

Crime

**Man charged in shooting death of Queens grandmother**

A 22-year-old man has been charged in the



murder of beloved 70-year-old Queens grandmother Leta Webb, who was fatally shot in the head in the doorway of her South Jamaica home.

Julian Douglas, 22, of 131st Street in Queens was charged with second-degree murder and criminal possession of a weapon.

The NYPD says that around 1:30 a.m. on March 31, Douglas shot Webb (shown) dead when she opened the door of her home.

A video-surveillance camera caught images of a white Ford Econoline Van that Douglas reportedly used in his getaway.

METRO

# Local peppers pack a punch

**Growing.** Open call for Bronx gardeners: Give us your serranos.

For the second summer in a row, community gardeners are being called upon to grow peppers that, after harvested, will be bottled into the Bronx Greenmarket Hotsauce. Over the next few weeks, gardeners in more than 20 plots around the borough will begin sowing the seeds that will hopefully yield 5,000 pounds of peppers for the 2015 batch.

Last year, Small Axe Peppers partnered with GrowNYC, giving out 3,500 pepper plants to community gardens, and buying the peppers back at \$4 a pound (the going rate is \$2.50).

"No one was talking about the future," said Small Axe co-founder John Crotty, who previously served as former Mayor Michael Bloomberg's di-



An urban pepper farm in the Bronx / HANNAH MATTIX, METRO



Pepper farmer John Crotty, left, talks peppers. / HANNAH MATTIX, METRO

Quoted

**"... We wanted to create a project that instilled the idea of tomorrow in the urban world."** Small Axe co-founder John Crotty

rector of city legislative affairs and on the New York City Housing Development Corporation. "They were talking about yesterday, and today, and we wanted to create a project that instilled the idea of tomorrow in the urban world."

The hot sauce created

from last year's crop can be found in the Union Square Greenmarket and other small markets. In the Bronx, it's sold at Wave Hill and the Bronx Beer Hall on Arthur Avenue.



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