

WOODSIDE HERALD

SERVING SUNNYSIDE-WOODSIDE AND LONG ISLAND CITY

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WOODSIDE, L.I.C., N.Y. FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2022

FREE

Call To Fix Woodside Houses Heating Plant



On Tuesday, October 5th, Council Member Julie Won held an emergency press conference with Senator Jessica Ramos, Senator Michael Gianaris, Assemblymember Jessica González-Rojas, Woodside Houses Tenants Association President Ann Cotton Morris, SCS Cornerstone Program Director Diane Adlam, and residents, calling on the New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) to permanently fix Woodside Houses' damaged heating plant. Since August 2021, residents at NYCHA Woodside Houses have been living without regular heat and hot water after Hurricane Ida flooded the main building where the heating plant was stored. Additionally, NYCHA promised to repair the heating plant by April 2022, but that promise has not been kept. NYCHA provided temporary mobile boiler units during the winter, but residents complained that they lost heat at least 11 times and were left without hot water at least 21 times. On Tuesday, October 4th, Woodside Houses residents experienced the latest heat and hot water outage of the mobile boiler units, but NYCHA resolved the issue.

"Heat and hot water are basic human necessities that NYCHA is legally required to provide to their residents," said Council Member Julie Won. "We stood in this same spot last winter where NYCHA promised to fix the heating plant by April. It is now October, and Woodside Houses residents are now facing another brutal winter without heat and hot water. We demand that NYCHA fix the heating plant immediately and provide a timeline for when the repairs will be finished."

"I wish we could say these heating issues at Woodside Houses stemmed from Hurricane Ida, but the reality is the tenants here have been dealing with this for as long as I can remember. As a child in the neighborhood, I would have to wear a coat indoors during my playdates with friends who lived here. Every other landlord in the city is held to the expectation that they maintain humane and dignified heating standards, why should NYCHA be an exception? This is a naturally occurring retirement community - a failure to provide heat and hot water is a matter of the health and safety of our elders. The state secured \$350 million in the last budget for NYCHA repairs, we demand that the City and NYCHA do their part and treat them with the respect they deserve," said State Senator Jessica Ramos.

"Months-long utility outages are unacceptable for any New Yorker, whether in private or public housing. NYCHA

residents should not be expected to pay full rent, which typically includes utilities, when they are not receiving service. My NYCHA Utility Accountability Act would ensure we treat all our neighbors with respect and create financial urgency for NYCHA to make needed repairs faster. Let's get this done and deliver what Woodside Houses residents deserve," said Senate Deputy Leader Michael Gianaris.

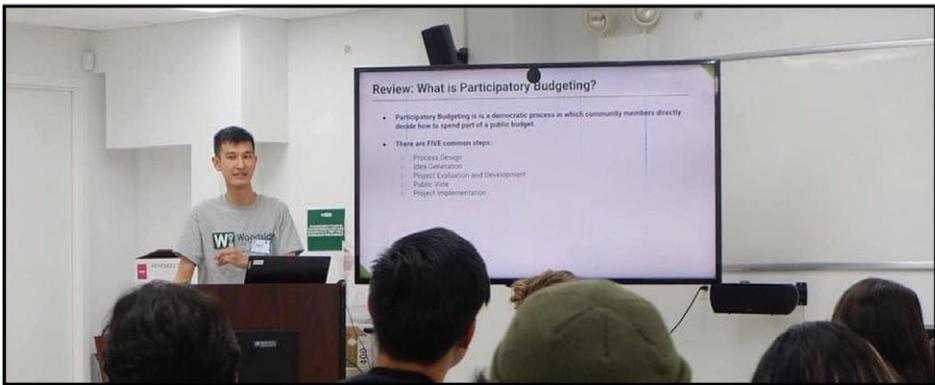
"For years, my colleagues and I have been arguing with two mayors and their teams regarding the repeated no heat and no hot water complaints at Woodside Houses," said Assemblymember Brian Bamwell. "Instead of the City resolving the issue, we have been ignored and yelled at by their staff for making complaints. The problem has only become worse and people are suffering. Woodside Houses residents are being treated like second-class citizens and we are asking the Mayor to resolve this issue immediately."

