

Lefferts
Manor

JANUARY 2007

ECHO

Candidate Forum on Preservation and Development

The Lefferts Manor Association, as part of a Coalition of Concerned Preservation Voters in our City Council District is co-sponsoring a forum organized by the Historic Districts Council. Set for Thursday, February 8, from 7:00-9:00pm, this forum is an opportunity to hear candidates in the February 20th special City Council election present their perspectives on preservation and development concerns. All questions presented to the candidates will be focusing on these issues, including questions of landmark designation, community rezonings, and building codes within the district. The forum will be held at Public School 217, 1100 Newkirk Avenue, between Coney Island Avenue and Westminster Road. *Continued on p. 6*

Fun For All at LMA's Annual Holiday Party

The December 9th party, held at the Church of the Evangel featured a pot luck dinner, a chance for neighbors to get together and events for the youngest Manorites.



photographs by Robert Marvin



THE LEFFERTS MANOR ECHO is published by the Lefferts Manor Association. Please send comments or article submissions to Robert Marvin at Imaecho@earthlink.net. The editors of the Lefferts Manor Echo reserve the right to edit or omit article submissions. We thank the contributing writers and photographers for their help in creating this issue of the Echo.

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POLICE BLOTTER

by Bill Griffin with thanks to Community Affairs P.O. Vinnie Martinos

Thankfully, with crime in the 71st Precinct down 8% year-to-date, there are more holiday community service activities than crimes to report in and around Lefferts Manor.

Another Successful Halloween Walk The 71st Precinct would like to thank those in Lefferts Manor who contributed to another successful Halloween Walk. The generosity of the neighborhood in handing out candy and displaying Halloween decorations helped create a tremendous spirit of community and a great experience for the more than 1,000 area kids who participated this year. The precinct has acknowledged, however, the neighborhood's concerns that with the overwhelming growth in the number of kids, it has become unrealistic for many of us to provide sufficient candy, and that there is somewhat of a safety issue with the jostling crowds on our stoops. The precinct welcomes the neighborhood's ideas for improving the process and will be working with the LMA to encourage more generous candy/snack donations from companies and local politicians who use the event as a public relations opportunity.

Turkey Drive In partnership with HealthPlus, the 71st Precinct contributed to a happy Thanksgiving for many by giving away 50 turkeys to area families in need.

Winter Holidays Party On December 17th, officers from the Precinct hosted a Winter Holidays Party for area kids at the public school across the street from the police station on Empire Boulevard. Festivities included gifts, games, and a visit from Santa Claus to help celebrate the season.

String of Robberies at Chinese-owned Establishments

There have been three recent robberies of Chinese-owned establishments along the Flatbush commercial district in our neighborhood. Although all three were at gunpoint, it is not clear whether they involve the same perpetrators as the methods of entry have all been different. The robberies are currently under investigation.

Increased Police Patrols

As a result of a meeting between LMA President Ben Edwards and 71st Precinct Commander Frank Vega the holiday season saw an increase in evening shift officers patrolling Flatbush Avenue and Ocean Avenue with a patrol car in the area giving priority to Lincoln Road subway traffic, a priority.

The Lefferts Manor Association

was founded in 1919 to maintain and improve our historic neighborhood, enforce the restrictive one-family dwelling covenant, and bring together residents for their better acquaintance and mutual benefit. If you're not a member join now.

I (we) subscribe to LMA's efforts to improve our neighborhood and continue it as a community of single-family homes.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE _____

E-MAIL _____

Enclosed is my check for:
\$ _____ (DUES) + \$ _____ (ADD'L CONTRIBUTION) =

\$ _____ (TOTAL)

Dues, Jan-Dec., 2007: \$15 per household* / \$10 per senior citizen household. *Beat the dues increase-effective April 1st, regular dues will increase to \$20 per year.

