

Celebrating Columbia  Waterfront District

# The Red Hook Star-Revue

September 2010 FREE The Hook's Local Newspaper

## EDITORIAL: Red Hooks Future Can Be Bright if We Start Thinking About the Possibilities Now

When Red Hook and the Columbia Street Waterfront District were ripped apart from the rest of Brooklyn by the construction of the highways and tunnels that were built to provide better access to faraway places, we have struggled to keep up with our neighboring communities. For a long time it was a losing battle, as buildings crumbled, property values and commerce tumbled, leaving us a hollow shell of the vibrant communities we once were.

However, much like Darwin's finches who evolved separately from their mainland cousins on the Galapagos

islands, our communities have slowly adapted and grown, and what once was considered a disaster can now be considered a strength. Our communities are distinct from our Brooklyn Heights and Cobble Hill neighbors, a little tougher, a little more down to earth, perhaps a bit more practical, as we have learned to make do with what was given to us.

It seems to us that a confluence of events, one of them being the resurgence of Brooklyn in general, another the positive effects of public policy that have made our streets safer and our communities more desirable, and

finally a dawning realization that the waterfront is a precious resource and a public good to be used by all, not to mention the hard work and vision of people like Greg O'Connell, that now is the time to really think about the future possibilities of a Red Hook that enjoys the benefits of waterfront parkland and an environmentally sustainable public transportation system coursing through, not over our neighborhood.

Much has been made of the neighboring Brooklyn Bridge Park, a project that has taken basically 25 years to get to the point it is today. While some



point to it as a tremendous boon to Brooklyn, it is worth a deeper examination as it can serve as a model for what we might do, as well as what we should avoid.

*continued on page 6*

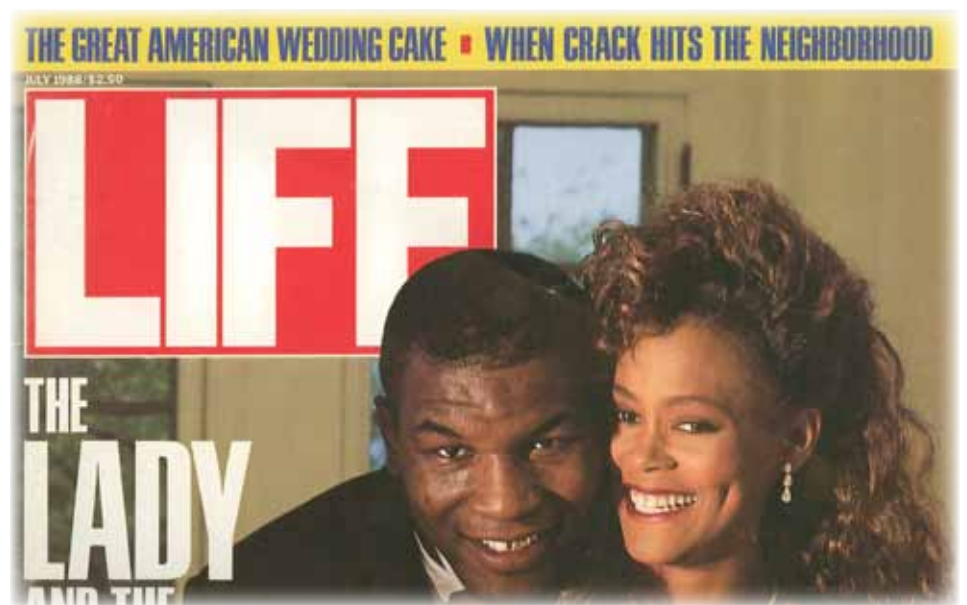
## IT'S BEEN 22 YEARS SINCE LIFE MAGAZINE REPORTED ON THE DEATH OF OUR NEIGHBORHOOD

Some of us remember the dark days of the crack epidemic of the 1980's. While parts of New York City were on an upset following its near bankruptcy of 1976, many areas in Brooklyn suffered from the scourge of crack cocaine, especially our housing projects. Its extreme addictiveness and easy availability destroyed the lives of both addicts and the unfortunate victims of the criminality that accompanied it. Life magazine, once a pre-eminent weekly magazine but at this point a monthly publication, chose to feature the Red Hook Housing in a nine page story illustrating this devastation. Reporter Edward Barnes told the stories of nine sad cases, beginning thusly:

"The Red Hook housing project in South Brooklyn has faced its share

of problems common to inner cities - crime, unemployment, teenage pregnancy - but the community always pulled together to battle the difficulties. Then three years ago crack hit the Hook, and today every one of the project's 10,000 residents is either a dealer, a user or a hostage to the drug trade. Violent crimes have more than doubled in the past three years, and police attribute the entire increase to crack a potent form of cocaine. At the local clinic, 75 percent of the cases are crack related. But the true extent of the epidemic cannot be measured in numbers. Crack has permeated every corner of the Hook's 33 acres and 31 apartment buildings. Each day maintenance men raise and lower an American flag over a swarm of

*continued on page 6*



The July 1988 edition of Life Magazine featured Mike Tyson and Robin Givens on the cover in their happier days, the paintings of Sylvester Stallone, the musings of Loudon Wainwright (Rufus' grandfather) who muses on the possible causes of a recent rise in the world's waves as well as 9 dismal pages of the devastating effect of crack on the Red Hook projects.

**We Investigate Rocky Sullivan's Red Hook Pizza** in our **Food and Drink Section, page 14**



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## A Tree Branch Falls in Brooklyn



*Pictures taken after the branch fell, after the cleanup, and the remaining branch*

On a recent afternoon during the August heatwave, a giant treebranch on the corner of Union and Columbia Street snapped and fell onto the sidewalk. Arturo Galeano, who was sitting nearby said the sound was sudden and loud like a bullet.

Luckily, nobody was walking on the block at the time, and damage to the powder blue Taurus often seen parked on the street in the area was only minimally damaged. The police and fire department

were soon on the scene, making sure that nothing more serious had occurred.

The branch remained on the sidewalk for a couple of days until the Parks Department arrived and cleaned up the whole mess.

Neighborhood residents speculate that the excessive weight of the large branch was responsible, along with gravity, for bringing it down. Some are concerned about the remaining branch on the other side.

### Celebrating Columbia Waterfront District

# The Red Hook Star-Revue

Serving the Brooklyn Communities of Red Hook, Carroll Gardens and Cobble Hill No. 4, September 2010

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The **Red Hook Star-Revue** is published monthly by Frank Galeano and George Fiala. It circulates by mail and on newsstands throughout the downtown Brooklyn area. Our mission is to be the tie that binds our dynamic communities together, by providing one place for local achievements, art and history to be celebrated, local problems to be identified and solutions discussed, and also by providing an affordable advertising medium for local shops and institutions.

Our mailing address is 101 Union Street, and we can be reached by phone at **718 624-5568** and by email at [editor@redhookstar.com](mailto:editor@redhookstar.com) or [info@redhookstar.com](mailto:info@redhookstar.com).

We welcome letters to the editor as well as press advisories which can be mailed to:

**Red Hook Star-Revue**  
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Brooklyn, NY 11231  
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or emailed to [editor@redhookstar.com](mailto:editor@redhookstar.com)

WE ARE ON **facebook** JUST SEARCH FOR **RED HOOK STAR-REVUE** AND LIKE US!  
If you have story ideas or ideas in general that may interest us, please contact us by all means and methods outlined above. Next issue will be out the first week of October, 2010.



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# Repairing the Mess Robert Moses Left Us



A good friend recently told me that a viable community depends on good circulation in and out much as the human body does. Robert Moses, master road builder of the first part of the 20th century, knew this, the only problem being that he was good at taking people to and from faraway places, like Long Island and Westchester, but not so good at keeping in place the existing city communities that had evolved so gracefully up until then. Rather than being treated as important enclaves, it was more like they were in the way of his master plan of bringing outsiders to the city using automobiles. One famous example that we all know about is the big trench that was dug through the heart of Carroll Gardens separating what is now called the Columbia Waterfront District from the rest of Brooklyn.

About five years ago, Congresswoman Nydia Velazquez secured a federal grant to study the problem and coming up with a workable solution to 'fix the ditch.' This year three public meetings were scheduled so the community could help evaluate four possible solutions to the problem. Two of the workshops have already been held and a third will be scheduled shortly to take place in October or November.

The problems identified in the study include noise and pollution, problems with the division of Hicks Street, unsafe pedestrian crossings, narrow sidewalks as well as the ugliness left by the ditch.

Mayor Bloomberg likes to solve problems by building, but his idea to cover the roadway and build large buildings was early on rejected by most in the community. Instead, four renderings were created to suggest possible solutions, and these are presented to the right. The meetings thus far have addressed advantages and disadvantages of each idea, and at the third meeting, three revised plans will be presented which will incorporate the feedback of the community. It is hoped that once the final report is made, improvements will take place within a 5-10 year timeframe.

