

December 9-15, 2016

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#### TN Christmas Tree Lighting

The Throggs Neck community had a merry time celebrating the holiday season with a Christmas tree lighting sponsored by Assemblyman Michael Benedetto on Sunday, December 4 at DeRosa and O'Boyle Triangle.Santa Claus traveled all the way from the North Pole to meet local children and help distribute gifts supplied by the Throggs Neck Merchants Association. Amber was thrilled to receive a Barbie Fashion Stylist Styling Head from Father Christmas. Photo by Silvio Pacifico



# FIRST HEARING FOR 49TH CO

#### Residents show support for Keith Walton

#### **BY ROBERT CHRISTIE**

Keith Walton, deputy inspector of the 49th Precinct, had his first hearing on Thursday, December 1 in a case stemming from the alleged sexual abuse of a subordinate.

According to a complaint, on November 6 Walton allegedly grabbed a female officer by the hair, attempted to kiss her, put his hand on her groin area and attempted to put her hand on his genitals over his clothes.

Walton is currently suspended without pay.

He was charged with two counts of sexual abuse, in addition to forcible touching, harassment and official misconduct. One of those counts is a felony charge.

In Walton's absence, Captain Thomas Alps has stepped in as commanding officer for the precinct.

Alps, a former member of the NYPD Intelligence Division and Counter Terrorism Bureau, recently told the Bronx Times, "My philosophy has long been intelligencebased policing."

"So in listening to the community and their issues we will be able to not only address the issues they have but utilize their assistance in solving crimes," he continued.

At the hearing, which took place in the Bronx Hall of Justice, Walton supporters held up signs reading 'America: Innocent Until Proven Guilty' and 'Keith Walton: Trailblazer, Innovator, Innocent.'

Raphael Schweizer, a community advocate who has been very vocal in his support of Walton, said it is important for Walton and others to see the support for the deputy inspector.

"Look it makes a difference in the public eye when the news media covers it and there's a big group of people supporting Keith Walton," said Schweizer. "Yes, we have to keep Keith Walton motivated and he has to see that people support him."

Schweizer believes Walton is innocent and also believes there is an ongoing attempt to sully Walton's name.

Continued on Page 84

#### Morris Park gets holiday lights after all

#### **BY PATRICK ROCCHIO**

Just when it looked like there might not be holiday lights in Morris Park this year, the community rallied together and got them installed.

The Morris Park Community Association reversed course on Thursday, December 1 after being encouraged to continue its fundraising drive for the holiday tradition, according to MPCA board members.

The MPCA had suspended its efforts the day before because merchants weren't responding in sufficient numbers to cover the cost of the

lights, said Tony Singorile, of the many." MPCA president.

Over the past two years, the community association has had to reach into its own coffers to cover shortfalls in the roughly \$17,000 yearly effort, he said.

The MPCA got back into the holiday spirit after Assemblyman Mark Gjonaj implored them to continue the drive. and offered his own financial help.

"The fundraising for the lights is going to continue," said Gjonaj. "We need business owners to come forward and participate in this; it is always the few who do the work

The assemblyman said that he personally called New York Christmas, a lighting company in Hunts Point and explained that he, the community and other elected officials did not want Morris Park to be in the dark this holiday season.

"This is a huge win for the community," said Gjonaj. "The children don't know where the lights come from. They are just happy the lights are up again."

After more donations came in, the MPCA was able to

Continued on Page 84

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# **DOT to address Brush Ave. traffic**

#### BY STEVEN GOODSTEIN

An industrial area in Throggs Neck will receive road improvements to alleviate rush hour traffic jams.

The improvements will be implemented at Brush Avenue, the location of numerous manufacturing and retail facilities, which has seen increased traffic congestion over the years.

Brush Avenue, a twoway street that runs north to south, parallel to Westchester Creek, will soon have an additional lane travelling north bound to give vehicles, especially trucks and buses, more room to maneuver.

Brush Avenue will have three lanes going northbound, including a dedicated bus lane. NYC Department of Transportation will shift the centerline on Brush Avenue, which will create the space for a left turn only bay.

According to a DOT study, 84% of the northbound traffic on Brush Avenue turns left onto Bruckner Boulevard.

The bus lane would also ease traffic congestion for the Q44-SBS, which runs on the avenue. A bike lane is also expected to be implemented on the northbound side of the street.

In addition, 'No Standing Anytime' signs will be installed on the northbound side of Brush Avenue, to deter food and drink vendors from setting up shop and further worsening the traffic issue.

It is unknown how many parking spaces will be eliminated to make room for the additional lanes.

The industrial strip is home to Home Depot, Cablevision, Pespi, Grocery Haulers, Caterpillar and UPS, along with new Throggs Neck Shopping Center.

"When you know you are traveling through Brush Avenue, especially during morning and evening rush hours, you always have to plan accordingly," said JoAnn Sohmers, president of the Ferry Point Civic Association, who said that she sometimes sets aside an extra hour in her commute to prepare for the traffic on Brush Avenue. "This has been an issue for years and I'm pleased that something is being done about it."

Sohmers added that she hopes there will be a solution for pedestrian as well. Most of Brush Avenue lacks sidewalks.

"It is impossible to get out of Brush Avenue - especially during rush hour, when cars, trucks and buses are all traveling in the same direction," said Tom Accomando, acting chairman for the Municipal Services Committee and Community Board 10 member, who also said that he frequently uses Ring Road, an isolated road which runs southbound, under the Whitesone Bridge through Ferry Point Park, to avoid the traffic congestion.

"It would have been nice to have these changes and improvements completed before the holidays, but I am thrilled that a plan is in place to address this long-pressing traffic issue," Accomando said. "With this plan, it will be easier to access the bridges and the Cross Bronx Expressway."

The project stems from the Community Board 10's 2015 budget requests, after a Brush

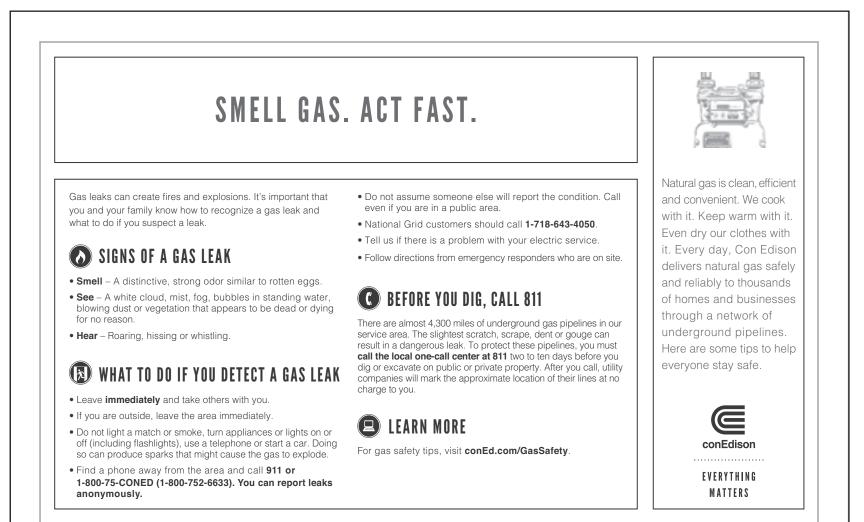


Construction on Brush Avenue, including the left turn onto Brush Avenue, will begin in the spring. Community News Group / Steven Goodstein

Avenue plan was submitted to the DOT, before the plan was approved, Accomando said.

"What concerns me most with these changes is the left turns," said Dotti Poggi, a member of the Ferry Point Community Advocates. "Unless wide safety zones are implemented, trucks will almost always be forced to merge into another lane or even oncoming traffic to make a turn, which would cause more traffic congestion and safety hazards."

DOT expects to begin the construction in the spring, to avoid the harsh winter weather conditions.



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Individuals or households who meet the income and household size requirements listed in the table below may apply. Qualified applicants will be required to meet additional selection criteria. Applicants who live in New York City receive a general preference for apartments.

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  - Residents of Bronx CB 3 (50%)
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Studio	NI) L	\$822	22	$\rightarrow$	1 person	\$29,520 - \$ 38,100
1 bedroom	A)	\$882	35	→	1 person	\$31,612 - \$ 38,100
i bearoom	ME	\$88Z	30	-	2 people	\$31,612 - \$ 43,500
	<b>MEDIAN INCO</b>	\$1,065	42	<b>→</b>	2 people	\$37,920 - \$ 43,500
2 bedroom					3 people	\$37,920 - \$ 48,960
					4 people	\$37,920 - \$ 54,360
	60% AREA N	\$1,224	15	→	3 people	\$43,818 - \$ 48,960
3 bedroom					4 people	\$43,818 \$54,360
					5people	\$43,818 - \$ 58,740
					6 people	\$43,818 - \$ 63,060

#### AVAILABLE UNITS AND INCOME REQUIREMENTS

<sup>1</sup> Rent includes gas for cooking.

<sup>2</sup> Household size includes everyone who will live with you, including parents and children. Subject to occupancy criteria.

<sup>3</sup> Household earnings includes salary, hourly wages, tips, Social Security, child support, and other income. Income guidelines subject to change

<sup>4</sup> Minimum income listed may not apply to applicants with Section 8 or other qualifying rental subsidies. Asset limits also apply

#### How Do You Apply?

Apply online or through mail. To apply online, please go to <u>nyc.gov/housingconnect</u>. To request an application <u>by mail, send a self-addressed envelope to</u>: Compass Residences Two B, P.O. Box 580, New York, NY 10030. Only send one application per development. Do not submit duplicate applications. Do not apply online and also send in a paper application. Applicants who submit more than one application may be disqualified.

#### When is the Deadline?

#### Applications must be postmarked or submitted online no later than <u>February 7, 2017</u>. Late applications will not be considered. What Happens After You Submit an Application?

After the deadline, applications are selected for review through a lottery process. If yours is selected and you appear to qualify, you will be invited to an interview to continue the process of determining your eligibility. Interviews are usually scheduled from 2 to 10 months after the application deadline. You will be asked to bring documents that verify your household size, identity of members of your household, and your household income.

Español	Presente una solicitud en línea en nyc.gov/housingconnect. Para recibir una traducción de español de este anuncio y la solicitud impresa, envíe un sobre con la dirección a: Compass Residences Two B, P.O. Box 580, New York, NY 10030. En el reverso del sobre, escriba en inglés la palabra "SPANISH." Las solicitudes se deben enviar en línea o con sello postal antes de 7 de febrero 2017.
简体中文	访问 <u>nyc.gov/housingconnect</u> 在线申请。如要获取本广告及书面申请表的简体中文版,请将您的回邮信封寄送至: Compass Residences Two B, P.O. Box 580, New York, NY 10030. 信封背面请用英语注明" CHINESE"。必须在以下日期之前在线提交申 请或邮寄书面申请 2017 年 2 月 7 日.
Русский	Чтобы подать заявление через интернет, зайдите на сайт: <u>nyc.gov/housingconnect</u> . Для получения данного объявления и заявления на русском языке отправьте конверт с обратным адресом по адресу <b>Compass Residences Two B, P.O .Box 580, New York, NY</b> 10030. На задней стороне конверта напишите слово "RUSSIAN" на английском языке. Заявки должны быть поданы онлайн или отправлены по почте (согласно дате на почтовом штемпеле) не позднее 7 февраль 2017.
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BRONX TIMES REPORTER, DECEMBER 9-15, 2016

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#### ESSENTIAL HEALTH PLAN



The Bronx Times Reporter was presented with a plaque on Monday, December 5 from the Lt. Raymond E. Murphy Memorial Scholarship Fund for 15 years of support. (I-r) Laura Guerriero, Bronx Times publisher; Ed Murphy, scholarship fund representative and NYPD Chief Edward Delatorre. Community News Group / Patrick Rocchio

# Murphy's 9/11 Firefighter scholarship to continue

#### **BY PATRICK ROCCHIO**

A memorial scholarship fund for a deceased FDNY lieutenant will continue to give 15 years after 9/11.

The Lt. Raymond E. Murphy Memorial Scholarship Fund will award \$45,000 a year to students at three Bronx and Westchester schools for the foreseeable future, fund coordinators said.

However, the scholarship fund will no longer hold its major fundraising vehicle, the annual golf outing, said Edward Murphy, a brother of Lieutenant Murphy and a fund coordinator.

The golf event was held annually, most recently this past July at Blue Hill Golf Course in Pearl River, NY.

A couple of hundred people attended the outing every year. It featured a breakfast, cocktail hour, dinner and raffles, said Edward Murphy.

"It turned into what I am told was the premiere golf outing in the area," he said. "Since the committee is getting older, and it was a lot of work for everybody, we decided to call it after 15 years."

Lt. Murphy's widow Linda Murphy, also a fund coordinator, will continue to donate \$15,000 per year to each of the schools her children attended: St. Frances de Chantal, Iona Prep High School and Archbishop Stepinac, he said.

Each \$15,000 school scholarship is split two ways: \$7,500 for financial assistance to children of firefighters or emergency personnel, while the other \$7,500 goes to general tuition assistance funds, said Edward Murphy.

For Linda Murphy, the scholarship is a way to honor her husband, as well as a way to give back to the community.

"After 9/11, when my husband died, everyone was so generous to us and my family," she said. "(The fund is) just a ltraymurphy.org.

way to pay that back and honor my husband's memory."

Linda Murphy said that she wanted to have an academic scholarship because her children's education was so important to her husband.

Awards will continue to be given at graduation ceremonies at the earmarked schools every May and June, she said.

Edward Murphy said that different future fundraisers will fund the scholarship for the next 20 to 25 years.

Raymond Murphy spent much of his FDNY career at Engine 42 on Monroe Avenue, his brother said.

After his promotion to lieutenant, he was transferred to Ladder Company 16 in Manhattan.

The day of September 11th, Lieutenant Murphy was assisting in the removal of injured people, including a firefighter, after the collapse of the World Trade Center's south tower.

After removing injured people to an ambulance staging area, Murphy and another firefighter went back to the horrific scene.

Shortly thereafter, a general evacuation of the area near the North Tower was called, and the building collapsed.

Murphy's body was returned on October 1, 2001.

The lieutenant's brother said that merchants and restaurants in Throggs Neck have been gracious enough to support the golf outing over the years, and fund coordinators are thankful.

His wife is especially thankful for the FDNY, their firehouses and personnel. They all made the golf outing a success year after year, she said.

Visit the fund's website at www. traymurphy.org.

MKT 16.188a



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#### around town by Patrick Rocchio

The Bronx Times Reporter will publish your announcements. Send announcements along with photo, to: Bronx Times Reporter, 3604 E. Tremont Avenue, Bronx, NY 10465 or e-mail Bronxtimes@aol. com. Please include a phone number or a way to contact you in case of questions.

Hello readers and welcome to another edition of Around Town.

**Birth Announcements** White Plains Hospital has notified the Bronx Times

of the following birth announcements. • Jaxon William Her-

nandez was born on Tuesday, November 1 to parents Katherine Cruz and Victor Hernandez of Pelham Bay. He weighed eight pounds and 15 ounces.

 Chase Richard Vargas was born to parents Claudia and Richard Vargas of Pelham Parkway on Thursday, November 3. He weighed seven pounds and nine ounces.



Josephine Bastone

#### **Attorney Honored**

Hon. Josephine Bastone, a supervising referee of the Mortgage Foreclosure Conference part of Bronx Supreme Court, was honored on Saturday, November 12 as Woman of the Year at the NAACP Parkchester Branch's annual Freedom Fund event.

Bastone, a past president of several bar associations and a community activist, serves on a number of cultural and civic boards.

#### 1-day registration at Bronx House

Whether you're looking music and dance instructo work out, swim, dance, play an instrument, shoot hoops or go to camp, Bronx House is a community center where its programs and classes provide a better life for everyone, as its tagline savs.

Every year prior to their winter trimester, Bronx House holds a 1-day registration event where the community can save up to \$20 off group classes and \$300 off a full summer of day camp. This year, the event will be held Saturday, December 17 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. For those interested in fitness and wellness, a savings of up to \$100 off the registration fee is available. "We know the holidays are a tough time for many people," says Corina Pintor, Chief Administrative Officer for Bronx House, "and this is our way of making our programs more accessible to families."

Bronx House offers programs to suit all ages, and include youth sports, enrichment programs for children, family events, and corina@bronxhouse.org.

tion. Not all programs cost money. Free programs for tweens and teens provide a fun environment, while offering enrichment classes, as well as college and job readiness programs. For adults ages 60 and up, membership is free with a calendar full of group classes and workshops for continued learning.

"Each year Bronx House provides scholarships so kids can go to summer camp, take a music class and borrow a instrument or have a safe, nurturing place to go after school until a parent gets home, added Pintor."

For those who just want to "shop" that day, no Bronx House registration event would be complete without a bounce house, face painting, tattoos, arts 'n crafts, family activities, fitness and youth demonstrations, sports and The Bronx is Cooking, where various chefs make cooking fun and healthy for the whole family.

For more information, contact Corina Pintor at

# **REGISTER AND SAVE BIG** FOR WINTER PROGRAMS!



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The Available Properties Will Be Open for Walk-throughs on December 3rd & 4th and December 10th & 11th 2016 from 11AM to 4 PM each day. And beginning on November 28, 2016, Form versions of a Contract of Sale and Terms and Conditions of Sale, and Title Reports as to the subject properties, will be available for viewing only (no copying) at the Office of the Public Administrator of Bronx County, located at 851 Grand Concourse, Bronx, NY, 10451, Room 336, 718-293-7660

ADDRESS IN BRONX COUNTY	DESCRIPTION	STARTING BID	
2846 Marion Avenue	1 Family House	\$144,000	
3309 Eastchester Road	1 Family House	\$306,000	
768 Pugsley Avenue** (*)	3 Family House	\$409,500	
480 Commonwealth Avenue	2 Family House	\$441,000	
2900 Roberts Avenue	2 Family House	\$481,500	
2543 Radcliff Avenue	3 Family House	\$495,000	
** Partially occupied	*Ability to inspect interior not guaranteed		



#### **42 Precinct**

Saturday, November 26 at 8:30 p.m. -- Cops received a report of a burglary at a beauty salon located at 809 E. 169th Street. A thief entered through a side door and removed a television and personal items, according to a preliminary investigation. The person police are looking for is described as a male black, approximately 35-yearsold and five feet, 11 inches tall.

#### **45 Precinct**

Saturday, December 3 -- Police responded to

a 911 call of a woman unconscious at 1534 Frickson Place. Upon arriving, officers found a 55-yearold woman. EMS was called and pronounced the woman dead on the scene. A 32-year-old man has been arrested.

#### **49 Precinct**

Saturday, December 3 at 1:30 p.m. --- Police got a report from the victim of an assault and robberv on Arnow Avenue. The victim was punched in the face by an assailant. He then took out a knife and threatened to harm her. He then took the victim's cellular phone and fled.

#### Composting takes off at Lehman

Don't throw away that old lettuce in the back of your fridge. Repurpose it by bringing it to Lehman's Food Scrap Drop Off location on Mondays from 8 to 10 a.m. The initiative is a joint project of the NYC Compost Project and Lehman College Campus Sustainability Council This program is open to all.

Since late 2009, the on-site Rocket Composter has been used to process approximately 120 pounds of food waste produced each day from food preparation at the College. Additionally, the College has a food pulper that extracts moisture from food, and chops it into small pieces, thereby doubling the amount that can than be processed by the composter.

All scraps dropped off at the college will be turned into compost and used throughout the Bronx, at Lehman, in community gardens, or even as part of a compost giveaway in the spring so individuals can bring nutrients to their own flower or garden plots. Donations will not only lessen the city's environmental impact but will help nurture the natural plant life that we enjoy.

Pursuant to Section 695(2)(b) of the General Municipal Law and Section 1802(6)(j) of the Charter, notice is nereby give proposed the sale of the following City-owned property (collectively, "Disposition Area") in the Borough of Bronx: <u>BLOCK</u> 2384 2384 Lot 123\*\* Air Binhts 2384 Air Rights Over Lot 120\*\*\* \*Formerly part of Lot 20, and previously known as Address 925 Brook Avenue Brook Avenue Lot 25 28 32 Block 2384 2384 2384 915 Brook Avenue 33 913 Brook Avenue 2384 34 911 Brook Avenue Demapped portion of Brook Avenue between East 163 Street and Elton Avenue \*\*Formerly part of Lot 20, and previously known as:

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to Section 695(2)(b) of the General Municipal Law and Section 1802(6)(j) of the Charter, notice is hereby given that the Department of Housing Preservation and Development ("HPD") of the City of New York ("City") has

	DIOCK	LOL	Address	
	2384	20	439 East 163 Street	
	2384	38	East 162 Street	
	2384	48	433 East 162 Street	
	2384	8901	East 163 Street	
	Portion of demapped stree	t-bed of Melrose Ci	rescent between East 162 and East 163 Streets (including former Lot 8900)	
Demapped portion of East 162 Street at Elton Avenue				
	***Formerly the Air Rights	Over part of Let 20	and proviously known as:	

Block

Lot	Ado
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	0

Idress r Rights Over Lot 23 --- East 163 Street

Under HPD's Mixed Income Program: Mix and Match, sponsors purchase City-owned or privately owned land or vacant buildings and construct multifamily buildings in order to create affordable rental housing units with a range of affordability in which half of the units are affordable to low income households earning up to 60 percent of the Area Median Income ("AMI") and the remaining units are affordable to other low income households. Construction and permanent financing is provided through loans from private institutional lenders and from public sources including HPD, the New York City Housing Development Corporation, the State of New York, and the federal government. Additional funding may also be provided from the syndication of low-income housing tax credits.

Under the proposed project, the City will sell the Disposition Area to Bronx Commons Housing Development Fund Corporation ("Sponsor") for the nominal price of one dollar per tax lot, and Sponsor will convey beneficial ownership to Bronx Commons LLC (the "LLC") (the Sponsor and the LLC are collectively known as "Owner"). The Sponsor will also deliver an enforcement note and mortgage for the remainder of the appraised value ("Land Debt"). The Owner will then construct one building containing a total of approximately 304 rental dwelling units, plus one unit for a superintendent, approximately 23,143 square feet of commercial space and approximately 16,802 square feet of community facility space on the Disposition Area

The Owner will enter into a 40 year regulatory agreement providing that not less than 60% of the units will be rented to households whose incomes are between 30% and 60% of AMI, unlike a standard Mix and Match project in which 50% of the units are rented to households with this income level. A portion of the units will be rented to households earning up to 30% of AMI, 50% of AMI and 60% of AMI, with at least 10% of the units rented to households whose incomes does not exceed 30% of AMI. For a term not to exceed 30 years, up to 5% of the units will be set aside for homeless families with incomes up to 30% area median income (AMI) and their rents will be set at 30% of 30% of AMI for a period of not less than 30 years. For the remaining 10 years of the regulatory term these units will no longer be set aside for homeless families, however, they will remain affordable for families with incomes up to 30% of AMI and their rents will be set at 30% of 30% of AMI. Up to 40% of the units will be rented to families and individuals whose incomes are between 80% and 110% of AMI, with a portion rented to households earning up to 80% of AMI, 90% of AMI and 110% of AMI.

The Land Debt will be repayable out of resale or refinancing profits for a period of at least thirty (30) years following completion of construction. The remaining balance, if any, may be forgiven at the end of the term.

