

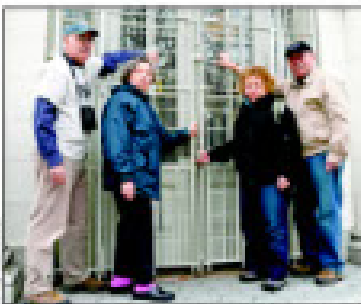
The Brooklyn Paper

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Project Park goes to 4th Grade, Crystal Park, and Miss and Betty Martin are in joy that they can no longer see the Audubon Center at the Ballfields on weekend.

Locked out

Park closes Audubon center on weekends — to raise money

By **Michelle Furtner**
Brooklyn Paper

The Project Park Alliance is planning an urban restoration of the Audubon Center on weekends so it can use the historic building as a park on the weekends. The Alliance is a coalition of local organizations including the Audubon Society, the Brooklyn Museum, and the Brooklyn Historical Society. The Alliance is planning to raise money for the restoration of the building. The Alliance is planning to raise money for the restoration of the building. The Alliance is planning to raise money for the restoration of the building.



Project Park Alliance is planning an urban restoration of the Audubon Center on weekends so it can use the historic building as a park on the weekends.

FROM THE ASHES

St. Ann's presents new theater plan for Tobacco Warehouse

By **Juliana Levin**
Brooklyn Paper

St. Ann's is planning a new theater plan for the Tobacco Warehouse in Brooklyn. The plan is to convert the building into a theater space. The plan is to convert the building into a theater space. The plan is to convert the building into a theater space. The plan is to convert the building into a theater space. The plan is to convert the building into a theater space.



A rendering of the plan for a proposed theater in the Tobacco Warehouse between the Brooklyn and Manhattan boulevards.

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Wheels in motion

MTA plans two new Williamsburg bus routes, but some neighbors say 'no'

By **Michelle Furtner**
Brooklyn Paper



The MTA bus which runs from Greenpoint to Downtown, and is set to run to Williamsburg on a full-time route in September.

The MTA is planning two new bus routes in Williamsburg. The routes are set to run in September. The routes are set to run in September. The routes are set to run in September. The routes are set to run in September.

Some neighbors in Williamsburg are saying 'no' to the new bus routes. They are concerned about traffic and noise. They are concerned about traffic and noise. They are concerned about traffic and noise.

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Visitors at Brooklyn Night Market in Williamsburg.

Gowanus night market nixed

After objections from neighbors, summer party backs out

By **Michelle Furtner**
Brooklyn Paper

The Gowanus Night Market is being nixed after objections from neighbors. The market was planned for the summer. The market was planned for the summer. The market was planned for the summer.

Neighbors in Gowanus are objecting to the market. They are concerned about traffic and noise. They are concerned about traffic and noise. They are concerned about traffic and noise.

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STEVE VS. STEPHEN

Political newbie says this Council race isn't about the issues — it's about his opponent

By **Juliana Levin**
Brooklyn Paper

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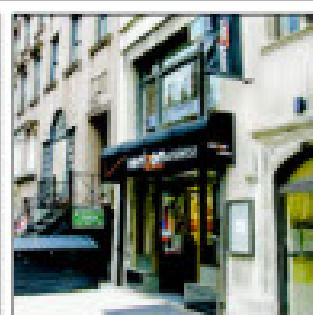
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Stephen Barone, a former professional poker player turned city magazine publisher, wants Steven Levin's seat on Council.



The 111 Morgan Street storefront, which preservationists say has been proposed for a new use.

Hold the phone

Preservationists denounce Verizon's Heights storefront

By **Juliana Levin**
Brooklyn Paper

Verizon is planning a new storefront in the Heights. Preservationists are denouncing the plan. Preservationists are denouncing the plan. Preservationists are denouncing the plan.

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Paul Mack, owner of the historic Barclays Center.

Beatle at Barclays

By **The Brooklyn Paper**
Preservationists Team

Paul Mack is planning to restore the historic Barclays Center. The building is a historic landmark. The building is a historic landmark. The building is a historic landmark.

