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**BROOKLYN
TODAY**
THURSDAY
JULY 2, 2009

Good morning. Today is the 183rd day of the year. It is the 45th anniversary of the signing of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 into law by President Lyndon Johnson. The law prohibits discrimination on the basis of race in public accommodations, in employment and union members, and in registration of voters.

Well-known people who were born today include actress Lindsay Lohan, actor Jimmy McNichol, race car driver Richard Petty and former baseball player Jose Canseco Jr.

PLAY IN THE STREET
With Williamsburg Walks on July 4.

On July 4, Williamsburg's Bedford Avenue, from North Fourth Street to North Ninth Street, will be open to pedestrians from noon to sunset as part of the Williamsburg Walks project.

Come out for volleyball, soccer and table tennis, or bring your own games.

There will be art from the Williamsburg Gallery Association, fitness classes from the Greenpoint YMCA, free yoga
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Nurses Picket at Brooklyn Hospital



In two shifts on Wednesday morning and early afternoon, Brooklyn Hospital nurses picketed what they describe as caseloads so high they have difficulty providing top quality patient care. About 100 nurses walked each picket with signs reading, "Dr. Becker, Join Us in Improving Patient Care." The RNs, represented by New York State Nurses Association, say they want the community to know the hospital hasn't followed through on its commitment to assign a maximum of six patients per RN. They are also picketing for a new contract and "improved working conditions."

Eagle photo by Mike Plotz

Bay Ridge Post Office One of 18 That May Close in Brooklyn

Postal Union Reaches Out to Public And Neighborhood Concern Grows

By Harold Egel
Brooklyn Daily Eagle

BAY RIDGE — The Ovington Retail Station in Bay Ridge is just one of many that the U.S. Postal Service is considering for closure throughout Brooklyn, according to President Jim Musumeci of the

Brooklyn American Postal Workers Union.

"All 18 Brooklyn finance post office branches are being evaluated for possible closing," he said. "They're looking at all these smaller finance postal offices to see if they are viable. The idea is
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'Toxic Preschool' Director Jailed

Former "Toxic Preschool" director Andy Lewis (right) was jailed this week after he tested positive for cocaine for the ninth time while free on bail. Lewis blamed the test results on a cocaine-laced cigarette someone gave him, according to the *Daily News*. Lewis is charged with stealing more than \$500,000 in government cash that was supposed to pay for free meals for poor youngsters at his Better Brooklyn



Community Center. He also owes scores of Brooklyn parents thousands of dollars worth of deposits and tuition from his failed "toxic" preschool (the Brooklyn Children's Academy Preschool) in Boerum Hill. As first reported in the *Eagle*, the conditions which led to the closing of Lewis' Boerum Hill preschool in December 2007, at 25 Dean St., included exposed wires, unpainted walls and noxious fumes emanating from newly installed carpeting. The school also lacked a license to operate from the Dean Street facility.

Mayoral Control Expires: Brooklyn's Carlo Scissura Appointed to 'Temporary' Board of Education

Phoebe Neill
Brooklyn Daily Eagle

BROOKLYN — New York City was forced to abruptly reconstitute the Board of Education on Wednesday when the disarray in Albany prevented legislators from reauthorizing mayoral control of schools, a measure enacted in 2002 that has gained more and more proponents over the years.

As had been the protocol in the former system, each borough president appointed a representative to the board, albeit more hastily than they would have normally. The mayor appointed two members to round out the seven-member body, which met at noon yesterday in Manhattan.

In a press conference held after the emergency meeting, Mayor Bloomberg indicated the new board would be "temporary" and would "serve until Albany reauthorizes mayoral control." The board essentially gave the mayor power to continue the school system as is when it voted to maintain Schools Chancellor Joel Klein and voted 6-0 to call on Albany to renew mayoral control of the city's schools.

Brooklyn Borough President Marty Markowitz announced Tuesday evening, just hours before mayoral control expired at midnight, the appointment of his chief of staff Carlo Scissura as Brooklyn's representative on the board.