BTR

The appraisal and the proposed Land Disposition Agreement and Project Summary are available for public examination at the office of HPD, 100 Gold Street, Room 5-A4, New York, New York on business days during business hours.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a public hearing will be held on December 21, 2016 at 1 Centre Street, Manhattan, Mezzanine at 10:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be reached on the calendar, at which time and place those wishing to be heard will be given an opportunity to be heard concerning the proposed sale of the Disposition Area pursuant to Section 695(2)(b) of the General Municipal Law and Section 1802(6)(j) of the Charter

Individuals requesting sign language interpreters should contact the Mayor's Office Of Contract Services, Public Hearings Unit, 253 Broadway, Room 915, New York, New York 10007, (212) 788-7490, no later than five (5) business days prior to the public hearing. TDD users should call Verizon relay service





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# LETTERS TO THE EDIT

#### Commendable police action

#### Dear editor,

On Wednesday, November 23 at about 8:40 a.m. on Westchester Avenue, near Buhre Avenue a male pedestrian appeared to be sick and possibly suffering a seizure. The man was on the sidewalk in the caring arms of 45th Precinct police officer Rios badge #27074.

The man looked liked he had trouble communicating and was drooling. Officer Rios was very processional and quickly responded to the man's needs and the urgency of the situation. So was the other responding police officers, Fire Department personnel and emergency medical technicians.

When the man came to he told the people who came to assist him "I Love You!"

Thanks and gratitude to officer Rios for his hard work and nitty gritty actions, calling for assistance immediately to get medical attention and caring with comforting words to assist a man from possibly falling into something and getting hurt. This man received courtesy, professionalism and respect from the police department.

Jimmy Wilson

#### Albanian independence

(The following letter was sent to the Albanian community from Borough President Ruben, Jr.)

Congratulations on your celebration of the 104th Anniversary of the independence of Albania. The Bronx is home to the largest population of people of Albanian descent outside of Europe, and I am proud to continue to partner with this important community and your organization to rebuild and rebrand the Bronx.

The Bronx has a great connection to Albania, and we are proud of that shared heritage. With a population of over 12,000 people of Albanian descent - more than any other borough in NewYork City and the largest Albanian community in the United States. Our borough's history with the Albanian community goes back

to the 1930s, when a young Regis Philbin was growing up in the streets of Van Nest and Morris Park. Today. from Belmont to Pelham Parkway to Morris Park and everywhere in between, Albanians are helping to strengthen the core of the Bronx when it comes to our business, cultural and

non-profit communities. Since as early as my assemblyman days I have been involved with the Albanian community in the borough. Later in August of 2009, I joined together with our borough's Albanian community to honor Mother Teresa with her very own street in the Bronx, a portion of Lydig Avenue between Holland and Wallace Avenues that we now call Mother Teresa Way.

That historic event could not have happened without the hard work of my friend, Esad A. Rizai, along with the Albanian American Society Foundation, Sons & Daughters of Albanian in America and the Albanian Community Center, who worked so hard for over two decades to make that happen.

Ruben Diaz Jr.

#### Remember the good

#### Dear editor.

Regarding the 'Allegations made against Deputy Inspector Keith Walton', remember that there are two sides to every story. I some how doubt that he would risk his career after just becoming deputy inspector. I wasn't there, but it almost sounds like a set up. If he is found to be innocent of these charges and allegations, it is a total miscarriage of justice, and how they have ruined an excellent man's career. Most important, let's remember all the good that he has done.

Madelon Makowski, RN

#### Give warm clothing

#### Dear editor.

I would like to encourage everyone to give back this holiday season. Please think about donating scarves, gloves, hats, and other outerwear to local clothes drives. Our homeless are in serious need of these items as the freezing cold weather is quickly approach-

#### ing.

Everyone, please encourage your schools and community organizations to host clothes drives to make a positive difference in our community. Let's make the next generation of our community aware of our surroundings, and allow them to take part in giving back during this holiday season. Happy holidays to all.

#### Juliana Masciarelli An end to empty promises

#### Dear editor,

Thank you, Tom Allon, for a sane appraisal of what a Trump presidency can accomplish, for New York and every other major city in the nation that has been plagued by deplorable living conditions, transportation woes and empty promises from elected officials who fail to pursue a corrective agenda once they are in office.

With a Republican majority in Congress, let's hope that the partisan fighting between the branches of government will stop so that real progress can be made for the benefit of all. From you to God's (and hopefully Trump's) ear.

**Paulette Sorg Preparing for Donald Trump** 

#### Dear editor.

Recently I received a 'Dear Friend' (who knew) email from NYC Comptroller Scott Stringer with the subject line 'Preparing for the President-Elect'. This email was not surprising except to demonstrate the lengths to which our elected 'progressive' politicians will go to spread fear about the president elect's policy regarding illegal 'criminal' immigrants.

Stringer posits that President-Elect Trump has taken aim at "our values" by vowing to cancel all federal funding to sanctuary cities like New York

I don't mean to single out Stringer as he is pushing the same negative response to Mr. Trump's electoral win as are all the NYC progressive Democrats.

Mayor de Blasio stated shortly after the election that New York will remain a 'sanctuary city' for undocumented immigrants. The city will re-

ject federal aid that comes with objectionable strings attached, such as requiring local cops to turn over people they learn are here illegally.

When did the presidentelect say that?

This was followed by City Council Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito, who organized a rally on the steps of City Hall, declaring that Trump was xenophobic and racist. In her words, "There is nothing left to say about Donald Trump other than that he is a disgusting, racist demagogue who has no business running for president, period". How is that for preparing for the president-elect?

So what is going on here? Are we to believe the presidentelect "is taking aim at our values" by cutting funding for sanctuary cities like New York? No. because most New Yorkers will not buy into this nonsense. The president-elect will not cut federal funding to the NYPD or any other program that provides assistance to legal immigrants.

The president-elect has been very clear that he will cut funding to city programs that assist illegal immigrants with criminal records, such as Francisco Sanchez, a five-time repeat drug offender who was released from jail by San Francisco law enforcement officials who declined to hold or prosecute him, released him, and he then murdered Kathryn Steinle, only 32, in front of her parents. This is not what New Yorkers value.

Democratic progressives and elites should wake up to the fact that the people have spoken and Donald Trump is the president-elect. Now is the time for NYC to move forward and work with the Mr. Trump. Carl J. Cannizzaro

Attempts at

#### mail theft

#### Dear editor,

There is a postal scam going on that is preventing people from mailing letters from a USPS mail box.

The USPS blue collection box at the corner of Pelham Parkway North and Wallace Avenue currently has glue on the inside of the mail chute door to catch mail containing in many instances checks.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

**Sidney Rosenthal** 



Founded in 1981 by Michael Benedetto and John Collazzi CEO Les Goodstein PRESIDENT & PUBLISHER Jennifer Goodstein BRONX TIMES PUBLISHER Laura Guerriero EDITOR John Collazzi ASSIGNMENT EDITOR/REPORTER Patrick Rocchio **REPORTER/PHOTO EDITOR** Rob Wirsing REPORTERS Arthur Cusano Robert Christie ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES Leonard Vigliotti Donna Marzi PRODUCTION Mauro DeLuca



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# **DEP project to impact local hospitals**

#### **BY ARTHUR CUSANO**

A NYC Department of Environmental Protection construction project that has caused traffic congestion just outside the Jacobi Medical Center and Albert Einstein College of Medicine will continue through fall 2018, according to city officials.

The DEP is working to replace existing sanitary and storm sewer structures in the Westchester Creek area and install upgraded water treatment equipment.

The project will also include the relocation of a gas main on Eastchester Road, installation of new traffic control devices on Eastchester Road, Morris Park Avenue and Waters Place.

During the \$22 million project, the DEP will substantially enlarge two underground regulators, or sewer junctures, under Eastchester Road to reduce the discharge of raw sewage into Westchester Creek.

In addition to work at the busy intersection, work is also being performed between Waters Place and Bassett Avenue. on the west side of Eastchester

Road and on Morris Park Avenue west of the intersection.

About 400 million gallons of sludge will be diverted to the Hunts Point Wastewater Treatment Plant annually once the project is completed, according to the DEP.

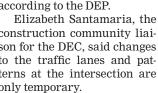
construction community liaison for the DEC, said changes to the traffic lanes and patterns at the intersection are only temporary.

"The traffic re-route on Morris Park Avenue and Eastchester Road for the Westchester Creek CSO Modifications is only through the duration of the project."

In addition to noise and dust from the construction work, area residents are also advised there will be limited parking on Eastchester Road and limited street access from some side roads.

Area residents may also experience water service interruptions, however the DEP will notify residents by 4 p.m. the day before.

Water service will be restored every day by 6 p.m.



Roadwork by the DOT at the intersection of Eastchester Road and Morris Park Avenue has caused traffic issues for over a year. trict manager Jeremy Wer-

neke said the project has been a headache for drivers since it began, and relief was not in sight any time soon.

The traffic has been a topic of discussion at CB 11 meetings.

"It's going on until 2018 and they haven't even started on Waters Place yet," Werneke said. "The backup of traffic has been horrendous."

was applauded by Councilman James Vacca.

He said his office had received regular complaints about the odor and appearance of the creek, which is located a half mile from the project, and said it had been a topic of complaint for decades.

Vacca spokesman Frank Fraioli said Vacca's staff had called for traffic agents to help alleviate backups at the site in

The DEP now has assigned traffic agents at the scene from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

Community News Group / Arthur Cusano

Two traffic agents are stationed at the intersection, while one works at Morris Park and another BY AR-THUR at Eastchester Road.

There have not been any formal complaints about traffic made to the councilman's

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# WLCA, Pelham Bay Merchants light trees on Dec. 11th

#### **BY PATRICK ROCCHIO**

organizations Two in neighboring communities are planning tree lightings to speed holiday cheer.

Both the Pelham Bay Merchants Association and the Waterbury-LaSalle Community Association will hold separate Christmas tree events on Sunday, December 11.

The PBMA event, held at Keane Square Park, will take place from noon to about 5 p.m., said Irene Guanill, volunteer and PBMA president.

Youngsters will bring their own ornaments, either store bought or homemade, to the tree; it will be decorated by community members and families and then lit, said Guanill.

The event, which is in its fourth year, was so beloved by the community that they rallied together to make it happen again this year when it seemed like it might fall by the wayside, she said. It is an especially joyous event for children, she added.

"Your child will come with an ornament and then your

child will put that ornament on the tree (during decorating)," said Guanill, adding "I find that it brings the community together because here we are putting up a Christmas Tree...and you have your neighbors helping you."

The children participating often get into the spirit by spending a long time making ornaments by hand, and then visit the community's tree to see their work on display while it remains in the park for the holiday season, said Guanill.

Over at Waterbury-La-Salle's Schneider Sampson Square, the WLCA will hold its holiday event at 6:30 p.m., also on Sunday.

Their holiday celebration has become a staple of that community for nearly two decades, according to organization board members.

The event is designed to be something of a "country Christmas," said Mary Jane Musano, WLCA board member

Typically, a crowd gathers at the park, and Santa Claus arrives to greet the children on a horse-drawn carriage



As in previous years, local children will visit with Santa Claus at the annual Waterbury LaSalle Community Association tree lighting on Sunday, December 11.

that's courtesy of Chateau Stables, said Musano.

Once Santa arrives, the donated tree will be lit in the park, she said.

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Then children will have the chance to tell Santa their holiday wishes and receive a gift. she said.

not just from Waterbury-La-Salle, but from nearby communities, said Musano.

But the tree lighting is not just for children, said added.

"We encourage everyone to come out to this event," said Musano. "It is a chance to talk to your neighbors and wish everybody happy holidays, and the kids get something special.'

The event is a real community effort, and everyone seems to want to chip in a bit to make it a success, said Musano.

Senator Jeff Klein has attended the event year after year, said Andrew Chirico, WLCA board member, adding that there is typically holiday music and food.

One of the adults looking forward to the tree lighting is Annie Boller, a WLCA board member.

She said she enjoys dressing as an elf to spread holiday cheer during the Schneider Sampson Park ceremony.

"The children love the event: they are there lined up way before our start time,' she said, adding, "The smiles The event draws families on their faces are awesome."

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# **DA calls on Grand** Jury to investigate **Danner shooting**

#### **BY ROBERT CHRISTIE**

District Attorney Darcel Clark is requesting a grand jury to investigate the shooting death of 66-year old Deborah Danner.

Danner was shot on Tuesday, October 18 by NYPD sergeant Hugh Barry.

"I will ask the Administrative Judge of the Supreme Court to impanel a special grand jury to investigate the fatal shooting of Deborah Danner, a 66-year-old woman, in her apartment ... and to determine whether, and to what extent, criminal charges should be brought in connection with that incident," Clark said on Monday, December 5.

"I have pledged to the people of the Bronx to conduct a thorough, fair investigation into this matter and I believe that presenting the evidence to a grand jury will best accomplish that goal," Clark added. "It is important to determine exactly what happened in this tragic incident."

She also said there is "no timetable for the grand jury to be impaneled or for it to reach a determination."

have pledged to the people of the Bronx to conduct a thorough, fair investigation into this matter and I believe that presenting the evidence to a grand jury will best accomplish that goal.

**Darcel Clark District Attorney** 

Danner's death stirred controversy throughout the Bronx, the country and social media.

Police responded to a 911 call at the 630 Pugsley Avenue apartment at 6:06 pm.

They arrived at Danner's 7E apartment where she swung a pair of scissors at them.

The five officers were able to get her to put the scissors down but Danner later picked up a bat and began swinging it at them before Barry shot her.

Danner had reportedly struggled with schizophrenia.

Protesters have recently decried police treatment of people with mental hind on rent.



Deborah Danner. Photo Courtesy of Facebook

illnesses.

Following the shooting, NYPD commissioner James O'Neill said the department had "failed Danner"

Mayor de Blasio noted the officers were originally able to de-escalate the situation but wondered why they were not able to get Danner to drop the bat.

"But why the rest of the protocol wasn't followed is what we don't understand," DeBlasio added.

When dealing with a person with a history of mental illness, officers are supposed to wait for the Emergency Services Unit which is specially trained to deal with mentally-ill civilians.

Following Danner's death, the Bronx became home to a protest march on October 19 which started at her building and made it's way through Soundview to the 43rd Precinct.

The next day elected officials held a vigil to remember Danner, called for peace and requested a further look into the events surrounding Danner's shooting.

At the press conference Assemblyman Marcos Crespo called for more accountability among officers.

"We love you - we know the work you do - it's not easy and I don't envy the job you have to do" Crespo said during the vigil in a message to members of the NYPD. "But at the same time we have to be able to say to our own colleagues, 'You did the wrong thing, you weren't supposed to do that, you made us all look bad.""

Danner's death reminded some Bronxites of the 1984 shooting of 66year old Eleanor Bumpurs.

Police shot and killed Bumpurs, who had a history of mental illness, while she was waving a knife at officers.

Police were trying to help evict Bumpurs because she had fallen be-



kybella

(deoxycholic acid) injection



Webster Commons is a 470,00 square foot complex with 484 affordable units in five buildings on 3620 Webster Avenue. Photo courtesy of Aufgang Architects

# Webster Commons named 2016 'Project of the Year'

#### BY ROBERT WIRSING

An ambitious affordable housing project in Norwood has earned a prestigious honor.

On Monday, November 28, Webster Commons, designed by Aufgang Architects, was selected as the 2016 Project of the Year by the New York Association for Affordable Housing.

NYSAFAH annually celebrates projects demonstrating excellence in development and construction in addition to affordability and design.

Constructed by Joy Construction, Webster Commons is a 470,000 square foot project located at 3620 Webster Avenue and is comprised of 484 affordable units in five buildings ranging from nine- to 12-stories.

The complex features indoor and outdoor recreation areas, community facilities, above ground on-site parking and a universal pre-k classroom.

Aufgang's design for Webster Commons includes a combination of colored bricks, panels and various levels of setbacks and terraces along the facade.

"My colleagues and I are proud to receive this NYSAFAH award," said Ariel Aufgang, AIA, Aufgang Architects principal. "As we strive to creatively apply our experience, insights and expertise to the design of our clients' projects including both affordable and luxury commercial buildings and adaptive re-use designs, we have worked closely with NYSAFAH and its members."

Aufgang said each building in Webster Commons has its own distinctive stylistic approach.

This is a welcomed departure from large affordable projects of decades past that were characterized by multiple large, monolithic buildings whose designs reflected few aesthetic considerations.

The five buildings known as A, B, drew Cohen.

C, D and E are 100 percent devoted to people qualifying for affordable housing.

Building C is exclusively intended for senior housing, according to Aufgang.

The project is situated on a 2.3 acre parcel located east of Webster Avenue and north of Gun Hill Road.

Prior to development, the site was owned by the Woodlawn Cemetery for over a century and used as a holding area for stones from the historic cemetery.

Webster Commons, LLC purchased the site in December 2008.

Established in 1971, Aufgang Architects is known for its thoughtful, effective and creative designs for both affordable and luxury multifamily buildings and hotels throughout the New York metropolitan area.

Formed in 1995, Joy Construction is a full service general contracting and development firm specializing in multifamily and commercial projects throughout NYC.

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"The board overwhelmingly approved the construction of Webster Commons," said Karl Stricker, Community Board 12 second vice chairman and CB 12 Land Use Committee chairman.

"This project will make it possible for Bronxites to afford to stay in our borough," said Councilman Andrew Cohen.

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# 'I Love NY' signs not loved, funding threatened

#### **BY ARTHUR CUSANO**

The U.S. Department of Transportation and Federal Highway Administration do not love the hundreds of 'I Love NY' tourism signs that have been placed on New York state highways over the past five years, including some that were recently installed in the Bronx, and wants them removed.

The state has put up over 500 of the large blue signs on highways across the state. at a cost of almost \$17 million.

The signs include the iconic "I Love New York" logo, along with icons that promote the 'Path Toward History' tourism program, the 'Taste NY' program that promotes state food and drink offerings and one for the state parks.

The primary sign is followed in quick succession by four smaller signs.

The signs encourage travellers to visit the state tourism website, iloveny.com, and the state tourism app.

There are 16 such signs in Bronx County, which can be seen on the Bronx River Parkway and Hutchinson River Parkway.

Governor Cuomo has been a vocal cheerleader for state tourism, which he has cited as a major economic engine for the Empire State.

"Tourism is a major driver of New York's economy and these signs are part of a multipronged effort that has helped increase tourism across this state," said Adam Ostrowski, spokesman for the Empire State Development Corporation.

"Last year, the tourism industry generated a recordbreaking economic impact of \$102 billion statewide while supporting more than 894,000 jobs and contributing \$8 billion in state and local taxes."

But federal DOT officials never approved the signs, and warned the state in 2011 as the program was ramping up, to stop installing them.

The feds are now threatening to withhold up to \$1 billion in federal funding unless the signs are removed.

The sign's lettering is too small and hard to read for a highway motorist and could distract drivers, the federal agency charges.



State tourism signs such as the ones on the Hutchinson River Parkway near Co-op City are a point of contention between the state and the federal Department of Transportation. Community News Group / Arthur Cusano

state DOT know that these signs are not in compliance," said Federal Highway Adspokesman ministration "We have continued to let Neil Gaffney. "A particular

area of concern for us is the fact that we are committed to reducing situations where distracted driving can occur, and these signs can distract drivers. We are working to bring the state into compliance.

Adding to the awkwardness is the fact that the signs were made outside the state in an Arkansas factory because the state did not have the necessary equipment to make them, according to published reports verified by the state DOT.

State DOT spokesman Gary Holmes said a meeting with the federal DOT and highway department had been scheduled this month in Washington where he hoped the sign disagreements could be worked out.

"This issue has been discussed for years and involves the interpretation of rules for directional signage versus informational signage, and whether or not an email address can be posted.," said Holmes. "This isn't high crime, but minor disagreements that we look forward to meeting with the feds in order to resolve.

"The 'I Love NY' tourism program is highly successful and a big economic driver," h said.



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# **Bronx-born MMA** fighter to defend title Sun., Dec. 31 on NBC

#### **BY ARTHUR CUSANO**

World Series of Fighting will end 2016 with a bang on Sunday, December 31.

A slate of mixed martial arts bouts will be aired on New Years Eve live from Madison Square Garden on the NBC networks.

One of the top matches on the 11-match card features David Branch, the Bronx-born, light heavyweight and middleweight champion, who will defend his middleweight belt against fellow grappler Louis Taylor of Chicago.

Branch, who now resides in the Bedford-Stuyvesant section of Brooklyn, said he was looking forward to defending his middleweight belt in his hometown.

Mixed martial arts fighting was illegal in New York until just last year.

Branch said being able to fight in his own backyard instead of travelling to Las Vegas was a big deal for him.

'Just knowing that I can bring all of my fans from home, that they could come see me fight, was a huge thing for me," the 35-year-old said from his David Branch Martial Arts and Jiu-Jitsu studio in Hoboken, NJ, where he now trains.

The first hour of the event will air live on the NBC Sports Network from 3 to 4 p.m. The event will then continue on NBC 4 New York from 4. to 6 p.m.

t's more about the mental training, getting yourself ready to go into that element and be able to thrive and win. **David Branch** 

Branch has fought competitively for almost ten years, and competed in the UFC and Bellator MMA associations before finding major success in the WSOF, racking up nine wins in a row since 2012.

It's a far cry from his early days spent in various parts of the Bronx such as Mosholu Parkway, Gun Hill Road and Hunts Point.

He moved to Manhattan when he was 10 and attended A. Philip Randolph Campus High School in Harlem. "I was all over," he recalled with a

laugh. Branch said he stumbled into MMA

fighting years ago by chance and never looked back.

"I've always been around fighting, into it."



Bronx native David Branch will defend his middleweight title live on NBC's New Year's Eve from MSG. Courtesy of WSOF

and fate just came swinging my way one day," he said. "I bought tapes from [a street peddler] and I took [them] home and looked at [them] and said, This is what I wanna do."

Branch said his full-time job is preparing for injuries and the certainty of pain that the matches entail.

'The training is rough, every day you have to do something different to train your body in different ways," he said. "But it's more about the mental training, getting yourself ready to go into that element and be able to thrive and win."

Branch said his fights are a technical display of skills that even a non-fan could appreciate, and that he hoped new viewers will tune in to give the sport a chance.

"It's not just the brutality of it where you put two people in the ring ... like human cockfighting," he said. "That's not the style I fight with - it's aesthetically pleasing. I use techniques that make people say holy sh-t, I can't believe he just did that."

A self-proclaimed problem child in his youth, Branch said he wanted to start speaking to young people, especially troubled and inner city youth, about how to deal with adversity.

"I want to be an ambassador for other kids who are troubled, to tell them they have another way," he said. "I was in and out of trouble growing up, but I was able to make it out of those circumstances and create a business for myself and be successful in a super-competitive market and making it to number one. I want them to know that's possible if they put their head

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# Westchester Square BID holiday celebration Dec. 16

#### **BY ARTHUR CUSANO**

In a sure sign Christmas is just around the corner, the annual Westchester Square Business Improvement District Holiday Celebration will light up the night Friday, December 16 at Owen Dolen Park.

The event will run from 5 to 8 p.m. at the park, located at 2551 Westchester Square.

Celebrants can take part in the community tree lighting, take pictures with Santa Claus in his village and listen to yuletide carolers perform holiday favorites.

There will also be gifts for children 12 and under while supply lasts.

This year's event is later than usual because they had to work around Santa's busy schedule, said BID executive director Lisa Sorin.

"The Santa we feature is the only one we like to use, because his name is actually legally Santa Claus," Sorin said. "We call him the real Santa Claus, and Westchester Square is privileged to have him."

The BID supplies 400 toys, hot chocolate and cider, as well as holiday music and music for



Last year's Westchester Square Holiday Celebration and Christmas Tree Lighting.