These meetings were held under the

auspices of the NYC Economic Development Corporation and the plans were developed by Starr Whitehouse Landscape Architects LLC.

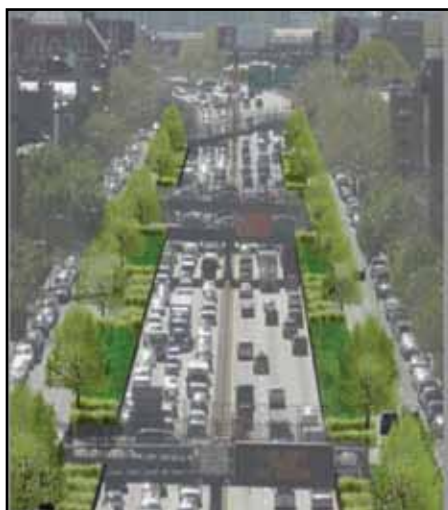
## The Four Concepts Presented



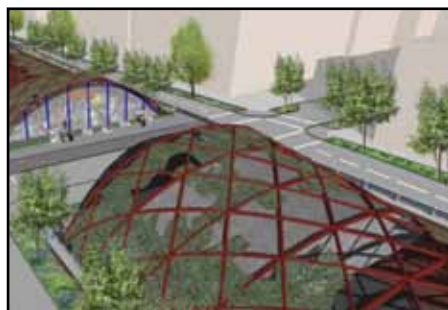
Concept 1 (above) addressed the beauty issue by planting trees and bushes alongside the ditch. This plan was judged negatively because of its seasonality and that it did not adequately address the sound and pollution problems.



Concept 2 looked at access across the highway. This plan was well received with suggestions to add sound barriers and lighting.



Concept 3 widens both sides of Hicks Street by building over the highway. It received mixed reviews as it deals well with pollution, noise and creates a wider venue, but would involve large costs as well as disruption during construction, as well as loss of parking.



Concept 4 received positive reviews as it was judged the most beautiful, ecological (it would include solar panels as part of the screen, and innovative. Some thought the solar panels would not be attractive and would involve extra repair and maintenance. Some suggested commercial potential with shops alongside of it.

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# The Red Hook Post Office

by George Fiala

All of us are familiar with the US Postal Service - at least the parts we see of it, our letter carrier and our local post office. We take for granted the daily delivery of our mail, and the rare mishandling of a letter often leads to excess anger, as we are taught to malign those who are perceived as 'government workers.'

In fact, the Post Office, while still generally perceived as a government agency, and does in fact operate with many of the constraints of a centrally planned public entity, has been operating as a private enterprise since 1970, when Richard Nixon signed the *Postal Reorganization Act*, removing tax subsidies and making it an independent organization operating under the auspices of Congress, paying all its operating expenses from revenue.

Sorting and delivering mail daily is a huge task, and our own Red Hook station at 615 Clinton Street handles 23 routes (up from 17 as recently as 20 years ago) efficiently and proudly.

While the internet and a soft economy has caused mailing volume to drop around the country, the NYC area still handles record amounts of mail. The Red Hook Star-Revue depends on these carriers, as most of our circulation is through the mail. We appreciate these workers, some of whom are captured here at work on a recent hot summer day.



Matthew Alioto and Red Hook's own- Vernika Ware help ensure quality service.



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## CHARLES WHITE ON HOME IMPROVEMENT



## Precinct Report

### Door Held Open

Robbery occurred at the NE corner of Columbia and Hamilton Avenues on August 3rd, 1:30 pm. As a man, around 65 years old was going into his car a man accompanied by a woman prevented him from going in by grabbing the door, sprayed him with mace, and took a bag from the car. In addition to the bag which contained personal papers and other items, the victim was robbed of his \$600 eyeglasses and \$300 in cash. The male perp is described as a black male aged 30, 5 foot 7 and 200 pounds. There is no description of the woman.

### Stolen iPod

A robbery occurred inside of 80 Dwight Street on August 19th at 2:30 pm, The victim is a male aged 24 who states that a man approached him from behind, punching, him, knocking him down to the ground, kicked him in the head and took \$150 in cash and an iPod. The perp described as age 15 fled in an unknown direction.

### Crime Solved

A robbery occurred on August 20th on the northeast corner of Huntington and Columbia streets at 4 pm. The victim is a male aged 14 who states that he was punched and knocked to the ground. His iPhone was taken from his pocket. Arrested was a male age 15. The arresting police officer was Carlos Anchundia, a member of the 76th precinct Anti-Crime unit.

### How Did They Get In?

During the night of August 10 - 11th a burglary occurred in a warehouse on the 600 block of Court Street. The crime was reported by a male aged 33 who states that an unknown person entered the premises through the front door, removed approximately \$16,000 in cash from the office. There were no signs of forced entry and no damage to the office doors. The complainant states that the front door was locked when he left, but was found unlocked in the morning. The evidence team responded and investigators are checking to see if there are any video surveillance cameras in the area that might lead to a clue.

## This Month it's About Stairs

**Q - I have a commercial loft space on Union Street and am going to be decking the roof. Right now the stairs to the roof are old and rickety wooden stairs. I am going to replace them and the hatch also so that access to the roof is much more comfortable and easy. My question is should I go with wooden or metal stairs and railing. By the way, we are talking here about stairs to go from the first to the second floor and then up one more flight to the roof.**

**D**o you mean that there is a straight run from the first floor, and then a landing, and another straight run to the roof?

I'm assuming that the stair is captured between two walls. This is one of the least expensive stairs to build, because it does not require a finished end that would be exposed if the second wall was not there. Generally speaking metal stairs are cheaper than wood stairs. In the end you have to decide if you like the look of wood or metal. Wood stairs require regular maintenance whether painted or polyurethaned. Metal stairs don't really re-

quire maintenance, and only need to be swept, and when re-painting is required, it is a much simpler process to do. Wood stairs require re-sanding in

order to do any re-finishing. If there is going to be a lot of grit coming down from the roof on the soles of peoples shoes, this might be a consideration for the stair from the roof to the second floor, at the bottom of which, you should place a large mat for people to wipe their feet on, so as to not track said grit into other rooms, ruining the finishes on the floors of other rooms. Grit is the enemy of all finishes.

**"Generally speaking, metal stairs are cheaper than wood stairs."**

Charles White answers home-improvement questions exclusively in the pages of the Red Hook Star-Review. His company is called Boerum Hill Joinery, [www.boerumhilljoinery.com](http://www.boerumhilljoinery.com). Please feel free to ask Charles your question - email it to [CharlesAnswers@redhookstar.com](mailto:CharlesAnswers@redhookstar.com) or you may send us an old-fashioned letter by regular mail.

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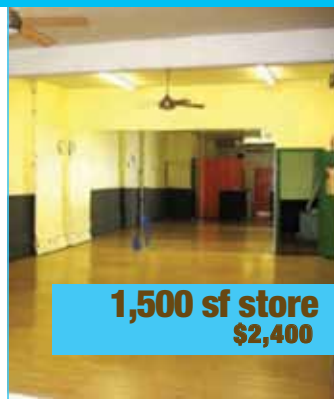
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# Editorial: Red Hook is for us, and for everyone

continued from page 1

We believe that parks are a public good, which is defined by economists as a thing that can be used by one without making it less available to someone else. In a democracy, public policies are meant to be determined by the entire population, not by special interest groups that capture government.

On the surface, the Brooklyn Bridge Park is something for the city to celebrate and enjoy. But digging deeper one finds that many of the original community ideas that helped the park become reality have been thrown out in favor of an elite few who captured the politicians and caused the original plans to be changed.

In 1992 the Downtown Brooklyn Waterfront LDC prepared a 13 point manifesto that was agreed to by all the relevant politicians, including Borough President Howard Golden, NY State Senator Marty Connor, and the late Assemblywoman Eileen Dugan and sent to the NYCEDC. These 13 points included the following:

## DEVELOP A FISCALLY PRUDENT PLAN

a. Specialized commercial uses (e.g., executive conference center/destination resort, restaurants, maritime center) shall be encouraged and **residential and office uses shall be discouraged.**

b. The site shall have only so much commercial development in a park-like setting as is necessary to enliven the area, to provide security and to finance ongoing operations.

