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## Yankee fan \$\$ expected

BY DAVID CRUZ

As the New York Yankees geared up for their season opener in Tampa, about 1000 miles away local Bronx businesses along 161st Street geared up for what they hope is a season of profit.

On Thursday, April 5, several stores, including the D&J Variety Store on 64 East 161st Street were abuzz with a couple of "Jeter-Bugs" who helped kick off Cap Week, a week long event leading into tomorrow's season home opener for the Bombers.

Sponsored by the 161st Business Improvement District, Cap Week promotes local businesses that line up 161st Street and River Avenue—the mecca of all things Yankees. Participating stores like  
*Continued on page 40*



Photo by Robert Bernhoff

## WOODLAWN EGG HUNT DELIGHT

Niam (l) and Colm O'Donovan (r) of Woodlawn met with the Easter bunny, during the 2nd Annual Woodlawn Cemetery Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 7. The event included a best bonnet contest for adults and an egg hunt for children.

*Continued on page 40*

# BJ'S TO BITE THE COOKIE

### Leases former Stella D'oro factory space

BY DAVID CRUZ

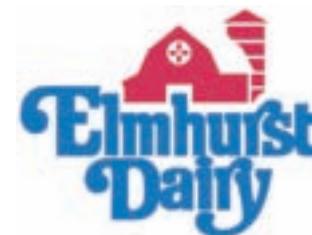
BJ's is replacing the now-shuttered Stella D'oro factory in Kingsbridge, and it's bringing hundreds of jobs to the Bronx.

"There were a lot of people that wanted the box. BJ's was at the right place at the right time," said Joseph Farkas, president of

the Metropolitan Realty Associates, who bought the property for \$18.5 million with the help of Angelo Gordon & Co. He provided a walking tour on Monday, April 9, of his new business venture on W. 237th Street that's still in its embryonic stage. He also took a mo-

*Continued on page 40*

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Photo courtesy of the NYC Parks Department.

Elected leaders, NYC Parks officials and representatives from the Courts of Dreams break ground on renovations for Van Cortlandt Park's basketball court at Classic Playground.

## \$162,000 raised to repair VCP basketball courts

BY DAVID CRUZ

Score one for Van Cortlandt Park. Improved basketball courts are coming.

Elected leaders along with Parks & Recreation Commissioner Adrian Benepe joined the co-founders of Courts of Dreams Foundation to break ground on the \$162,000 renovation for Van Cortlandt Park's Classic Playground Basketball courts. The ceremony was accompanied by students from P.S. 344 and P.S./M.S. 95 who treated the non-profit with a choral performance.

The Van Cortlandt courts were in dire need of repair, according to Com-

missioner Benepe. Located in Classic Playground, a cornucopia of traditional play equipment, the courts are heavily used by ball players in the northern Bronx. The result was craked asphalt, loose backboards and clogged storm drains. The project aims to eliminate the clutter of the courts.

Money for the project was raised by Courts of Dreams during the 3rd Annual Family Day celebration, which was hosted by the New York Knicks. The event raised \$50,000 for Van Cortlandt. An additional \$12,000 was raised by Courts of Dreams. As part of the Bloomberg administration's

commitment to improving parks throughout the borough, the city matched the donation bringing the total to \$162,000.

The courts are closed for now, but will re-open in the summer just in time for one to show off their jump show.

This is Court of Dreams' second involvement in renovating a Bronx playground. In July of 2009, the foundation donated \$30,000 to fix Sedgewick Playground in Morris Heights.

To reach reporter David Cruz, please call (718) 742-3383 or email [dcruz@cnglocal.com](mailto:dcruz@cnglocal.com).

## Asm. Benedetto sponsors mammography van

Assemblyman Michael R. Benedetto, in conjunction with Project Renewal, formerly operating as Women's Outreach Network, will be sponsoring a free Mobile Mammography Screening Van which will be located

outside of the Baychester Library, 2049 Asch Loop North, on Saturday, April 21, beginning at 1:30 p.m.

This program is for women 40 years of age and older who have not had a mammogram in the past

year. All insurance plans are accepted; however, if you do not have insurance, you can still sign up for the program.

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## Urban Health leader honored

Paloma Izquierdo-Hernandez was honored by the Imagen Foundation for her outstanding accomplishments and contributions to her community during the "Latina Leaders Celebration" in Washington, DC.

Congressman José E. Serrano nominated Izquierdo-Hernandez, who is the CEO of Urban Health Plan, a growing network of community health centers in the Bronx.

"Paloma is the essence of a strong Bronx leader, who is dedicated to improving health care access in her community," said Congressman Serrano. "It was an easy decision to nominate her for this award, because her vision for a Bronx where no one lacks access to health care services is so important, and she has done so much to bring it to reality. As a direct result of her efforts, there are fewer people suffering from health issues in the Bronx."

# Admission fee is history at Bronx Museum of Arts

BY KIRSTEN SANCHEZ

Beginning on March 29, The Bronx Museum of Arts made its admission fee a part of history.

The museum, which is located at 1040 Grand Concourse at 165th Street, has announced that general admission to the museum and its exhibitions will be free for all visitors as part of the institution's 40th anniversary celebration.

The museum is launching the free admission initiative to ensure it is accessible to members of the Bronx community and all visitors from across the city.

"At a time when other New York City museums are raising their admission fees, we have chosen to focus on increasing access to the museum as a resource for our community thanks to the support of the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs and the New York Community Trust," said Holly Block, executive director of The Bronx Museum of the Arts. "In

celebration of our 40th anniversary, we are giving back to the Bronx community by not only offering free admission, but also "adopting" 40 neighborhood schools—enabling hundreds of children to experience the benefits of arts education."

Support of the Bronx Museum's free admission initiative has been made possible by The New York Community Trust.

The free admission initiative was announced at the museum's 40th anniversary gala, which honored: visual artist Willie Cole; actor, dancer, choreographer, and philanthropist Darrin Henson; architect Daniel Libeskind; Bronx-born gallerist Bonni Benrubi; Robert Sancho of the Bronx Lebanon Hospital Center; and the Sciame Construction Company.

The museum is also celebrating its 40th anniversary by bringing the arts to 40 "adopted" Bronx public schools, many of which do not offer art classes or pro-



Photo courtesy of Norman McGrath

The Bronx Museum of Arts located at 1040 Grand Concourse has eliminated their admission fee as part of their 40th anniversary celebration.

gramming.

Education staff and instructors from the museum will conduct a pre-visit trip to each school to meet with teachers and discuss their education goals, and then schedule a visit with students for a tour and art making activity facilitated

by the museum.

"For over 40 years, the Bronx Museum of Art has presented innovative exhibitions ranging from fine art to urban design, and its hands-on art education programs ensure that there is something for everyone to experience and enjoy," said

Cultural Affairs Commissioner Kate Levin. "Now, thanks to a public-private partnership with the New York Community Trust, the Museum's new free admission policy will expand its commitment to welcoming New Yorkers from across the boroughs and beyond."

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# College readiness program launches at Truman HS

BY DAVID CRUZ

A higher learning degree before even entering college? What was once a dream is now a reality at Truman High School.

On Tuesday, April 4, borough president Ruben Diaz Jr. announced the creation of the Bronx Achievement Pact, an education initiative set to take effect in September 2012. Inside the school's planetarium, Diaz Jr. urged students to shoot for the stars.

"This program is to let you know that you are not alone," said Diaz Jr. "Take advantage of it."

The pilot program will merge the resources of Truman High School and Mercy College with the promise that students ambitious in getting a college degree early can earn college credit while still in high school.

The cornerstone of the Bronx Achievement Pact is the chance at earning 30 college credits during the regular high school day. Unlike Advanced Placement classes, where a student needs a high GPA to enroll in a class that costs money, the college-level courses are free and open to all 1800 students at Truman High. They can earn another 30 credits if they handle the extra workload during summers, weekends and breaks, giving students the chance to earn an Associate's degree that covers core classes.

"Think about what that does," said Dr. Kimberly Cline, president of Mercy College. "You can finish a

three-year degree in two years, you can get your masters, or you can start working."

Students were enticed by the offer.

"You can save a lot of money," said Kayla Diaz, a junior who plans to take advantage of the program. "You'll be paying two years of college instead of four."

The Bronx Achievement Pact will also serve as a resource center for parents befuddled by the college application process, where most financial aid forms "can kill you," according to Truman High School principal Dr. Sana Nasser.

The genesis behind the program began with a meeting between Dr. Cline and principal Nasser, who par-

ticipated in October's Education Summit hosted by Borough President Diaz Jr. The two compared notes on what they felt were education goals worth pursuing. On the top of their lists was the goal of raising college enrollment rates for Truman students, which stand at 36%, according to the latest figures by the New York City Department of Education.

The Bronx Achievement Pact will expand to another Bronx school with a college enrollment rate below 70%, and take off to other schools if the program works.

To reach reporter David Cruz, please call (718) 742-3383 or email [dcruz@cnglobal.com](mailto:dcruz@cnglobal.com).



Photo courtesy of the Office of the Borough President

Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr. announces the Bronx Achievement Pact, a college readiness program that combines the resources of Mercy College and Truman High School in Co-Op City. Pictured (l-r) is moderator Edie Magnu, and Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr.

## Montefiore sites to feature Y's diabetes program

The YMCA of Greater New York has expanded its 16-session Diabetes Prevention Program to two Montefiore Medical Center primary care sites in the Bronx, with plans to roll the program out to additional clinical locations across the city in the coming months. This expansion marks the first time the innovative, clinically proven program has been made available in

clinical environments in New York City.

Congressman Joseph Crowley applauds the expansion of the program and the cooperation of two like-minded organizations. "I applaud the Bronx YMCA and Montefiore Medical Center for offering this effective and innovative program to help local residents avoid the onset of diabetes," said Crowley. "This important

initiative, funded in part through a program created in the Affordable Care Act, will prevent disease and save lives in the Bronx and throughout the City."

In addition to the two Montefiore-affiliated clinical locations, the Y plans to work with New York hospital networks to expand the program to additional primary care sites across the city in 2012.

# Earth Fest set for April 21

“GetGreen: South Bronx Earth Fest” brings its unique annual celebration of the environment and the culture of the South Bronx to St. Mary’s Park on St. Ann’s Avenue and 146th Street on Saturday, April 21, from noon to 4 p.m. Marking its fifth anniversary, this free Earth Day event features an afternoon full of family activities, entertainment, and environmental awareness.

Over 25 local businesses, community organizations, City agencies and not-for-profit groups are participating in the 2012 GetGreen festival. Event goers will enjoy music and dance performances with a “green” theme, free boat rides on the Bronx River, “Recycling Olympics” games for youngsters, and special appearances by eco-superhero Global Man and friends. In addition, GetGreen organizers plan to plant a tree in St. Mary’s Park to commemorate this fifth anniversary event as part of the One Million

Trees program.

A highlight of the event will be the presentation of the 2012 GetGreen environmental leadership awards to NYC Public Advocate Bill DeBlasio, NYC Deputy Mayor Cas Holloway, and Anna Vincenty, community liaison for Congressman Jose Serrano. Invited guests include Borough President Ruben Diaz, Jr., Assemblywoman Carmen Arroyo, and Councilwoman Maria del Carmen Arroyo.”

The public is invited to bring unwanted electronics (including TVs, radios, cell phones, computers and printers) and unwanted textiles (such as matched shoes, belts, towels, and clothing) to the event for recycling.

“GetGreen: South Bronx Earth Fest” will take place rain or shine. In the event of rain, activities will be held at Betancos Community Center, 547 East 146th Street.

For more information call (212) 788-7990.

# Nearly 1,150 Bronx apartments retrofitted

## Cost-effective, energy-efficient program also trained green engineers

BY KIRSTEN SANCHEZ

Some 1,150 Bronxites will be warmer this year thanks to Enterprise Community Partners and Local Initiatives Support Corporation.

The two corporations recently retrofitted nearly 1,150 apartments in the Bronx as part of the state’s Weatherization Assistance Program.

They were selected by the state to weatherize 41 buildings throughout the Bronx, and created 200 temporary construction jobs, trained workers in green building maintenance, and expect 24% energy and 23% carbon emission reduction.

The funds came through the state’s Weatherization Assistance Program, working in partnership with New York State Homes and Community Renewal and the New York City Department of Housing

Preservation and Development.

“By weatherizing more buildings within our budget, we proved that not only is it possible to make existing affordable housing more energy efficient, but that it’s possible to do it in a cost-effective and sustainable way,” said Abby Jo Sigal, vice president and New York market leader of Enterprise. “We hope our lessons learned will help to enable other community development organizations to green their properties, extend the lives of their buildings, lower their operating costs and create healthier, affordable homes for low-income families.”

Mayor Bloomberg’s New Housing Marketplace Plan is a multibillion dollar initiative to finance 165,000 units of affordable housing for half a million New Yorkers by the close of the 2014 fiscal year.

To date, the plan has funded the creation or preservation of more than 129,200 units of affordable housing across the five boroughs.

Neldo Angeles, property manager for Dougert Management, said that the training was especially helpful for their four supers in the Bronx because of the focus on fundamentals.

“With all of their responsibilities to the buildings’ residents, they tend to ‘forget the little things’ that are important to the efficient, safe, and comfortable operation of their systems,” Angeles said. “The opportunity for a dedicated training that schools new supers on the fundamentals and gives experienced supers the brush-up they need is an important component of a comprehensive weatherization program.”

Denise Scott, manag-

ing director of New York City LISC and vice president of New York Equity Fund said the weatherization program was effective by not only cutting energy costs but by providing education the building owners as well.

“We blew insulation into the walls and replaced leaky windows and replaced rusted boilers with high-efficiency ones,” said Denise Scott, managing director of New York City LISC and vice president of New York Equity Fund. “We also taught property managers and building maintenance staff how to operate those computerized boilers. So now, not only will low-income renters save on their utility bills—\$20 more a month can mean a lot to a family—the people who run their buildings have new skills.”

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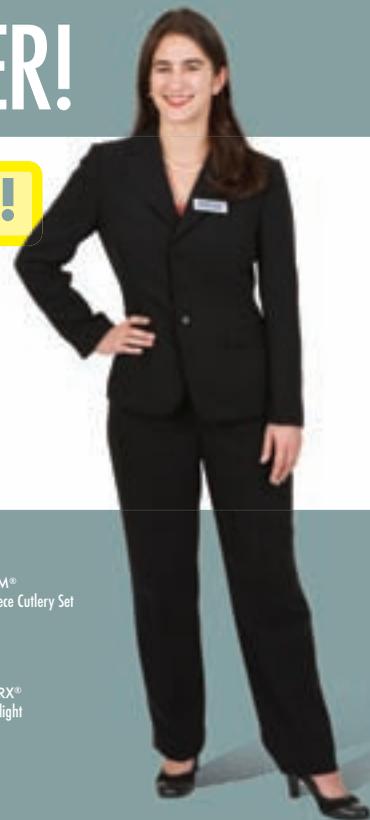


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BY FATHER RICHARD F. GORMAN

Since I find myself in the midst of the most momentous and focal point in the Christian calendar, "The Octave Of Easter" -- Easter is a Feast of such grandeur and importance that the Roman Catholic Church sets aside eight calendar days, or an "octave," for its commemoration -- it seems quite appropriate in a way to end my recollections of my recent journey to the center of Christendom, "The Eternal City" and the city associated with the great Apostles, Saint Peter and Saint Paul -- i.e., the City of Rome. It was an extraordinary and distinctive occasion, not only due to the elevation of the Archbishop of New York to the Sacred College of Cardinals, but because of the opportunity that my pilgrimage afforded me to visit some of the most notable and cherished shrines of Roman Catholicism.

I was fortunate, due to the constraints that the particular specifications of my travel arrangements imposed upon me, to arrive in Rome a day prior to the rest of my travelling confrères. This circumstance presented me with the prospect of a day all to myself during which I would be free to adhere to a schedule and to an itinerary of my own choosing and making. Ergo, I decided to do a bit of exploring, initially touring the Castel Sain'Angelo, or Hadrian's Tomb, which was a short walk from my hotel, and then spending the rest of my day meandering through the streets of historic Rome.

The Mausoleum of Hadrian, now known as the Cas-

tel Sant'Angelo, or in English, "The Castle of the Holy Angel," is a towering cylindrical building. It was initially commissioned by the Roman Emperor Hadrian as a mausoleum for himself and his family. The building

was later used by the Popes as a fortress and castle, and is now a museum. The tomb of the Emperor Hadrian was erected on the right bank of the Tiber River between 135 A.D. and 139 A.D. Originally, the mausoleum was a decorated cylinder, crowned with a garden and a golden quadriga, or two-wheeled chariot. Hadrian's ashes were placed here a year after his death in 138 A.D., together with those of his Wife, Sabina, and his first adopted Son, Lucius Aelius, who like his Father, the Emperor, died in 138 A.D. Subsequently, the remains of succeeding emperors were also situated in this locale. The urns containing these ashes were probably set in what is now known as the TREASURY, a location deep within the edifice. The remains of Hadrian and that of his successors were probably removed and scattered by Alaric, the leader of the Visigoths, who sacked and looted Rome in the year 410 A.D. The Popes converted the structure into a castle

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Community Board #12

### AWAY FROM HOME IN ROME

beginning in the fourteenth century, during which era Pope Nicholas III connected the Castle to the Vatican Basilica of Saint Peter by a covered, fortified corridor called the Passetto di Borgo. Many Popes sought refuge in the Castel Saint'Angelo during invasions of their "Eternal City." One of them, Pope Paul III constructed a lavish apartment within the structure to insure that he and Popes escaping future sieges of the City would enjoy an appropriate and properly furnished place to stay. One visiting Hadrian's Tomb today can tour the Papal Apartment in addition to the Treasury, as I was very happy to do.

In the days surrounding the Public Consistory, at which His Eminence Cardinal Dolan was given the traditional red biretta, or four-cornered, square clerical hat, befitting his new office, pilgrims from the Archdioceses of New York and Saint Louis, His Eminence's previous Episcopal See, were provided the honor of celebrating Mass with the new Cardinal at each of the four Papal Basilicas, three of which are within the Aurelian Walls, which define the ancient territorial limits of the City of Rome. A basilica is a special church building, usually grand in scope, but not necessarily so, which is specially and personally designated by the Holy Father, who accords it unique and distinctive ceremonial rights. Within Rome, there are 19 such basilicas, four of which are known as the Papal, or Major, Basilicas and the remaining 15 as the Minor, or Immemorial, Basilicas. The Papal Basilicas were formerly known as Patriarchal Basilicas in

recognition of one of the Pope's many official titles, "Patriarch of the West." In the year 2006, upon relinquishing his designation of Patriarch of the West, the present-day Holy Father, His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI, altered the names of these four (basilicas from "Patriarchal Basilicas" to "Papal Basilicas," which are:

- Saint John Lateran, "San Giovanni In Laterano," also called the "Lateran Basilica," is the Cathedral, or episcopal seat, of the Pope in his capacity as the Bishop of Rome;
- Saint Peter's Basilica, also called the "Vatican Basilica" because it is situated in the physical confines of the Vatican City-State, is erected over the burial place of Saint Peter the Apostle, the first Pope, in which the Pope presides as the Chief Shepherd and the Universal Pastor of the whole Church;
- Saint Paul Outside the Walls, San Paolo Fuori Le Mura," also known as the "Ostian Basilica," because it is situated on the road that leads to Ostia, a suburb of modern-day Rome and the seaport of ancient Rome situated on the coastline of the Mediterranean Sea at the mouth of the Tiber River, is constructed over the burial place of Saint Paul the Apostle; and
- Saint Mary Major, "Santa Maria Maggiore, the largest church in Rome dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary, also called the "Liberian Basilica" because the original building -- not the contemporary one -- is attributed to Pope Liberius, during whose Pontificate in the mid-fourth century A.D., according to tradition, the location of this basilica on

the summit of the Esquiline Hill [one of the seven hills comprising the geographical heart of the ancient City within the Aurelian Walls] and its outline were specified by the Mother of God Herself, who caused snow to fall on the fifth of August at the height of the Roman Summer. Hence, this basilica is frequently referred to as "Our Lady Of The Snow Or Of The Snows" and its dedication is remembered and celebrated every August Fifth in the liturgical calendar of the Roman Catholic Church.