File Photo

the children to dance to.

"It's truly about bringing out the family and letting them enjoy the holiday season," she said. "Sometimes we lose focus of the fact that this is truly a small village, a community - so when these events happen, it showcases the residents and businesses that are here for the families." The holiday event has for many years been a partnership with the NYC Parks Department, who organize a group of carolers featuring children from the after school programs at the Owen Dolen Recreation Center.

"The children come out beautifully dressed as old school carolers and they go from store to store. We love to make sure the merchants who can't get to the tree lighting also get to enjoy the celebration," she said.

The partnership with Owen Dolen begins on Thanksgiving, when the Westchester Square BID provides food for the staff to prepare for 300plus local residents. "It's the volunteers and families from the Parks Department who cook it and serve it the day of, so Parks has always been a strong partner for us," Sorin asid.

She also credited Councilman James Vacca with helping the BID host the holiday celebration and various holiday events.

"Councilman Vacca has supported us from the very beginning, and he provides funds that help us run our summer concerts and our Halloween event, which this year hosted close to 2,000 people," Sorin said. "His office is all about family."

As for businesses the BID represents, Sorin said the economy seems to have picked up in recent months.

She said foot traffic is up, according to business owners she has spoken to.

Shopping local seems to be making a comeback, she said.

"I want to believe that consumers who shop in the area feel like going back to oldschool shopping where you know your cashier and store manager," she said. "It's a good feeling."



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# TNMA brightens holiday season with Christmas lights

#### **BY PATRICK ROCCHIO**

The Throggs Neck community came together to celebrate the holidays with festive lights in its commercial corridor and a tree lighting ceremony.

The Throggs Neck Merchants Association reports that this year its annual fundraising drive for the holiday lights went better than it typically does, with more donations than ever arriving in the mail.

All told, the TNMA had over 50 strands of holiday lights hung over East Tremont Avenue shortly after Thanksgiving, according to Steven Kaufman, outgoing TNMA president.

Kaufman said he believes the lights send a message that Throggs Neck is a cohesive community that is in the holiday spirit. He hopes that it will encourage shopping along the commercial corridor.

"People feel it is very important to have these lights," he said. "Without the lights, we would have a darkened corridor that would be somber and sad; now you drive here and you have these beautiful lights welcoming people."

The TNMA president said



Christmas lights brighten the night along East Tremont Avenue in Throggs Neck.

the group raised roughly 80% of what was needed from the lights through the mail as of press time.

"It is our best year ever," he said of the effort, adding that in some years a delegation from the TNMA has had to go door-to-door many times to the merchants on East Tremont Avenue to raise what was needed for lights.

John Cerini, TNMA treasurer said that his Facebook page received a deluge of comments, almost all positive, in response to a post about the

placement of the holiday lights along East Tremont Avenue this year.

"Out of over 300 comments, only three were negative," said Cerini. "The responses were overwhelmingly positive; they mean everything to the children and they brighten up the spirit of the community."

The association's treasurer said that he wishes everyone a happy holiday season and hope that they enjoy and appreciate the lights.

Cerini also said that the community's annual Christmas tree lighting, hosted by Assemblyman Michael Benedetto, with the TNMA, at De-Rosa O'Boyle Triangle on Sunday, December 5, was a huge success.

Community News Group / Patrick Rocchio

This year, roughly 700 gifts were distributed, according to the TNMA.

Santa Claus came and visited with the children as well, and there were Christmas Carols by Anne Meyers and the St. Benedict's Choir, hot chocolate and cookies.

The gifts for the children are provided by the TNMA avenue, according to Colon.

and purchased with funds raised at merchant association outings throughout the year, said Geri Colon, a TNMA volunteer.

These fundraisers include a golf outing and a dinner dance, she said.

"You cannot believe the smiles on the faces of the children," said Colon of the Christmas tree event, who added that in some cases she has heard that it may be the only toy that many of children at the event receive for the holidays.

Benedetto called the tree lighting a special time for Throggs Neck, and expressed his regret that he could not attend personally because he was called back to Albany.

Assemblyman Mark Gjonaj, from the neighboring Assembly district, ran the event for Benedetto.

"The tree lighting initiates just a happy, warm season here in the Bronx," said the assemblyman of the ceremony. "We look forward to sharing this season with our family."

The lights this year run along East Tremont Avenue from roughly LaSalle to Miles



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# Pena & Kahn refurbishes Bronx Y's teen center

She added that the various

"Social time is important

games within the room create

a safe and social space for the

for the teens in a safe environ-

ment and that's what [the teen

center] provides," Brown said.

building with a full basketball

court which is a staple for kids

who attend the facility.

The teen center shares a

teens.

#### **BY ROBERT CHRISTIE**

The Castle Hill YMCA reopened its teen center on Friday, December 2 following two months of refurbishing and renovation.

Following a ribbon cutting in the afternoon, teens from the community got to use the new facility which now has new technology, new floors and new furniture.

want to give back to the Y. I'm from the Bronx and my wife is from this neighborhood. **Allan Torres** 

The refurbished center was funded by the Pena & Kahn law firm.

Allan Torres, chief operating officer of the firm, worked with his assistant Edgar Velez and his colleague that works in construction, Jose Mercado.

"I want to give back to the Y," said Torres, a member of the Bronx YMCA Board of Managers. "I'm from the Bronx and my wife is from this neighborhood."

Torres said he, Mercado and Velez were at the facility till 10 p.m. at times painting, cleaning, installing a new floor and wiring new technol-

The group began work in early October and finished the center, now called the Pena & Kahn Center for Youth Developent, in late November.

In addition to the new furniture and new computers, the room now includes an Xbox 360, Amazon Fire Sticks and an Amazon Echo.

It also has a refurbished pool table and air hockey table.

Sharlene Brown, executive director of the Bronx YMCA, is very pleased with the teen center's new look.

"It's important because on Friday night's we have our teen program here," said Brown. "The teen center just adds to the space and the activities that they can do."



Bronx YMCA ribbon cutting for new teen center - Present in photo: Bronx YMCA board member Allan Torres of Peña & Kahn, Bronx YMCA executive director Sharlene Brown, Bronx YMCA youth coordinator Stefany Navarro, Bronx YMCA board chair Geri Sciortino, along with other board and staff members and teens from the center.

Photo Courtesy of Bronx YMCA

In addition the Bronx YMCA campus has a dance studio and swimming pool.

Stephanie Navarro, the youth and family director at the Bronx YMCA, discussed the importance of children having multiple options.

'You have children that aren't athletic so they're not going to be on the court. they're not going to be in the

dance studio and they're not going to be swimming," said Navarro. "Teens will come [to the center], they'll do they're homework and it will give them an opportunity to have a space that's for them."

"It will give us an opportunity to continue to build the culture of our branch around development," vouth she added.

Torres said he will be using the room to help students build their resumes and prepare for job interviews.

In addition he said he is hoping to eventually have three teen interns from the YMCA at Pena & Kahn and have one teen work part time at the firm.

The Castle Hill facility is currently the only YMCA in the Bronx, however, by 2020 it will be one of two facilities.

Elected officials announced in August that the Edenwald YMCA, which will include a full-length basketball court, swimming pools, an indoor track, a wellness center, a child care facility and multipurpose room, would start construction..

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# **Shamrock Inn** couple celebrate 20 vears of ownership

#### **BY STEVEN GOODSTEIN**

A married couple will soon celebrate the 20-year anniversary of their bar and restaurant.

On Saturday, December 10, from 8 p.m. to midnight, co-owners Rosetta and Chris Lawless will celebrate two decades of ownership at Shamrock Inn, a bar and restaurant which has had a presence in Pelham Bay for the past 70 years.

The bar (now restaurant bar) has provided the Pelham Bay community with a warm, close-knit 'home-away-fromhome' atmosphere where individuals and groups can easily meet and connect with others from the neighborhood.

Reflecting on their years

more than appreciative of all of the support that the establishment has received from the community.

"So many memories have taken place here - and it's hard to narrow it down to just one particular moment," said Rosetta, who was born and raised in Co-Tyrone, Ireland, before settling in the Bronx. "These past 20 years have been a lot of fun - and both my husband and I have met a lot of interesting people with truly amazing life stories and experiences."

Rosetta added that their bartender, Dominick Dillon, has also been part of the Shamrock Inn for the past two decades, as long as her and

in business, Rosetta seemed Chris, who have been married for over 25 years, have owned the establishment. Their children, Michelle and Sean, also work in the restaurant.

"We're still here - and it's great to celebrate our tenure as a successful establishment in this neighborhood," she added. "I can't thank our customers enough for all the support they've given us over the years to keep us here."

The name 'Shamrock' originates from the fact that, throughout its history, the establishment has always been owned by an individual of Irish descent.

Shamrock Inn moved to its current location, 1729 Crosby Avenue, just before Rosetta and Chris took ownership. In

Rosetta and Chris Lawless will celebrate 20 years of ownership at Shamrock Inn on Saturday, December 10.

Community News Group / Steven Goodstein

2005, the bar was completed renovated and a restaurant dining area was installed. The bar was previously

located on the other side of Crosby Avenue before the Rosetta and Chris took over in 1996.



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#### PUBLIC NOTICE CORRECTION

Pursuant to Section 695(2)(b) of the General Municipal Law and Section 1802(6)(j) of the Charter, notice is hereby given that the Department of Housing Preservation and Development ("HPD") of the City of New York ("City") has proposed the sale of the following City-owned property (collectively, "Disposition Area") in the Borough of Bronx:

Address 620 Bergen Avenue

#### Block/Lot(s) 2361/25

Under the Supportive Housing Loan Program, HPD funds the rehabilitation or new construction of buildings which provide supportive housing for the homeless, people with special needs, and other persons of low income. HPD works with the Department of Homeless Services, the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, the Human Resources Administration's HIV/AIDS Services Administration, and other public agencies to ensure that the completed projects receive appropriate building security and social services.

HPD has designated La Central Supportive Housing Development Fund Corporation ("Sponsor") as qualified and eligible to purchase and redevelop the Disposition Area under the Supportive Housing Loan Program. HPD proposes to sell the Disposition Area to the Sponsor at the nominal price of One Dollar per tax lot pursuant to Article 16 of the General Municipal Law. The Sponsor will also deliver a note and mortgage for the appraised value of the Disposition Area, which will be payable only if the Sponsor violates the City's restrictions on the post-sale development, use, occupancy, and operation of the property. The Sponsor will construct one new building on the Disposition Area. The completed project will provide 160 units for occupancy by homeless and low income persons, plus one unit for a superintendent, and on-site supportive services.

The appraisal and the proposed Land Disposition Agreement and Project Summary are available for public examination at the office of HPD, 100 Gold Street, Room 5-A4, New York, New York on business days during business hours.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a public hearing will be held on December 21, 2016 at 1 Centre Street, Manhattan, Mezzanine at 10:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be reached on the calendar, at which time and place those wishing to be heard will be given an opportunity to be heard concerning the proposed sale of the Disposition Area pursuant to Section 695(2)(b) of the General Municipal Law and Section 1802(6)(j) of the Charter.

Individuals requesting sign language interpreters should contact the Mayor's Office Of Contract Services, Public Hearings Unit, 253 Broadway, Room 915, New York, New York 10007, (212) 788-7490, no later than seven (7) business days prior to the public hearing. TDD users should call Verizon relay services.



Bill de Blasio, Mayor Vicki Been, Commissioner, HPD

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#### **Manhattan legislators** introduce bill to allow 'selfie' ballot photos

#### **BY PATRICK ROCCHIO**

A bill to be introduced shortly by two Manhattan legislators may allow voters to take selfies of their ballots.

The legislation is being introduced in January by Senator Brad Hoylman and Assemblywoman Linda Rosenthal.

It would permit picture taking in the voting booth, something that is currently prohibited in New York state.

Hoylman said that idea for the legislation originated from photos circulated on social media on Election Day in November of celebrities' ballots.

Specifically, concerns arose about a photo of music star Justin Timberlake's ballot in Tennessee, one of 18 states that bans voting photography along with New York, said the senator.

"The law in New York currently prohibits voters from taking photos of their ballots," said Hoylman, adding that the law originated as a protection against voting coercion by employers.

With the advent of social media, the senator believes that the law needs to be updated.

"Technology has changed and social media is a way of a lot of us communicate; the idea of employee coercion I think is an anachronism," said Hoylman, adding "Certainly the bill that we are going to be introducing shortly is going to remove the prohibition against ballot photographs but maintain the protection against intimidation or coercion."

The senator believes that social media is a way to engage voters, especially younger voters, to participate in the democratic process.

Rosenthal agrees, saying that millennials are definitely using social media like Instagram, Facebook, Twitter or Snapchat for their communications.

The assembly woman believes that the posting of ballots on social media could encourage civic dialogue.

"First of all, so much of civic dialogue either starts or is present on social media," said Rosenthal. "That is increasingly how people discuss world and state events.

She added: "I thought that the prohibition of taking photos of the ballot was just a throwback to another time when there were different needs.'

She believes that if people want to advertise the fact that they voted, there is no need to stop them.

Many people who are not knowledgeable of the law are taking selfies of their ballots and posting them online now.

Rosenthal stated that the current law against voting photography is 126 years old.

She believes the bill will pass.

Rosenthal's colleague, Assemblyman Michael Benedetto, was lukewarm to the idea.

Benedetto said that his concern is that taking selfies while voting may slow down the voting process.

'Especially during presidential elections, we have lines of people at polling places looking to vote ... now we are going to have people taking selfies while they vote, which will slow things down even more," said Benedetto.

Benedetto added: "While I don't object to the bill...I am a little unsettled as to what the consequences may be."

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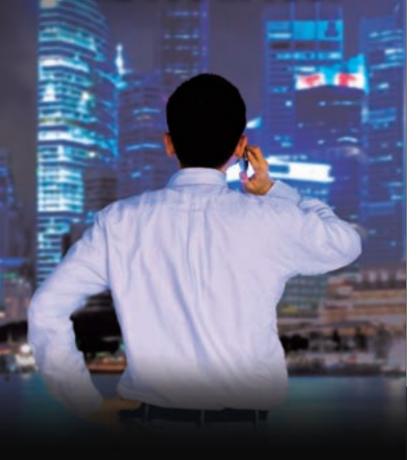
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This spring, the NYU School of Professional Studies (NYUSPS), a leader in professionally focused education, will offer an affordable option of study that will provide individuals who have earned a high school degree with the opportunity to acquire industry focused skills that will prepare them for jobs in fields with growing levels of employment. New Diplomas, offered through NYUSPS Professional Pathways, are designed as immersive programs of study that can be completed in as little as one semester. During Spring 2017, nine Diplomas will be offered. They include:

The Diploma in Basic Project Management, which gives students a hands-on understanding of the essential terminology and the application of the basic tools, techniques, and practices required to become an effective and contributing member of a project team.

The Diploma in Bookkeeping, a blended program, which imparts the knowledge and skill sets to perform functions within the bookkeeping cycle, manually and with QuickBooks and Xero, and grounds students in accounting ethics and best practices.

The Diploma in Childcare Management provides the understanding of the business and administrative skills needed to establish a childcare center.

The Diploma in Construction Administration is a blended program that provides the skills to secure an entry-level position within the commercial or residential building sectors of the real estate industry. Students learn about the construction process and document administration, and gain an introduction to construction methods and materials, building systems, drawings, estimating, and scheduling.

The Diploma in Introduction to Programming with Python provides students with the knowledge and the applied skills needed to pursue careers as junior software engineers or developers in one of the fastestgrowing and most in-demand languages in the industry.

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The Diploma in Retail Operations Management trains students with the enhanced knowledge, expertise, insights, and skills required to become a retail buyer, a retail merchandiser, or a retail operations management trainee.

The Diploma in Web Design and Development teaches students the essential webpage development skills through hands-on practice using HTML5 and CSS.

All Diplomas will provide industry specific career modules presented online in a self-paced format, which help students to better understand the job market. Upon completion of a diploma, students also will have access to an online portal featuring job postings and a resource library. Annual networking events will provide opportunities to meet with peers and employers in the field. Each program of study provides students with a tangible take-away project that can be added to their résumé and presented to prospective employers.

For more information about NYUSPS Diploma Programs, visit sps.nyu.edu/diplomas07 or call 212-998-7200. Application deadline is January 4, 2017.





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#### BY FRAN ARICO AND BARBARA FLEMING Our next meeting

Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 14 at 7 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus Hall at 3243 Ampere Avenue. We



ask that our friends and neighbors come out to sign a petition for a speed bump on Stadium Avenue between Ampere and Griswold avenues, and a 4-way Stop Sign on Stadium Avenue and Spencer Drive which is a very dangerous corner. For the safety of our neighborhood let's stop cars from speeding on Stadium Avenue.

Join us that evening for our holiday party, hot food, beer, wine, soda, coffee and cake, \$15 per person. All invited.

Happy Holidays!

BY STEVEN GLOSSER The Pelham Park-

way Neighborhood Association invites you to our Tuesday, December 13 meeting at Bronx House, 999 Pelham Parkway South at 7:15 p.m.



Our guests this month will include members of the NYC Sanitation Department, NIDC, Traffic Enforcement and Legal Aid.

Please bring all your questions and concerns regarding these issues.

Email us: PelhamParkwayNA@gmail.com. Visit our website: http://sites.google.com/site/ ppsnaweb/

# Up For Adoption





(Left) Lucky Star is a senior (8-10 years old) Border Collie mix who was found as a stray running along the Throgs Neck Expressway in the Bronx. He would do best in a home with no children and as an only dog with 1-2 adults in the household.

.(Right) Oreo is a 6 year old female domestic short hair and one of our longest residents. She was abandoned in an apartment by her owner. Kind neighbors brought her to the shelter in hopes of finding her a forever home . I am a sweet girl, and I want to be someone's pet again. There isn't enough time and space to mush when I am in a cage.

New Beginning Animal Rescue is located at 2515 Newbold Avenue. If you are intersted in adopting any of these pets, email newbeginninganimalrescue@gmail. com or call 347-691-3282.

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# **Brunch With Santa Sunday, December 11th** 11:30am to 3:30pm

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718-892-3830 900 Morris Park Avenue Bronx, NY 10462 All children are invited to take a picture with Santa & have their faces painted for FREE!



2016-2018 Empire State Fellows

· City Island Library Program And Events

# Toastmasters Holiday Shindig December 13th

Join the Toastmasters Holiday Shindig with the **Bronx Advanced Toastmasters Club** on Tuesday, December 13, from-7 to 9 p.m. at the College of New Rochelle, Co-op City Campus, 755 Coop City Boulevard. Guest speaker will be the 2015 Humorous Contest winner, Roquita Johnson.

Akia Taylor, Co-op City Toastmasters president and certified business coach, is a Bronx native that has not let the concrete jungle dim her light. In addition to being a toastmaster, public speaker and a coach, she is also, a certified NLP master practitioner. Although she had been coaching professionally for years, she became certified through the Certified Coaching Alliance this past May and is a member of the respected International Coaching Federation., a Huffington Post Contributor and a member of Gamma Phi Delta professional sorority.

Join her at a Co-op City Toastmasters meeting and you too can be on your way to a winning stage for 2017. They meet the 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month at 2049 Bartow Avenue lower level in the Bartow Mall, . Their next meeting will be held on Thursday, December 15 from 7:30 to 9 p.m. Contact the cub via email at president-3824@toastmastersclubs.org or visit the club's website, http://3824.toastmastersclubs.org.

New York Secretary of State Rossana Rosado **announced the 2016-2018 class of Empire State Fellows**. The prestigious program, now in its fifth year, recruits mid-career professionals from the private and private sectors to cultivate the next generation of New York State government leaders and policy-makers. Eight new Empire State Fellows, chosen for their professional experience, leadership potential,

Join the Toastmasters Holiday Shing with the **Bronx Advanced Toast**service from a highly competitive field of candidates, now begin a two-year fellowship.

> Governor Andrew M. Cuomo Cuomo appoints each Empire Fellow to work directly with a Commissioner, Deputy Commissioner, or other high-level policy-maker. Each Empire Fellow works at a State office or agency, such as the Department of State, the Department of Health, the Department of Labor, or in the Governor's Executive Chamber.

> During their two-year fellowship, Empire State Fellows both teach and learn, by bringing diverse and modern perspectives into the governing process, and through participation in education and professional development. Empire Fellows complete a unique, interactive curriculum developed by the Rockefeller Institute of Government in consultation with Cabinet-level officials. Once placed and paired with a mentor, Empire State Fellows must continue educational coursework in addition to their regular employment.

> The Empire State Fellows program continues its tradition of selecting outstanding leaders from different backgrounds to enter public service and make contributions to the wide spectrum of State government. Members of the new class bring expertise from various professional fields, including community service, not-for-profit management, education, and the legal profession. Since the program's inception, over 25 Fellows have gone on to senior roles in State government. In these roles, graduated Empire State Fellows have helped shape the state's Superstorm Sandy housing and building initiatives, assist Puerto Rico reshape its Medicaid program, and helped move the State's behavioral health services

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from a fee-for-service system into managed care.

Bronxite joins the Empire State Fellows program following her role as Confidential Stenographer for New York State's Executive Chamber. During her time with the Chamber, Hanna assisted on the implementation of the Governor's Ethics, Risk and Compliance State-wide initiative. While obtaining her Master of Science from the King Graduate School-Monroe College, Hanna conducted research on re-entry and wrote her master thesis entitled: Role of Social Service Programs on Successful Reintegration of Ex-convict Mothers into Society. Hanna was formerly a Rhetoric coinstructor for Binghamton University's Michael J. Boyd Educational Opportunity Summer Program, and an English-Social Studies Tutor/Counselor for La Guardia Community College's upward bound program. Hanna is a McNair Scholar, a volunteer for the Court Appointed Special Advocates for Children (CASA) and is a CASA Jr. Board member. She has an Executive Certificate in Non-Profit Management from Fordham University, a Master of Science from the King Graduate School-Monroe College and a Bachelor of Arts from Binghamton University. \* \* \*

The **City Island Library** will offer the following programs:

The Winter Wonderland Music and Comedy Show: A snowy musical experience that is designed to engage children through music, comedy, and movement, featuring original winter tales and themes! The show is crafted to be inclusive for kids of all abilities, including children on the Autism Spectrum, and a great time for parents and caregivers. Ages 2 and older. Wednesday, December 7, 11 a.m.

Lego League: Bring your imagination and join us for fun with LEGOS! Blocks of various sizes will be provided. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Ages 5 -11. A limit of 10 children with their caregivers. Every Thursday from 3 to 4 p.m.

Circle Time: Children from birth to 3 years old and their caregivers can enjoy stories, songs, and finger plays while spending time with other toddlers. Limit of 15 children with their caregivers. Every Tuesday from 11 to 11:45 a.m.

Read & Play: Children from birth to 3 years old and caregivers can take part in wonderful stories, discover amazing toys, and meet new friends in this fun, informal program. Limit of 15 children with their caregivers. Every Friday from 11 to 11:30 a.m

It's Bin Fun!: Toddlers and pre-

schoolers can play and explore our various sensory bins that will encourage curiosity through touch, sight, and sound! Parent and child participation required. Ages 2 - 4 years old. Saturday December 3rd and 17th between 10 a.m. to noon.

Craft-A-Way: Drop in and participate in creating projects related to a theme or holiday. Ages 2 - 5. Friday, December 16 at 11:30 a.m.

After School Lounge: Come to the library after school for studying and a chance to unwind. Monday through Thursday from 3 to 5 p.m.

