

VOL. 91 NO. 24

WOODSIDE, L.I.C., N.Y. FRIDAY, JUNE 14, 2024

**FREE** 



### TENANTS AFFECTED BY SUNNYSIDE FIRE CALL ON LANDLORD TO

## EXTEND TEMPORARY LEASES

On Saturday, June 8, Council Member Julie Won, Congresswoman Nydia Velazquez, local nonprofits, and tenants of 43-09 47th Ave. in Sunnyside rallied at the site of the 5-alarm fire of December 20, 2023, to call on A&E Real Estate Holdings, to extend tenants' temporary leases. Families and individuals from at least 28 units affected by the fire accepted relocation to other A&E-owned apartment buildings across New York City and are at risk of losing their homes for a second time if A&E does not extend the leases, which end on July 2, 2024. Council Member Won demanded that A&E reconsider their decision to terminate the temporary leases and make every effort to assist displaced tenants to move back to Sunnyside into A&E properties until construction is completed at 43-09 47th Ave.

Following the fire, A&E offered tenants the option of signing a temporary relocation license agreement for "up to 6 months if needed," allowing them to rent apartments at other A&E properties at the same monthly rate they had paid at 43-09 47th Ave. Despite telling tenants that they may be able to move back to their homes before the end of the six months or that A&E would "work with them if they needed more time," the landlord shared plans to terminate these relocation agreements, raising rents on the tenants that accepted their initial offer. Furthermore, some tenants of 45-09 47th Ave. became homeless after the fire, despite vacant units owned by A&E in Sunnyside reportedly being listed on the open market.

On March 20, 2024, Council Member Won, Congresswoman Nydia Velázquez, Senator Michael Gianaris, and Queens Borough President Donovan Richards wrote a letter to A&E Executive Chairman Douglas F. Eisenberg outlining these demands. A&E ignored the letter and did not provide a response. "I call on A&E to do the right thing and extend temporary leases for the 28 households who were displaced by the Sunnyside fire. After our neighbors spent the last 171 days rebuilding their lives, it would be beyond cruel to displace them a second time. A&E should extend the 6-month temporary lease agreements until it completes construction at 43-09 47th Ave," said Council Member Julie Won. "Our neighbors lost their homes through no fault of their own and should not be displaced again and again. I will continue to work with the tenants and every level of government until every single tenant can move back home."

"I am heartbroken for the residents still impacted following last winter's fire in Sunnyside," said Senate Deputy Leader Michael Gianaris. "I will continue to work with these families to do everything I can to support them, and that includes calling on A&E to do the right thing and find them housing while their homes are rebuilt."

"Sunnyside Community Services stands with the former residents in calling for an extension of their temporary leases in order for these families to have some stability. Members of the SCS senior center and children from our youth programs were forced out of their homes when this fire occurred. We worked with them through the shock and trauma as this community rallied together to support them. Further hurt could be avoided by simply extending the leases while renovations to the building continue," said Judy Zangwill, executive director, Sunnyside Community Services.







# Attorneys – at – Law MARC CRAWFORD LEAVITT PAUL E. KERSON TALI B. SEHATI APRIL DE DELY, PARALEGAL

#### **NEW OFFICES:**

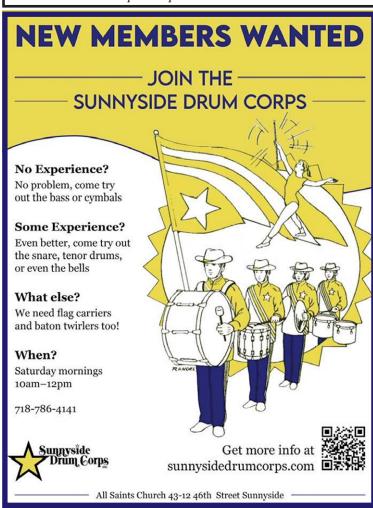
68-61 Yellowstone Blvd., Suite 116 Forest Hills, NY 11375 718-729-0986

