



AP FILE PHOTO

Lake Grove native Alycia Lane

## Ex-Philly anchor may sue NYC

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A former Philadelphia television news anchor has taken a step toward suing New York City over her arrest after a December dust-up with police.

The anchor, Alycia Lane, 35, originally of Lake Grove, was fired in January from Philadelphia's KYW-TV. She now maintains she was subjected to false arrest, unlawful imprisonment, libel, slander, defamation and "economic injuries," according to a notice of claim filed last week with the city.

The notice, the first step toward a lawsuit against a government agency, was filed shortly before a legal deadline. Lane's claim says she will seek an unspecified sum above \$5 million.

"Right now, she is weighing all her options, and this was necessary to keep her options," said her lawyer, David S. Smith.

Law Department spokeswoman Kate Ahlers said city attorneys were awaiting the legal papers.

Lane was arrested about 2 a.m. on Dec. 16 and charged with assaulting an officer. A police complaint said she put a video camera in an officer's face as he tried to usher an intoxicated person into a taxi. The complaint said that when another officer intervened, Lane cursed at her and hit her in the face, leaving cuts and swelling. Lane denied it.

Prosecutors later reduced the felony assault charges to misdemeanor obstruction of government administration and harassment. A spokeswoman said the scratches on the officer's face weren't severe enough to warrant the felony charge.

A judge then agreed to dismiss the charges if Lane stays out of trouble for six months.

Lane, a former anchor and reporter for News 12 Long Island, joined KYW, a CBS affiliate, in 2003. She was fired Jan. 7.

President Michael Collier said at that time that "it would be impossible for Alycia to continue to report the news as she, herself, has become the focus of so many news stories."

The newscaster first hit the headlines in May 2007 after she e-mailed photos of herself in a bikini to NFL network sports anchor Rich Eisen. Eisen's wife intercepted the pictures.

# Trial looks at Bell car

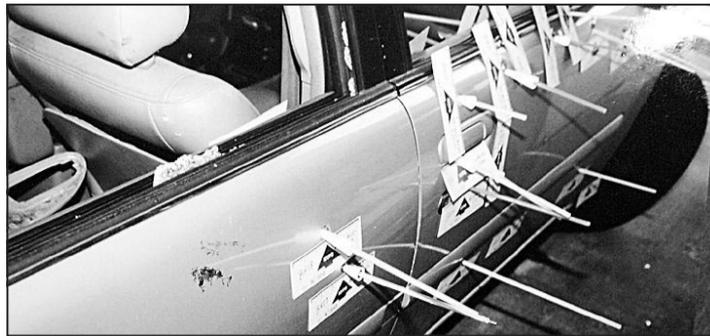
BY MATTHEW CHAYES  
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The focus of the trial of three police detectives accused in the killing of Sean Bell turned Friday to the Nissan Altima he was driving as the car collided with another vehicle the night New York police fired 50 shots at him and his friends.

The prosecution presented more than 60 photographs of the Altima, covered in blood and pockmarked with dozens of bullet holes. The damage was sustained when five city police officers opened fire in the pre-dawn hours of Nov. 25 at the unarmed strip club patrons. Three of the officers are on trial, which will enter its third week Monday at State Supreme Court in Kew Gardens before Justice Arthur J. Cooperman. He is hearing the case without a jury.

Dets. Michael Oliver, 36, and Gescard Isnora, 29, are charged with first- and second-degree manslaughter in Bell's death. Det. Marc Cooper, 40, is charged with misdemeanor reckless endangerment.

Det. Charles Reiss testified about his daylong examination of Bell's car, stored in a police garage the day after the Nov. 25,



POOL PHOTO BY ELLIS KAPLAN

Evidence photo shows where some bullets hit Sean Bell's car.

2006, shooting. He said it had "suffered damage due to" more than one "motor vehicle incident."

Reiss said he also scoured the area around Club Kalua, the strip club near Liverpool Street in Jamaica, Queens, where the confrontation with the police took place after Bell and his friends had been celebrating his planned wedding later that day.

There, Reiss said he saw shattered glass — later determined to be beads of safety glass from Bell's car — beneath a gated pedestrian entrance to a nearby building. Using this evidence and a paint-chip sample he took from the entrance, Reiss said he found that Bell's Nissan had backed up into a building in addi-

tion to crashing into an unmarked car driven by the police.

