they lost to Pitt in a Big East Conference College game, the last one before press time.

Now they must win their remaining games - at Providence and Notre Dame and llast one against Marquette.

When they lost to Pitt, they dropped to 16-11 including 8-7 in the Big East while Pitt is 21-7, and 9-6 in the league, which is title brunched and whose race could go down to the final days of the regular season before the Big East Tournament begins with the winner earning an automatic bid into the NCAA tourney.

Red Storm forward Jabarr Sampson is in contention for post season honors as he can get up 'there' and block those shots. And Chris Obaka can do likewise. They a r e both first year players.

Independent Poll Shows Council Member Peter F. Vallone Jr. with Commanding Eleven-Point Lead in **Queens Borough President's Race**

As reported recently by the New York Daily News, Council Member Peter F. Vallone Jr. has a commanding eleven-point lead over his opponents in the race for the Queens Borough Presidency.

According to the independently commissioned poll, conducted by the Global Strategy Group in which 300 likely Democratic Primary voters in Queens were sampled between January 23rd and January 27th, Vallone enjoys considerable advantages in both favorability rating and percentage of the projected

The poll found that 57% percent of voters polled are familiar with Vallone. Of that 57%, 44% view Vallone favorably. In another sec-

tion of the poll, where voters were asked who they would vote for if the election were held today, 26% said they would back Vallone, followed by 15% for former City Council Member Melinda Katz, 13% for Council Member Leroy Comrie, 12% for State Senator Tony Avella and 7% for State Senator Jose Peralta. 28% of the voters are undecided. Former Assemblyman Barry Grodenchik was not included in the survey.

'This poll confirms that Peter F. Vallone Jr. is well on his way to becoming the next Queens Borough President. The numbers don't lie - Queens voters value Peter's contributions to the borough as a member of the City Council and the Crowley

Vallone Family tradition of working towards one, united Queens," said campaign spokesman Austin Finan. "Queens residents clearly appreciate that Council Member Vallone has been fighting tirelessly for them on the issues that matter most, including Hurricane Sandy, The Blizzard of '10, The Queens Blackout of '06 and The Queensboro Bridge.

Vallone has raised over \$1 million - more than all the other candidates combined - and this poll comes before he begins to use his impressive war chest.

Vallone will officially kick off his campaign at 6:00 P.M. on March 11th at Ovelia in Astoria alongside special guest, Congressman Joseph

Flood Relief Meeting in Southeast Queens: A Call to Action

Assemblyman William Scarborough will be holding a Flood Relief Meeting on Thursday, February 28th from 6:30 PM to 9:00 PM in the York College Faculty Dining Room at b94-20 Guy R. Brewer Blvd. The meeting is being held in conjunction with the Southern Queens Residents Environment Justice Council, Clergy United

for Community Empowerment, Queens Chapter National Action Network, Community Board 12, Jamaica Branch NAACP, and local elected officials, including U.S. Rep Gregory Meeks, Councilman Leroy Comrie, Sen. Malcolm Smith, Assembly members Vivian Cook and Michelle Titus, Councilman Ruben Wills and Sen. James

Sanders, Jr.

Every time it rains, it pours into many homes leaving homeowners throughout Southeast Queens with flooded basements which quickly fill with toxic mold. Businesses, York College, Community Bridge Home and many homeowners are

(Continued on page 10)





150-07 14th Road Whitestone NY 11357 718-747-1111 Villaggio A New Family Restaurant with Old World Taste

Goldfeder Joins Waldbaums In Welcoming Back Residents



Assemblyman Phil Goldfeder joins Waldbaum's Regional Manager Steven Stout, local employees and residents at the grand reopening of their Belle Harbor store on Beach 112th Street in Rockaway after it was completely rebuilt in the aftermath of Sandy.

NY State Announces myBenefits Website Now Available in Eight Languages

The New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA) announced that New Yorkers can now check their eligibility and apply for certain benefits in eight different languages at myBenefits.ny.gov. In addition to English, Spanish, Arabic, Chinese, Haitian Creole and Russian, OTDA has now made the myBenefits site available in Italian and Korean.