Please send application and check to:
The Lefferts Manor Association / P.O. Box 250-640,
Brooklyn, NY 11225

LMA Board Members

President Ben Edwards

Vice Presidents

Martin Friedman,

Lucia Haring, Carole Schaffer

Secretary Lucia Haring

Treasurer Martin Friedman

LINCOLN ROAD

Dan Shickler-282-0272

MAPLE STREET

Ben Edwards-693-7383

Lucia Haring-287-3781

Vincent Lisi-675-4484

MIDWOOD STREET

Carlene Braithwaite-287-6756

Evelyn Guzman-703-1874

Robert Marvin-284-6210

Stephen McGill-693-6130

Carole Schaffer-462-0024

RUTLAND ROAD

Roger Archibald-516-642-9973

Jerry Bennett -826-2156

Martin Friedman-856-5600

Mary Miller-693-5109

Paul Morin-826-1202

Roberta Welfling-826-2741

Second Saturday Litter Pick-up

Paul M. Morin

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of those people who participated in the Second Saturday Litter Pick-up program. Over the last 2 years, several volunteers have donated their time on Saturday mornings to pick up litter around the neighborhood in effort to keep Lefferts Manor cleaner. I would also like to extend a thank you to all those who were not able to join the group on Saturday mornings but who made valiant efforts to clean up in front of their homes and surroundings.

I look forward to working with all of you again next year. **Thanks to:**

Mary Miller, Martin Friedman, John Musco, Cheryl Francis, Juanita Johnson, Evelyn Guzman, William Griffin, John Wayne, Leon Hosade, Berni Williams, Joan Kelley, John, Lydia, & Aidan Esposito, Andy, Joanna, & Hank Herz, Pam, Andy, Madeleine, Linnea, & Colin Hamingson, Lucia, David, Ellor, & Eugenie Haring, Rob, Siobhan, & Raphael O'Neil-Adler, Vincent & Gigi Lisi.



L to R: P. Morin, J. Musco, M. Friedman, & C. Francis



M. Miller, C. Francis, R. Williams, & L. Hosade



M. Miller, P. Morin, P. & M. Hamingson

Lefferts Manor Greenstreet Space Gets a Lift

Paul M. Morin

Our Greenstreet space at the intersection of Lincoln Road and Flatbush Avenue has been largely neglected for a long time. Occasionally neighbors who care about the space, and who are trying to make it more vibrant, have planted impatiens, black-eyed susan and butterfly plants. Periodically, people have cleaned up the litter and have tried to make the triangle more attractive. In the last couple of months, volunteers have been spending a significant amount of time in that area preparing it for next year. What is not yet noticeable are the dozens of bulbs that have been recently planted in that space. We are very grateful for the help we received from the Parks Dept., Prospect Park Alliance and Partnerships for Parks. They have donated several dozen bulbs including tulips (Tulipa "Beauty of Appledorn"), daffodils (Narcissus "Thalia"), Crocus vernus ("Grand Maitre" and "Pickwick"), & Scilla siberica ("Siberian Squill"). They have also allowed us to use their tools and have provided a couple truckloads of mulch. We greatly appreciate the assistance we received from the 3 organizations' employees who have worked with us and guided us with the planting: Yvette Castro, Eddie Canales, Tannise Palmer, and their supervisors. Thank you for all your help and support with our neighborhood projects! Many thanks to the Lefferts Manor volunteers who also spent an enormous amount of time working in the Greenstreet space: Mary Miller, Joan Kelley, Martin Friedman, Evelyn Guzman, Cheryl Francis, William Griffin & Jay Rasin-Waters. Last but not least, thanks to those unknown neighbors who have donated their time over the years in cleaning up the area. Hopefully throughout next spring and summer we will see our Greenstreet space filled with colorful flowers and plants for the entire neighborhood to enjoy. [Note: Our Greenstreet has a newly planted tree in the center. We are not sure what kind it is or where it came from, but if someone knows who planted it, please let us know so we can recognize the group or individual.]



J. Kelley, Y. Castro, & Eddie



M. Miller, Y. Castro, & J. Kelley



Y. Castro & Eddie

Do you have old photographs of Lefferts Manor? We are putting together a pictorial book consisting of old photographs of the neighborhood. If you have any photos you would like to share for the book, please contact Paul M. Morin (email: pmorin163@verizon.net or call (718) 826-1202). Thank you.

Excerpts from The Social History of Flatbush, by Gertrude Lefferts Vanderbilt

Gertrude Lefferts Vanderbilt (d. 1902) grew up in the **Lefferts Homestead** [now known as the *Lefferts Historic House*], which stood on Flatbush Avenue between Maple and Midwood Streets, prior to being moved to Prospect Park in 1918. She recorded the history of her family, her community, and her landmark home in *The Social History of Flatbush and Manners and Customs of the Dutch Settlers in Kings County New York*, published in 1881. Your editor searched for a copy of this book, on and off, for thirty years and was pleased to obtain a reprint of the 1909 edition, put out recently by Heritage Books [www.heritagebooks.com]. Coincidentally, at the last LMA board meeting, Mary Miller [who has an original copy] suggested that we run a regular feature of excerpts from this most interesting book. With apologies to Mary, I have jumped the gun with this account of the Flatbush woods. No doubt in future Mary will choose even more appropriate selections.

