



Urban Divers Have a Problem - editorial

DOT presents transportation proposals - page 5



Celebrating Columbia  Waterfront District

The Red Hook Star-Revue

SOUTH BROOKLYN'S COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

Owner of former Revere Sugar factory lot sits on it for now

Thor Equities' Brooklyn history doesn't bode well for Red Hook

By Elizabeth Graham

The former site of the Revere Sugar refinery sits vacant along the Red Hook waterfront, its future undecided. Trucks and construction machinery sit amongst the weeds on the lot, where there's been no activity for several years.

Tentative plans for the land, owned by Brooklyn developer Joseph Sitt's company Thor Equities, have included a mall and housing and office units, but the proposals were hampered by zoning issues and resistance by some community groups.

What's next for the site of the historic refinery, once a Red Hook landmark, is a mystery – and the prolonged inaction mirrors a number of Sitt's dealings in Brooklyn.

The developer has flipped several pricey tracts of land in the borough over the past decade. In 2001, with promises of renovation, he purchased the Albee Square Mall in Downtown Brooklyn for \$25 million and sold it in 2007 for \$125 million, still in its original condition. In 2005, after the Bloomberg administration announced plans to revitalize the area, he bought a piece of land west of Coney Island's amusement district for \$13 million and sold it just over a year later for \$90 million.

His next move was to start purchasing land in Coney Island's proposed entertainment district, eventually amassing 12.5 acres of real estate sitting in the middle of the historic area. He evicted the Astroland amusement park, the Lola Staar boardwalk boutique, batting cages and miniature golf course. The purge reduced amusement park space to just three acres on land Sitt didn't own.

Sitt envisioned creating a resort similar to Las Vegas, with a glass-enclosed water park, rides, stores, condominiums and time-share hotels. The plan was not well-received by the city, which maintained that

building housing near noisy, brightly-lit rides would cause problems.

The Bloomberg administration held out for jumpstart-

ing to shoulder the blame for letting Coney Island deteriorate further while the impasse continued. In 2008, the city offered Sitt \$110 million for 10.5 acres,

with the stipulation that the deal be accepted immediately. In response, Sitt, who wanted \$140 million for the land, flew to Israel. A few months later, the city offered \$105 million for the same parcel, which Sitt paid \$93 million for.

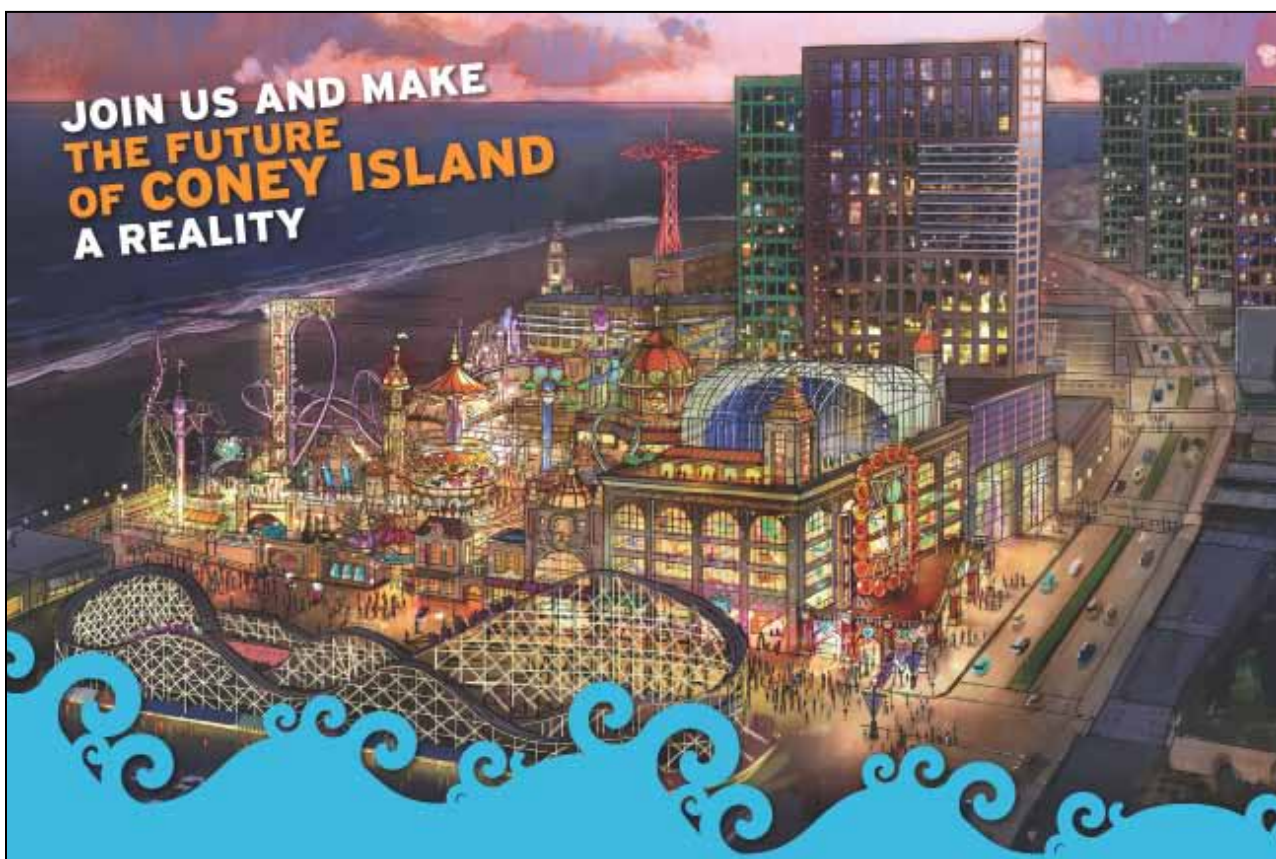
Finally, in late 2009, the city bought 6.9 acres from him, paying \$95.6 million for boardwalk property between the Cyclone and KeySpan Park. The new Luna Park now sits on the land.

Sitt still owns about five acres of land off Stillwell

Avenue and along Surf Avenue. His plans to construct large hotels and stores there haven't changed, but everything is on hold until the city sets the stage by building infrastructure such as water and sewer lines, Stefan Freedman, a spokesman for Thor Equities, said.

The "for lease" signs on the wood fences off Stillwell Avenue are aimed at attracting businesses for next summer, when the company plans to put up a temporary complex housing food vendors, games and stores, Freedman said.

During Sitt's standoff with the city, some officials labeled him an opportunist, and Dick Zigun, founder of the Coney Island Circus Sideshow, told the New York Times he was an "obstructionist." A New York



This is a Thor Equities marketing piece from a few years ago pushing their development idea for Coney Island.

ing the aging boardwalk, with its dive bars and seedy carnival atmosphere, by creating a permanent 9.4-acre amusement district in the heart of historic Coney Island. The city's plan included an amusement park, hotels, stores and other attractions along the boardwalk and Surf Avenue, but Sitt's holdings covered a vast stretch of that area, forcing the city to negotiate with him over the land's use.

The two sides butted heads. Zoning for the proposed entertainment district would ban the high-rise condominiums, time-shares and big retail stores that Sitt maintained were necessary to make up for the cost of operating new rides and attractions, but the city wouldn't compromise further on its plan to retain an air of Coney Island's unique heritage.

Negotiations ground to a halt, with neither side want-

(continued on page 3)

Street parking a residential right or are restrictions elitist? Squadron and Millman push forward residential parking bill

by Curtis Skinner

Finding parking in New York City can be rough but legislation on its way to Albany might make it a little easier for the city's residents.

New York State Senator Daniel Squadron and New York Assemblywoman Joan Millman collaborated on a residential parking permit bill that would open 80 percent of residential parking spots to people that actually live there. The New York City Council passed a "home rule message" Thursday November 3, which essentially gives the green light for Albany to proceed on debate.

"A permit system is long overdue in neighborhoods where residents spend hours circling for parking near their homes," said Senator Squadron in a press release. Residents in places like Prospect Heights have argued that residential parking permits provide a solution for the increased traffic that the Barclays Center has brought.

The measure would allow residents to park in designated spots for a fee that has yet to be decided. Squadron has said publicly that he expects the fee to be low, anywhere between \$25 and \$100 annually, as is the case in other major cities around the country. In Chicago for example, residents pay \$25 a year for parking permit stickers.

The measure would not affect commercial streets, say in front of restaurants or shops, nor would it replace any meters that currently exist. And the money generated by the fee would be channeled into improving surrounding buses and subways, according to Senator Squadron's web page. But not everyone supports the idea.

"Unfortunately, the New York City Council is once again trying to pick the pockets of city residents," said New York State Senator Marty Golden of the Bay Ridge neighborhood. He has vowed to kill the measure when it gets to the floor of the New York State Senate. "The idea that someone would have to pay to park in front of their own home is ludicrous."

Many of his Republican colleagues in the predominantly conservative Senate are likely to follow suit.



Joan Millman's Smith Street district office surrounded by parking spaces (photo by Skinner).

Support from Mayor Michael Bloomberg, who proposed a similar measure to New York's upper-house in 2008, would go a long way in swaying opinions in Albany. But given the administration's attempts to block the council's "home rule message," proponents aren't holding their breath. They remain optimistic, partly due to an opt-in provision that allows each neighborhood a vote on whether to implement the measure or not. But at present the bill's future looks quite grim.

And the feelings of residents in the community reflect the debate being had in the political sphere. Around Carroll Park, just a block away from Assemblywoman Millman's office, residents are far from united on the topic. Many car owners from the neighborhood were irritated.

"I think it's elitist," said Ronnie Harowitz, a Carroll

Garden resident. "Everyone has to deal with sharing the space."

While others seemed excited at the prospect and complained that such legislation was a long time in coming.

"I would love it!" said Crowne Heights woman, Marsha Quinn. "I'd pay \$100 a year for it."