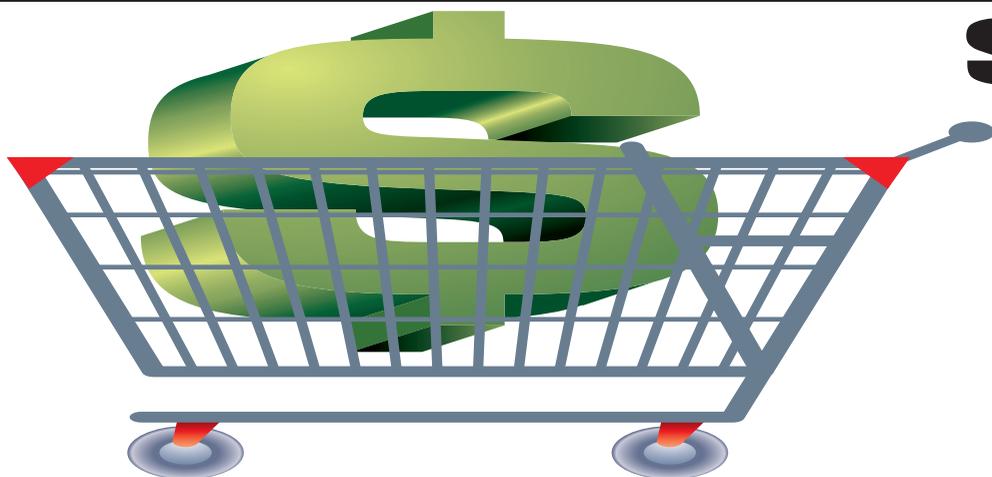
My pilgrimage to Rome and to the Vatican was not, however, exclusively for praying and attending official/liturgical functions. There were many fun-filled moments as well, particularly to sample the outstanding gastronomical delights and delicacies of "The Eternal City." New Yorkers and folks from the Archdiocese of Saint Louis had several meals with Cardinal Dolan, one of which was at the famed Ristorante Cecilia Metella on the Via Appia Antica. Besides its fantastic Italian dishes, this establishment provides an opportunity for a smidgen of historical and spiritual reflection as it is located near the spot on the Via Appia where Saint Peter the Apostle, fleeing Rome during the persecution of the Christians by "The Incendiary," the Roman Emperor Nero, encountered the Risen Jesus walking in the opposite direction towards the City. According to tradition, Saint Peter inquired of Jesus, "Quo vadis?" ("Where are you going?"). Jesus replied that He was going to Rome in order to suffer and to die with His Church, causing Saint Peter

to do an immediate about-face and hurriedly hightail it back to the city, where he was subsequently crucified upside down -- because he felt that he was unworthy to die in the same manner as His Master, Jesus -- on the summit of the Vatican Hill, the site of the present-day Basilica of Saint Peter. The Catacombs of Saint Sebastian (San Sebastiano) are a short ride by taxicab from the eatery as are many of the ancient ruins of Republican-era Rome.

One extra special moment arranged for our tour group was a private, after-hours tour of the Vatican Museums, including the awesome Sistine Chapel. The last time that I was able to gaze upon Michelangelo's frescoes many years ago, they had not yet been fully restored. Seeing the Chapel completely cleaned and refurbished was breath-taking -- literally! The walls of the Sistine Chapel are a site to behold and constitute a rich panorama of artistry and of faith that everyone should make the effort to see.

As I trust that you have seen, my trip to Rome was a moving and invigorating experience, one that allows me to wish my Christian brothers and sisters a Blessed and Happy Easter and my Jewish friends and neighbors "Zisn Pesach" ("Sweet, or Happy, Passover") with even greater joy and enthusiasm this year. I extend my best wishes as well to all of my fellow Bronxites who are Hindus, Buddhists, and Sikhs, who are also observing significant religious festivals during this month of April.

Until next time, that is it for this time!



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# Free walking tour chronicles Bronx River's Black History

BY DAVID CRUZ

The Bronx will be a virtual museum for Morgan Powell, a history buff yearning to revive the forgotten chapters of the borough's past. It will also be the setting for recognizing African-American environmentalists who have spread the word on the dangers of climate change. Both subjects will be tied together in a mile-long walking tour dubbed "African-American History Along the Bronx River II," hosted by Powell on Sunday, April 15. This is the second walking tour series for Powell.

"This is about seeing people who've been doing green-work for the past 30 years," said Powell, a Bronxwood resident. "The bigger story is African American history since people of African ancestry first got here in the 1600s."

The free tour, covering West Farms, Crotona Park East, and Bronx River neighborhoods will trans-

port guests as far back as the 1600s. Powell will highlight where enslaved Africans maintained crops during colonial times. He will take guests to 1863 when West Farms endured the draft riots for three days. He will also take guests to contemporary times when major African-American environmentalists shed a light on the impact of climate change, which is also the mission of the Bronx River Art Center, a stop on Powell's tour.

"This is where it all started in terms of focus, continuous rehabilitation of the Bronx River," said Powell, pointing to BRAC's Boston Road offices, once the home to an electronic store.

"Because of their efforts, between 1978 and '80, the foundation for what is now the Bronx River Art Center center was established," said Powell, who also credits BRAC for creating Drew Gardens, right across the street from

BRAC.

"Many years ago it was slated as an on- or off-ramp for the Cross Bronx Expressway," said Powell.

Spreading awareness has been on Powell's to-do list for nearly 20 years. He volunteered his time to the Bronx River Restoration, Bronx River Alliance and New York Botanical Garden and found there's not enough civic involvement.

"There are people who will come to an event here, an event there, but in terms of long-term dedicated volunteerism, it's very weak," said Powell. "This is a very disastrous trend for anyone who cares about the future of society."

This is the second walking tour series for Powell who had a successful run during his first tour, guiding 110 followers throughout various parts of the Bronx. Anyone interested in Sunday's event can meet across from the Lorraine Hasberry School at

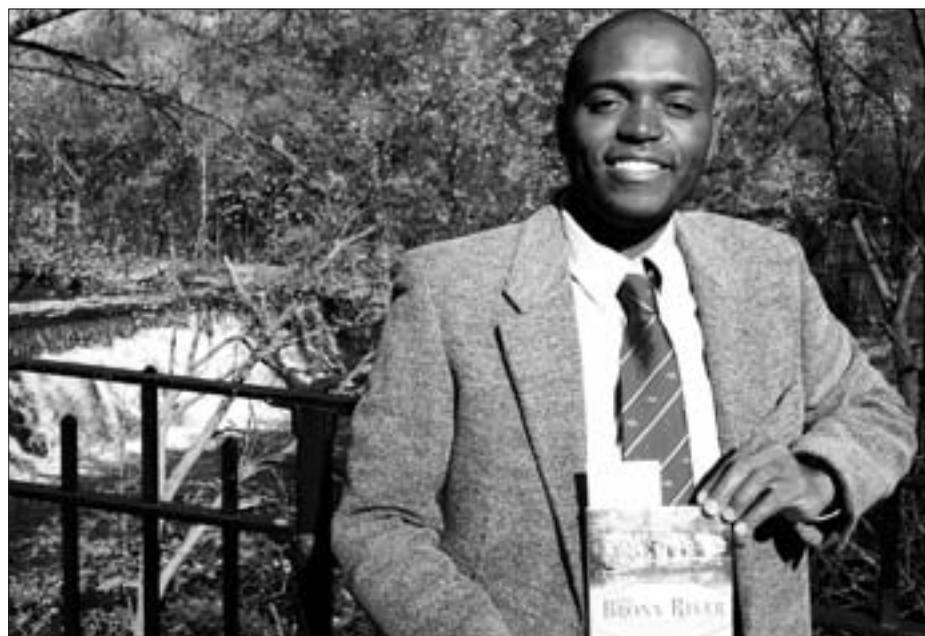


Photo by David Cruz

Tour guide Morgan Powell will raise awareness on climate change and African American history in the Bronx with a walking tour set for Sunday, April 15 in West Farms.

Here stands in front of the waterfall in River Park, holding chronicling the history of the Bronx River.

1057 East Tremont Avenue off Boston Road directly under the West Farms Square

elevated train station of the 2 and 5 trains.

To reach reporter Da-

vid Cruz, please call (718) 742-3383 or email [dcruz@cnglocal.com](mailto:dcruz@cnglocal.com).

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**40th PCT.**

**TUESDAY, MARCH 20th, 8:00 p.m.** – Willis Ave. and East 146 St. The staff at Lincoln Medical Center Emergency Room treated two males who had been shot. One of the victims was suffering from a grazed wound to the right arm, while the more serious victim had been shot in the right leg. Local detectives are conducting the inquiry.

**THURSDAY, MARCH 22nd, 1:00 a.m.** – 550 Trinity Ave. After receiving a 9-1-1 call for assistance, police officers arriving at the scene indicated that shots had been fired. Officials found evidence indicating that four shots had been discharged. There were no injuries, but property damaged was discovered by the police.

**FRIDAY, MARCH 23rd, 2:35 a.m.** – Park Ave. and East 138 St. A search was conducted for the person who fired a gun. The bullets struck a black male in both legs officials reported. The injured male was taken to Lincoln Medical Center for care. Local detectives are conducting the inquiry.

**FRIDAY, MARCH 23rd, 2:55 a.m.** – 700 Westchester Ave. A 22-caliber gun was found in possession of a suspect who failed to have the proper license for the weapon. The gun was vouched as evidence for the pending trail.

**SATURDAY, MARCH 24th, 4:10 a.m.** – Brook Ave. and East 147 St. The emergency room staff at Lincoln Medical Center treated an 18 year old black male. The teen was suffering from a bullet wound to the right thigh. Local detectives will be conducting the inquiry.

**SATURDAY, MARCH 24th, 11:40 a.m.** – 2799 Third Ave. A search continues for the persons who are breaking into pharmacies while they are closed. Authorities were notified that an unknown person did break into the drug store. It was not known exactly what was taken.

**MONDAY, MARCH 26th, 1:30 a.m.** – Westchester Ave. and Bergen Ave. An undercover police officer nabbed a male who failed to have the proper license for a gun. The 24 year old black male was arrested and the 22-caliber gun was vouched by the arresting officers.

**41st PCT.**

**MONDAY, MARCH 19th, 7:50 a.m.** – East 165 St and Faile St. Authorities were alerted that another missing manhole cover was reported. As officials were making notifications concerning the stolen cover, a report was verified that an additional cover had been taken from the front of 1224 Prospect Ave. Investigators are looking to see if there are more than one team stealing these heavy covers.

**SATURDAY, MARCH 24th, 4:07 a.m.** – A 28 year old Hispanic man was arrested

**POLICE BLOTTER**

by police investigators looking into the possible rape of a minor. The young victim received medical attention at Lincoln medical Center.

**SUNDAY, MARCH 25th, 11:30 a.m.** – 731 Southern Blvd. Police investigators are looking into an incident that caused a two-year old boy to be taken to Lincoln Medical Center. The baby was found with bruises on the body and was unresponsive. Additional medical test caused specially trained investigators to interview the parents. The baby was reported to be in serious, but stable condition.

**42nd PCT.**

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21st, 3:00 a.m.** – 945 East 167 St. Detectives are looking into a domestic incident. A 27 year old black male required medical attention after being stabbed during the incident.

**43rd PCT.**

**MONDAY, MARCH 19th, 4:50 a.m.** – Westchester Ave. and Beach Ave. Two persons were arrested and charged with stealing manhole covers. Detectives will be checking to see if these individuals can shed any light upon a recent rash of street utility covers within the county.

**THURSDAY, MARCH 22nd, 2:15 a.m.** – 1113 Ward Ave. Police investigators are looking for the person who discharged a gun. Two bullets were fired into a door. No injuries were reported.

**THURSDAY, MARCH 22nd, 3:30 a.m.** – 1225 White Plains Rd. Authorities were called to help control an emotionally disturbed person. Specially trained police officers from the Emergency Service Squad were needed at the scene to force the door so that they could gain control of the person before someone was harmed. Once in custody, the person was taken to Westchester Square Hospital and provided with medical care.

**SUNDAY, MARCH 25th, 2:40 a.m.** – 1240 Morrison Ave. Detectives are looking for persons who can shed some light onto an ongoing inquiry. A 29 year old Hispanic man was shot in the buttocks and chest. The male was transported to Jacobi Medical Center where he expired.

**SUNDAY, MARCH 25th, 7:20 a.m.** – East 172 St and Rosedale Ave. Emergency responders were called to the intersection after an elderly man passed out in a taxi. Arriving personnel found an 89 year old

man unconscious inside a Long Island taxi.

**44th PCT.**

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21st, 5:40 p.m.** – 1360 Plimpton Ave. Quick responding police officers came to the rapid aid of a crime victim and unfortunately for the culprits, the police were too quick. The victim, a 26 year old Hispanic male had been shot in the right arm during a home invasion in the Highbridge section. The quick responding police officer's actions resulted with the two culprits being arrested in addition to a gun being recovered.

**FRIDAY, MARCH 23rd, 9:50 p.m.** – East 165 St. and Jerome Ave. Police investigators are looking into stabbing. A 39 year old man walked into Lincoln Medical Center seeking assistance for a stab wound. The medical staff treated the back wound while also notifying police of the incident. Local detectives are handling the inquiry.

**45th PCT.**

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21st, 9:50 p.m.** – 100 Erskine Pl. Police investigators are looking for the person who discharged a weapon in the southern section of Co-op City. After investigating the report, officials indicated that there were no reported injuries.

**46th PCT.**

**FRIDAY, MARCH 23rd, 9:30 a.m.** – Anthony Ave. and Echo Pl. Police arrested a 31 Year old Hispanic male for illegally possessing a loaded gun in NYC. Taken away from the Latino male was a 38-caliber handgun.

**47th PCT.**

**THURSDAY, MARCH 22nd, 11:55 p.m.** – 3640 Bronx Blvd. Another man was arrested who failed to obtain a license to possess a gun within NYC. This time a 42 year old black male was taken into custody after authorities removed from the culprit a semi-automatic pistol. Vouched as evidence was a 380-caliber pistol.

**FRIDAY, MARCH 23rd, 12:35 a.m.** – 3553 Holland Ave. Police investigators indicated that several shots had been fired. There were no injuries, but police are looking for the person who was responsible for the weapon discharge.

**SUNDAY, MARCH 25th, 2:25 a.m.** – 736 East 228 St. A search of the area was conduct-

ed for the person who attacked a 36 year old black male. The victim who was stabbed in the abdomen was transported to Jacobi Medical Center. Local sleuths are conducting the inquiry.

**48th PCT.**

**MONDAY, MARCH 19th, 8:30 p.m.** – 2420 Webster Ave. Police investigators have launched an inquiry into a double shooting. Officials indicated that two males were taken to St. Barnabas Hospital. A 21 year old black male was suffering for two bullet wounds, one to the left leg and the second to the right leg. The second victim, a 19 year old Hispanic male, had been shot in the right arm.

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21st, 1:00 a.m.** – 4580 Park Ave. Police investigators are looking into a home invasion. Two unknown culprits, a female and a male, at gunpoint pushed their way into the victim's home. Taken was a television, a laptop computer, a debit card, in addition to nine-hundred dollars in cash.

**SATURDAY, MARCH 24th, 5:45 a.m.** – Mapes Ave and East Tremont Ave. Police removed another gun from local streets. This time police were able to vouch a loaded semi-automatic pistol after confirming that the 52 year old Caucasian male failed to have the proper permit to carry the weapon in NYC.

**49th PCT.**

**FRIDAY, MARCH 23rd, 6:50 p.m.** – Yates Ave and Pelham Parkway South. A civilian was arrested for interfering with the duties of a traffic agent. The unnamed culprit was charged with interfering with government administration.

**50th PCT.**

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21st, 6:00 p.m.** – 2840 Bedford Park Blvd. Police are looking into an incident where a Hispanic man was attacked. The 40 year old victim was slashed on the right cheek during a robbery attempt. The injured man was transported to St. Barnabas Hospital and provided with medical care.

**52nd PCT.**

**THURSDAY, MARCH 22nd, 7:20 p.m.** – 2722 Valentine Ave. A young teenager was arrested for possessing a semi-automatic pistol. The culprit, a 14 year old black boy, was taken into custody as police removed

the weapon for the child. The gun was vouched as evidence.

**FRIDAY, MARCH 23rd, 2:55 a.m.** – Jerome Ave. and Kingsbridge Rd. An arrest was made by police officers looking into a multi-vehicle accident. Authorities indicated that a person had stolen a Dunkin Donut truck. The stolen vehicle struck six vehicles besides causing injury to a cab driver.

**FRIDAY, MARCH 23rd, 12:30 a.m.** – 377 East Fordham Rd. A search was conducted for three males who robbed a jewelry store. The unknown trio wore ski masks to protect their identity officials reported. With a gun being displayed, the thieves removed various items from the store before fleeing.

**Housing**

**TUESDAY, MARCH 20th, 5:25 p.m.** – 1824 Watson Ave. Police officers from Housing's PSA # 8 had to call for reinforcements when they became confronted with a barricade situation. An emotionally disturbed person refused to surrender to authorities. Emergency Service Squad police officers were summoned to the scene and without incident the person voluntary surrender to waiting authorities.

**SATURDAY, MARCH 24th, 1:10 a.m.** – 1020 Sound View Ave. A joint police operations plan was executed by Housing PSA # 8 officers in addition to 43rd Pct. officers. The officers raided the basketball courts connected to a neighborhood housing development making 27 arrests.

**SUNDAY, MARCH 25th, 12:30 a.m.** – 3673 Third Ave. Police officers from Housing's PSA # 7 arrested a black male for illegally having possession of a gun. Taken away from the male culprit was a 357-caliber revolver. The handgun was vouched as evidence for the pending court case.

**Fire Log**

**TUESDAY, MARCH 20th, 2:40 p.m.** – 1960 East Tremont Ave. Local firefighters responded to a blaze reported in the Parkchester community. Engine 90 first arriving on the scene indicated that they had a serious fire. Four engines companies with three ladder companies were sent to battle the 6th floor fire. Within 15 minutes, Battalion 20 reported that the main body of fire in the 8 story structure had been extinguished. Shortly after 3 p.m., Division 7 declared the incident under control.

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21st, 1:20 p.m.** – 2518 Woodhull Ave. A fire was reported inside a private home in the Pelham Garden section off of Eastchester Rd. Firefighters arrived on scene within minutes starting to stretch the first of three hose lines into the structure. The blaze was located on the first floor of the 2 1/2 story dwelling. Officials

also indicated that there was fire in the basement; the second hose line covered that area extinguishing all visible flames. By 1:30, the chief reported that all visible fire has been extinguished and firefighters were check for any hidden pockets of fire.

**THURSDAY, MARCH 22nd, 9:05 a.m.** – Jackson Ave and East 149 St. Emergency units were called to the busy intersection after an odor was detected. First responders determined that the odor was being caused by a leak coming from the near-by BP gas station. Officials ordered additional police officers into the area to assist with evacuations. Local streets were closed and detours were established for hours. Firefighters determined that the leaking gasoline was entering the near-by sewer system creating a hazardous situation. Authorities indicated that they were getting positive readings on their explosive meters which caused the gas station and other nearby structures to be evacuated. The Fire Department's Haz-Mat Company from Queens was summoned to help contain the fuel and to isolate the leak.

**THURSDAY, MARCH 22nd, 2:00 p.m.** – 775 Concourse Village East. A second alarm was sounded for a fire in a high-rise residential building near East 156 St. A fire was reported on the 18th floor within the 24 story high structure. Arriving firefighters quickly went to work. A hose line was stretched by the engine crew while personnel from the first arriving ladder company went to search for the fire and any trapped resident on the 18th floor. The second ladder crew deployed to the 19th floor to conduct searches. Within three minutes, the incident commander ordered the transmission of a high-rise signal which caused the response of additional units. A second alarm was sounded within minutes bring a total response of over two dozen fire units including highly specialized units and chiefs to the scene. Within minutes the 14th Battalion reported that progress was being made, they had water on the flames. Ladder companies indicated that their primary searches on the fire floor were negative. Other arriving ladder crews were assigned to check the hallways and floors above the burning apartment. The fire was deemed suspicious by fire officials. One resident was transported to Lincoln Medical Center and treated for smoke inhalation. With the help of 80 plus firefighters the incident was declared under control within forty-five minutes.

**SATURDAY, MARCH 24th, 1:00 p.m.** – 2251 Sedgwick Ave. Two occupants of an apartment house were injured during a blaze. The one alarm blaze caused injury to a male who was suffering from third degree burns to torso. A female occupant was suffering from third degree burns to right arm. Both victims were transported to the Burn Center at Jacobi Medical Center.

# 2 team debaters awarded citations

BY DAVID CRUZ

With Lehman High School placed on the city's turnaround list, Councilman Jimmy Vacca sent a message to the mayor that the school is on its way up despite its turbulent record.

He did it by honoring two students involved in the school's law team.

Alban Hoxha and Tiana Quattrucci received citations from Vacca at Lehman on Friday, March 30. The pair, part of the school's Law Team, were honored for winning a spot on the New York City

The students were able to nurture their interest by signing up for Lehman High School's Law Team, a 12-member afterschool group that exposes the fundamentals of practicing law.

It's because of those programs that Vacca said Lehman should not be tweaked.

"Lehman's not a chronically failing school," said Vacca.

Both students agreed their active participation is evidence the city should not turn its back on Lehman High School.

"Our school doesn't have the highest reputation," said Hoxha. "But the fact that two kids from Lehman High School got to go to The Hague, it really makes a statement."

"We wouldn't have pursued this without Lehman," said Quattrucci.

As the Bronx Times recently reported, Lehman HS was placed on a list of failing schools after receiving an F by the Department of Education in 2010.