The woods which formerly encircled Flatbush consisted chiefly of hickory, gum, chestnut, and oak trees; hickory-trees predominated as to numbers.

There was a long belt of woodland southward, the last remnant of which now lies just beyond the boundary line between Flatbush and Flatlands. To the west it extended from the line between Flatbush and New Utrecht, and took in the high ground in Greenwood, and the hill in Prospect Park, then known as Vanderbilt's Hill. It bounded the road for the distance between Mr. Willink's house and the hill on the Polhemus farm upon the old road.

On the east side of the old turnpike, the woods, untouched by the woodman's axe, extended from the point opposite Mr. Willink's house both northward and eastward. The road known as the Clove road followed along the southerly side of the woods, parallel to where the Penitentiary [editor's note: does anyone know about this penitentiary?] now stands, to a point at which it was intersected by a road which led to Canarsie, and then continued in an unbroken line toward the north and east to the limit of the village.

Thus Flatbush was pleasantly and picturesquely encircled with woods; its little group of houses surrounded by gardens and farms, its chimney-tops and roofs projecting from among the trees, and the spire of its church forming the central object in the view, it presented a beautiful picture of rural life, of peace, quiet, and comfort.

Looking down from the height of Vanderbilt Hill, or farther northward to what used to be Prospect Hill, but a few years ago it might still have been entitled to the first name given it by the old Dutch settlers—Midwood.

There were formerly beautiful walks about the village. The wood at the north had fine, large trees with a brook running through, and was without underbrush. The same might be said of the wood north of Mr. Willink's, now in the [Prospect] Park. There was no underbrush, and the grass was thick and soft. The most attractive walk was that upon the high hill, Vanderbilt's Hill, as it was called. The farm lane led round what is now the Plaza, near the restaurant, and gradually mounted the hill known now as Breeze Hill [now called Lookout Hill, the second highest spot in Brooklyn]. From this spot an extent of country could be seen that could scarcely be excelled as a calm picture of pleasant farm-life. To the north extended unbroken woods; eastward, at the foot of the spectator, was a stretch of level and beautifully cultivated farms; here were fields of waving grain; there the red clover wafted its perfume from acres ripening for hay; cattle were grazing in pasture-fields; horses stood under the trees along the fences, switching away the flies, now stooping to eat, now raising their heads and pointing forward their ears as the farmer's dog chased up the birds from the hedges, or the farmer held out to them some oats to decoy them within reach of the bridle. [pp. 296-297]



Winter Events at Lefferts Historic House in Prospect Park

At **Lefferts Historic House**, cold weather brings the past to life. Open for regular hours (weekends, 12 - 4 p.m.) all winter long for the first time in years, Park visitors can warm up like Brooklynites did in Dutch colonial times, with old-time arts and crafts and historic games. **Freedom Quilts**, held during Martin Luther King, Jr. weekend explored the use of quilting as an information tool by enslaved Africans escaping along the underground railroad. Visitors could even start their own quilts. During the February school break, **Coming In from the Cold** will give visitors the experience of weathering Brooklyn winters in the 19th century, complete with handmade old-fashioned games and toys. Both programs are free and open to the public.

...And at the Audubon Center

The landmark **Audubon Center at the Boathouse** will also be open 12 - 4 p.m. on weekends and school holidays throughout the winter. As the Park's trailhead for the newly-completed Prospect Park Nature Trails, the Boathouse is the perfect spot to start a hike through Prospect Park's winter wonderland. And with delicious fresh pastries now being served, along with hot chocolate and organic coffee, at the Songbird Cafe, the Audubon Center is also a great place to get away from the cold. When schools let out for the mid-winter break, [February 18-25] the Center will host its annual **Children's Film Fest**, upstairs at the Con Edison Discover Nature Theater. Featuring all kinds of movies, from Hollywood blockbusters to thought-provoking nature documentaries, the Children's Film Fest will feature three films each day along with arts and crafts activities. This event is a great way to beat cabin fever on a cold day, and it's