The detectives' defense attorneys criticized how the forensic examination of Bell's car was conducted more than 24 hours after the shooting. They said that many people had access to the vehicle before Reiss examined it. The defense also questioned why an initial inspection of the vehicle by other police officers didn't discover spent bullets sitting in the car in apparent plain sight.

While the most of the 50 bullets fired by police hit the car, several did not — shattering the glass of an AirTrain terminal and piercing the window of a house down the block, according to earlier testimony.

## Cops: Dad hits autistic teen

BY ROCCO PARASCANDOLA  
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A Queens man who police had been questioning about the death of his wife was behind bars Friday on a charge of assaulting his autistic stepson, authorities said.

Edwin Fuentes, 41, was taken in for questioning at the 102nd Precinct on Wednesday by detectives and grilled about the death of his wife, Reyna De Los Santos, 43, who disappeared in June from their Woodhaven home.

The husband's questioning came after several children found a suitcase in Forest

Park on March 4 that contained human remains — a skull, a spine and other bones.

Dental records confirmed the remains were those of De Los Santos.

While the cause of death has not been determined, her relatives told police that the couple's marriage was acrimonious and she had wanted to end it, according to police sources.

Fuentes was released early Thursday but taken back into custody that afternoon after someone in his stepson's school noticed the teenager had a bump on his head.

When asked, the 17-year-old told school officials that his stepfather had struck him over the head on Monday with a wooden stick, authorities said.

The teen did not require medical treatment, but the school called police and Fuentes was charged with felony assault.

The teenager and his 9-year-old stepsister, the daughter of Fuentes and De Los Santos, are staying with Fuentes' sister, not far from their Woodhaven home.

De Los Santos had worked as a home care attendant, her neighbors said.

## Couple plead guilty in labor scheme

BY SOPHIA CHANG  
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A Brentwood couple charged with fraudulently using community service workers to expand their solar energy business empire pleaded guilty Friday in exchange for reduced sentences, authorities said.

In the plea deal, Christopher Castro and his wife, Wendy, admitted that in 2006, they used criminal defendants working in Red Cross community service programs for free labor on three ventures: their solar-powered cafe at the former Brentwood train station, another business called Solymar that installed solar

panel systems on homes and businesses, and to help renovate the Castros' driveway and front stoop and wash their car and walk their dog, said Suffolk Assistant District Attorney Mark Murray.

The Castros had told the Red Cross that they would teach the criminal defendants about solar energy.

Calls placed to Peter Brill, a Manhattan-based lawyer for Christopher Castro, and Michael Jannuzzi, of Huntington, who represented Wendy Castro, were not returned Friday.

Christopher Castro pleaded guilty to charges of defrauding the government, third-degree

grand larceny and third-degree bribe receiving, Murray said.

He is expected to be sentenced to a year in jail at Riverhead Correctional Facility on May 9 by Suffolk County Court Judge Barbara Kahn, Murray said. He also will forfeit \$38,000 that was in bank accounts connected with the fraud, according to Murray.

Wendy Castro pleaded guilty to attempted defrauding the government and is scheduled to be sentenced to 3 years' probation.

"I'm pleased with the outcome," Murray said. "They needed to be held accountable for their abuse of the community's resources."

## Death Notices

**AHEARN** - Virginia M., of Lynbrook, NY on March 12, 2008. Beloved wife of the late John. Loving mother of John (Marcia) and Kathleen Curtin (Denis). Dear grandmother of Christine Symons (Jeffrey), Brian Gunn (Kristen), Stephen Gunn (Katrin), Mary Curtin, J.J. Ahearn (Jennifer), Daniel Ahearn (Susan) and Alison Ahearn. Also survived by five loving great grandchildren. Virginia was a longtime resident of Lynbrook and an active member of St. Raymond's Parish involved in the Social Ministry. The family will receive friends Friday 7-9 PM at the Perry Funeral Home, Inc., 118 Union Ave., Lynbrook, NY. Funeral mass Saturday 10 AM at St. Raymond's RC Church in East Rockaway. Interment to follow at Holy Rood Cemetery Westbury. In lieu of flowers please make memorial contributions to St. Raymond's Parish Social Ministry 263 Atlantic Ave., East Rockaway, NY 11518.