Whatever the feelings from residents and politicians however, the bill is not likely to affect anyone any time soon. Even were it to survive the inhospitable Senate, the New York Department of Transportation has yet to begin studies on the plan's feasibility. And were it to survive that scrutiny, it would have to be voted on by the individual communities and implemented, all processes that could take months or years.

204 Sackett hopefuls introduce themselves to block

by Michael Racioppo



At a recent CB 6 board meeting, the executive board voted down a committee recommendation to submit a favorable recommendation to the SLA concerning a beer and wine license for a potential restaurant at 204 Sackett Street. The reasoning behind this was that even though the building is zoned commercial, it was on a predominantly residential street and despite the legality of it, the Board decided it would be against the best interests of the residents of this block of Sackett Street, falling between Henry and Hicks.

The owners of the proposed restaurant, Regina Myers and Tyler Maganzini, who operate a successful and non-controversial wine bar called *Black Mountain Wine House* over on Smith Street, looked to win over the community and dispel rumors that what was going to be in this small space was some sort of loud bar with cheap bar food, as was insinuated at the CB6 meeting.

On Tuesday November 8th the owners of what will be known as *The Hallows* did just that. They took questions presented their business plan and allowed the 15 or so people who showed up a chance to meet them. While doing this those in attendance got to sample some of the food that will be offered at the *Hallows* such as butternut squash soup and a tender plate of short ribs.

Based on the reactions of the neighborhood residents, including said Olav Christensen, a 4-year resident of the block who was quoted in the *Patch* saying "I think it's a perfect fit for the neighborhood," Regina and Tyler made their case successfully.

They plan to file their liquor board application together with a petition in favor of it signed by 150 neighborhood residents. This will accompany the CB6 recommendation to deny the license. The State Liquor Board has the final say in granting applications, but they take into consideration accompanying information from the community.

CB 6 once again contests committee recommendation for liquor application

At their November General Board meeting, held on the 9th at the Miccio Community Center, there was nearly a repeat of the October controversy concerning another liquor application, this time on the commercial side of St. Marks Place, between 4th and 5th Avenues. While the committee had voted unanimously in approval of a beer garden seating 200 people in the premises of a former building supply store, Lou Sones, who sits on the permits committee, stood up from his

traditional front row seat next to his friend Glen Kelly. He proclaimed that he had since reconsidered his previous approval in order to be consistent with his stance on 204 Sackett Street, where he had objected due to the mixed zoning on the block.

Despite the fact that in both cases zoning and the buildings department favored the usage requested by the applicant, Sones, who gained notoriety a few years ago by his opposition to Union Hall, expressed concern for residents living on the block. Mr. Kelly next got up to agree with Mr. Sones. Sones is the owner of an Atlantic Avenue bar and Kelly is married to a popular local blogger.

After a bit of back and forth, in which it was pointed out that the proposed establishment promised to cooperate with the neighborhood and CB6 in terms of possible sound situations, a vote was taken and after a bit of back and forth in order to figure out whether the ayes were louder than the nays, the application was approved despite the objections.

In addition to approving other committee recommendations, including the renovation of the park by the Gowan Houses at Wyckoff between Hoyt and Bond, as well as approving the final slate of 2012 Board Officers (which are all uncontested), representatives from most of the local politicians gave short talks. Actually appearing was City Comptroller John Liu, who has since gotten into some slight controversy as regards his own personal fundraising, as well as City Councilman Steve Levin, who introduced his replacement for the late Hope Reichbach.

The next General Meeting, at which the public is allowed to attend, but not speak at, will be on December 14th at Borough Hall at 6:30 pm -- **George Fiala**

Is Red Hook at the mercy of a land speculator?

(continued from page 1)

Times article from April 2009 states "The Bloomberg administration views Mr. Sitt as a speculator, not a developer, who is out to make money on the land."

Others felt the developer came into Coney Island with good intentions that simply failed to please everyone.

"I think at the beginning he really had this idea that he would put up residential, commercial and a retail center. And that didn't work, but the amusement end (the city) liked... I think the biggest thing was people didn't like where he going to put the residential," said Judi Orlando, executive director of Astella Development Corporation in Coney Island. "I don't think Joe Sitt had the crystal ball to think 'If I do this preposterous plan the city is going to buy this land from me.'"

Sitt's vision of a Coney Island dotted with gleaming high-rise towers, upscale



A New York Times article from April 2009 states "The Bloomberg administration views Mr. Sitt as a speculator, not a developer, who is out to make money on the land."

chain stores and fancy restaurants didn't mesh with others' strong desire to preserve the quirkiness and grit that the boardwalk is famous for, Orlando said.

"There are a lot of players, and a lot of different people. Maybe he came in on the wrong horse, maybe it was his personality... or maybe some things just business-wise weren't good. I think it's very complicated," she said.

Sitt's retail and housing proposals for the Revere Sugar refinery property on Beard Street have met with similar mixed reactions in Red Hook, with some local groups wanting development there to preserve the industrial integrity of the working waterfront, and others warming to the idea of major retail stores locating on the site.

Regardless, everyone has one thing in common – no one knows exactly what Sitt has in store for the land.

Red Hook Initiative Sponsors Career Day

On Saturday, November 12th the Red Hook Initiative hosted a Young Men's Career Day. The Red Hook Initiative works with many young people who are already exploring their potential careers and shaping their futures.

The theme was "I Want To Be Like You." Designed to allow young men of the Red Hook community an opportunity to hear first-hand what it took some men to overcome obstacles or who has forged a path that many men have traveled, a panel of adults told their stories and answered questions of youths ages 9-18 years of age, and then sat with them at a luncheon afterwards.

The panelists included Yusef Muhammed, a principal in the NYC School system, Julian Morales, construction worker and college student, Ryan Daley,



The panelists, attendees and Youth Employment Specialist Sheryl Nash-Chisholm pose after discussion and lunch

education advocate, Anthony Fatato, founder and Executive Director of We-Endeavor, Erik Penny, portfolio manager and restaurant columnist of this newspaper, and Michael Shawn Cordero, entrepreneur from Bushwick who has opened successful clothing stores including Williamsburg's Fresthetic.

The Red Hook Initiative strives to provide a platform for teens to inspire change in their community by utilizing their voice through various outlets.

Local 1814 holds meeting at Prospect Hall

Last Monday the local longshoreman's union held their first membership meeting following the removal of Sal Cautucci's American Stevedoring from the Red Hook Container Terminal.

President Louis Pernice spoke reiterating many of the points made in last issues Star-Revue interview. He stressed that the Port Authority was working on a seamless transition between ASI and the new stevedore, which will be a co-operative venture of Phoenix Beverage and CGM.

He pointed out that there was already more services at the terminal, meaning more work, and that Phoenix remains the linchpin guaranteeing the continued existence of shipping operations in Red Hook.

In addition he explained that the op-

erations at 39th Street in Sunset Park, which according to the operator, the Axis Group, will become a carport as well as a place for break bulk operations, meaning cargo that cannot be shipped in containers, together with the Cruise Terminal will mean that the shipping operations will become self-sustaining, meaning that laborers will be assured of full-time work throughout the three locations.

He hopes that the Waterfront Commission will see fit to 'open the book' and allow more hiring of full time personnel as need, and will end their hiring of temporary workers. He also affirmed that a percentage of new-hires will be returning veterans from Afghanistan and Iraq, as announced by the ILA and the New York State Shipping Association over the Veterans Day holiday.

The meeting closed with a discussion of pension and widows benefits, and an upcoming new contract for NY Metro ILA.

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News From the Street

written and collected by the Star-Revue writing staff



Sal Meglio suffers double loss

The well beloved denizen of Red Hook's VFW, Sal Meglio, suffered a double loss when he lost both an older brother, Peter, and an older sister Mary Cordaro in the space of a week. The Meglio family grew up in Red Hook and later on moved to Carroll Street. Peter served in WW 2 and worked a number of jobs in New York and Washington DC until he retired at 65. He lived to be 89.

Brooklyn Preservation Council to meet

Something called *The Brooklyn Preservation Council* will meet on Tuesday, November 22 at 6 PM at the Scotto Funeral Home, 106 First Place. On the agenda for the meeting will be a report on the council's signage project in Red Hook and a report on the Carroll Gardens Historic Districts.

The Star-Revue has not heard of this organization before but we will ask Buddy Scotto for a full report in a future issue.

Townhouse brings big bucks

According to the Brooklyn Eagle, a townhouse at 138 Coffey St., between Van Brunt and Conover streets sold for \$1,562,500 on November 1st. The house was built in 1899, and last sold in 2006 for \$750,000.

End of an era

Two longtime family businesses on Columbia Street closed their doors this year. **Accardi Hardware**, for 96 years first at 139 and then 157 Columbia

Street, closed its doors as its third generation owner, David, decided to sell the building and try something else. In the old days, Accardi & Sons was a supplier to many Italian immigrant of wine-making equipment, including pressers, crushers and barrels, as no good Italian would ever buy pre-made wine.

Sokol Brothers, 253 Columbia, also just closed. Maria Burgos-Mitropoulos Pennington reminisces: my family bought

all their furniture there, especially my mother. The strange thing was they would deliver the furniture and my mother would go every Friday and pay the bill to Isadore. My mother also worked there for a while cleaning the store and polishing the furniture. No credit checks - giving you the furniture before it was paid off, all about an honor system, well those days are gone.....

Community Calendar:

The Red Hook Civic Association, an eccentric neighborhood group, meets the last Wednesday of each month, which makes the next meeting November 30th at 7 pm in the auditorium of PS 15, 71 Sullivan Street between Richards and Van Brunt. Led by John McGettrick, there is always an agenda plus a chance for residents to sound off on what's on their mind concerning the neighborhood. Representatives from local politicians are usually scattered throughout the audience.