5 ArtMart 11225 a Big Hit

By Alex Ely, with photographs by Robert Marvin

Lefferts Avenue ECHO

On October 21st, Lincoln Rd. was transformed into a bustling market with ArtMart 11225, an event co-sponsored by two local community groups, Prospect Lefferts United for Services (PLUS) and PLG Arts. Conceived as an outdoor arts and crafts market, ArtMart 11225 gave neighborhood residents an opportunity to both sell and purchase handcrafted items right in our very own neighborhood. By all accounts, ArtMart 11225 was a huge success. With over 30 vendors setting up tables, all vendors reported sales with merchandise ranging in price from \$3 to \$300. Top items included trendy knit hats, hip silk screened kids clothes, elegant handmade jewelry and custom hand made magnets. Other vendors sold art for art's sake - original paintings, prints and etchings. ArtMart 11225 also coincided with a huge tag sale and cape making workshop hosted by the Maple Street School. The not yet opened Enduro Cafe also had a preview, with free quisadillas.

All of this activity made Lincoln Road the place to be this one Saturday afternoon. PLUS and PLG Arts took care to make sure that the event had something for everyone. The Door (www.door.org) a youth drop-in center, conducted outreach on site about available services. Another group, Healium, raised funds for a program fighting against child abuse. PLUS is working to help make a outdoor market similar to ArtMart a more permanent and frequent fixture on Lincoln Rd.

PLUS is considering hosting a series of one day markets on Saturdays during the warmer months. If you are interested in becoming involved in organizing the market or the next ArtMart 11225, please contact Alex Ely (alexander.ely@gmail.com).



PLG Arts Art Auction

Watch for a fund-raising art auction to be held by PLG Arts at K-Dog in April. Visual artists wishing to donate work may contact Bob Marvin, who, when he's not editing this publication, serves as PLG Arts' art exhibition co-ordinator at bmarvin@plgarts.org.

Forum, continued from p.1

As of January 17, the following candidates have been invited to participate: Anthony Alexis, Victor Babb, Irshad Choudhry, Mathieu Eugene, Jesse Hamilton, Gerry Hopkins, Jennifer James, Zenobia McNally, Moe Razvi, Harry Schiffman, Wellington Sharpe, Joel Toney and Leithland Tulloch. As candidates are confirmed they will be listed on HDC's website, www.hdc.org.

The **Coalition of Concerned Preservation Voters in the 40th District** is a group of eleven neighborhood and civic organizations that are interested in preserving the unique character of our community. The Coalition believes we must reach out to elected officials and candidates and begin a dialogue about preserving the neighborhoods' cultural, architectural and historical heritage. Members of the coalition are the Historic Districts Council, Beverly Square West Association, Caton Park Neighborhood Association, Ditmas Park Association, Ditmas Park West Neighborhood Association, Fiske Terrace Association, Flatbush Development Corporation, Lefferts Manor Association, Midwood Park Homeowners Association, Prospect Park South Association and West Midwood Community Association. This coalition is non-partisan and does not endorse a specific candidate for office. For more information on this forum, contact the Historic Districts Council at 212-614-9107 or ftolbert@hdc.org.

As this issue of the Echo was being prepared for press another more general candidates' forum was announced for **Tuesday, February 13th** at the Church of the Evangel, 1950 Bedford Avenue (corner of Hawthorne St.). The exact time of the event has not been determined and will be circulated shortly. The Lefferts Manor Association, PLUS, PLG Arts, Ocean by the Park and PLGNA will co-sponsor this event.

Meet me at PLG Dinner Club

By Mark Dicus

PLG Dinner Club, a dinner series organized by Prospect Lefferts United for Services (PLUS), kicked off its inaugural event at **Ali's Roti Shop** (589 Flatbush Ave. b/w Midwood St. and Rutland Rd.) on Wednesday November 15th. Ali's served up a family style traditional Trinidadian dinner for ten local residents. The meal featured Trini Barbecue chicken, lentils, rice and peas, curried chicken, curried beef, curried goat, doubles, and the never to be missed macaroni pie.

The group spoke with Neisha and Dwayne, who acted as both hosts and chefs on this night, about what went into the meal. All of the baking and cooking is done on premises, so everything on the menu is hot and fresh. Prospect Lefferts Gardens is home to some of the best Caribbean food in New York City.

The goal of PLG Dinner Club is to introduce residents and restaurant owners to each other. For residents it is an opportunity to try something new, learn more about what goes into preparing the meal and to meet the people behind the delicious offerings. For restaurant owners it is a chance to make a slow night a busy night, to expand their customer base and learn more about their customers. PLUS hopes to make this a frequent event in the neighborhood.