"Just as the weather gets colder, families at Woodside Houses are once again dealing with the loss of heat and hot water," said Judy Zangwill, Executive Director, Sunnyside Community Services. "Tenants, including the children we serve at the Woodside Houses Community Center, deserve better. I am especially concerned about the continued hardships young people are facing and the impact that will have on their learning. The residents of Woodside Houses should not continually be left out in the cold. We call on NYCHA to find a permanent solution to this problem."

"When NYCHA told us that the heat came back on, about an hour later, I got heat in my bedroom. I called around the community and heard that people still weren't getting their heat, and it is freezing in these apartments," said Woodside Tenants Association President Ann Cotton Morris. "Please help us with the heat. We have a lot of older seniors living in this building, I'm one of them, and they need the heat. We pay our rent, and we should get heat. We are residents of this building and we should get all that we pay for"

"Woodside Houses is home to a lot of senior residents, including me, and we don't want to go through another winter without the heat. We are all human and deserve the heat and hot water that we pay for and are supposed to have," said senior Woodside Houses resident Jean Chappell.

PARTICIPATORY BUDGET



WOTM had a successful New York City Civic Engagement Commission at The People's Money Idea Generation Session last Wednesday at our office in Woodside! Members of our community were able to brainstorm and reimagine city services, initiatives, and learn more about our city's budget.

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WHEN YOUR FRIENDS DO NOT UNDERSTAND YOUR MENTAL HEALTH CONDITION

by Stan Popovich

Do you struggle with your mental health and have a difficult time in getting the people you know to be more understanding? In some cases, your colleagues might give you a hard time regarding your anxieties and depression. As a result, here are seven suggestions on how to deal with the people you know regarding your mental health issues.

- 1. Listen to the professionals and not your friends:** Your peers may mean well, but when it comes down to it, the professionals are aware of your circumstances more than anyone. A counselor knows what you are going through and can help you deal with your problems. When you have questions about your mental health, consult with a therapist.
 - 2. Don’t argue with others:** It is important that you do not get into arguments with those who are giving you a rough time. Your number one priority is to get relief from your anxieties. It is not your job to worry about how others may view your circumstances. Your health is more important than what other people may think.
 - 3. Your goal is to get better:** Concentrate on how you can face your fears and anxieties. Don’t waste your time arguing with your colleagues who are giving you a difficult time. This isn’t a public relations event where you need to get approval from everyone. This is your life and you are the one suffering. Your main focus is to get better.
 - 4. Tell your friends to learn about your situation:** Explain to your peers that the best way for them to help you is to learn about your mental health issues. They could talk to a counselor, read some good books, or join a support group to better understand your situation. If your friends won’t make an effort, then stay away from them because they will only make things worse.
 - 5. Distance yourself from those who give you a difficult time:** Distance yourself from those who won’t make an effort to help understand what you are going through. You need to surround yourself with positive and supportive people. If you have problems or issues with a particular person, you can always ask a counselor for advice.
 - 6. You are not alone:** It can be very frustrating to manage your fear related issues when the people you know are on your case. Remember, you are not alone. There are millions of people around the world who struggle with their fears, anxieties, and depression. The key is to find those people who can relate to you through various organizations in your area.
 - 7. Join a local mental health support group:** There are many mental health awareness support groups in your area. Many hospitals, churches, and counselors in your area will be able to provide you with a list of these organizations. These groups will be aware of your situation and can give you additional advice regarding your problems.
- In addition, talk to a professional who can help relieve your depression and anxieties. They will be able to provide you with suggestions and insights on how to deal with your current problem.