The Brooklyn Bridge Rotary Club is a newly chartered chapter of this venerable national organization. Meetings take place every Thursday at 12:15 in the back of the Archives Restaurant at the Brooklyn Marriott Hotel, 333 Adams Street. For more information you may call Vivian Hardison at 917-804-0797. The Rotary Club motto is "Service Above Self."

CB 6 Meetings: Thursday, Nov. 17th, 6:30: Transportation Committee Meeting. Presentation and discussion with representatives for the Department of Transportation on the Red Hook Transit Access and Mobility Improvements efforts. Presentation and discussion with representatives for the Department of Transportation on the Brooklyn Waterfront Greenway Master Plan Final Route. Red Hook Recreational Area Basketball Gym 55 Bay Street.

76th Precinct Community Council: these meetings are public and held the 1 Tuesday of each month, meaning the next is Tuesday, December 6th. Go to the basement of the 76th Precinct at 7 pm. The precinct is on Union Street close to Henry bet. Henry and Hicks. Nov. 28th - Public Safety, Permits & License Committee meets at Old First Reformed Church, 729 Carroll Street (Corner of 7th Avenue) at 6:30 pm.

The Star-Revue is happy to publicize your neighborhood meeting free of charge - send info to editor@redhookstar.com

Van Brunt corner lot sanded over



A corner lot at King and Van Brunt which has been used as a community garden had sand piled over it last week. According to the Brownstoner blog, the owner of the lot, bereft of a building since one fell in 1985, is planning for some sort of development and changed the lock and sanded it over to discourage further neighborhood use. Another possible explanation is that a giant but very localized tidal wave left the sand, but this seems unlikely.

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Department of Transportation to present transportation plan at CB meeting Thursday

As promised at the conclusion of the Brooklyn Streetcar Feasibility Study earlier this year, DOT has been pursuing feasible, short-term transit access and mobility improvements for Red Hook and the surrounding neighborhoods. Having partnered with a small working group of area elected officials, Community Board 6, New York City Transit, and local advocates, DOT is recommending two main avenues for making it easier for Red Hook residents to access and utilize existing transit options:

- Pedestrian environment improvements to provide a better walk between Red Hook and Smith/9th St Subway Station
- A new roadway connection across Hamilton Avenue at Mill Street Connector allowing for improved B61 bus service
- An enhanced crossing at Clinton Street, improvements to the W 9th

Street median under the Gowanus Expressway, and a new signalized pedestrian crossing at Mill Street will make access on foot to the subway system easier and safer for Red Hook residents. In addition they have completed a study of a proposed new intersection at Mill Street/Garnet Street and Hamilton Avenue and determined that there would be local bus travel times savings of 25-50% and no major negative traffic impacts. They say that this project will not only improve transit but also help to knit together the neighborhood's pedestrian, bicycle, and automobile transportation network.

These proposals will be presented at the next meeting of the CB6 Transportation Committee on November 17th at 6:30 pm at the Red Hook Recreational Area Basketball Gym, 155 Bay Street in Red Hook. The neighborhood is invited to view the presentation, parts of which are presented on the rest of this page.

Mill Street Intersection



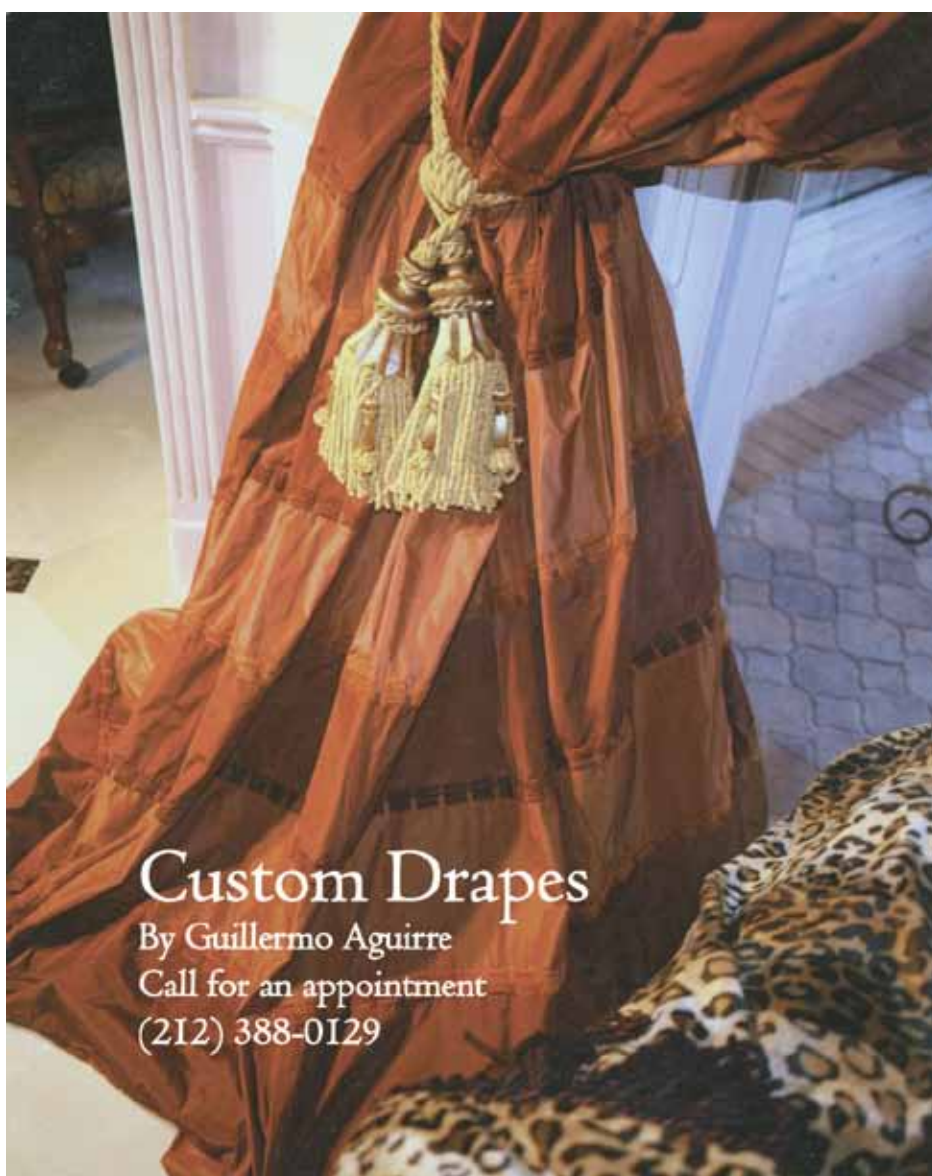
Enhanced Pedestrian Environment Urban Art Project – Proposed Design



Summary/Conclusion

Planning process has yielded short term, implementable measures to provide Red Hook with improved access to transit

- Pedestrian environment improvements provide a better walk between Red Hook and Smith/9th St Subway Station
 - Enhanced crossing at Clinton Street
 - Improvements to Clinton/West 9th Street pedestrian median (lighting, fencing, art)
 - New Mill Street connection includes signalized pedestrian crossing
- Mill Street Connector provides opportunity for improved B61 bus service
 - 25-50% travel times saving between Red Hook Houses and Smith/9th Street Station
 - New Clinton Street bus stop on east side of Red Hook Houses
 - Eliminates unutilized segment of B61 route through industrial part of Red Hook



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WHAT THE POLS ARE UP TO

BY CURTIS SKINNER

PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING

What New York City Councilmember Brad Lander has referred to as "grass-roots democracy at its best", the innovative participatory budgeting program is set to enter the second phase of community planning this month.

The open assemblies, where residents from Brooklyn's 39th district met to discuss how to spend \$1 million of the councilmember's discretionary budget, are scheduled to end on November 13 with delegate orientations following shortly thereafter. After introductory delegates meetings, they will convene from November to February to determine which projects best suit the district.

Delegate meetings are scheduled to begin on November 16. Volunteers are still welcomed. Interested persons are ask to email lander@council.nyc.gov.

SHARE THE ROAD

New York City Councilman Brad Lander will attend the Prospect Park Alliance's meeting on park safety Wednesday November 16. The Prospect Park Road Sharing Taskforce was assembled to study how the park walks might be more safely shared between pedestrians and cyclists. The initiative began after a walker was struck by a biker in the summer. The urgency was reignited after a 55-year-old woman, Linda Cohen, was critically injured by a biker earlier this month.

TOWN HALL

New York State Senator Daniel Squadron and New York Assembly member Joan Millman are set to speak at the Concord Village's annual town hall meeting Thursday November 17. The meeting, hosted by real estate company Concord Village Owners Inc. is meant to update citizens on local, city and state politics. Time will be provided for attendees to ask questions.

The meeting is at 230 Jay Street starting at 7:30 in the evening.

In addition to Squadron and Millman, Steve Levin and Ed Towns will also be speaking and taking questions.

COMMUNITY BOARD 6

On November 17, the board is set to host the New York Department of Transportation to discuss transit access in Red Hook and the Brooklyn Waterfront greenway. This meeting will be held Red Hook Recreational Area Basketball Gym, 155 Bay Street. This meeting will be where the results of vaunted trolley study will be explained by DOT spokesperson Christopher Hrones. This will include some changes to the B61 bus route as well as bringing art installations under Gowanus to make walking across Hamilton Avenue safer. A nice community turnout would show DOT that Red Hook residents care about such things. The previous public hearing was sparsely attended by locals. This meeting begins at 6:30.

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Red Hooks And White Rocks by Mary Anne Massaro



I can't help but smile when people ask me where I grew up. I always revel in being able to reply that I grew up near the water. Now I know that this immediately gets them thinking that grew up near the ocean, maybe off of Cape Cod or New Hampshire. But I grew up near the water that flowed from not an ocean but a river, the Atlantic to be exact. As a young girl lived a few blocks away from the waterfront known then as Pier 41 which was originally named Merchants Street. It was great spending time down at the pier, whether to just sit and ponder, ride your bike or scooter, fish or crab.