If you are interested in attending the next PLG Dinner Club which is tentatively set for January or would like to help organize the next dinner, please contact Mark Dicus (m or 347-244-2763).

Announcing the Prospect Lefferts Gardens Baby-sitting Cooperative

by Elizabeth Hoyt

What is a Baby-sitting Coop? We are a group of parents who baby-sit for each other. We sit for each other using "Coop Dollars" instead of finding and paying for baby-sitters. We started up in May with a handful of families. As we grow, the pool of baby-sitters will grow, as will the opportunities to baby-sit for each other! Baby-sitting requests can be made to the group, or can be made to specific families with whom you have a relationship. To ensure the longevity of the Coop, members agree to be active with the Coop and attend the biannual meetings and the social events.

Who can join the Coop? Members must reside in Prospect Lefferts Gardens, although exceptions will be made on a case by case basis. Members also need to have an email address that they check frequently. **How do I join the Coop** and begin to exchange baby-sitting with other parents? All you need to do is email eliz.hoyt@gmail.com and give us your name and the email address you want us to use. Then you just need to meet with a current member in your home to review the Bylaws, and attend our next meeting! Dues are currently \$5/year to cover printing costs.

So far, there have been many exchanges, and it has been a rewarding beginning. If you like meeting and working with other parents, and would be interested in exchanging baby-sitting with other families, please contact us. We welcome your interest and your questions.

Caroling in PLG

On three nights in December, including Christmas Eve, carolers from PLG Arts could be seen and heard on several blocks in Lefferts Manor and throughout PLG. This promises to be the start of a new holiday tradition in our neighborhood.

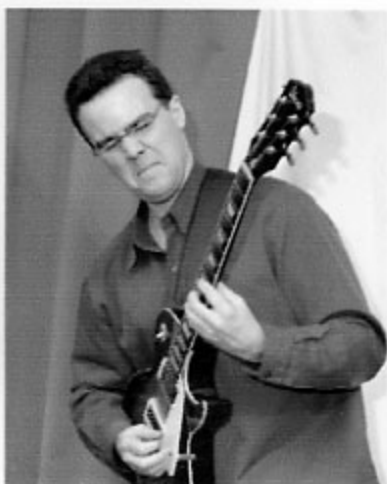


R. Marvin photographs



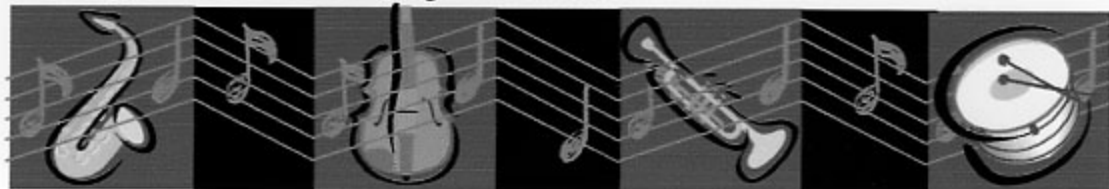
Jazz at the Inkwell

PLG Arts has started a new series of second Wednesday Jazz nights at the **Inkwell Cafe**, 408 Rogers Avenue, bet. Lefferts and Sterling. The first group to perform was the **Nick Moran Trio** on Jan 10, consisting of Nick Moran – guitar, Daniel Kelly- organ, and Chris Michael- drums. Other performances scheduled so far include the **Ocean Ave Jazz Project**, February 14; PLG Arts has started a new series of second Wednesday Jazz nights at the Inkwell Cafe; 408 Rogers Avenue, bet. Lefferts and Sterling. The first group to perform was the Nick Moran Trio on Jan 10, consisting of Nick Moran – guitar, Daniel Kelly- organ and Chris Michael- drums. Other performances include the **Ocean Ave Jazz Project**, February 14; **Steve Bernstein Duo**, March 14; and the **Adrian Mira Group**, April 11. All performances start at 8 PM and cost \$5, March 14. All performances start at 8 PM and cost \$5.



R. Marvin photographs

Above: Daniel Kelly, Center: Chris Michael, Right: Nick Moran



Birth Notice

Bill Griffin and Evelyn Guzman, of Midwood II, were recently thrilled to announce that their new babies arrived Saturday morning, December 2nd! Their daughter, Laila Simone was born at 9:39 AM, weighed 5 lbs 3 oz and was 18 inches long. Her slightly younger brother, Diego Thomas, was born at 11:46 AM, weighed 5 lb 2 oz and was 18.5 inches long.