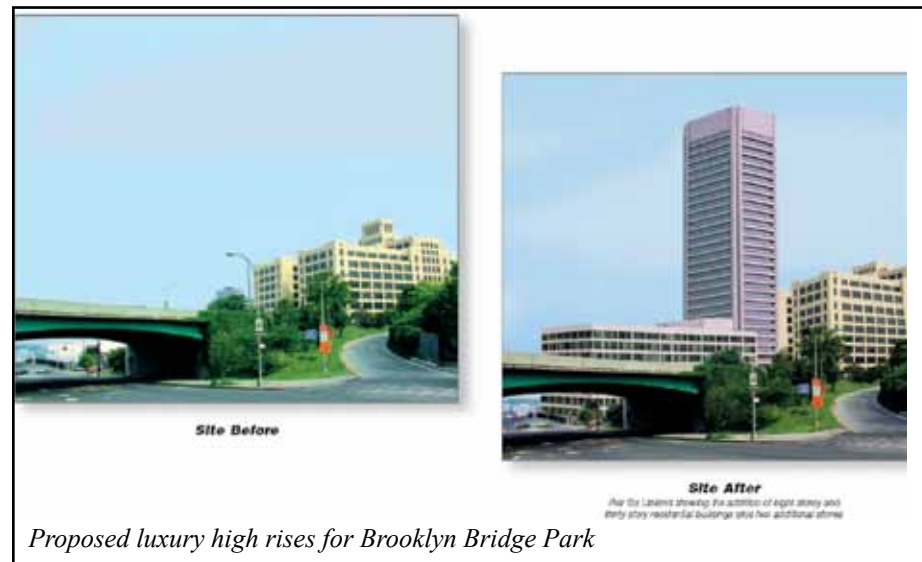
FOSTER PUBLIC ACCESS AND USES FROM BROOKLYN AND THROUGHOUT THE REGION WHILE RESPECTING AND PROTECTING THE CHARACTER OF, AND IMPACTS ON, ADJACENT COMMUNITIES.

What ended up happening was that the original group was superceded and these two principles, among others, were thrown aside as persons with power sought to adjust the plans to their personal benefit. As the plan progressed through this past decade, one or more planned access points to the park were eliminated, meaning that the only way to get to it is from one end or the other. This potentially reduces the use of the park by the general public, leaving it more or less for the benefit of onlookers, especially those with nice views from high above the Promenade.

More egregiously, the park was turned into a public/private partnership. Large swathes of it are reserved for private development of luxury condominium apartments. One Brooklyn Bridge was converted early on, and there are plans to build three or four more units, aided by what in essence are sweetheart deals from the city.

It is not our business to have an opinion of what is going on with our neighbor - the point is for us to learn from their experience. As a community newspaper our job is to make public dealings as transparent to our readers as possible, so that one day we won't be surprised by a fait accompli. Were a plan for waterfront development in Red Hook agreed to by our community, it will be our job to make sure everyone knows exactly what is happening.

Which brings us to the plan. The NY Times, on July 4th ran an op-ed by



Nathan Ward which proclaimed: "This summer, with the debut of the Brooklyn Bridge Park, as well as the expansion of Manhattan's Hudson River Park and Governors Island, New Yorkers have celebrated the reclamation of the waterfront. But the effort, laudable though it is, obscures a not-so-insignificant historical misunderstanding: we are in fact claiming the waterfront, not reclaiming it."

Which is exactly true. Here in Red Hook, our waterfront was for hundreds of years a vital hub in the commerce of the United States - first as a grain depository and then as a place for shipbuilding and ship commerce, providing thousands of jobs of every variety. Technological progress, specifically containerization and railroads, slowly eroded our position and piers here and elsewhere were in many cases abandoned and left rotting.

Everyone knows how much fun it is to enjoy the seashore, boardwalks, the views of Manhattan and the Statue of Liberty. Waterfront parks here in NY and around the country and the world have become tremendous tourist magnets. For those of us lucky enough

to live near the waterfront, we don't have to travel to enjoy.

In our imagination we see rolling greenescapes, places to swim and run and play tennis, music festivals on the water, even boardwalks and tiki bars. You could probably think of even more possibilities. The important thing is that in this futuristic world, the parks are here to help our community by being available to everyone and to be a magnet for business to come into the area in the form of tourists and businesspeople perhaps meeting at a convention space and a hotel,

and emigres moving into newly built townhouses as we reclaim some of the streets that were taken away from us by the city in the past.

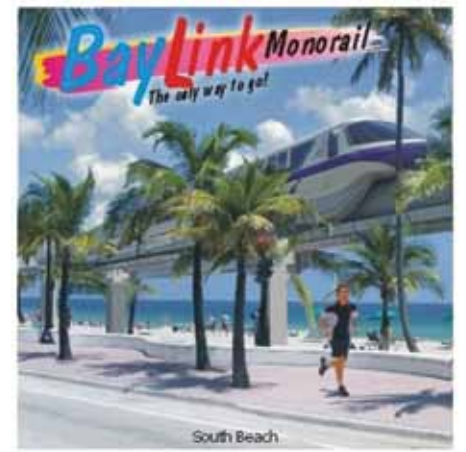
This issue of the Red Hook Star-Review contains a special report on the state of the waterfront today. In it

"we are in fact claiming the waterfront, not reclaiming it."

we see that what is happening today on the piers can someday change, and we should be ready when the time comes with a plan of our own.

The second part of this relates to the lack of public transportation. We like going to restaurants and bars on Van Brunt Street in Red Hook, but we see the problems that these businesses face at night, when the only customers they have are people who come in cars or live nearby. It's not fun for someone not from the area to try and figure out how to get to Smith and 9th Street from Pioneer Street. Were there an easy in and out, many more New Yorkers would visit and spend money here as they learned the unique nature of our vibrant community, evolved as it has apart from the rest of Brooklyn, developing in our own way.

Light rail transportation is the answer, and in fact we have learned that Congresswoman Velasquez has obtained



a grant to study the situation, much as she has done with the BQE situation discussed elsewhere in this issue. Most people jump right away to the idea of bringing trolley cars back to Red Hook. It's a romantic idea, but perhaps there is a better answer - one that avoids more street traffic and perhaps one that might use less energy. How about the idea of a monorail. Other places have floated



Take the fence away and build a park

this idea - especially some progressive folks in Miami - we print their idea of a monorail going by South Beach, allowing people to walk through it to the beach while carrying people above - hmmm, have we heard a similar idea before, but for carrying cars?

Imagine a monorail starting out at the foot of Atlantic Avenue, chugging up the Columbia waterfront, swinging around the Battery Tunnel entrance and veering straight up Richard Street, going left on Beard to Ikea, and then turning back around and down. One train going in and out of Red Hook, all day and all night, taking people to Ikea, to Fairway, to have fun and spend money up and down Van Brunt Street as they partake of a large variety of restaurants and art galleries and drinking establishments, and perhaps nightclubs and outdoor shows at the piers - and then back home again.

We think it's a good future for us to have.



Plenty of room for a monorail up Richard Street



## Special Report: The State of Our Waterfront Today



### Our Neighbor - Piers 1-6

The Brooklyn Bridge Park at Pier 6 on Atlantic Avenue opened in June of 2010 and is set to be a part of a much grander plan by the Brooklyn Bridge Park Development Corporation. The entire park is to include all of the piers 1-6, which opens to the public in 2011. The park on Pier 1 has been in use since March 2010 after a two year long construction period which followed a much longer period of inactivity.

In 1984, the NY/NJ Port Authority closed down cargo operations at the piers along the Promenade and announced a plan to sell the space for commercial development. The plan fell through as the city of New York decided that the area was too valuable of a public resource. In 1998, the city created the Downtown Brooklyn Waterfront Local Development Corporation to design and plan for a Brooklyn Bridge Park, thus taking control away from the Port Authority, an interstate agency and giving it to a city agency. Mayor Michael Bloomberg and Governor George Pataki dedicated state and city funding for the project in 2002, which created the Brooklyn Bridge Park Development Corporation. The final design for the 85-acre park was released in 2005 with the groundbreaking in 2008.

The park is known as Brooklyn Bridge Park and will run long the Brooklyn Waterfront from Atlantic Avenue to Jay Street, on the north side of the Manhattan Bridge. The city agency responsible for overseeing its construction will also continue to be in charge of park operations, although plans to build luxury condominiums by private developers within the park itself has caused some to doubt that the best interests of the general public will be served.

### Piers 8,9,10,11 - American Stevedoring

Piers 8, 9a, 9b and 10 is home to perhaps the most traditional style of work as it is the site of the Brooklyn Container Port. Technically speaking, the site is owned by New York City and leased to the Port Authority by the NYCED with the Port Authority privately leasing the container terminal to American Stevedoring. Despite seemingly like a middle-man, the Port Authority plays a very active role in maintenance and upkeep of their piers. This policy has been adopted by the Port Authority because the organization feels that they have the best experts and the most experience when it comes to dealing with maintenance and upkeep of the piers they control, preserving the city-owned property for future leasing opportunities.