Now most people don't know this but Red Hook had the sweetest blue crabs that you could ever eat. My father and I would go down to the pier and crab all night long. We would lower the crab nets down to the pillars that wore beautiful green drapes of seaweed and barnacle.

When we pulled them up they had captured the biggest, bluest, sweetest crabs I will ever eat in my lifetime. In the morning we would take the crabs home to mom who would cook them up with spaghetti and sauce.

There was nothing like the mess we made at that dining room table with the infamous flypaper hanging from the center like a chandelier! I can also remember off the pier sat the famous White Rock Soda Company, which was originally known I believe as the Morgan Soda Company. Most of us had someone in our family work there at some time in their life. I know that I did.

I was always fond of the fairy known as Psyche seen on the delivery trucks and cans. I can remember my times with dad on the pier and all of his magical stories and tales. The legend of the White Rock Soda Fairy was definitely my favorite.

My dad would have me close my eyes and say these words, and legend has it that the fairy would turn my glass of water into soda. The saying went like this:

*At the hour of midnight
On a old man's clock,
May the White Rock Fairy,
Appear upon her rock.*

*As I close my eyes
To my surprise,
My cup of water bubbles over,
As she turns my water into soda.*

Now most people don't know this but Red Hook had the sweetest blue crabs that you could ever eat.

I thought it was amazing how dad always managed to have that soda right there at that moment. Dad and I shared a lot more than soda all those nights on the pier. We created memories that I will always cherish and never forget.

And so on any clear night I can go back to the pier. I can sit on the pier and drink some of my favorite "Red Hook Raspberry" flavored Olde Time soda, and reflect on all those wonderful times.

The last time I did this I remember emptying pockets out when I got home. My son asked "Mom, did you go to the beach?" "There's sand in your pockets." I just smiled and said "no son", I knew it was fairy dust!

Mary Ann Massaro grew up in Red Hook helping her father Skinny at his store on Van Brunt after school.



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Mass Of Thanksgiving in Parishioner Home Religious History In The Making

by JJ Burkard

The Koinonia John the Baptist (KJB) Catholic Evangelists group began a new outreach program in Red Hook. The goal is to have a priest eventually celebrate a Mass in every Catholic home in our Village of Red Hook. This is history in the making. Not only for Red Hook, but for the entire Catholic Diocese of Brooklyn as well. The Evangelists group, of dedicated priests and laymen has been looking into ways to reach the community, to spread the word of God, and just to get to know all the parishioners, and even non-parishioners. No one is to be left out...

Never before in the history of Visitation Parish has such a program been even talked about. Here is a group that is really interested in reaching it's flock. To understand their problems, to assist in whatever way feasible, and to let them know anyone can always count on them when their burdens become overwhelming regardless of that persons religious preferences...

Visitation Parish can now boast of two dynamic priests to help reach this goal, The new Pastor Fr. Claudio Anticini, who is also the Pastor of Koinoina John the Baptist, New York and Associate Pastor Fr. Johanna Siegert. Next month, Visitation will have another Priest ordained at Visitation Church presided over by Brooklyn Vicar, Bishop Frank Caggiano. The present Deacon Eamon Murray, will take his priestly vows. It is also his desire to remain in Visitation and serve the People of our Village of Red Hook in a new and dynamic way.....This is History in the making, given the fact a little over one year ago, This Red Hook Landmark was being considered for closure. This church that has towered over, and served, all of the Village of Red Hook for over 150 years....

Don't miss these unprecedented history making events. Here are the dates:

The Great Marian Congress Dec 9-11, 2011. At Visitation of the BVM Church 98 Richards Street, Red Hook, Brooklyn. 1) Marian Congress, Opening Mass, Friday December 9, 6 to 9:30 pm; 2) Marian Congress, Saturday, December 10, 2011 9 am to 6 pm General Pastor of KJB Presiding, Fr Alvaro Grammatica, and Pastor of KJB New York Fr Claudio Anticini; 3) Priestly Ordination of Deacon Eamon Murray. Saturday December 10 3 PM presided over by Bishop Frank Caggiano, Vicar of Brooklyn; 4) Marian Congress, December 11, 9 am to 6 pm. Vigil of the Virgin of Guadalupe 12 Noon Installation of Fr Claudio Anticini, as New Pastor of Visitation of the BVM Church; 5) Dinner to follow installation's Dec 10 and Dec 11 7:00pm at Sacred Heart Auditorium 108 Carrol St. By reservation. Suggestion donation each reservation \$30.00.

The first of the many Masses to be celebrated in Peoples homes was at yours truly.s house on Coffey Street. It was an Honor and a heartwarming experience for myself my wife Lucille and daughter Lori as well as those wonderful people in attendance. I wish to thank Fr Johanna Siegert for his time and effort and allowing us to share in a completely new lifetime experience.

Letters:

(send yours to letters@redhookstar.com)

Power of the Press

The Red Hook Star Review has a far reaching circulation. Within one short week of my open letter to New York City Parks Commissioner Adrian Benepe, Red Hook's historic Fort Defiance sign was re-installed at the entrance to Valentino Park and pier at the ft of Coffey Street. We should never underestimate the power of the press....Our gratitude to Commissioner Benepe. However, I understand we also have a new Brooklyn Commissioner Kevin Jeffrey's, said to be more sympathetic to area problems. Whoever is responsible, it had to be the Star Review's influence. But so far no one is talking??? Whoever you are, let us know so we can send our thanks personally....JJ Burkard

Seinfeld Reference

To The Editor:

When I read the claim in Ms. Pietanza's article "A Day in Red Hook" (November 15, 2011) that what she calls Luquer Street "was named after a World War I Colonel," I couldn't help but think of the equally anachronistic and nonsensical claim of Cosmo Kramer in a Seinfeld episode that Joe Pepitone had designed Central Park. Does Ms. Pietanza also believe that Nelson Street was named after Ozzie and Harriet or that Sigourney Street was named after the actress from the Alien movies or that Clinton and Bush Streets were named after our recent presidents? And, how about Bay Street being named in honor of Jason Bay.

In fact, as a review of maps from the early twentieth century would show, Luqueer Street (and it was almost invariably spelled with two e's in these older maps) was in existence long before the onset of World War I. A simple Google search shows this too. The street was named after a family of Dutch origin that owned much of the land in what is now Red Hook and Carroll Gardens. And, consistent with that family's Dutch origin, the street is, in fact, pronounced with that "long e sound" that Ms. Pietanza ascribes to those benighted "natives" who somehow didn't know about that mysterious French colonel. The pronunciation by these natives, that is "Laqueer", reflects the Dutch background of the founding family and is consistent with the pronunciation of other Dutch names (e.g. the painter Vermeer).

I have lived on or within a block of Luqueer Street for over 60 years and I, like my parents who lived in the same neighborhood, always pronounced it consistent with the then prevailing spelling, that is, with two e's. All of my relatives and neighbors (admittedly all "natives") pronounced it that way, and spelled it with two e's. The one e spelling is largely the result of some municipal signage legerdemain that was adopted fairly recently, probably at about the same time as Carroll Gardens was excised from Red Hook. The dropping of that second e has caused the confusion about pronunciation that prevails among the newer, non-native population. Love, Tom Farrelly, Luqueer Street

"Things took an uneasy turn when..."

TM & © 2011 Vinco Musacchia

I happened to glance out of my kitchen window the other night and I saw a figure walking by, that I sensed was suspicious.



I'm not normally of a suspicious nature, but this person 'got to me', as he was wearing an un-vented sport jacket.



I don't normally raise my cackles over an 'unvented' sport jacket! But I suspected something sinister was afoot!



I felt a feeling of dread...

Aside from having one of the worst weeks of my life, both from a personal and professional view, I got through it intact. Needless to say: Friday was most welcome!



Editorials:

JOE SITT AND RED HOOK

We have started writing these past two issues about the empty lot between Greg O'Connell's property and Ikea on Beard Street. Purchased in 2006 by Joe Sitt's humongous hedge fund/developer company Thor Equities, it was quickly razed to the ground before historians could raise any sort of organized protest about the iconic dome that was part of the Revere Sugar factory, which might have anchored some sort of aesthetically pleasing development.

His PR firm, the Marino Organization, specializes in helping the large corporation pull the wool over local communities, although they would not characterize their work as such. Thor Equities is a billion dollar corporation busy all over the world with projects, which is one reason they are not worried about paying the taxes on our local land that remains useless to us.

At this moment they are involved in a controversial redevelopment of a historic shopping area in London called The Burlington Arcade. Sitt and a partner bought this arcade and are busy trying to modernize it to attract the wealthy international tourists and shoppers from the burgeoning 'BRIC' countries (Brazil, Russia, India and China). Last month the British newspaper 'The Telegraph' wrote the following:

"I love this arcade," says Bexfield, a gentle man energised by the zeal of having nothing to lose. "It's the last bastion of small business, it's quintessentially British and it's disappearing." In the past few weeks he's written to every MP and London councillor, while simultaneously piquing the interest of English Heritage, the Georgian Group (who campaign against the neglect of Georgian buildings) and a smattering of celebrities. His urgency is fuelled by the discovery, on the Westminster Council planning page, of an application to install uplighting, marble floors (Bexfield calls them "Dubai style") and three large steel structures by Antony Gormley, creator of the Angel of the North. The consultation period closes early next month.

Bexfield is particularly incensed that Peter Marino, an American retail expert who likes to boast that his stores "aren't built to last", has been engaged to help with the design. "He is the Lady Gaga of architects," says Bexfield, of a man known for his taste in leather biking clothes. "If I had a new fashion arcade in Bond Street, I'd definitely want him to design it. But the last thing I'd want him to do is restore a historic arcade."