The grade subsequently led Mayor Bloomberg to recommend the school apply for "turnaround" funding, which is dispensed by the U.S. Department of Education. The School Improvement Grants come with several requirements, including the dismissal of up to 50% of the teaching staff.

Even as the school with an inflated population of 4,200 prepares for possible change, Quattrucci already has her mind on Franklin and Marshall, where she received a full-scholarship. She intends to pursue law.

Hoxha, still a year away from graduation, is already looking at three colleges.

He wants to pursue either a degree in law or history.

To reach reporter David Cruz, please call (718) 742-3383 or email [dacruz@cnglocal.com](mailto:dacruz@cnglocal.com).



Photo courtesy of Councilman Vacca's office.

Councilman Jimmy Vacca (c) gathers with the Lehman High School Law Team to award citations to Tiana Quattrucci (c) and Alban Hoxha (not pictured).

**But** the fact that two kids from Lehman High School got to go to The Hague, it really makes a statement.

**James Vacca**  
Councilman

All-Star International Moot Court.

They were the only two Bronx students flown to the International Criminal Court in The Hague, Netherlands where they presented their mock case at the International Criminal Court. The students stayed overseas for a week, presenting their skills before a panel of ICC judges.

"It's an adrenaline rush, said 17 year-old Quattrucci, a senior at the school, who's interest in law was borne out of her older sister, an attorney.

"I always liked to debate, I always liked to argue. My teachers were like, 'you like to argue, you like to debate, why don't you just become a lawyer,'" laughed Hoxha of his attraction to the profession.

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# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

# BRONX Times

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## It takes commitment

Dear editor,

Congratulations to Geri Demers on her retirement of the Warrior Cheerleaders after coaching and directing them for over 40 years.

People ask "Why no more cheerleaders?" The number one reason is that no one can do it to the standard that is expected of the Warriors.

In addition, the unreliability of current uniform vendors, charges at school gyms, the sight of young participants having to go through a metal detector, additional charges for "security" personnel, the condition of the playing fields, the cut off of all state funding because youth programs are considered "pork," as well as a growing lack of appreciation for the administrators and coaches who volunteer their time.

It just seems that someone spending over 2500 hours of their time per year should have more help and less hindrance from government. Nice going, Geri, and thanks. Have a great retirement.

Jerry Demers

## Lehman dismembered

Dear editor,

First, the fact that only three members of the 13-member PEP (eight members of which are appointed by the Mayor) deigned to show up tells it all. This hearing, like all of the others for the schools that have been closed down, or rather dismembered, was for show. In no instance has the panel ever voted not to close a school targeted by Bloomberg's DOE for closure.

In reading the proposal given out at the hearing, not only will 50% of the teachers be moved out in retribution for not towing Bloomberg's line on teacher evaluations, but it is clear that Lehman will become a "new school" keeping most of the students enrolled now for a short time, with enrollment dwindling because of four other schools to be co-located within the building (only given numerical designations as of now, but sure to be charter schools). The overcrowded student population will not be improved by this dismemberment, going from 3900 to approximately 3700 with all five schools accounted for. But this will allow the DOE to go after \$1,800,000 in Federal SIG funding.

And so the cycle continues, with large schools in the crosshairs for dismemberment into charters run by corporations and politically connected (Eva Moskowitz) nonprofits funded by the wealthy (eg, Bill Gates Foundation, Annenberg Fund, etc) attempting to make schools profit centers by privatization.

The tragedy is the damage, chaos, and instability these policies have caused the students and are going to continue to cause them as long as Bloomberg is in office. Can we afford to sacrifice a whole generation's educational future to Bloomberg's despotism?

Sandi Lusk

## More health bills

Dear editor,

Legislator lawyers are obsessed with reducing benefits and changing Medicare for those eligible, seniors, and retirees.

Their first attempt was the affordable health care act that wants to initiate major changes to Medicare services and will increase Medicare monthly insurance premiums to \$247 by 2014.

The next attempt will be the congressional health care for seniors act, introduced on March 16 by four Republican senators. Both acts try to entice you by giving you the good things up front and saying these changes are made in your best interest, but actually they reduce your benefits and have hidden clauses that will cost you when fully implemented and could eliminate Medicare as you know it.

The congressional act opens the federal employee health benefit plan to the public; changes the eligibility age from 65 to 70 and introduces a new healthcare expense category known as "wealthy seniors". Healthcare costs would increase by 24% for federal retirees.

It would bring down Medicare and threaten the stability of the FEHBP. Senators and congressmen will tell you they will come under the same FEHBP as seniors, but they will not tell you is that in 2014 when the act goes into effect, America's elected officials will no longer be covered under FEHBP, but will be in state-based health care exchanges.

Typical politics of smoke and mirrors and "Do as I say, not as I do".

Robert Neglia

## Pork is bad news

Dear editor,

Recent news that Democratic State Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver is considering resuming Pork Barrel Member Item spending is bad news for taxpayers. How many stories have we read concerning corruption of individuals and organizations who are recipients of member item spending? Every year, ordinary Americans, business and foundations combine to donate several hundred billion dollars to tens of thousands of charities. Why do elected officials see the need to use tax revenues to fund their own donations to charities? These are known as member items and in too many cases have in the past really been pork barrel projects. Why can't they make their own personal direct charitable donations to the charities of their choice? Just how much cash do elected officials personally

donate to charities each year out of their own salaries? Many could dip into excessive surplus campaign funds to make a donation. They could also host a fundraiser asking some of their regular campaign contributors to support charities. In addition to financial contributions, millions of Americans also donate time each week to perform volunteer work at their favorite charity. How many public officials do the same?

Too many members view the funding of member item pork barrel projects as a path to grease the wheels of reelection or run for higher public office. Like a monkey on their back, they appear to be addicted to this spending. Speaker Silver uses this as a tool to keep his loyal flock in line. Vote as directed by the "leadership", and you will receive your share of this pot of gold. Those few Democrats who have to run in competitive races receive "extra" earmarks from Silver courtesy of taxpayers.

It is common knowledge about the quid pro quo between those seeking funding and members of the State Legislature. This sometimes includes campaign contributions from the recipients senior management, hiring of public officials family, relatives or friends along with political clubhouse colleagues by the recipients, invitations to ribbon cutting ceremonies, prominent promotions in recipient newsletters, along with honoring the elected official at the organization's annual fundraising dinner etc. in exchange for receipt of the funding.

It is time to permanently end pork barrel member item spending once and for all.

Larry Penner

## No regard for shops

Dear editor,

Kudos to Bob Walpole regarding his letter in the April 5-11, 2012 edition of the Bronx Times Reporter. To describe these landlords that are putting Throggs Neck businesses out of business - the word is greed. They certainly have no regard for our neighborhood. They have been causing many establishments to close because of their greediness.

It is a poor reflection on a neighborhood when businesses close. These landlords don't know the meaning of caring about the next guy.

Emma Damm

## Going to miss pub

Dear editor,

I would like to thank Bob Walpole for his letter on the closing of Paddy Doherty's Ale House. It was a pleasure to read. These landlords do not care about the neighborhood or the people, They should move to an island all by themselves where they belong.

They are so greedy and will never understand how Paddy Doherty's Ale House made this neighborhood come together with its great food, and wonderful service. It's a great place to go, relax and have a cocktail after a hard day of work.

Bob Walpole, you wrote what many of us are feeling about the closure. Shame on these greedy landlords.

Lisa Tell

## Let us hear from you

Letters to the editor are welcome from all readers. They should be addressed care of this newspaper to John Collazzi, Publisher, the Bronx Times Reporter, 900 E. 132nd Street, Bronx, NY 10454, or e-mail to [bronxtimes@cnglocal.com](mailto:bronxtimes@cnglocal.com). All letters, including those submitted via e-mail, MUST be signed and with a verifiable address and telephone number included. Note that the address and telephone number will NOT be published and the name will be published or withheld upon request. No unsigned letters can be accepted for publication. The editor reserves the right to edit all submissions.

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## Healthcare advocates lobby pols in Albany

On March 5, the Bronx Community Health Network joined more than 400 community health-center advocates seeking support from elected officials in Albany.

The annual Community Health Center Advocacy Day is a platform for Federally Qualified Health Centers, health care providers, community organizations, patients and community members.

Attendees discussed the issues that are critically important to providing affordable, quality health care to the New York residents who need it the most.

Organized by the Community Health Care Association of New York State, the goal of the annual event is "to safeguard high-quality, affordable and accessible primary and preventative care."

BCHN sent 31 advocates to Albany for the day where they met with nine different officials and their staffs.

"We support this event annually to ensure that our 83,000-plus patients and everyone in New York state can continue to receive quality, affordable care regardless of their ability to pay" the BCHN said in a prepared statement.

"We appreciate the support of our legislators, but each year it is important for them to see that our commitment to improving the health of Bronx residents remains strong. We can't do it without their support."

# Modi at Fieldston Lodge

## Comedian's performance highlights facility's makeover

BY PATRICK ROCCHIO

A local nursing home is counting on comedy to help make the case about the quality of its medical treatment and care.

Fieldston Lodge Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, located at 666 Kappock Street, will be hosting comedian Modi in a special performance entitled "A Spectacular Night Out" that will take place at the facility on Tuesday, April 17, said administrator Mayer Spielman.

Modi has been voted one of the top 10 comedians in New York and Los Angeles by the Hollywood Reporter and Backstage, according to his bio.

The special performance will be followed by a tour of the facility for the community, representatives from various hospitals that refer clients to Fieldston Lodge, and doctors, Spielman said.

The facility is hoping to highlight what has been a three-year process of upgrading both the physical plant and the staffing of Fieldston Lodge, Spielman stated.

"It is a perfect light-hearted situation and they can come in, relax, and while they are here they can see who we are first-hand," Spielman said. "I recently saw Modi in a performance and the thing that I liked most was that his delivery of comedy was so natural, and his jokes were just pure, clean comedy."

Fieldston Lodge is doing something that is positive to promote their health care and it is important that the comedy be both clean and hilarious, with Modi certainly fitting the bill, Spielman said. He is known name in the world of comedy and should provide a nice backdrop to the entire event, which should be part-

party, part-walking tour, Spielman stated.

Often, when representatives of hospitals like Montefiore Medical Center, Jacobi Hospital and Bronx Lebanon come to the Fieldston they can only do so as part of a busy day when there is a lot happening back at the office, Spielman said. This kind of relaxed comedy event and tour can help those people who have to refer patients to the hospital by providing a time when they can truly take in the entire facility at a relaxed pace. This includes enhancements to the living quarters like granite counter tops and shower heat lamps, and an updated family recreation lounge that can be used for private parties, Spielman stated.

People from the community are invited.

For more information about Fieldston Lodge, please call (718) 549-1203.

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# Bronx schools

## First and second honors at St. Catharine

**St. Catharine Academy Third Quarter First Honors:** Class of 2012: Emian Ali, Akrea Arthur, Shannon Butler, Ciela Ann Castro, Tiffany Crecco, Angelica Cruz, Jasmine Cruz, Alyssa DelValle, Antonetta Gambino, Zamira Hysaj, Raven Ibrator, Akunne Kanu, Alyssa LaPadula, Brauna Marks, Kimberly Nanta, Kristin Negron, Le My Ngo, Amanda Ortiz, Amber Rosado, Renee Sewell, Aisha Shillingford, Alma Simoni, Nicole Ward. Class of 2013: Chinwe Abaraoha, Oluwayoi Adeniyi, Dominique Angell, Dominique Benn, Leonora Berisha, Liana Billingy, Kalani Browne, Kaylani Caballero, Naniaka Camara, Juline Cano, Ariane Castro, Shannan Drew, Cassie Dulac, Jazmin Fortuna, Shannon Hilario, Laura Hooks, Vanessa Jamin, Arielle Jean-Pharuns, Mijanoux Joachim Robinson, Kiana Manon, Linda Mardjonovic, Abigail Matamoros, Briana Matos, Selena Merino, Yasmine Montes De Oca, Enida Morina, Nhi Nguyen, Stephanie Resto, Trisha Rosado, Jenil Rosario, Dajah Smith, Abeke Teyibo, Demetra Veroutis, Diamond Villegas, Marinele Vucinaj. Class of 2014: Joanna Abaraoha, Jamie Abudu-Solo, Michelle Antico, Julie Araujo, Briana Arnao, Victoria Avellino-Batt, Leanna Bonanno, Jacklyn Borja, Nicolette Cibelli, Kelsey Columnna, Lilybeth Delgado, Amanda Espinal, Jacqueline Figueroa, Valona Gjeka, Kelly Gomez Baque, Maria Healy, Gina Lall, Alexa Lugo, Ashlica Malcolm, Sairah Noreen, Shanti Olivero, Ariana Pazmino, Desirae Pena, Kaila Quinones, Mehar Rafiq, Alondra Ramirez Benitez, Megan Rodriguez, Jenesis Veras. Class of 2015: Aimee Arias, Nerys Castillo-Santana, Kadean Chambers, Kiana Chen, Ar-

rianna Colquhoun, Doralis Corniel, Diana Djurasevic, Allison Griffith, Tamie Le, Karina Meythaler Falcones, Serena Molina, Blair Ortiz, Yolanda Pinckney, Rabeea Rafiq, Angelie Rendon-Martinez, Karina Rosa-Medina, Alina Sydorenko, Pamela Udoye, Shelda Zajmi.

**Third Quarter Second Honors:** Class of 2012: Dunia Abdulkader, Alana Ayala, Lizmari Bernal, Janee Betancourt, Lexeus Betancourt, Melissa Borrero, Briana Carbon, Donika Cotaj, Aiyana Crews, Ashley Fermin, Elisa Frangaj, Alexa Giampia, Klaudia Gjergji, Sidorela Gjoni, Aricelles Gonzalez, Diomaris Gonzalez, Marlene Gonzalez, Evis Haxhari, Roberta Hope, Shauna Ingram, Somia Javed, Kelly Juliano, Tyana Kennedy, Jacqueline Lugo, Krysta Manayon, Terica Medwinter, Elizabeth Mendoza, Chinell Mills, Ne'Asa Mitchell, Kristina Nokaj, Melanie Pappalardi, Alina Peralta, Meri Preldakaj, Madeline Ramos, Aniqua Reese, Shauna Roberts, Elena Rodriguez, Raquel Rosario, Hana Salah, Shayann Santiago, Jessica Sepp, Iliana Soto, Nicole Taveras, Kiana Thompson, Aaliyah Toney, Diana Vacco, Jazmille Vargas, Ingrid Williams. Class of 2013: Jennifer Batista, Kimberly Bazan, Virginia Blanco, Diane Butler, Gabrielle Carballo, Shanell Chin, Shanice Corbett, Lisanna DeSieno, Tyffany Deterville, Tatiana Golden, Carmela Hernandez, Yanelis Hernandez, Natalia Lantigua Mancebo, Shathalia Lindsay, Giovanna LoPiccolo, Jennifer Lorenz, Angela Maiorino, Carlyn Martinez, Suada Memedodoka, Anna Papoutsakis, Janelle Pascual Alba, Johanna Perez, Jahmelia Peters, Trudy-Ann Prince, Ayesha Qureshi, Janet Ramirez, Pembe Rebollo, Angela Reid, Brittany Rivera, Kelly Rosati, Ta-

tiana Salcedo, Brianna Sanders, Ashley Schorea, Laura Spence, Tahreem Tariq, Shameka Taylor, Randi Trinidad, Jessica Vazquez, Taylor Velez, Johana Villar, Gabrielle Vitiello, Luiza Vukaj, Amber Washington. Class of 2014: Iliana Alvarado, Valerie Amarosa, Katherine Angulo, Vanessa Battista, Ashley Cabrera, Minerva Cano, Tameka Cobian, Xhesika Corraj, Amber Cruz, Laura Delgado, Daniella DiNardo, Kristjana Dushaj, Crystal Fino, Marina Fraga, Albenita Haxhaj, Bianca Heng, Christina LaStarza, Christina Lombardo, Quyen Luong, Nicole-Anne McDonald, Savannah Miranda, Amanda Mondelli, Katherine Nunez, Sarah O'Farrill, Tiffanie Perricone, Enid Ramos, Brittney Ramsaroop, Rima Reda, Sanina Reid, Kassandra Rodriguez, Jenna Stokes, Christine Torres, Angela Ullman, Xibelli Valdespino, Sabrina Venegas Suazo, Tiara Williams. Class of 2015: Gbemisola Adaramola, Genevieve Aguilan, Evelyn Aguilar, Feysisara Aikulola, Taina Arce, Dana Austin, Danielle Billingy, Ronette Campbell, Danielle Cavaluzzo, Martine Cioffi, Iyana Conaway, Chelsea Coombs, Jaileen Cortes, Kayla Marie Deslandes, Caitlin Dixon, Arta Djonbalaj, Johanna Garcia, Xhesilda Gjyriqi, Erica Gonzalez-Bravo, Jada Harper, Nalanai Harris, Harianne Hewitt, Cindy Hidalgo, Hue Huynh, Gisselle Lara, Indya Lowery, Johnae McGraw, Kerstynne Moran, Gabriella Mordan, Michelle Mottl, Tennifer Noyan, Veronica Nwahir, Angeline Peart, Kimberly Pena, Sabrina Pena, Tiffany Pena, Brianna Picone, Trisha Ramcharan, Yulia Samboryk, Jaida Sanchez, Karen Thorsen, Bianca Valenti.



Top fundraising class at St. Raymond presents check for \$2,446.24 to Kelsey Gilmore of the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society.

## St. Ray's for Boys raise leukemia \$\$

For the seventh straight year, the St. Raymond High School for Boys community participated in the Pennies for Patients program to raise funds for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS). Students collected pennies and other spare change from classmates, teachers, family and friends over the course of three weeks in March. The school as a whole was able to raise \$2,446.24, which is the highest total for St. Raymond in seven years. The program is coordinated by the school's campus minister, Br. Richard Galvin.

At the conclusion of this year's Pennies for Patients fundraising, Kelsey Gilmore, campaign manager for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, visited St. Raymond to congratulate the classes that raised the most money and to explain what their fundraising means. "You are truly remarkable and you should be so proud of all your efforts," Gilmore said, addressing Mr. Winkle's senior class that raised \$567.25. "Pennies for Patients is all about teamwork. Thank you for making a difference and helping to save lives."

The top senior class presented Ms. Gilmore with a check made out to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society in the amount of \$2,446.24. "Each student in this class did a great job over the three weeks," Mr. Winkle said. "It was a team effort and everyone contributed." Ms. Gilmore also met with Mr. DeLuca's senior class to thank them for their efforts as the second place classroom, raising \$414.74. The top fundraising classes in each grade earned a dress down day, and the top class overall also earned a pizza party.

## Spellman marches to honor St. Patrick

Cardinal Spellman High School marched up 5th Avenue in the 251st annual New York City St. Patrick's Day Parade on Saturday, March 17. This year's Parade honored the men and women of America's Armed Forces. Under sunny skies

and light winds, Rev. Trevor Nicholls (president), and Daniel O'Keefe (principal) were joined by faculty, alumni/ae, the band, cheerleaders, twirlers and flag corps to honor the Patron Saint of Ireland and the Archdiocese of New York.

Large crowds greeted the Spellman marchers as the school contingent made its way past St. Patrick's Cathedral, where Timothy Cardinal Dolan, Archbishop of New York, viewed the parade, and up to the parade's end at 79th Street.



In front of St. Patrick's Cathedral (l-r) Daniel O'Keefe (principal), Rev. Trevor Nicholls (president), Most Rev. Gerald T. Walsh, Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of New York, Bishop Nicholas DiMarzio, spiritual leader of the Diocese of Brooklyn, and Spellman juniors Amanda McKenna and Danielle McKenna.

## Mount teachers receive top grant

Mount St. Michael Academy history teachers Mark Dilone and vice principal Joseph Hummel have been awarded prestigious grants from the Gilder Lehrman Institute that will allow them to participate in seminars this summer which will enhance their knowledge of American History in order to share it with Mount students. The selection process for the grants was very competitive.

Mark will participate in Everyday Life in Early America at Yale University, New Haven, CT, from July 22-28, 2012. The seminar will explore central themes and questions relating to everyday life during the

colonial period of American history (roughly 1600-1775). The main focus will be New England—and the history that remains evident in its natural and built landscape—but, wherever possible, reference will be made to other colonial venues as well.

Joseph will participate in The Gilded Age and Its Modern Parallels at Stanford University, Palo Alto, CA, from July 15 to 21. The seminar will focus on markets, corruption, and mass immigration in the Gilded Age. Participants will look at the rise of the modern corporation and the first great age of modern technology in the United States. Topics include Edison and

the World's Fair, the Penny Press, Mass Culture, Advertising, and the Expansion of the State.

Mount teachers have been regular recipients of Gilder Lehrman Grants. Founded in 1994, the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History is a nonprofit organization supporting the study and love of American history through a wide range of programs and resources for students, teachers, scholars, and history enthusiasts throughout the nation. The Institute creates and works closely with history-focused schools; organizes summer seminars and development programs for teachers.