Friday Afternoon Activities: On Fridays, at 3 p.m. the library will plan a series of special activities to celebrate the beginning of the weekend so check out this month's events. December 2nd Graffiti Workshop; December 9th, 23rd and 30th Wii and Board Games; December 16th No Sew Pillow.

Manga Drawing Workshop: Do you have the next manga series ready to pour through your fingertips? Join Masiko Rocks and learn how to draw your own characters, plot stories, and more! Monday, December 19 at 3 p.m.

Family Movie: Feature movie titles varying in length. The Jungle Book -Wednesday, December 28th at 3 p.m.

The City Island Scrabble Club: If you're looking for some friendly competition, then join our new Scrabble Club! Come in and flex your vocabulary muscles. You may even learn a thing or two while you're making some new friends. Note: Limited to 12 participants, registration required. Call 718-885-1703 or stop by the branch to reserve your spot! Thursday, December 15, 1 to 2 p.m.

The Island Writers: This is a group for all who are interested in writing professionally or personally. Every Tuesday at 1 p.m

Intro to Computers: Come to the library, ask questions about how to use computers and sharpen your skills through computer use. "How do I turn the computer on?" "How do I set up my own e-mail account and e-mail family and friends?" Every Tuesday from 10 a.m. to noon

Résumé Workshop: Designed to assist in creating a new or updated resume. Topics include cover letters and resources for job opportunities. A flash drive is required. Every Wednesday from 10 a.m. to noon.

One-on-One: Computer Training: Stop by or call to make an appointment for one hour of instruction that focuses on your questions and interests.

Saturday Afternoon Movies: at 1 p.m., December 17: I Am Wrath All programs are free.

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## Sparkling Heart Of Fordham



The Sparkling Heart of Fordham is still beating this holiday season. Hosted by the Fordham Road Business Improvement District and BronxNet's Rhina Valentin, the 12th annual Sparkling Heart of Fordham Celebration and Christmas Tree Lighting welcomed over 4,000 people to commemorate the holidays on Friday, December 2 at Bryan Park. The festive event featured its trademark Christmas tree lighting, a visit from Santa Claus, live music, prizes, raffles and gifts for 600 children. Volunteer Jason Natale gave back to his community during this year's season of giving. (top right) (I-r) Fordham residents Joandy, Lenny and Joan Varpan, Amanda Ramon and Gabrielle Tebara met jolly old Saint Nick at Bryan Park. All photos by Laura Stone



A living Christmas tree visited Fordham Road to usher in the upcoming holidays. (right) Councilman Cabrera (I) and Wilma Alonso, Fordham Road Business Improvement District executive director, celebrated the holiday season in festive style.



(I-r) B-Sides Gabby, Kristin, Emma and Isabelle danced the night away to Christmas tunes.

(left) Fordham residents had a holly, jolly time at this year's Sparkling in the Heart of Fordham celebration.

(right) (I-r) Santa's helpers Ramon Natale, Kenny Reyes, David Rodriguez, Matthew Marroquin and Shirley Martinez helped spread holiday cheer to families and their children.



Fordham resident Shanell Colon received some great gifts this holiday season.





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ediate delivery from in stock units only. No two offers can be combined. No prior deals apply. Residuals: 2016 CR-V LX AWD: \$15,627.00; 2016 HR-V LX AWD: \$13,551.15; ponsible for repairs, maintenance excess wear and tear and excess miles of 10k per year at the rate of .15¢ each additional mile. Offers expire 12/15/16. #BT1209

## ST. FRANCIS XAVIER SCHOOL HOSTS STUDENT/FACULTY VOLLEYBALL GAME

St. Francis Xavier School students and faculty competed in a fun-filled volleyball game on Friday, November 18 inside their school's gymnasium.



(I-r) Referee John Capozzo with coaches, Joe O'Donnell and Anthony Hart.

#### Photo by Laura Stone

## JOHN LEGUIZAMO, ALTICE USA LAUNCH LOW-COST BROADBAND SERVICE

Altice USA announced on Thursday, December 1 the availability of 'Economy Internet', a new low-cost home broadband service from Optimum providing eligible families and seniors in the tri-state area with fast, high-quality internet connectivity at \$14.99 per month.



Students met with (back, I-r) Councilwoman Gibson, BronxWorks executive director Eileen Torres, John Leguizamo and Altice USA's Hakim Boubazine. Photo by Janette Pellegrini



## KENNY AGOSTO'S BIRTHDAY FUNDRAISER

Kenny Agosto, 78th Democratic Assembly District State Committeeman, hosted a birthday party and fundraiser to commemorate his ten years in elective politics on Wednesday, November 30 at Gasolina Bar and Lounge.

(I-r) Joe McManus, 80th Assembly District State Committeeman; Bernice Williams, 86th Democratic Assembly District Leader; Ken Agosto, 78th Democratic Assembly District State Committeeman; Nilda Velazques, 78th Democratic Assembly District Leader and Elvin Garcia, representing Mayor de Blasio. Photo by Silvio Pacifico

## HUNTS POINT COMPANY WINS FREE FUEL

The leadership team at Meurice Garment Care, a premier NYC dry cleaning company based in Hunts Point, was declared the grand prize winner of Sunoco's annual Free Fuel 5000 contest on Thursday, December 1. Meurice Garment Care president Wayne Edelman, who took over the company from his parents nearly 30 years ago, accepted the \$5,000 in Sunoco fuel on the organization's behalf.



(I-r) Peter Dolson, Sunoco area marketing manager; Wayne Edelman, Sunoco grand prize winner and Meurice Garment Care president and James Farrow, Sunoco division marketing manager. Photo courtesy of Sunoco



#### **46** BRONX TIMES REPORTER, DECEMBER 9-15, 2016

## CB9 VISITS JACOBI MEDICAL CENTER ER

NYC Health + Hospital/Jacobi gave Community Board 9 members a tour of the hospital's emergency department on Monday, November 21. The tour included adult and pediatric emergency rooms and wait areas, urgent care, trauma and ambulance bay.

(I-r) Janice Halloran, Jacobi's Emergency Department senior associate director; Felipa Manaiza; William Rivera, CB 9 district manager; Dr. Jeremy Sperling, Jacobi's Emergency Medicine chairman and Jaime Feliberty.

Photo courtesy of Jacobi Medical Center



Over the past 45 plus years. The Pine has become a central part of the holiday season for so many of our guests. Along with generous portions of the finest food, you will enjoy the warm hospitality, excellent service, and holiday cheer of our experienced staff. Whether you choose to dine in our restaurant or have us prepare a feast for your family and friends to share at home, you can take part in the resounding holiday spirit that is unique to The Pine.

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Baked Clams | Seafood Salad | Shrimp Cocktail | Zuppa di Pesce Baccala | Pulpo Salad | Mussels Fradiavolo | King Crab Legs | Lobster Tails Chilean Sea Bass | Stuffed Calamari | Seafood Bouquets | Scungilli Marinara

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#### HOT APPETIZERS

Baked Clams · Eggplant Rollatini · Fried Calamari Calabrese Style Wings · Mussels Fra Diavolo

#### THE MAIN EVENT

THE CARVING BLOCK Prime Rib Suckling Pig

#### THE PASTA STATION

Farfalle alla Vodka · Stuffed Shells Orecchiette con Broccoli di Rapa

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# Bronx schools St. Barnabas welcomes Det. Steven McDonald

On Thursday, December 1st, Saint Barnabas High School had the utmost privilege and honor to welcome NYPD Detective Steven McDonald. The entire student body, faculty and staff gathered in the auditorium where Det. McDonald offered his wonderful story of courage, faith, forgiveness and inspiration as he spoke of the horrific day he was shot while working for the NYPD. While questioning a group of young teenage boys, one of them, 15 years old at the time, shot Det. McDonald three times. The first shot was in the head, the second in the throat and the third shattered his spine leaving him paralyzed.

Throughout his story, Barnabas students listened intently and many were overcome with emotion after hearing how Det. McDonald persevered through rough times and how his faith kept him going. He described to them the very moment that he allowed his faith to guide him, "My darkness was replaced with light. I found my new reason to live and change the way I was living when my son Conor was born just six months after I was shot".

During his address, Det. McDonald had the students listen to the speech that Robert F. Kennedy gave just 24-hours after Martin Luther King, Jr was assassinated. Kennedy is quoted saying, "So I ask you tonight to return home, to say a prayer for the family [of Martin Luther King] .... But more importantly to say a prayer for our own country, which all of us love -- a prayer for understanding and that compassion of which I spoke." It is of this faith that Det. McDonald told the students to use to end this streak of violence, "Have faith. Say yes to God and good thing will follow." He reminded the students that this is not easy to do, but it is important to break the cycle of violence and improve the world by living and sharing your faith.

Det. McDonald then told the students that he forgave his shooter because it is important to choose love and forgiveness and he knew if he didn't he would not have survived. He concluded his address by reading the prayer, You Are Very Special, and praying a decade of the rosary. "I thought for a long time that if the boy who shot me had heard this prayer, things may have been different". He also brought copies of the book, Why Forgive?, of which he wrote the foreword, for each student.

At the end of the address Det. Mc-Donald signed copies of the book and took photos with students and faculty. In honor of Det. McDonald, Saint Barnabas High School is making a donation to the American Special Children's Pilgrimage Group, an organization close to him.

For more information about Saint Barnabas High School, contact Jennifer Geideman, MPA at (718) 325-8800 x11, at jgeideman@stbarnabashigh. com or visit our website at stbarnabashighschool.com



Detective Steven McDonald with Saint Barnabas High School students.

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INNER

## CALVARY HOSPITAL OPENS FOUR RENOVATED NURSES LOUNGE

Calvary Hospital hosted a dedication and ribbon-cutting ceremony on Thursday, December 1 for four recently renovated nurses lounges at the 200-bed Bronx campus. The Pat Cairo Family Foundation donated \$75,000 to renovate the four staff/nurses lounges. The amount was in addition to the foundation's annual \$100,000 gift for Calvary Hospital's general support.



Frank Calamari (I), Calvary Hospital president and Cairo family members (I-r) Lisa and Joe Cairo, Audrey Esposito, Michael Cairo and Shane O'Neil were excited to cut the ribbon. Photo courtesy of Calvary Hospital



Joe Cairo (back, 2nd from r) and his three children (back, I-r) Lisa, Michael and Shane with several Calvary nurses in one of the four renovated nurse's lounges at the Bronx campus. Photo courtesy of Calvary Hospital

## DIAZ HOSTS SBA ROUNDTABLE FOR HISPANIC BUSINESS LEADERS

Borough President Ruben Diaz, Jr. and U.S. Small Business Administration regional administrator Kellie LeDet, the Business Corporation of New York and the Bronx Overall Economic Development Corporation co-hosted a roundtable discussion on Wednesday, November 30 regarding ways to help Hispanic business owners invest and actively participate in the Bronx's economic growth.



Borough President Diaz addressed small business owners at a recent Small Business Administraion's roundtable. Photo courtesy of Borough President Ruben Diaz, Jr.'s Office



## BRONX COUNTY ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS' DINNER DANCE

The Bronx County Ancient Order of Hibernians celebrated its annual dinner dance and awards ceremonies on Sunday, November 20 at Rory Dolan's in Yonkers. This year's Celtic Cross award recipients were national president Chief Judge James McKay of Louisiana, NYPD chief of patrol Terence Monahan, 'Hibernian Digest' national editor John O'Connell, O'Lunney Pubs owner Hugh O'Lunney and Bronx County Ancient Order of Hibernians president Bob Nolan who also served as emcee and journal chairman.

(back, I-r) Pat O'Rourke, Mike O'Connell, Roger Slattery, Bob Nolan, Phil Parker, Joe McManus, Jerry O'Connell, (front, I-r) Susan Nolan, Pat Parker and Deborah McManus had a great evening. Photo by Nuala Purcell

## HISPANIC CHAMBER HOSTS BUSINESS AWARDS BANQUET

The NYC Hispanic Chamber of Commerce formally recognized a few well-accomplished Hispanic leaders at its 11th annual Hispanic Business Award Banquet and Scholarship Ceremony on Thursday, December 1 at Maestro's Caterers.

(I-r) NYC Hispanic Chamber of Commerce's Joe Ithier, Hispanic Chamber Executive Board member; Assemblyman Marcos Crespo; honoree Dr. Mark Gonzalez; Sulma Arzu-Brown, Hispanic Chamber director of operations; honoree Evelyn Espinal; honoree Assemblyman Rivera; honoree Fernando Ferrer; Nick Lugo, Hispanic Chamber president and Cindy Rubi Estrada, Hispanic Chamber executive director. Photo by Silvio Pacifico





## HOLY FAMILY CHURCH'S ANNUAL CHRISTMAS FLEA MARKET

With the holidays approaching, Holy Family Church hosted its annual Christmas flea market and tag sale on Sunday, December 4 at 2158 Watson Avenue. Shoppers and parishioners got a head start on their holiday gift-buying while supporting the community.



(I-r) Penny Cooke, Katie Laserinko, Peter Junta, Barbara Doddy and Agnes Egan organized the parish's annual Christmas Flea Market. Photo by Aracelis Batista



Delainney Rivera (c) and her mother, Brenda Jimenez (r) purchased jewelry from Dana Shepherd (l). Photo by Aracelis Batista



Marilyn Molina displayed the artwork she made commemorating World AIDS Day. Photo by Silvio Pacifico

## JACOBI MEDICAL CENTER HOSTS WORLD AIDS DAY EVENT

NYC Health + Hospitals/Jacobi hosted a World AIDS Day event at Jacobi Hospital's Atrium on Thursday, December 1. Senator Gustavo Rivera addressed a large crowd on the advancements in care to end AIDS in New York, ensuring HIV service providers have the skills and resources needed to prevent infections from occurring in the first place.



The Colligiate Institute for Math & Science seniors and their teacher, Larry Manetti, lent their support for this year's the World AIDS Day at Jacobi. Photo by Silvio Pacifico



(I-r) Jessica Rodriguez, Tiffany Phan and Kimberly Vargas with artwork they and fellow Collegiate Institute for Math and Science students produced for World AIDS Day. Photo by Silvio Pacifico



#### 52 BRONX TIMES REPORTER, DECEMBER 9-15, 2016

## METRO URGICARE OPENS PARKCHESTER LOCATION

Community and local elected officials celebrated the grand opening of Metro Urgicare's new Bronx location at 1990 McGraw Avenue on Wednesday, November 30. Dr. Beatrice Castiglia Catullo, Regional Aid for Interim Needs, Inc. founder, cut the ceremonial ribbon welcoming the rapidly expanding urgent care practice to the borough.

Assemblyman Luis Sepulveda (front, 4th from I) and Beatrice Castiglia Catullo (front, 2nd from r) commemorated the grand opening of Metro Urgicare's new Bronx location.

Photo courtesy of Metro Urgicare





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WINE'D UP WEDNESDAYS-> 4-7pm \$4 GLASS OF HOUSE WINE RED OR WHITE SANGRIA - \$7 \$5 BAR APPETIZERS

THIRSTY THURSDAYS-> 4-7pm \$3 WELL DRINKS \$5 MARTINIS \$5 COSMOS \$4 IMPORTED PINTS (GUINESS \$5) \$4 IMPORTED BOTTLES \$5 DOZEN WINGS (Hot, Mild, BBQ, or Teriyaki) \$5 NACHOS

FIREBALL FRIDAYS-> 4-8pm \$4 FIREBALL SHOTS \$1 OFF ANY BRAND WHISKEY SHOTS \$3.00 DOMESTIC PINTS - \$4 IMPORTED PINTS (Guinness \$5) \$3.50 DOMESTIC BOTTLES - \$4.00 IMPORTED BOTTLES \$5 BAR APPETIZERS

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## **TURN 2 FOUNDATION STUDENTS SPREAD HOLIDAY CHEER**

More than three dozen NYC high school students from the Turn 2 Foundation's Jeter's Leaders assembled gift bags at their program's annual holiday gift wrapping party on Thursday, December 1 at Yankee Stadium. The 1,100 gift bags which included items donated by the NY Yankees, Haddad Brands and Simon and Schuster, will help children from Turn 2 programs in NYC, west Michigan and Tampa, FL celebrate the holidays.



Louis Annuziata and Stefano Priante filled back packs to the brim with toys and other goodies. Photo by Silvio Pacifico



(I-r) Jamal McIntosh, Rochell Small, Maynor Cali and Stefano Priante prepared to throw their full back packs into a shipping box. Photo by Silvio Pacifico

## PELHAM BAY HOME TRANSFORMED INTO WINTER WONDERLAND

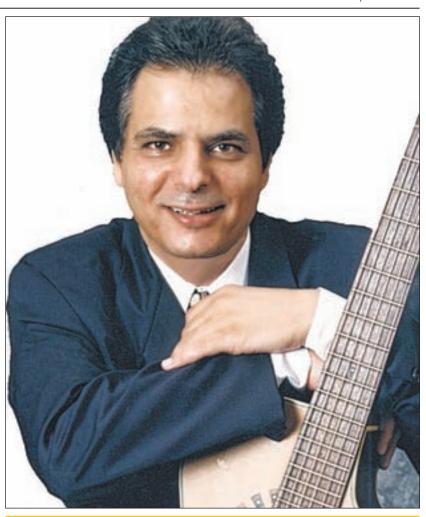
It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas in Pelham Bay. Surinder Singh transformed his 1818 Mahan Avenue home between Buhre and Westchester avenues into a whimsical winter wonderland for everyone's enjoyment this holiday season.



Winter wonderland 1818 Mahan Avenue glistened like a snowflake.



BTR



## YOEL SHARABI CONCERT SET FOR NEXT MONTH

Yoel Sharabi, one of the most talented and popular Jewish music performers, will entertain at a free Chanukah Party and Concert on Sunday, January 1, 2017, the eighth day of Chanukah. The festive extravaganza will be held at 2 p.m. inside the Young Israel of Pelham Parkway Jewish Center on 900 Pelham Parkway South at the corner of Muliner Avenue. Chanukah latkas and jelly donuts will be served at the celebration. For more information, contact Bronx Jewish Community Council of Pelham Parkway at (718) 828-1114.

Legendary musician Yoel Sharabi will perform at the Young Israel of Pelham Parkway on the eighth night of Chanukah. Photo courtesy of Yoel Sharabi

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Beef Stew	Churrasco	Lasagna	Meatloaf	BBQ Babyback Ribs	Surf & Turf	Sunday Sauce
Happy 4pm-7p Pints & Bott Domestics \$ Well Drinks Apple, Dirty	iles Imports	e Buffe \$4	Be Cl Fl 1 M 5 5 7	ef Nachos \$ heese Burger <b>REE HOT D</b> hom-7pm honday C Jumbo Win hursday 2 am - 2am Fl	5 & Fries \$ OGS ogs All Day	7
Come and Enjoy!						
<b>Legendar</b> 3513 East Tr	r <b>y Bar and</b> emont Ave, B		)465	718-822-01 Open Hours		4:00am

## NCNW SENIOR APPRECIATION BRUNCH HELD

The North Bronx Section of the National Council of Negro Women toasted distinguished individuals at its Senior Appreciation Holiday Brunch on Saturday, December 3 at the Albert Tuitt Educational Campus. This year's honorees included Alive Tuitt, Catherine Jackson, Ella Dixon-Ferebee, Florence Payne, Laura Rhodan, Lena Council, Loretta Jones, Lucinda M. Green, Naomi Collins, Phyllis E. Donaldson, Priscilla Crowell and Viola E. Phillips.



The day's honoree with members of the North Bronx Section of the National Council of Negro Women.

## PETE MCARDLE CROSS COUNTRY 15K AT VAN CORTLANDT

Runners tested their endurance during New York Road Runners' 15K cross country race across Van Cortlandt Park's rugged terrain on Sunday, December 4 while celebrating the late Pete McArdle, a local running legend and Ireland native. McArdle became an American citizen in 1962 and won the 10,000 meter gold and marathon bronze medals at the 1963 Pan American Games.



(I-r) The men's 15K winners included third place honoree David Perry, first place champion Broderick Gann and second place victor MacLean O'Donnell. Photo by Edwin Soto



(I-r) This year's women's 15K winners were third place honoree Jaine Foster, first place champion Colleen McGurk and second place victor Leigh Gerson. Photo by Edwin Soto

## LEAD BY EXAMPLE, BEYSCHOLARS.ORG HOST 'COPS & KIDS' GAMES

Lead by Example and Reverse the Trend and Beyscholars.org co-hosted 'Cops and Kids' on Saturday, December 3 at the South Bronx Academy for Applied Media. The event brought together community and law enforcement members for an anti-violence basketball tournament, chess lessons and other activities reinforcing positive behavior.



Pastor Antonio Henderickson (2nd from I), Lead by Example and Reverse the Trend founder, worked with Bey Scholars.org's (I-r) Sammuel Berry; Quiame Bey, founder; David Patterson and Gabriel Diaz, Jr. for this year's 'Cops and Kids Anti-Violence Basketball Tournament'. Photo by Silvio Pacifico



Pastor Henderickson (back, c) with local teens at the anti-violence basketball tournament. Photo by Silvio Pacifico

Photo by Silvio Pacifico

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## STUDENTS TESTIFY AT CITY HALL REGARDING RESOLUTION NO. 451

On Tuesday, November 22, the NYC Council Committee on Education held hearings at City Hall on Resolution No. 451 which calls upon the NYC Department of Education to mandate school uniforms. More than 65 youngsters from six different schools across the city were in attendance to testify and discuss the financial benefits of buying school uniforms versus trendy clothes and uniform's professional appearance, security aspects and elimination of distracti



Councilman King (3rd row, c) and students from six different schools testified at the hearing. Photo courtesy of Councilman Andy King's Office



## FAMILY AFFAIR: WINTER WONDERLAND HOLIDAY PARTY

Children and their families celebrated the holiday season in style at the Family Affair: Winter Wonderland on Saturday, December 3 at the Bronx Museum of the Arts. The Yuletide event featured arts and crafts, puppet shows and delicious food.

Yajaiva (I) and Chassity Aviles were ready to decorate an illustrated Christmas tree. Photo by Miriam Quin



Dreymi Taveras (I) made a custom snow globe for Yariana Carrion.

Photo by Miriam Quin

## P.S. 304 CELEBRATES CHRISTMAS WITH TREE LIGHTING AND FESTIVITIES





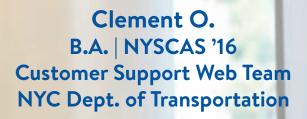
P.S. 304 students and their families had a merry time celebrating the holidays at the school's annual Christmas tree lighting on Friday, December 2. The holiday festivities included an ugly sweater contest and a special visit from Santa Claus.

(back, I-r) Stephen Kaufman, Throggs Neck Merchants Association president; parent coordinator Lisa Reilly; co-president Gheri Kaufman; co-president Michelle Proscia; first vice president Marianela Aponte; second vice president Jean Marie Price; Barbette Leonard; Rosemarie Falciano; principal Joseph Nobile; Linda Hiney; Lori Luciano; Gloria Dineen; Kim Metzger; Valerie Young-Lando and P.S. 304 students. Photo by Aracelis Batista

Angelina (I) and Michelle Proscia met Santa at the annual tree lighting celebration.

Photo by Aracelis Batista

58 BRONX TIMES REPORTER, DECEMBER 9-15, 2016



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## SUNSHINE LEARNING CENTER OPENS IN MOTT HAVEN

Sunshine Learning Center celebrated its grand opening of its fourth Bronx location on Friday, December 2 at the Morris Court Apartments on 253 E. 142nd Street. Sunshine Early Learning Center is dedicated to fostering educational development, establishing self-esteem and sparking imagination in a safe and loving environment.



