

amNY.com
MONDAY
March 4, 2013

10th Anniversary
am NEWYORK


HI 41° LO 30°
Sunny / wind

MANHATTAN'S HIGHEST DAILY CIRCULATION NEWSPAPER

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PAGE 16

CRIME BUSTERS

5 nabes
winning
the war

PAGES 6-7

NEW! OUR VOICE, YOUR VOICE

OUR
Opinion Page
DEBUTS TODAY

WEATHER



TODAY
HI 41 LO 30
sunny/wind



TOMORROW
HI 47 LO 36
mostly sunny



WEDNESDAY
HI 43 LO 36
rain/snow/
wind

HOT LIST



DKNY Sample Sale

Get up to 70% off women's apparel, shoes and accessories, and men's apparel and shoes. March 4-9, 260 Fifth Ave., 212-725-5400.



Bill & Chelsea

The Clintons will speak at 7 tonight. Ed Norton moderates. BAM, 30 Lafayette Ave. Tickets at bam.org/mnny.



Booker T. Jones

The Tennessee-born, four-time Grammy winner will play from his catalog of hits at the City Winery at 8 tonight. 155 Varick St., citywinery.com

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Cardinal Timothy Dolan is in Vatican City.

Dolan: Sex scandals could be discussed at papal conclave

As he readied to meet with 114 other cardinals in Vatican City for the papal conclave today, Cardinal Timothy Dolan spoke with Bob Schieffer of CBS' "Face the Nation" about the other topics the cardinals expect to cover, including wavering "Catholic fervor" and the sexual abuse scandals that have plagued the church.

"There's no cardinal with his head in the sand when it comes to these issues," Dolan told Schieffer yesterday, regarding the sex abuse scandals. "Sexual immorality, perversion, abuse of children, [which] affect all elements of society and cul-

ture, are particularly hideous when it comes to the church. And . . . that will be an issue? I predict it will."

With cardinals from Latin America and Africa being considered for the church's top job — the first time in 1,300 years that a pope could be chosen from a non-European country — could more changes to the church's structure be coming up down the road?

No, said Dolan, who told Schieffer that the pope's job is to "preserve the integrity and the patrimony of the faith."

It's not, Dolan said, to make "radical changes."

(AMNY)

St. Patrick's Day already under way in city

This weekend kicked off the start of St. Patrick's Day celebrations in the city, and the who's who of

political players got a few walking miles in.

Mayor Bloomberg and a score of his potential suc-

cessors marched in the Rockaways St. Patrick's Day parade on Saturday and the Sunnyside parade yesterday.

City Council Speaker Christine Quinn, City Comptroller John Liu and GOP mayoral candidate Joe Lhota marched in both parades and had a lot of supporters cheering them on.

The mayor, however, didn't feel the luck of the Irish in the Rockaways.

Many parade-goers booed Bloomberg, reportedly because they were unhappy with the city's response after superstorm Sandy.

(IVAN PEREIRA)



Daniel Dromm, Christine Quinn and Jimmy Van Bramer march in a St. Patrick's Day parade over the weekend.

WILLIAM ALA TRISTE/CITY COUNCIL

Sheen offers seasoned 'winning' advice for LiLo

Recovering bad boy Charlie Sheen has offered to play white knight to Lindsay Lohan's damsel in distress.

"I have a kinship with somebody [Lohan] who clearly needs a mentor, whether she wants one or not," Sheen told TMZ.com, adding, "she can ... turn to me for some advice

from a guy who's been down the road."

Sheen added: "If she listens, she'll win. If she doesn't, that's on her."

Sheen also told the website that he and Lohan had never been intimate.

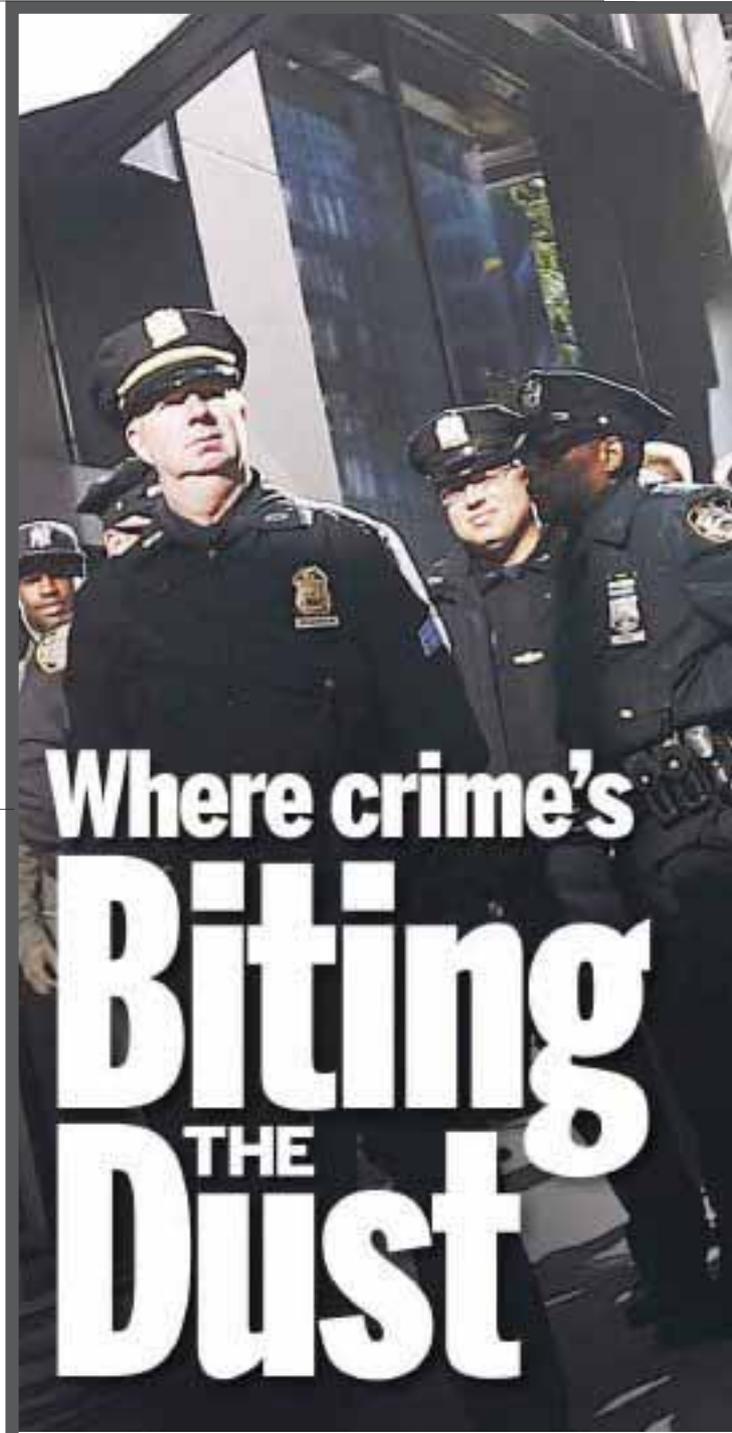
"I've never laid a finger on her that wasn't on film. How ya like me now, America?" he asked.