'Governor Cuomo has made it a priority for New York State to have crucial documents and resources available to New York State residents in languages other than English."

In October 2011, Governor Cuomo issued Executive Order No. 26 requiring that "vital documents" be translated into the "six most common non-English languages spoken by individuals with limited English proficiency in the State of

(Conyinued on page 10)



(Continued from page 4)

ful paper lotus lantern. All materials are provided. \$10. Flushing Town Hall, 137-35 Northern Blvd., Flushing, (718) 463-7700, www.flushingtownhall.org.

March 3, Talking about History Lecture: The King Manor Association & The Women's Club Movement, 3 pm. The ladies who founded the King Manor Association in 1900 epitomized the dynamism exhibited by many early twentieth century American women who were eager to redirect their energies beyond their traditional domestic sphere. Women's clubs worked to promote civic engagement and social reform and fight for women's suffrage. White and black women formed women's clubs, but major differences characterized the goals and activities of each. Free. King Manor Museum, Rufus King Park, 153rd Street at Jamaica Avenue, Jamaica, www. kingmanor.org.

March 4, Northern Boulevard in the Footsteps of Gatsby, 7 pm. Australian filmmaker Baz Luhrmann is wrapping up the latest remake of The Great Gatsby starting Leonardo Di-Caprio. Set in NYC during the 1920s Jazz Age, this is the first serious drama attempting to render a major city in 3-D. The evening's lecture starts with a brief history of Northern Boulevard and pictures from the time that the fictional Gatsby would have seen as he took his legendary drive through the borough. The program's second half shows the film's interpretation of locations based on the actual images sent to the production team. (The Greater Astoria Historical Society is credited as historical adviser to the movie production.) \$5/Free for members. GAHS, 5-20 Broadway, 4th Floor, LIC, (718) 278-0700, www.astorialic.org.

 March 5, The Third Annual Oueens World Film Festival opening night, 8 pm, festival runs until March 10. Films from around the world and around the corner. The Queens World Film Festival returns to the Museum of the Moving Image with an opening night program featuring international short films from Italy, Belgium, Australia, Croatia and Queens. The six-day festival will feature 104 independent films and three venues: Jackson Cinema (Elmhurst), Secret Theatre (LIC) and the Renaissance Charter School (Jackson Heights). Awards will be presented to narratives, documentaries animation and LGBT films. Don Cato, dcato@ queensworldfilmfestival. com, (917) 562-9648, www. queensworldfilmfestival.com.

The "It's In Queens" column is produced by the Queens Tourism Council with the hope that readers will enjoy the borough's wonderful attractions.

Flood Relief Meeting in Southeast Queens: A Call to Action

operating pumps 24/7 at great cost. The problem started when NYC took over from Jamaica Water Supply, who had been operating 69 wells and pumping 69 million gallons of water out of the ground daily. The city stopped operating the wells and stopped pumping water out of the ground,

table to rise and seep into basements. Even moderate rainfalls causes flooding. The city has not come up with a comprehensive plan to alleviate the flooding. The community is invited to the Flood Relief Meeting Call to Action.

For information, please call Scarborough's District which caused the water Office at 718-723-5412

Visit To Queens Middle School, **De Blasio Urges Expansion Of After-School Programs**

(Continued from page 8)

nity-based organizations to supplement the curriculum. De Blasio has called for an income surcharge on households earning more than \$500,000 per year in order to pay for the expansion, which would include new

Pre-Kindergarten programs. Learn more about the plan: http://pubadvocate.nyc.gov/ our-future

De Blasio And Queens Officials Protest City Hall's "Borough-Bias" Against Queens Small Businesses

Advocate Bill de Blasio joined small business owners and elected officials in Richmond Hill today to protest the unwarranted spike in fines for nuisance violations against Queens small businesses. Last Thursday, de Blasio released a report, Borough Bias: How the Bloomberg Administration Drains Outer Borough Businesses which delved into the increasing inspections and fines that disproportionately hit small businesses in the outer boroughs.