Yossit Tress (4th from I), Sunshine Learning Center CEO; Mark Sonnenshein (5th from I), Sunshine Learning Center founder; Cedric Loftin (c), Community Board 1 district manager; Deputy Borough Ptresident Aurelia Greene (3rd from r); Cheryl Simmons-Oliver (2nd from r), Lincoln Hospital Public Affairs associate executive director with Sunshine Learning Center staff. Photo by Silvio Pacifico

## VACCA, METROPLUS GIVE OUT THANKSGIVING TURKEYS

Councilman James Vacca and MetroPlus Health provided turkeys to the Albanian American Open Hand Association just in time for the Thanksgiving holiday.



Councilman Vacca (back, 4th from r) provided turkeys to the Albanian American Open Hand Association. Photo courtesy of Councilman James Vacca's Office

## ST. FRANCES DE CHANTAL HOSTS 7TH ANNUAL LIP SYNC COMPETITION

St. Frances de Chantal School Young Teen Group hosted its seventh annual Lip Sync Charity Competition on Saturday, December 3. Young Teen Group members, local teens ages 12 to 17, battled in teams of lip sync performances for a charity of their choice.



(I-r) Nation of Domination's Kerri, Jessie, Bridget, Jonah, Amanda, Miranda, Fred, Sarah, Victoria and Andrew were declared this year's winners. Photo by Laura Stone

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<b>6</b> oz	\$11.99 each
	<b>\$13.99</b> each
	\$15.99 each
WHOLE COOK	ED CLAMS3.99 pk.

	6.99 doz.
<b>STUFFED CLAMS</b>	(9 PK) <b>5.99</b> pk.

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LARGE SHRIMP (31-40 ct)	<b>8.50</b> lb.
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МЕДІИМ (71-90 ст)	
LARGE (31-40 ct)	<b>12.50</b> lb
JUMBO (21-25 ст)	
EXTRA JUMBO (16-20 c	

MUSSELS	<b>2.99</b> lb.
NEW ZEALAND GREEN SHELL M	USSELS
<b>2</b> LBS	<b>4.99</b> lb.
BACALAO (1 LB.BAG)	9.99 lb.
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#### **BY FRANK V. VERNUCCIO, JR.**

Aircraft carriers are America's first line of defense, as well as the vital instrument used by Washington to protect allies and project influence across the globe.

As Rep. Randy Forbes, (R-Virginia) notes, "When a crisis arises and American lives and interests are at risk, the first question decision makers ask is, 'Where are the carriers?' Our Navy's aircraft carriers provide 4.5 acres of sovereign American territory and a mobile base of operations that reduces the need to deploy U.S. boots on the ground.

When ISIS blitzed through the Middle East last year, the strike fighters aboard the carrier George H.W. Bush were the only U.S. aircraft in position and ready to halt their advance. It took 54 days for the United States to negotiate deals with allies in the region that allowed us to employ aircraft based on their territory. In the months since, the carriers Carl Vinson and Theodore Roosevelt have rotated through the region, providing a constant American military presence, supporting ongoing operations against ISIS, and deterring aggression by Iran. In other theaters, meanwhile, the presence of American carriers has deterred aggression, protected the free flow of goods, people, and information, and enabled the United States to extend a helping hand when natural disasters strike."

However, while threats

across the planet multiply, the number of these vessels continues to be below what is clearly necessary. Rear Admiral Thomas Moore once said. "We're an 11-carrier Navy in a 15-carrier world." Federal statutes require a minimum of eleven carriers.

Unfortunately, the U.S. now has only a 10-carrier navy (An 11th, the new U.S.S. Gerald Ford, is not yet operational, and may not be fully ready for duty until 2021) and the world has become even more dangerous, as both China and Russia have expanded their sea power while America's continues to contract. In 2015, Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus warned that a "Carrier force structure below 11 would inject significant risk in the Fleet's ability to comply with the Defense Strategic Guidance."

The human element cannot be overlooked in all this. In an attempt to make up the difference, carrier deployments have increased in length from 5.5 months on average in 2008 to 9.5 months. That's difficult for both sailors and their families. Further, it puts a great deal of stress on the ships themselves, delaying home port maintenance.

As noted in Breaking Defense, "The Navy's in a carrier crunch. US commanders around the world keep asking for carriers to cover trouble spots from Svria, Iran, and Afghanistan to the Western Pacific and the South China Sea, but the Navy doesn't have enough to go around."



President Obama sought to cut the carrier fleet to 10 in his 2015 budget. From the 1980s to 2002, the Navy went down from 14 carriers in the fleet to 12. of which at least two and more often three were deployed around the world at any given time. (The average wavered between 2.5 and 2.75). Since 2003, however, the Navy has shrunk from 12 carriers to 10.

There have some who have argued that aircraft carriers are increasingly vulnerable to enemy missile attack, and there is some element of truth to that. In war, there will be casualties. That may sound harsh, but it reflects reality. However, that is not a reason to lose the vital advantage that carriers provide.

dramatic im-Further. provements in U.S. defensive technology have taken place. Rear Admiral Edward Masso discusses the vulnerability issile.

"The U.S. Navy is greatly endangered by the global proliferation of anti-ship ballistic and cruise missiles. Some analysts, like Dennis Gormley, Andrew Erickson, and Jingdong Yuan at the National Defense University, say U.S. aircraft carriers in the western Pacific are sitting ducks for communist China's missiles, especially their CM-400AKG

Mach 5.5 Wrecker cruise missile and their DF-21 ballistic missile, dubbed 'the carrier killer.' They are wrong. Simply put, the ongoing improvement of missile defense systems on U.S. Navy warships is keeping pace with the development of new Chinese missiles and with others that are appearing in North Korea, Iran, and Russia. Innovative U.S. shipborne defenses with the capability to detect, track, destroy or deflect such advanced missiles are now being deployed, as they must be, if our warships and the world's commercial vessels are to have access to the Persian Gulf, South China Sea, Sea of Japan, and the Eastern Mediterranean. The capabilities of China's Wrecker and DF-21 missiles, for example, are far from being ignored... the navy [has] carried out sea trials of a new countermeasure to anti-ship missiles called Pandarra Fog. Slated to be deployed as part of a warship's defensive armament, the Pandarra Fog system creates radar-absorbing carbon-fiber clouds that prevent a missile's seeker from finding its target. It is a simple but effective means of blinding the radar target acquisition system of anti-ship supersonic cruise missiles and ballistic missiles like the Wrecker and the DF-21."

While budgetary concerns limit the possibility of a return to a 15-carrier navy, there has been discussion about supplementing an 11-carrier force with a number of smaller carriers.

Tyler Rogoway, in a foxtrotalpha article, makes the case for this concept. "The Navy is experiencing serious operational shortfalls due to running its fleet of ten aircraft carriers hard in recent years, which is one short of the mandated 11. As such, it is time for the U.S. to build smaller aircraft carriers in greater numbers than what today's one-size-fits-all super carrier strategy permits."

Rogoway points out that two smaller carriers could be purchased for the price of one larger one. The loss, he argues, in the capability of a larger version would be made up by other advantages. It would give the Navy additional flexibility in deployment. "By building smaller carriers, and more of them, Navy commanders will be able to better pair their available resources with the mission at hand. For instance, you do not need a super carrier for simply creating a strong presence in a region, or to support low-intensity warfare operations, or to train aircrews, or to execute goodwill tours. In fact, smaller carriers would provide everything a super carrier could, although at diminished sortie rates. For missions where a super carrier's capability is needed, and if none are available, two smaller carriers can be deployed in one's place."

The Russian and Chinese navies, which have trained together during the past several years, are rapidly enhancing their strength, now exceeding the U.S. in numbers of subma-

#### **BY MARY JANE MUSSANO**

It's almost here. And we hope to see you there.

On Sunday, December 11 at 6:15 p.m. a magical thing will happen. Friends and neighbors both young and old will gather at Schneider-Sampson Park at the corner of Hollywood and Baisley Avenues to sip hot chocolate and enjoy festive cookies as they wait for Santa to arrive. He will arrive in a very special way that will be sure to widen the eves and smiles of both the children and their parents.

When Santa arrives, he

will lead the countdown for the lighting of our community Christmas tree. Then he will relax in his red velvet chair as he chats with children about their Christmas wishes. All children 12 and under, that are in attendance, will receive a gift from the man in red if they have good all year-well most of the year!

Our Santa loves to pose for photos with your children so please remember to bring your camera.

Our Christmas Tree lighting is not only for children. We encourage all to attend because this is a time to gather I must report that he was a big



with friends and neighbors to celebrate the holiday season. Please let your neighbors know that we would love to see them at our Christmas Tree Lighting.

#### **Borough President Diaz**

Borough President Diaz was our guest speaker at the last membership meeting and hit with our community. He is a great listener, very charismatic and quite understanding of the issues we face in our community.

We will be corresponding with his office on the issues that were brought up at the meeting. Hopefully, he will be able to help us solve some of the important issues our community is facing.

#### Social Security

In case you haven't heard, in 2017 your social security check will receive a boost. Are you excited? Well, you will be receiving approximately \$5 more each check but the problem is you will never even see that measly increase because your Part B contribution will be raised by approximately \$5.

This should make you angry enough to speak out to our local politicians. How can seniors possibly make finances work when the prices of everything is going up but social security remains the same?

Social Security should have been put in a lock box so that our government could not use it for other things. If that was done, perhaps there would be enough for well- deserved and much needed increases!

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# **Temple Hatikva upcoming events**

Although this year the beginning of Chanukah coincides with Christmas Eve, Temple Hatikva will be celebrating a bit early. All welcome to a pre-Hanukkah Shabbat Service and celebration on Friday, December 16 at 7:30 p.m. Following the lighting of the Shabbat and Hanukah candles and a short Shabbat service, a joyous Chanukah party will follow. All welcome to partake of latkes (potato pancakes) and applesauce, soufganiot (traditional jelly donuts), festive music, dreidels and Chanukah gelt, all free of charge. The refreshments will be provided by the Bronx Jewish Community Council.

The joyous holiday commemorates the miracle which took place over 2,000 years ago, when the available supply of oil needed to relight the eternal flame to rededicate the Temple burned for eight days, until a new supply could be acquired. This year, the eightday holiday will run from the evening of December 24, through the evening of January 1.

Temple Hatikva will continue its Chanukah commemoration on Sunday, December 18, during its next adult education session. Following a 10 a.m. breakfast of bagels, latkes and soufganiot, juice and coffee, participants will be looking into "Music of the Holidays," not only enjoying a sing-along of traditional Hanukkah songs, but also learning some new ones which may become holiday staples in the future. They will also explore which of the most popular Christmas and seasonal songs were written by Jewish composers and lyricists, and why.

"Chanukah is the festival of lights and a celebration of the rededication of the temple in Jerusalem," said Cantor Kyle Cherry. "This holiday, though not considered a major religious holiday, is significant in its' symbolic concept of both 'dedication' and 'light'. We can all remember that it is through our 'dedication' to the teachings of Hashem that we are still here to live in His 'light'. Of course, personally, I can't deny my own dedication to a good game of Dreidel with the kids, not to mention the latkes and jelly donuts, which I can never go 'light' on. Let us rejoice!"

All community residents

seeking a welcoming atmosphere in which to learn more about and connect to Judaism are always welcome at Temple Hatikva services and Adult Education sessions, regardless of their level of knowledge and expertise.

Located at Bronx House, 990 Pelham Parkway South, the synagogue offers monthly Friday evening services to welcome in the Sabbath with traditional prayers, in English and Hebrew, and contemplation. Each service is followed by a free Kiddush with refreshments and fellowship, a time apart from everyday cares and tasks to sit back and chat with community neighbors.

Temple Hatikva also holds monthly adult education sessions on Sunday mornings,

from October through April, covering a wide variety of topics of interest to people of all religious backgrounds. Each session begins at 10 a.m. with bagels, cream cheese, juice, cake and coffee, all free of charge, sponsored by Shalom Funeral Home, located at 1528 Castle Hill Avenue.

The date for the next Shabbat service will be January 13, followed by Adult Education on January 15.

For more information see the temple's website at www. templehatikva.com. If you have questions, or wish to request notifications of synagogue plans by e-mail or U.S. Mail, send email requests to templehatikva@aol.com or to Temple Hatikva, c/o Bronx House, 990 Pelham Parkway South, Bronx, NY 10469.

#### **BY MICHELE TORRIONI**

Greetings everyone,

The next Pelham Bay Taxpayers meeting will be on Tuesday, December 20 in the St. Theresa Cafeteria, weather permitting. We have been having some nice weather so hopefully it will continue. We will serve coffee, cake and will have a raffle for some holiday gifts. If you attend the meeting you will be given a raffle ticket for the chance to win one of the lovely holiday gifts.

This is the season for holiday events in our community and many of the surrounding communities so please try to stop by and enjoy one if not all of the events.

The Pelham Bay Merchants is having their annual tree decorating, tree lighting

and Christmas party on Sunday, December 11 at Keane Square Park between noon and 5 p.m. The association worked very hard this year to keep this event going along with the merchants and residents so please stop by, bring an ornament or grab one of the ones they will have available to put on their tree. Then come back to see the tree lighting and gifts for children, say hello to your neighbors and thank the individuals who worked so hard to put this together. Don't forget to shop locally to thank the merchants for their continued support of the community.

The Waterbury-Lasalle Community Association is having their annual Christmas tree lighting on Sunday,



December 11 at Schneider Sampson Park at 6:15 p.m. There will be music, gifts, hot chocolate and a visitor from the North Pole giving away gifts for the children. Please join us for a wonderful holiday celebration, say hello to your neighbors and to thank your community volunteers who work so hard to put this event together.

The Westchester Square BID's holiday celebration will be held Friday, December 16, between 5 and 8 p.m. at Owen Dolen Park, take pictures with Santa in his village, listen to yuletide carolers, join them for the community tree lighting and toys for children ages 1 to 12 years (while supplies last). Come say hello to your neighbors, celebrate the holiday season and thank the volunteers who work hard to put this event together.

The Grace Episcopal Church is having their annual Christmas Fair & Café Saturday, December 10 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., there will be handcrafted gifts, raffles, children's crafts and a bake sale. Location is 116 City Island Avenue.

As you may have heard or read, the properties at 3250, 3268 and 3276 Westchester have been bought by the developers Marcal Group. These three properties include 52,830 square feet of office building with 19 units, a two-story 18,762 square foot retail building with five units, and a parking lot in between. The retail tenants are CVS, Dunkin Donuts and Subway, the office building holds several doctors' offices, including Medical Village at Pelham Bay and Pelham Bay Medical Care for Women. These developers ahave proposed a our-building rental complex in Rockaway Beach.

We as a community need to keep a close eye on these parcels of properties and find out what the intentions of these developers are; Pelham Bay does not need another housing complex.

#### **BY TONY SALIMBENE**

As you read this, I'm sure the VA Party was another success. Thanks to all from the post volunteers and elf helpers to Santa's musicians. Also to Chris D. and the Mrs. for the lap blankets hospital patients always seem to need. County Annual Party at Sam Young Post 620, 1 to 4 p.m., hope Doc Paul is on the mend, hug him when you see him. Thanks Commander Owen. We also had a fairly successful Community Board 10 Veterans' Services Committee meeting at 620. Next meeting

The 11th is the Bronx will be the last Friday in Feb-



ruary, at 7 p.m., info for vets and family members too, always a guest speaker and piles of information I hope will be of help.

The 18th, third Sunday, we have our annual 253 Christmas Party, after our 11 a.m. meeting, starting at 1 p.m. Currently at American Turners NY, the Turner Club, parking at the corner at their Philip Avnue lot. Members can bring the spouse or guest, or how about a vet who is aging or all alone while we party?

Until next time: Are we continuing our good deeds during the holidays? How about helping the USO? We are at war you know. I'm gonna make a list and check it twice...



64 BRONX TIMES REPORTER, DECEMBER 9-15, 2016

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#### PUBLIC NOTICE CORRECTION

Pursuant to Section 695(2)(b) of the General Municipal Law and Section 1802(6)(j) of the Charter, notice is hereby given that the Department of Housing Preservation and Development ("HPD") of the City of New York ("City") has proposed the sale of the following City-owned property (collectively, "Disposition Area") in the Borough of Bronx:

Address 430 Westchester Avenue 599 Brook Avenue Block/Lot(s) 2294/32 2361/1

Under HPD's New Construction Finance Programs, sponsors purchase City-owned or privately owned land or vacant buildings and construct or rehabilitate multifamily buildings in order to create affordable rental housing units with a range of affordability which may include units for formerly homeless families. Construction and permanent financing is provided through loans from private institutional lenders and from public sources including HPD, the New York City Housing Development Corporation, the State of New York, and the federal government. Additional funding may also be provided from the syndication of low-income housing tax credits.

Under the proposed project, the City will sell the Disposition Area to Comunilife La Central I Housing Development Fund Corporation ("Sponsor") for the nominal price of one dollar per tax lot. The Sponsor will also deliver an enforcement note and mortgage for the remainder of the appraised value ("Land Debt"). The Sponsor will then construct 2 buildings containing a total of 494 rental dwelling units, plus two units for superintendents and approximately 104,650 square feet of commercial space and/or community facility space on the Disposition Area, and will develop approximately 41,252 square feet of the Disposition Area as open space.

The Land Debt will be repayable out of resale or refinancing profits for a period of at least thirty (30) years following completion of construction. The remaining balance, if any, may be forgiven at the end of the term.

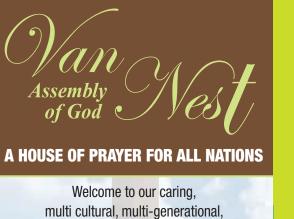
The appraisal and the proposed Land Disposition Agreement and Project Summary are available for public examination at the office of HPD, 100 Gold Street, Room 5-A4, New York, New York on business days during business hours.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a public hearing will be held on December 21, 2016 at 1 Centre Street, Manhattan, Mezzanine at 10:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be reached on the calendar, at which time and place those wishing to be heard will be given an opportunity to be heard concerning the proposed sale of the Disposition Area pursuant to Section 695(2)(b) of the General Municipal Law and Section 1802(6)(j) of the Charter.

Individuals requesting sign language interpreters should contact the Mayor's Office of Contract Services, Public Hearings Unit, 253 Broadway, Room 915, New York, New York 10007, (212) 788-7490, no later than five (5) business days prior to the public hearing. TDD users should call Verizon relay services.



Bill de Blasio, Mayor Vicki Been, Commissioner, HPD



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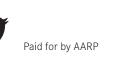
Keeping New Yorkers in their homes prevents homelessness. Yet too many renters face eviction in housing court with no resources or tools to fight back. And they usually lose. That's because 70% of tenants don't have a lawyer, but 90% of landlords do.

Join AARP New York in calling on Mayor Bill de Blasio to support the Right to Counsel bill (Intro. 214-A), which would guarantee legal counsel for low-income tenants facing eviction in New York City Housing Court.

Right to Counsel is fair and fiscally responsible. Preventing wrongful evictions can save taxpayers \$320 million a year by keeping people in their homes and out of expensive homeless services.

## Call Mayor de Blasio at 1-844-655-7468 and urge him to support the Right to Council bill now!

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#### **BY SANDI LUSK**

Anyone who knows me, or who has read this column over the years or my many letters to the editor knows that I am a progressive liberal. This column is not about that, or indeed any politics at all. I am hoping it is about something we can all agree on: hate has no place in this country or in our lives.

Hate is strangely seductive. It is insidious. Sometimes it seems that just a little hate can make us feel better because we can control it. We would never go overboard, or allow overt acts of hatred or violence, but a little...well, that's different There are so many targets to choose from, all boiling down totwowords: the others. They're not like us. They steal our jobs. They don't believe in our faith. They are un-American. They are not white or black, or any other shade we are. They don't speak English. They don't want the same things we do. They

look different, or speak differently or dress differently. They threaten 'our' way of life. The generic 'they'; encompassing whole groups of thousands of people.

I'm not naïve. I know that there are some individuals who do threaten our way of life with violence, ie, terrorists and criminals. The key word there is individuals. These people make a choice to let hatred rule their lives. Scapegoating others is a great way to absolve yourself from responsibility for your own failures. Also, who needs to spend their lives working to solve a scientific problem or find a cure for a disease or helping others, perhaps in obscurity, for years, when you can become 'famous' with one horrible act. Hate can be a great motivator.

We are a nation of immigrants. Our diversity is our strength. Those who want to 'take back' America from the



influx of new arrivals with their diverse cultures, languages, and beliefs are victims of selective amnesia. We are America. We ALL are. How many of us are native Americans? The people who were the first Americans were living here for millennia before the European immigrants displaced (and committed genocide on) them. We are all children or grandchildren or great grandchildren of immigrants. Have we forgotten how the Irish, Italians, Jews, Germans, were hated upon their arrival? The Chinese were not even allowed to bring their wives and children over with them at first. And of course, we have the huge group of involuntary immigrants, the hundreds of thousands of slaves brought here against their will, whose descendents are still struggling to find a place in this country. Our parents and grandparents suffered because of this. Why can't we learn and move on.

And yet, xenophobia is just too easy and tempting.

So, why am I writing this? Sometimes giving in to hate is the easy path. I am asking all of us to take the difficult road of resisting hate. Stand up for your neighbor. Speak out. Be courageous. We must not patronize those who sell hate or give it a platform. Boycott. Write letters. Keep vigilant watch in your community. There can be no compromise with hate, a little bit soon grows into a Holocaust. It affects all our lives and is a poison to both those who get it and those who give it.

WSZIO is out in the community much of the year

engaging people directly through our events, assisting in other communitys' events, and supporting grassroots activities. We have met many of you through our children's activities both in Westchester Square and elsewhere. We are reaching out to you now, asking you to reject hate in your lives and communities. Do it for you and your children. We need to embrace each other, because if we don't all move forward together, we shall fall behind and fall to pieces.

And so, in this season of peace on earth and good will, let us remember who we are, our better selves. Let us know love, practice kindness, reach out to understand each other. And in the words of Ghandhi "Be the change you wish to see in the world."

We wish you peace, love, happiness, and may your fondest dreams come true this coming year for you and those you love.

#### **BY GENE DEFRANCIS**

It's the season for giving and we understand and appreciate many of our residents have a love for animals. We want to implore you to be responsible. Only feed them what they are capable of eating. Do not dump a pile of food in an area and walk away from it. The food habitually sits and lasts until the wee hours of the night where it becomes a buffet for ... rats. This is when it becomes a concern. Rats multiply at an extremely uncontrollable rate. The best way to control it is to remove any and all food sources.

Be considerate and a good neighbor.

As Bronxites we know first hand the feeling of having 'projects' shoved into the community without the residents being properly informed or communicated with. It's a form of 'you elected us and we know best' syndrome. That is why I am so personally touched by the Dakota Access Pipeline Controversy, whether it is sacred ground in North Dakota or in our sacred ground here in Allerton. It is never acceptable to launch projects that effect the community without consulting the community.

We want to be there when we can for our neighbors in Morris Park as well as for our neighbors in Standing Rock. We want to do what we can, when we can.

That is why I have decided to make time to join the fight in Standing Rock to speak out against this pipeline and the dangers it has to their drinking water.

Flint, MI and other counties in Pennsylvania already struggle with contaminated water. This is not about stopping a pipeline but protecting our most valuable resource... water. We have to guarantee

#### Allerton International Merchants Association

that our water is clean and safe. If we can do that then we can build pipelines to easily transport oil. If it can not be transported responsibly and safely with 99.9% protection from leaks and spills... then it cannot be built.

