

Jersey City mayor sues over police action Jersey City Mayor Jerramiah Healy has sued the town of Bradley Beach and several of its police officers over an incident outside a bar two years ago. Healy and wife Maureen claim their rights were violated when the officers subdued them after he tried to mediate a dispute between another man and his girlfriend. AP

News



“People gave Adam Heng their life savings, and in his sick greed, he robbed them blind.”
Brooklyn DA Charles J. Hynes on a stock scam in which Adam Heng allegedly created a phony investment firm and stole \$540,000 from investors.

Don't feed the fish
The queen of this year's Mermaid Parade in Coney Island is going on a hunger strike to protest the rapid gentrification of the landmark neighborhood. Artist Savitri D will start her hunger strike during the parade Saturday. METRO/AA

‘Tale of two MTAs’ in flap over buses to boss’ mall

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The MTA played favorites in deciding to send three Queens bus routes to a distant shopping mall owned by MTA Chairman Dale Hemmerdinger, City Council members said Thursday.

The Shops at Atlas Park in Glendale belongs to Hemmerdinger's ATCO Properties, and his son Damon is its development director.

The mall was already served by the Q29 bus last summer, when the Q54 also began to make the trip.

Within days of Hemmerdinger's confirmation in October, a study of Q54 ridership was undertaken, and soon the MTA recommended extending the Q45 so passengers could be let off at Atlas Park. Another proposal to reroute the Q23 was later rejected.

Residents who opposed the new bus routes cried foul. But NYC Transit planning chief Peter Cafiero told a Council hearing that requests for the enhanced service were received as early as 2005.

“There are lots of allegations that there are preferences,” said Councilman

Cuomo E-ZPass threat

State Attorney General Andrew Cuomo is warning MTA board members that he will sue them if they persist in using free E-ZPass toll payment tags and other transit passes for personal reasons. Cuomo was responding to published reports that some of the MTA's 22 board members would oppose a restriction on their personal use of subway and commuter rail passes and free E-ZPass tags. AP

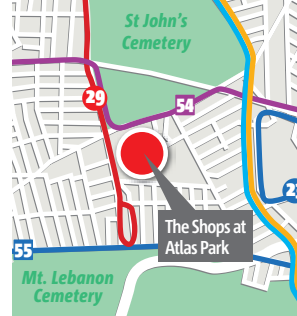
John Liu, who called the three buses stopping at one mall “overkill.” He asked NYC Transit officials to produce copies of all requests for enhanced bus service during the last three years.

Liu noticed the Shops at Atlas Park now appears on bus maps. Cafiero responded by pointing to Spring

Creek's Gateway Center Mall, which is on the map and served by two buses.

But not all malls are created equal, said Staten Island Councilman Vincent Ignizio, who unsuccessfully lobbied to extend the S74 to the Bricktown mall. “It seems like a tale of two MTAs,” Ignizio said.

At his service



There could soon be three Queens buses bringing people to the Shops at Atlas Park, a mall owned by MTA Chairman Dale Hemmerdinger.



Ryan

Big break in ‘suicide’ swindler case

WHITE PLAINS. Missing hedge fund swindler Samuel Israel III went on the run in a white recreational vehicle carrying a motor scooter, the feds said Thursday after arresting his girlfriend.

The girlfriend, Debra Ryan, admitted that she helped Israel pack up the RV and saw him park it on a highway rest area on June 9, the day he was supposed to report to federal prison for the start of a 20-year term. Ryan's statement is the first big break announced in the case since Israel's SUV was found on a Hudson River bridge with “Suicide is Painless” etched in dust on the hood. AP

350 Number of violations police have found when it comes to gas station rip-offs during a sweep of 1,000 gas stations across the state. AP

Ft. Dix suspect: Drop-al-Qaida talk

NEWARK, N.J. One of the men accused of plotting to kill soldiers at Fort Dix asked a federal judge Thursday to drop references to al-Qaida and other “inflammatory” language from an indictment and dismiss a number of the charges.

The pretrial filing by Dritan Duka also said a federal jury should not hear statements he made to the FBI following his arrest in which he discussed access to weapons. AP

Union Square We come in peace



“Tumbling Mirages,” a public art installation by Dennis Oppenheim, will be on display at the southeast triangle of the park through Nov. 9 as part of the city's art initiative. Oppenheim's piece consists of three gigantic 15-foot-wide steel spheres.

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Roberta Flack will introduce musical acts at Central Park's Naumberg Bandshell at 2 p.m.

From Bronx to S.I., city gets a day of music to remember

MANHATTAN. The city that never pipes down is getting a whole lot louder this Saturday — and making some history. The largest music event ever to grace Gotham strikes up at 11 a.m. for a day sure to make uptown, downtown, and literally all around town boogey down.

All five boroughs of New York will host a record 887 bands and 3,200 musicians. An expected crowd of 250,000 will pack the streets for music of practi-

cally every genre — punk, Chinese opera, hip-hop and Tuvan throat-singing, to name only a few.

Musicians both unknown and well known will take part in the festival, from high school bands to the New York Philharmonic. For a complete listing of performing artists, pick up Metro's special Make Music New York edition or visit MakeMusicNY.org.

S. SPENCER SCOTT/METRO

News in brief

LAWUIT. Relatives of an English tourist killed by a garbage truck near Madison Square Garden filed a wrongful-death lawsuit against the driver and his employer. Irvington, N.J., resident Auvryn Scarlett and Newark-based Action Carting Environmental Services Inc. are names as defendants. AP

EMPLOYMENT. New York's seasonally adjusted employment rate increased to 5.2 percent in May, up from 4.7 in April and the largest month-to-month increase since January 1991. The rate was 4.5 percent last May. AP

News in brief

NYU. The state's Historic Preservation Office deemed the Provincetown Playhouse eligible for national landmark status Thursday — but that night, Community Board 2 gave the go ahead for NYU to tear down the five-story building. METRO/PA

Cheap date



Katrina Chalifoux of Rockford, Ill., won \$1,000 at the fourth annual Cheap Toilet Paper Wedding Dress Contest Thursday for the above beauty. Only Charmin toilet paper, tape and glue were used for this definitely white wedding.

SOURCE: CHEAP-CHIC-WEDDINGS.COM