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# Bronx beat

## Hudson Valley Bank names branch manager

James J. Landy, president and CEO of **Hudson Valley Bank**, has announced that Hector Laspina has been named assistant vice president and manager for the bank's Hutch Metro Office, located at 1250 Waters Place.

Laspina joins Hudson Valley Bank from Capital One Bank, where he was an assistant vice president and branch manager in the Bronx. Prior to that he was an assistant branch manager for North Fork Bank in the Bronx.

A resident of the Bronx, Laspina is an active board member for the Upper Bronx Napra and El Maestro, Inc. He is also a member of the Bronx Chamber of Commerce and the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.

The branch serves the deposit, lending and investment needs of Hutch Metro tenants, as well as businesses and individuals in and around the Westchester Square, Pelham Bay and Morris Park areas.

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Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr. and Mercy College, in conjunction with Bronx-based Harry S Truman High School, announced the launch of **The Bronx Achievement Pact**, an innovative new educational initiative that aims to raise high school graduation rates, enhance college readiness and maximize college enrollment.

By leveraging the resources of colleges and universities and collaborating with existing public high schools, the Bronx Achievement



HECTOR LASPINA

Pact is a comprehensive and scalable solution to the education crisis. Educational indicators in the Bronx are the lowest in New York City, with just 59% of Bronx students graduating from high school and only 17% considered "college ready" by the New York State Education Department. The Bronx Achievement Pact will expand opportunities for Bronx students by bridging the gap between high school and college to raise high school graduation rates, improve college readiness and increase college enrollment.

The Bronx Achievement Pact uses a comprehensive strategy that integrates successful high school and college experiences:

**Early College Program:** Offering students 30 hours of transferable college credits during the regular high school day, with the option of completing an additional 30 credits to earn an Associate's degree dur-

ing summers, weekends and school breaks, all at no cost to students or their parents

**College and Career Exploration:** Building awareness about all aspects of the college process and various career pathways

**Learning Excellence:** Facilitating focused tutoring and mentoring relationships between high school and college students

**Summer Support:** Engaging struggling students by sharpening skills in literacy, math and critical thinking and exposing them to college

**Parent and Community Engagement:** Providing parents with the knowledge and skills to support their children on the path to and through college

Mercy College will partner with Harry S. Truman High School in the Bronx to pilot the Bronx Achievement Pact in September 2012. It will expand to include one additional high school in September 2013, and then will continue to expand into 2-5 schools each year until all Bronx high schools with a graduation rate below 70% can join the Bronx Achievement Pact.

To support its growth over the next several decades, the Bronx Achievement Pact aims to raise \$100 million in operating and endowment funds. This funding will allow the initiative to sustain and expand programming, ensuring that all students in our target schools can take advantage of the Bronx Achievement Pact.

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## Bronx Zoo to receive national award

The Education Department at the Wildlife Conservation Society's Bronx Zoo has been named winner of the 2012 EdCom Award for Excellence in Programming by the American Association of Museums (AAM) for its Wildlife Career Ladder program for teens.

The EdCom Award for Excellence in Programming recognizes exemplary creativity and innovation in museum educational programming. The award marks the second prestigious institutional honor conferred on WCS's Wildlife Career Ladder. The same program received the Association of Zoos and Aquariums Diversity Award in September 2011.

The AAM will honor the WCS Education Department for its latest achievement on April 29 in Minneapolis.

Established in 2008-09 with support from the Bronx Institute of Lehman College through funding from a U.S. Department of Education GEAR UP grant, the Wildlife Career Ladder is a multi-year program that engages underserved students at the beginning of their sophomore year in high school and takes them through the beginning of their junior year. There are currently 50 young people enrolled in the program – almost all of whom are minorities and many come from some of the lowest income communities in the

country.

The Wildlife Career Ladder consists of three main components: an after-school and weekend wildlife science course where students receive an intensive introduction to wildlife and conservation science topics; an explainers program where students engage in further study enabling them to work as exhibit interpreters or "explainers" at WCS's Bronx Zoo; and a career ladder internship where students are placed in part-time positions throughout WCS in order to gain first-hand experience with different career opportunities available in wildlife conserva-

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## BOROUGH PRESIDENT CELEBRATES WOMEN'S HISTORY



Photo by Laura Stone

Borough President Diaz celebrated Women's History Month with a brunch and program that touched on the themes of women's education and empowerment on Tuesday, March 20. The event took place at Tosca's Restaurant and was hosted by the borough's first lady, Hilda Diaz.

Diaz honored Beatrice Castiglia-Catullo, the founder of R.A.I.N.; Deputy Inspector Nilda Hofmann, commander of the 25th Precinct in Manhattan; and Belkis Lora, CEO and president of the Grand Slam Foundation.

Pictured (l-r) are Hofmann, Castiglia-Catullo, Diaz, First Lady Diaz, NY 1's Roma Torre, and Lora.



Photo by Laura Stone

## EINSTEIN HOLDS 9TH ANNUAL DOCTOR'S SYMPOSIUM

On Wednesday, March 28, Albert Einstein College of Medicine of Yeshiva University held its 9th Annual Doctors' Recognition Day Symposium, Poster Presentations and Physicians' Exposition, held at 1300 Morris Park Avenue.

Participating in the event were Dr. Larry Ham and Dr. Helen Zalinya of Bronx Lebanon Hospital.



## DOUG E. FRESH DINES AT BABALU

On Saturday, March 24, record producer and rapper Doug E. Fresh stopped by Babalu Restaurant to sample the pan-latin menu.

Participating in the event were (l-r) Chef Rene Garcia, Ralph Mercado III, John Rivera, Doug E. Fresh, and Chef Alex Garcia.

Photo courtesy of the RMM Group



Photo by Laura Stone.

## CUP OF JOE WITH BENEDETTO

Assemblyman Michael Benedetto lent his ear to constituents at Scott's Place Cafe at 3604 E Tremont Avenue on Sunday, April 1. He discussed various neighborhood issues, such as the planned closing of Lehman High School, as well as the recently passed NYS budget for 2012-13.

(Above) Assemblyman Benedetto (l) with constituent Toby Liederman of City Island.

## EASTER BUNNY VISITS REST HOME

The Providence Rest Family Council hosted a visit by the Easter bunny for the nursing home's residents on Saturday, March 31.

The Easter bunny is pictured with (l-r) resident helen Henriquez, and council members Linda Collazzi, Easter Bunny, Johanna Volpicelli and Edward King.

Photo courtesy of Providence Rest



## FATHERS TAKE ACTION FORUM HELD



Photo courtesy of Borough President Diaz Jr.'s office

Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr. held his first ever "Bronx Fathers Taking Action" conference on Thursday, March 29 in the rotunda at the county building at 851 Grand Concourse. The conference included a discussion, led by Diaz, with educators, social workers, and psychologists, as well as fathers, on the importance of a father's involvement in their children's lives.



Photo courtesy of Mount St. Ursula

## CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOLS PERFORM AIDA

On March 23-25, students from the Academy of Mount St. Ursula, along with Fordham Prep, All Hallows, and Mount St. Michael Academy took to the stage and performed in the Tony Award winning musical AIDA.



Photo courtesy of Mount Carmel Senior Center

## MOUNT CARMEL CENTER WELCOMES MARINES

Two returning U.S. Marines from the Belmont and Fordham communities were honored at the Mount Carmel Senior Center, located at 2405 Southern Boulevard, during a recent St. Patrick's Day celebration. The soldiers received citations. Pictured are Sergeant Alberto Aviles Jr., Gloria Koppie, and Private First Class Jason Davila.



Photo courtesy of Andover Communications

## ST. BARNABAS HOSPITAL HONORED AT BX COUNTY DOCTORS' DINNER

On Thursday, March 29, Dr. Mark Rosing, director of the Obstetrics and Gynecology Department at St. Barnabas Hospital, was honored with the Peer-to-Peer Excellence in Medicine Award at the Bronx County Medical Society's 9th Annual Doctors' Recognition Day Symposium. Family and colleagues from St. Barnabas Hospital joined Dr. Rosing in the celebration.

## Kingsbridge Heights Community Center hosts health fair

On Thursday, April 19, the Kingsbridge Heights Community Center is hosting a Working on Wellness (W.O.W.) Health Fair.

The health fair will be running from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. It will be providing free blood pressure

screening, glucose screening, HIV testing/counseling and dental screening.

W.O.W. will also have information on FreshAir Fund Camp and other programs available through Kingsbridge Heights Community

Center including Childcare Training, GED Preparation, and College Directions, plus much, much more.

The fair will take place at 3101 Kingsbridge Terrace. For more information call (718) 884-0700, ext. 178.

for your health

# Touro College places grads at top hospitals nationwide

Many of the graduating seniors at the Touro College of Osteopathic Medicine (TouroCOM) in Harlem have landed top residencies for next year, it was announced today by Dean Robert Goldberg, DO. Over half of the 135 students in the class of 2012 will enter primary care residencies - a cornerstone of the school's mission.

Thus far, 126 students have been successfully matched, with over half entering primary care, which includes family practice, internal medicine, and pediatrics. The remaining students will be working in a variety of specialties including OB/GYN, pathology, radiology, psychiatry, neurology, anesthesiology, surgery, and emergency.

"The performance of our students has been outstanding," said Dr. Goldberg. "They have landed residencies in some of the most competitive and sought-after programs in the country. This shows the muscle that TouroCOM has in preparing its graduates to serve people in need. We are very proud of them."

Students secured spots in top residency programs in prestigious hospitals across the country, including the Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C.; Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, Md.; New York University Medical Center, St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital, New York Presbyterian Hospital, Einstein/Beth Israel Hospital, and Lenox Hill Hospital in New York; and Westchester Medical Center.

"I am so happy, and so excited," said An Dinh, a student who will become a resident in psychiatry at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, Texas, and who was born and raised in Japan. Ms. Dinh, who attended the University of California at San Diego prior to TouroCOM, said she plans

to seek a fellowship in child and adolescent psychiatry following her residency. "I would love to work with an underserved population," she said.

Sunberri Murphy, a graduate of the University of California, Davis and a native of Los Angeles, was similarly pleased with her match in anesthesiology at Johns Hopkins, after which she plans to complete a fellowship and enter academic medicine. "I am incredibly happy," she said. "I knew from the moment I walked into Johns Hopkins on my interview day that I belonged there."

Although the TouroCOM students will all become osteopathic physicians, they were eligible to apply for both allopathic (M.D.) and osteopathic (DO) residencies. Approximately half the class participated in last week's allopathic residency "Match Day," the annual ritual when most medical students nationwide learn where they will continue their medical training as residents. The remaining half participated in the osteopathic "Match Day" and learned about their residencies in February.

The allopathic residency 'matches' are made by the National Resident Matching Program and the osteopathic matches by the National Matching Services (NMS). Both organizations use computerized mathematical algorithms to align the preferences of applicants with those of residency program directors. NRMP residencies are open to students at both allopathic and osteopathic medical schools. The NMS residencies are open only to DO students.

Kenneth J. Steier, DO, MPH, MHA and clinical dean at TouroCOM, added: "Resident selection is based predominantly on the student's performance while on rotations at the hospitals, as well as their national

board scores. This selection of TouroCOM students for top national residency programs reflects well on Touro."

This year marks the second year that TouroCOM students have participated in the matches. Opened in Harlem in fall 2007, Touro took the bold move to open the medical school to address the disproportionately low numbers of minorities in medicine, and to confront the lack of interest in primary care. In the 2012 class, approximately 15 percent are underrepresented minorities.

TouroCOM is dedicated to mentoring students as soon as they begin their medical education. The deans and faculty work closely with the students to ensure that they receive a rigorous, hands-on medical education, as well as offer many programs that allow students to interact directly with the community. This exposure ultimately guides students through the process of successfully landing residencies at top institutions.

TouroCOM advances the osteopathic profession and serves its students and society by providing a firm educational foundation that encourages research and scholarly activity and participation in community service. The College functions as an integral part of the New York City/Harlem community, working with local schools and other colleges and universities to promote the study of medicine, encourage continuing development, increase educational opportunities and deliver medical services in a variety of community settings. In addition to its focus on primary care, the College emphasizes the promotion of wellness from prenatal through geriatric care. For further information visit: <http://www.touro.edu/med/>

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# Ensuring the job is done right

## Housing Rehabilitation Assistance program thrills another home improvement client

Neil Andrews and his wife, Althea Saunders-Andrews, bought their home two years ago knowing full well that it was a fixer upper. And fixing it up is just what they've been doing — nearly every inch of it.

It's a work in progress. All over the house, floors are covered by heavy paper or plastic as remodeling goes on. Outside, there is no facade on the first-floor front wall, and there's just dirt where the stoop should be. The contractor disappeared before the job was done.

But there's one room that's completely done, and one project outside that is too. Those are the projects that were handled through the Housing Rehabilitation Assistance program — so not only are they done, they're done right.

HRA is the organization that's helping homeowners all over the city and on Long Island do the home renovations of their dreams — using the best, most reliable contractors. Not only does HRA find the right company to do a project, it also works with banks to get the loans for major renovations, finds extra financial assistance for clients who qualify, explains the tax breaks that come with energy-efficient door and window treatments and new insulation — and ensures the job is always done right by holding contractors' payments in escrow until clients certify that they're absolutely satisfied.

Neil and Althea are quite happy with the work that HRA-approved workers did at their home in Levittown, LI, completely remodeling a second-floor bathroom and adding a concrete pad and walkway all around the outside of the house.

"You can accomplish your dreams through Housing Rehabilitation Assistance, and I really appreciate that," Althea said.

"It's a good program. The economy is not that great, things are expensive, and it's a good way to get things done. These people are reliable, and they went out of their way for me."

When she mentioned that HRA's representatives went out of their way for her, Althea was specifically talking about the time her car broke down — on the very day she had to get some important paperwork to the bank for her project. Her rep drove to Long Island from the Bronx to pick her up, take care of the paperwork and then bring her to her job in Manhattan.

That's how far above and beyond the call HRA will go for

**"You can accomplish your dreams through Housing Rehabilitation Assistance, and I really appreciate that."**

— Althea Saunders

its clients. And the organization puts just as much care into its oversight of remodeling projects, giving homeowners the peace of mind that comes with knowing the job will always be done right.

For Neil and Althea, the HRA-approved contractors took everything out of the entire bathroom and gave them a modern, sparkling one with matching porcelain tile on the floor and walls, a granite sinktop, a curved vanity that maximizes usable space in the small room, real wood cabinetry, a solid wood door — and hot-tub jets in the bath tub for maximum comfort.

"They gutted everything and put in real quality stuff," Althea

said. Pointing out the built-in shelves in the shower walls, she added, "I like the little details."

Behind the tiled walls are new insulation and new pipes. One had been leaking — a major reason Althea and Neil wanted to do the project in the first place. The mechanicals for the hot-tub jets can be reached through a panel in the hallway.

The other HRA project was the outside concrete work, which the organization recommended to keep soil away from the house. It has totally transformed the couple's side yard.

"This was all mud," Althea said. "You couldn't do anything here. Now you can entertain, get a barbecue grill and get some friends over, or just put a couple chairs out and enjoy a summer breeze."

When they put down the concrete, the contractors made sure to leave one strip of soil against the fence, away from the house, as it was. That's where Althea has her roses.

One of the guys even made sure to tie one wandering limb to the fence to ensure it wouldn't get damaged. "It's the little things," Althea said.

It's no surprise that HRA-approved workers are that careful. Just take a look at the program's requirements for contractors. They all must be:

- licensed, bonded and insured for at least \$100,000 per incident;
- registered with the Better Business Bureau, with a rating of an A or higher, and on file with Consumer Affairs;
- in business for at least 10 years with no name changes on their corporate filings;
- able to provide the names and addresses of eight clients that they have performed home



One feature of her new bathroom that Althea Saunders really appreciates in the solid wood door.

improvement projects for in the past year such that we will be able to inspect these projects to ensure that they meet HRA standards; and

• able to perform four test projects for the HRA prior to working for any clients.

"The services offered by the HRA extend beyond just financial assistance for home improvement projects," an administrator with the program explains. "We have implemented numerous processes to ensure that projects completed by HRA-approved contractors are done to the homeowner's satisfaction."

While they continue to do the rest of the work on their house, Neil and Althea are staying at their apartment in Manhattan, along with their 2-year-old son

— whose arrival is what decided them on a house in the suburbs in the first place.

Like many HRA clients, Althea found out about the program through a card that came in the mail. Though skeptical at first, she checked it out and found that it was the right program for her. Now she's recommending HRA to her sister, who's planning some remodeling — and anyone else with home improvement work to get done.

To find out if you qualify for the Housing Rehabilitation Assistance program, just call HRA toll-free at 866-504-0624. Tell them you read about the great job they did for Althea and Neil, and they'll be sure to give you the same level of excellent service. ■



Althea looks forward to entertaining in her side yard, where HRA-approved contractors installed a new concrete pad, and were careful around the roses.



The new sinktop and curved vanity are made of granite and stone.



The bathtub-shower features glass doors and hot-tub jets.



Little details like built-in shelving in the shower mean a lot to Althea.

# 2012 NEW YORK INTERNATIONAL AUTO SHOW

**CNG** **BRONX Times**  
Community Newspaper Group REPORTER INC.

21 BRONX TIMES APR. 12-18, 2012



# GRAND SCHEMES

see inside p.23

**8 PAGE  
PULLOUT**

**OPEN FOR  
BUSINESS**

**MILEAGE  
MATTERS**



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# SHOWTIME

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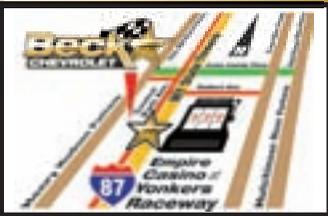
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# GRAND SCHEMES

## The newest concepts focus on style and practicality

**H**ALF a century ago, concepts looked way ahead, usually to the year 2000, when we'd all have robot servants and go on vacations to the moon. These days, concepts tend to look ahead just a couple of years. They still showcase future technology, or some are asking the question - should we build this car? If the crowds at New York give the thumbs-up to these concepts, then something very similar could be on the road in the very near future.

**WORLD DEBUT**



**HONDA CROSSTOUR**

Honda says the Crosstour concept reveals the exterior styling direction of the updated 2013 Crosstour. This crossover has had a pretty cool reception since its launch in 2009 with a rather odd coupe-like body. We guess this concept could be exploring ways to improve cargo and rear headroom.

It's currently available in two- or four-wheel drive, and ranges from \$27,655 for the four-cylinder to \$30,340 for the V6.

No image of the concept was available before the show.

**US DEBUT**

**RANGE ROVER EVOQUE CONVERTIBLE**

The production Evoque looks



**US DEBUT**

**MW 18 CONCEPT SPYDER**

Following the reveal of BMW's 2+2 i8 Coupe concept last year, New York sees a mouth-watering open-top roadster.

Apart from making us weep because we can't have one, the job of the Spyder is to showcase lightweight construction and eDrive hybrid-electric technology. Its passenger cell is made of lightweight, strong carbon-fiber-reinforced plastic

(CFRP), while the Drive modules are made primarily from aluminum components.

The 131-hp electric motor on the front axle works in tandem with a turbocharged three-cylinder petrol engine sending 223 hp through the rear wheels. The Spyder can sprint from 0 to 62 mph (100 km/h) in 5.0 sec on the way to an electronically governed top speed of 155 mph. In European tests, it has recorded a jaw-dropping 94 mpg.

like a concept with its low roofline and chunky body style (see road test on page 65). The convertible concept, however, can stow the roof in its trunk. What can we say? It has to be done. What else offers such chic off-roader style

and a tan in the city, but can also carry you and your friends to the shore? There's the Jeep Wrangler, but nothing as upscale as this.

The Jaguar Land Rover pretends that this is merely a concept and there are no plans for a

production vehicle, but we're not buying that.

**WORLD DEBUT**

**VW ALLTRACK CONCEPT**

Take one European Passat Estate, give it the Audi Allroad

treatment and it would look a lot like the VW Alltrack Concept.

Over the pond, wagons are called estates (as in country estate) and they're driven by golfers and antiques dealers rather than your grandmother. To try and tempt Americans out of their SUVs, VW has crafted this wagon with chunky bumpers, four-wheel drive and some real off-road and towing ability.

It's powered by a frugal 2.0-liter turbocharged TDI Clean Diesel engine delivering 140 hp and 236 lb-ft of torque mated to a six-speed DSG® dual-clutch automatic transmission.

VW says it has no plans to introduce the vehicle in the U.S., but the company will be watching the crowds in New York to see if buyers are ready to look at a wagon rather than yet another SUV.