The report, based on data the Public Advocate secured through a lawsuit against the Bloomberg Administration, found:

- Queens businesses are 16 percent more likely than Manhattan ones to receive a DCA inspection
- Queens businesses pay 22

percent more inDCA fines than Manhattan businesses

Of the 10 neighborhoods issued the highest number of Health Department violations, 7 are in Queens

Of the 10 most heavily fined neighborhoods by DCA over the past decade, 9 are in Queens—and 8 are in southeast Queens.

"The farther you get from City Hall, the more likely your business is to get inspected and fined. That's no way to balance a budget and it's no way to spur hiring in the boroughs that need it most," said Public Advocate Bill de Blasio. "These fines are a \$50 million hidden tax that was levied on small businesses without warning or debate. The Mayor can't keep burdening outer borough neighborhoods with frivolous fines to balance the City's books."

While the data is not at all surprising given the amount of complaints we receive from our local small businesses, it is very distressing to learn that city agencies are disproportionately issuing tickets and fines to small business owners in lowerincome neighborhoods of the city, such as Corona, where many families are striving to make ends meet," said Council Member Julissa Ferreras. "Every city agency has an obligation to provide assistance to all small business owners and all New Yorkers, not just those who located in downtown Manhattan. That is exactly why I allocate funding to local organizations that provide information to local businesses on their rights and responsibility.

Liability Company. Name: Livanis Behavioral Consulting, LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 1/29/2013. Office location: Queens County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to the LLC, c/o Andrew Livanis, 32-27 33 Street, Astoria, NY 11106. Purpose: For any lawful purpose. 2/28,3/7,14,21,28&4/4/2013 Notice of Formation of 907 EAST 173 ST. LLC. Arts. of

LEGAL NOTICES

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Org. filed Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/28/12. Off. loc.: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o Irwin Samet, 719 Empire Ave., Far Rockaway, NY 11691. Purpose: any lawful activity. 2/28,3/7,14,21,28&4/4/2013

HILLSIDE CAFE LLC, a domestic LLC, Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 1/22/13. Office location: Queens County. SSNY is designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Mr. Sam Buffa, 70 Hudson Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11201. General Purposes. 2/28,3/7,14,21,28&4/4/2013

Neighborhoods with the Highest DCA Fines per Business in NYC Fiscal Year 2002-2012

Neighborhood	Borough	Comparison to Citywide Average
St. Albans	Queens	7.6 times
Springfield Gardens	Queens	4.9 times
Cambria Heights	Queens	4.6 times
South Ozone Park	Queens	4.5 times
Ozone Park	Queens	4.4 times
Jamaica	Queens	4.3 times
East Elmhurst	Queens	4.2 times
Edenwald	Bronx	3.3 times
Rosedale	Queens	3 times
Richmond Holls	Queens	3 times

Stavisky, Rozic, Kim Advocate for Queens in **State Budget Process**

State Legislators Host Inaugural Participatory Budget Breakfast

State Senator Toby Ann Stavisky, Assemblywoman Nily Rozic, and Assemblymember Ron Kim joined together to host a budget breakfast at the Flushing Town Hall to hear from community members and organizations. Dozens gathered to voice their concerns and engage in a productive dialogue on how the state budget would impact Eastern Queens, including local schools, community organizations, and other public services.

With the increased demand for infrastructure upgrades and innovative programming to serve growing youth, senior, and immigrant communities, many raised concerns about funding cuts to education, small businesses and social services. Attendees also expressed the need for greater

transparency and clarity in the budget process.

"The budget process may be complicated, but it is critically important to our community. I look forward to working with my colleagues, Assemblymembers Ron Kim and Nily Rozic, to help so many different groups and individuals," said Senator Toby Ann Stavisky. "We will continue to work with the community to make sure that despite the current difficult financial situation, this year's budget is as beneficial as possible."

Assemblywoman Nily Rozic said, "This forum is an opportunity for our community to come together and think of creative ways we can work together and advocate for local needs throughout this year's budget process. It gives constituents a real opportunity to see how government works and to have an active role in deciding how to better serve our neighborhoods. I look forward to working with Senator Stavisky and Assemblymember Kim to ensure that the communities of Eastern Queens get their fair share?