We at the Star-Revue think that some sort of pressure should be put on Thor Equities to do something with this land. What we really think is that Thor Equities is the wrong tenant for this important part of the future of Red Hook. He is a businessman who has created a billion dollar empire out of nothing. He has not done this by carefully adhering to the best interests of the local communities that he deals in. He has done this by appealing to what is now commonly called the one-percenters, people who have lots of disposable income to spend. We are not saying that he does not have the right to do this, we are merely thinking that in the best interests of economic development of our neck of the woods, much care should be taken

"The most important thing we can do as a newspaper is to let people know about Thor Equities and bring them back into our public conversation today, rather than being confronted with some sort of fait accomplis in the future, while in the meantime suffering the opportunity cost of the current limbo state of this land."

before letting Joe Sitt have his way with Red Hook.

There's lots of other uses to the land then building some sort of box store development with a huge parking lot, or an arcade for the rich and famous. A performing arts center, for one. Or perhaps having the city map some streets onto it and using tax incentives build a community of townhouses, seafood restaurants and a park/boardwalk area where one can enjoy the beautiful Red Hook sunsets. Maybe a branch of an art museum - why should Manhattan get them all.

Any of the above ideas would also serve as an incentive for the city to upgrade our transportation infrastructure. Long-time readers of this paper may remember our fantastical scheme of a monorail traveling up and down Richards Street. It might be fantastical, but we think about it every time we take the Airtrain at JFK. The most important thing we can do as a newspaper is to let people know about Thor Equities and bring them back into our public conversation today, rather than being confronted with some sort of fait accomplis in the future, while in the meantime suffering the opportunity cost of the current limbo state of this land.

URBAN DIVERS AND IKEA

We recently ran into Ludger Balan, head of the Urban Divers Estuary Conservancy. These are the people who run the pirate festival in the back of Ikea and have built the Enviromobile that is a large bus housing a museum that schoolgroups visit and are introduced to conservation ideas.

Ikea has been a big supporter of the Urban Divers, allowing his bus to live in Erie Basin Park behind the store, and allowing him to use the park for his events which total five between April and September. This night Ludger was highly upset as he was told that Ikea was severing the relationship and demanding that he move his bus off their property. He mumbled something about a stage and insurance problems and a new manager at Ikea who didn't like him.

I contacted Ikea to get their side of things, which was that back in April they had asked him via emails to not

store a wooden stage and ship mast under their parking lot because they were getting warnings from the Fire Department and hassles from vendors about it. They claim that Ludger never responded to multiple emails and while they regretted having to evict him, they could see no other way because of his lack of cooperation. They claimed that while they had no problem with the bus, they had never had any arrangement about storing the stage.

The Star-Revue feels that both Ludger and Ikea are right, and both are wrong. Ludger is a genius at what he does, which is champion the Gowanus estuary and the maritime history of the area, but he can be lacking in certain practical areas, which can lead to situations like the one he is in.

Ikea is right to demand that their requests be acknowledged and dealt with in a timely manner. They do the same for their customers, as their many shoppers over the years can attest to.

Hopefully this situation can be further negotiated perhaps by a caring third party. The fact is that Ludger programs are good, although they could be promoted better. The pirate festival we attended was wonderful, but we wondered why there were not more attendees.

Ikea has a beautiful park behind it which aside from the Urban Divers events, to our knowledge is not otherwise utilized. We think that Ikea should help Ludger get rid of the stage, and possibly install the ship mast in some suitable location in the park.

Furthermore, we think that Ikea might think about building a permanent stage in the park, and reach out to other local groups, such as Dance Theater Etcetera and Falconworks as well as some of the local schools who might be interested in a place such as Erie Basin Park to present performances. Then call it the Ikea Stage and create something that both Ikea and the Red Hook community can be proud of.



Happier days at Erie Basin Park with the Urban Divers

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The News of South Brooklyn

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Cartoons Vince Musacchia, Harold Shapiro
Historian John Burkard
Contributors Curtis Skinner, Danette Vigilante, Robert Geehan
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OPINION: "The Status Quo Swerves"

by Michael Racioppo

In his new book *The Swerve: How the World Became Modern*, Harvard Professor Stephen Greenblatt makes the case that a single poem written over 600 years ago changed the course of history and human thought forever. The poem "On The Nature Of Things" written by Lucretius, questions religion and suggests that the world is made up of tiny particles crashing into one another. Without these suggestions, Greenblatt argues thinkers such as Galileo, Freud, Darwin, Einstein, and Jefferson may not have ever come to be. Though it's unlikely any of the people taking part in the Occupy Wall Street protests will be as well remembered as those names, they could be responsible for a "swerve" nonetheless. What I am referring to is the possibility that, September 17th 2011, when Occupy Wall Street began, may be cited by historians, as the moment gross inequality became a mainstream issue to Americans and moved our politics closer to democracy and away from Corporatocracy that allows democracy in name only.

I know some people reading this are thinking "Why wasn't the Tea Party a swerve?" Well the reason is that unlike focusing on things like Public Employee benefits, a stimulus that economists say prevented a depression, a health care bill based on policies crafted by the likely presidential nominee of the Republican Party (Mitt Romney). The Tea Party is the status quo wearing a tri corner hat. Their belief in the free mar-

ket at all costs is just a louder than usual push for a logical conclusion to an era that started with Ronald Reagan's election in 1980.

At his inauguration Ronald Reagan famously said: "Government is not the solution to our problem. Government is the problem." Taxes for the rich were slashed, as were outlays on public services and investments as a share of national income. Only the military and politically volatile issues (third rail) like Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid and Veterans' benefits were exempted from the squeeze. These policies have led to inequality that ranks us amongst third world countries such as Nicaragua, Venezuela and Guyana.

A few weeks ago the Congressional Budget Office found that almost two-thirds of the rising share of the top percentile in income actually went to the top 0.1 percent who comprise the richest thousandth of Americans, who saw their real incomes rise more than 400 percent over the period from 1979 to 2005. The protestors occupying Wall Street and calling themselves the "99%" could, sadly and more accurately be the 99.9%." This is a situation that mirrors pre-WW 2 France, and which led eventually to Vichy France. In their case it was the top 400.

But so what? Will anything come of this Occupy movement? It's too early to tell but the tone has certainly changed and Bank of America has canceled their debit card fees. A good way to gauge

"What I am referring to is the possibility that, September 17th 2011, when Occupy Wall Street began, may be cited by historians, as the moment gross inequality became a mainstream issue.."

what happens will be both the public's reaction to and whether or not New York State's "Millionaires Tax" is extended.

The tax in question actually applies to individuals who make more than \$200,000 a year, or \$300,000 a year for families. It was enacted in 2009 and if nothing is done it will expire December 31st. An extension of this tax could have been part of this year's budget to help close the states deficit, but the budget Governor Cuomo signed featured record cuts to health care and education. Such cuts go to the core of what the Occupy Wall Street movement is protesting- the idea that those who need less get more and those who need more get less. With the OWS movement growing in numbers and popularity, our local representatives, who failed to push for the extension of the Millionaire's Tax in the budget negotiations, are now do-

ing just that. Just this past week a news story came out stating that state tax revenues are coming in even less than forecast leading to even more government cuts if nothing is changed.

This is the same reason the historically shrewd Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver is pushing hard and speaking loudly and Vito Lopez hosted an Occupy march across the Brooklyn Bridge. If this tax is extended by the State, it will be no small victory for a movement and no small benefit to the people of New York State.

With median incomes of 48 thousand a year for families, few would feel the "pain" of a Millionaire's Tax extension, but many would notice a decrease in the already infrequent B61 bus. Few would have stories of how this tax is causing them to cut back on weekends in the Hamptons, but almost all the parents of students could tell you about the increased class sizes at PS15.

At this point, if one is a gambling type, the odds favor the tax not being extended, but the fact it's being discussed by those who occupy the halls of power is a sign of things to come. Sure Andrew Cuomo has promised that under no circumstances would he extend the tax and said his opposition is similar to his father's unwillingness to support the death penalty. But I suggest Andrew Cuomo, and other politicians, remember that opposition to the death penalty was the "Swerve" that moved Mario Cuomo out of the Governor's mansion.

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Art:

Lucky Gallery Opens for a Day with a big party!

by Elizabeth Graham

Sometimes it's a stranger's approachability, other times it's the way they look in a certain light. There's any number of reasons why Andy Vernon-Jones chooses the subjects in his photographs, but for the past several years, he's had one goal in mind – to document Red Hook and its residents from his perspective.

Vernon-Jones has compiled his latest work into "Here in Red Hook," a book full of images from the streets.

"It's a very hopeful look at the neighborhood, and it's a look at what's beautiful about the neighborhood without trying to gloss over anything that's run down or gritty," Vernon-Jones said. "I've attempted to put it together more like a poetic journey through the neighborhood and less like a journalistic representation of what's there."

On Nov. 17, Lucky Gallery is hosting the book's release party from 7 to 10 p.m. at 360 Van Brunt St. The party is Lucky Gallery's first event after closing about a year and a half ago on Richards Street, owner Laura Arena said.

Arena was impressed by Vernon-Jones's work when it was included in a show several years ago at the gallery, so when

she heard that he was about to publish a book, it was an easy decision to collaborate with him again.

"The thing I think that is so wonderful about Andy is because he's worked with the community, what he photographs isn't necessarily what the regular person sees," she said. "He just has a really great sensibility of capturing the Red Hook that is comprised of people that have lived here for a long time."

Vernon-Jones, 29, grew up in Massachusetts, moving to Red Hook to work as a counselor at South Brooklyn Community High School. Now, he's working toward a Master's degree in art education in order to teach photography. For him, "Here in Red Hook" represents the transition between leaving the job that allowed him to really get to know the neighborhood and going back to school. A few portraits of some of his former students are even included in the book.

"My working at the school gave me a connection to a wide variety of people," Vernon-Jones said. "I think there can be a disconnect between the residents of the housing project and the new artists that move in."



On Nov. 17, Lucky Gallery is hosting the book's release party from 7 to 10 p.m. at 360 Van Brunt St. The party is Lucky Gallery's first event after closing about a year and a half ago on Richards Street, owner Laura Arena said.

