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## Four shot at Vidalia Park

BY KIRSTEN SANCHEZ

Four young men were rushed to the hospital on Tuesday, January 31 with non life threatening injuries after being shot at a basketball court in Vidalia Park around 4:40p.m. Police said.

According to investigators and witnesses, about six shots rang out injuring two 20-year-old males, an 18-year-old and a 12-year-old boy.

Rescuers found the 12-year-old and one of the 20-year-old men in the park and rushed them to the hospital. The two other men who were shot were found in a nearby building On Bronx Park South and Crotona Avenue, where they fled after being shot and called police.

Witnesses said they saw the gunman run from the park and head east toward Boston Road. The 12-year old was taken to Jacobo Medical Center and the other victims were taken to St. Barnabas Hospital.

Councilman Joel Rivera said the shooting is extremely disconcerting to him.

"Yesterday's shooting in Vidalia Park basketball courts during the afternoon rush hour is very disconcerting no only to me, but also to the residents in the West Farms area of the Bronx," Rivera said. "Innocent children and their families should not be scared nor terrorized to play in their neighborhood playgrounds in fear of becoming a victim of senseless

*Continued on page 34*



Photo by Samuel Tuthill

## SEN. GUSTAVO RIVERA MEETS THE PRESS

Senator Gustavo Rivera met with aspiring young journalists who were interviewing the elected official for the school paper during a visit to I.S. 129 at 2055 Mapes Avenue on Friday, February 3. Rivera also toured the school, taught a lesson, and met principal Yvette Beasley.

# HOME TO FRESH DIRECT

## Internet grocer at Harlem River site

BY KIRSTEN SANCHEZ

A large real estate offering on Bruckner Boulevard between the Third Avenue and Willis Avenue bridges, which was originally thought to be used for more residential development, will now become the new headquarters and operations center for Fresh Direct.

Fresh Direct, a leading fresh food internet grocer, founded in 1999 and currently based in Long Island City, Queens, purchases produce, meat and dairy from over 60 New York State-based farms and serves a customer base of over 100,000 people with 97 percent of their employees coming from New York state.

Mayor Michael Bloomberg, Governor Andrew Cuomo and

Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr. announced that the company will invest \$112.6 million to build its new headquarters, retaining nearly 2,000 existing jobs and creating almost 1,000 new jobs. The construction of the new facility will also result in the creation of approximately 684 construction jobs in the city and an overall economic impact to the city of nearly \$255 million.

The new 500,000 square foot facility, which will sit on a 16-acre parcel at the Harlem River Yards, is part of a swatch of land that was rezoned from industrial land use to allow for residential construction within the past 15 years. Many of the re-zoned areas have become home to high

*Continued on page 34*



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## Rep. Maloney to speak at women's lunch

The Bronx Chamber of Commerce announces that Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney, U.S. Representative for New York's 14th District, will deliver the keynote speech at the 2012 Women of Distinction Luncheon on Friday, March 30. Maloney is recognized as a national leader.

In addition, the chamber announces that Dr. Karen J. Greer, MD, MPH, director of Ambulatory Pediatrics at St. Barnabas Hospital, joins this year's distinguished list of honorees. Dr. Greer initiated the Read Out and Read Program in 2000 at St. Barnabas Hospital.

Notwithstanding are the accomplishments of the other 2012 honorees: Rear Admiral Wendi Carpenter, USN, first ever female president of SUNY Maritime; and Bernadette M. Kappen, executive director; New York Institute for Special Education. Dr. Kappen is leading the NYISE in its 180th anniversary year. All three remarkable women were chosen based on their contributions and the theme of this year's luncheon, "Women's Education, Women's Empowerment".

The luncheon is once again made possible through the generosity of its leading sponsor, Con Edison.

For more information about the event email [bccwomensevent@gmail.com](mailto:bccwomensevent@gmail.com) or call the Bronx Chamber of Commerce at (718) 828-3900.

# 'MTA Bus Time' expands to boro

BY KIRSTEN SANCHEZ

On Monday, January 23, the Metropolitan Transit Authority announced that their popular digital system, MTA Bus Time, will expand to the borough of the Bronx.