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WHAT’S GOOD IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

by Dr. Sharon M. Cadiz

There are some wonderful programs available in our local communities. They are focused on enhancing the quality of life for residents and promoting proactive strategies that are worth noting. New York City Sanitation is urging folks to separate leaf and yard waste, food scraps and food-soiled paper, and compostable items such as egg shells, coffee grounds and peels from regular trash. Besides the environmental benefits of reducing unmanageable amounts of garbage in landfills and recycling organic waste, the initiative seeks to reduce opportunities for rats to feed off of food waste. Curbside Composting pick up started October 3rd. To find out more, you can call 311 or go to nyc.gov/CurbsideComposting. Also, prompted by incidents of street crime, a volunteer program called “SafeWalks NYC” offers accompanied walks to and from home for those who don’t feel safe walking alone. The program began in Brooklyn and has spread city-wide to now include Queens. Volunteers are also available for walks to vaccination appointments. For more information, you can go to team@safewalk.com or safewalk.com. Those in need of the service are asked to fill out their Google form and give at least 40 minutes notice. Perhaps you know someone who needs the service, but who is not able to access the information on a computer or device. In that instance, you may be able to support them by helping them get connected. Another program provides free and secure Uber rides for women, elderly or disabled. One can apply by reaching out to bit.ly/AAFUber. Again, seniors or others may have difficulty and require assistance with linking to this service. Everyone who helps in this way is also a volunteer. Support with violence for persons who may have a physical challenge or are wheelchair bound is available through the Barrier Free Living program. They can be reached at (212) 533-4358 or online at bflnyc.org. If you or someone you know needs someone to talk to, you can reach out to 1-800-LIFENET or NYC Well at 1-888-NYC-WELL for confidential and free mental health services or referral. A cleaner, safer and healthier New York is available with New Yorkers helping each other.

WOMEN ON THE RISE

by Dr. Sharon M. Cadiz

There appears to be an energetic change underway that is being driven by women and their allies. Perhaps the most prominent example of this can be found in the news reports of women in Iran defying cultural, religious and governmental oppression. The massive displays of public protest are being shown worldwide and many more are joining these women in solidarity. The catalyst for this dramatic display of defiance was the murder of a 22 year old Kurdish woman who was in custody for violating the female dress code. Even before this appeared in the news, women in the United States took to the streets to protest the overturning of Roe vs. Wade that put a woman’s reproductive rights in question by making it more a matter of governmental control than personal choice. Pro-Life Senate candidate in Georgia, Hershel Walker, was blasted in the news for allegedly paying for a girlfriend’s abortion. When the story surfaced, he denied it in spite of the fact that the woman shared a get well card from him and evidence of the money he gave her for the abortion. Hypocrisy and exploitation might be among the ‘last straws’ for women who are rising up and taking action. In each instance, it seems that women have decided that each blow to their rights is one too many.

Just last week, I read an article that highlighted that women have won a majority of seats in the City Council. Speaker Adrienne Adams is quoted as saying, “We won a historic 31 seats in the New York City Council, allowing women to achieve the representation in city government that we always strive for and that we deserve. The 31 women members who make up our majority come from all corners of our great city.” The group identified as being responsible for this dramatic shift was formerly called “21 in 21,” founded in 2017 by Elizabeth Crowley. Based on the success of the group’s efforts, they have now changed their name to “The New Majority NYC.” The push and pull of this political shift is proof of some changing dynamics. This kind of change is happening in the midst of overt actions across the country that seek to suppress voter turnout. Voter suppression, gerrymandering, redistricting maps and the high-end financial backing of selected candidates are all strategies being used to affect political outcomes; however, there has also been an eye-opening surge in awareness of these things led by people like Stacey Abrams and others. It appears that women are stepping up and taking a lead in transforming the ingrained forms of oppression and gender bias.

October is “Domestic Violence Awareness Month” and although women are not the only victims of domestic violence, a vast majority are represented among those who are impacted by power and control dynamics that can lead to intimate partner abuse or how key government leaders worldwide implement the use of power and control to govern and oppress others; whether it is based on making distinctions about the treatment of ethnic minorities; racial or gender defined groups. The goal appears to be one of domination based on suppressing basic human rights. The current global trend toward the use of power and control can be seen in the Russian invasion of Ukraine; and the recent North Korean ballistic missile launch over Japan. Footage of military displays of weaponry seem to be clear efforts to intimidate and threaten others with a show of power and might. Recalibrating the human dynamics to reflect more of what we know about life sustaining values and actions is definitely what is called for to redirect the global push toward power based on control and force.