Gallery Small features works of Jan Brady and Neil Berger



Featured above is the painting of Neil Berger, "To convey by memory the experience of being there rather than all the information in the actual scene. Memory edits for iconic effect."

Also on exhibit are Jay Brady's drawings, "Absorbing the subject matter and impersonating it inwardly" (see below).

Gallery Small New York is at 416 Van Brunt Street, their phone number is 347 782 729 and their hours are Thursday: 1-5 Friday-Sunday 12-6pm



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Dining:

New Bar Bruno is a nice addition to Henry Street

by Erik Penney

Bar Bruno definitely looks cool. It looks like the kind of place that Gael Garcia Bernal would have found in "The Motorcycle Diaries." It has a sleek, retro South American look with clean white-washed walls, steel and glass, almost art deco. Vintage looking soccer photos dot the walls and you feel like you might be in a trendy expat bar in Uruguay or Chile or Havana before *la Revolución*. In actual fact, Bar Bruno is sits on the corner of Union and Henry Streets in Carroll Gardens and by and large the restaurant does a very respectable job with its tight, focused menu of food and cocktails.

The bar at Bar Bruno is a fun place to linger, and on a good night it can get quite crowded. More than once I heard groups of people at the bar mention "Lucali", which leads me to believe Bar Bruno functions as a de facto waiting room for the notoriously hard to get into pizzeria down the street. The music alternates between very cool period Latin nightclub standards and whatever was in the hipster bartender's iPod, and oddly, both worked.

The menu lists several prepared beer drinks, all of which can probably correctly be called a *michelada*, which is a Mexican style beer with hot sauce or tomato juice in a salt-rimmed glass, though I've seen them made with Worcestershire, soy or teriyaki as well. Bar Bruno has four versions of this drink on the menu and although I know a beer with bloody Mary mix added might sound a bit odd to most, it's actually quite good and refreshing. There's a short list of five house special cocktails, and on one night I had the George Best, named after the rowdy Northern Irish footballer from the 1960's. It's essentially a Negroni, this version made with Tanqueray Gin, vermouth and Campari. It was delicious and perfectly balanced, though I suspect if the real George Best were served a dainty drink like this he would

likely hurl it at the bartender's head and demand a proper pint. Unfortunately, the drink itself was quite small, served in a stemless martini glass that looked to be barely half-full.

Bar snacks can (and should be) ordered, the best of which is the terrific Morcilla sausage crostini with guacamole. The avocado cools the heat and spice from the sausage just the right amount and I'll be darned if it doesn't go perfectly well with that *michelada* I ordered. There's usually a special or two, including a ceviche of the day, and all of them are good for sharing.

Bar Bruno does a burger that, in my opinion, stands among the best I have had. Theirs, called the Bruno Diaz burger, comes from a house-made

Bar Bruno has four versions of this drink on the menu and although I know a beer with bloody Mary mix added might sound a bit odd to most, it's actually quite good and refreshing.

blend of sirloin, short rib and brisket and comes topped with avocado, caramelized onions and cheese (I had Swiss). You're offered a choice among fries, Israeli cous-cous or a side salad to go with your burger, but I highly recommend you get the fries – they're exceptionally good. Wonderfully hot, salty and crispy. French fries are such a simple thing but so often you must make due with mediocre ones, but not here. The burger itself was perfectly cooked and incredibly juicy, and the meat had that great beefy mineral funk that really good burgers have. This is a real standout dish.

One of the more pleasant discoveries I can make at a restaurant is that, among everything else it has on the menu, it also has a great steak. I love a good steak, but we've all become conditioned to believe that one can only be had at a steakhouse, and for 50 bucks a pop. Thankfully this is not always the case. Bar Bruno does a very good job with theirs, a grass-fed skirt steak served with chimichurri sauce. The skirt is one of the most tender, most flavorful cuts of beef I know of, and it takes all types marinades very well, but even simply grilled it challenges far more expensive, higher-profile cuts and I would personally choose it over filet mignon any day. Get this with a big pile of their wonderful fries and for \$18 this is a fantastic value and one of the best *steak frites* you'll find anywhere. A *steak au poivre* was a special one night, and the sauce really won it for me as well. Perfectly creamy with a grainy mustard tang, the heat from the cracked pepper was there but muted, another winner. Some of the most flavorful liquids I know of I have found at the bottom of a bowl of mussels. There's a lot going on in Bar Bruno's mussel pot, theirs has chorizo and chipotle chilis, lots of cilantro, and white wine. All of this gets cut with the beautifully fishy liquor that the mussels give off in an amazing alchemy, and the result is delicious. It's heady stuff, red, rich and spicy with slices of chorizo and a few croutons to sop it up with, but I went right in with



a big spoon. The mussels were plump and sweet, and I was again thankful for the pile of their excellent fries and the Japanese Hitachino Nest wheat beer that was recommended as a pairing. All three made for a great dish, a *moules frites* with Latin and Japanese touches. Bar Bruno is open late, and the kitchen stays open late, both of which make it a great spot for a late drink or bite to eat if you're in the neighborhood. They've got a good vibe and the kitchen does some very good things. The menu is small but it is always augmented by a handful of specials, which actually keeps it kind of interesting. I'm glad for the atmosphere as well. I go to so many cookie-cutter farm-to-table new American bistro-type restaurants that you end up forgetting what it can be like to be in a place that's truly different. Don't get me wrong, Bar Bruno isn't reinventing the wheel, but what they are doing is offering a unique spot to have really good food and drinks in a restaurant with a well-chosen internationally-informed menu, and I think they succeed.

BAR BRUNO

520 Henry Street (corner of Henry and Union), Carroll Gardens

Recommended dishes: Morcilla Sausage Crostini with guacamole, Bruno Diaz Burger, Grass-fed Skirt Steak with chimichurri, Spicy Mussels, French fries

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Star-Revue Restaurant Guide

RED HOOK

BAKED 359 Van Brunt St., (718) 222-0345. Bakery serving cupcakes, cakes, coffee, pastries, lunch items. Free wi-fi. Open for breakfast, lunch and dinner daily.

THE BROOKLYN ICE HOUSE 318 Van Brunt St., (718) 222-1865. Burgers, barbecue and pulled pork sandwiches. Open for lunch and dinner daily. Cash only.

BOTANICA 220 Conover St (at Coffey St), (347) 225-0147. Fine Cocktails, Specialty Liquors & Cacao Prieto Chocolate. Open Tue-Sun 5pm-12am, Fri 5 pm-3am, Sat 2pm-3am, Sun 2pm -12am. In-house Distilled Cacao Rum Tastings. Tue: Poker night, Wed-Fri: Board game nights. Sat-Sun: Afternoon cocktails. Cash only. Free Wi-Fi. Available for private events.

DEFONTE'S SANDWICH SHOP 379 Columbia St., (718) 855-6982. Variety of large sandwiches, including roast beef and potato and egg. Open for breakfast and lunch Mon-Sat. Cash only.

DIEGO'S RESTAURANT 116 Sullivan St., (718) 625-1616. Mexican and Latin American cuisine. Open for lunch and dinner Mon-Sat. AE, DS, MC, V.

F&M BAGELS 383 Van Brunt St., (718) 855-2623. Bagels, sandwiches, wraps, chicken salad, breakfast plates, burgers, hot entrees and more. Open for breakfast and lunch daily 5 am-5 pm. AE, DS, MC, V. Delivery available.

FORT DEFIANCE 365 Van Brunt St., (347) 453-6672. Brunch, sandwiches and small plates. Open for breakfast Tue; breakfast, lunch and dinner Mon, Wed-Sun.

THE GOOD FORK 391 Van Brunt St., (718) 643-6636. Fare from Chef Sohui Kim in an unpretentious atmosphere; menu varies seasonally and can include pork dumplings, roast chicken, homemade gnocchi and steak and eggs Korean style. Open for dinner Tue-Sun. AE, MC, V.

HOME/MADE 293 Van Brunt St., (347) 223-4135. Seasonal, local and rustic/elegant cuisine, with an extensive wine list of 40 selections by the glass, and local brew and Kombucha on tap. Coffee and pastry Mon-Fri 7 am-2 pm, dinner Wed-Fri 5 pm to 11 pm, brunch Sat & Sun 10 am-4pm, dinner 4-11 pm.

HOPE & ANCHOR 347 Van Brunt St., (718) 237-0276. Large menu that includes burgers, entrees and all-day breakfast. Open for lunch and dinner Mon-Fri; breakfast, lunch and dinner Sat-Sun. AE, DS, MC, V.

IKEA One Beard St., (718) 246-4532. Swedish meatballs, pasta, wraps and sandwiches; breakfast items include eggs and cinnamon buns. Open for breakfast, lunch and dinner daily. AE, DS, MV, V.

KEVIN'S 277 Van Brunt St., (718) 596-

8335. Seafood, seasonal and local fare. Open for dinner Thu-Sat, brunch Sat-Sun. AE, MC, V.

MARK'S PIZZA 326 Van Brunt St., (718) 624-0690. Open for lunch and dinner daily. AE, MC, V. Delivery available.

RED HOOK LOBSTER POUND 284 Van Brunt St., (646) 326-7650. Maine lobster rolls, Connecticut rolls and whoopie pies. Open for lunch and dinner Tue-Sun.

ROCKY SULLIVAN'S 34 Van Dyke St., (718) 246-8050. Irish pub with brick-oven pizza, sandwiches; lobster feasts Fri 6-9 pm, Sat 5-8 pm. Open for lunch and dinner daily. AE, DS, MC, V.

COLUMBIA WATERFRONT DISTRICT

ALMA 187 Columbia St., (718) 643-5400. Modern Mexican fare. Open for dinner Mon-Fri, brunch and dinner Sat-Sun. AE, DS, MC, V.