Evelyn is an LMA Board member. She gamely attended our Fall membership meeting two weeks before the birth of her twins. Bill is the author of our popular *Police Blotter* feature



The *Echo* always welcomes happy news, such as the notice above, or sad news such as the notices printed below. Please send Emails to "Imaecho@earthlink.net" or contact editor Robert Marvin

Death Notices

Thomas Paisley of 36 Rutland Road passed on September 16, 2006 at age 76. He was a Korean War veteran who moved to the neighborhood 33 years ago. Tom's passion was music. His primary instrument was the clarinet though the saxophone, piccolo, and flute were not beyond his abilities. He toured the country with Fred Waring and the Pennsylvanians, played in the Metropolitan Offstage Orchestra and performed at Carnegie Hall a couple of times. He taught music at PS:76 in Harlem for many years, inspiring students with his music. In retirement he continued to play and perform with various bands and taught bands throughout the Catholic Diocese. His wife Clara remains a resident of Rutland Road.

Doris Corrine Raman of 65 Rutland Road passed on December 23rd, 2006 at age 77. Doris was born and raised in Brooklyn during the Depression. As a young girl she was a talented ballet and tap dancer who at age 10 was invited to perform at the 1939 World's Fair. Doris married Ray Raman in 1960 and they had two sons, Michael and Kevin, who turned into wonderful men. Doris' ultimate passion was teaching. She positively impacted hundreds upon hundreds of inner city children in the New York City Public School System. She received a citation for perfect attendance and was unwilling to retire even at the age of 77, a testament to her love of teaching and her students. Doris and her husband Ray are long time residents of Lefferts Manor and her funeral service was held in the neighborhood at the Church of the Evangel where Ray & Doris were married 46 years ago. (In memory of Doris, friends and neighbors are invited to make a donation to the Church of the Evangel for their upcoming parsonage renovation which can be noted on the memo line of a check.)

Lefferts Manor Association General Membership Meeting, October 14, 2006

from minutes taken by LMA Secretary Lucia Haring, with photographs by R. Edwards and R. Marvin

Location: Church of the Evangel

Began approx.: 10:30 AM, Adjourned approx.: 12:12 PM

§ **Welcome:** Ben Edwards called the meeting to order. No new neighbors in attendance, but one person attending his first meeting. Ben encourages people to sign up for committees. Introduces board members.

§ **Treasurer's Report:** Membership fees do not cover our expenses. \$18.34/member is our cost, but we only charge \$15/member. Starting in April we will raise membership dues to \$20, but retain the \$10 senior membership. We do receive donations. The house tour also generates a great deal of money but we are saving it in the bank. Year to date we have spent \$10 K and taken in \$12 K.

§ **Membership:** Evelyn Guzman asks people to fill out the survey to help us meet the needs of our members. We are currently at 238 members - 600 households in the Manor. Must join by Dec 1 to get a wreath this year. We have a new welcome packet we would like to deliver to new neighbors.

§ **Newsletter:** Bob Marvin's goal is 5 issues a year. An issue coming out this month [editor's note - this turned out to be wishful thinking]. In addition to distributing to every house in the Manor we are also asking volunteers on other blocks in PLG to distribute to their blocks. Send an email to lmsecho@earthlink.net.

§ **Safety:** Dan Shickler attends precinct meetings each month and tries to keep communication open. All crime trends are down and neighborhood continues to improve slowly.

§ **Sanitation:** Second Saturday litter pickup each month (May-September). To date we've done every block in the neighborhood. Lowe's donated safety vests - if you would like to borrow them let Paul Morin know. The Greenstreets triangle at Lincoln and Flatbush was cleaned several weeks ago. The Parks Dept. is donating flowers and plants and helping us keep it clean. We've asked the Sanitation Dept. to put a trash basket there soon. Sanitation will pick up leaves in appropriate bags on certain days. Some blocks are having group leaf pickups - Home Depot has donated the designated bags in the past. You can also get 5 free bags from the Botanic Garden next week.

§ **Flower Barrels and Wreaths:** Wreath distribution will be on Sat, Dec 2 - for members only. Membership deadline is Dec 1. The flower barrel project is not for members only - it is for all barrels lining the sidewalk. Last year we planted all sorts of pots on stoops and volunteers felt it was too much and awkward. Some residents were not happy that we cut back this year, but it is expensive and a lot of work for volunteers. We are going to encourage people to acquire barrels by having a raffle for 10 barrels in March.