The tragedy in Indonesia at a soccer

match where 125 people were killed because of the panic response produced when police fired tear gas for the purpose of crowd control, shows the cost of not changing our behavior. Here again, the use of control prompted fear and a primal response that led to a stampede that resulted in the tragic deaths of these people. Solutions must go beyond simply blaming. I mention these examples from the news to show the global dimension of a major problem that we face. I am highlighting an emerging role of women, even though clearly all women may not possess the ability to guide us toward a better way of addressing the human condition. However, as a group that has suffered some of the worst from being exploited, dominated, disempowered and discriminated against, women who have been enlightened or informed by their struggles can perhaps sympathetically guide us to some new territory regarding humane treatment and the formation of just societies focused on a life sustaining future. We all can benefit from learning new ways to honor the life we are given and to promote the values of peace, unity and a mutual regard for the sanctity of life and the planet.

We probably need to reprogram some of the thinking that makes women the property of a person or a government. This past weekend, I attended a wedding and as I watched the ceremony, I heard the bride hesitate over reciting the words, “honor and obey.” I was not alone in noticing as she paused and almost gave a chuckle as if to challenge the thought. Those assembled gave their own response in unison with a little laugh. I recall presenting at a conference in Puerto Rico many years ago, a short time after the wedding of my daughter. Another presenter at the conference spoke about the fact that our marriage ritual is actually a business transaction. Because my daughter was recently married, I thought about this more and how the words of traditional ceremonies ask, “Who gives this woman.” In reflection, I recalled that my daughter and her husband had gone to City Hall, so that didn’t come up, but fast forwarding to this past weekend and the instance of the bride hearing the words “honor and obey,” I thought that it probably sounded like a service contract to her. She is an accomplished woman and a product of a new age of self-empowerment, so that may explain her pause and deliberation over this archaic phrase.

I am both excited and hopeful about our future because women are showing up and showing out for our mutual benefit. Seeing the new film, “The Woman King” set in the 1800’s about an elite group of all-female warriors who served to protect the African kingdom of Dahomey, will likely galvanize a spirit of fierce determination among women who see the power and courage that these women displayed. Even though the film highlights female power within the construct of traditional power and control that historically is at the center of war and domination, I believe that it shows the capacity of women to be triumphant even under the worst conditions of subjugation. I invite us all to stay focused on the new possibilities for a safer, more just world that includes the leadership and guidance of women.

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WOODSIDE HOUSE



Sunnyside Community Services thanks Con Edison who has awarded their Cornerstone Community Center at Woodside Houses with a \$15,000 grant. Thanks to their generous support, we will continue to support the community at Woodside Houses, including assisting young people on their path to academic success.


VENDOR JUSTICE



WOTM marched with the NYC Street Vendor Justice Coalition and allies last Thursday to demand New York City Council Mayor Eric Adams more investment, resources and stability for our NYC street vendors. They are a fabric of our city and they deserve the same dignity and respect just like everyone else.

NYC STREET VENDOR JUSTICE COALITION DEMANDS

- 1 ENSURE ALL VENDORS CAN ACCESS PERMITS & LICENSES
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MY FAVORITE MEAL

by Rix Quinn

Here’s a great question from a Texas reader: “Why is the pizza round, the box square, and the slices cut into triangles?” This is a complicated question for me. In school, I had so much trouble with geometry they put me in a simpler class called “Meet Mr. Number Guy.” So, I asked several people about this, and here’s what they told me (What they didn’t tell me, I made up).

First, the square box. These are easier and less expensive because they can be made from one sheet of flat cardboard. That means they can be stored easier, too.

This is just basic logic. It’s like asking “Why are wheels round?” Wheels are round because square wheels don’t get good mileage.

So – regarding roundness – why are pizzas that way? I’m told that chefs stretch pizza by taking a lump of dough, and spinning it in the air.

Centrifugal force rounds the dough out. I tried to spin pizza dough, but I dropped it on the floor, which sadly just flattened it.

Finally, why is round pizza cut into triangles? Slicing triangles is the easiest way to divide a circle. This way, pizza can be divided evenly, and each person gets some crust.

But, did you know that in ancient times, pizza resembled a flatbread cooked in an oven? Flat, rectangular pizza has some advantages, too. For instance, if you don’t like crust, you can eat a juicy middle piece filled with toppings.