BAGEL BOY CAFE 75 Hamilton Ave - next to Chase, (718) 855-0500. Breakfast lunch and dinner w/hot buffet food. Open 4 am - 9 pm Mon - Friday, closing at 6 on the weekend.

CALEXICO CARNE ASADA 122 Union St., (718) 488-8226. Tex-Mex burritos, tacos, quesadillas and more. Open for lunch and dinner daily. Cash only. Delivery available.

CASA DI CAMPAGNA 117 Columbia Street (718) 237-4300. If you think that you've enjoyed all the best pizza in the world, try this new restaurant on the corner of Kane Street. Reasonably priced

CASELNOVA 214 Columbia St., (718) 522-7500. Traditional Northern and Southern Italian dishes, brick-oven pizza, pasta, lunch panini. Open 7 days a week for dinner at 5, Friday for lunch at noon, Sunday Brunch at 11 am and Dinner at 4. Delivery available. AE, DS, MC, V.

FERNANDO'S FOCACCERIA RESTAURANT 151 Union St., (718) 855-1545. Southern Italian fare, including pasta and panelle. Open for lunch and dinner Mon-Sat. Cash only.

HOUSE OF PIZZA & CALZONES 132 Union St., (718) 624-9107. Pizza, calzones and sandwiches. Open for lunch and dinner daily. Cash only. Delivery available.

JAKE'S BAR-B-QUE RESTAURANT 189 Columbia St., (718) 522-4531. Kansas City-style barbecue.

KOTOBUKI BISTRO 192 Columbia St., (718) 246-7980. Japanese and Thai cuisine, including sushi, teriyaki, pad Thai and special maki named after area streets. Open for lunch Mon-Sat, dinner 7 days.



Caselnova is offering a special family dinner for 10 this year for Thanksgiving, including pasta and turkey. Orders must be placed by this Saturday.

LILLA CAFE 126 Union St., (718) 855-5700. Seasonal fare, hormone and antibiotic-free meats, bread baked on premises and homemade pasta from Chef Erling Berner. BYOB. Open for dinner Tue-Sun, lunch Thu-Fri, brunch Sat-Sun. MC, V.

MAZZAT 208 Columbia St., (718) 852-1652. Mediterranean and Middle Eastern fare, including falafel sandwiches, kibbe, bronzini, lamb shank, baklava and small plates. Open for lunch and dinner daily.

PETITE CREVETTE 144 Union St., (718) 855-2632. Seafood, including corn-and-crab chowder, salmon burgers and cioppino, from Chef Neil Ganic. BYOB. Open for lunch and dinner Tue-Sat. Cash only.

TEEDA THAI CUISINE 218 Columbia St., (718) 643-2737. Thai dishes include papaya salad, dumplings and massaman curry. Open for lunch and dinner Mon-Sat, dinner Sun. MC, V. Delivery available.

Carroll Gardens

MARCO POLO RISTORANTE 345 Court Street, 718 852-5015, Italian, Sunday 1:00 pm - 10:30 pm, Monday CLOSED, Tues, Wed, Thurs 11:30 am - 11:00 pm, Friday 11:30 am - Midnight, Saturday 1:00pm - Midnight, All Major Cards

BAR BRUNO, 520 Henry St., 347-763-0850, Latin-influenced spot for classic and beer cocktails, burgers and big salads served in bowls.

CASA ROSA, 384 Court Street, 718-797-1907, Italian noon -10:30 p.m daily, All cards.

VINZEE'S, 412 Court Street, 718 855 1401, American, All Major Cards.

ABILENE, 442 Court Street, 718-522-6900, American-bar-Mexican, 11 a.m - 4 a.m daily

NINE-D, 462 Court Street, 718-488-8998, Thai, Lunch Tue - Sun: 12 pm - 3pm Dinner Mon-Fri: 5pm - 11pm Sat-Sun: 3pm - 11pm, Visa MC

PRIME MEATS, 465 Court Street, 718-254-0327 or 0345, German, American, Mon-Thurs 10 a.m-12 a.m, Fri 10a.m-1a.m, Sat 8 a.m-1 a.m Sun 8 a.m- 12 a.m, Visa Mastercard, AE

VINO Y TAPAS, 520 Court street, 718-407-0047, Spanish Tapas, 5 p.m-11 p.m daily, AE, palocortadobk.com

MEZCAL Restaurant, 522 Court Street, 718-783-3276 Mexican, Tequila Bar, 11a.m-11p.m daily, All Major Cards

FIVE GUYS, 266 Court street, 347-799-2902, American, 11-10 a.m - p.m daily, All cards

BUDDY'S BURRITO & TACO BAR, 260 Court street, 718-488-8695, Mexican, 11:30 a.m- 11 p.m, Visa, Mastercard

GHANG, 229 Court Street, 718-875-1369, Thai, Sun-Thurs 11:30 a.m, 11:30 p.m, Visa Mastercard

DOWNTOWN BAR & GRILL, 160 Court street, 718-625-2835, American, Mon-Sun 12p.m-2 a.m, All Major, Cards, downtownbarandgrill.com

GOWANUS YACHT CLUB, 323 Smith Street, New York - (718) 246-132, Beer, pierogies, hot dogs and more.

CODY'S ALE HOUSE GRILL, 154 Court Street, 718-852,6115, International Cuisine, 8a.m-10p.m daily, All Major Credit Cards

NATURES GRILL, 138 Court street, 718-852,5100, Gourmet Health food, Mon-Fri 10a.m-11 p.m, Sat 9 a.m, Sun 9 a.m- 9 p.m, All Major Cards, naturesgrillcafe.com

PALMYRA, 316 Court street, 718-797-1110, Mediterranean, 11a.m- 11 p.m daily, Visa Mastercard

LING LING YOUNG, 508 Henry Street, 260-9095, Chinese, eat in or take out. All cards.

FRANKIES 457, 457 Court Street, Italian, 718 403-0033, cash

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Facility Manager Wanted Boiler, Plumbing, Carpentry, Electric, ceramic, plastering, painting desirable. Must be able to supervise a staff of 5. Fax Resume Attn: Lisa Baptiste to 718-243-2253 or email to lisa.baptiste@shindamgmtcorp.com

TAG SALE

Gate Sale Place: 30th Street, 4th & 5th Avenues Date: Saturday, November 5th, 2011 Time: 10 AM - 4 PM Brick a brack Clothes/Shoes Dishes/Glasses Gadgets Home furnishings Come and bring a friend

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Classes/Workshops

Glass Art of Brooklyn www.ernestporcelli.com 718-596-4353 Glass Fusing Workshop every Wednes-

day Evening 7 -9 Beginners to Advanced Students welcome. Maximum 6 students per class. Classes are ongoing. Monthly fee \$175, includes most materials, and firings.

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Real Estate Classified ads are \$8 per listing per month. Neighborhood Services are \$10 per month or \$100 the year. Display classifieds are also available. Call Matt for details, 718 624-5568. You may email your ads, or drop them in the mail. Ads@RedHookStar.com; 101 Union Street, Brooklyn, NY 11231 All other line ads are \$5 per listing per month.

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THINGS TO DO NOV 16 - 30

If you have an event you would like listed in the Red Hook Star-Review calendar, please email redhookstarcalendar@gmail.com.

CLASSES/WORKSHOPS

Brooklyn General—128 Union St., (718) 237-7753, brooklyngeneral.com. Sewing Men's Shirt (intermediate to Advanced level) Session A, Sunday November 20th at 9am-6pm with Cal, \$190.

Yoga with Anna Mumford—www.annamumford.com. Saturdays 10-11:15am at the Dance Theater Etc space above Fairway, \$10 suggested donation. Wednesdays 10-11am at the Red Hook Rec Center, free.

COMEDY

Littlefield—622 Degraw St., littlefieldnyc.com. Class Clowns: A Comedy Benefit to Build a School in Kenya, Michelle Collins, Sara Benincasa, Shockwave, Brent Sullivan, 11/16 at 7:30pm, \$10, Hot Tub with Kurt and Kristen, Max Silvestri, The Birdmann, Brittain Ashford, 11/21 at \$5-8, Hot Tub with kurt and kristen, Dan Wilbur, 11/28 at 7:30pm, \$5-8, The Talent Show Presents: The First Thanksgiving Murder Mystery Dinner Party. Dave Hill, Bobby Tisdale, Shonali Bhowmik, Monica Bill Barnes, Premiere of the web series "The Secret Adversary", + more. 11/30 at 7pm, \$7.

Union Hall—702 Union Street, unionhallny.com. Pretty Good Friends, weekly comedy show hosted by Eudene Mirman and friends, 11/20 at 7:30pm, \$7

EXHIBITIONS

Dustin Yellin Studio—133 Imlay street, dustinyellin.com. Solo show by Brian Wondergem. "With the use of elements such as door frames, stairs, studs, and lights, Wondergem questions the modern interior, transforming the familiar into something mysterious. Using mirrors and repetition, one work encompasses the interior gallery space creating a site-specific zone." Opening Reception: Nov 18th from 7-10pm.

Everbrite Mercantile Co.—351 Van Brunt St, everbrite.com ET/PER/SE/AND. "ET/PER/SE/AND is the chairman of the alchemical media department of New Human Dreamtime International, (N.H.D.I.) a global conglomerate of high frequency media cor-

porations located within the lush peaks and valleys of Sir Wilhelm's wild grey coif. As chair of the board, his goal is to transmute the abundance of low frequency old media trash into a visceral and golden melange of high frequency eduascencientainment." On view until 12/4.

Kentler International Drawing Space—353 Van Brunt St. (718) 875-2098, kentlertgallery.org. Twenty-one artists from The Kentler Flatfiles. On view until 12/18.

Look North Inuit Art Gallery—275 Conover Street, Suite 4E, (347) 721-3995, looknorthny.com. Polar Light: Greenland. The Greenland photography of Rena Bass Forman and the Greenland drawings of Zaria Forman. A climate change awareness exhibition held in conjunction with Al Gore's 'The Climate Project'.