The giant cranes used by American Stevedoring for moving cargo containers have become a very familiar site to anyone who regularly walks through the Columbia Waterfront District. The Brooklyn Container Terminal had been one of the more controversial parts of Red Hook just a few years ago as it was one of the city's prime targets for urban development. The plan was led by former Deputy Mayor to Michael Bloomberg, Dan Doctoroff, and called for the Container Terminal to be relocated to Sunset Park with the former site being turned into a complex of marine-related industry including high-end housing complexes, restaurants, bars, a hotel and shopping centers. American Stevedoring and Community Board 6 had a difference of opinion with what to do with the site and fought against the city's plan, citing that Red Hook was the best location for the container port because of its deep-water docks. The move to Sunset Park would have required American Stevedoring to dredge the docks, making them accessible for barges. This situation would have a direct influence on the community as the containers would now have to travel to New Jersey by truck, putting an incredible number of trucks on the road. The two sides reached an agreement and American Stevedoring signed a 10-year lease in April, 2008. Although the site is safe for now, it is sure that the issue of what to do with the Brooklyn Container Terminal will come up again once the end of the lease draws near.

### Pier 7 - Phoenix Beverage

Just north of the playground on Pier 6 is the location where the region's largest beer distributor, Phoenix Beverages, is located. In early 2009, the city's Economic Development Corporation, the NY/NJ Port Authority and current lease-holder American Stevedoring Inc. reached a deal with Phoenix Beverages to bring the trucking company to Pier 7 from Long Island City. The deal also gives Phoenix Beverages access to Pier 11, which has stirred up some controversy in the community. This is because when Phoenix first signed the deal for both piers, one of the conditions was that Phoenix's trucks were only supposed to use internal roads that connect the piers. Instead, Phoenix trucks have been using the streets, angering many residents as the trucks only add to the growing traffic and pollution problems the neighborhood is already faced with. There have been petitions from people in the community that aim to limit Phoenix to only using Pier 7, but nothing has developed since. Expect to see a bevy of beer trucks on Columbia Avenue for some time to come.



### Cruise Terminal/Valentino Pier Park

The Brooklyn Cruise Terminal is located on piers 11 and 12. In 2005 the NYCEDC reached a deal with the Port Authority to create the \$30 million cruise ship terminal. A 20-year lease was signed with options that could extend the agreement until 2058. The terminal opened in 2006 with part of the agreement allowing for Phoenix Beverages to have a full distribution center on pier 11, which the company claims will bring 500 jobs to Red Hook with more to come in the following years. The 180,000 square foot terminal handles up to 4,000 passengers at any time, along with a parking lot that can hold up to 500 vehicles. So far, this project has not had much effect on the rest of the neighborhood, as the cruise ship passengers have failed to create any sort of economic spillover.

The names of the piers hit a large gap here, skipping all the way to Pier 39, which is more commonly known as Valentino Pier Park. At one time, the pier was an important part of the shipping industry as many of the surrounding warehouses have since been turned into residential, private business or historical landmark buildings. The pier was originally built by the NYCEDC in 1996 and was later turned into one of the many parks controlled by the New York City Parks Department in 1999. The full name of the park is Louis Valentino Jr. Pier Park, named after a veteran firefighter who was tragically killed while searching for survivors in a three-alarm fire in the Flatlands section of Brooklyn. Today, the park is a popular destination for many Red Hook residents and visitors as it provides a great view of the waterfront and most notably the Statue of Liberty.



### Greg O'Connell

Pier 41 and its accompanying historical warehouses were nothing like they are today in 1990. Today, over 150 different types of companies, groups and non-profit organizations occupy the warehouses, most notably the Fairway supermarket. Twenty years ago, the pier was abandoned and looked as if nothing would ever be made of it. All of that changed in 1992 when Greg O'Connell, a retired cop with an ambition for developing property, bought the 28-acre site from the Port Authority for around \$500,000. Originally, O'Connell was ridiculed for his purchase because Red Hook was in terrible condition at the time. However, a goal was to help turn the neighborhood around, aiming to turn the crime-ridden neighborhood into a real community. That quality is something that sets O'Connell apart from many other developers, as his goal was not to maximize profits by building high-end housing or shopping centers. Instead, O'Connell was much more interested in providing affordable space for businesses and induce them to move to Red Hook, thus creating a local economy.

O'Connell is not exempt from controversy as the largest private landowner in the area. Part of the deal that he struck with the NYCEDC to purchase the warehouse that is now home to Fairway, as well as residents of the apartments above, O'Connell stated that there would be a park built as part of the project. Today, the ground on which the park was supposed to be built is now a parking lot for Fairway. Although O'Connell could not come through on that agreement, the positive effects his development have had on the neighborhood cannot be denied. The space on Pier 41 which O'Connell rents employs over 1,000 people and has brought much more money into the neighborhood than was there in 1992 and has made Red Hook an attractive destination both for residents old and new and tourists.



### Thor Equities

O'Connell's accomplishments have shown other private developers that Red Hook is worth building in. One example of this is Thor Equities, who bought the former Revere Sugar Refinery in 2005 for \$40 million. The sugar refinery, which had become a very familiar site to local residents because of its cone-shaped roof, was torn down and the land was flattened in preparation for construction. Joe Sitt, Brooklyn native and owner of Thor Equities, announced his plan for the site in early 2009. His blueprint included a 400,000 square foot shopping mall right along the Red Hook waterfront including a BJ's Wholesale store, but that has since been scrapped. A rumor that Sitt had plans to turn the site into a dormitory for New York University students was circulated, but Sitt insists that big box retail is still his plan. Talks are currently ongoing to rezone the land for the project.



### IKEA

Arguably, Ikea has been the most controversial project to happen to Red Hook this past decade. After much debate and some community protests, Ikea purchased the 22-acre for \$100 million in 2006. Shortly after, the historic shipyard and warehouse buildings were demolished to make room for the 346,000 square foot Swedish furniture store. As part of the deal, six of the twenty-two acres were set aside for an Ikea owned park and walkway, which is the largest public waterfront park in Brooklyn. The park also pays homage to the history of the former shipyard by including an 18-foot golden compass and over twenty chocks with the names of the ships that were repaired many years ago etched onto the surfaces. There are also many informational plaques set up along the railing of the park with different pieces of historical information about the site serving to educate the public.

Much of the aforementioned controversy surrounding Ikea was concerning the traffic build up, which has not turned into a real problem. The success of Ikea are signs of real change in Red Hook. There is no doubt that private developers will be paying close attention to Red Hook over the next decade as Red Hook becomes desirable for additional private development.

### I Cover The Waterfront

Johnny W. Green / Edward Heyman

Away from the city that hurts and knocks, I'm standing alone by the desolate docks in the still and the chill of the night

I see the horizon the great unknown my heart has an ache it's as heavy as stone with the dawn coming on, make it last

I cover the waterfront I'm watching the sea Will the one I love Be coming back to me

I cover the waterfront In search of my love An I'm covered By a starlit sky above

Here am I Patiently waiting Hoping and longing Oh how I yearn Where are you Have you thought back time Will you remember Will you return

Will the one I love Be coming back To me

### This Special Report

written by

**Kevin O'Hanlon**

Illustrations courtesy of Microsoft BING

music by Billie Holiday



# Looking Back at the Crack Epidemic of 1988

continued from page 1

dealers who hang out on playground seesaws, slides and jungle gyms. Vials and hypodermic needles litter the grounds. Shoot-outs erupt almost daily between rival operations, and one local bar owner has been forced to serve customers from the relative safety of his apartment. The only businesses left around the project are a few auto body shops and candy stores, and GiJo's pizzeria. But many of the candy

shops sell drug paraphernalia under the counter, and GiJo's, according to city councilman Stephen DiBrienza, is a major drug supplier. Even a neighborhood ice cream truck sells vials of crack. "Now we can't let our kids have ice cream anymore," says one mother. At dusk, children, sent outside for the day by mothers ashamed of their crack habit stand under windows pleading, "Mom, can I come in now?"



## Bishop Adolph Tucker is a Survivor

by George Fiala

The Life magazine article mentioned a Reverend Tucker's inability to organize a tenant patrol in the projects. I was curious to know if Tucker was still helping people in the Red Hook projects and indeed I found him in a storefront church at 66 Lorraine Street, in front of the East houses. Now Bishop Tucker, he was gracious enough to give me a half hour of his reminiscences and his experiences in the projects today. He is of course a religious man of deep faith and never gave up helping people of the neighborhood.

He verified everything in the article, and I asked him how he stayed safe during those days. His response was that since he was seen as trying to help, he and his wife were never bothered, in fact they were protected by some of the toughest thugs. In deference they would even lower their boom boxes when in his presence. He said that one of the big problems then was that the police did not maintain a presence within the projects and more or less let the criminality continue unabated. He credits Mayor Giuliani with changing police policies, coming into the projects and patrolling, a practice that continues still today.