The digital system, which is currently used by Staten Island customers to track the time and location of their buses via the internet, smart phone or text message, will also be expanded in two other boroughs by 2013.

The 1,025 buses serving the Bronx will now receive GPS units for them to utilize the program, which uses technology components from two New York City-based technology start-up companies, research support from a team of graduate students, and an open forum technology platform.

Motorists no longer have to ask the age old question, 'what time will the next bus be arriving?', because they will be able to look up an estimated time of arrival and exact location, the MTA claims.

MTA chairman Joseph J. Lhota said the new program will give riders a greater sense of certainty.

"Knowing how far away your next bus is means you can spend more time with your family or more time at a coffee shop

instead of waiting at a bus stop in a state of uncertainty," Lhota said. "About 90 percent of our customers carry text-message enabled cell phones, so this is a big step forward to help make the lives of our customers a lot easier."

Borough President, Ruben Diaz Jr., said he thinks the service is very convenient, for a couple of reasons.

"I am happy to hear that MTA is expanding this service to the Bronx. Now bus riders in our borough will not have to rely on guess work and look into the distance to see when their bus is going to arrive," said Diaz.

"This service is very convenient and will provide commuters in our borough with up the minute information. That information will surely come in handy all year round, especially during the cold winter months."

President of MTA Bus Company and senior vice president of New York City Transit's Department of Buses, Darryl Irick, said the program has really been a hit in Staten Island.

"It means a lot to a bus rider to be able to use the technology that they have in their pocket or on their desktop to determine how many stops away the next bus is," Irick said.



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## Vacca pushes for muni-meter legislation

Continuing his fight for parking fairness, Councilman James Vacca, chair of the Council's Transportation Committee, will be introducing legislation at the City Council Stated Meeting on Wednesday, February 1.

The bill would allow drivers who purchase muni-meter time at one location, to use the remaining time at a different muni-meter location.

New York City Department of Transportation officials have already

stated that drivers who have time left on a muni-meter receipt can use that time elsewhere.

However, judges and traffic enforcement agents have disagreed with this policy, forcing drivers to pay tickets when they have attempted to use purchased muni-meter time in a different part of the city outside where the muni-meter time was initially purchased.

"New York City now raises over \$600 million a year from drivers through

parking tickets and fines. Many view the installation of muni-meters as another way for the city to increase revenue even though the city has consistently told us this was not the case. My legislation makes it clear that we will not be nickel and quartering drivers and they will be allowed to take excess time with them to their next location," Vacca said.

Councilman Vacca encourages his colleagues to co-sponsor this bill.





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## POPULAR COUNCILMAN ADDRESSES BRONX ROTARY



On Tuesday, November 8, Rotarian of the Day, Ann Ward, introduced Councilman Jimmy Vacca as the Bronx Rotary Club's guest speaker.

Pictured (l-) are Rotary president Debby Appel, Vacca and Ward.

## Pregones opens 32nd season in March

**Pregones Theater's** 32nd Season continues with the popular March Is Music series from Wed., Mar. 7, through Sun., Mar. 31.

This year's headliners are world-class exponents of contemporary percussion—Line C3, jazz fusion—Sabrina Lastman, Latin jazz—Bobby Sanabria, and Afro-Latino musicality—Baile Cangrejero, an original ensemble play by Pregones.

Seven concerts and dialogues for all ages! The series kicks off with a free event and tickets for all other shows start at \$12 for residents of 12 select zip codes in the Bronx, East Harlem, and Washington Heights.

All performances are at Pregones Theater, 575 Walton Avenue. Event calendar and online ticket sales at [www.pregones.org](http://www.pregones.org) or by phone at (718) 585-1202.

\*\*\*

**The Lehman College Chamber Players** will perform works by Prokofiev, Brahms, and Dvorak on Wed., Feb. 15, at 12:30 pm. The public is invited to this free concert, which will be held in the Recital Hall located on the third floor of the Music Building. Seating is limited.