One of the reasons why I ran for office is to help make the political process more accessible to my community. I want to build a strong foundation of accountability and transparency between our offices and our constituents," stated Assemblyman Ron Kim. "As representatives, it is important for us voice the concerns of our community and recognize that hearing from our constituents is the most important part of the process. The purpose of this event is to give us the space in a public forum to have these important conversations. We will follow-up on the discussion we've had today and I will continue to think of ways to make the political process acces-

Cops & Teens Click Together Computer Training Class

The NYPD Community Affairs Bureau is hosting a "The Cops and Teens Click Together" program teaching basic website design/ programming (HTML) to young members of our community (typically ranging in age from 14-17) at the NYPD's 43 Precinct.

We are providing an introductory course, taught by skilled uniformed members of the NYPD, to give these students a basic overview of web design and HTML over an eight week period. Ultimately, this program will assist students by providing them with the necessary skill set on web design and programming that they could use in future employment, or perhaps even in the real world today. It enhances their desire to learn more about computers, and to develop much needed technical skills for today's competitive workforce.

This course takes place throughout the City at various times, and is a great way for our Youth to interact with the Police in a positive setting. For more information about this program, please contact Sgt. Joseph Freer at the Community Affairs Bureau via email Joseph. Freer@nypd.org or (646) 610-5323

Community Affairs Events: Now through March 5, 2013

State Announces myBenefits Website Now Available in Eight Languages (Continued from page 9)

New York."

The myBenefits website serves as an Internet portal for New York State's families and community partners to connect with benefits, services and work supports. Anyone can quickly and easily check potential eligibility for a number of work supports and other programs, by

providing basic household information. Since 2008, more than 900,000 myBenefits pre-screenings have been completed. myBenefits offers access to 17 programs, including Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly known as Food Stamps, Home Energy Assistance Program

(HEAP), Temporary Assistance, and Medicaid.

Anyone can apply electronically for SNAP through myBenefits. To date, over 330,000 SNAP applications have been submitted via myBenefits.

myBenefits can be accessed by clicking here. www.mybenefits.ny.gov/

LEGAL NOTICES

JM AUTO SALES, LLC Articles of Org. filed NY Sec. of State (SSNY) 1/18/2013. Office in Queens Co. SSNY desig. agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to 218-19 56th Ave., Bayside, NY 11364. Purpose: To engage in auto sales as well as any other lawful purpose. 1/31,2/7,14,21,28&3/7/2013

Liz Seegert Ink LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with SSNY on 12/3/12. Off. Loc.: Queens Co. SSNY desig. as agt. upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Elizabeth Seegert, 41-24 247th St., Little Neck, NY 11363. General Purposes. 1/24,31,2/7,14,21&28/2013

Notice of Formation of GLOBAL TEAM L.I., LLC, a domestic LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 7/14/03. Office location: Queens County. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to: The LLC, 11-11 44TH Drive Long Island City NY 11101. Purpose: Any Lawful Purpose. 1/24,31,2/7,14,21&28/2013

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. NAME: SPEC LAND, LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 5/16/12. Office location: Queens County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to the LLC, 105 Samos Lane, Whitestone, NY 11357. Purpose: For any lawful purpose. 1/31,2/7,14,21,28&3/7/2013

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. NAME: PRYCE & PRESTON, LLC .Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 01/04/13. Office location: Queens County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to the LLC, 96-05 101st Avenue, Ozone Park, New York 11416. Purpose: For any lawful purpose. 2/14,21,28,3/7,14&21/2013

Notice of Formation of a Limited Liability Company (LLC): Name: STARTING FROM PAUMANOK, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 1/1//2013. Office location: Queens County, SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to: C/O STARTING FROM PAUMANOK, LLC, 37-05 221st Street, Bayside, 11361. Purpose: Any lawful purpose. Latest date upon which LLC is to dissolve: No specific date. 2/7,14,21,28,3/7&14/2013

