

Poll: Quinn still up big

Council speaker leads Dem foes in mayoral primary

City Council Speaker Christine Quinn continues to lead her Democratic rivals in the mayor's race, according to a Quinnipiac Poll released yesterday.

Quinn leads the pack of candidates with 37%, with Public Advocate Bill de Blasio trailing behind at 14%.

Next on the list is City Comptroller Bill Thompson at 11%, with 9% for current City Comptroller John Liu. Another 27% of voters were undecided.

"It's still early, unless the State Legislature moves the primary up to June," said Maurice Carroll, director of the polling institute.

A NY1/Marist poll two weeks ago also had Quinn with 37%. Each of the four Democratic candidates would beat former MTA chairman and Republican front-runner Joseph Lhota by a 63% to 19% margin, the poll said.

The poll also found 63% of voters were comfortable with a gay or lesbian candidate who is married. Quinn married her longtime partner in May 2012, a year after gay marriage was legalized in New York. (ANNA SANDERS)



14% Bill de Blasio



11% Bill Thompson



9% John Liu

27% Undecided

'Cannibal' targeted prosecutor?

Alleged "cannibal cop" Gilberto Valle and a man from Pakistan known as "Ali Khan" discussed plans to kidnap, rape and cook Valle's wife

and a former friend who was a city prosecutor in Ohio, according to Internet

chats introduced at Valle's conspiracy trial yesterday.

"Able to get a stun gun," Valle wrote to his Pakistani correspondent, describing his plans for Columbus, Ohio, prosecutor Andria Noble. "I'm going to zap the ----- in her home. Tie her up pack her in a large suitcase."

The 28-year-old Valle, of Queens, a six-year NYPD veteran, is charged with conspiring to abduct and cannibalize women and with misusing a police database. (NEWSDAY)



Valle



A rendering of the Staten Island Ferris wheel

'Wheel' big groundbreaking

The developer of Staten Island's future Ferris wheel, set to be the biggest in the world, broke ground on the project.

Crews are conducting soil tests by drilling into the ground to discover the integrity of the land to determine what type of founda-

tion the Ferris wheel will need.

The 625-foot Ferris wheel is being built by the St. George Ferry Terminal and is expected to be ready for riders in 2015. The project also includes an outlet center and hotel.

(KENNETH ROSEN)

Bad 'nudes' for some beachgoers

Tan lines are here to stay on Fire Island, where New York State law prohibiting naked sunbathing will be enforced on longtime nude beaches that were stripped of their protective dunes by superstorm Sandy.

Banning nudity on the Fire Island National Seashore had been kicked around for years, but after Sandy and Hurricane Irene flattened the dunes, exposing beach views to the rest of the island, the National Park Service decided to act before the summer season, chief park ranger Lena Koschmann said yesterday.

The ban is effective immediately, she said.

The Park Service is con-



Flattened dunes from superstorm Sandy exposed the beaches.

cerned with nudity and the party atmosphere it seems to inspire, Koschmann said.

Prostitution, voyeurism, exhibitionism, public sex and masturbation have all become problems at the beach

surrounding the Fire Island Lighthouse. "This is a national park area and this is not an intimate atmosphere," Koschmann said. (REUTERS)

Bravest accused of hitting wife

A Staten Island firefighter was arrested Monday for allegedly assaulting his wife, according to the NYPD.

Eric Bischoff, 39, was arrested for allegedly hitting his wife in the head with an iPad during an argument over the weekend, according to officials and published reports. He was charged with second-degree assault, and is reportedly due back in court April 25.

Bischoff was elected in October to Uniformed Firefighters Association's Staten Island trustee, according to the Staten Island Advance.

He said the arrest was a "personal, private matter," and that he has "two young children and now I need to worry about their welfare," according to the Advance. Bischoff didn't respond to a voice mail.

The FDNY didn't respond to requests for comment. (AMNY)

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