Imagine if we said you won a trip to a tropical island. Here is your plane ticket. But you should know this plane has a 25% chance of crashing. Would you take that chance? The percentage of a possible leak is too high.

If you cannot make it to Standing Rock yourself but want to be apart of the support. You can help us create a team to travel to Dakota. We are ready to launch a Go Fund Me page to help send people to Standing Rock. (At the time of writing this there seems to be a break through in development and we will be vigilante of the latest information and ready to travel if needed).

Saturday, December 17 is Santa at the Sanz starting at 11 a.m. Join us and take your photo with Santa along with other fun activities and surprises.

We are wrapping up our holiday lights collection and want to remind everyone to get your checks in immediately if you have not done so already.

And a reminder to some merchants that this should not be a surprise and checks should be ready by November 1st next year. It is not fair to our volunteers to have to knock on your door two three times. And it is not fair that you rely on the other merchants to foot the bill while you stay quiet in the background.

If our community is not worth at least \$9 a month then simply put you are not worth our residents business.

Our upcoming missions include funding for storefront security cameras throughout the corridor. A \$40,000 price tag. New decorative street lamps between Boston Road and Laconia Avenue. Street furniture installed. And Bronxwood Gardens renamed and refurbished.

For this and other updates join our Facebook page Allerton International Merchants Association and stay involved. Send questions or concerns to us at Allerton-Merchants@gmail.com.

We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. By the time this is published our tree will be lit and we can't wait to tell you all about it next week.

#### **BY MICHAEL P. MCNERNEY**

The next general meeting of our association will be on Wednesday, December 21, at 7:30 p.m.. Once again, this will be our Annual Holiday Party, and the welcoming in of the New Year.

As in years past, we ae looking forward to spending quality time with our members and neighbors, in a casual and festive setting. We are not scheduling any guest speakers, and if any business is discussed, it will be kept to a bare minimum.

The meeting's end time will also be extended in order for us to enjoy the food, beverages, music, and conversation later into the evening.



Our Event Committee chairwoman Angela Ryan has begun assembling both an attendance list, and the menu items needed for that evenin's festivities. If you plan on attending please contact Angela at the number listed below so that we have a more accurate headcount. More details regarding the event will be provided in these articles in the near future, so be sure to stay informed.

The meeting will be held at

the Villa Maria Academy Cafeteria, which is located at 3335 Country Club Road.

The association can be reached via mail at P.O. Box 211, Bronx, NY 10465, and via telephone at (718) 823-1814.

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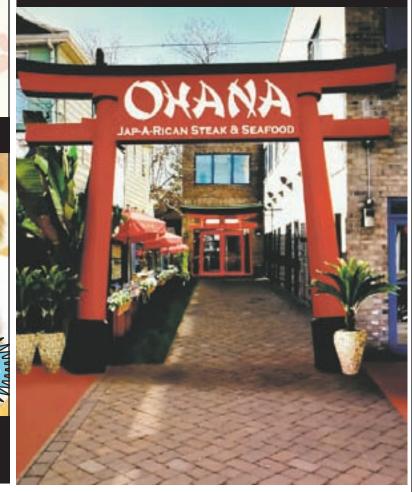
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# **Bronx Scene** Upcoming Wave Hill events

Saturday, December 17; Sunday, December 18: Family Art Project: Pine Scents And Sensations: Walk among the majestic, wonderfully scented and textured conifers at Wave Hill. Then create a winterwonderland display using live pine boughs.

Saturday, December 17; Sunday, December 18: Holiday Shopping Weekend: The Shop at Wave Hill welcomes special in-store vendors RubyLu Confections and Elena Rosenberg Knitware this weekend.

Saturday, December 17: Garden & Conservatory Highlights Walk: Join in for an hour-long tour of seasonal garden highlights.

A 28-acre public garden otherwise noted. and cultural center overlooking the Hudson River and Palisades, Wave Hill's mission is North's one-day

to celebrate the artistry and legacy of its gardens and landscape, to preserve its magnificent views, and to explore human connections to the natural world through programs in horticulture, education and the arts.

Open all year, Tuesday through Sunday and many major holidays: 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.. Closes 5:30 p.m., March 15 to October 31.

Admission is \$8 adults, \$4 students and seniors 65+, \$2 children 6–18. Free Saturday and Tuesday mornings until noon. Free to Wave Hill members and children under 6.

Programs are free with admission to the grounds unless otherwise noted.

Visitors to Wave Hill can West 252nd take advantage of Metro- information North's one-day getaway offer. 3200 ext. 232

Saturday, December 17; to celebrate the artistry and Purchase a discount roundnday, December 18: Family legacy of its gardens and land- trip rail far and discount adt Project: Pine Scents And scape, to preserve its mag- mission to the gardens.

Located only 30 minutes from midtown Manhattan, Wave Hill's free shuttle van transports you to and from our front gate and Metro-North's Riverdale station, as well as the W. 242nd Street stop on the #1 subway line.

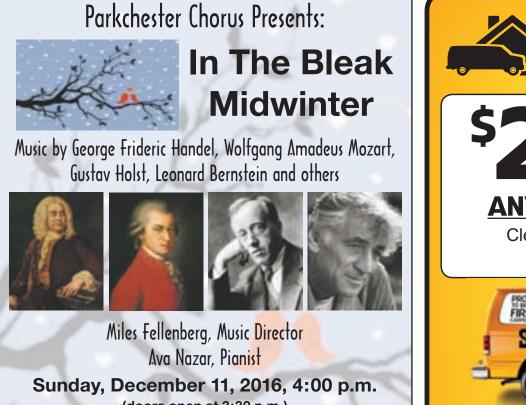
Limited onsite parking is available for \$8 per vehicle. Free offsite parking is available nearby with continuous, complimentary shuttle service to and from the offsite lot and our front gate.

Complete directions and shuttle bus schedule at www. wavehill.org/visit/.

Wave Hill is located at 675 West 252nd Street. For more information call (718) 549-3200 ext. 232



Wave Hill Family Art Project Pine Scents and sensations. Photo courtesy of Joshua Bright



(doors open at 3:30 p.m.) First Lutheran Church of Throggs Neck 3075 Baisley Avenue, Bronx, NY 10461

This program is made possible with public funds from the Bronx Council On The Arts, through the New York State Council On The Arts Decentralization Program

BTR



# Parkchester Chorus holiday concert; Rapunzel '17 at Lehman

**Parkchester Chorus** invites the community to attend their 77th annual winter holiday concert on Sunday, December 11 at 4 p.m. at the First Lutheran Church of Throggs Neck, 3075 Baisley Avenue.

Members come from all over the New York neighborhood and include Manhattan and Co-op City. As tradition has established, the winter holiday concert is performed at no charge although a free-will offering is encouraged and gratefully accepted.

This year's program is entitled "In the Bleak Midwinter". It is a homage to "The Messiah" by George Frideric Handel. Additional program offerings are penned by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Gustav Holst, Leonard Bernstein and others. Also on the program, is "Christmas is Coming" (a Festive Cantata) by Elie Siegmeister and Rufus Wheeler. Narrated by Dave Lazaar, soloists include Joseph Zamplione, Elizabeth Aquino, Christian Aquino, as well as other chorus members. Proudly, all soloists are chorus members.

Parkchester Chorus is celebrating its second winter holiday concert with director Miles Fellenberg, and welcomes Ava Nazar as their pianist. This is a "not to be missed" opening for your winter holiday season. Again, seating is on a first come, first served

us hasis

If you are interested in joining the Parkchester Chorus family, the first rehearsal of the new year is at 7:30 p.m., Monday, January 2, at First Lutheran Church of Throggs Neck, 3075 Baisley Avenue, or write parkchesterchorus. members@gmail.com, for more information. The Parkchester Chorus program is made possible with public funds from the Bronx Council on the Arts Decentralization Program.

The Collaborative Musical Theatre Project at Lehman College will present an original musical, Rapunzel '17, with a score by Prof. Penny Prince. An earlier version of the play was presented at Lehman six years ago, but by popular demand, the story will be retold this May, with many new songs and plot twists. Prof. Prince is seeking Lehman College or Community singer/actors, dancers, and creative stage crew who will write the script together.

Auditions are by appointment on Wednesday, December 14, 5 to 8 p.m. and Thursday, December 15, 3 to 7:30 p.m. in Room 306 of the Music. Call (718) 960-7796 or email Penny.Prince@lehman. cuny.edu for more information and an appointment.

This new production of Rapunzel will take a fresh look at the classic German fairy tale by the Brothers Grimm. Prof. Prince is well known for her work in collaborative musical theatre productions and believes this method gives cast members a sense of empowerment and added responsibility. This is her sixth musical production for the College. Previous productions include Sleeping Beauty, Rumpelstiltskin, Cinderella, and When I Get to Where I Am Going.

A senior college of the City University of New York, Lehman is located at Goulden Avenue and Bedford Park Boulevard and is accessible by bus as well as the #4 and "D" subway lines. Free attended parking is also available.

#### **BY PAUL GOLLUSCIO**

Hello all!

The Silver Beach Post is holding a Pearl Harbor Rememberance Ceremony at Veterans Park on Wednesday, December 7 at 1:30 p.m. There will be complimentary food at the Bronxonia Yacht Club immediately following.

On Saturday, February 25, the WWI Re-enactors will be hosting a Swap Meet at the Post from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. These folk do re-enactments of drills, bat-

tles, formations etc. of WWI. Come on out and maybe get a WWI Tin Hat Helmet or a set of Puttees.

We are still collecting nonperishable food stuffs for donation to a Church Soup Kitchen in the south Bronx. We are still collecting, eyeglasses, cell phones and serviceable clothing, for the Vets and their families. Men's Women's and Children all sizes. Don't bring me ripped, stained or soiled items. Thanks. All items to be brought



to the Ericson Place entrance. if no one answers, please leave items on the table inside the fence.

More Hollywood heroes: Mickey Spillane, fighter pilot USAAF and later an instructor; Neville Brand, Army, awarded Silver Star and Purple Heart; Norman Fell, Army Air Corps, tail gunner, Pacific Theater; Pat Hingle, Navy, Destroyer USS Marshall; Paul Newman, Navy rear gunner/radioman torpedo bombers off the USS Bunker Hill.

#### Trivia Time

Ford began his assembly line production with one car every 2 1/2 hours on December 1, 1913.

On the same date in 1955, Rosa Parks did not give up her seat in Selma and started the bus boycott.

Napoleon became Emperor on December 2, 1804.

On the same date in 1859, John Brown was executed.

Prohibition was repealed December 5, 1933 (XXI amendment. Some one was thinking!) December 7 1941, A date that

will live in infamy. The Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor

Keep the troops in your prayers, take a vet to lunch and God bless.



s for donaup Kitchen x We are to the Ericson Place

# General Fiorentino, Brigadier General, Van Nest resident

When William J. Fiorentino of Van Nest was attending P.S. 34 or Cardinal Hayes High School, his classmates would have no idea that he would one day be a Brigadier General. He was just one of the guys.

His grandparents, Anthony and Euphemia Fiorentino, immigrated from the small town of Giovinazzo on the Adriatic coast of southern Italy just a little over eleven miles west northwest of Bari and settled in the Bronx where they raised their 10 children.

One of those children, Dominic, became a priest and founded St. Dominic's Church at Unionport Road and Morris Park Avenue which was formally opened as a National Italian Parish on August 25, 1926. He had begun studying for the priesthood while still a young boy in Italy and clung tight to his vocation.

Another son, William, became a lawyer and raised his family at 1842 Hunt Avenue. It was his son, William, born



January 2, 1935, who would Defense Systems. graduate from P.S. 34, Cardinal Hayes High School, and Fordham University with a degree in physics. He joined the U. S. Army in 1956 and rose through the ranks to Brigadier General.

Along the way, he garnered quite a few plaudits including being inducted into the Ordnance Corps Hall of Fame in 1993.

Among his important assignments were: heading up the Pershing Project Office; Project Manager of the Joint Tactical Missile System; Deputy Program Manager of that same system; Deputy Program Manager of Ballistic Missile Defense; Director of the Army Space Study; and Program Manager and Program Executive Officer of the Forward Air

His name can also be found on a plaque at Dealy Hall on the Rose Hill campus of Fordham University where he is honored for heading up the Star Wars Project officially known as the Pershing Project. It was the first time that a material command unit was presented with the Army Superior Unit Award.

The General, by the way, also holds a Master of Science Degree in Engineering from the University of Alabama.

He retired in 1988 but is still active in Army affairs and also serves as the president of the board of directors of Redstone Village, a retirement village for Army veterans.

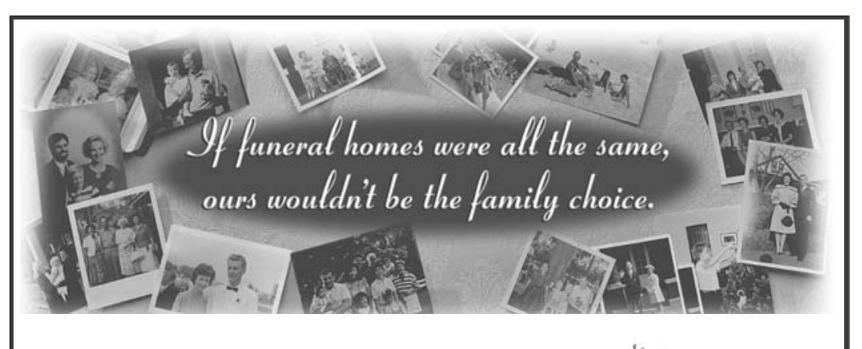
He lives in Madison, Alabama where he owns and operates Steelstables with his wife,



General William Fiorentino was raised in Van Nest and attended local schools including P. S. 34, Cardinal Hayes High School and Fordham University.

Judith. He still holds a special place in the hearts of those in

the Van Nest community where he was raised and nurtured.



The families of our community so often choose our funeral home. Some come to us to pre-plan arrangements because we offer all the options and choices they desire. Others come to us at their time of need seeking guidance, support and the certainty of a funeral service that is correct in every way. Should your family find itself in need of our services, we hope you'll make the choice so many in our community have.



# Food trends I almost missed

ally gave my head a pitying shake when a friend told me she had just discovered a fantastic restaurant in Jackson Heights that sells the giant Indian crepes called dosas.

"It's so great!" she said. "It's called —"

'Dosa Delight," I interrupted, as condescending as if she'd just discovered a great fast food restaurant called "McDonald's."

But food pride goeth before a food fall. Just a day later I found myself speaking with Katie Sutton, of the food trend-watching company (yes, there are such things) Food and Drink Resources. I'd read some of its predictions — egg pizza from Georgia (the country), Japanese cuisine by way of Peru, and even fried Brussels sprouts – in an industry newsletter called Restaurant Hospitality. Could these eats truly be coming our way?

Turns out they're already here — and I'm one of the last to know.

But possibly, so are you. For instance, Katie said, both coasts are currently

Okay, I did it. I actu- obsessed by Poke, and it isn't a virtual reality game on your phone. It's a Hawaiian dish consisting of cubes of raw fish marinated in sauce and served in a bowl, sometimes with rice.

> There are already several poke (poh-kay) shops in our city, some so popular that long lines form at lunchtime. Having once been absolutely positive that sushi was going to prove a flash in the pan (or, more accurately, a flash in the plate, since it's raw), I feel reluctant to predict a quick demise for this new fad. But really, how many Hawaiian creations have made it to the big time and stayed there? Besides Obama, I mean.

For now, though, poke is so ubiquitous that New York eateries are already cross-pollinating it with other popular foods, leading to items like the poke burrito. Meantime, the "phorrito" is another rising star. That's a burrito filled with Vietnamese pho, a soup of braised meat, herbs, and noodles. All of which leads me to my Food Theory No. 1: Wrap a burrito around anything that's already delicious and it will be a hit.

Theory No. 2 is: The gloppier the better, which is why



HYMES WITH CRAZY Lenore Skenazy

we're talking about eating a wrap filled with soup. But you can also see this trend with egg sandwiches. Katie pointed to a West Coast restaurant called Eggslut, famous for the runniest eggs around.

Another big trend she's seeing is fruit soups.

'It's like taking a smoothie and dumping it into a bowl and putting chunks of fruit into it," she said.

So here's my Food Theory No. 3: Anything chunked and put into a bowl is going to be a hit.

finding its way into these soups is dragon fruit, which I've seen at Asian fruit stands for years but have always been too unnerved to try. They're pink and green and look straight out of Dr. Seuss. But to catch up with the trends, I finally got two in Flushing, sliced them open and: Total shock! One was white inside with poppyseed-like seeds, but the other was ruby red, same seeds. So gorgeous!

And so incredibly bland! Yecch. They tasted like giant kiwis, minus the flavor. And the fact that they cost about \$5 apiece just makes me wonder how popular this fruit can ever be. But I'm the gal who bet against sushi, so let's move on.

Another counter-intuitive trend is dark food on dark plates. After what feels like a century of ever lighter cuisine, Katie says the trend has gone 180. Charring, once known as "overdone," "burnt," or "ruined" in my family, is now one of the two hippest methods for preparing vegetables. (The other is deep frying.) Katie says she has started charring her salad greens on the grill, which I could understand if they got kind of pleasantly One particular ingredient caramelized. But I tried charred

broccoli recently, and simply cannot understand why my own, equally unhip method of broccoli prep steaming till it is bendably soft and slightly gray — lost out. Douse really soft broccoli in melted butter and I say yum.

I say that when you douse almost anything in melted butter. (I'm convinced that why lobster made it big: The shameless butter-dipping it made chic.)

And speaking of dipping, the last food trend we've got time for today is deconstructed ramen called tsukemen. The noodles are separate from the broth. You dip them in and slurp them down. Slurping, glopping, chunking and wrapping are clearly the order of the day, so here's Food Theory No. 4: Any obscure cuisine that we haven't discovered yet will burst onto the scene in 2018. And in 2019, it will be

wrapped in a burrito.

Skenazy is a keynote speaker, founder of the book and blog Free-Range Kids, and a contributor at Reason.com

# The life and death of a once-great newspaper

scary stock market crash in 1987 emerged a salmon-colored weekly newspaper, The New York Observer, that animated and chronicled New York's halls of power for almost three decades until its sad death last month.

It would probably be unfair to say that the Observer is the first media casualty of the Trump era, but you wouldn't be that far off — the print edition of The Observer, owned by President-elect Trump's son-in-law, Jared Kushner, was shut down the same week as the stunning presidential victory.

I have marveled at the small influential newspaper's but arc for the last 30 years from a unique vantage point — first as an editorial competitor, then as someone who The Observer tried to hire, then as a publishing competitor and also as someone who bid to buy it in 2006 when Kushner bested my company's offer by quite a few million dollars.

The Observer's death has not received nearly enough ink (or pixels) this past month. The weekly had outsize influence

ut of the depths of a despite its limited circulation of 50,000: elected leaders, Wall Street titans, media moguls, East Side socialites, and others who were part of the Manhattan elite cared deeply about its contents each week.

> An all-star team of media talent graced its staff box over the years: Graydon Carter (Vanity Fair), Susan Morrison (The New Yorker) and the late great tweedy editor Peter Kaplan steered The Observer thru the thicket of BS and self-importance that litters the streets of Manhattan.

> The gossipy weekly also boasted an impressive stream of columnists including: Candace Bushnell (Sex and the City), Jack Newfield, Joe Conason, Terry Golway, Michael Thomas, Jim Ledbetter, and Michael Tomasky. These smart and punchy pundits made the weekly a must-read for more than two decades and each of them eventually moved on to make their mark in larger media ponds.

I recall my first visit to the Observer's cramped offices in an East 60s brownstone in 1990. The founding editors, John Sicher and Ken Paul, two of the most serious and ethical journalists I've met, wanted to see if I'd like to join the staff as a weekly media columnist, a dream job that to this day I lament turning down. A few years later, when I had crossed over to the business side of publishing, founding owner Arthur Carter offered me the publisher role and once again, I demurred because I thought that this media gem could perish any day.

Arthur Carter was a fascinating New York personality who is the last of a dying breed: a multimillionaire who was willing to finance great journalism at his own expense. The Observer was rumored to be losing at least \$2 million a year and yet, Carter kept on feeding his journalism machine so that it could produce some of the best stories by some of the best journalists in the hyper-competitive media capital of the world.

Someone once said to me that The Observer was "Arthur Carter's gift to New York," and that sounds right because he lost more than \$40 million during a 20-year period in his quest to ensure that his weekly was a key player in the New York me-

dia landscape.

But even mega millionaires have their limit: in 2006. Arthur Carter sought a buyer for The Observer and after I tried to pry this media gem loose for about \$1 million, another, much more deep-pocketed buyer emerged: a 25-year-old man, Jared Kushner, from a New Jersey family that had recently suffered some legal problems. It was a perfect fit: a money-losing media property in search of a savior and a wealthy real estate family seeking to make a splash in Manhattan.

The last decade of The Observer coincided with the most turbulent period ever for media. The print publication repeatedly morphed into different formats (broadsheet to tabloid, pink to white) and its website became a more national platform for real estate, politics, technology, and society coverage. Until last month, the print publication hung on for dear life as dailies around the country bled red ink and shrank their newsrooms.

And on Nov. 11. three days after the owner's father-in-law became the leader of the free world, came the inevitable news: yandstateny.com.



The New York Observer would become a digital-only publication

As the publisher of a weekly magazine about New York politics (and a columnist for a chain of weeklies in the boroughs), I am still a big fan of print journalism. There's nothing like curling up with a newspaper or magazine and reading some of your favorite writers.

Unfortunately, the once great New York Observer will no longer land in my mailbox every Thursday.

NYO (1987-2016), RIP.

Allon, president of City & State NY, was a Republican and Liberal Party-backed mayoral candidate in 2013 before he left to return to the private sector. Reach him at tallon@cit-

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# LEGAL NOTICES

# LEGAL NOTICE

Name of LLC:Amour Luxe Hair, LLC domestic limited liability company LLC. Articles f organization filed with Secretary of State on 11/16/2016. NY office location: Bronx County. Secretary of State is designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. Secretary of state shall mail copy of any process against the LLC served upon him/her to c/o United States Corporation Agents, Inc. 7014 13th Avenue, Suite 202 Brooklyn, NY 11228

## LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF Aleiris Beauty Salon, LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 12/01/2016. Office location: Bronx County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to the LLC, Aleiris Beauty Salon, LLC. 1885 Webster Avenue, Bronx, NY 10457. Purpose: For any lawful purpose.

## LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of formation of BEACH REALTY MANAGEMENT LLC. Articles of Org. filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 12/01/2016. Office located in Bronx County. SSNY has been designated for service of process. SSNY shall mail copy of any process served against the LLC to: Emily Jin Zhuo, 1447 Beach Avenue, Bronx, NY 10460. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

### **LEGAL NOTICE**

Notice of Formation of H&H Maintenance LLC, a domestic or foreign Limited Liability Company (LLC) Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State on 9/02/16. NY Office location: BRONX County. Secretary of State is designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon him to Homeira Farzamifar, Bamswallow Dr., Trumbull, CT 06611. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

### LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. NAME: (AURA GLOBAL ENTERTAINMENT) LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (Bronx) on (08/09/16). Office location: Bronx County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to the LLC, (Agustin Rivera, 870 Freeman Street. Apt 5E, Bronx NY 10459). Purpose: For any lawful purpose.

# LEGAL NOTICE

YOUR EVERYDAY SERVICE, LLC Art. Of Org. Filed Sec. of State of NY 4/6/2016. Off. Loc.:Bronx Co. Herbert Matthews designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY to mail copy of process to The LLC. 2440 Olinville Ave, #317, Bronx, NY 10467. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.