§ **Special Events:** We will have a holiday party here on Dec 9 - potluck. We had a block party this summer on Rutland 1 - we are taking suggestions for changes for social events.

§ **Elections:** LMA has 15 board members that serve for 3-year terms. Ben Edwards, Jerry Bennett, Paul Morin and Martin Friedman stand for reelection. Steven McGill is standing for election - has served in the past as President. No nominations from the floor. Vote passes unanimously. We do this annually and encourage volunteers for the board - we are particularly interested in getting people from Lincoln and Fenimore.

§ **A representative of Marty Markowitz's office** has come to present a citation to Carole Schaffer thanking her for her work. Carole very touched and thanks all the people who have worked on the tour. Next year is June 3 - we are the second oldest house tour in Brooklyn. If you can't show your home there are plenty of other jobs and we welcome your help. Then a plaque is presented to Bob Marvin for his work on the house tour.

§ Ben Edwards recognizes **C. Karl Cohen President of 71st Precinct Community Council**. Looks forward to working with our neighborhood.

§ Representative from State Senator Carl Andrews' office says LMA boosts morale - keep up the work.

§ **71st Precinct** representatives Vinnie Martin - Community Affairs, and Captain Shouldis, Executive Officer. (Frank Vega was out of town. In the entire precinct crime is down 7%. As of Oct. 12, there were 182 index crimes in Manor Area - down 53 from the year before. One of the largest decreases is shooting incidents. Only 6 so far this year - too many but better. One homicide back in May - 1785 Bedford, A home invasion where Tiesha Sargent was murdered - an active case believed to be drug related. Call tips line if you have info. Jerry Kertels - serial burglar got 19 years in jail and should not be around for a while. 37 vs. 47 burglaries - down from last year. Almost all are apartment related - going through fire escapes. 50 Lefferts has experienced 3 burglaries this year. More on Ocean - 8 to date. Communication is the key to ending crime. Come to Precinct Council meeting to get a sense of bigger picture. Domestic Violence month in October. Assaults in Manor area are down but domestic violence is up. Shouldis thinks it is on the rise because people are realizing that they should speak up and call the police if things at home are not good. (735-5704) Gunshots in the night: There can be a 2-minute lag between the 911 call and the officers arriving. PLEASE CALL. The computer helps to track these things, but police need the notice. 59 gun arrests for the year. Narcotics team grabbed someone on Ocean and Lincoln last night. Foot patrol not as frequent as before - Impact not on Flatbush anymore (it's on Utica) but Insp. Vega has not forgotten Flatbush. Has a map - Parkside, Beekman and Chester seem to have the most shots fired calls. New cameras on Parkside, Hawthorne, Winthrop. No one is constantly watching them, but they can pull tapes if they think the camera caught something. We are one of the few commands in Brooklyn South with cameras. Drugs on Flatbush - the Narcotics team from 71st and Unit for Brooklyn South deal with drugs and guns. These 6 police officers have made 400 arrests, 60 or so on Flatbush. The Brooklyn South Narcotics team is out every night on Flatbush. A big problem but the team is working. Hair and Nail Salons and Laundering Drug Money - resident asks if there is a link? Shouldis does not know about this. Trucks and Trailers on Rogers: All night long - very loud. Shouldis will check the routes. Precinct has requested that the lights be changed. Shootings are up in the precinct about 5 a year. He has no statistics for past two months in reported shots. How effective are we in dealing with the problem? Call 911 every time you hear a gunshot. This helps them know where to put the people - technology used by army to triangulate the shots is about 15 years away. Are there cars that patrol so that we give out the sense that we don't tolerate this type of behavior? There are cruising cars. We are going to work on a map of the loitering with Dan Shickler. October 31 - Aware of the candy problem. Build it into the plan next year. Will let everyone know what is going on and will leave cops behind as cleanup detail. Council member Clarke can get candy for Halloween. She suggests the community begin talking about Halloween on Nov. 1.

§ **Legal Committee:** Roger Archibald discusses the eyesore that is 1860 Bedford Avenue. We have cleaned the graffiti, cut the weeds. We have cleaned the garbage. It is an eyesore and could be used for criminal activity. We are trying to meet with the property owner - he has refused. We have not been able to bring a lawsuit against him because he isn't invading other property owner's rights. We don't want to start litigation until we have a possible victory. He is looking for volunteers.