Featured will be the critically acclaimed cellist Andre Emelianoff, who is on the faculty of the Juilliard School and Lehman College; violinist Paul Roczek, professor of violin at the Mozarteum, in Salzburg, Austria; and pianist Diana Mittler-Battipaglia, professor of music and choral director at Lehman College.

The program will include Prokofiev's lively Sonata in D Major opus 94 for violin and piano, Brahms' dramatic Sonata in E minor opus 38 for cello and piano, and Dvorak's colorful "Dumky" Trio op. 90.

Lehman campus is located on Goulden Avenue and Bedford Park Boulevard West. Parking is available for a \$5 fee.

For more information on the

concert call (718) 960-8247.

\*\*\*

In celebration of Black History Month, **Lehman College** will pay tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. with its annual lecture on Wed., Feb. 15, at 11 .m. On Thurs., Feb. 16, at 12:30 pm, actor and author Tayo Aluko will present *From Black Africa to the White House*, a one-man show about Black political resistance. Both events, which are free and open to the community, will take place in the Lovinger Theatre.

Reverend Alfonso Wyatt, vice president and project director of the Jericho Faith-Based Technical Assistance Project, will deliver the keynote address at the Annual Martin Luther King Jr., Lecture. He has thirty years experience working as an educator, counselor, program developer, administrator, mentor and advocate. In addition, he has served as an advisor to government, foundations, religious institutions, universities, youth-serving organizations, and non-profits from around the country.

Tayo Aluko illustrates, with spirituals, the Black political resistance in *From Black Africa to the White House*. To date, he has performed the work in three continents. He is most known for his work on *Call Mr. Robeson*, which won the Argus Angel Award for Artistic Excellence and Best Male Performer Award at the 2008 Brighton Festival Fringe, and two Merit Awards for Excellence in London in 2010. Born in Nigeria, Aluko lives in Liverpool.

Lehman is located at Goulden Avenue and Bedford Park Boulevard. Attended parking is available for \$5.

For more information, call (718) 960-8801, or e-mail [urban.male@lehman.cuny.edu](mailto:urban.male@lehman.cuny.edu).

\*\*\*

**Lehman Center for the Performing Arts** celebrates its 31st season with Tschaikowski St. Petersburg Symphony Orchestra and pianist Alexandre Pirojenko on Sun., Feb. 19, at 3 pm.

The Tschaikowski, St. Petersburg Symphony Orchestra was founded in the years following World War II. During this time the Orchestra successfully worked in different musical genres and received broad acknowledgement and popularity throughout Russia. In the course of the history of the Orchestra it has worked with many of the outstanding conductors from the St. Petersburg Conducting School. The Orchestra has undergone much change since its inception, including a change of name and leadership but through all this time it has been developing its repertoire strengths and building a devoted audience. The Orchestra's repertoire includes a range from baroque compositions by Vivaldi, Bach, Handel and contemporary compositions by Schnittke, Banchikov, Desyatnikov, Kancheli. The Orchestra is at home in the works of famous Russian Romantic composers (Tschaikowski, Rachmaninoff) to the classical composers of the 20th Century (Honegger, Poulenc, Hindemith, Stravinsky). The Orchestra performs in the best St. Petersburg Halls, such as the Dmitry Shostakovich St. Petersburg Philharmonic Grand Hall, State Academic Capella, Smolny Cathedral, and City Cultural Center. The Orchestra tours regularly all over the world and has had successful concert tours in Europe, China and Japan.

Many of Russia's legendary and most distinguished soloists and conductors have worked with the Orchestra over the past several decades including Montserrat Caballé, Sviatoslav Richter, Elena Obrastsova, Yevgeni Nesterenko, Yuri Egorov and Viktor Tretiyakov.

Lehman Center for the Performing Arts is on the campus of Lehman College/CUNY at 250 Bedford Park Boulevard West. Tickets are \$40, \$35, \$25 and \$10 tickets for Children 12 and under, and can be purchased by calling (718) 960-8833.