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## LEGAL NOTICE

NORTH CAROLINA GUILFORD COUNTY IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE DISTRICT COURT DIVISION 14 CVD 8087 NOTICE OF SERVICE OF

PROCESS BY PUBLICATION JUANA ANTONIA MONTGOMERY,

Plaintiff. STANLEY TYRONE MONTGOMERY,

TYRONE To STANLEY MONTGOMERY

Defendant.

TAKE NOTICE that a Complaint seeking an Absolute Divorce was filed on August 6, 2014 in the Office of the Clerk of Superior Court, Greensboro, Guilford County, North Carolina.

You are required to make defense to such pleading no later than January 18, 2017 said date being forty (40) days from the first publication of this Notice. and upon your failure to do so plaintiff will apply to the Court for the relief sought.

This the 9th day of December, 2016.

Martha C. Massie,

.. Attorney for the Plaintiff 324 West Wendover Avenue Greensboro, North Carolina 27408 (336) 275-6695 NCSB No. 31668

## LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT: BRONX COUNTY

FEDERAL NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION ("FANNIE MAE"), A CORPORATION ORGANIZED AND EXISTING UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATES OF AMERICA; UNITED Plaintiff(s)

vs. PAUL CHAMBERS: CLAUDIA HARRISON; et al; Defendant(s)

Attorney (s) for Plaintiff (s): ROSICKI, ROSICKI & ASSOCIATES, P.C., 2 Summit Court, Suite 301. Fishkill, New York, 12524, 845.897.1600

Pursuant to judgment of foreclosure and sale granted herein on or about October 31, 2016, I will sell at Public Auction to the highest bidder at The Bronx County Courthouse, Room 600, at 851 Grand Concourse, Bronx, New York.

On January 9, 2017 at 2:00 pm.

Premises known as 4122 DIGNEY AVENUE, BRONX, NY 10466 Block: 05003 Lot: 0046

All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, situate, lying and being in the Borough and County of Bronx, City and State of New York, known and designated as Lot No. 25 of Block 15, Map of part of Section B of Edenwald, Town of Eastchester, Westchester County, made by Josiah A. Briggs, C.E, dated June, 1892, filed in Volume 10 Page 5 in Office of the Register of the County of Westchester on 07/01/1892.

As more particularly described in the judgment of foreclosure and sale.

Sold subject to all of the terms and conditions contained in said judgment and terms of sale.

Approximate amount of judgment \$314,121.38 plus interest and costs.

INDEX NO. 35451/2014E Goldsmith, Esq.; Gerald Ρ. REFEREE

## **LEGAL NOTICE**

Notice is hereby given that a license, number Pending for beer and wine has been applied for by the undersigned to sell beer and wine at retail in a billiard under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at 857 E. 149th Street, Bronx, NY 10455 for on premises consumption. D Angel Billiards Corp.

# LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that a license number 1298371 for liquor has been applied for by the undersigned to sell beer/wine at a Restaurant under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at 384 E 188th Street, Bronx, NY 10458 for on premises consumption.

3 WAY RESTAURANT INC 384 E 188th Street

Bronx, NY 10458

# LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that a license number 1298330 for liquor has been applied for by the undersigned to sell beer/wine at a Restaurant under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at 1761 Crosby Avenue, Bronx, NY 10461 for on premises consumption.

1761 FONDA MEXICO MAGICO LLC 1761 Crosby Avenue

Bronx, NY 10461

# LEGAL NOTICE

Index No. 260684/15

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

COUNTY OF BRONX

BOARD OF MANAGERS OF THE PARKCHESTER CONDOMINIUM, on behalf of the unit owners of the Parkchester North Condominium.

Plaintiff

- against -

GEORGE SMITH, his respective heirs-at-law, and next of kin, et. al.,

Pursuant to a Judgment dated October 6, 2016, I will sell at public auction on December 19, 2016, at 2:00 p.m. in Room 600 of the Bronx County Courthouse, 851 Grand Concourse, Bronx, New York, the Condominium unit in the Parkchester North Condominium known as apartment MB, in the building known as N-6 A/K/A 105, and by street address 1505 Metropolitan Avenue, Bronx, New York, and designated as Tax Lot 2318 in Block 3944 of Section 15 on the tax map of the Borough of Bronx, together with an undivided 0.0347 percent interest in the common elements of the Parkchester North Condominium.

Judgment is \$18,888.75, with interest, costs, etc. Sale subject to terms of sale and provisions of the Judgment herein.

505 White Plains Road, Suite 113 Tarrytown, NY 10591

# **LEGAL NOTICE**

NOTICE OF SALE

SUPREME COURT: BRONX COUNTY. THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON FKA THE BANK OF NEW YORK, AS TRUSTEE FOR THE CERTIFICATEHOLDERS OF CWABS, ASSET-BACKED INC. CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-8, Pltf. vs. MALGORZATA LUKASINSKA, et al, Defts. Index #10-380241. Pursuant to judgment of foreclosure and sale dated May 24, 2016, I will sell at public auction at the Bronx County Courthouse, Rm 600, 851 Grand Concourse, Bronx, NY on Monday, Jan. 9, 2017 at 2:00 p.m. prem. k/a 1123 White Plains Road, Bronx, NY a/k/a Block 3758, Lot 47. Approx. amt. of judgment is \$692,180.51 plus costs and interest. Sold subject to terms and conditions of filed judgment and terms of sale. PRYOR, Referee. EDMOND J. LAMBERT FRENKEL WEISS WEISMAN & GORDON, LLP, Attys. for Pltf., 53 Gibson Street, Bay Shore, NY. File No. 34243 - #89840

# LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT: BRONX COUNTY. WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A., Pltf. vs. BARBARA C. GRAVES. et al. Defts. Index #35110/2012E. Pursuant to judgment of foreclosure and sale dated Feb. 18, 2016, I will sell at public auction at the Bronx County Courthouse, Room 600, 851 Grand Concourse, Bronx, NY on January 9, 2017 at 2:00 p.m. prem. k/a 603 Walton Ave., Bronx, NY 10451 a/k/a Block 2353, Lot 47, Approx. amt. of judgment is \$396,264.91 plus costs and interest. Sold subject to terms and conditions of filed judgment and terms of sale. GERALD S LEONESCU, Referee. FRENKEL LAMBERT WEISS WEISMAN & GORDAN, LLP, Attys. for Pltf., 53 Gibson St., Bay Shore, NY. File

# LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF SALE

SUPREME COURT: BRONX COUNTY

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WELLS FARGO BANK N.A., AS TRUSTEE FOR THE CERTIFICATEHOLDERS OF CARRINGTON MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST, SERIES 2007-FRE1 ASSET-BACKED PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES; Plaintiff(s)

KEVIN KAGER; et al; VS. Defendant(s)

Attorney (s) for Plaintiff (s): ROSICKI, ROSICKI & ASSOCIATES, 2 Summit Court, Suite 301, P.C., Fishkill, New York, 12524, 845.897.1600

Pursuant to judgment of foreclosure and sale granted herein on or about October 11, 2016, I will sell at Public Auction to the highest bidder at The Bronx County Courthouse, Room 600, 851 Grand Concourse, Bronx, NY 10451

On January 9, 2017 at 2:00 pm. Premises known as 1801 ARNOW AVE, BRONX, NY 10469

Block: 4790 Lot: 33

ALL that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough and County of Bronx, City and State of New York, designated as Lot No. 529 on a certain map entitled, "Map of 1370 Lots, property of Henry B. Hoyt, deceased, located on Gun Hill Road, Eastchester Road and Bavchester Avenue and adjacent streets and avenues in the Borough of the Bronx, Bronx County Register's Office on April 17th, 1922 as Map No. 571 and 572.

As more particularly described in the judgment of foreclosure and sale.

Sold subject to all of the terms and conditions contained in said judgment and terms of sale.

Approximate amount of judgment \$575,411.97 plus interest and costs. INDEX NO. 380728/08

MOSHE S. NEISS, Esq., Referee

## LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF SALE

SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF BRONX

WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A., Plaintiff AGAINST

DIANE S. JUNGK, et al.. Defendant(s)

Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated May 12, 2015 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Bronx County Courthouse, Room 600, 851 Grand Concourse, City of Bronx, NY, on January 09, 2017 at 2:00PM, premises 1953 Paulding Avenue, known as Bronx, NY 10462. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Bronx, County of Bronx, City and State of New York, Block 4268, Lot 14. Approximate amount of judgment \$520,176.86 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment for Index #380980/13.

Jeanette Westphal, Esq., Referee Gross Polowy, LLC Attorney for Plaintiff 1775 Wehrle Drive, Suite 100 Williamsville, NY 14221

BRONX TIMES REPORTER, DECEMBER 9-15, 2016

# NOBTH NOTICE OF SALE

Defendants. 

The amount due under the

JOSEPH T. JEDNAK, ESQ., Referee

(914) 591-7722

BTR

ROY, MONDELLO, LAROCCA & RISOTTO, ESQS.

Attorneys for Plaintiff

# No. 56471. #89961 LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF

BRONX, CENTRAL COMPANY, Plaintiff,

ROSADO, ET AL., Defendant(s).

Pursuant to a Judgment of

Foreclosure and Sale duly filed on April

07, 2015 and the Order to Amend

Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale to

Include Reformation of Mortgage duly

filed on April 25, 2016, I, the

undersigned Referee will sell at public

auction at the Bronx County Courthouse, Room 600, 851 Grand

Concourse, Bronx, NY on January 09,

2017 at 2:00 p.m., premises known as

1910 Lacombe Avenue, Bronx, NY. All

that certain plot, piece or parcel of land

with the buildings and improvements

thereon erected, situate, lying and being

in the Borough of Bronx, County of Bronx, City and State of New York,

Block 3500 and Lot 145 formerly known

as part of Lot 45. Premises will be sold

subject to provisions of filed Judgment

& Fenchel, P.C., 100 Garden City Plaza,

Garden City, NY 11530, Attorneys for

Berkman, Henoch, Peterson, Peddy

Alberto Torres, Esq., Referee

Index # 380280/12.

Plaintiff

MORTGAGE

MARIA

VS.

# LEGAL NOTICES

## LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF SALE BRONX SUPREME COURT: COUNTY

Specialty Mortgage LLC; WM Plaintiff(s)

'MIGUEL ARIAS; et al; VS. Defendant(s)

Attorney (s) for Plaintiff (s): ROSICKI, ROSICKI & ASSOCIATES, PC 2 Summit Court, Suite 301 Fishkill, New York, 12524, 845.897.1600

Pursuant to judgment of foreclosure and sale granted herein on or about June 24, 2010, I will sell at Public Auction to the highest bidder at The Bronx County Courthouse, Room 600, 851 Grand Concourse.

On January 9, 2017 at 2:00 pm.

Premises known as 235 Sunset Boulevard, 9-235E, Bronx, NY 10473 Block: 3432 Lot: 1130

THE Condominium Unit (the "Unit") known as Home No. 9-235-E in the premises known as Shorehaven Condominium, said unit being designated and described as Home No. 9-235-E in the Declaration establishing a plan for condominium ownership of said premises under Article 9-B of the Real Property Law of the State of New York (the "New York Condominium Act") dated 9-11-89 and recorded in the Bronx County Office of the Register of the City of New York (the "Register's Office") on 10-11-89 in Reel 946 page 695 and also designated as Tax Lot 1130 in Block 3432 of Section 14 of the Borough of the Bronx, on the Tax Map of the Real Property Assessment by Theodore Liebman Architect, on 9-1-89 and filed with real property assessment department of the City of New York on 10-11-89 as Condominium Plan No. 33, Map No. 34. TOGETHER with an undivided 0.4388% interest in the Common Elements.

As more particularly described in the judgment of foreclosure and sale.

Sold subject to all of the terms and conditions contained in said judgment and terms of sale.

Approximate amount of judgment \$208,130.36 plus interest and costs. INDEX NO. 380614/07

FLORA EDWARDS, Esq., Referee

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF SALE

SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF BRONX, FREEDOM MORTGAGE CORPORATION, Plaintiff, VS FRANCISCO SUERO, ΕT AL., Defendant(s).

Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly filed on October 15, 2015, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Bronx County Courthouse, Room 600, 851 Grand Concourse, Bronx, NY on December 19, 2016 at 2:00 p.m., premises known as 1333 Noble Avenue, Bronx, NY. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Bronx, County of Bronx, City and State of New York, Block 3872 and Lot 52. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # 380637/12.

Richard O. Tolchin, Esq., Referee

Berkman, Henoch, Peterson, Peddy & Fenchel, P.C., 100 Garden City Plaza, Garden City, NY 11530, Attorneys for Plaintiff

#### LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF BRONX JPMORGAN CHASE BANK.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, Plaintiff(s),

Against Index No: 380883/12 YARON ZIEGEL, ET AL., Defendant(s).

Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale, duly entered in the Bronx County Clerk's Office on 9/18/2014, I, the undersigned Referee, will sell at public auction at the Bronx County Courthouse, Room 600, 851 Grand Concourse, Bronx, NY on 1/9/2017 at 2:00 pm, premises known as 3909 Dyre Avenue, Bronx, NY 10466, and described as follows:

ALL that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough and County of the Bronx, City and State of New York, and designated on the tax maps of the Bronx County Treasurer as Block 4968 and Lot 20.

The approximate amount of the current Judgment lien is \$306,484.86 plus interest and costs. The premises will be sold subject to provisions of the aforesaid Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale; Index # 380883/12.

Linda G. March Esq., Referee

STIENE & ASSOCIATES, P.C. (Attorneys for Plaintiff), 167 Main Street, Northport, NY 11768

File Number: Dated: 10/28/2016 201202749 PB

## LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF

BRONX US Bank National Association, as Trustee for CSMC Mortgage-Backed Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2006-4, Plaintiff

AGAINST

Antonio Recio; City of New York Environmental Control Board; City of New York Parking Violations Bureau; City of New York Transit Adjudication Bureau; Sun Lee; Moon Lee; Jessica Recio; Brenda Ramos; Luis Ramos; et al., Defendant(s)

Pursuant to а Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated January 9, 2015 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction Bronx County Courthouse, 851 Grand Concourse, Bronx, New York on January 9, 2017 at 2:00PM, premises known as 590 East 178th Street, Bronx, NY 10457. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough and County of Bronx, City and State of New York, Block 3068 Lot 144. Approximate amount of judgment \$589,935.75 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index# 381280/11.

Only cash or certified funds payable to the Referee will be accepted as a deposit in the amount of ten percent of the purchase price.

Gerald Leonescu, Esq., Referee Shapiro, DiCaro & Barak, LLC Attornev(s) for the Plaintiff 175 Mile Crossing Boulevard Rochester, New York 14624 (877) 759-1835 Dated: November 10, 2016 #90012

### **LEGAL NOTICE**

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF BRONX OCWEN LOAN SERVICING LLC.

Plaintiff. A g a i Index No.: 380973/2013 n S MARY CAM CAMPBELL, ET AL., CAMPBELL, VINTON

Defendant(s). Pursuant to

a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale, duly entered in the Bronx County Clerk's Office on 4/7/2016, I, the undersigned Referee, will sell at public auction at the Bronx County Courthouse, 851 Grand Concourse, Room 600, Bronx, NY on 1/9/2017 at 2:00 pm, premises known as 714 East 217th Street, Bronx, NY 10467, and described as follows:

ALL that certain plot, piece or parcel land, with the buildings and of improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Bronx, County of Bronx, City and State of New York, and designated on the tax maps of the Bronx County Treasurer as Block 4664 and Lot 61.

The approximate amount of the current Judgment lien is \$404,443.59 plus interest and costs. The premises will be sold subject to provisions of the aforesaid Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale; Index # 380973/2013.

If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney.

Bernard M. Alter, Esq., Referee.

Leopold & Associates, PLLC, 80 Business Park Drive, Suite 110, Armonk, NY 10504 11/3/2016 Dated: GNS

# **LEGAL NOTICE**

SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF BRONX

NYCTL 2013-A TRUST AND THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON, AS COLLATERAL AGENT AND CUSTODIAN, Plaintiffs -against- E. 139TH ST. CLUSTER LP, et al Defendant(s). Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered herein on November 23, 2015, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Bronx Supreme Courthouse, Room 600, 851 Grand Concourse, Bronx, NY on January 9, 2017 at 2:00 p.m. premises situate, lying and being in the Borough of Bronx, County of Bronx, City and State of New York, known and designated as Block: 2278 and Lot: 13 on the Bronx County Tax Assessment Map. Said premises known as 410 EAST

134TH STREET, BRONX, NY Approximate amount of lien

\$14,755.46 plus interest & costs.

Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment and Terms of Sale.

Index Number 260115/2014. JOSEPH A. MARRA, ESQ., Referee

Phillips Lytle LLP Attorney(s) for Plaintiffs

28 East Main Street, Suite 1400, Rochester, NY 14614

BTR

# **LEGAL NOTICE**

t

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF BRONX, BANK OF AMERICA, N.A., Plaintiff, vs. ANGIE J. CAMPANA, ET AL., Defendant(s).

Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly filed on December 11, 2015, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Bronx County Courthouse, Room 600, 851 Grand Concourse, Bronx, NY on January 09, 2017 at 2:00 p.m., premises known as 1061 Grant Avenue, Bronx, NY. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Bronx, County of Bronx, City and State of New York, Block 2451 and Lot 33. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # 380013/14.

Lorraine Coyle, Esq., Referee

Berkman, Henoch, Peterson, Peddy & Fenchel, P.C., 100 Garden City Plaza, Garden City, NY 11530, Attorneys for Plaintiff

## LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF NEW YORK SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF BRONX

BANK NATIONAL US ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR CITIGROUP MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST 2007-WFHE4, ASSET-BACKED PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2007-WFHE4, Plaintiff.

SHAWN FRENCH A/K/A SHAWN FFRENCH, et al.,

Defendants. NOTICE OF SALE

IN FORECLOSURE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT In pursuance of a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale dated December 16, 2014 and entered in the office of the County Clerk of Bronx County, I, the Referee named in said Judgment, will sell in one parcel at public auction on January 9, 2017 at the Bronx County Courthouse, Room 600, 851 Grand Concourse, Bronx, County of Bronx, State of New York, at 2:00 P.M., the premises described as follows:

3307 Gunther Avenue

Bronx, NY 10469

SBL No.: Block 4750 Lot 34

ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND, situate in the Borough and County of the Bronx, City and State of New York.

The premises are sold subject to the provisions of the filed judgment, Index No. 380859-12, any state of facts an accurate survey and inspection of the premises may disclose, to covenants,

restrictions and easements, if any, to assessments or water charges not a lien upon the property, to violations, zoning regulations, prior liens of record, if any, and ordinances of the city, town or village in which said premises lie, to leases, tenancies and occupancies, and to other charges and liens with priority over plaintiff's mortgage. Patrick J. Wynne, Esq., Referee

**To Place Your Ad** 

Stephen J. Lapp, Esq. Woods Oviatt Gilman LLP

Judgment Amount: \$515,762.11

Plaintiff's Attorney 700 Crossroads Building, 2 State St.

Rochester, New York 14614 Tel: 585.987.2800

## LEGAL NOTICE

SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF BRONX

SDF63 CAP NY 2 LLC, Plaintiff against- TINY FIESTA REALTY ASSOCIATES LLC, et al Defendant(s). Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale dated November 18, 2016 and entered on November 23, 2016, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Bronx Supreme Courthouse, Room 600, 851 Grand Concourse, Bronx, NY on January 9, 2017 at 2:00 pm

PARCEL I: situate, lying and being in the Borough and County of Bronx, City and State of New York, bounded and described as follows: BEGINNING at a point on the easterly side of Grand Concourse, distant 100 feet northerly from the corner formed by the intersection of the easterly side of Grand Concourse and the northerly side of East 159th Street; being a plot 60.10 feet by 69.73 feet by 188.55 feet by 22.89 feet by 49.28 feet by 6 feet by 40.71 feet by 18.31 feet

by 2.41 feet by 219.62 feet.

PARCEL II: situate, lying and being in the Borough and County of Bronx, City and State of New York, bounded and described as follows: BEGINNING at a point on the westerly side of Sheridan Avenue, n/k/a Concourse Village West, distant 103.44 feet northerly of East 159th Street; being a plot 83.69 feet by 40.71 feet by 88.67 feet by 41.75 feet. Block: 2459 Lot: 34.

Said premises known as 888 GRAND CONCOURSE a/k/a 170/180 EAST 161ST STREET, BRONX, NY

Approximate amount of lien \$11,490,821.17 plus interest & costs.

Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment and Terms of Sale.

Index Number 35480/2013E. JOSEPH THEODORE JEDNAK, ESO Beferee

**KRISS & FEUERSTEIN LLP** 

Attorney(s) for Plaintiff

360 Lexington Avenue, Suite 1200. New York, NY 10017

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# LEGAL NOTICES

# LEGAL NOTICE

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

COUNTY OF BRONX Index 35424/2015E. Filed 11/16/2016.

U.S. BANK TRUST, N.A., AS TRUSTEE FOR LSF9 MASTER PARTICIPATION TRUST, Plaintiff,

THE ESTATE OF JAY STEVENS A/K/A JAY A. STEVENS A/K/A JAY ALFONSO STEVENS; WILMA D. STEVENS A/K/A WILMA D. SUMPTER; UNKNOWN HEIRS OF THE ESTATE OF JAY STEVENS A/K/A JAY A STEVENS A/K/A JAY ALFONSO STEVENS; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA O/B/O INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE; NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION AND FINANCE; BOARD OF MANAGERS OF HARBOUR POINTE AT SHOREHAVEN CONDOMINIUM III; JOHN DOE (Unknown Tenants/Occupants of the subject property being set forth to represent any and all occupants of the subject property being foreclosed herein, and any parties, entities of any kind, if any, having or claiming an interest or lien upon the mortgaged property), Defendants. SUPPLEMENTAL SUMMONS AND NOTICE. ABOVE NAMED THE TO

DEFENDANTS:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer the Amended Complaint in the above captioned action and to serve a copy of your Answer on the Plaintiff's attorney within twenty (20) days after the service of this Supplemental Summons, exclusive of the day of service, or within thirty (30) days after completion of service where service is made in any other manner than by personal delivery within the State. The United States of America, if designated as a Defendant in this action may answer to appear within sixty (60) days of service hereof. In case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the Amended Complaint.

NOTICE

YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME

If you do not respond to this Supplemental Summons and Amended Complaint by serving a copy of the answer on the attorney for the mortgage company who filed this foreclosure proceeding against you and filing the answer with the court, a default judgment may be entered and you can lose your home.

Speak to an attorney or go to the court where your case is pending for further information on how to answer the Supplemental Summons and protect your property.

Sending payment to your mortgage

company will not stop this foreclosure action.

RESPOND YOU MUST ΒY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF (MORTGAGE COMPANY) AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT.

To the above named defendants: The foregoing Supplemental Summons is served upon you by publication pursuant to an order of the Hon. Larry S. Schachner, a Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of N.Y., dated November 2, 2016 and filed along with the supporting papers in the Bronx County Clerk's Office. This is an action to foreclose a mortgage on the property located at 80 Heron Lane, Unit 381, Bronx, NY 10473 also known as Block: 3432 Lot: 1857. Bronx County is designated as the place of trial based upon the location of the property being foreclosed. Attorneys for Plaintiff: Stern & Eisenberg, PC, 485 B Route 1 South, Suite 330, Iselin, NJ 08830, T: (516) 630-0288.