I asked how things are today, and he says that there is still dealing going on, but its different in that it is mostly youngsters who make a business of it, and that the crimes are no longer random, making it much safer to live there. In addition, he points to recent policies that have allowed rents to rise, and troublemakers evicted. That has bought a greater socio-economic diversity, with many Asians moving in. Another factor is the establishment of the Red Hook Community Justice Center, which has brought a judge and the court system right there on Visitation place.

Bishop Tucker has been a fixture in the Red Hook projects for 43 years, and today at age 77 is still active with his church. His lease expires on September 17th though, and he needs a new location. A man of faith, he is not worried.

### Pino story, as told in the 1988 Life magazine article:



For all the talk of fortunes to be made in the crack trade, there is little evidence that anyone in the Hook has accumulated much money. Residents cannot think of one big-time operator who has retired to enjoy his profits. Most dealers succumb to their product. Others wind up in jail - or dead. The project abounds with once-powerful men now struggling to get by. Pino, a shrewd, wiry Panamanian, was once one of the biggest pushers in the project. He claims he made \$5,000 a day at his peak. But he began doing drugs with a woman attracted by his wealth. Today he can be found around the flagpole trying to sell \$10 packets of cocaine - when he can get enough credit to buy some. Pino, whose drug of choice is heroin (he injects himself above) says crackheads are 'just paying to get nervous.' His girlfriend has knifed him twice and shattered every window in their apartment while high on crack.

### Jenny's story

The scene: Tasha's crack den. The time: 5:15 p.m. on a Wednesday. Jenny, 27 (bottom right), a former nurse who does a little dealing, has been smoking crack for at least a day when she begins having difficulty breathing. "I don't feel good," she gasps as she staggers into the kitchen, color fading from her cheeks. Tasha helps her to the bathroom, where Jenny takes two Valiums. Then she vomits and says she needs another hit of crack to get straight. She lights up a stem and takes a deep drag. Her eyes roll back, and her head drops to the sink. Twenty minutes later, however, Jenny passes out in the living room, where a half dozen girls are sharing a stem. One shrugs and tells the story of a girl in another crack house who had gone to sleep while her friends continued to smoke. It was two days before anybody realized she was dead."



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# Business People Who Keep Red Hook Humming



Joaquin and Isabella Pimentel

We often hear politicians and economists tout the importance of the small business person. Imagine our community without the services that the small business provides. While the 'box store' chain might offer large varieties of goods as well as the occasional bargain, it is the local restaurant, dry cleaner, hardware store and deli that provide convenience, service and spice of life that make the city livable and exciting. The Red Hook Star-Revue is happy to highlight some of the friendly faces that you might see in your daily shopping excursions.

To the left is Joaquin Pimentel and his lovely daughter Isabelle, who opened **Pimentel Dry Cleaners** at 289 Columbia Street earlier this year. Above to the right is the store inside of **Liberty Industrial Gases and Welding Supply** at 600 Smith Street. You would never expect such a customer friendly store to be located inside of their warehouse. While much of their business is to local industry, they are a convenient place to buy something as simple as a gas canister for your barbecue. Pictured just below is Russell and Amanda, who operate **Two Friends Auto Sales** at 204 Hamilton Avenue. They make purchasing a quality used car especially easy as they will take care of all the paperwork for you. Below that is **Area Rug World** at 185 Van Brunt St. We couldn't get a picture of owner Christina Frangoulis, as she was away on her summer vacation in Greece when we visited. Finally, the counterman at **F&M Bagels**, 383 Van Brunt Street, serves up a delicious hot lunch. We didn't take owner Frank Morales photo, as his smiling face can be seen in their ad, elsewhere in this issue.



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Russell and Amanda of Two Friends Auto Sales, fresh from a Florida vacation



Getting ready for a carpet installation at Area Rug World



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# I Made an Art Gallery and Performance Space Rocks and Socks Richards Street

by George Fiala

I can't even remember how imadeanart.com passed through my radar, but on the steamy night of last August 14th, I felt that the most important thing I could do was to wander down past the firehouse over to 53 Richards Street to take part in something having to do with creating art. Oh, I remember now, aside from BWAC there's not much going on in Red Hook galleries over the summer, and I missed the goodbye Lucky night, although I did pass by and see a crowd on the corner there on that evening. Except since I'm kind of new in the Red Hook art scene, I didn't know at the time that it was the end. So anyway, I originally was going to have our ace reviewer Nicole make the trek, but at the last moment I became the substitute critic. To be truthful, I am not all that well versed in visual art or even sock puppets, although my musical chops are there, and so when I walked through the space and saw that in addition to art hanging on the walls, and slithering from posts, a pretty decent sized stage graced the back of stage I figured this would be an interesting evening and I was not disappointed.

The gallery opened at 7 to a nice sized crowd, greeted at the door by the orange six foot tall fishy

type thing that you can see in some of the pictures on this page. Maybe it's some kind of walrus, perhaps some kind of conversation with the Beatles was intended, but that wouldn't quite be it at all, since they didn't do that old song - I'm Your Puppet. Much of the artwork on the wall were depictions of sock puppets, plus there was a large box full of smaller framed pictures of sock puppets that may or may not have been for sale.

In any case, let me describe the scene a bit - from the outside one would have no idea that anything like this was within - this is a non-descript warehouse type building that is so common throughout the Hook. But

going through the doors and up the stairs one is confront with a glorious palette of colors, on the walls, on the rubbery sculptures, and even on the buffet table which was so generously provided to all comers.

Turning the corner you are confronted with a long slimy tube-like concoction of socklike things which are indeed long toes, complete with well crafted toenails. Following the toes one is then led into a whole other room, where among other things you see the whole foot and leg climbing up a post to the ceiling. This is the room with



the stage, and in addition there was a work table where people were encouraged to concoct their own creation, well supplied with cloths and pipe cleaners and even socks, in case you forgot to bring your own. Around nine the first of three bands played. Bone Gunn, led by guitarist and vocalist Bryan Kane, who also doubles as one of the owners of this artspace/recording studio played music somewhat reminiscent of early Pink Floyd, at least for their first song, maybe the Decemberists a little, but the fact is it is hard to pin them down, except as being fantastically creative. I'm running out of room here, let me urge you to check out the next adventure here, on September 11th, at 7:30. The address is 53 Richards Street and Bone Gunn will be appearing along with another band, 5 different artists, and a birthday party for Charlie.



## CARTOON CORNER



We are proud to publish the cartoon on the left, while at the same time we realize that the joke does not represent the sensibilities of today's modern age (and we apologize in advance for that). It is the work of prize winning cartoonist Harold Shapiro, whose illustrations graced national magazines such as Liberty, Colliers and JAMA back in the 1940's 1950's and '60's. Harold was born in the East Village in 1919 and now lives in Delray

Beach, Florida with his wife Laura. Mr. Shapiro is a big booster of the Red Hook Star-Revue, and while he hasn't published for many decades, dashed this off for us in a few minutes just last month at the age of 91. He enjoys every bit of life, as you can see from his picture taken last year at Brooklyn's Peter Luger Steakhouse.



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# Hoover City and Red Hook

by JJ Burkard

I recall when a very young lad around 5 years of age living at 113 Bush Street in 1934-35.

It was truly a slum tenement type building, cold water, and toilets in the hallway. Heat was made by the occupants using wood fires in a cast iron kitchen stove. The people on Bush Street were tough as nails, worked at odd jobs, anything to put together some food for the kids at a time when jobs were unheard of.

The resilience of these people was astonishing, although at my age I hardly noticed it. But today I can look back and see the determination embedded in their faces and in their hearts, not to let their problems overcome them or deter them from striving to survive. True Red Hookers, never giving up despite the abysmal conditions they were forced to endure. Real John Wayne style "True Grit" you might call it.

Not surprisingly, there were no people from Red Hook living in Hoover City. They were a fiercely proud people who never could surrender their dignity because of hard times.

Bush Street between Clinton and Hicks street was the very last row of houses facing south towards the grain elevator, this imposing structure had been built around the mid 1800s and used for unloading grain ships. This was the major activity on the Red Hook waterfront for over 100 years. Annually, more grain was shipped from Red Hook by sailing vessels as well as steamships during that period than any other place in the world.

Looking south towards the water and the grain elevator structure from Bush Street we view two huge tin lots approximately a double city lot each in size. Both existed as dumping grounds for the rest of New York City. As children we would play in both of these lots. There were many truck tires, of the solid rubber type - balloon tires having not been invented at that time. The parallel streets opposite Bush street were first Lorraine Street and then Bay street in that order

As kids, we called them "the tin lots" and played in the abandoned huts built by the occupants of Hoover City. All three streets, Bush - Lorraine - and Bay streets were bounded by Court Street on the east, and Hicks St. on the west. And therein was the boundary of Red Hook's Hoover City as I recollect. After Bay Street South, was water, now filled in. This was around 1934/35, so a good deal of the homeless haven was abandoned or evicted, and work opportunities started to increase as

New Deal programs helped boost the Depression economy.