**WORLD DEBUT**



**INFINITI EV**

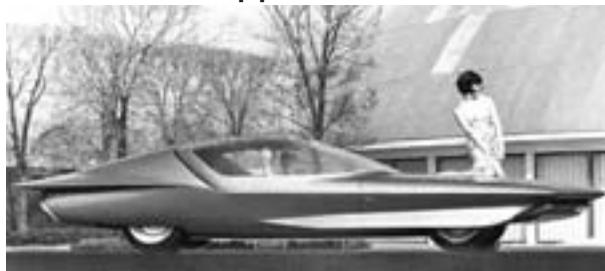
Infiniti has released a series of sketches of its first electric luxury vehicle, set to launch in 2014. We're expecting a dramatic unveil on April 5. We know it won't look anything like its successful little cousin, the Nissan Leaf, but it will have benefited from the data gathered by that vehicle about the technology and the market. As befits an Infiniti, the EV will be a stylish, high-performance, five-seat luxury vehicle featuring zero-emissions technology.

**T**HE Century Cruiser concept (pictured right) that was unveiled at the International Auto Show at the New York Coliseum in March 1968 was described as "a four-passenger car of tomorrow." So, did we get the luxuries it promised?

The description reads: "In the monitored highway of tomorrow, the Century Cruiser would be driven manually to an automatic superhighway where all the controls would then be turned over to an electronic system to guide the car over a computer-programmed route at established, safe distances from other vehicles."

## THE WAY WE WERE

Whatever happened to the world we were promised?



That sounds great, but we will probably never get automated highways because of the insurance implications —

If there was an accident, who would pay out? However, the auto industry is working on connected cars and highways.

Roadside beacons might spot traffic jams and inform sat-nav systems or alert cars to vacant parking spaces. Connected cars could warn each other about hazards. And while we can't let the car take us there, we can program a route into our sat-nav.

We're told, "The Century Cruiser has a sleek aerodynamic body finished in bright metallic blue, a double-bubble roof and all-silver interior with television, stereo, game table and refrigerator." We

certainly got aerodynamic bodies created with the help of computers and wind tunnels. We've got better than a stereo radiogram or TV, and we can download music on the move. Many SUVs and minivans now offer individual screens to keep passengers happy with DVDs or limited TV options.

Some glove boxes are cooled and SUVs have power points for a cool box in the rear.

As for the gaming table, Chrysler and Dodge minivans offered a fold-up table that you could swivel the rear seat to face, but the Swivel-N-Go option was withdrawn in 2011.

— Liz Turner

**SOME FUTURISTIC FEATURES NO ONE PREDICTED:**

- Lasers for headlamps (introduced by BMW last year)
- Eight-speed gearboxes
- Regenerative braking to improve fuel economy
- Pre-tensioning seatbelts
- Bluetooth and apps

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BRAND NEW 2012 VW

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36 MO. 2.5L 170 HP ENGINE, 6 AIRBAGS, BLUETOOTH, AM/FM/CD AND MORE. PLUS ADDITIONAL MILEAGE CHARGE.



BRAND NEW 2012 VW

## TIGUAN S

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## ROAD TEST

# RANGEROVEREVOQUE



**FROM: \$41,145**  
**BEST FEATURES:** Head-turning looks  
**MILEAGE:** 18 mpg city/28 mpg highway

Two-door vehicles, with their inherent practicality penalty, are a style-driven purchase. Two-door sport-utility vehicles, on the other hand, well, those just don't exist. If you were looking for a two-door SUV in the US last year, your choices were the Jeep Wrangler Sport, Sahara, Rubicon, and Arctic.

Into this not-so-bustling market, Land Rover is launching the Range Rover Evoque (say "Evoke"), its latest attempt at growing sales by going smaller, cheaper — and more jaw-dropping.

Seen first as the LRX concept, the production Evoque remains startlingly close to the concept's styling. The hiked-up stance remains, as does the dramatic roofline and — perhaps most surprising at all — the two-door layout. Four doors are available for those who will actually use the backseat, but things are tight back there, no matter if you get in through your own door or by folding a front seat forward.

There's only one engine choice, a turbocharged four-cylinder derived from the engine Ford will use for its upcoming

Focus ST. A six-speed automatic and all-wheel-drive are standard. The hot-hatch roots show in a bawdy exhaust note and a relentless pull through the power band while the paddle shifters on the back of the steering wheel will indulge playful drivers, as will an unexpectedly competent chassis that shrugs off bumps with athletic verve.

Over rough roads, though, 'athletic' turns into 'stiff,' and the Evoque's large wheels and firm suspensions make for a bumpy ride. The small engine also makes for some problems in traffic, as merely moderate acceleration is hard to achieve. The turbo seems to want to make maximum power all the time and the balance between keeping up with traffic and not rear-ending the car ahead of you can be hard to maintain.

Looking spectacular couldn't be easier than in the Evoque, though. What looks wild in pictures is almost out of place in the real world, and as you roll through traffic you feel like you're driving through a commercial shoot. Heads swivel, mouths open, people stare. That's never going to happen in a Jeep Wrangler. — Jarvis Lee



**L to R: Ralph Gilles, Pres. and CEO, Street and Racing Technology Brand and Motorsports, Chrysler Group LLC, Travis Pastrana, 2013 Dodge Dart Rally Car driver, Reid Bigland, Pres. and CEO of Dodge. Below: Pastrana's Dodge Dart rally car.**

# RALLY CRY

Driving champ Travis Pastrana's Dodge Dart is at the show

By LIZ TURNER

**F**OUR-TIME Rally America Champion and X Games gold medalist Travis Pastrana signed autographs on the Dodge stand in front of the all-new Dodge Dart Rally on Friday, April 6.

Pastrana will be campaigning the car in the 2012 Global RallyCross Championship (GRC) Series. He says, "After watching some of the rounds (of GRC) last year and then actually competing at the X Games, I was hooked! Now to be able to partner with Dodge to field my own program this year is a dream come true."

The rally car will be powered by a purpose-built 2.0-liter, 4-cylinder,



16-valve turbocharged engine mated to a Sedav 4-wheel-drive gearbox; it will deliver 600 horsepower and more than 550 lb-ft of torque.

Pastrana, 28, is one of the most searched athletes in the world (6 million Google searches in 2010) and has more than 3.5 million Facebook followers.

# OPEN FOR BUSINESS

New convertibles raise the roof at this year's show

By LIZ TURNER

**S**OME real beauties are lifting their lids in New York. There's a big contrast in their size and price, but they are all guaranteed to become icons.

**WORLD DEBUT**



**MERCEDES-BENZ SL65 AMG V12 ROADSTER**

\$200,000+ (est)

Janis Joplin sang "Oh Lord, won't you buy me a Mercedes-Benz?" A Mercedes-Benz AMG Roadster might not scan, but we'd be even more grateful. The storming flagship 2013 SL65 AMG Roadster makes its grand entrance at the New York Auto Show before going on sale in November. This is the fastest, most-powerful Mercedes Roadster. Its AMG 6.0-liter V12 bi-turbo engine generates a peak output of 621 hp and a maximum torque of 738 lb ft delivered to the road through a seven-speed auto box.

The use of an all-aluminum body reduces weight massively, so the SL65 AMG is 254 lbs. lighter than before. Mercedes says this means the two-seater is capable of rocketing to 60 mph in a claimed 3.9 seconds and on to an electronically limited top speed of 186 mph. The distinctive front end is dominated by the new twin-blade grille (equipped with two blade-shaped fins) and the lower horizontal bar in the front skirt in high-gloss chrome. The SL65 AMG joins the SL550 roadster and the SL63

AMG roadster. The SL550 will cost \$106,375 when it arrives in dealerships in May; the SL63 AMG arrives in July at \$143,800. The 2011 SL65 AMG was priced at \$198,750.

You can see how it drives on YouTube.

**NORTH AMERICAN DEBUT**

**2013 BENTLEY GTC V8 CONVERTIBLE**

\$200,000 (est)

The gorgeous Bentley Continental arrives as a fresh-air model with a welcome new soundtrack - the rumble of a V8.

This 500-hp 4.0-litre twin-turbo unit is essentially the same engine as that used in the latest Audi S8, mated to a new, close-ratio, eight-speed transmission with ultra-fast shifts. Variable displacement cuts four cylinders when the car is in cruise mode or on light throttle, helping to deliver a 40 percent improvement in fuel efficiency over



the big W12, and both the hardtop and convertible can drive 500 miles on one tank of fuel.

With a reduction of weight in the nose, the all-wheel drive GTC convertible promises confident, sporty performance. It boasts 0-60 mph time of 4.7 seconds and a top speed of 187 mph.

The V8 models are distinguished by a black gloss matrix grille with a chrome frame and center bar, as well as a red enamel Bentley 'B' badge. At the rear, they get unique chromed figure-eight exhaust tail-

pipes, a dark lower valance and a red enamel 'B' bootlid badge. The wheels are 20-inch alloys as standard or an optional 21-inch six-spoke design.

**US DEBUT**

**MINI ROADSTER**

\$25,050 to \$27,350

Mini USA is celebrating 10 years in the States, and like office workers who have to buy doughnuts to celebrate their own birthdays, its given us a present.

The Mini Roadster is a two-seater version of the convertible - a romantic version of the usual four-seater drop-top, perhaps, or a great excuse not to give lifts. It's a lot cuter than the odd-looking two-seater Coupe that went on sale last fall.

The Roadster drives like a Mini should (see right) and is a blast on twisty roads.

**US DEBUT**

**BMW M6 CONVERTIBLE**

\$113,995

The iconic BMW M6 Convertible and Coupe return after a two-year absence, and they're not only more powerful and luxurious, but also more efficient than before.

The M6 badge was first seen on a BMW back in 1987, and it means true supercar performance within a usable, super-luxury package. Now in its third generation, the all-new M6 is powered by a 560-hp M TwinPower Turbo V8 mated to a seven-speed M-DCI transmission capable of propelling either model from 0 to 60 mph in less than 4.3 seconds.

No official word yet on pricing, but a 2012 BMW 650i convertible retails for \$90,500, so we wouldn't be surprised to see the M6 convertible cross the \$100,000 threshold.

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**BRAND NEW 2012 NISSAN**

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**\$0 DUE AT SIGNING**

**\$109 PER MO.**

39 MO. PUSH BUTTON IGNITION, AUTO, A/C, ABS, POWER W/L/M, AIR BAGS, AUX INPUT. PLUS ADDITIONAL MILEAGE CHARGE.



**+ 0% APR FINANCING & EMPLOYEE REBATES**

**BRAND NEW 2012 NISSAN**

**ROGUE**

**\$0 DUE AT SIGNING**

**\$159 PER MO.**

39 MO. AWD, AUTO, A/C, ABS, POWER W/L/M, AIR BAGS, CD AND AUX INPUT. PLUS ADDITIONAL MILEAGE CHARGE.



**+ 0% APR FINANCING & EMPLOYEE REBATES**

**BRAND NEW 2012 NISSAN**

**MAXIMA**

**\$0 DUE AT SIGNING**

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By LIZ TURNER

**T**HIS year's New York International Auto Show will show a bumper crop of new and refreshed SUVs and crossovers in every price range.

### WORLD DEBUT SUBARU XV CROSSTREK

\$19,500 (est)

Subaru, known for reliability, sporty drive and a splash of quirkiness, claims its all-new compact crossover, the XV Crosstrek, is the most fuel-efficient all-wheel-drive crossover in the US, delivering 33 mpg highway.

Its 2.0-litre 'boxer' engine lays its cylinders down flat in an arrangement also used in some Porsches and VWs, and its efficient CVT (continuously variable transmission) uses a belt rather than gears.

The Crosstrek is based on the Impreza, so we reckon it should be fun. Additionally, it will venture onto rougher roads than most competitors, thanks to a ground clearance of 8.7 inches.

### WORLD DEBUT 2013 SUBARU OUTLOOK

\$23,500 (est)

Subaru is having a busy show. In addition to the XV Crosstrek, it's revealing the 2013 Outback, now powered by a more-efficient engine.

The front also has a restyled, more-powerful look. Numerous changes to the body structure, suspension, and steering promise a smoother and quieter ride and improved agility with noticeably less body roll.

Even though it's a crossover, the Outback has all-wheel drive as standard, and its 8.7 inches of ground clearance is higher than that of many large SUVs.

Buyers are given the option of a new 2.5-liter FB series Boxer engine producing 173 hp and greater low-end torque across a broad speed range (with a peak of 174 lb ft). Subaru reckons the Outback 2.5i with the Lineartronic CVT will achieve 24 mpg city/30 mpg highway/26 mpg combined, compared with the 22/29/24 for the 2012 model.

### WORLD DEBUT 2013 MITSUBISHI OUTLANDER SPORT

\$20,250 (est)

Mitsubishi's Outlander Sport gets a refresh for its third year. Established as

# SPORTS CENTER

## With a plethora of new offerings, the American love affair with SUVs and crossovers continues

the company's best-selling vehicle, it was awarded the Top Safety Pick designation by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS) for the 2012 model year.

The 2013 model benefits from a number of design and equipment improvements, including new-look front and rear fascias and side sills. Mitsubishi has also revamped the rear suspension and economical continuously variable transmission (CVT).

### WORLD DEBUT



### 2013 HYUNDAI SANTA FE

\$23,750 (est)

More than 2.5 million Santa Fes have been sold worldwide, so Hyundai won't want to change the recipe too much. The overall message for this third generation is a shift upmarket to take on the Ford Edge and Jeep Grand Cherokee via its five-seat incarnation and the Toyota Highlander and Mazda CX-9 with seven.

The look is more aggressive, as demonstrated by its chunky chrome grille. Teaser photos show xenon lights and LED foglamps, although these may be for the top-spec models.

Interiors are likely to be higher quality with plenty of standard safety kit. Under the hood, a likely engine lineup would be a 200-hp, 2.4-liter four-cylinder, and either a turbo version or a 3.5-liter V6.

### NORTH AMERICAN DEBUT 2013 TOYOTA VENZA

from \$28,000 (est)

The Venza crossover was developed for the North American market, and designers at Toyota's design studios in Newport Beach, Calif., gave it a sleek, sporty look with a wide stance.

### WORLD DEBUT



### 2013 CHEVROLET TRAVERSE

from \$30,000 (est)

Freshened versions of the Chevrolet Traverse and Buick Enclave are both revealed in New York, following their big brother's, the GMC Acadia, appearance at Chicago.

The front has a new shape supported by a powerdome hood, a three-bar upper and two-bar lower grille design, new lamps, chrome accents around the grille and fog lamps, and sculpted front corners similar to the Malibu. GM says the changes to ride

and handling, interior materials and exterior styling make the Traverse more refined.

It's already proud of its excellent safety scores from leading third-party organizations and in government crash testing, and for 2013, the Traverse adds the industry's first front center airbag.

While the Traverse is a sleek, good-looking machine seating as many as eight passengers, its size can make it a challenge to maneuver, so we hope rear visibility has improved.



Upgrades for 2013 include new upper and lower grilles, fog lamps and rear taillights, plus a new 19-inch wheel design.

The crossover will continue to be available in LE, XLE and Limited grades, but all get more kit. The LE and XLE are available with all powertrain combinations: four-cylinder, V6, front-wheel drive (FWD) or all-wheel drive (AWD); the Limited comes only with the V6, in front- or all-wheel drive.

Even though it's a crossover, the Venza offers important SUV attributes, such as comfort, cargo space and 3500 lbs. towing

capability for the all-wheel drive model. It's not the most involving to drive, though.

### US DEBUT BMW X1

\$32,000 (est)



BMW's smallest crossover, the X1, heads to us from Europe, where it was first revealed at the

Paris Motor Show in 2008. Reviewers across the pond like its sharp handling and fuel economy, but have criticized some less-than-premium materials in the cabin. Also, the publicity material talks about golf trips and skiing, but it's not a roomy vehicle or a serious off-roader.

The X1 will be the latest BMW equipped with the TwinPower Turbo four-cylinder engine, offering powerful performance with frugal fuel consumption. It will make an easy-to-park, stylish alternative to the VW Tiguan or LR2 when it arrives this summer.

### WORLD DEBUT 2013 BUICK ENCLAVE

from \$37,000 (est)

All GM was saying before the show was that the new Enclave crossover would "include industry-exclusive safety technology and modern design updates."

A teaser shot revealed cool ambient lighting and a wood and leather-wrapped steering wheel. With Oldsmobile and Pontiac out of the picture, Buick can become a little more upmarket and sportier without stepping on other brands' toes, and if the Enclave's restyle follows that of the Acadia, we expect to see more premium materials but no change to the engine or power.

The Enclave will also get the center airbag seen in the Traverse, plus GM's new app-based IntelliLink infotainment system.

### WORLD DEBUT



### 2013 GMC TERRAIN DENALI

\$37,000 (est)

The Denali badge means premium materials and kit, and for 2013, the Terrain compact crossover (brother to the Chevy Equinox) gets the treatment.

The optional 3.0-liter V6 will be replaced by a larger, more-powerful 3.6-liter unit. The direct-injected 3.6 makes 301 hp and 272 lb-ft of torque, and will provide fuel economy equivalent to that of the 3.0.

The Terrain Denali also can be ordered with a 2.4-liter Ecotec inline-4 and comes in both front- and all-wheel-drive. The four-cylinder model comes with 18-inch wheels and tires, while the V6 gets 19s.

The Denali will have a signature chrome grille, new headlamps and taillamps, satin chrome accents, body-color front and rear fascias, body-color rocker panels with satin chrome molding, and chrome-finish exhaust outlets.

While the cabin was already a quiet and comfortable place to be, it now gains premium touches of wood and leather and lots of electronic goodies.

# MILEAGE MATTERS

Clean diesel, with its fuel economy and hauling power, finally makes inroads into the US

By LIZ TURNER

**D**IESEL used to be that stuff that smoked and left black ooze along the back of trucks and buses. Now, an increasing number of upscale vehicles have the option of a powerful, clean diesel engine.

Porsche will reveal its new diesel Cayenne at the New York Auto Show, while the 2013 Mercedes GLK, seeing its world debut at the show, will add the GLK250 BlueTEC 4MATIC early next year.

Mazda and Nissan are both planning to bring diesels to the US, and American manufacturers are getting in on the act. Chrysler has announced that it will introduce a Jeep Grand Cherokee diesel in 2013 or 2014, and possibly other Jeep diesels later. GM says a diesel version of the Cadillac ATS will be available in the near future; a diesel version of the Chevrolet Cruze goes on sale in the US in 2013.

But will Americans ever love diesel? 2011 sales of new diesel automobiles in the US increased by 27.4 percent over 2010, compared to the overall market's increase of 10.2%, according to HybridCars.com and the market research firm Baum and Associates. By 2015, Baum and Associates expects diesel car sales to grow to 6.0 to 6.5 percent of the entire US market, compared with just over 3.0 percent today.

Allen Schaeffer, executive director of the Diesel Technology Forum, says, "This 27% increase in annual sales is a strong sign that American drivers are understanding the benefits of new clean diesel technology in terms of better fuel efficiency and reduced

**WORLD DEBUT**



**2013 MERCEDES GLK-CLASS**  
from \$36,500 (est)

Merc's redesigned entry-level SUV has a slim, muscular look and more bling, including a chunky chrome grille. Burl walnut trim stretches across the width of the dash, the multifunction steering wheel is lovingly wrapped in leather, and highlights of silver brighten the cabin.

We're promised outstanding driving dynamics, excellent safety and superlative ride comfort on the road. The 4MATIC gives confidence in slippery conditions, and it's capable of some proper off-road adventures.

When it arrives this summer, both rear-drive and 4MATIC all-wheel drive models will be powered by a 3.5-liter direct-injection V6 gas engine generating 302 hp.

Then early next year the GLK250 BlueTEC diesel joins the range (available only with 4MATIC permanent four-wheel drive). Mercedes says this four-cylinder diesel is the most powerful ever in an SUV; the direct-injected 2.1-liter engine delivers 190 hp and 369 lb-ft of torque.

— Liz Turner

emissions."

Drivers who have tried the new turbo diesels have enjoyed the dollar savings their high fuel economy brings, but there are other benefits. Diesel engines may sound a little gruff compared to the mellow tones of a gas V8, but they punch out their power at low revs so you don't have to plant your right foot to get decent acceleration. They also deliver wads of torque, or pulling power, so they can haul a bulky SUV frame with ease. That low-range torque is also great if you go off-road or tow a trailer.

## WHY SO BLUE?

The complex new diesel technology includes particulate traps that can reduce particulate emissions by 80 to 90 percent and selective catalytic reduction. SCR injects a urea liquid agent through a catalyst into the exhaust stream, setting off a chemical reaction that converts nitrogen oxides into nitrogen, water and tiny amounts of carbon dioxide. The liquid is known as diesel exhaust fluid (DEF) in the US, but it's called AdBlue in Europe, so while hybrids and electrics have grabbed green as their color, blue has become the manufacturers' buzzword for clean diesel.

— Liz Turner

## ALL HAIL NYC's new cab design goes public



New Yorkers will be able to check out the new official NYC yellow cab at the auto show. Nissan's NV200 was announced as the winner of the "Taxi of Tomorrow" contest in 2011, and it will be the exclusive vehicle for the city's iconic fleet for 10 years from late 2013. It will cost around \$29,000.

The Japanese carmaker beat Ford and Turkish manufacturer Karsan in the contest to design the best vehicle to carry 600,000 passengers around the Big Apple every day. City authorities based their final decision on the opinions of 23,000 people who were asked to help select the new vehicle.