## LEGAL NOTICE

FAMILY COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF BRONX File #: 158149 Docket #:

V-19588-16 V-19587-16

In the Matter of a Custody/Visitation proceeding

Lalita Řambarran,

- Petitioner, - against -
- Narine Ramraj,
- Respondent.

regarding Samantha Ramraj dob 4/3/2002

and Matthew Ramraj dob 1/2/2004

IN THE NAME OF THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

To: Narine Ramraj (Address Unknown)

A petition under Article 6 of the Family Court Act having bee n filed with this Court, and annexed hereto

You ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to appear before this court on

Date/Time: January 23, 2017 at 2

- Purpose: Return of Process
- Part: 3

Floor/Room: Floor 3/Room Part 3 Presiding: Hon. Lisa S. Headley Location: 900 Sheridan Avenue

Bronx, NY 10451 to answer the petition and to be dealt

with in accordance with the Family Court Act.

On your failure to appear as herein directed, a warrant may be issued for vour arrest.

Stephen G Bymes, Clerk of Court NOTICE: Family Court §154(c) provides that petitions brought pursuant to Article 4, 5, 6, 8 and 10 of the Family Court Act, in which an order of protection is sought or in which a violation of an order or protection is alleged, may be served outside the State of New York upon a Respondent who is not a resident or domiciliary of the State of New York. If no other grounds for obtaining personal jurisdiction over the Respondent exist aside from the application of this provision, the exercise of personal jurisdiction over the respondent is limited to the issue of the request for, or alleged violation of, the order of protection. Where the Respondent has been served with this summons and petition does not appear, the Family Court may proceed to a hearing with respect to issuance or enforcement of the order of protection.



# www.bxtimes.com



78 BRONX TIMES REPORTER, DECEMBER 9-15, 2016

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Dated: November 16, 2016

# TOP DRIVER DISTRACTIONS

#### Using mobile phones

Leading the list of the top distractions behind the wheel are mobile phones. Phones now do more than just place calls, and drivers often cannot pull away from their phones, even when driving. According to the California Department of Motor Vehicles, studies have shown that driving performance is lowered and the level of distraction is higher for drivers who are heavily engaged in cell phone conversations. The use of a hands-free device does not lower distraction levels. The percentage of vehicle crashes and nearcrashes attributed to dialing is nearly identical to the number associated with talking or listening.

#### Daydreaming

Many people will admit to daydreaming behind the wheel or looking at a person or object outside of the car for too long. Perhaps they're checking out a house in a new neighborhood or thought they saw someone they knew on the street corner. It can be easy to veer into the direction your eyes are focused, causing an accident. In addition to trying to stay focused on the road, some drivers prefer the help of lane departure warning systems.

#### Eating

Those who haven't quite mastered walking and

chewing gum at the same time may want to avoid eating while driving. The majority of foods require a person's hands to be taken off of the wheel and their eyes to be diverted from the road. Reaching in the back seat to share some French fries with the kids is also distracting.

Try to eat meals before getting in the car. For those who must snack while en route, take a moment to pull over at a rest area and spend 10 minutes snacking there before resuming the trip.

#### Reading

Glancing at an advertisement, updating a Facebook status or reading a book are all activities that should be avoided when driving. Even pouring over a traffic map or consulting the digital display of a GPS system can be distracting.

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# EMPLOYMENT

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**HELP WANTED** 

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 No formal education or work experience is required Proficiency with clerical procedures Computer literate Excellent customer service skills Detail oriented with ability to multitask and meet deadlines Excellent verbal and communication skills Organizing and planning Proficient in English and Spanish EMAIL your cover letter and résumé to: info@bronxcb7.info no later than Friday, December 16, 2016. OR SUBMIT your cover letter and résumé by USPS mail, postmarked no later than December 16, 2016 to: Bronx Community Board #7 229-A East 204th Street Bronx, NY 10458

The City is an Equal Opportunity Employer - New York City residency required unless employee was employed by New York City for more than 2 years

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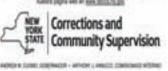
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cianal active las plaças de celcani de convección entile departitive en Auestra plaçara well en <u>escen decisione (en</u>



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advertising available ser-vices; however, some of the hotlines & service numbers in classifieds actually hurt the people who rely on them by cheating them of their hard-earned dollars. "Most newspapers print a disclaimer in their classified ad section to warn readers about numbers that are a direct line to trouble. Any number starting with 900, 540, 595 or 871 charges a fee beyond a local call. In some instances, ads initial-ly advertise calls to a local number, but then direct callers to a second number starting with one of the paid exchanges. "Consumers must also question the legitimacy of vague classifieds because they too could be a scam. Before responding to an ad, consumers should verify the source of all informa-tion & always be wary about sending money or signing a contract with an unknown party." unknown party." Office of the

**Public Advocate** 

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

IF YOU USED THE BLOOD THINNER XAREL-TO and suffered internal bleeding, hemorrhag required hospitalization hemorrhaging, ōr a loved one died while tak-ing Xarelto between 2011 and the present time, you may be entitled to compensation. Charles Call Attorney Johnson 1-800-535-5727

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MAHOPAC-CARMEL **Beautiful Contemporary** Home. 3 BR, 2 Full Bath. See on Facebook (Page): CBH48 Price & Pics @ Zillow.com: 48 Dixon Rd. Carmel, NY

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Jerome Ave, número de identificación del sitio C203087. El sitio está ubicado en el condado Bronx en 2409 Jerome Avenue. Los comentarios concer-nientes a esta solicitud deben enviarse no más tarde del 13 de enero 2017. Una copia de la solicitud y otros documentos relevantes al sitio están disponibles en los repositorios de documentos ubicados en la bib-lioteca, Bronx Library Center, 310 Kingsbridge Road, Bronx, 10458 y La junta comunitaria 7 del Bronx, 227-A east 204th Street, Bronx 10458. Se puede encontrar información relacionada con el sitio y como enviar comentarios en el sitio web, http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/60068.html. Se puede enviar comentarios a Aaron Fischer, Project Manager, NSYDEC-DER, 625 Broadway, 12th Fl, Albany, NY 12233-7016; aaron.fischer@dec.ny.gov; o Ilamar a 518-402-9767.

Para recibir esta información en su correo electrónico. inscríbase al listserv del condado en www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/61092.html.

#### **Public Notice**

The New York State Department of Environmental conservation (DEC) has received a Brownfield Clean-up Program (BCP) application from 2409 Jerome, Inc. for a site known as 2409 Jerome Avenue, site ID #C203087. This site is located in the Borough of Bronx, within the County of Bronx, and is located at 2409 Jerome Avenue. Comments regarding this appli-2409 Jerome Avenue. Comments regarding this appli-cation must be submitted no later than January 13, 2017. A copy of the application and other relevant documents are available at the document repositories located at Bronx Library Center, 310 East Kingsbridge Road, Bronx, 10458 and Bronx Community Board 7, 229-A East 204th Street, Bronx, 10458. Information regarding the site and how to submit comments can be found at

http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/60058.html or send comments to Aaron Fischer, Project Manager, NYSDEC-DER, 625 Broadway, 12<sup>th</sup> Fl, Albany, NY 12233-7016; aaron.fischer@dec.ny.gov; or call 518-402-9767.

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# First hearing for 49th CO; residents support Keith Walton

Schweizer specifically pointed to the release of the explicit details surrounding the alleged abuse.

He called the release an attempt at "character assassination."

Eight people showed up to the hearing in support of Walton.

Schweizer is hoping with more time to prepare for Walton's trial, which begins on Wednesday, December 14, there will be more people in attendance to support Walton.

Prior to the alleged incident, Walton was praised for his work in the community.

"In my opinion he was the best commanding officer the 49th Precinct has ever had," said Schweizer. "What he did was unprecedented as far as community outreach."

Walton was also a topic at the latest 49th Precinct community council meeting

"We have a little bit of an elephant in the room," said Joe Thompson, president of the 49th Precinct Community Council, during the meeting. "I can tell you this - deputy inspector Walton did a very good job in our community and we're very pleased."

Thompson told those in attendance at the Tuesday, November 29 meeting that the community has no knowledge of current legal proceedings surrounding Walton or Walton's personal life.



(I-r) Raphael Schweizer, Miguel Sang, Sr. Donna Fledge, Janice Walcott, Grace Lovaglio, Nancy Dawson, Camille Bogle-Knight and Wilma Robertson lent their support for Keith Walton during his hearing. Photo by Silvio Pacifico

However, he added, "We do know that he had innovative programs here and he did a great job for us."

Thompson seemed to be uninterested in dwelling on the subject as he ing forward with [Captain Alps]," said asked those in attendance to refrain from speaking about Walton.

He also said the community is moving ahead with the new commanding officer.

"All of us in our community are go-Thompson.

The Bronx Times reached out to the

district attorney's office following the hearing but a spokesperson declined comment.

Additionally, the Bronx Times reached out to Louis La Pietra. Walton's defense attorney, but he did not respond to a request for comment.

# MPCA, elected officials secure holiday lights for Morris Park

a 50% deposit and the lights were installed on Morris Park Avenue and Williamsbridge Road by Sunday, December 4, said Signorile.

Senator Jeff Klein and Assemblyman Michael Benedetto joined Gjonaj in making substantial donations for the lights. Gjonaj held a press conference to announce the news on Monday. December 5.

Benedetto gave Gjonaj much of the credit for jumpstarting the drive after it looked like the lights might fall by the wayside.

"Let's give credit where credit is due here," said Benedetto of Gjonaj's efforts, adding "This is a special season; we have lights in Westchester Square and Throggs Neck, so why not in Morris Park?"

Benedetto said that he hoped that the Morris Park Business Improvement District would be formed by next year so it would take over the lights, which is something that BIDs typically do in other commercial corridors.

The MPCA, comprised primarily of community residents, accepted the task of collecting the holiday lights money because there is no business association in Morris Park, said Signorile

the holiday lights effort for about 15 contribution to the light effort.

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Assemblyman Mark Gjonaj gathered with local business leaders and MPCA members on Monday, December 5 to announce a newly invigorated holiday lights drive in Morris Park. Photo courtesy of Assemblyman Gjonaj

years, he said.

The MPCA has been in charge of to's support, Klein was able to make a bright," said the senator.

In addition to Gjonaj and Benedet- kept the business corridor merry and lights.

Signorile seemed jubilant about nity," he said. "We got the lights."

"I'm proud that my contribution the resurrection of the holiday

"Santa Claus came to the commu-

# Bronx sports

"They work and they work and they work and they work and we won a championship two weeks ago. We got out here today and we had a chance to close them out and just couldn't do it."

# Buie sidelined after seasonending injury

#### BY LAURA AMATO

A former Wings Academy basketball star is grounded for the rest of the year after suffering a season-ending injury on Dec. 1.

Hofstra junior Desure Buie – who got his hoops start in the Bronx – will miss the remainder of the season with a torn anterior cruciate ligament and meniscus in his left leg.

Pride head coach Joe Mihalich announced the injury on Dec. 4.

"We feel terrible for Desure and wish him the best in his recovery," Mihalich said in a statement released by the team. "Desure was really starting to come into his own this season and his presence on the court will be missed."

The injury occurred during the first half of Hofstra's game at Columbia. He played just five minutes in the nonconference matchup.

Buie saw action in eight games for the Pride this season, averaging just over 15 minutes per outing. The sixfoot guard had 22 total points to his name during the earlyseason games, but ranked second on the team in assists with 17.

Buie – who led Wings to a PSAL and State Federation championship in 2015 – played in 34 games off the bench for Hofstra during his freshman season, averaging three points and 1.4 assists.

Buie won't be able to help his team on the court for the rest of the year, as Hofstra looks to make a run at a CAA title, but Mihalich is certain the sophomore will still be able to contribute on the bench.

"We know he will be an important vocal leader from the bench for the remainder of this year as he recovers and prepares for the 2017-18 campaign," Mihalich said.

Hofstra heads to Brooklyn on Dec. 11 for a nationallybroadcast matchup against Kentucky at Barclays Center, part of the 2016 Brooklyn Hoops Winter Festival. PRIDE OF THE BRONK

# LEHMAN LIONS CRUISE TO PSAL CHAMPIONSHIP WIN OVER TRUMAN

Lehman football players celebrate in their locker room after defeating Truman 30-0 in the PSAL bowl conference finals at MCU Park on Dec. 3. Photo by Robert Cole

#### **BY LAURA AMATO** It was perfect.

The Lehman football team couldn't come up with another word for it. In fact, the Lions couldn't come up with many words. They were far too busy yelling.

No. 3 Lehman defeated borough rival Truman 30-0 on Dec. 3, clinching the PSAL bowl championship at MCU Park, a victory that was nothing short of perfect from every angle.

"It just was all about the teamwork," said senior running back Carlos Soto, who racked up four touchdowns in the win. "Practice this week was great, everything was great and we just balled out."

Lehman handed topseeded Truman its only regular season loss of the season on Nov. 5, but the Lions felt as if their overtime semifinal victory over McKee/Staten Island Tech prepped them for a

#### run at a title.

"Last week was a nail biter and then this week, with all our preparation, we got to see them one time," Lehman coach Christopher Ditullio said. "So the second time we got to gameplan against what they were going to do to us. It all has to do with the kids."

Lehman got on the board late in the first quarter as Danny Sanchez connected with Richard Martinez on a four-yard strike after a blocked Truman punt and, from there on out, it was all Lions.

"We had no doubt," Martinez said. "We said we were going to keep pushing the ball and if somebody made a mistake we were just going to push each other. It was just about getting to the next level."

Soto took control of the the ball and ground game in the second searching quarter – pushing into the end sidelines.

zone from one yard out for his first touchdown of the night.

He was a force to be reckoned with throughout the game, racking up 109 yards on 13 carries, and his 53-yard touchdown dash on the first play of the fourth quarter all but wrapped up the victory.

"I was just seeing green grass," Soto said. "My linemen were opening up great holes. And it was just nothing but grass and grass and the end zone."

Soto's night was certainly impressive, but Lehman's defensive effort was in complete shutdown mode from the opening whistle. The Lions forced four turnovers – including a pair of recoveries by Martinez. His fumble recovery with just over seven minutes left in regulation gave Lehman the chance to, effectively, run out the ball and left the Mustangs searching for answers in the sidelines. "That [recovery] ended the game right there for us," said Martinez, who also notched a third-quarter interception. "All we told each other was what our coach told us to say. Look at the scoreboard. That's it right there."

Lehman came up short against Truman in the postseason last year, but as the Lions walked off the field with smiles plastered on their faces, that game felt like a distant memory. This was a rejuvenated squad, determined to rebuild the program and set a brand-new standard for future teams.

This one was perfect, but Lehman's not done yet.

"You can see it all in the effort the kids are fighting with," Ditullio said. "This year it was, 'yeah, we're going to win this game.' There was a lot of confidence. Winners are going to win and that's what the kids are going to do."

# Hayes comes up short in state championship shootout

#### **BY LAURA AMATO**

Cardinal Hayes football coach CJ O'Neil stood in front of his team and told them just one thing - he was proud of them.

The Cardinals came up just short of their state championship aspirations on Dec. 4, falling 50-44 to Canisius in the CHSAA final at Fordham University.

Hayes gave up the game-winning touchdown with 17 seconds left, after the squad was whistled for offsides to keep the Canisius drive alive the play before. It was a heartbreaking end to an otherwise historic season for the team, which clinched the program's first 'AAA' title last month.

"They're Hayesmen," O'Neil said. "They work and they work and they work and they work and we won a championship two weeks ago. We got out here today and we had a chance to close them out and just couldn't do it."

It was a back-and-forth affair all game as both team's offenses went punch-for-punch on each snap with Hayes and Canisius each notching bigtime plays throughout the afternoon.

Lucas Nunez thought he made the biggest play of the day, however, with just under nine minutes left when he blocked and recovered a Canisius field goal attempt.

"We just knew that the kicker had a really good leg," said Nunez, who also hauled in six receptions



Cardinal Hayes players were left stunned on the sidelines after giving up a final-second touchdown in the CHSAA state chamionship, falling 50-44 to Canisius at Fordham University on Dec. 4 Photo by Robert Cole

for 152 yards. "I just tried to block it and focused on scooping it up." The play set up Hayes on the Canisius 34 yard line and, three plays later, Cardinals quarterback Christian Anderson connected with Elijah Jones for a 31-yard touchdown strike, giving Hayes a 44-42 lead with 7:49 left. It was the team's first lead of the title tilt.

"We keep fighting. That's our team," said Anderson, who threw for 380 yards and three touchdowns. "We fight through adversity and we continue to play on."

Hayes' defense held strong on the Crusaders next drive, forcing Canisius' first punt of the afternoon. The Cardinals looked like they were going to be able to wrap up the game, but Anderson was picked off by Cole Burniston in the end zone on 2nd and 2 after the senior scrambled in the backfield to keep the play alive.

"That was big," Canisius coach Rich Robbins said. "We got a good turnover and then we gave them right back to them. It was that kind of game."

The turnover gave Canisius second life and the Crusaders didn't waste the opportunity, marching down the field to set up a 39-yard field goal attempt with 17 seconds left. Hayes was whistled for offsides, however, giving Canisius an automatic first down and, on the very next snap, Jayce Johnson connected with Zeke Margaritis for the game-winning touchdown.

The play left Hayes stunned on the sidelines and despite two more chances downfield, the Cardinals season ended in disappointing fashion. "It's really tough, but it was a great season," said Anderson, who finished the year second in single-season passing yards. "It was a tough loss today, but I'm so proud of my team."

Hayes returns a good chunk of its starting lineup next year - particularly on the offensive side of the ball - and this season only serves as fuel for the metaphorical fire. The Cardinals know what they can do and they're certain, next year, they'll be back.

"I couldn't be prouder of them," O'Neil said. "They've changed the landscape of New York City football and we're just going to keep going. That's the plan."

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86 BRONX TIMES REPORTER, DECEMBER 9-15, 2016

# New York Yankees to honor Derek Jeter with number retirement and Monument Park plaque on Sunday, May 14

The New York Yankees today announced that they will honor Derek Jeter during a pregame ceremony with the retirement of his No. 2 uniform number and the unveiling of his Monument Park plaque on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 14, 2017.

Jeter will become the 22nd player in franchise history to have his number retired and first since teammates Bernie Williams, Jorge Posada and Andy Pettitte had their numbers retired during the 2015 season. His No. 2 will be the 21st number retired by the Yankees as No. 8 was retired for both Yogi Berra and Bill Dickey on Old-Timers' Day in 1972.

The Kalamazoo, Mich. native played his franchise-record 20th and final season with the Yankees in 2014. retiring with a personal career winning percentage of .593 (1,628-1,117-2) and five World Series championships (1996, 1998-2000, '09). A 14-time American League All-Star, Jeter is sixth in baseball history with 3,465 career hits and tops the Yankees' alltime list in hits, games played (2,747), doubles (544), stolen bases (358), atbats (11,195), singles (2,595) and hit-bypitches (170). He recorded eight seasons with at least 200 hits and is one of two players in franchise history along with Lou Gehrig (eight) with as many as four. Jeter capped his farewell season with a dramatic "walk-off" RBIsingle against Baltimore in his final career game at Yankee Stadium and another RBI-single in his final career at-bat three days later at Boston's Fenway Park.

Please note that tickets for this game are not yet available for sale on an individual-game basis. Currently, they are available as part of full-season ticket plans as well as a number of partial-season ticket plans. For complete season-ticket information, please visit www.yankees.com or www.yankeesbeisbol.com, contact the Season Ticket Sales and Service Department via e-mail at seasontickets@yankees.com or call (212) YAN-KEES [212-926-5337].



# Lions roar in the trenches as o-line sets title tone

#### **BY LAURA AMATO**

It all started months ago – in the weight room and the gym and the collective minds eye of the Lehman football team.

And it all came to a head on Dec. 3 as the Lions offense showcased just what it was capable of, cruising to a 30-0 victory over Truman in the PSAL bowl championship at MCU Park.

But while the Lehman stars racked up the yardage, it was the guys up front – the linemen in the metaphorical trenches – that were the building blocks of the victory.

"We knew we were going to be good up front," said Lions coach Christopher Ditullio. "It just had to do if we were able to run the football and protect the football." Lehman did more than just run the football – the Lions racked up 275 yards of offense as the front line consistently held its blocks and kept Truman's defensive standouts from doing much of anything throughout the championship tilt.

"Our left side is amazing," Ditullio said. You want to talk about our center, left guard and left tackle. They were absolutely fantastic tonight." Lehman saw a handful of players take a handoff out of the backfield, but no one was more successful on the ground than senior running back Carlos Soto.



Lehman quarterback Danny Sanchez had plenty of time to read the Truman defense as his offensive line held their blocks and limited pressure in the PSAL bowl conference final on Dec. 3. Photo by Robert Cole

His four-touchdown performance was a highpoint in a series of bright spots for the Lions, but despite his jam-packed stat sheet, Soto was quick to point out that it was a group effort.

"We worked hard all week, all year, out in the weight room," Soto said. "And it just can't any better than this. It's an absolutely great feeling." It wasn't always easy – although the final score might suggest otherwise – and Lehman actually punted on its first possession of the second half, losing one yard on the ground before Danny Sanchez tossed a pair of incompletions.

The Lions regrouped, however, refocusing their energy and their determination to hold their blocks and Soto responded with a six-yard touchdown run on Lehman's next drive.

"We came into it starting off kind of slow," senior Richard Martinez said. "But we talked and we said we had to keep going and keep fighting. We got back into it and that's all it was."

In the final 20 minutes of the game, Lehman notched just two plays for a loss and, in addition to the squad' dominant run attack, Sanchez also racked up 82 passing yards for the Lions.

It was a one-two punch of offensive effort that left Lehman practically bursting with championship-confidence.

"We didn't have a single turnover," Ditullio said. "When we were carrying momentum early in the second half, we could put it on our quarterback Danny Sanchez's shoulders and he was able to continue. He completed passes and kept it going."

The battle in the trenches was exactly the kind of game Lehman was hoping to play, determined to execute its offensive gameplan against a familiar foe. And, when it mattered most, that's exactly what the Lions were able to do.

Those early-season practices and hours spent in the gym were worth it.

"[This win] means everything," Soto. "A lot. Everything. I don't know how to actually explain it right now."

# Sports programs offered at Bronx House

Bronx House, 990 Pelham Parkway South, will be offering its annual Pre-K Basketball program for children ages 3-5 years old. The program begins Saturday, January 7, 2017 for 10 consecutive Saturdays. Children ages 3-4 will be grouped together on Saturdays from 10 to 11 a.m. and 5 year olds will have their program from 11 a.m. to noon. Children will learn the basics of basketball, while having fun in a safe, nurturing and enjoyable environment. The program cost \$132 for Bronx House members and \$177 for the community plus a \$50 registration fee.

Bronx House will also be offering its annual youth basketball program for children in the 1st-6th grade. The soccer program begins Saturday, January 7, 2017 at noon for 10 consecutive Saturdays. Children in grades 1-6 will

learn and enhance their soccer skills, while having fun through drills and team play. The program cost \$157 for Bronx House members and \$217 for the community plus a \$50 registration fee.

Bronx House will be offering youth sports fencing program for children 1st-6th grade. The fencing program begins Saturday, January 7, 2017 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. for 10 Saturdays. Children in grades 1-6 will learn the craft of fencing, while having fun through drills from our trained professionals. The program cost \$157 for Bronx House members and \$217 for the community plus a \$50 registration fee.

For more information on any of these programs contact Fred Lopez at (718) 792-1800 ext.229 or at Fred@ BronxHouse.org







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