The prime occupants of Hoover City in Red Hook were merchant seamen who lost their positions aboard the ships that came to Brooklyn from various foreign nations. These shipping companies could not afford to hire the manpower needed to return home with the cargo so they cut costs by sailing shorthanded. They virtually abandoned hundreds of men every time they set sail, creating a mass of hard working men with no jobs and no place to stay. And even worse, no money. Those who were abandoned chose instead to convert the tin and other waste found in these lots to livable housing. If you can call no water or toilet facilities livable. They did so in order to be close to possible sailing employment. They were intelligent, honest and law abiding people. Some had wives and children, others single, and they all respected each other despite their dire situation. At the beginning of the Great Depression there were many "Hooverilles" or "Hoover Cities" across the country. In Chicago for instance there were many unemployed stockyard

workers existing in Hoover City type compounds.

I am informed by Mr. Lars Nilsen who heads the Norwegian Immigra-

*"The prime occupants of Hoover City in Red Hook were merchant seamen who lost their positions aboard the ships that came to Brooklyn from various foreign nations"*

tion Society, that he has records of nearly 800 Norwegian Seamen who were forced to endure those miserable conditions of Hoover City in Red Hook because of their lost work in the shipping industry. Most of



Bush Clinton Park, where tin shacks used to house unemployed seamen, was taken over by the Park Department in 1934. Hoover Cities were dismantled as the New Deal began.

these men had families back home yet no way could they reach them. A Norwegian Church on Summit St did their best to assist these men, and local food merchants donated food. Local churches rendered assistance also, but the Norwegian Salvation Army, and Norwegian Seamen's Institute predominated in their efforts

to render aid and comfort to these abandoned men. Many, if not all of the Norwegians ended up living in Brooklyn permanently and migrated to the Bay Ridge area.

It's also safe to say nearly everyone looked upon their plight with pity, even the residents of those slums on Bush Street I mentioned earlier



John Burkard is an active 80 year-old local historian with a special interest in Fort Defiance and the Red Hook Trail. The Red Hook Star-Revue is pleased to have him join our pages.

where I lived as a young lad.

I nearly forgot to relate a now comical story about when I lived in 113 Bush Street. It was a heck of a cold winter night and everyone was roused from their sleep by a crashing noise in the slum buildings hallway. It seems a squatter on the top floor was cold, so he decided to take an axe and chop up the banister for his firewood to keep him warm. All the regular building occupants banded together and wasted no time in evicting this squatter along with his axe and anything else he wanted to take along, but no firewood. I'm sure those good people would have loved to burn that wood in their stoves, but no one dared touch it.

If there's a moral to this story, it must be this - when walking the streets of NYC today, if you come across a homeless person covered with newspapers or cardboard to ward off the cold, don't cringe at the sight, or turn your head and pretend they do not exist. At the very least, look to the heavens and say "There but for the grace of GOD go I." Or perhaps you can reach in your pocket and come up with a buck or two?

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# Drinks and Food to Go With It

## ROCKY SULLIVAN'S RED HOOK PIZZA

by Daniel Barile & Kristen Longo



Star-Revue resident barfly John R. samples a slice.

This month's Red Hook food focus is the Red Hook Pizza served at Rocky Sullivan's bar. Rocky Sullivan's was originally located in midtown Manhattan and featured a full bar and very well regarded literary readings, but no kitchen. They left Manhattan for Red Hook three years ago taking over the Liberty Heights Tap Room. In Manhattan they had no kitchen and no food, but presented with Liberty Heights' intact kitchen, including a brick oven, they created a menu which included four varieties of pizza.

A piping hot Red Hook pie and a cold beer on the roof deck at Rocky Sullivan's is one of life's simple pleasures. To partake, bring yourself to the corner of Dwight and Van Dyke, behold the iconic red neon sign (it looks very cool at night) and step inside. Co-owner George will greet you with a smile and a handshake from behind the bar and, pardon the irresistible pun, "Hook" you up with a damn good pizza. There are four different

pies on the menu, including Greek, Margherita (the best seller which includes pesto) and the wonderfully named "Red Hook Pizza," so named because of the three red ingredients that grace the top of it.

On the Friday night we visited, the white marble bar was crowded with guys watching the Mets and Yankees (both games were on, another testament to the friendliness of the place), and at the tables by the bar and upstairs on the roof deck, there were lots of young families and hipsters wearing lobster bibs. Lobster bibs? Yes, every Friday, in partnership with the Red Hook Lobster Pound, Rocky Sullivan's hosts a lobster dinner, complete with corn and coleslaw. But we were in the mood for some pizza, specifically the house's own Red Hook pie.

The Red Hook pie, topped with sundried tomatoes, pepperoni and roasted red peppers, is a lovely, heartburn-inducing creation born of Rocky Sullivan's brick oven. Up on the roof deck, our pie comes hot and fully loaded (they're not cheap with the cheese or the toppings here) and cut like a pizza should be cut, asymmetrically, with a few small slices sacrificed for a few monster slices. The crust is thin and crispy and, here and there, bubbled at the edges. The sauce and mozzarella cheese are fresh and well proportioned. But this pie is all about the toppings. The pepperoni (greasy in the best way possible) is nicely complimented by the sundried tomatoes, sweet and bitter, and the roasted red peppers adds a delicious saltiness.



Roasted red peppers, sun dried tomatoes and pepperoni adorn this brick oven baked pizza.

In between sips of Six Point, we finish our pie way too quickly. The final count: Dan five slices (the bigger ones) and Kristen three slices (the smaller ones). We order another round of beers and take in the twinkling city lights through the lattice work on the roof deck bar. It's about 10pm now and a slightly older crowd (a guy with a baby strapped to his chest just left) is giving way to a younger crowd. The evening is just getting started at Rocky Sullivan's.

Back at the bar downstairs, we tell co-owner George that we're writing an article and that we really enjoyed the Red Hook pie. He graciously thanks us and we chat for a while. There's a lot going on at Rocky Sullivan's, live music several nights a week, a dart night, even a "Green Biker" night (half-off a large pie if you ride your bike, which you can even lock up in the courtyard). George was also very excited to

report that plans for a street hockey and winter arts festival, sponsored by Rocky Sullivan's, have recently been finalized. This event is scheduled to kick off on Saturday, February 19th. Mark your calendars readers, but come in for a Red Hook pie and a Six Point ale sometime way before then.

The details: Rocky Sullivan's is located at 34 Van Dyke Street (at the corner of Dwight Street) in Red Hook, Brooklyn's coolest neighborhood. If you're not from the neighborhood, you can take the B61 (the bus drops you five steps from the entrance to Rocky Sullivan's, literally, we tested it). Or, the next time you're at Ikea, contemplating a lunch of cafeteria-quality Swedish meatballs and lingonberry sauce, pull yourself together and walk two short blocks to Rocky Sullivan's, your tastebuds (and whoever you're shopping with) will thank you. A large Red Hook pie costs \$18 and a pint of Six Point will set you back \$5. For more information, check out [www.rockysullivan.com](http://www.rockysullivan.com).

## Red Hook Star-Revue Guide to Area Restaurants

### Red Hook

**BAKED** 359 Van Brunt Street, (718) 222-0345; Full service bakery serving cakes, cupcakes, coffee, free wi-fi.

**THE BROOKLYN ICE HOUSE**, 318 Van Brunt Street, (718) 222-1865. Excellent pulled pork sandwiches and BBQ

**DEFONTE'S SANDWICH SHOP**, 379 Columbia Street, (718) 855-6982, Excellent pepper and egg heroes for breakfast or lunch

**DIEGO RESTAURANT**, 116 Sullivan Street, (718) 625-1616 - Mexican/Spanish

**FORT DEFIANCE**, 365 Van Brunt Street, (347) 453-6672, breakfast, lunch and dinner grazing menu

**THE GOOD FORK**, 391 Van Brunt Street, (718) 643-6636; menu often

includes Pork dumplings; crispy veal sweetbreads; roast chicken; steak and eggs Korean style; pappardelle with boar ragu.