Gallery Small New York—416 Van Brunt, smallnewyork.com. The Flora and Fauna of New York. Berger, Brady, McCann. On view until 12/17.

FOOD/DRINK

Botta di Vino—357 Van Brunt St., (347) 689-3664. Friday night candle light blind tasting. "Discuss what you smell, taste and feel with your own palate. a group forum for wanna be wine geeks" Admission requires one purchase.

Dry Dock Wine + Spirits—424 Van Brunt St., (718) 852-3625, drydockny.com. "Hooker's Choice Day", every Sunday. Loire valley treats, 11/17 at 6-9pm, 2011 beajolais nouveau smackdown! 11/18 at 5:30-8:30pm, super-duper kitchen sink blends, 11/19, the back of the knee..., 11/20 at 2-5pm, veni, vidi, bibi, 11/22 at 6-9pm, all american whiskeys, 11/26 at 5:30-8:30pm, laphroaig and ardmore scotch whiskeys, 11/27 at 2-5pm, all events free.

MUSEUM

Micro Museum—123 Smith Street, micromuseum.com. Above and Beyond, a three-year retrospective of the art of William and Kathleen Laziza, every Saturday from 12-7pm, refreshments from 5-7pm, \$2 per person.

The Waterfront Museum—Lehigh Valley Barge No.79, 290 Conover Street. www.waterfrontmuseum.org. Free boat tours & open hours Thursdays 4 - 8 pm and Saturdays 1 - 5 pm in Red Hook.

MUSIC

Bargemusic—Fulton Ferry Landing, 2 Old Fulton St., (718) 624-2083, bargemusic.org. Here and Now series, 11/17 at 8pm, Bargemix series with Rob Schwimmer, 11/18 at 8pm, Masterworks series, 11/19 at 8pm, Masterworks series, 11/20 at 3pm and 11/21 at 8pm, Complete Beethoven Violin and Piano Sonatas, Part III, 11/24 at 8pm, performances of Gyorgy Ligeti, 11/25 at 8pm, Masterworks series, 11/26 at 8pm and 11/27 at 3pm. All concerts \$35 (\$30 senior, \$15 student) unless otherwise noted.

Bait & Tackle—320 Van Brunt St., (718) 797-4892, redhookbaitandtackle.com. Willy Gantrim, 11/18 at 10pm, Hitting the oregon trail, Bill and Jen's going away party, 11/19, Mandolin orange, 11/20 at 8pm, Towne Dandies, 11/25 at 9pm, Hilary York is back, 11/16, Tin Roof Trio, 11/27 at 3pm, Briget Davis, 11/27 at 9pm.

The Bell House—149 7th St., (718) 643-6510, thebellhouse.com. The sound of music sing-along, 11/15 at 8pm, \$8, Travis Sullivan's, Bjorkestra, The Travis Sullivan Quartet, 11/16 at 8pm, \$10 adv \$15 dos, Art Alexakis, 11/17 at 8pm, \$20, The Stoned Knife, The Hard Nips, Heavy Cream, 11/18 at 8pm, \$10 adv \$12 dos, Djs His 'N Hers, 11/18 at 10pm, Free, John Wesley Harding, The Minus 5, 11/19 at 9pm, \$15, Robyn Hitchcock, 11/19 at 6pm, \$20, The Supersuckers, Nashville Pussy, 11/20 at 8pm, \$15, Sallie Ford and the Sound, Outside, Quiet Life, 11/22 at 9pm, \$10 adv \$12 dos, Party like it's 1999: Pre-turkey edition, 11/23 at 9pm, Free, The Underground Rebel Bingo Club, 11/26 at 9pm, \$5-15, Live Band Karaoke With Bunnie England & The New Originals, 11/30 at 9pm, \$5.

Jalopy Theatre and School of Music—315 Columbia St., (718) 395-3214, jalopy.biz. Sideman Night with Joe Brent & Friends, 11/15 at 8:30pm, Roots & Ruckus, 11/16 at 9pm, The Tres Amigos, 11/17 at 10:30pm, Windsor Folk Family, 11/17 at 9pm, Wretched Refuse String Band, 11/18 at 8pm, She and the sun, 11/20 at 8pm, Melody Walker & Jacob Groopman, 11/20 at 9pm, The Stone Lonesome, 11/20 at 10pm, Ian Thomas and Paul Lee kupfer - Tennessee Two Piece, 11/22 at 9pm, Gil Laundry, 11/22 at 10pm, Roots and Ruckus, 11/23 at 9pm, Al Duval, 11/26 at 9pm, Les Chauds Lapins, 11/26 at 10:30, Roots and Ruckus, 11/10 at 9pm.

Union Hall—702 Union Street, unionhallny.com. Mr. Coconuts Comedy Show, 11/15 at 8pm, \$5, The Party Machine, 11/16 at 7:45pm, \$5, Hannibal Montana, Psychic Teens, Carved Up, 11/17 at 7:30pm,

\$8, .357 Lover, Bikini Carwash, Dave Godowsky, 11/18 at 8pm, \$8, Karaoke Killed the Cat, 11/18 at midnight, Free, Wasabasco Burlesque, 11/19 at 11pm, \$12, Bright Brown, 11/19 at 7:30pm, \$8, Karaoke Killed the cat, 11/25 at midnight, free, Dead is the new Dope II, 11/26 at 10:30pm, \$5, Dale Arroyo, Brad Byrd, Brother/sister, 11/30 at 8pm, free.

READINGS

Union Hall—702 Union Street, unionhallny.com. The Story Collider: Bodies in motion. From finding awe in Hubble images to visiting the doctor, science is everywhere in our lives. Whether we wear a white lab coat or haven't seen a test tube since 8th grade, science affects and changes us. Join The Story Collider, November 22th where six people from wildly varied backgrounds will tell personal stories of "Bodies in Motion", 11/22 at 8pm, \$8adv \$10 dos. Bare: True Stories of Sex, Desire, and romance, 11/28 at 8pm, \$5.

PUPPETRY

ClockWorks Puppet Theatre—196 Columbia st., (212) 614-0001, cosmicbicycle.com. Netherworld, a morality vaunderville. The Follies of Humanity... Enacted by Demonic Puppets! Grimly Comical Vi-gnettes...and Surreal Melodramas! Journey Beyond the Grave...and Return! Showing until 11/20. Thursday thru Saturday at 8PM, Saturdays & Sundays Martinee at 4PM. All tickets \$20. 2pm, \$8, Aislyn, Genghis Hans, Shapeless Shadow, 11/12 at 8pm, \$5.

READINGS

Union Hall—702 Union Street, unionhallny.com. The How I learned Series Presents: "how I learned you can't go home again". Mike Albo, Andy Christie, Sara Schaffer, and more. 11/14 at 7:30pm, \$8.

THEATER

Falconworks Artists Group—201 Richards st., falconworks.com. Falconworks Artists Group, will present an inter-active theatrical event—Pedagogy of the Oppressed — THE MUSICAL. Based on the famous work by Brazilian educator Paulo Freire this original work dramatizes the diverse experiences of students, teachers and parents in public schools and the moments that influence our ideas about education. Reservations required, tickets are pay-what-you-can. Visit www.pedagogymusical.eventbrite.com to reserve seats. 11/11 at 7pm, 11/12 and 11/13 at 3pm.



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UPCOMING FREE TASTINGS:

thursday, november 17:
loire valley treats
6:00-9:00, free
Organic wines from the Loire will be high-lighted tonight.

friday, november 18:
beajolais nouveau smackdown!
5:30-8:30, free
In a repeat performance, Steve and Phil will both be here to pour their respective houses' release of the year's finest Beaujo-lais nouveau. You decide which pleases your taste buds moreso.

saturday, november 19:
super-duper kitchen sink blends
4:00-7:00, free
A little of this... a touch of that; surpris-ing blends of interest-ing varietals can make for great turkey day wines. Check out the

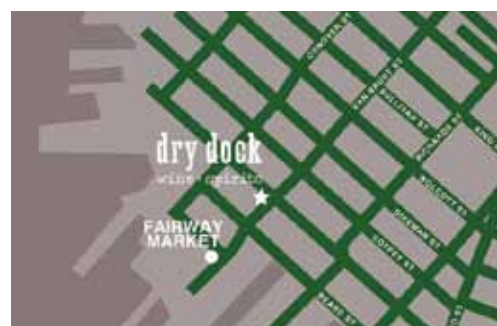
winning combinations we'll be pouring.

sunday, november 20:
the back of the knee...
2:00-5:00, free
Nicole will be pour-ing wines that grow along the central coast of the Adriatic sea in the Abruzzi and Marche regions. Come enjoy a dab from the back of the knee...

tuesday, november 22:
veni, vidi, bibi
6:00-9:00, free
Peter will be pouring some beautiful northern Italian wines that are all perfect matches for that big bird.

saturday, november 26:
all american whiskeys
5:30-8:30, free
Samples of Bernheim small batch wheat whiskey and Elijah Craig 12 yr. old bourbon will be on the table for your perusal.

sunday, november 27:
laphroaig and ardmore scotch whiskeys
2:00-5:00, free
Taste the salty sea and smoky earth in these distillations from the motherland



SPECIAL THANKSGIVING HOURS:

Mon. 11/21: 8:00am - 11:00pm
Tues. 11/22: 8:00am - 11:00pm
Wed. 11/23: 8:00am - 11:00pm
Thurs. 11/24: Closed

Save 10% dry dock after six special

mon - wed from 6pm to close

Grab a 6-pack and fill it with your favorite wines and save 10% on your purchase. Or save 10% any time you buy a case/12 bottles of wine. (Sorry wine only, not applicable for spirits or sparkling)

Anchored in Red Hook On the way to Fairway & IKEA

424 van brunt st . brooklyn, ny 11231 718-216-0581 . drydockny.com

m-w 12-9pm, th-fr 12-11pm sat 10-11pm, sun 12-8pm