Representatives for Sheen and Lohan could not be located for comment.

(AMNY)



PHOTOS: GETTY



BY IVAN PEREIRA

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The number of crimes in the city fell by 50,000 between 2001 and 2012, and five neighborhoods in Manhattan and Queens led the way, police say.

Police precincts encompassing Midtown North, Midtown South, Forest Hills, TriBeCa and Flushing saw the biggest drops in crime since 2001, according to CompStat data from the NYPD.

Police Commissioner Ray Kelly, who didn't comment

for this story, has repeatedly credited police strategies, including the controversial "stop and frisk" procedure, as key factors in reducing crime because they take illegal guns off the street.

The reduction in weapons, Kelly contends, led to 235 fewer murders in the city last year compared with 2001, the year before he took over the NYPD.

Community leaders and elected officials, however, said the safety increase is a team effort from all neighborhood players.

"There's a two-way rela-



The number of crimes in the city fell by 50,000 between 2001 and 2012, according to CompStat data from the NYPD.

POLS ON CRIME

There are a lot of pieces to the puzzle, and community involvement is a big one. Without proactive policing, we'd get nowhere.'

Peter Vallone Jr. (D-Astoria), chair of the Council's Public Safety Committee



The numbers tell me we need to make sure people have more opportunity. When you don't have small businesses in the community, people don't have jobs and they turn to crime.'

Donovan Richards, councilman elect for the Rockaways, which saw an increase in crime between 2001 and 2012



TOPS and FLOPS

TOP 5 NEIGHBORHOODS

Precinct in parentheses, percent change from '01-'12

MIDTOWN NORTH	-56.33%
FOREST HILLS (112)	-54.35%
TRIBECA (1)	-53.84%
MIDTOWN SOUTH	-52.43%
FLUSHING (109)	-50.23%

BOTTOM 5 NEIGHBORHOODS

ROCKAWAYS (100)	+37.58%
CHELSEA (10)	+17.24%
SOUTH BRONX (41)	+5.51%
EAST HARLEM (25)	-0.10%
MORNINGSIDE HEIGHTS (28)	-1.77%

tionship between safety and confidence," said Alvin Berk, the chairman of Community Board 14 in Ditmas Park, which had 1,800 fewer crimes last year compared with 2001, one of the steepest drops citywide.

"When they have confidence, they are able to go out [and] feel safer, and when they're safe they feel confident to boost the neighborhood," Berk said.

The Midtown North and Midtown South precincts had 3,191 and 2,983 fewer crimes, respectively, compared with 2001.

Wally Rubin, the district manager of Community Board 5, which oversees all of Midtown, said business improvement districts, the city and the residents have



Midtown North has seen the city's top crime decrease.

worked hard to make areas like Times Square thriving places for visitors.

"When something is active day and night, it's not where criminals want to be," he said.

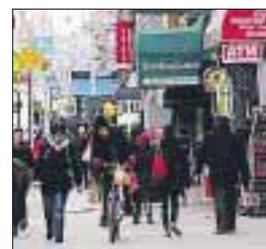
In some cases, however, residents can only do so much to improve their neighborhoods, as three precincts — covering the Rockaways and surrounding areas, the South Bronx and Chelsea — had crime increases last year compared with 2001.

The 100th Precinct, which covers many Sandy-

affected neighborhoods such as Broad Channel, Breezy Point and the Rockaways, saw 168 more crimes last year, a 37.6% increase from 2001, but residents say the superstorm wasn't the driving force.

Dan Mundy, 71, a lifelong Broad Channel resident, said post-Sandy burglaries and other crimes were not too bad compared with the rest of the year. "The people are looking for junk and scrap," he said.

Donovan Richards, the councilman-elect for the Rockaways and Broad Chan-



Crime was up in Chelsea in '12 compared with '01.

nel, noted that his district had 615 total crimes last year compared to Midtown South, with had 2,895 overall crimes in 2012, so the police data was subjective.

Rafael Salamanca, the district manager of Community Board 2 in the South Bronx — which saw a 5.5% overall crime increase in the 41st Precinct, with 77 more incidents last year than 2001 — said his community's crime stats are inflated because the precinct includes crimes at Rikers Island.

Bronx residents have a good relationship with the cops, according to Salamanca, and steps are being taken to combat the violence that exists on their streets.

With Anna Sanders