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8:30 am – 2:00 pm

#### Tuesday, February 14

BronxWorks Senior Center  
8:30 am – 1:30 pm  
200 West Tremont Avenue  
Bronx, NY 10453

#### Thursday, February 16

North Campus (Carpenter Rd. Auditorium)  
8:30 am – 2:00 pm  
600 East 233rd Street  
Bronx, NY 10466

#### Upcoming Health Seminars

#### Monday, February 13

*Nursing Implications for Heart Failure*  
Weiler Campus - 8th Floor, 7:30 am  
1825 Eastchester Road  
Bronx, NY 10461

*Heart Month Lecture Series*  
Pennington Elementary School  
20 Fairway Street  
Mount Vernon, NY 10552

#### Tuesday, February 14

*Cardiology Grand Rounds*  
Moses Campus - Cherkasky Auditorium  
7:30 – 8:30 am  
111 East 210th Street  
Bronx, NY 10467

#### Heart Month Lecture Series

Grant Elementary School, 9:00 am  
250 East 164th Street (Morris Avenue)  
Bronx, NY 10456

#### Exercise and Heart Failure

BronxWorks Senior Center, 1:30 pm  
200 West Tremont Avenue  
Bronx, NY 10453

#### Thursday, February 16

*Nutrients for Heart Health*  
North Campus, 11:00 am – 1:00 pm

#### Heart Health Lecture

North Campus  
Noon and 1:30 pm



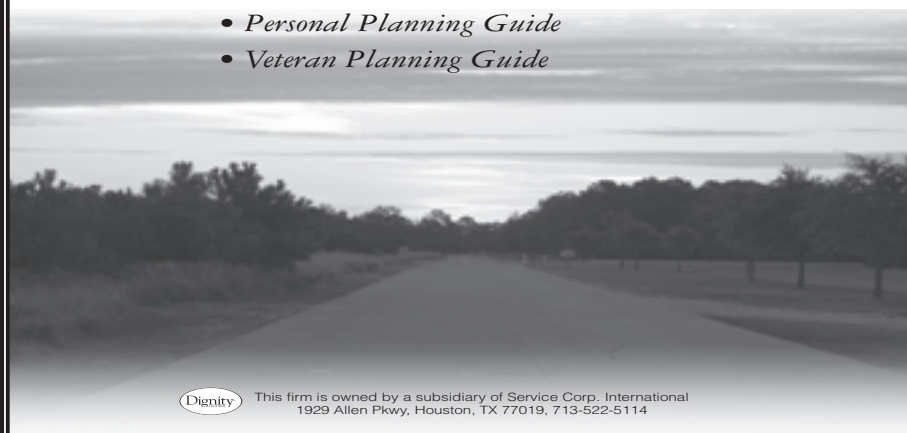
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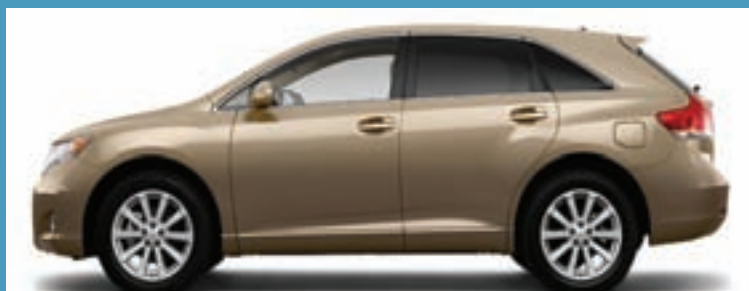
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Photo by Patrick Rocchio

Speaking during the announcement of the Lincoln Art Exchange were (l-r) NYC Health and Hospitals Corporation president and CEO Alan Aviles, Hip-hop artist and radio personality Roxanne Shante, and Lincoln Medical and Mental Health Center executive director Iris Jimenez-Hernandez.

# 'Lincoln Art Exchange' at medical center kicks off

BY PATRICK ROCCHIO

Lincoln Hospital has launched a new program that will allow artists to barter their time and talent for needed health care.