We remain available to meet with clients in Sunnyside/Woodside by appointment

MIDTOWN OFFICE: 1700 BROADWAY, 41st floor, NYC, NY 11109

**Serving the Community Since 1947** 

We speak Spanish & Hebrew







11 Greenpoint Ave., Sunnyside, NY 11104 Telephone (718) 729-3772

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Dr. Sharon Cadiz, Rob MacKay, Peter Ross, Cycle Pete

CONTRIBUTING ARTISTS AND PHOTOGRAPHERS

Joe Gurrado, Robert Flanagan, Peter Ross

# HOW TO CONVINCE AN ADDICT TO GET HELP

by Stan Popovich

There are many reasons why people who use drugs and alcohol do not get the help they need to overcome their addictions and other issues. Some family members who see the people they love struggle may have a difficult time in getting them assistance. As a result, here are seven suggestions on how to convince a person struggling with drugs and alcohol to get help.

- 1. **A family intervention could work**: The most popular way to get someone the help they need is to do a family intervention. This is when family members and an interventionist get together with the person to tell them how much they love them and that they need to get some assistance. The person who's having a hard time listens and hopefully they become convinced to get the treatment they need.
- 2. **Get an addiction expert to talk to the person**: Another way to convince the person to get help is to get someone who is an expert on drugs and alcohol and have them do a one-on-one talk with the person who is struggling. This person should explain what will happen if they do nothing. This may help convince the individual whose having a difficult time to get some guidance.
- 3. **Use the services of a former addict**: Get somebody who used to battle addiction to talk to your friend who needs assistance. A person who used drugs and alcohol in the past could use their past experiences to try to reason with the person you know. He or she might be able to use their insights to convince the individual to seek treatment.
- 4. **Find out why the person won't get hel**p: Ask the individual who is struggling to list the main reasons why they will not get assistance. It might take a few tries, however try to find out what is stopping your friend from getting treatment. Fear and frustration are huge factors for not getting help.
- 5. Address the reasons why the individual won't get help: Once you get the reasons why he or she won't go to rehab, the next step is to find the ways to address the fears the individual may have. Addressing one's fears and concerns may convince them to take some action that will get their life back on track.
- 6. **Talk to the person instead of talking at them**: Nobody wants to be lectured or yelled at. The person who is suffering is scared and they need help in overcoming their fears and resistance to getting some guidance. Treat others the way you would want to be treated if the roles were reversed.
- 7. You can't manage your mental health all by yourself: Fear and anxiety can be difficult to manage and more than likely your friend will need some counseling. Many people think that they can overcome their mental health problems on their own. This is a mistake. A person should admit they have a problem and then seek treatment to start the recovery process.



# Free online therapy + mental health support

for NYC Teens ages 13 to 17 talkspace.com/nyc

#### MY FROG DRAWING

by Rix Quinn

In my long and unproductive life, I've encountered several disgusting things...and I've stepped in a few of them. But few gave me more displeasure than dissecting a frog. This was a school requirement, and I dreaded it for weeks.

My biology teacher, however, seemed to enjoy watching us approach a big vat of formaldehyde, grab a pair of tongs, and fish out a long-deceased amphibian from the stinky liquid. After this, we chose a partner, then sat next to each other at a lab table. For the dissection, we would share a frog. Following instructions on a large display in our textbook, we laid the frog on its back, and noticed this was not this frog's first autopsy. The chest was already open, so we did our best to locate important organs by moving them around with a number two pencil. We noticed the position of the heart, lungs, and other disgusting stuff. Each of us attempted to sketch what we saw on a blank sheet of paper. We noted that some of the frog's front fingers were missing. Probably the result of a frog-to-frog competition.

We handed in our sketches. Mine looked a little like a goat....but not much. The teacher gave my artwork an F-minus. I complained to her that nobody deserved below an F. She told me that this one was so bad, it needed special recognition.