LEGAL NOTICES

CARENETTE, LLC. Articles of Organization of Limited Liability Company ("LLC"). Articles of Organization filed with Sec. of State of NY ("SSNY") on 12/28/12 Office location: Queens County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of any such process served to the LLC at The LLC,1085 Irving Avenue, Ridgewood, NY 11385. Purpose: To engage in all things that the company may legally engage in under the Laws of the State of New York. 1/24,31,2/7,14,21&28/2013

GLOBAL MARKETING SERVICES LLC, a domestic LLC, Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 12/19/12. Office location: Queens County. SSNY is designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Jay Scharf, Esq., 24 Sycamore Dr., Port Washington, NY 11050. General Purposes. 1/24,31,2/7,14,21&28/2013

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY C O M P A N Y. N A M E: 28 POWELL STREET LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 10/24/12. Office location: Queens County. SSNY has been designated

as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to the LLC, 97-14 Atlantic Avenue, Ozone Park, New York 11416. Purpose: For any lawful purpose. 2/14,21,28,3/7,14&21/2013

Notice of Formation of Samson Greece LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/16/12. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o Samson Management, 97-77 Queens Blvd., Ste. 710, Rego Park, NY 11374. Purpose: any lawful activity. 2/14,21,28,3/7,14&21/2013

Yinsheng Flushing LLC Arts of Org filed with NY Sec of State (SSNY) on 7/19/12. Office: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 33-28 164th St, Flushing, NY 11358. General Purposes. 2/14,21,28,3/7,14&21/2013

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. NAME: L2 LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 01/14/13. Office location: Queens County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to the LLC, c/o Ciampa Organization, 136-26 37th Avenue, Flushing, New York 11354. Purpose: For any lawful purpose.

2/14,21,28,3/7,14&21/2013

LEGAL NOTICES

Notice of Formation of AC88, LLC. Arts. of Org. was filed with SSNY on 1/16/13. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC whom process against may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o The LLC, One Bay Club Drive #1-D, Bayside, NY 11360. Purpose: all lawful activities. 2/7,14,21,28,3/7814/2013

Notice of Formation of WILLIAM M. ALVAREZ, PT PLLC, a domestic PLLC, Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 12/20/12. Office location: Queens. SSNY is designated as agent upon whom process against the PLLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The PLLC: c/o William M. Alvarez, 31-14 34 Street, Apt. 14, Astoria, NY 11106. Purpose: Physical Therapy. 2/7,14,21,28,3/7814/2013

HLI Holdings, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 1/14/13. Office in Queens County. SSNY designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to c/o Corporation Service Company, 80 State St., Albany, NY 12207-2543. Purpose: General. 2/7,14,21,28,3/7&14/2013

File No.: 2011-3348/B CITATION THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK BY THE GRACE OF GOD, FREE AND INDEPENDENT To: Paul Vidor,

Annamarie Vidor, Ana Maria Oprea, Attorney General of the State of New York,

The unknown distributees, legatees, devisees, heirs at law and assignees of STEPHEN NEDELCU, deceased, or their estates, if any there be, whose names, places of residence and post office addresses are unknown to the petitioner and cannot with due diligence be ascertained.

Being the persons interested as creditors, legatees, distributees or otherwise in the Estate of STEPHEN NEDELCU, deceased, who at the time of death was a resident of 77-27 Kew Forest Lane, Forest Hills, in the County of Queens, State of New York.

SEND GREETING:

Upon the petition of LOIS M. ROSENBLATT, Public Administrator of Queens County, who maintains her office at 88-11 Sutphin Boulevard, Jamaica, Queens County, New York 11435, as Administrator of the Estate of STEPHEN NEDELCU, deceased, you and each of you are hereby cited to show cause before the Surrogate at the Surrogate's Court of the County of Queens, to be held at the Queens General Courthouse, 6th Floor, 88-11 Sutphin Boulevard, Jamaica, City and State of New York, on the 18th day of April, 2013 at 9:30 o'clock in the forenoon, why the