In an announcement on Monday, January 23 in the Lincoln Medical and Mental Health Center's main lobby, located at 234 E. 149th Street, New York City Health and Hospital Corporation president and CEO Alan Aviles was joined by Lincoln Hospital executive director Iris Jimenez-Hernandez, Tony Award-winning actor and playwright Lin-Manuel Miranda, Radio Personality Roxanne Shante, Bronx Council on the Arts director Deirdre Scott, and representatives from the Bronx Museum, Teatro Pregones, Communitlife, The Actor's Fund, and the local artist community for the announcement of the start of the Lincoln Art Exchange program.

The program allows artists of all disciplines the opportunity to exchange and barter their creative services for medical care, and is designed to address the growing number of freelance and independent artists who cannot afford to

enroll in health care plans and have become an at-risk population lacking access to quality health care, according to Lincoln.

"I am pleased to announce that, as of January 2012, uninsured New York City artists will be able to trade their artistic talents for health care at Lincoln Hospital," Aviles said. "This invaluable initiative is an effort aimed at reducing health disparities and improving health outcomes among our artists. In this effort, the collective participation of our partners is an important element in identifying and recruiting artists that will benefit from our program."

As part of the Lincoln Art Exchange Program, uninsured artists will trade their creative talents for medical care by working with hospital staff on everything from holding dance recitals to painting murals in Lincoln's clinics and inpatient units, Jimenez-Hernandez said.

"We are reaching out to our local artist community and engaging them in supporting and in working with us and our patients," said Jimenez-Hernandez of

Lincoln's Artist Exchange Program.

Lin-Manuel Miranda, who was a star of the Broadway musical "In the Heights" and has helped start a suicide prevention program in Brooklyn, said that the program is very innovative and takes into account the lives that many artists lead.

"What is fantastic about this program is that it is really created taking into account the life of an artist," Miranda said. "These are non binding agreements. You donate you time and you donate your services in exchange for medical care which is something that many, many artists all over the city and all of the country don't have. It could be anything from a dance recital to a yoga class to an art class."

A good aspect of the program is that it affords the artist needed flexibility, as many artist require flexible hours so they can do things like attend auditions as they are called, Miranda stated.

"The fact that you can tailor your time with the

*Continued on page 34*

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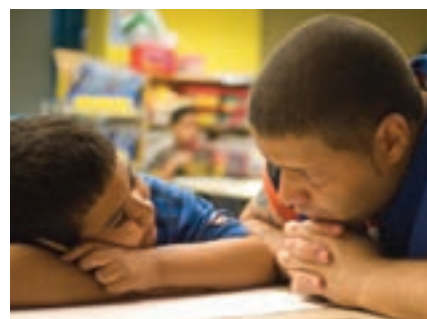
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FIRE HITS BARTHOLDI STREET



Photos By Kevin Heckman

FDNY removed three civilians from a fire on the second floor of a two-family home at 795 Bartholdi Street, on Thursday, January 26. A spokesperson for the FDNY said the cause of the fire is still under investigation.



(Above, right) After being checked by EMS, one of the residents was released. Two others were taken to Jacobi Medical Center, where one was treated for smoke inhalation and the other for a non-life threatening injury. Two firefighters were also treated for minor injuries.