§ **Yvette Clarke** - Ours is one of the strongest communities in central Brooklyn. Congratulations for being engaged in the battle. Lots of young people who are not engaged positively in the system - they've been messed up with the law. How can we begin to address this? Call in the problems so that there can be a consequence to their actions. Serious issue of gun trafficking. We need to deluge congress with complaints of guns. Thanks to community for support and encouragement during the primary. Election on Nov. 7.



L to R, Ben Edwards, Capt. Shouldis, Carole Schaffer, Robert Marvin, C. Karl Cohen, Yvette Clark

Save the Date!

The Spring Lefferts Manor Association Membership Meeting will be held on April 21st.

The 71st Precinct Community Council

meets on the third Thursday of each month, except for July and August, at the 71st Precinct, 421 Emptre Blvd, at New York Avenue. All concerned residents of our neighborhood are urged to attend.

the remaining schedule for this year is as follows:

Thursday, February 15, 2007
 Thursday, March 15, 2007
 Thursday, April 19, 2007
 Thursday, May 17, 2007
 Thursday, June 21, 2007
 Thursday, September 20, 2007
 Thursday, October, 18, 2007
 Thursday November 15, 2007
 Thursday December 20, 2007

Concerned About Your Well Being? The 71st Precinct Is!

You can keep yourself and your family protected

§ Keep con artists and intruders away from your home and property

§ Learn how to protect your auto from vandalism and theft

§ Participate in your precinct's crime prevention programs

§ Come speak to your precinct commanding officer at the monthly precinct community council meetings

§ To learn more about these and other crime prevention techniques contact your precinct's Crime Prevention Officer for tips and a FREE crime prevention survey

71 Precinct	(718)735-0511
Crime Prevention	(718) 735-0528
Community Affairs	(718)735-0527
Detective Unit	(718) 735-0500
Emergency Situations	911
Quality of Life	311
Conditions	

Frustrated by having your car blocked by double parked cars?

There's no magic solution, but a little courtesy goes a long way. For many years the Police have "tolerated" double parking during the "alternate side" street cleaning hours (yes, you *can* get a ticket, but usually will not). The common practice is to leave a card on your dashboard with your address or phone number in case a neighbor needs to contact you so they can move their car. Recently, we've noticed that many people do not leave this information in their cars when double parking. Perhaps this card, which can be cut out or copied will help:

Parking Aide



**Sorry if I'm blocking your car.
I'm at:**



Address OR Phone Number

Art at K-Dog

K-Dog and Dunebuggy Cafe at 43 Lincoln Road, has had a series of monthly art shows since shortly after their opening last March. Since the shows mentioned in the last issue of the Echo, K-Dog has had shows of Paintings by **Karl McIntosh**, baby portraits by **Tami Cohn**, for **BABYFACE Portraits** (www.babyfacepainting.com), and a two-artist show of paintings by **Rachel Ostrow** (whose previous show was K-Dog's first) and photographs by **Steffie Kinglake**.

The current show, hung as this issue of the Echo was going to press, consists of paintings by **Barthlemy Atsin**. A 2002 graduate of Marymount Manhattan College with a BA in Theatre Arts and Studio Arts, Atsin has had several previous art exhibitions in Manhattan and Brooklyn including participation in the Black Cacus Corporation Art Show 2003 at the Marriot Marquis Times Square. Atsin's website is: batsin.com.



Above: *Raphael*, by Tami Cohn; Right: painting by Barthlemy Atsin.

Other Events at K-Dog

PLG Adult Book Club

Come and join our lively book discussion @ K-Dog. All discussions meet the third weekend of every month. January: Maya Angelo. To learn more please contact: **Debbie Hamilton** at dph207@msn.com.

PLG Teen Book Club

Ages 14-17 Group meets in January to discuss book choices. First group discussion in February @ K-Dog. Contact **Debbie Hamilton**: dph207@msn.com. Parents e-mail Ms. Hamilton and inquire about her motivation behind this project. Authors to explore: Toni Morrison, Edgar Allen Poe, Julio Cortazar, Franz Kafka, Mark Twain, Daniel Defoe, Martin Luther King Jr., Virginia Woolf, Homer, E.T.A. Hoffman. Join, learn and share individual perspectives of each reader about each author.



Maple Street School Plants Spring Bulbs

photographs by R. Marvin

The Maple Street School obtained daffodil bulbs from the same Parks Department source as those planted by LMA (article, p. 3). On November 10th The children planted them in Prospect Park, near the Lincoln Road entrance.