**home/made**, 293 Van Brunt Street, (347) 223-4135; cheeses, salads, sandwiches, weekend brunch

**HOPE & ANCHOR**, 347 Van Brunt Street, (718) 237-0276, eclectic diner food including excellent hamburgers

**KEVINS**, 277 Van Brunt Street, (718) 596-8335. Seafood

**MARK'S PIZZA**, 326 Van Brunt Street, (718) 624-0690

**O'BARONE**, 360 Van Brunt Street, (347) 599-2758, Northern Italian

**RED HOOK MERCADO**, 410 Van Brunt Street, open weekends including Latin American food vendors

**RED HOOK LOBSTER POUND**, 284 Van Brunt Street, (646) 326-7650. Lobsters, lobster rolls and salads.

**ROCKY SULLIVANS**, 34 Van Dyke (718) 246-8050. Irish, brick oven pizza.

### Columbia Waterfront District

**PIZZA AND CALZONE**, 132 Union Street, (718) 624-9107, Pizza, calzones, Italian dishes.

**5 BURRO CAFE**, 127 Columbia Street (718) 875-5515. Mexican

**SUGAR LOUNGE**, 147 Columbia Street, (718) 643-2880. French inspired seasonal menu.

**CALEXICO CARNE ASADA**, 122 Union Street, (718) 488-8226; Tex-Mex.

**FERDINANDO'S FOCACCERIA RESTAURANT** - 151 Union Street, (718) 855-1545; Southern Italian.

**TEEDA THAI CUISINE**, 218 Columbia Street, (718) 643-2737

**MAZZAT**, 208 Columbia Street, -(718) 852-1652; Mediterranean

**JAKE'S BARBECUE RESTAURANT**, 189 Columbia Street, (718) 522-4531; Kansas City Barbecue specializing in baby back ribs.

**LILLA CAFE**, 126 Union Street" (718) 855-1700; Nouvelle Cuisine





# MUSIC & ART CALENDAR

## Galleries

**BWAC**, 499 Van Brunt Street (718) 596-2506; Lineage, Opens Sept. 25th, week-ends 1-6 pm; Group show featuring 300 artists.

**Lucky Gallery**, 176 Richards Street, (617) 417-3899 - the landlord sold the building so no more shows here.

**Kentler International Drawing Space** 353 Van Brunt Street, (718) 875-2098, CUBA: My Revolution, The Making of the Graphic Novel and Related Drawings by Inverna Lopez & Dean Haspiel. Curated by Mariella Bisson. October 2 - December 12 Opening: Saturday October 02, 6-8. Artist talk at 4pm

**I Made An Art** - Saturday September 11th 7 pm. Art opening at our Red Hook art and music space with work by five artists - paintings and drawings with a graffiti and abstract aesthetic. With live music by Kilimanjaro and Bone Gunn; free food & drink. It's our best friend's birthday so we're making it everybody's birthday. There will be cake! 53 Richards St. at Commerce St. Visit our website at [www.imadeanart.com](http://www.imadeanart.com).

**The Invisible Dog**, 51 Bergen Street, (646) 270-2550; Sept 12, Farm City. Sept 12 - Artists Open Studios; Sept. 16, 8 pm Portrayed (Theater); Sept. 25, Rachard Gare - Electro-Chroma, Opening Party

**Look North**, 275 Conover Street Suite 4E 347-721-3995. Specializing in Inuit Art

## Music

**Jalopy Theatre and School of Music**, 315 Columbia Street, (718) 395-3214 Sept 9 - Veveritise Brass Band; Sept. 10 - Irish Music Night with Patrick Mangan & Ryan McGiver, Ted Pitney and Nick Reeb; Sept. 11th - Bluegrass Explosion featuring M. Shanghai String Band and Friends, also Uncle Monk featuring Tommy Ramone and Sweet Soubrette; Sept. 12 - A Night of Blues, Pat Victor with Abbie Gardner; Sept 14th - Country Rock with Tony Scherr Trio - the trio includes Anton Fier, one of

the world's best drummers; Sept. 16th - Marty Kutler and Kenny Kosek; Sept. 17th - Old Time Music with The Midriffs; Sept. 18th - Sugar Shack Burlesque with the Peculiar Gentlemen; Sept. 19th - Folk Roots N Blues with The Little Brothers, Pat Conte, Joe Bellulovich;

**Union Street Star Theater**, 101 Union Street, between Columbia and Van Brunt. Thursday Night Music Jam- every Thursday from 7 - 10, musicians and listeners welcome, FREE

**Red Hook Bait and Tackle**, 320 Van Brunt St, (718) 237-8888, Sept. 17th, Original Rock and Roll with Union, 9:30 - midnight

**Sunny's** 253 Conover Street, (718) 625-8211 Acoustic Jam every Saturday night. FREE

**Rocky Sullivan's** 34 Van Dyke Street (718) 246-8050 Seanchai and the Unity Squad - Saturdays at 9:30 p.m. Shantytown - Mondays 'bout 8:45 p.m. (traditional Irish music).

**RED HOOK Jazz Festival SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19 Noon - 6:00pm** Urban Meadow, corner of President & Van Brunt Streets \$5.00 per adult/Free for Kids IDEAL BREAD plays the music of Steve Lacy josh sinton - baritone saxophone kirk knuffke - cornet MARCO CAPPELLI Trio Marco Cappelli - guitar Ken Filiano - bass Satoshi Takeishi - percussions BEN PEROWSKY Trio Chris Speed - saxophone Ben Street - bass PAUL KOGUT & SHERYL BAILEY guitar duet WILLIE MARTINEZ La Familia Sextet Latin-Jazz DAN LOOMIS Quartet For more info go to: <http://urbanmeadowbrooklyn.blogspot.com>

## Readings

**Freebird Books**, 123 Columbia Street 718 643-8484, call for event schedule

## Yoga

To get your blood moving, walk to Valentino Park for a free yoga session. Red Hook resident Anna Mumford offers an hour-long class every Saturday morning at 11:30.

## Museum

**The Waterfront Museum** teams up with the Tugboat Pegasus for free programs that will bring maritime education to Brooklyn Bridge Park! Tug & Barge Tour: August 26 - September 1 at Brooklyn Bridge Park Pier 6

## Classes

**Jalopy Theater and School of Music**; Classes in mandolin, fiddle, banjo, guitar and ukelele begin September 7; 8 week sessions 718 395-3214

**Cora School for Dance in Red Hook**, 201 Richards Street, buzzer 5, (718) 858-2520;

Open House September 11th, 12:30 - 2:30. Instruction includes modern, jazz, ballet, hip-hop, tap, yoga

**Elite Training and Fitness**, 111 Union Street, (718) 596-0006 - Ongoing classes for children include Tae Kwon Do, ages 4-6; Tumble and Roll, ages 3-5; Tae Kwon Do, ages 7-12; Fit Play - ages 5-9; Classes are during the week in the afternoons - classes are open to the public.

## Star-Revue

### Music Pick of the Month

M. Shanghai String Band and Friends led by the man on the right always includes great musicians who love playing traditional American music. Also on the bill is Uncle Monk, featuring Tommy Ramone, drummer for that band, now singing and playing all sorts of acoustic string instruments together with singer and bassist Claudia Tienan, formerly with the Simplistics; Jalopy, 315 Columbia Street, Sept. 11th 8 pm; \$10



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GRILL YER OWN IN OUR BEER GARDEN

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Child/Adolescent	Couple	Family
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct Problem</li> <li>• Depression</li> <li>• Fear/Anxiety</li> <li>• Autism/LD/ADHD</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Communication</li> <li>• Intimacy/Sexual</li> <li>• Separation/Divorce</li> <li>• Visitation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parenting Problems</li> <li>• Step-Families</li> </ul>

142 Joralemon Street, Suite 7A • Brooklyn, NY 11231  
(310) 849-9931 • [drmburgio@yahoo.com](mailto:drmburgio@yahoo.com)

**LIVE AT BAIT AND TACKLE,  
320 VAN BRUNT STREET  
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17TH  
THREE SETS BEGINNING AT 9:30**

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**The Union St. Star Theater**  
Celebrating the Tradition and History of Red Hook Culture  
101 Union Street, Brooklyn, NY 11231 718 624-5568 George Fiala, prop.

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**101 Union Street**, between Columbia & Van Brunt

**We Provide: Stage, PA, Bass Amp, Drums, Mikes, Refreshments**

**YOU BRING YOUR INSTRUMENT (GUITAR, VOICE, ETC.).  
YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE GREAT, YOU JUST HAVE TO PLAY...  
OR JUST SIT BACK AND ENJOY.**

The kind of music we play depends on who shows up!  
Free Refreshments for players and listeners



# Red Hook Star-Revue Brew Guide

What follows is a guide to local bars and what they have on tap. It is important to understand that in most bars today, what is on tap changes sometimes frequently, so this will only give you an idea of what might be had, as these listings were compiled in mid-July. So things might have changed.