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Coney's would-be savior, dead at 75

By **The Brooklyn Paper**
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Vito Lopez, a former professional poker player turned city magazine publisher, wants Steven Levin's seat on Council.

Protest at Vito Lopez fund-raiser

Activists slam scandal-tarnished pol as he weighs council run

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Photo by Stefano Giannotti

Backyards

outdoor seating and eating



In the back: (Pictured clockwise from left, top) Bartender Edgar Guerrero at Greenpoint's Anella, which has a low-key backyard with bright colors, serves a fresh summer salad. Ditmas Park can feel like a country retreat thanks to the rustic backyard at Farm on Adderly. Frankies 457 in Carroll Gardens offers a sunny, secluded retreat. And Watering hole Sea Witch has a pond out in the back full of fish.

a truly atmospheric backyard — a casual street-food-in-Thailand feel to match the food. Get the sticky rice for dessert and pretend you're far, far away from Brooklyn for a little bit.

[127 Columbia St., between Kane and Irving streets in the Columbia Street Waterfront District, (718) 923-9322, pokpokny.com]

Do or Dine

This backyard, conversely, never lets you forget where you're eating. The result maybe the most idiosyncratic backyard on this list, decorated with street art and eclectic old furniture (not to be outdone, the bathrooms ask diners to add graffiti). They have foie gras doughnuts, also. Just saying.

[1108 Bedford Ave., between Gates and Lexington avenues in Bedford-Stuyvesant, (718) 623-7200, pokpokny.com]

The Farm on Adderley

Ditmas Park is getting really hip all of a sudden — exhibit A, The Farm on Adderley's Fava Bean Crostini. The best evening here, however, involves a simple burger and a spot in the restaurant's bucolic backyard.

[1108 Cortelyou Rd., between Stratford and Westminster roads in Ditmas Park, (718) 287-3101, thefarmonadderley.com]



footbridge (pictured top). That the servers are unpretentious and the food is delicious — and cheap — is icing on the cake.

[705 Fifth Ave., between 21st and 22nd streets in South Slope, (347) 923-9322]

Pok Pok

The trendiest restaurant on this list has

DINING

Gay flicks

Thursday night is gay movie night at La Gringa Taqueria.

Williamsburg Mexican eatery will host free weekly movie nights that appeal to the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community.

On the upcoming roster is "Gayby," a flick about a straight female yoga instructor and her gay male friend who decide to parent a baby together after realizing they are both single, in their mid-30s, and childless.



Photo by Stefano Giannotti

Also on the list is "Sassy Pants," featuring Haley Joel Osment, the former child star of "The Sixth Sense," who takes on a gay role in this comedy.

"Magic Mike," "The Bay," and "Chasing Mavericks," are also on the queue as part of the new LGBT movie night starting May 2.

Mikey Rox, La Gringa's publicist who happens to be a happily married gay man, helped owner Henry Fernandez in choosing which movies the restaurant will show.

"It's a mix of LGBT-themed movies, mainstream classics, and new releases," said Rox adding that some of the flicks may not even be LGBT-themed. "The real focus of this series is to offer LGBT men and women a safe, welcoming place to participate in a fun, free event with their partners."

Patrons can nosh on the house-made Mexican grub and sip on \$2.50 beers as they kick back on the picnic-style tables and get ready for the main event.

Fernandez, who runs the restaurant with his wife Adalís Velez, added that the eatery tends to draw many gay and lesbian couples so he thought the eatery would be a perfect fit — especially with its large backyard tent, where the movies will screen.

And the owners of the California-style Mexican food eatery aren't just trying to accommodate their patrons, but they were also thinking of the LGBT population in general, saying that there are not many LGBT-friendly, low-key happenings that don't leave the realm of nightclubs or bars.

They offered that this night of unpretentious films would be a perfect fit.

LGBT movie night at La Gringa Taqueria [800 Grand St. between Bushwick Avenue and Humboldt Street in Williamsburg, (718) 388-055]. Every Thursday, 8:30 pm. Make sure to RSVP. — Natalie Musumeci