The NV200's minivan style offers plenty of room for legs and luggage while sliding doors and an entry step make

life easier for hurried passengers and should reduce the number of accidents caused by doors flying open.

A major factor in the win was the NV200's excellent fuel economy. Nissan is also to provide several of its Leaf electric vehicles to taxi firms for testing in the city, and if these prove successful, the city may adopt electric NV200s. Mayor Michael Bloomberg says, "That would be a big step toward cleaning out air, improving public health and shrinking our carbon footprint."

— Liz Turner

## PORSCHE IT TO THE LIMIT Cayenne is one hot diesel

**T**HE new Porsche Cayenne Diesel joins the 2013 range at the New York Show and announces its fuel with bold diesel badges on its fenders.

Its powerful, yet fuel-efficient, 3.0-liter V6 turbodiesel engine delivers 240 hp and 406 lb-ft of torque from as low as 1750 rpm. The result is a strong 0-60 mph acceleration in just 7.2 seconds and a top track speed of 135 mph.

Based on preliminary estimates, the Cayenne Diesel should achieve a rating of 20 mpg city/28 mpg highway/23 mpg combined, so it can travel 740 miles on one tank.

The Cayenne Diesel is built to meet EPA Bin 5 emission standards, and includes selective catalytic reduction (SCR) technology.



Power reaches the wheels via an eight-speed Tiptronic S transmission without the Auto Start Stop function available on other Cayenne variants. As with the Cayenne S Hybrid, the Diesel includes Porsche Traction Management (PTM), which features permanent all-wheel drive.

Drivers will be prevent-

ed from filling up with gas and damaging the engine by a mechanical safeguard in the fuel tank filler neck. This ensures that the locking mechanism can only be opened by the larger-diameter diesel fuel pump nozzle and that refueling will begin only at that point.

— Liz Turner

# Stars of the Show



## New 2012 Subaru Impreza 2.0i

AWD, 5dr, 5 speed man trans, power steer/ABS/windlocks/mirrors, A/C, AM/FM Stereo/CD, tilt wheel, all weather floor mats, MSRP \$19,149. Stk#4148S. Ice Silver Metallic, Due at signing: \$1995 down+1st payment+tax+DMV & bank fee.

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## New 2012 Subaru Forester 2.5x

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**\$219\*** Lease Per Mo 42 Mos



## New 2012 Subaru Outback 2.5i

AWD, 5dr, 4 cyl, CVT auto, pwr steer/ABS/wind/mirr/locks, A/C, AM/FM Stereo/CD, tilt, cruise, all weather mats, alloy wheel pkg, fog lamps. MSRP \$26,999. Stk#4129S. Ruby Red Pearl, Due at signing: \$1995 down+1st payment+tax+DMV & bank fee.

**\$259\*** Lease Per Mo 42 Mos

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### NEW 2012 GMC TERRAIN SLE 1



5 door, 4cyl, auto, pwr steer/ABS/wind/locks/mirr, A/C, XM Radio/CD, OnStar w/turn-by-turn Navi, back-up cam, alloys, keyless entry, FWD. Stk# 12123. MSRP \$26,290. Due at signing: \$2012 down+\$200 sec. dep.+1st payment+bank fee+tax.

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# Bronx scene

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## Bartow-Pell offers free exhibition lectures

Bartow-Pell Mansion Museum, 895 Shore Road, will present two free lectures — one by a prominent landscape architect, the other by a well-regarded landscape designer — in conjunction with its exhibition, *Dibbles and Daisy Grubbers: The Art of the Garden Tool*, on display through July 1.

On Tuesday, April 17, at 7:30 p.m., Mark K. Morrison, RLA, FASLA, GRP, will give a talk on *The History and Evolution of Garden Tools*.

On Sunday, April 29, at 4:30 p.m., Florence Boogaerts, a professional landscape designer who teaches at the New York Botanical Garden, will discuss *Gardens of the World*. The more than 100 objects on display are from Mark Morrison's collection. The exhibit contains tools made in Europe and North America over the past three centuries, some handmade by blacksmiths and other craftsmen, and others made by machine —

many of them true works of art.

In her talk, Boogaerts will discuss how gardens vary across the world, in concept, design, and function.

The garden lectures are free but registration is requested. To register or for more information, call 718-885-1461 or email [info@bpmm.org](mailto:info@bpmm.org). For more information about Mark Morrison, visit [www.markkmorrison.com](http://www.markkmorrison.com). For more

information about Florence Boogaerts, visit [www.boogaerts.com](http://www.boogaerts.com).

The exhibit can be viewed when the mansion is open to the public on Wednesday, Saturday, and Sunday, from noon to 4 p.m. Mansion admission is \$5 for adults, \$3 for seniors and students, and free for children under six. For directions and information about Bartow-Pell and upcoming programs, visit [www.bpmm.org](http://www.bpmm.org) or call (718) 885-1461.

## Empire City Casino features live acts

Wednesdays through Sundays bring five straight days of live entertainment at Empire City Casino at Yonkers Raceway in April. Empire City is located at 810 Yonkers Avenue.

Wednesday, *Young At Heart*: Two performances a week at both noon and 2 p.m.. Here is the schedule: April 18, the Peter Lawrence Orchestra; and April 25, the Guss Hayes Band.

Thursday nights, *Tribute Bands*: Thursday Tribute Bands in April gear up for the decades of the fifties, sixties, seventies and eighties, with performances slated at both 8 and 10 p.m., and those include: April 20, All

Star Dyn-O-Myte Disco 70's Tribute; and April 26, The Ronald Regans 80s Tribute.

Friday Night Music Series: has these bands taking the stage at 10 p.m. and 2 a.m.: April 13, *Visions*; April 20, *Soul Be It*; and April 27 the *Stingers*.

Saturday Night Music Series: Performances times are at 10 p.m. and 2 a.m., and here are the musical line-ups: April 21, *the Pulse*; and April 21, *the FDR Drive*.

Sunday Night, *Latin Music*: Featuring four bands, all from 8 to 11 p.m. at the Entertainment Lounge. The line-up includes *Choco Orta* on April 22; and *Hector Rosado* on April 29.

## Mother's Day Gift workshops at Huntington Library

The Bronx Council on the Arts and the Huntington Free Library present a family-friendly, hands-on "Mother's Day Gifts" craft workshop with Denise Shel-

ley on Saturday, April 21, from 12:30 to 3 p.m. at the Huntington Free Library, 9 Westchester Square, next to the Apple Savings Bank. This workshop is free and

open to the public. All are welcome. Experience the delight of creating a handmade gift for yourself or someone you love with artist Denise Shelley. Re-purposed and

new materials will be combined to make the memorable Mother's Day treasure.

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Wakefield Subway Yard Car Barn.

## E. Bx. Forum goes behind the tracks

The East Bronx History Forum will hold their next meeting on Wednesday, April 18, at 7:30 p.m. at the Huntington Free Library at 9 Westchester Square. Joe Tassiello, Wakefield Subway Yard Barn chief will be your guide to a behind-the-scenes look at the New York City Transit System. Wakefield is the largest Maintenance Shop on the IRT covering 21 acres and operates around the clock inspecting, repairing, and washing more than 400 subway cars of the 2 line.

Learn how the modern Bombardier R142 subway car has facilitated getting the thirty-three 10-car-trains in service on the number 5 train every day. When the Redbirds were in use, fixing something simple like a damaged floor

involved taking the train out of service, stripping out all the seats and poles to replace the floor. Now with the R142 the floor is in modular sections and the damaged portion can be replaced quickly and easily by just removing the damaged section of floor. The same is true for the heating, ventilation and air-conditioning units. You will be amazed at how the technological advancements have made your ride safer and more comfortable. You will certainly enjoy this animated slide show and talk and will soon be sharing your new-found knowledge with fellow transit users.

The History Forum meets on the third Wednesday of each month presenting experts in all phases of Bronx History. The East

Bronx History Forum sets the standard and other historical societies often follow and bring in the same experts that were introduced at the Forum. Don't miss out on this exciting presentation. Come and be a part of what's happening in Bronx history. See it here first.

The Huntington Free Library is located next door to the Apple Bank for Savings south of Benson Street at the Westchester Square Station of the IRT #6 Pelham Bay line. Further information may be obtained by checking the forum's website at [www.bronxnyc.com](http://www.bronxnyc.com). You may also follow them on Facebook or leave a message for them with Mrs. McChesney, the librarian, at (718) 829-7770.

## Yoga instruction at Bartow-Pell MM

Bartow-Pell Mansion Museum, 895 Shore Road, will offer its spring series of Yoga in the Orange-rie on eight consecutive Wednesdays, from April 18 through June 6, 8:30 to 9:45 a.m. Taught by certified Anusara® yoga instructor Ann Casapini in a serene and sunlit space, this beginner level class is suitable for those new to yoga, as well as those who want to deepen their practice in a steady, mindful approach.

"One of the fastest-growing styles of yoga in the world, Anusara® yoga uses the Universal Principles of Alignment to allow the body, breath, and spirit

to align with the power of grace to tap into our full potential," says instructor Casapini. "Deeply therapeutic, yoga provides benefits on the physical, mental and spiritual levels. It improves muscle function, flexibility, posture, and breath capacity; enhances mental focus and relieves stress, anxiety, and insomnia; and also provides philosophical guidance for people who want to step forward on the spiritual path of life."

"Offering yoga classes with a gifted teacher like Ann is just one more way that the museum is expanding its offerings," says

BPMM executive director Ellen Bruzelius. "It's a wonderful opportunity to reap the benefits of yoga in a small group setting that allows for individualized attention."

Class size is limited to 12. Registration and prepayment are required. Cost is \$136 for the series; \$120 for members. Participants should wear clothing that is non-restrictive and comfortable, but not too loose. Dressing in layers is suggested. Mats will be supplied or students can bring their own. Call (718) 885-1461 or email [info@bpmm.org](mailto:info@bpmm.org) to register.

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All proceeds to benefit the Bronx YMCA

# E. Bronx History Forum discusses women's history

Thirteen members of the East Bronx History Forum spoke on women whom they thought made the world a better place to live at their March 21 meet-



ing at the Huntington Free Library. Speakers and their subjects included: Tom Vasti; Anne Hutchinson; Bill Twomey; swimmers Jane Hill and Gertrude Ederle; Eleanor Koffler; sculptors Vivian Lush Piccirilli and Mary Lawrence Tonetti; Jerry Koffler; Educators Dr. Mary B. Gillis and Wilma McClung; Alison Wise, Poet Marilyn Hacker; Mike Gupta; Judge Sonia M. Sotomayor; Sharon Casey; Author Mary Higgins Clark; Thomas Casey; Sculptor Anna Hyatt Huntington, botanist Elizabeth Gertrude Britton, and journalist Nellie Bly; Toby Leiderman, scientist Susan Horowitz and early settler Maria Van Eyck Bronck; Stephen Devillo environmentalist Ruth Anderberg; Deborah Wye, authors Constance Rosenblum and Evelyn Gonzalez; Richard Vitacco, actress Anne Bancroft and musician Joanie Madden.

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ITEM: This column is very sad to hear that Paddy Dougherty's is closing. Along with many others in the neighborhood I hope this doesn't happen and it remains the popular place to hangout for years to come.

Paddy's was a destination spot from the moment its doors opened. With its round "Cheers" style bar, parallel entrances and exits, open tables and stage area it become a meeting place for new faces and classic neighborhood fixtures. It was also known for eclectic live music culled from distant areas.

ITEM: Reading this in time? Catch the one and only Troy Willy at The Clubhouse in City Island on Saturday, April 14, at 9 p.m. Troy Willy will be laying down the country and western sounds!

OVERHEARD IN A BRONX BAR: "I can't believe I got the job. I can't believe there was a job!"

ITEM: Just a friendly musician's reminder that my Acoustic Sunday's at The Wicked Wolf restart on Sunday, April 15, at 4 p.m. and every Sunday after! Join us for good friends, great conversa-

## rock on the bronx

by Fish Altieri

tion, tasty food and grooving songs. Stick around afterwards for late night Karaoke and DJ!

ITEM: The band Just Nuts performing at The Fair in The Square May 12, at noon. (Westchester Avenue and Williamsbridge Road.) Also catch them at the increasingly popular Spoto's on May 18.

ITEM: This is for film fans. I am admittedly a bit of a "film snob". The last entire film I actually saw in a theater was The Hulk 2003! (I walked out on the last James Bond film when the edits flew by so fast that I lost all sense of place.)

What happened was I became disenchanted with the look, attitude, slice and dice editing, impatient writing, misguided remakes, cartoonish special effects, floating lenses and general air of fatuous ignorance hanging over many modern movies that going to see them be-

came so unsatisfying that I resolved to no longer waste my time simply because they were fresh and new. Recently I had the chance to see some films from a different era. In no particular order

I highly recommend seeing the following random performances which all should have been nominated for Oscars: Bill Cosby is so smooth, his comic timing so sharp and his ability to switch to seriousness so confident in a small film directed by Peter Yates called "Mother, Jugs and Speed" that you're reminded how solid an actor he can be. For those of you, who only know actor Larry Hagman from the nighttime soap Dallas or sitcom I Dream of Jeannie, see him in the same movie expertly playing a total sleaze ball.

George Segal's performance as a man caught up in the world of gambling in director Robert Altman's tiny masterpiece "California Split" is nuanced, adult and rich and by the time this great cult film is over you feel like you've said goodbye to a close friend. Although

this next film slightly falters at the end from repetition, if you love James Caan in The Godfather, then you will be consistently entertained with him as a hyper cop in director Richard Rush's cult film "Freebie and The Bean." Alan Arkin is pitch perfectly hilarious as his partner. Valerie Harper (TV's classic character Rhoda) will surprise you in a brief but strong turn as Alan Arkin's wife.

Finally, I got a chance to rediscover the icon of cool Steve McQueen in a tight, lean little drama also directed by Peter Yates called "Bullitt". Everyone knows the amazing car chase in Bullitt but I've forgotten how charismatic McQueen can be just crossing the street or eating a sandwich. Witness how he holds the viewers attention and steals the opening scene simply in the act of getting out of bed.

I wouldn't watch any of the above unless they are presented in widescreen versions. That's the only way to get the full scope of the director's vision.

# Sidewalk concerns addressed

From page 1

the evening of Monday, April 10, included representatives from the Department of Design and Construction, Fire Department, and city Department of Transportation. The city officials either made presentations or spoke with community members and homeowners who were outraged to find that the addition of a four-foot sidewalk to the north side of the Pelham Parkway South roadway between Williamsbridge and Eastchester roads appears to be a done deal.

The meeting was hosted by Community Board 11. The sidewalk is part of the \$36 million reconstruction of Pelham Parkway that has been planned since 1986.

The DDC's Maria Centeno made a presentation, linking the need to have the sidewalk where it had not previously existed to the New York State Complete Street Act passed in 2010,

which requires at least a four-foot sidewalk where there is parking to facilitate entry and exit from cars and to meet the requirements of the American's with Disabilities Act.

The roadway, which had been between 15 and half to 16 feet wide is now about 12 feet wide, said James Kilgore, a resident at 1248 Pelham Parkway South.

"We are very concerned because the community board and the DDC say that they have done their due diligence, but the community living along the parkway was not well-informed about the changes to the sidewalks," Kilgore said.

The reduced width of the roadway will cause problems when the construction on the main roadways begin in May, because a lot of traffic will be diverted to it, Kilgore said.

Orthodontist Dr. David Stevens, who runs his practice out of a house at 1228 Pelham Parkway South, has

organized a group called Concerned Citizens for Pelham Parkway South. Stevens made a presentation during the meeting.

Pelham Parkway South is now the narrowest road in terms of Morris Park side streets in the area, Stevens said. A dirt median next to the sidewalk on the northern side of Pelham Parkway South could have been used if the state legislature and the Parks Department undertook a one to two years process of parkland alienation before the sidewalk was installed, Stevens said.

While the DDC, DOT, and FDNY listened, Stevens said he did not feel that there was an adequate response.

"I have been heard, but I don't think that there has been a direct response from the city," Stevens said, after giving a slide presentation to the approximately 100 residents and city officials present.

Stevens said he believes that the catch basins already



Photo by Patrick Rocchio

Residents testified during a public hearing at Jacobi Hospital on Monday, April 9.

installed could still be used if the sidewalk on the northern side of Pelham Parkway South was removed. When Centeno was asked, she said that removing the sidewalk would be extremely expensive and not something the city would consider.

After several residents who are part of CCPPS raised concerns about the safety of narrowing the street when it comes to access for emergency vehicles,

and for motorists exiting and entering driveways along the parkway, Centeno said that the DDC and city would have a follow up meeting with the residents, and as far as she knows, the roadway and sidewalks were designed to the appropriate standards.

Community Board 11 former district manager John Fratta, who has stayed on at the board to handle the Pelham Parkway recon-

struction project, said that during the initial community meetings the sidewalk was not a major concern, and the focus was instead on parkway trees, protecting landowners who may have encroached on city property, and safety.

Dr. Stevens should get a written response from the city regarding his objections, said resident Bob Nolan at the hearing.

# N.L. Britton, botanist, established Botanical Garden

Nathaniel Lord Britton was one of those rare individuals born to nature. Even as a young boy he was enamored by plants and the natural world around him. He was born on January 15, 1859 on Staten Island and had the good fortune to have nurturing parents and neighbors with an interest in science. One of those neighbors was John Strong Newberry, a professor of geology and mineralogy at Columbia College. Upon graduation from the Staten Island Academy, he was enrolled in the Columbia College School of Mines where he began his course of studies in 1875.

He graduated in 1879 as an engineer of mines and so great was his aptitude and knowledge that he was immediately given the position of assistant instructor. During that same year he worked as a field assistant with the Geological Survey of New Jersey and collected fossil specimens with his friend

## do you remember

by Bill Twomey

Arthur Hollick in the Wyoming Territory. The two also published "The Flora of Richmond County," the first of many, many works. They were very active in the Torrey Club, an early botanical organization. It was at that club where he met Elizabeth Gertrude Knight, who would later become his wife. She also became one of the world's leading experts on moss.

Britton received his doctorate degree from Columbia in 1881 and published his thesis "A Preliminary Catalogue of the Flora of New Jersey" that same year. He continued his work with Columbia advancing in position along the way. He also continued publishing papers on all facets of botany becoming known as one of the leading experts in the nation. One

of the Torrey Club outings took him to the Bronx and he immediately fell in love with the area and would one day make it his home. When visiting England with his wife they discovered the Royal Botanic Garden at Kew Gardens and upon their return Elizabeth gave an impassioned speech to the Torrey Club and the seeds for the Botanical Garden in the Bronx were sown.

It was not until 1892, however, that the state legislation set aside 250 acres of Bronx Park and \$250,000 to make this dream come true. The following year Cornelius Vanderbilt presided over a meeting of the leading citizens of the day and plans were made to raise another half a million dollars to place the new botanical garden on a strong

financial foundation. Plans moved ahead rapidly with the support of Vanderbilt, J. Pierpont Morgan, Andrew Carnegie, Seth Low, and other leading members of society. The site chosen in the Bronx proved ideal as the Lorillard family had maintained and developed their property with care. It even included a grove of hemlocks.

When the New York Botanical Garden was fully established in 1895, Britton gave up his position at Columbia to become the first director-in-chief. He was also a member of their first board of managers along with Andrew Carnegie, Cornelius Vanderbilt II, and J. Pierpont Morgan. He finally gave up the position of director in 1929 to pursue his botanical research in warmer climates. His wife, Elizabeth, who worked with him at the Garden since they helped establish it so many years earlier passed away on February 25, 1934 and he fol-



NATHANIEL LORD BRITTON

lowed her in death on June 25, just four months later. One thing that seems certain is that there would be no Botanical Garden in the Bronx without Nathaniel Lord Britton and his wife, Elizabeth.



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It can be scary walking into a classroom full of strangers. What if things are completely different from when you last set foot on a campus? What if everyone in the class is in their teens and you can't relate?

"Being nervous about returning to college is not necessarily a bad thing," said Dr. Mary Hawkins, president of Bellevue University. "Your apprehension shows your desire to do well. More than 2.5 million people over the age of 30 currently attend college in the U.S. Don't let fear take away the chance to accomplish the new goals you've set for yourself."

### Research the learning environment

"Familiarizing yourself with the situation will help alleviate some of the tension," Dr. Hawkins suggests. A good place to start is the National Center for Education Statistics at [nces.ed.gov](http://nces.ed.gov). The site's College Navigator tool allows you to search more than 7,000 schools and view enrollment statistics, including age breakdown, on each. This will give you a good picture of whether the school you are considering attracts more adult learners or more traditional students.

### Speak with current students and alumni

Next, call the schools at the top of your list and ask for referrals to students who have taken or are currently enrolled in the program you might enter.

"This is the best way to get a firsthand account of the experience you will have," Dr. Hawkins says. "Students and alumni have nothing to gain or lose by being honest about their experiences. Make sure to speak to more than one individual to get a more balanced view of the student experience."