Writing about pizza made me so hungry, I bought myself a big round one. I’ll enjoy it for dinner tonight...and maybe tomorrow morning with coffee, too.

LACE UP

7 A.M.



LaGuardia Community Run

Saturday, October 22nd, 2022

To register visit www.laguardia.edu/5k/.
LaGuardia Community College Parking Lot*
(no vehicles allowed in lot on event day),
47th Avenue and 29th Street, Long Island City

LaGuardia Community College/CUNY is hosting the inaugural LaGuardia Community Run, a 5K and fitness celebration open to runners and walkers of all levels ages 7 and older. The route goes from the LaGuardia Community College campus, through the Long Island City neighborhood to Hunters Point South on the East River Waterfront, and back to LaGuardia. An activities plaza will feature refreshments, face painting, and other activities. Sponsors and small businesses will have tables showcasing their products and services. The post-event celebration and entertainment is free and open to the public. Proceeds will support LaGuardia students as scholarships, grants, emergency funds and more, through the LaGuardia Community College Foundation.

Hispanic Heritage Celebration

Tuesday, October 11, 6–8pm

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SUMMONS WITH NOTICE: BAILON Vs.RESTREPO, SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, COUNTY OF QUEENS; INDEX NO.714612/22; DAVID BAILON,Plaintiff,againstCRUZ ELENA RESTREPO, Defendant; Summons with Notice in divorce action; venue based upon Plaintiff’s residence, cause of action is abandonment. You are summoned to appear in this action by serving a Notice of Appearance on the Plaintiff’s attorney, Thomas P.McNulty, Esq., 305 Broadway, 7th.Floor, New York, NY.10007, tel.(917)215-0850 within 30 days after service is completed, and if you fail to appear, judgment will be taken against you by default. To the above named Defendant, the Summons is served upon you by Order of Hon.Maureen McHugh Heitner, a justice of this court, granted on September 19, 2022. The nature of the ancillary relief demanded is: The Defendant may resume use of her maiden name, Restrepo, or any other former surname. The provisions of DRL Sec.236 Part B Section 2 (Automatic Orders Notice), DRL Sec.255 (Health Insurance Notice), Notice of Guideline Maintenance and Notice of Electronic Filing shall apply. The court shall grant such other and further relief as it may deem just and proper. The relief sought is a Judgment of Divorce. 9/30/22, 10/7/22, 10/14/22

Supplemental Summons and Notice of Object of Action Supreme Court Of The State Of New York County Of Queens Action to Foreclose a Mortgage Index #: 709338/2022 Bank Of America, N.A. Plaintiff, vs Lisa O’Neal As Heir To The Estate Of Mireya O’Neal, Gina O’Neal As Heir To The Estate Of Mireya O’Neal, Unknown Heirs Of Mireya O’Neal If Living, And If He/She Be Dead, Any And All Persons Unknown To Plaintiff, Claiming, Or Who May Claim To Have An Interest In, Or General Or Specific Lien Upon The Real Property Described In This Action; Such Unknown Persons Being Herein Generally Described And Intended To Be Included In Wife, Widow, Husband, Widower, Heirs At Law, Next Of Kin, Descendants, Executors, Administrators, Devisees, Legatees, Creditors, Trustees, Committees, Lienors, And Assignees Of Such Deceased, Any And All Persons Deriving Interest In Or Lien Upon, Or Title To Said Real Property By, Through Or Under Them, Or Either Of Them, And Their Respective Wives, Widows, Husbands, Widowers, Heirs At Law, Next Of Kin, Descendants, Executors, Administrators, Devisees, Legatees, Creditors, Trustees, Committees, Lienors, And Assigns, All Of Whom And Whose Names, Except As Stated, Are Unknown To Plaintiff, New York