Account of Proceedings of the

LEGAL NOTICES

County, as Administrator of the Estate of said deceased, a copy of which is attached, should not be judicially settled. and why the Surrogate should not fix and allow a reasonable amount of compensation to GERARD J. SWEENEY, ESQ., for legal services rendered to petitioner herein in the amount of \$48,790.36 and that the Court fix the fair and reasonable additional fee for any services to be rendered by GERARD J. SWEENEY, ESQ., hereafter in connection with proceedings on kinship, claims etc., prior to entry of a final Decree on this accounting in the amount of 5.5% of assets or income collected after the date of the within accounting; and why the Surrogate should not fix and allow an amount equal to one percent on said Schedules of the total assets on Schedules A, A1, and A2 plus any additional monies received subsequent to the date of this account, as the fair and reasonable amount payable to the Office of the Public Administrator for the expenses of said office pursuant to S.C.P.A. §1106(4); and why the claim from Ana Maria Oprea for reimbursement of expenses should not be rejected; and why the claim from Ana Maria Oprea of constructive trust should not be rejected; and why the claims of Ana Maria Opera should not be offset by the use and occupancy of the subject premises; and why each of you claiming to be a distributee of the decedent should not establish proof of your kinship; and why the balance of said funds should not be paid to said alleged distributees upon proof of kinship, or deposited with the Commissioner of Finance of the City of New York should said alleged distributees default herein, or fail to establish proof of kinship, Dated, Attested and Sealed

Dated, Attested and Sealed 14th day of February, 2012 HON. PETER J. KELLY Surrogate, Queens County Margaret M. Gribbon Clerk of the Surrogate's Court GERARD J. SWEENEY, ESQ. (718) 459-9000 95-25 Queens Boulevard 11th Floor Rego Park, New York 11374

This citation is served upon you as required by law. You are not obliged to appear in person. If you fail to appear it will be assumed that you do not object to the relief requested unless you file formal legal, verified objections. You have a right to have an attorney-at-law appear for you.

Accounting Citation 2/28,3/7,14&21/2013

SDME Capital Group LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 12/27/12. Office in Queens County. SSNY designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 102-10 Metropolitan Ave Ste 200, Forest Hills, NY 11375. Purpose: General. 1/24,31,2/7,14,21&28/2013

LEGAL NOTICES

Public Administrator of Queens Citation File No. 2012-4626 SURROGATE'S COURT, QUEENS COUNTY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK. By the Grace of God Free and Independent TO: CZESLAWA WITEK PUBLIC ADMINISTRATOR OF **QUEENS COUNTY** BOGDAN SKARCYNSKI if living and if dead, to his heirs at law, next of kin and distributee whose names and places of residence are unknown and if he died subsequent to the decedent herein, to his executors, administrators, legatees, devisees, assignees and successors in interest whose name and places of residence are unknown and to all other heirs at law, next of kin and distributees

> A petition having been duly filed by Theresa Hollman who is/are domiciled at 300 E 51st St., Apt. 6A/6B. New York. New York 10022

> of ANN PUZANOWSKI, the

decedent herein, whose names

and places of residence are

unknown and cannot after

diligent inquiry be ascertained.

YOU ARE HEREBY CITED TO SHOW CAUSE before the Surrogate's Court, Queens County, at 88-11 Sutphin Blvd., Jamaica, New York, on APRIL 4, 2013, at 9:30 o'clock in the forenoon of that day, why a decree should not be made in the estate of Ann Puzanowski lately domiciled at 51-36 30th Avenue, 1C, Woodside, New York 11377, United States admitting to probate a Will dated November 30, 1999 (and Codicil(s), if any, dated), a copy of which is attached, as the Will of Ann Puzanowski deceased, relating to real and personal property, and directing that:

[x]Letters Testamentary issue to Theresa Hollman [] Letters of Trusteeship

issue to
[] Letters of Administration
c.t.a issue to:

[] Further relief sought (if any) Dated, Attested and Sealed, FEB 04 2013 Seal

HON. Peter J. Kelly Surrogate MARGARET M. GRIBBON Chief Clerk Robert G. McDermott, Esq.