If you feel more comfortable with an indirect route, you can pose your questions to any alumni groups the school may have on social networks such as Facebook or LinkedIn.

### Give yourself a deadline

Simply putting your plan in writing or talking about it out loud can give you the momentum and accountability to get moving. Give yourself as much time as you need, but set a firm deadline. Determine a specific date by which you plan to begin your coursework. Tell family and friends who, you feel, will be supportive.

"Remember, most of your classmates will be as nervous as you are," Hawkins says. "Much like going to the gym after years away or going to the doctor for your yearly checkup, the anticipation is often worse than the actual experience."

Don't let fear hold you back; once you overcome it, you are on your way to a more promising future. —NAPS

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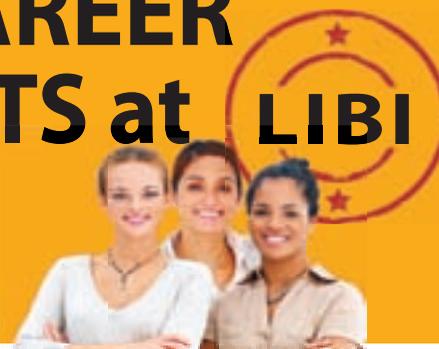
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# BJ's first tenant for former Stella D'oro factory property

From page 1

ment to dispel rumors that Petco and Bank of America will be coming to the new shopping center, a rumor that roused Farkas' ire.

"The only tenant I have is BJ's, that's it," said Farkas, not happy with other local media outlets publicizing what he called speculation.

What is not speculation is the number of jobs it'll bring, which Farkas estimates to be about 325 full-time jobs.

The property is now in a demolition, scheduled to end May 7. Silk screens hang along the fence separating the property from the Major Deegan Expressway while large bulldozers stand at the ready. Sordoni Construction is the firm over-

seeing the project, which will create 500 construction jobs. Sordoni's army of laborers will knock down the old Stella D'oro factory and its neighboring one-story buildings, dubbed the North Retail area, that sit directly across from the old factory. Those stores, eight in all, will be part of a strip-mall that will complement the 118,423 square foot BJ's, its second in the Bronx. The other is located on the southwestern tip of the borough at the Gateway Center Mall. As for who will occupy the North Retail portion of the mall, Farkas made a point of saying he's not sure.

"A lot of activity right now," said Farkas.

Because of the lack of parking spaces, MRC has designed rooftop parking on both sides, with a total of

328 spots, free of charge. An additional 172 spots will be located on Putnam Avenue, between West 234th and West 236th streets. Shoppers will be able to access the mall via two entrances--West 237th Street and Broadway and West 238th Street and Putnam Avenue. The entrance to the latter has not been built yet.

Stella D'Oro opened its doors in Kingsbridge in 1932, creating a following for its brand of cookies. In August 2008, unionized workers went on strike for 11 months citing proposed pay and benefit cuts. In 2009, the factory closed and moved to Ashland, Ohio.

With Stella D'oro closed, a chapter in the Bronx history books ends, and a new one begins.



Photo by David Cruz

The now-closed Stella D'oro factory in Kingsbridge will be replaced with a BJ's store, bringing an estimate 325 jobs to the new site.

## 161st Street merchants hope Yankee season brings business

### Kick off week-long cap event



Photo by David Cruz

Dr. Cary Goodman (l), president of the 161st Street Business Improvement District, and kids from Highbridge Head Start Program rouse passerbys during the start of Cap Week, sponsored by the BID. The promotion gives a free Yankees hat for every 50th customer who buys one.

Home Base, Pinstripe, S&A, Jeans Plus, Stadium Souvenirs and Stan's Sportworld offered discounts on merchandise for the whole week. To draw in more customers, Cap Week gave away an official Yankees cap to every 50th customer who bought a hat from participating stores, a \$20 savings, courtesy of the 161st BID.

"What we're trying to do here is help the businesses, and the team and the neighborhood all sort of come together to help celebrate the start of a new season," said Dr. Cary Goodman, executive director of the 161st BID, who spread the word with the help of dozens of pre-K students from the Highbridge Head Start Program. Late in the morning, the tiny cheerleaders dropped by several stores and sang baseball-themed songs to let passerbys know the Yankee season is upon us.

"We recently participated in the 'Jeter-Meter' and the 'Jeter-Bug,'" said Pete Fortes, Family Services coordinator for the Highbridge Head Start Program, who led a sing-a-long of "Take Me Out To The Ball Game."

Mike Hong, owner of

D&J Variety Store, smiled as he saw the kids boosting Yankees morale in front of his store. He said the best time to really catch the spirit is the days leading up to Yankee season, culminating with the home opener.

"Some people don't even have tickets, they just come, sit down and have a drink," said Hong, who hopes the BID's promotional giveaway will cause a spike in business.

"Anything that says 'Yankees' will sell," boasted Hong. His tight store includes items like garden tools and a solar-powered lantern slapped with a Yankees emblem.

The 161st BID, established in 2009, is unlike the other BIDs around the Bronx in that it shares a symbiotic relationship with the Yankees.

"Seasonal businesses depend on the rhythm the Yankees create," said Dr. Goodman.

The home opener for the Bronx Bombers is tomorrow, April 13 against the Los Angeles Angels.

To reach reporter David Cruz, call (718) 742-3383 or email [dacruz@cnglocal.com](mailto:dacruz@cnglocal.com).



## PIPE DREAMS

By Bob Connolly

### How fast was that last pitch?

BY BOB CONNOLLY  
Championship Game

Bob Ryan (Boston Globe) is one of my favorites and here ia an example of his "golden pen: "We needed a championship game with true heft, cachet, and romance, a title game of college basketball elites. You don't need one every year, but it's good to have one every once in a while in which more than a century of tradition permeates every aspect of the matchup. UK and KU. We give you a matchup between the two winningest programs in college basketball, teams with a combined total of. Kansas is at the very heart of college basketball. The school first put a team on the floor in 1898. The coach? Oh, some Canadian refugee named Naismith. Yes, indeed, that would be Dr. James Naismith, who first came up with the game a few years earlier in Springfield, Mass.

#### T-i-i-me Is On My Side

Gene Collier (Pgh. Post-Gazette) sent along this thought about a one-second delay in time clocks, "Ya see when the clock blinks under a minute and converts to where it starts displaying tenths of seconds, there's a delay. The clock goes 1:02, 1:01, 1:00, and then, after another full second elapses, it shows 0:59.9. In other words, when only a tenth of a second should have elapsed, from 1:00 to 0:59.9, a full second elapses, which means that when the clock shows 0:00.9 -- as it

Continued on page 44

# All Hallows opens field with win

## Heritage Field sees Cardinal Hayes loss

BY MARC RAIMONDI

Phoenix Deschamps cracked a three-run home run to break open the game. But when he got back to the dugout, the left fielder only got a scowl from All Hallows coach Ed Gutierrez.

"He didn't give me a celebration or anything," Deschamps said with a laugh.

Added Gutierrez: "I got all over him."

The pitch before Deschamps crushed a Mike Figueroa offering over the right-field fence, he missed the sign for a squeeze play. Luckily for the Gaels, Gutierrez made it a safety squeeze at the last moment. Deschamps didn't swing, but on the next pitch he doubled his team's lead in an eventual 8-1 win over Cardinal Hayes in CHSAA Bronx/Manhattan 'AA' baseball Monday at brand-new Heritage Field in the shadows of Yankee Stadium.

"That's the way this game goes," Gutierrez said.

Joe Morel gave up just one run on seven hits with nine strikeouts in a complete game performance, dancing out of a pair of bases-loaded jams. The All Hallows left-hand-



PHoto by Denis Gostev

All Hallows' players celebrate a home run in the game against Hayes at Heritage Field

er struck out Gene Melo with the bases juiced to end the third inning and got Oldanny Morillo swinging and Lee Johnson on a groundout to third to finish the fourth.

"We're a little bit short on arms this year, but guys gotta grind it out," said Gutierrez, whose team lost all-city pitcher James Norwood, now at St. Louis, to grad-

uation. "It was definitely encouraging, for sure."

First baseman Justin Soto and shortstop Jason Reyes each had RBI singles in the third inning and Morel drove in a run on a walk. All Hallows (1-0) picked up two more runs on an inside-the-park home run by center fielder Randy Torres in the fifth off Joel Duran. Hayes

(0-1) got on board with a Mark Vargas RBI single in the seventh.

The game marked the opening of Heritage Field, which sits on the site of the old Yankee Stadium. The former home plate is near where second base is as Heritage Field and the pitcher's mound is in right field. Heritage Field even has

Continued on page 44

# Monroe College women are national champions

BY GARY AXELBANK

Fior the second year in a row, the Monroe Mustangs women's basketball team is the NJCAA Division II National Champion! Monroe defeated Lake Michigan 78-73 in a hard-fought final to earn the crown. Monroe led the whole game with a lead that rose to 18 in the second half. But the Indians came all the way back and with 2:24 remaining took a one point lead at 71-70. That was short-lived however as Monroe answered right back on clutch free throw shooting by Aivah Parham to take the lead for good. This is Monroe's second national title in Division II and

Continued on page 44



Photo courtesy of Monroe College

Monroe won it's second straight basketball championship.

# Monroe tournament roundup

## Curtis shocks Xaverian behind Piccirillo's arm and bat

BY ZACH BRAZILLER  
AND MARC RAIMONDI

Immediately after Curtis was run-ruled by Grand Street Campus in its Monroe Tournament opener, the Warriors had the unenviable task of meeting defending CHSAA Class AA city champion Xaverian.

On the way to another loss against a citywide powerhouse, however, something out of the ordinary happened: Curtis picked itself off the mat and blanked Xaverian, 2-0, at Grand Street to remain in contention for the elimination round.

Michael Piccirillo was the star, tossing seven shutout frames and delivering both runs with a first-inning single which plated Daniel Newman and Daniel Murray. Piccirillo, Curtis' starting catcher, kept the potent Clippers off balance by relying mostly on his knuckleball and curveball.

"It was pretty surprised, I'm not going to lie," Curtis coach Anthony Formica said. "He did tell me he was going to throw a shutout before the game. I said, 'Sounds great.'"

Piccirillo was in complete command. Xaverian didn't get a runner past second and managed just three hits. He was aided by his defense as the senior only struck out one. If Curtis, which went 1-1 on the day, can get by Long Island City Monday at 11:15 a.m., it has a great chance to reach the 10-team elimination round as Xaverian and Grand Street face off.

"We're in the driver's seat now," Formica said. "This gives us a lot of confidence. It shows they know how to win, we're able to bounce back and it's a sign of toughness. They've very resilient."

Anthony Amatuzzi pitched 5-1/3 innings for Xaverian, giving up just those two runs in the first. Brian Rosa came in for the final 2/3. Clippers coach Lou Piccola was impressed with Piccirillo and short-

stop Chris Moran.

"They made every play," said Piccola, whose team is 1-1 after the first day of the tournament and will face Grand Street Campus in its final pool play contest Monday at 9 a.m. at Grand Street.

Xaverian 10, Long Island City 1: Tommy Anselmo gave up just a run and a hit over four innings while striking out eight for Xaverian. Julian Lanfranco had two hits and three runs scored.

Grand Street 14, Curtis 2: Kevin Martir had four hits, two triples and seven RBIs and Geraldo Gonzalez fanned nine and allowed just one hit in a complete-game performance for Grand Street, which went 2-0 on the day and takes on Xaverian in its last pool play game Monday at 9 a.m. at Grand Street.

### Pool A

James Monroe 12, Lab Museum 5: Eddie Gonzalez allowed three unearned runs over six innings, gave up four hits and struck out six, Ricky Parra had two hits and scored twice and Luis Santini added three hits, scored two runs and drove in another for Monroe, which went 2-0 on the day and will face John Adams in its final pool play contest on Monday at 8:30 a.m. at Monroe. LMU went 0-2 and meets Christ the King Monday at 10:45 a.m. at Monroe in its pool play finale.

James Monroe 6, Christ the King 3: Steven Garcia struck out seven allowed one run on three hits in six solid innings of work, Justin Morales had a three-run triple and Randy Perez drove in two runs and scored twice for Monroe. Christ the King went 0-2 on the day and faces Lab Museum Monday at 10:45 a.m. in its final pool play contest at Monroe.

### Pool B

Iona Prep 9, Truman 2: UConn-bound flame-thrower Matt D'Ariano gave up just an earned run on two hits with six strike-

outs in three innings pitched and Matt Brembs and Billy Martin each had two hits and two RBIs for Iona, which is 2-0 after the first day and takes on Lehman in its final pool play game Monday at 9 a.m. at Lehman. Pat Decea went 2-for-3 with two RBIs.

Iona Prep 14, Mott Haven 3: Daniel Fischer and Jack McDermott each went 2-for-3 with two RBIs and Nic Figary struck out four in two relief innings for Iona. Daniel Fischer and Jack McDermott each went 2-for-3 with two RBIs. Matt Mottola started and gave up three runs with four strikeouts in three innings and Vinny Martin blanked Mott Haven over the final two innings in relief. The Gaels actually trailed 3-2 early. Mott Haven (1-1) faces Truman Monday at 11:15 a.m. at Lehman with the chance to move on to the elimination round.

Lehman 17, Truman 3: Chris Lopez had three RBIs and Jose Nunez scored three runs and added an RBI for Lehman. The Lions went 1-1 and meet Iona Prep in both teams' final pool play contest Monday at 9 a.m. at Lehman. Truman (0-2) takes on Mott Haven at 11:15 a.m. Monday at Lehman.

### Pool D

Manhattan Center 10, DeWitt Clinton 3: Alex Sanchez was 3-for-4 with a double and a triple and Dabian Canales gave up just two earned runs with six strikeouts in six innings pitched. With a later loss to Tottenville, the Rams are 1-1 after the first day of pool play and take on Salesian Monday at 11:15 a.m. at Clinton. Clinton is 0-2 and meets Tottenville Monday at 9 a.m. at Clinton.

Salesian 5, DeWitt Clinton 4: Kerry McAllister had an RBI, three hits, including a triple, and scored the game-winning run in the top of the seventh for Salesian, which is 1-1 after the first day of pool play and takes on

Manhattan Center Monday at Clinton at 11:15 a.m. Wesley Albert gave up four runs on seven hits and struck out five in seven innings to pick up the victory.

### Pool E

Morris 6, William Bryant 3: Luis Sterling and Bryan Moran each had two hits, scored a run and drove in another, Deon Sanders drove in a run and Smailyn Lopez threw a one-hitter, walked three and struck out five for Morris, which went 2-0 and meets Law, Government & Justice Monday at Taft in its pool play finale at 8:30 a.m.

William Bryant 5, Law, Government & Justice 4: Adonis Lao drove in Chris Alvarez with the game-winning run and Rady DeJesus and John Diakogeorgios each added an RBI for Bryant, which went 1-1 on the day and meets Norman Thomas Monday at 10:45 a.m. at Taft with the winner likely to advance.

Morris 11, Norman Thomas 5: Ruben Pinero allowed six hits over four innings and Luis Sterling had two hits and three RBIs and Deon Sanders added three hits and two RBIs for Morris.

Norman Thomas 11, Law, Government & Justice 0: Luis German struck out six in six shutout innings, Paul Garcia had two hits and two RBIs, Kenneth Guichardo also drove in two runs and Michael German had three RBIs for Norman Thomas, which 1-1 on the day and will meet Bryant Monday at 10:45 a.m. at Taft in its last pool play game. Law, Government & Justice went 0-2 and faces Morris Monday at Taft at 8:30 a.m.

### Other Scores

John Adams 11, Labs Museum 1

John Adams 1, Christ the King 0

Grand Street Campus 7, Long Island City 0

Tottenville 12, Salesian 2:



Photo by Christina Santucci

Horace Mann's Jesse Roth won the NYPost.com poll asking, "Who is the city's top baseball prospect?"

## Poll winner Roth ready for spring

BY ZACH BRAZILLER

The summer is supposed to be about vacation, days at the beach and nights spent with friends. For Jesse Roth, June and July were spent on a baseball diamond across the country, and he wouldn't change a thing.

The Horace Mann 6-foot-2 flamethrower saw his stock rise exponentially pitching for Team New York's Futures team and in a number of elite showcases. He picked up a handful of scholarship offers and verbally committed to national powerhouse Virginia over Vanderbilt, North Carolina, Duke, Stanford and LSU.

"Experience-wise, the summer was really big for me playing on the highest stages around the country," he said. "With my commitment, a lot of weight is off my shoulders. I don't have to worry about where I'm going to play in college. It lets me focus on playing baseball and doing what I need to do."

Roth, who gets his fastball into the low 90s and

throws a changeup and curveball, established himself so much he was voted as the city's top baseball prospect in this week's NYPost.com poll. He received 22,419 of a possible 77,893 votes, good for 28.78 percent. Roth edged out Cardozo junior Adrian Castano, who had 20,400 votes (26.19 percent). Xavier's St. John's-bound ace Nick DiLeo was third with 10,443 votes (13.41 percent).

"It doesn't reflect necessarily what the higher-ups [in baseball] think, but it's obviously nice that people showed support and believe I'm up there," Roth said. "I was honored to be on the list."

Roth is focused on having a big junior year for Horace Mann, which is coming off its best season in several years, a fourth-place finish in the Ivy Prep League and NYSAISAA tournament berth.

Not only will he get the ball in the Lions' Ivy Prep League opener Wednesday against Trinity, but he is

*Continued on page 44*

# Iona Prep blasts All Hallows

BY MARC RAIMONDI

Iona Prep has as many arms as any team in Fred Gallo's tenure, the longtime coach is quick to point out. So, of course, it was two pitchers who led the way in the Gaels' league opener — one of them with his bat.

Matt Brems unloaded the bases with a triple in the third inning, giving Temple-bound righthander Tim McCarthy all the cushion he needed in Iona's 10-2 win over All Hallows in a CHSAA Class AA crossover baseball game Wednesday in New Rochelle.

Brems, a reliever who acts as designated hitter when he isn't on the mound, was moved up to the leadoff spot in the lineup by Gallo. He didn't disappoint, extending the Iona Prep lead to 7-0 with two outs in the third inning with that three-run triple.

"When you see a seven spot up there, you're just like all I gotta do is throw strikes and I have the defense behind me," McCarthy said.

The 6-foot-7 No. 2 starter gave up just one run on four hits with six strikeouts in five innings before being removed for Joseph Finnegan, who gave up a run in two relief innings to close it out. Gallo didn't want to extend McCarthy, who threw 72 pitches, this early in the season.

"I got off to a good start with my curveball and they seemed to have trouble putting it in play, so I just kind of stuck with that," McCarthy said.

Added Gallo: "He threw strikes. He threw a curveball that was not yelling, 'Hit me, hit me, hit me.' That's what happens sometimes. It balloons up there and anyone

can swing the bat at any length and crack it."

The big righty tops out at 88 mph with his fastball, yet he's only Iona's No. 2 because of UConn-bound Matt D'Ariano, who has been out with tendonitis, but is expected to return this weekend for the prestigious Monroe Tournament.

On Wednesday, the Gaels bats made life easy for their hurlers. Iona College-bound shortstop Vinny DeMaria had a two-run single in the second inning, following John Sprio's RBI hit off All Hallows ace Jason Reyes. Jack McDermott added an RBI double, Dan Fischer drove him in with a single and Billy Martin had a sacrifice fly off reliever Jared James in the sixth.

"It seemed today like everything clicked and we clicked on time," McCarthy said. "If we keep this

up throughout the season, we're gonna be pretty dangerous."

All Hallows coach Ed Gutierrez was unhappy with his team's chemistry, but he thought a few misplays early in the game hurt and the Bronx squad never rebounded.

"I think we hit the ball better than them today," he said. "We hit the ball right at people at times. It's unfortunate, but it's something to learn from, something to build off of."

All Hallows made the CHSAA Class AA finals last year, coming out of the elimination bracket to face Xaverian in what would eventually be a runner-up finish. Iona Prep had its opponent's stature in mind and came away with an impressive victory.

"It's a very big statement, especially the first



Photo by Denis Gostev

Iona Prep's Tim McCarthy gave up just one run on four hits in five innings with six strikeouts Wednesday.

game of the season," Brems said. "If you're coming out swinging, it's a really good sign."



Photo courtesy of Bronx Quetzalito

(Above, l-r, standing) Harold Herrera, Armando de la Flor, Colm Burke, Andrew, Allem Pelinkovick, Angel and coach Jose Herrera; (l-r, sitting) Gabriel Sayers, Cristian, Jhonny, Fabian Leon, Nick, and #1 fan Erim Pelinkovick.

## Bronx Quetzalito Club strikes again

BY JOSE HERRERA

This was a formidable weekend for the Bronx Quetzalitos F.C. youth soccer organization.

On Saturday March 31, the U-13 girls Quetzalito

Ladybugs participated in the White Plains Tigers Tournament in Saxon Woods, capturing 2nd place.