City Housing Authority, City Register Of The City Of New York, County Of Queens, United States Of America Acting Through The Secretary Of Housing And Urban Development, New York City Parking Violations Bureau, People Of The State Of New York, United States Of America Acting Through The IRS John Doe (Those unknown tenants, occupants, persons or corporations or their heirs, distributees, executors, administrators, trustees, guardians, assignees, creditors or successors claiming an interest in the mortgaged premises.) Defendant(s). Mortgaged Premises: 104-60 219th Street Queens Village, NY 11429 To the Above named Defendant: You are hereby summoned to answer the Complaint in this action, and to serve a copy of your answer, or, if the Complaint is not served with this Supplemental Summons, to serve a notice of appearance, on the Plaintiff(s) attorney(s) within twenty days after the service of this Supplemental Summons, exclusive of the day of service (or within 30 days after the service is complete if this Supplemental Summons is not personally delivered to you within the State of New York). In case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the Complaint. The Attorney for Plaintiff has an office for business in the County of Erie.

Trial to be held in the County of Queens. The basis of the venue designated above is the location of the Mortgaged Premises. TO Unknown Heirs of Mireya O’Neal, Defendant In this Action. The foregoing Supplemental Summons is served upon you by publication, pursuant to an order of HON. Kevin J. Kerrigan of the Supreme Court Of The State Of New York, dated the Twenty-Ninth day of August, 2022 and filed with the Complaint in the Office of the Clerk of the County of Queens, in the City of Jamaica. The object of this action is to foreclose a mortgage upon the premises described below, dated December 23, 2009, executed by Mireya O’Neal (who died on November 11, 2021, a resident of the county of Queens, State of New York) to secure the sum of \$525,000.00. The Mortgage was recorded at CRFN 2010000013268 in the City Register of the City of New York, Queens County on January 13, 2010. The mortgage was subsequently assigned by an assignment executed October 9, 2012 and recorded on October 24, 2012, in the City Register of the City of New York, Queens County at CRFN 2012000421112. The mortgage was subsequently assigned by an assignment executed May 22, 2017 and recorded on May 25, 2017, in the City Register of the City of New York, Queens County at CRFN 2017000197603; The property in

question is described as follows: 104-60 219th Street, Queens Village, NY 11429 NOTICE YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME If you do not respond to this summons and complaint by serving a copy of the answer on the attorney for the mortgage company who filed this foreclosure proceeding against you and filing the answer with the court, a default judgment may be entered and you can lose your home. Speak to an attorney or go to the court where your case is pending for further information on how to answer the summons and protect your property. Sending a payment to your mortgage company will not stop this foreclosure action. YOU MUST RESPOND BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF (MORTGAGE COMPANY) AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT. DATED: August 31, 2022 Gross Polowy, LLC Attorney(s) For Plaintiff(s) 1775 Wehrle Drive, Suite 100 Williamsville, NY 14221 The law firm of Gross Polowy, LLC and the attorneys whom it employs are debt collectors who are attempting to collect a debt. Any information obtained by them will be used for that purpose. 73428 9/16/22, 9/23/22, 9/30/22, 10/7/22



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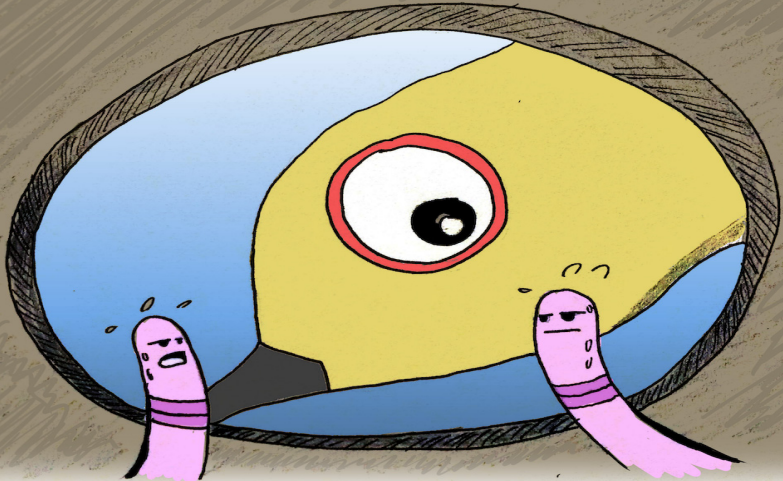
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—Sean Medina

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