## SUNNYSIDE'S ANNUAL FLAG DAY PARADE

by Dr. Sharon M. Cadiz

The 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Flag Day Parade kicked off on Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup> with the gathering of spirited groups preparing to march the route from 40<sup>th</sup> Street to Veterans Memorial Plaza at Sabba Park on Queens Blvd. and 49<sup>th</sup> Street. As in years past, participants prepared to take their places to begin the march down Greenpoint Avenue. Sunny skies and gentle breezes set the scene for a glorious celebration that continues a tradition first imagined in 1975 by Joe Sabba, publisher of the Woodside Herald. His vision for an annual Sunnyside Flag Day Parade merged with the idea of creating a youth marching band which attracted support from the Kiwanis Club of Sunnyside and the Sunnyside Chamber of Commerce. As luck would have it, Woodside Herald's Joe Sabba recruited Tony Lana as the perfect person to organize the band. Each step of the way, community support helped to make the dream a reality. Evidence of this is the fact that it has continued for 54 years due to the generosity and volunteer efforts of the planners, community groups and participants.

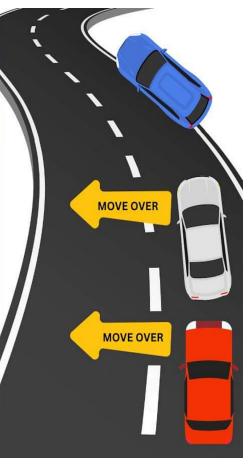
The Kiwanis Club of Sunnyside organizers of the parade continue to engage the support of community partners that include The Sunnyside Kiwanis Foundation; Sunnyside Key Club; Friends of the Sunnyside Flag Day parade; Tony Lana of the Sunnyside Drum Corps; and, of course, Sherilyn Sabba of the Woodside Herald, as well as many others including the NYPD Marching Band; 108th Precinct Auxiliary; Fire Engine Company 259 (Tombstone Territory); GOP marchers; St. Raphael Food Pantry and the East Coast Car Association.

Those who were asked to share their feelings about this year's event echoed heartfelt sentiments about the importance of unity and honoring the flag as a symbol of our nation's commitment to freedom. Ally Smith, along with Joe and Rosemarie Bonfiglio gathered near the vintage cars that were part of the parade. Joe captured his feelings by saying that the parade means: "America strong." Mark Leavitt said: "It's important culturally and civically to celebrate and participate in decent and honorable American values which sadly these days are being challenged." Joan DeCamp, of the Sunnyside Kiwanis stated that the parade is an event that she looks forward to as a chance "to see old friends and remember our hard won history." Assemblyman Juan Ardila cited the importance of "unity and the opportunity to come together." Howard Brickman commented that it was great to see neighbors and added that it is "important to remember service members in and out of uniform for their contributions and the legacy of betterment for our entire society."

A brief history of the United States Flag captured the evolution of what we have come to know as the "Stars and Stripes." Stirring renditions of the "Star Spangled Banner" by a member of the NYPD Band; the playing of "Taps" and a moment of silence for those who served and sacrificed their lives accentuated the spirit of patriotic zeal that was represented during the concluding ceremony. Although the Department of Education had another scheduled event and fewer schools were present, the young people who participated were out in large numbers seeing how important this event is to the community. Engaging youth is part of Joe Sabba's original vision and is perhaps the most important way to invest in our nation's future. More than simply marching down the street, these children will have lasting memories of seeing a vibrant, values-based commitment to boldly marching into the future of our great country with pride; and a belief in what we can accomplish together on behalf of our nation.

# THE MOVE OVER LAW HAS EXPANDED

Law now requires drivers to change lanes for all stopped or disabled vehicles on highways.



## DONATIONS WANTED AND AVAILABLE

3980 51st and Skillman Ave, Woodside (by the corner of the laundromat)

**JUNE 15TH, 10A-3P** 

#### FREE- ALL ARE WELCOME

Collection/drop off is requested prior to the event so organizers can go through and sort. To make arrangements for drop-off, please phone Madeline (number below).