After having a two-way tie with Pelham, sec-

ond place was decided on a Sudden Death one penalty shot per team.

Out of six shooters, three from each side Rebecca D'Aloia provided the

*Continued on next page*

# Team still has it

## Grinnell's OT goal rallies F. Prep over Iona

BY JOSEPH STASZEWSKI

Len DeLucia has been waiting for a sign of maturity from his Fordham Prep team, which had already lost its first four games. Down five goals to rival Iona Prep in the third quarter the coach finally got what he was looking for.

"Last year's team had it," DeLucia said. "This team's got it. They came from behind. They drew something from deep down."

The Rams got within three heading into the fourth and scored the game's final four goals. Ben Andreyca tied it late in regulation and Rob Grinnell tallied the winner in overtime to give Fordham Prep a thrilling, 11-10 win over the host Gaels in NYCHSAA Class AA boys lacrosse Tuesday. It is the Bronx school's fourth straight victory against Iona and it didn't lead until the final goal.

"We were kind of questioning what we had this year," said Andreyca, an All-American attack. "The coming out and going down, people would have been questioning this game. Then we kind of rallied together and it came together."

The final play unfolded exactly as planned. Andreyca, who had five goals and three assists, hit Colum Sleeper in front of the cage. Sleeper fed Grinnell along the left side, and the senior attack rolled past Iona Prep's Vincent LaRocca and beat Steven Bonalle with 2:41 left in overtime.

"I saw Vin come over and try and hit me," said Grinnell, who had two goals and an assist. "I just did a spin, saw the net and put it in."

The rally came after the Rams (1-4, 1-1 CHSAA), the defending league champions, were outplayed for nearly three quarters. They

struggled to clear the ball and just get possessions because of turnovers. Iona (1-2, 0-1) led 6-3 at the half and 9-4 with 5:04 left in the third. Billy Trizano scored five goals, Shane Fee had a goal and four assists and Luke Wooters added two goals and an assists. The Gaels let the Rams creep within 9-6 heading into the fourth as Connor Smith (two goals, two assists) and Grinnell set each other up for goals.

"When the pressure is on the line you show your colors," Iona coach Rick Trizano said. "They really played well and took advantage of our mistakes. We played really poorly when it really counted."

He felt his team's selfish play and shot selection opened the door for the Rams. After Iona made it 10-6, Fordham Prep scored five unanswered goals, two of which came in transition

*Continued on next page*

# Quetzalito strikes again

From previous page

winning shot for the Ladybugs.

On Sunday April 1, the Ladybugs went at it again; they played at Scarsdale for the first game of the spring season.

The Ladybugs pulled a 5-2 win, with a great team effort and parental support. All five goals were scored by lefty striker Charlotte Carrau.

Earlier, the U-18/19 Boys Team played for the championship at the Underdome Sports in Mt. Vernon and beat Lakeland in penalty shots after finishing 4-4 in regulation time.

## Roth ready for spring

From page 42

currently hitting cleanup, offering protection for Pittsburgh-bound center fielder Harrison Bader. When he's not pitching, Berniker said Roth will likely serve as a designated hitter.

"He's been hitting the ball well and he's more confident in his ability as a hitter," Horace Mann coach Neil Berniker said.

Berniker said Roth is more confident in everything he does, which is saying something because the staff ace was confident to begin with. Roth said it's

## OT goal rallies F. Prep

From previous page

after saves by Conor Gowan. Andreycafed Jake Trimble to make it 10-9 and scored a diving goal coming around the right side of the net to tie it at 10 with 1:45 left in regulation.

The comeback wouldn't have been possible without the play of Gowan in goal. He made a point-blank save on a leaping shot by Fee with less than a minute to play in regulation and stopped shots by Michael McHugh and Brandon Standard in overtime. DeLucia told the goalie after that he

The decisive penalty shot was scored by Fabian Leon. Other Scorers were Nick and Harold Herrera.

On April 7, the U-12 Boys Quetzalitos Piranhas captured second place when they lost the championship game 3-1 in a very competitive league that hosted 10 teams at the underdome sports in Mt. Vernon.

For more information about the club and its travel and recreation leagues contact: Jose Herrera (917) 751-0905 purofrijol@aol.com; Isolina Esposito (646) 245-8203 espositolina@aol.com; and Dino Esposito (917) 673-3259 espositodino@yahoo.com.

simply a byproduct of the summer, facing and excelling against elite competition with high level college coaches and major-league scouts watching.

"The experience I got under pressure was just great and now it doesn't faze me when I see coaches behind the plate with radar guns," he said. "It comes natural to perform in those situations."

Roth added: "Personally, I want to go out and win every game I pitch and put my team in the best chance to advance in NYSAISAA."

won the game for them with his saves and clears.

"He just jumped almost out of my field of vision," Gowan said of stopping Fee. "I just put my stick up and tried to make his stick as best I could and I just got it."

This Fordham Prep squad, which returns just five starters, proved that it still has it also in the first of three meetings between the rivals.

"We have a great team right now," Andreycafed said. "If we just work hard it's going to turn good at the end of the season."

# Pipe Dreams: Tebow thoughts; not Ebbets Field

From page 41

does right now-- there is actually no time remaining."

## Misplaced Priorities

The Sports Curmudgeon wrote about how the NBA Board of Governors was handling the situation concerning the New Orleans Hornets. "The Louisiana Governor, Bobby Jindal (R - Misplaced Priorities), agreed to spend \$50M of taxpayer money to upgrade the New Orleans arena with the understanding that the New Orleans Hornets would remain there as tenants through the 2024 season. In a joint statement with the NBA -- remember, the NBA owns the Hornets since the previous owner basically walked away from the team -- Hizzoner the Guv said that this agreement was an important step in finding new ownership for the team. Let me translate that for you: This agreement will allow the NBA to get more money from a prospective buyer without the league having to put the prospective buyer in a hammerlock to make him keep the team in New Orleans for a decent interval before ultimately moving the team. This is \$50M

worth of lipstick on a pig of a franchise; look past the lipstick and it is still a pig."!

## Tebow Thoughts

Ian O'Connor (ESPN.com) wrote, "Tebow can help the Jets win as a capable second-stringer, a Wildcat quarterback, a special-teamer, maybe a dual-threat H-back. Sanchez? He's earned a fair shot in Year 4. Not a free pass, but a fair shot. That means another full season as a starter, the same full Year 4 the Giants afforded Eli, who entered that season with a postseason record (0-2) that couldn't touch Sanchez's (4-2). If Sanchez proves once and for all he can't cut it in this marketplace, and the Jets are 5-9 with two to play, OK, have at him

But to those knowledgeable, sophisticated New York sports fans who are proud of their reputation, and who are still planning to jump Sanchez and force Timsanity on the Jets before the leaves turn, here's a word of advice: Don't."

Bob Molinaro (Hamp-tonRoads.com) wrote, "How many back-ups travel like a rock star and own the back page? Tebow didn't come to New York just to take a few snaps and run the Wild-

cat. Truth be told, his new bosses don't really believe what they're selling. It's only March, and the Jets circus already has a quarterback controversy of its own making. We can debate the merits of Tebow's on-field talents all day, but if you really believe professionals play harder for Tebow than for other quarterbacks, you just might have a problem separating reality from fantasy."

## Buffalo Dings

The Sports Curmudgeon looked at a recent Buffalo Bills free agent activity and wrote, "Bills' owner, Ralph Wilson, explained his rationale for laying out the heavy bread it took to get Williams' signature on a Bills' contract saying that he was 92 years old and will not be around forever. That statement is eerily similar to one made by Leon Hess -- former owner of the NY Jets -- who said that he did not have a lot of time and wanted to win a Super Bowl as his justification for a hiring decision. What was that hiring decision that would bring Hess and the Jets to the Super Bowl? Hess used that rationale to explain his decision to fire Pete Carroll as head coach of the Jets and to replace him with Richie

Kotite."

## No, Dorothy.

### This Isn't Ebbets Field

The Dodgers were sold to a group that included Magic Johnson for the unbelievable sum of \$2.15 billion (THAT'S BILLION WITH A B). "I'm all for Magic Johnson owning the Dodgers, by the way," tweeted Dan Daly of The Washington Times, "especially if he puts pitchers and batters on a 24-second clock."

### How Fast Was That Last Pitch?

Jim Caple (ESPN.com) wrote about the senior-citizen pitcher, 49-year old Jamie Moyer, and the speed of his fastball. "The scouts no longer point radar guns at him, they just count 'one-Mississippi, two-Mississippi--'"

### Olympic Thought

The Sports Curmudgeon passed along this item written by Ron Judd (Seattle Times), "Sport officials have backed off a rumored plan to require female boxers to wear skirts when they fight at the London Olympics, saying shorts will be acceptable. It's a major blow to fans who thought female athletes should be able to maintain an air of dignified femininity as they bash the snot out of each other."

## Heritage Field victory

From page 41

a short porch in right, which the left-handed Deschamps used to his advantage. There is a replica of the Yankee Stadium façade deep in center field.

The Parks Department and the Yankees combined on the project and both All Hallows and Hayes will play their home games at the new facility, which has three fields and is an extension of Macombs Dam Park.

"It's an honor to play on this field," Morel said. "I honestly thought I was playing at Yankee Stadium for a minute when I started off in the first inning."

Hayes coach Curt Scheibe was pleased with the pristine new diamond. He wasn't as happy, though,

with his team's lack of big RBIs.

"They're a damn good ball club, but we didn't come through with the clutch base hits when we should have come through with the clutch base hits," he said.

All Hallows, which advanced to its first CHSAA Class AA championship last year, won without Tulane-bound star shortstop/closer Stephen Alemais, who violated a team rule, according to Gutierrez.

"When the other guys see the best guy on the team being disciplined, they know it's fair game for everyone," the coach said.

Gutierrez almost doled out some more discipline on Deschamps after missing the squeeze sign. It all worked out in the end, though.

## Monroe Women Champs

From page 41

they also won two when they were a Division III team. They finish the season at 31-6. Box Score Read about it in the Daily News Read about it in the Norwood News Read about it in a Maryland newspaper Watch the highlights Watch the championship game

"We had many things happen to us this year that might have made people think we couldn't do this," said coach James Robinson Jr. "Maybe most significant was when our point guard tore her ACL right before the Nationals. But this championship is about the power of belief, belief in yourself and belief in your teammates. Our players worked as hard as they could to make this happen and they deserve

this title and all the accolades they get."

Kashay Barnes, who had an awesome tournament and was named MVP, led Monroe in the final with 26 points and 8 assists. Two other Mustangs scored over twenty. Parham had 22 points and 6 rebounds and Jasmine McRoy had 21 points and also 6 rebounds.

Parham and Verdine Warner were named to the All-tournament team and Coach Robinson received the Lorene Ramsey Coach of the Tournament award from Coach Ramsey herself, one of the most successful college basketball coaches of all time. With only one player returning from last year (Parham) and an up-and-down season, Monroe was only the ninth seed coming in to the tournament.



Photo by Christina Santucci

Fieldston coach Tony Marro saw his team take its Ivy Prep League opener, 7-5, over Collegiate on Wednesday.

## Fieldston wins Ivy opener

BY ZACH BRAZILLER

Tony Marro didn't feel his team swung the bats very well Wednesday afternoon. The Fieldston coach watched his top two relievers nearly cough up a five-run lead.

Yet he was able to smile as he met with the Eagles after their Ivy Prep League opener. A win will do that for any coach.

"I'll take a win when you can get a win," Marro said after Fieldston's hard-fought 7-5 win over Collegiate in the two teams' Ivy Prep League opener.

Unlike Collegiate, Fieldston took advantage of its offensive opportunities and played a mostly clean game in the field. That was the difference as the Dutchmen committed four errors and stranded seven runners aboard, including the possible go-ahead ones in the seventh when Fieldston's Alonzo Cee got Pascal Croak to ground out to third with the bases loaded.

"I take a lot from today," Marro said. "We hung in there and battled right until the end. We were very patient at the plate. We had some slow innings, but we didn't get down on ourselves. That says something about who we are."

After breaking through with five runs in the home sixth, Marro went to his bullpen and it nearly imploded. Will Savage and Cee combined to walk in three runs before Cee, who twice came within a strike of closing out the contest, finally settled down and got the final out.

"I always think in my mind if you look at what you did wrong, you can't move past it," Cee said. "So I put it behind me and looked on to the next batter."

It was a frustrating afternoon for Collegiate (0-1), bedeviled by mental and physical mistakes throughout. It began early when second baseman Jack Parker was unable to handle Kevin Fich's hotshot, plating the game's first run. Two batters later, third baseman Croak booted Matt Guzman's grounder, the first of his three errors. It got ugly in the sixth. Center fielder Chris Giglio dropped a fly ball and pitcher Gabe Kleiman wildly threw to second on a comebacker.

"In spring training I saw right away we were gonna have problems," Collegiate coach Frank Rojas said. "Guys have to get better. We have to keep working and trying to get bet-

ter. ... We can pitch, but we can't catch and can't hit—at least not yet."

To its credit, Fieldston (1-0) took advantage of its chances and starter Max Kassan was brilliant over six innings, striking out five, allowing five hits and walking three. Right fielder Zach Jaffe had the big blow in the sixth, a two-run double to right. With runners at second and third, Jaffe appeared like he was giving himself up, just trying to plate the go-ahead run with a groundout or fly ball. But with two strikes, he got a pitch he could handle and rifled it down the right-field line.

"As the at-bat went on, I became a little more aggressive after I hit a few foul balls," Jaffe said.

After a solid week in Florida, the Eagles got off to the start they were looking for, even if they didn't play the crispest brand of baseball. The Ivy League figures to be tight and Fieldston wanted to get going with five-time champion Poly Prep coming to The Bronx next Friday.

"It started us off hot," Jaffe said. "We played pretty well in spring training and we had to keep it going."

## Zodiacs Track Team competes

BY WINSTON DINKINS

Zodiacs have approximately 15 to 20 new members. For their first two days of practice, they showed good energy and the will to learn.

On Tuesday, April 10, they will be having their final orientation for the outdoor season. They have an impact spring and summer schedule, competing almost every weekend starting on April 15.

The Zodiacs have meets in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Connecticut and Maryland, plus many meets in New York. The exposure of competing in different states, give the children a variety competition and the opportunity to visit many university campuses.

The orientation will be at Truman High School's track at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 10. Parent or guardian must attend the orientation for their child to join the Zodiacs.

Zodiacs will be hosting a track meet for Equality Charter School on Saturday, May 5 at Truman High School's track for elementary and middle schools. Any school can register their children to compete for a small fee of \$5, which allow their athletes to compete in two events. Additional information will be posted on Zodiacstrack.org web site. Also, Zodiacs will be having their annual Elizabeth Gaynor/Robert Taylor track meet on Saturday, May 26 at Truman High School's track. All are

invited.

Zodiac Tyron Ingram received the freshman Most Valuable Athlete award for the in-door track season for Cardinal Hayes High School. Tyron is one of the Zodiacs elite athletes.

The children learn how to balance sports and education. If you have or know of any children between the ages of 6 and 16, who are looking to utilize track and field to improve their horizon, Zodiacs Track Team is having orientation on April 10th. For additional information, contact president Thomas Francis at (718) 679-2060 or co-president Winston Dinkins at (914) 441-6196, email WATCLT@AOL.COM or visit our web site ZODIACSTRACK.ORG.



Photo courtesy of the Zodiacs Track Club

Academic awards winners, sporting their trophies with staff at the Zodiac's banquet.



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BY DR. WILLIAM WOLFSON

When people think of anti-aging procedures, they often consider Botox, face-lifts, and laser peels. What many patients fail to realize is that a whiter, brighter smile can take years off your smile without the pain of plastic surgery. As patients age their teeth naturally begin to lose shine and vibrancy. Dull teeth can make you look older and tired—and too many patients begin to hide their smiles out of embarrassment. There are currently more teeth whitening options available than ever before. Teeth whitening is relatively inexpensive, fast, and remarkably effective. A whiter, eye-catching smile can make a patient look years younger. Once you understand why teeth staining occurs, and what can be done to combat a dull smile, you'll be able to decide for yourself if teeth whitening can help you reach your dream smile.

#### The Young

When most of us think about dental staining, we think about the substances we consume every day, and the accidents or dental traumas that can radically change the color of our teeth. Few of us consider the conditions that can darken the appearance of teeth before the adult teeth even emerge. The truth is that certain conditions can darken permanent teeth as they develop. Patients with these conditions will suffer from dark, unsightly stains, as soon as they lose their baby teeth and their adult teeth emerge.

Tetracycline stains are caused when children with developing teeth use the antibiotic tetracycline. This antibiotic affects how permanent teeth develop, leading to dark, dingy looking stains. Tetracycline stains are actually calcified in the teeth, so they are resistant to conventional bleaching treatments. Many middle aged to older adults took this antibiotic as children. Today, other antibiotics are used in young children simply because we know that this discoloration can take place.

Dental fluorosis also causes adult teeth to devel-

## Dental Diary

op abnormally. When children consume too much fluoride as their adult teeth are forming, they may end up with dental fluorosis. Common symptoms of this condition include stains on the dental enamel and deep, pitted grooves on the surfaces of teeth.

When patients have to live with these cosmetic conditions, it can cause them to feel self-conscious of their smile. Some patients with tetracycline and fluorosis staining go to great lengths to hide their smiles from the world. The good news is that there are cosmetic options available to help these patients transform their teeth and reclaim their smiles! Because teeth bleaching treatments are not effective for teeth damaged from tetracycline stains or the deep dental enamel grooves of fluorosis, many of these patients benefit from dental veneers. Dental veneers are thin layers of porcelain that cover existing teeth. Consequently, they can be used to give teeth a bright white appearance, or to smooth over the appearance of irregular dental enamel. Dental veneers are a permanent cosmetic solution; patients with dental veneers can eat, speak, and care for their teeth normally.

#### As We Age

Young tooth enamel is white and strong. Enamel covers the inner core of the tooth, which is naturally darker. As enamel wears down over time, the darker dentin (tooth core) begins to show through. Teeth can consequently appear darker, yellow, and dull. These dental changes are natural, and largely inevitable.

A dental professional can help you whiten your teeth with professional teeth whitening and bleaching treatments. Our office, for instance, offers a variety of in-office and at-home solutions to fit your lifestyle. Sometimes, older teeth can benefit from Lumineers or veneers to

achieve a whiter smile.

#### Food And Drink

Some foods and drinks are more prone to staining enamel than other substances. Coffee, tea, juice, and soft drinks are all discoloring. Deep colored wines, berries, and sweets can also stain teeth. Both chewing tobacco and cigarettes/cigars dull tooth enamel and cause dark spots. Some dental staining can be minimized if you brush your teeth directly after eating staining substances. If you are unable

to brush right away, drinking water and rinsing with water after meals may also minimize discoloration.

#### Preventing Stains

Dental stains accumulate over time. Regular and vigilant maintenance can minimize dental discoloration and whiten your smile. Many foods, drinks, and environmental factors can discolor teeth. If these substances are washed away in a timely manner, they are less likely to stain enamel. Patients should brush at home at

least twice a day. Ideally, you should brush your teeth after meals in order to quickly eliminate dental bacteria and debris. Additionally, most patients should see their dentist for a professional cleaning at least twice a year. A dentist is able to clean more thoroughly and extensively than patients can at home. Dentists can also remove and whiten existing stains.

For most patients, dental stains are an unfortunate reality, connected to both environmental fac-

tors and the aging process. However, with regular maintenance many people can enjoy whiter, younger-looking smiles. At the very least patients can benefit from cleaning their teeth at least twice a day and seeing a dental professional regularly.

*Just mention this article. Dr. William Wolfson is the director of Morris Park Dental Associates, located at 960 Morris Park Ave. Just dial (718) D-R-S-M-I-L-E or 718-377-6453 to schedule an appointment.*

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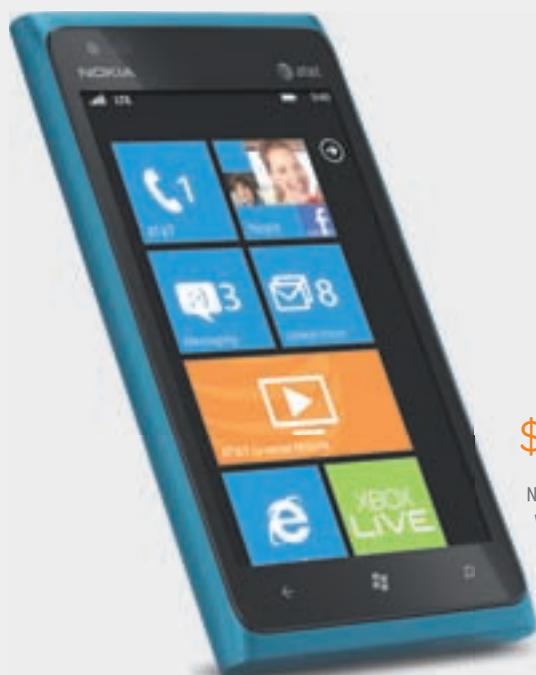
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