Name of Attorney
McDermott Law Offices
Firm
(631) 414 0094

Telephone

110 Marcus Blvd., Suite 300, Hauppauge, New York 11788 Address

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

2/21,28,3/7&14/2013



LEGAL NOTICES

WELLIFE PHYSICAL THERAPY & ACUPUNCTURE, PLLC, a domestic PLLC, Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 2/2/12. Office location: Queens. SSNY is designated as agent upon whom process against the PLLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The PLLC, 87-08 Justice Ave., Ste. CB, Elmhurst, NY 11373. Purpose: Physical Therapy & Acupuncture. 1/31,2/7,14,21,28&3/7/2013

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. NAME: STEINBAR ASSOCIATES, LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 01/10/13. Office location: Queens County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to the LLC, 70-38 153rd Street, Flushing, New York 11367. Purpose:

For any lawful purpose. 2/21,28,3/7,14,21&28/2013

Next Generation Properties LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 12/6/12. Office in Queens County. SSNY designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 108-37 42 Ave., Corona, NY 11368. Purpose: General. 2/21,28,3/7, 14,21&28/2013

71-20 80th Street, L.L.C. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 12/7/12. Office in Queens County. SSNY designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 141-30 Pershing Crescent Ste BA, Briarwood, NY 11435. Purpose: General. 2/21,28,3/7, 14,21&28/2013

NOTICE OF FORMATION of ELITE SHOWCASE ENTERPRISES LLC. Art. of Org. filed w/Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) 12/11/12. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent for service of process. SSNY shall mail process to 4115 57 St., Woodside, NY 11377. Purpose: Any lawful activity. 2/21,28,3/7, 14,21&28/2013

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. NAME: PROJECTMISO, LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 6/5/2006. Office location: Queens County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to the LLC, c/o Miah Morshed, 21-24 30th Avenue, Unit 6A, Astoria, NY 11102. Purpose: For any lawful purpose. 2/21,28,3/7,14,21&28/2013



Vallone Celebrates Black History **Month With Queens Hospital Center**



On February 19th, Council Member Peter F. Vallone Jr. attended Queens Hospital Center's Black History Month Celebration. During the event, which was

organized by the hospital's Joint Labor-Management Committee, Vallone danced alongside special guest performer Linwood Peel of The Drifters to a song by The Temptations.

Addabbo & Local Students Send Valentines To Our Veterans

On Thursday, February 14, Senator Addabbo visited residents of the VA St. Albans Community Care Center, as the representative of over 50 students from P.S. 88 in Ridgewood and delivered their "Valentines for Vets" greetings. Dozens of students had worked for the past several weeks on crafting creative, colorful, expressive greeting cards and letters, to show appreciation for the veterans' sacrifice and service from World War II to the Middle East conflicts. Their teacher and principal met with the senator earlier that week when he picked up the students'

Senator Addabbo then visited the veterans to personally deliver heart-felt greetings to each from the school children, affectionate tokens filled with expressions



Senator Addabbo visits VA St. Albans Community Care Center to brighten the day for many when he dropped off Valentines from P.S. 88 students on February 14, 2013.

of their gratitude to show the veterans they care and they're

tion on the above, please contact Senator Addabbo's district office

Justice Lasak Addresses 110th Pct. Community Council Meeting



At the 110th Pct. Community Council Meeting, held at Flanders Field VFW Post #150 in Corona Heights, where guest speaker Supreme Court Justice Gregory Lasak addressed a full house. Pictured above is (I to r) 110th PCT CC President Evelyn DeCoursey, S110th PCT CC gt at Arms Joseph DiMartino, Justice Gregory Lasak, Grace DiMartino, 110th PCT CC VP Lulla Brown, 110th PCT Commanding Officer DI Ronald D. Leyson and 110th PCT CC Tres. Joseph DeGaetano.

Students Tour Albany With Sen. Smith



About 30 youth from the Southeast Queens community accompanied New York State Senator Malcolm A Smith (D-St. Albans) for a day (Feb. 17) during Democratic Caucus Weekend in Albany. During their trip, they took a tour of the capital and attended a youth summit. "I am pleased that these young men and women have taken an interest in politics and are here to learn how government works and how it affects their lives," Smith said.