**Moonshine**, 317 Columbia Street, open daily until 4 am. 20 Craft beers on tap including Southern Tier, Anagash White, Stella, Founders Red Rye PA, Guinness, Harp, Goose Island Sofie, Sierra Nevada Pale Ale, Erie Black Cherry, Yvengling Lager, Brooklyn Lager, Kelso Pilsner, Kelso IPA, Six Point Righteous Rye, Smuttynose Farmhouse, Abita Andy Gator, Pretty Things American, Definat Muddycreek Lager, Ommegang, Stoudts Double IPA

**Ice House**, 318 Van Brunt Street, Open til 2, til 4 on Fridays and Saturdays; Beers on tap include Guinness, 6 Point, Brooklyn Lager, Stella, Blue Point.

**Bait and Tackle**, 320 Van Brunt, Open every day until 4 am; On tap includes Allagash White, Stella, Prime, 6 Point, Guinness, Geary's Summer Ale, 6 Point Bengali, 6 Point Sweet Action.

**Fort Defiance**, 365 Van Brunt, Open 8 am - midnight, Tuesday 8 - 3; Beers include Abita Restoration, Shneiderweisses, 6 Pt. IPA, Reissdorf Kolsch

**The Good Fork**, 391 Van Brunt, Closed Mondays, Open for dinner until around 10:30 pm the other days, Beers on tap include Stoudts Pilsener, Captain Lawrence, 6 Point, Garden Rosairia

**Rocky Sullivans**, 34 Van Dyke Street, (718) 246-8050 Beers on tap include what some call the best poured Guinness and Stella Artois



If we forgot to list your bar (and I know I missed more than a few) please call George at 718 624-5568, and I will hustle right over to check out your beers.

This month's Brew Guide is sponsored by:

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## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**Exhibition. A New Marketplace for Red Hook Park: September 18, 2010** Opening: Red Hook Food Vendors Exhibition Saturday, September 18, 12:00 pm - 6:00 am, 2010 The Food Vendors Committee of Red Hook Park, along with Architecture for Humanity, NY present the proposed designs for a new marketplace for the merchants of Red Hook Park at the Queens Museum of Art, Flushing Meadows Corona Park, Queens NY 11368 Telephone: (718) 592-9700

**Fundraiser. A Taste of Red Hook:** October 6, 2010 Red Hook Initiative presents The Fourth Annual "A Taste of Red Hook" Wednesday, October 6, 2010, 6pm - 9pm Kidd Yellin Gallery, 133 Imlay Street in Red Hook, Brooklyn Join us for dinner, enjoy food from the best restaurants in Brooklyn and raise money for the Red Hook Initiative! A silent auction will feature gift certificates to the best spots in Brooklyn, spa treatments, designer accessories, theater tickets, and more. <http://www.rhicenter.org/events.html>

**End of Summer Earth Fest 2010**, Sunday, September 12, 1pm to 5pm, at the Urban Divers Estuary Conservancy's Enviromedia Mobile, IKEA/Erie Basin Park, 1 Beard St.

**2010 Annual Waterfront District Fall Festival** Saturday September 11th, 11:00pm to 6:00pm 201 Columbia Street rain or shine - along columbia st. from Degraw to Union & Along Union from Columbia to Hicks. (718) 243-9301, X16

**76th Precinct Community Council** will meet Tuesday, September 14th at 7:30 pm, 191 Union Street. Wednesday, September 22

**Information Session: Gowanus Canal Superfund Designation** Time: 8:30 AM - 11:00 AM Location: Brooklyn Cruise Terminal, Pier 12, main lobby; 70 Imlay Street, Brooklyn, NY 11231 Contact: Please RSVP to Josh Keller at 718-965-3100 ext. 107 or via email at [jkeller@sbidc.org](mailto:jkeller@sbidc.org)

**Brooklyn Community Board 6 General Board Meeting**, Wednesday, Sept. 15, 2010, 6:30 PM Long Island College Hospital, 339 Hicks Street (Southeast Corner Atlantic Ave) Agenda includes recommendation that the Department of Transportation come up with a plan to improve pedestrian safety in the Atlantic Avenue/Columbia Street/Furman Street area as an approach to Pier 6 given the significant increase in pedestrian activity attracted to the newly opened Brooklyn Bridge Park facilities at Pier 6.

**9th Annual Firefighter Stephen Siller Tunnel to Towers Run / Walk** Sunday, September 26th, 2010 Start Time: 9:30 AM Location of Race: Brooklyn side of the Brooklyn Battery Tunnel, New York City, NY \$50.00 Registration fee if registered before September 22, 2010 \$60.00 Registration fee if registered after September 22, 2010 \*\*All Children under the age of 12, are free of charge Sunday Registration: COFFEY PARK - Red Hook, Brooklyn, NY Volunteers are needed to help - see [www.tunneltotowersrun.org](http://www.tunneltotowersrun.org) for more information

Red Hook Boaters present Free Kayaking in Valentino Pier Park 2010 Season Every Sunday afternoon 1:00PM - 5:00PM May 23rd until October 3rd. We organize a beach clean-up, and offer free kayaking and/or canoeing. Rain at 30 min. prior to start time cancels event.

**GED Classes will be offered at the Red Hook Initiative** this fall for anyone 18 and older. The classes will be held Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9am - 12pm. If you know anyone wanting to take part, the TESTING DAY is Friday, September 10, 2010 at RHI (9am - 11am.) The classes are taught by the Fifth Avenue Committee. 767 Hicks Street, Brooklyn, NY(718) 858-6782

**The Red Hook Community Center** is a welcoming and receptive place where individuals can learn about many helpful community and government programs that are available to assist them, including the services of Village Care of New York. Stop by and receive useful information about these services and more: Case Management, Home Care, AIDS Day Treatment, Free Workshops on Health & Education, Family Program, Temp and Temporary-to-Permanent Employment Services, Treatment Adherence, AIDS Long-Term Care,

Employment Opportunities at Village Care, HIV Counseling, Home Health Aide Training & Placement (English & Spanish), Entitlement Assistance, The Red Hook Community Center is open from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Lunch served Monday-Friday, noon-2 p.m. Youth are welcome. Location 603-B Clinton Street. For more information, contact Luvenia Suber at 718.852.5748



### RED HOOK STAR-REVUE NEWS:

We are looking for a **news reporter**. Enthusiasm is as important as experience, will train the right person. Part Time Position

We are now on **FACEBOOK**. Search for Red Hook Star-Revue and click on the like button. This is an opportunity for you to join the discussion between issues.

**The editorial and advertising deadline** for our next issue is Fri., Sept 24th. We now print 10,000 copies monthly. We send 6800 in the mail exclusively to Red Hook households, and distribute the rest for free in local newsstands, bars and stores. We are starting to put yellow news boxes in the neighborhood - if you are interested in having one near your store or building, call and tell us. Same thing with story ideas.

**Frank and George thanks you Red Hook for making us a success!**  
**RED HOOK STAR-REVUE**, 101 Union St. 718 624-5568 [info@redhookstar.com](mailto:info@redhookstar.com)



# FRANK GALEANO REAL ESTATE

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**\$550,000**

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- 20 X 48 - NEEDS GUTT RENOVATION
- CAN BUY ADD'L LAND FOR \$150/SF
- W APPROVED PLANS FOR 2 STRY WH



**\$1,250,000**

### CARROLL GDNS - SACKETT ST

- 7 FAM RENT STABILIZED
- 4 STORY BLDNG NEEDS UPDATING
- 20 X 50 ON 20 X 100 LOT
- GROUND FL 2BR DELIVERED VACANT

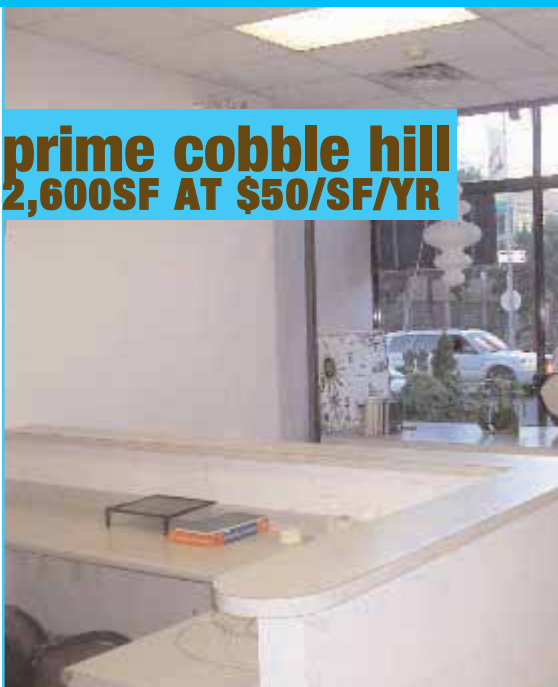


**\$775,000**

### RED HOOK- MIXED USE

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- TWO 1BR APTS (720 SF EA)
- STOREFRONT W/ YARD
- BLDNG: 18 X 40-LOT: 18 X 90

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- HARDWOOD FLOORS, NICE BATHROOM
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