## AVAILABLE AND ALSO COLLECTING THE FOLLOWING:

Pet Hair Free- Gently Used Clothing, shoes, children's toys, baby necessities, books, small household and kitchen items, Adult and Children's Diapers

## \*\*IN NEED OF LOCAL STORAGE SPACE\*\*

Donations are growing and need local space to store the items

For more information, contact Madeline at 646-972-8974



### 108th Precinct Community Council Meeting



Join us on Tuesday June 25th, 2024
7:00 P.M.

at the Sunnyside Community Center 43-31 39th St, Queens, NY

The Community Council meets once every month on the last Tuesday of each month. (Except in July, August, and December) All are welcome to attend the meetings. We provide community updates and crime stat reports.

For Additional information please contact us at: 108communitycouncil@gmail.com

#### **Executive Board**

President Diane Ballek Vice President Kevin Romero Council Secretary Maria Davis Sgt. Of Arms Richard O'Connor

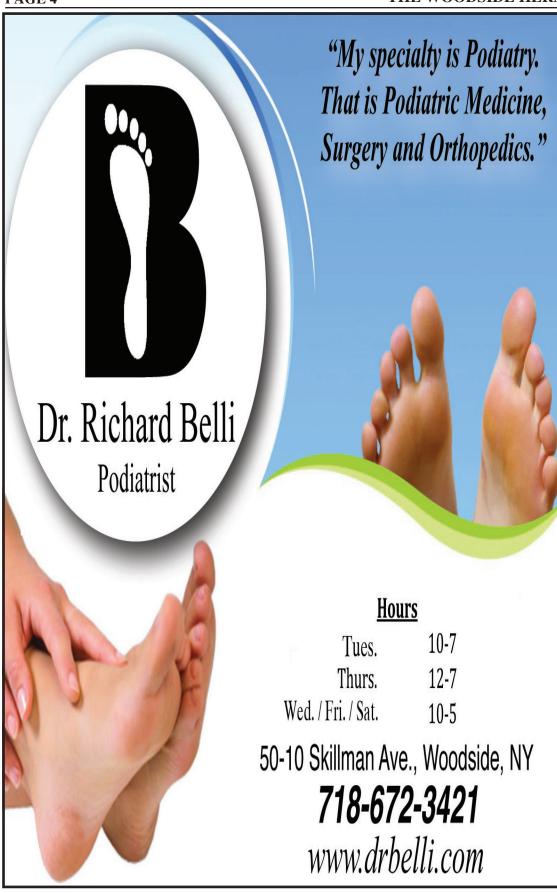


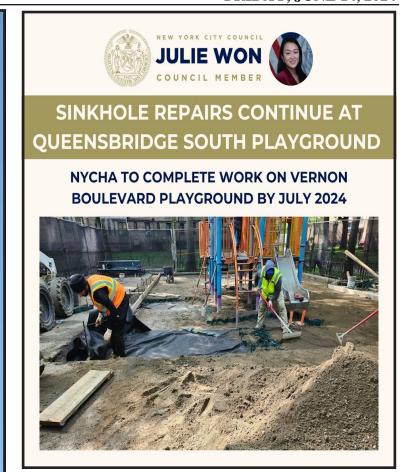
#### 108th Precinct

Commanding Officer: Captain Tony Wong 108 Community Affairs: Det. Marco Torres & P.O. Fransico Maria

To donate to the 108 Precinct Community Council contact Diane Ballek at (347) 602 3616, Kevin Romero at (917) 670 4463, or Detective Torres at 718) 784-5420