Scissura, an attorney and lifelong Brooklyn resident, has experience with the city's education system. In 1999, he was elected to Community School Board 20, becoming the board's vice president, and five years
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Carlo Scissura



Mill Basin filmmaker Peter Iengo, center, wearing his production team's own shirt and hat, directs his crew during the shooting of his award winning first feature length film *Partners* on the streets of Mill Basin last summer.

Eagle photo by Zoe Thomas

Mill Basin Filmmaker Brings Brooklyn Streets 'To a Wider Audience' Partners To Be Shown This Month on Cable

By Zoe Thomas
Brooklyn Daily Eagle

BROOKLYN — Tired of rising movie prices and looking for a more true-to-life depiction of Brooklyn, one shot on real streets and not in Hollywood studios? Well you may have to look no further than your TV for the answer.

Partners, the first feature length film from Brooklyn filmmaker Peter Iengo, will be featured on Time Warner Cable's On Demand channel for free throughout July. The film follows the lives of two cops and their extraordinary attempts to stop an organized crime boss and deal with issues in their personal lives in their fight to return order back to Brooklyn streets. It received top honors at the Staten Island Film Festival in June, winning the award for Best Dramatic Feature Film for a Crime Drama.

Iengo believes that the distribution on Time Warner will take his film to the next level. "It takes the movie from student independent level to a wider audience," he said.

About 80 percent of the film,

which wrapped in March, was shot on Brooklyn streets, including the opening scene, which was filmed on Clinton and DeGraw streets in Carroll Gardens and features some of the area's beautiful brownstones. Parts of Mill Basin, Bergen Beach, and Marine Park are also featured in the movie.

Iengo's inspiration for *Partners* came from his family's connection to law enforcement and his grandfather's stories about old Brooklyn mafia families. Iengo was born and raised in Mill Basin and got his start in film while at Edward R. Murrow High School, in Midwood. He has since gone on to Five Towns College in Long Island, where he will be entering his senior year this fall, studying film.

Partners is not his first award winning piece. Iengo won awards for best director of a short film and best short film for *Blood Oath* at the 2007 New York International Film and Video Festival. He hopes that the success of his latest piece will help him to create a sequel to *Partners*, which has been sent out for consideration in other
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The Fourth: Celebrating Fireworks, Frankfurters And Freedom in Brooklyn

By Kathy Wang
Brooklyn Daily Eagle

BROOKLYN — Commemorate Uncle Sam's 283rd birthday this Saturday without ever crossing the river. Ditch the crowds, save some gas and take in July 4th with Brooklyn as your backyard. Below are a few ways to spend the holiday close to home.

A Showdown of Appetites

More than four dozen hot dogs in 10 minutes? It's a record that Californian native and reigning champion Joey Chestnut holds in Nathan's Famous Hot Dog Eating Contest in Coney Island. Start off the Fourth by watching world-class pro eater Chestnut, who clocked in last year with 59 hotdogs in 10 minutes, battle it out with 20 other international eating finalists for the prized "Mustard Yellow Belt" in the annual tradition's 94th year.

See who can scarf down the most hot dogs in less than the amount of time it takes you to wake up, then head over to the contest's namesake to down a few franks of your own if your

appetite is still intact. The competition onstage is not the only one, though — get to the corner of Surf and Stillwell avenues well before the contest's noon starting time — we suggest around 10:30 a.m. — to secure a spot in the crowd.

For more info, visit www.nathansfamous.com.

Symphony on Water

Ring in the fourth of July — literally — with an evening of classical music on the floating concert hall that is the Bargemus boat. Anchored just beneath the Brooklyn Bridge at Fulton Ferry Landing in DUMBO, the intimate wood-paneled chamber-music hall has a special lineup planned for Saturday that includes Dvorak's "The American," a four-piece "Fantasy" compilation from Ellington and Mendelssohn's String Quintet No. 2 in B-Flat Major — all played by the Voxare Quartet.

Tickets are \$60 a pop and the show begins at 7 p.m. Stick around afterwards to catch the fireworks from prime real estate atop the barge's roof — view-
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'Coney For All'



The Coney Island for All Coalition marched on City Hall yesterday before a City Council hearing on the city's redevelopment plan for the famous amusement area. The coalition of union workers and families demanded that the city guarantee good jobs and affordable housing in the plan. See story on page 8.

Eagle photo by Mike Plotz

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