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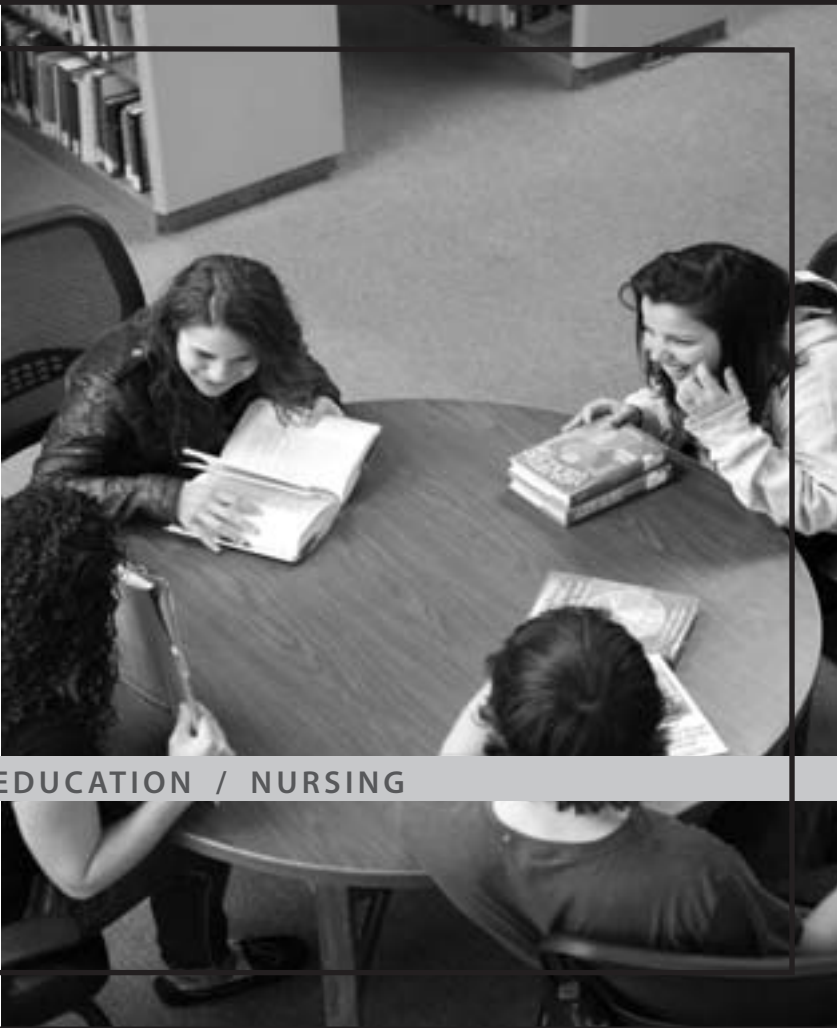
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## 40th PCT.

**TUES, JAN. 17th, 11:45 a.m.** – 728 East 149 St. Police are looking for a male culprit who removed property from a store without permission. The unknown thief fled before police could arrive.

## 41st PCT.

**SUN, JAN. 15th, 10:05 a.m.** – 1034 St. John's Ave. An infant was rushed to Lincoln Medical Center in an unconscious state. The one year old baby was pronounced dead upon arrival at the hospital. Authorities indicated that the death was not suspicious.

**TUES, JAN. 17th, 2:10 p.m.** – 904 Prospect Ave. Police investigators are looking for a Hispanic male believed to be in his twenties. The unknown male culprit robbed a drug store at gun point. The thief fled with six bottles of vicodin besides five hundred dollars in cash.

## 42nd PCT.

**FRI, JAN. 13th, 11:50 p.m.** – 3273 Third Ave. Emergency responders were summoned after a sidewalk collapsed. A 25 year old black male fell some ten feet. Once rescued, the man was taken to Lincoln Medical Center and was provided with medical assistance.

## 43rd PCT.

**FRI, JAN. 13th, 8:10 a.m.** – 1497 Westchester Ave. A search was conducted for two Hispanic males. The unknown armed male pair robbed a store clerk of seven-hundred dollars in cash before fleeing.

**FRI, JAN. 13th, 10:05 p.m.** – Lurting Ave. and East Tremont Ave. While recovering another unregistered gun, local police officers arrested a teenager. Taken into custody was an 18 year old black male. Vouched was a 32-caliber pistol as evidence for the pending court procurers.

**SAT, JAN. 14th, 1:25 p.m.** – 1489 Metropolitan Ave. Police officers were alerted to a bank robbery that occurred in the Parkchester community. Responding police officers relayed that a Caucasian male about 50 years old robbed the bank of six-hundred dollars.

**SAT, JAN. 14th, 2:40 p.m.** – 1498 Westchester Ave. Detectives are looking into a reported armed robbery. The armed culprit displayed a gun while robbing a commercial establishment.

**MON, JAN. 16th, 10:20 a.m.** – 706 Castle Hill Ave. An investigation was launched after authorities learned about a burglary. Responding police officers found



# POLICE BLOTTER

out that an unknown person broke into a pharmacy. Several thousand dollars in cash was taken from the cash register besides an unknown amount of drugs. The inquiry is in the hands of local sleuths.