**AMBROSIA** - Alice (nee Cavanaugh), of East Islip on March 14, 2008. Beloved wife of Anthony. Loving mother and mother-in-law of Anthony, Julie (Bernie) Hansman, Theresa (Vito) Taverna, Karen (Andre) Ambrosia. Cherished grandmother of thirteen. Adored great-grandmother of five. Fond sister and sister-in-law of William (Helen) Cavanaugh and Roy Cavanaugh. The family will receive friends Sunday only between the hours of 2-4 and 7-9 PM at the Albrecht, Bruno & O'Shea Funeral Homes, Inc., 62 Carleton Avenue, East Islip (2 miles South of exit 43-A S.S. Pkwy). Mass of Christian Burial 10:45 AM Monday at St. Mary's R.C. Church, East Islip with interment to follow at Washington Memorial Park, Mount Sinai, Long Island.

**ARCHER** - Patricia A., of East Islip, L.I. on March 13, 2008. Proud and dedicated member of the Ancient Order of Hibernians Ladies Auxiliary Division 7, AmVets Ladies Auxiliary Post 18 and the East Islip Historical Society. Beloved wife of William R. Archer for 55 years. Loving mother of Dianne M. and William Bendernagel, Patricia Ann and Louis S. Grasso, Kathleen T. and John S. Ventimiglia. Cherished grandmother of Kathleen T. Bendernagel, Maureen L. Bendernagel, Patricia K. Grasso, William Archer Bendernagel, Heather L. Ventimiglia and Holly D. Ventimiglia. Reposing at The Fredrick J. Chapey & Sons East Islip Funeral Home, 200 East Main Street (1/2 mile west of the S.S. Parkway, Exit 45W). Celebration of the Liturgy of Christian Burial, St. Mary's RC Church, East Islip, L.I., Monday 9:45 AM. Interment Emmanuel Cemetery, Great River, L.I. Visiting Saturday 7-9:30 PM and Sunday 2-4:30 and 7-9:30 PM.



**BEACH** - Catherine "Kiki" Dugan, a longtime resident of Huntington, NY, died peacefully in her sleep on March 13, 2008 after a brave struggle with cancer. She was 82 years old. Kiki is survived by her loving husband, Arthur of 60 years, her four sons, Richard T. and his wife Cade, Charles A. and his wife Liz, Todd, Peter J. and his wife Lisa, and her two daughters, Betsy and her husband Monk, and Cynthia and her husband Mark, as well as her fourteen cherished grandchildren. Kiki touched all those she met with her goodness, warmth, strength, style and laughter. She devoted her heart and soul to her family and will be deeply missed. Kiki was a gracious hostess and will be remembered for the smile on her face, her sense of humor, her love of travel and her zest for life. She will be in our hearts forever. A funeral mass will be held on Monday, March 17th at 10:30 a.m. at Our Lady Queen of Martyrs in Centerport, with a reception following at the Huntington Country Club. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made in her memory to the Hale-site Fire Department Emergency Squad or the Visiting Nurse Service and Hospice of Suffolk, East Northport, NY.

**BEYER** - Veronica, age 88 of Brentwood, formerly of Coram on March 14, 2008. Beloved wife of the late Austin. Devoted mother of Nancy Beyer, Kenneth Galeano. Dear sister of Russel Shotack. Also survived by four grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. Reposing at The Branch Funeral Home, 190 East Main St., Smithtown. Visiting 2-4 and 7-9 Sunday. Religious Service 11AM Monday. Entombment Pinelawn Memorial Park Cemetery to follow. www.branchfh.com

**BLAIR** - Kenneth M., Jr., on March 13, 2008 of Deer Park. Age 64. Beloved husband of Angela nee: Derasmo. Loving father of Kenneth M., III and Steven. Cherished son of Kenneth and Mary. Fond brother of Edward and PattyAnn. Proprietor of The Railbird Lounge in Hicksville. Family to receive friends Sunday and Monday 2-5 and 7-9:30pm Manganò Funeral Home, Inc., 1701 Deer Park Avenue, Deer Park. Funeral