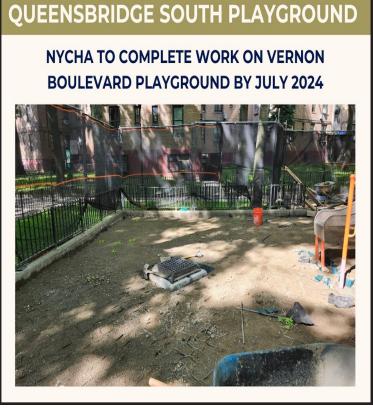












SINKHOLE REPAIRS CONTINUE AT

**Photos by Joe Gurrado** 



























NYC Pistol or Rifle License required to become a member







VOLUNTEER WRITERS WANTED
TO COVER LOCAL STORIES

Looking for coverage of community events /outreach stories

Ssabba@woodsideherald.com





# INTRO TO DIGITAL ILLUSTRATION

Teens, join this awesome digital art and illustration workshop, led by Queens-based digital illustrator and graphic designer Raakin Mahbub. Over three sessions, you'll learn the fundamentals of making wonderful art: constructing compositions, utilizing layers, proper ways to shade, the ins and outs of digital hardware and software, transferring files from different programs, and common mistakes to look out for. No prior experience necessary; this class is for beginners who have never touched a stylus to someone advanced in the digital arts.

ADMISSION IS FREE

Saturdays, June 1, 8, 15 3:30pm

WOODSIDE

54-22 Skillman Avenue (718) 429-4700

7 to 52nd Street • Q18, Q32, Q60

This program is made possible by the generous support of NYC Council Member Julie Won.

QueensLibrary.org

Queens Public Library is an independent, not-for-profit corporation and is not affiliated with any other library system.

🗘 9855a-03

#### Prevent Elder Abuse: Learn the Signs

ALL OLDER ADULTS DESERVE DIGNITY



The Elder Justice program at Sunnyside Community
Services (SCS) supports older adults over 60 years of age who are experiencing emotional or physical abuse, neglect, financial exploitation, or other circumstances that limit their independence. Identifying common warning signs is a critical first step to tackling elder abuse. To combat this issue, SCS offers educational trainings and outreach to community partners, professional groups, and the public SERVICE AREA

The Elder Justice program provides service to individuals living in Queens (Community Districts 1-7 and 11), including Long Island City, Sunnyside, Astoria, Jackson Heights, Corona, Flushing, Rego Park, and many other neighborhoods.







#### LEGAL NOTICE • LEGAL NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTAL SUMMONS-SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, COUNTY OF QUEENS - THE MONEY SOURCE, INC., Plaintiff, -against- ANY AND ALL KNOWN OR UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, CREDITORS. LIENORS. TRUSTEES AND ALL OTHER PARTIES CLAIMING AN INTEREST BY, THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST THE ESTATE OF JOSEPH R. PIERRE AKA JOSEPH REYNOLD PIERRE, SR.; IMMACULA PIERRE, AS HEIR, DEVISEE, DISTRIBUTEE OF THE ESTATE OF JOSEPH R. PIERRE AKA JOSEPH REYNOLD PIERRE, SR.; PATRICK PIERRE, AS PROPOSED ADMINISTRATOR AND AS HEIR, DEVISEE, DISTRIBUTEE OF THE ESTATE OF JOSEPH R. AKAJOSEPH REYNOLD PIERRE, SR.; MARCUS PIERRE, AS HEIR, DEVISEE, DISTRIBUTEE OF THE ESTATE OF JOSEPH R. AKA JOSEPH PIERRE REYNOLD PIERRE, SR.; by default for the relief demanded JOSEPH R. PIERRE, JR., AS HEIR, DEVISEE, DISTRIBUTEE OF THE ESTATE OF JOSEPH R. PIERRE AKAJOSEPH REYNOLD PIERRE, SR.; MARGARETTE PIERRE, AS HEIR, DEVISEE, DISTRIBUTEE OF THE ESTATE OF JOSEPH R. AKAJOSEPH PIERRE REYNOLD PIERRE, SR.; JONATHAN PIERRE, AS HEIR, DEVISEE, DISTRIBUTEE OF THE ESTATE OF JOSEPH R. JOSEPH PIERRE AKAREYNOLD PIERRE, SR.; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ACTING ON BEHALF OF THE SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT; UNITED STATES