**TUES, JAN. 17th, 4:45 p.m.** – 1255 Castle Hill Ave. A search was conducted for a man who attempted to rob a branch of Citi-bank. The would-be thief simulated that he was armed with a gun when he ordered a teller to give him some money. The teller fainted and the culprit fled empty handed.

## 44th PCT.

**THURS, JAN. 12th, 1:00 p.m.** – 1145 University Ave. Police investigators are looking into stabbing that occurred in the Highbridge section. A 19 year old black male was suffering from a stab wound to the abdomen area where found by first responders. The wound was reported to be not life threatening.

**THURS, JAN. 12th, 6:05 p.m.** – Police officials arrested two suspects in connection with an inquiry concerning the slashing of teens.

**SUN, JAN. 15th, 1:35 a.m.** – 156 East 171 St. Three unknown males pushed their way into a home. The culprits fled with a Play-Station 3 authorities indicated. The occupant escaped injuries.

**SUN, JAN. 15th, 4:25 a.m.** – Grand Concourse and East 161 St. A teenager was taken into custody after found with a gun. The 18 year old Hispanic male had a 32-caliber revolver taken away from him.

**MON, JAN. 16th, 5:30 a.m.** – 230 East 167 St. Police investigators are looking into the death of a Hispanic man. The Latino victim, believed to be in his twenties, was found hanging in the building's basement. Investigators are waiting for the results of the Medical Examiner's Autopsy report to assist with their inquiry.

**MON, JAN. 16th, 10:35 a.m.** – 1405 College Ave. A suspect was arrested in what appears to be a love triangle. A 42 year old black male was stabbed in the left arm by a male who found the victim with his girlfriend. The victim was transported to Lincoln Medical

Center as the suspect was transported to the police station for questioning.

## 45th PCT.

**FRI, JAN. 13th, 10:00 a.m.** – 2804 Schley Ave. Two arrests were made as police officers took another gun off of Throggs Neck street. With the arrest of a 19 year old black female and a 20 year old black male authorities were able to voucher a 380-caliber pistol.

**SAT, JAN. 14th, 5:00 p.m.** – 4327 East Tremont Ave. Police officers responded to a Throggs Neck cell-phone store. Two black males entered the store and at gunpoint robbed the facility. The pair fled before police were summoned.

**SUN, JAN. 15th, 10:55 p.m.** – 330 Baychester Ave. Detectives are looking for the person who broke into a store in the Baychester Shopping Center. The unknown thief broke into Staples. An inventory was being taken to ascertain what property was taken during the break-in.

**MON, JAN. 16th, 8:30 p.m.** – 2089 Bartow Ave. Police are looking for the person who robbed a Co-op City store. An unknown black female at gun point robbed the T-Mobile store of 40 cell-phones and six hundred dollars in cash. No injuries were reported.

## 46th PCT.

**WED, JAN. 11th, 8:05 p.m.** – 1535 University Ave. A 20 year old black female was transported to St Barnabas Hospital. The woman had been shot in the right leg by an unknown person. The female victim was reported in stable condition.

**SAT, JAN. 14th, 3:00 a.m.** – Walton Ave. Authorities are looking for two males who attacked a male inside a females home near East 181 St. A male victim had met a female over the Internet. He went to the female's home. Two males knock on the female's apartment door and permitted entry. The pair attacks the visiting male who then requires medical attention. The injured male was transported to St. Barnabas Hospital suffering from various lacerations. Local detec-

tives are handling the inquiry.

**SAT, JAN. 14th, 5:05 a.m.** – 211 East Tremont Ave. Police investigators are looking into a shooting. A 27 year old Hispanic male was shot in the buttocks. The victim was transported to St. Barnabas Hospital. Now local sleuths will conduct the investigation.

**SUN, JAN. 15th, 2:05 a.m.** – 2407 Valentine Ave. Responding police officers found two victims of a shooting. A Hispanic male was transported to St. Barnabas Hospital suffering from a bullet wound to the face. Another Hispanic male, age 19, was removed to Jacobi Medical Center with a bullet wound to the leg.