AMERICA. ACTING ON BEHALF OF DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY - INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE; NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION AND FINANCE; CAMILE LEGUERRE AS JOHN DOE #2; DAVID "DOE" (REFUSED LAST NAME) AS JOHN DOE #3, Defendants - Index No. 725843/2022 Plaintiff Designates Queens County as the Place of Trial. The Basis of Venue is that the subject action is situated in Queens County. To the above named Defendants-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 Summons, to serve a notice of appearance, on the Plaintiff's Attorney(s) within 20 days after the service of this Summons, exclusive of the day of service (or within 30 days after the service is complete if this Summons is not personally delivered to you within the State of New York); and in case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you in the Complaint. That this Supplemental Summons is being filed pursuant to an order of the court dated April 10, 2024. 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 the mortgage company will not stop the foreclosure action. YOU MUST RESPOND BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF (THE MONEY SOURCE, INC) AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT. The foregoing summons is served upon you by publication pursuant to an order of the Honorable Kevin J. Kerrigan, J.S.C. Dated: April 10, 2024 Filed: April 12, 2024. The object of this action is to foreclose a mortgage and covering the premises known as 95-14 23rd Avenue, East Elmhurst, NY 11369. Dated: December 4, 2023 Filed: May 14, 2024 Greenspoon Marder LLP, Attorney for Plaintiff, By: Angelo A. Regina, Esq., 590 Madison Avenue, Suite 1800, New York, NY 10022 P: (212) 524-5000 F: (212) 524-5050 No Service by fax) Service purposes only: Trade Centre South 100 W. Cypress Creek Road, Suite 700, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309 P: (888) 491-1120 F: (954) 343-6982

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 #: 721832/2023 Matrix Financial Services Corporation Plaintiff, vs Susmita Rakshit, Amrita R. Sarker AKA Amrita Ronjon Sarker, Board Of Managers Of The Elite Condominium, People Of The State Of New York John Doe (Those unknown tenants, occupants, persons or corporations or their heirs, distributees, executors, administrators, trustees, guardians, assignees, creditors or successors claiming

5/31/24, 6/7/24, 6/14/24, 6/21/24

an interest in the mortgaged Defendant(s). premises.) Mortgaged Premises: 40-23/25 72nd Street, Unit 3C Woodside, NY 11377 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 Board of Managers of The Elite Condominium Defendant In this Action. The foregoing Supplemental Summons is served upon you by publication, pursuant to an order of HON. Cheree A. Buggs of the Supreme Court Of The State Of New York, dated the Fourteenth day of May, 2024 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 foreclosure a mortgage upon the premises described below, dated April 26, 2013, executed by Susmita Rakshit and Amrita R. Sarker AKA Amrita Ronjon Sarker to secure the sum of \$232,000.00. The Mortgage was recorded at CRFN 2013000201288 in the City

Register of the City of New York, Queens County on May 16, 2013. The mortgage was subsequently assigned by an assignment executed June 27, 2023 and recorded on June 29, 2023, in the City Register of the City of New York, Queens County at CRFN 2023000162329. The property in question is described as follows: 40-23/25 72nd Street, Unit 3C, Woodside, NY 11377 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: May 16, 2024 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. 80947 5/31/24, 6/7/24, 6/14/24, 6/21/24

**PUBLIC LEGAL NOTICES** Email for more information,

SSabba@WoodsideHerald.com



St Theresa of Lisieux 50-20 45th Street Woodside, NY 11377 718-784-2123 - Office

Food Pantry is Open Tuesday 3:00PM to 4:30PM Corpus Christi 31-31 60th Street Woodside, NY 11377 718-278-8114 - Office

Food Pantry is Open Wednesday 11:00AM to 1:00PM

www.SaintTeresaChurch.org

http://CCWoodsideNY.org

St. Raphael

35-20 Green Point Ave Long Island City, NY 11101 718-729-8957 - Office

Food Pantry is Open Thursday 10:30AM to 12:00PM Saturday 1:30PM to 3:00PM

http://StRaphael-Queens.org/







## WHAT IS CULTURE PASS?

Culture Pass is
a program for cardholding
patrons 13 and older of
Brooklyn Public Library,
New York Public Library &
Queens Public Library. Using
their library card, New Yorkers
can reserve a pass & get free
admission to dozens of NYC
cultural institutions, including
museums, historical societies,
heritage centers, public
gardens and more.