**SUN, JAN. 15th, 2:20 a.m.** – Grand Concourse and East 187 St. Another person was arrested after police removed a gun from their possession. The weapon was vouched as evidence for the pending court case.

**SUN, JAN. 15th, 12:55 p.m.** – 1889 Sedgwick Ave. A 26 year old Hispanic male was arrested after he failed to obtain the proper license to own a gun in NYC. Taken away from the male suspect and vouched as evidence was a 45-caliber semi-automatic pistol.

**MON, JAN. 16th, 3:20 p.m.** – 1775 Davidson Ave. With an arrest, police officers were able to voucher a 357-caliber revolver.

## 47th PCT.

**WED, JAN. 11th, 4:00 a.m.** – 4352 White Plains Rd. Police officials were made aware that an unknown person had broken into a commercial premise. The unknown culprit broke through the rear section of the building. Before fleeing, all the money was removed from a cash register. Detectives are conducting the inquiry.

**WED, JAN. 11th, 3:55 p.m.** – 3246 Olinville Ave. An elderly emotionally depressed woman kept police at bay for a while. The 70 year old black woman threatened officials with 'repercussions' if they forced their way into her home. Authorities requested the additional assistance of members from the police department's Hostage Negotiation Team, technical assist and response Unit, besides additional Emergency Service Squad units. The waiting started and once the woman was in custody she was taken to North Central Hospital for help.

**WED, JAN. 11th, 9:30 p.m.** – 717 East 213 St. Two more suspects were arrested after police officers recovered an unregistered revolver. Taken away from the pair was a 38-caliber revolver.

**THURS, JAN. 12th, 6:40 p.m.** – 3345 Seymour Ave. Emergency responders came to the 15

year old black male. The young teenager was found suffering from a bullet wound to the chest area. The injured teen was transported to Jacobi Medical Center for care.

**FRI, JAN. 13th, 1:05 p.m.** – 2020 Pitman Ave. Authorities are looking for two black males who attempted to rob a neighborhood store. At gunpoint the pair demanded money but fled the store empty handed on foot.

**SUN, JAN. 15th, 11:15 a.m.** – 743 East 243 St. An unconscious baby was taken to Montefiore Hospital. The three month old baby despite medical assistance expired at 11:40 a.m. Officials indicated that the dead was not suspicious.

**MON, JAN. 16th, 1:20 a.m.** – 4744 White Plains Rd. A search was conducted for the person who fired a gun. Responding police officers found that the bullets caused property damage only.

## 49th PCT.

**WED, JAN. 11th, 2:55 a.m.** – 1740 Wallace Ave. Emergency units responded after receiving reports that a chimney had collapsed. After an on-site inspection city building inspectors deemed the building to be safe.

**FRI, JAN. 13th, 3:40 p.m.** – 2770 Fish Ave. Authorities are reviewing an incident where a police officer had fired a shot. As result of the initial incident two suspects were arrested as police officers also were able to remove from possible street use, two more guns were vouched.

**FRI, JAN. 13th, 10:25 p.m.** – 2810 Olinville Ave. Police investigators are looking into an incident where a teenager had been shot. A 19 year old black male was shot in the right leg. The victim was transported to Jacobi Medical Center and reported to be in stable condition.

**SAT, JAN. 14th, 6:35 a.m.** – 660 Arnov Ave. A baby sitter who left a 2-year child home alone summoned police. The baby sitter was left watching a two-year old child. Apparently the babysitter decided that an item was needed from a nearby store and left the child home alone. Upon returning home the two-year old child was missing. Police were called and additional police officers were dispatched into the area. The baby was found in the safe arms of its mother.

**SUN, JAN. 15th, 8:55 p.m.** – 2141 Holland Ave. A 21 year old Hispanic male required medical attention after being shot. The young man was suffering from a bullet wound to the butt upon arriving at Jacobi Medical Center. Local detectives are going to handle the inquiry.

## 52nd PCT.

**MON, JAN. 16th, 4:10 p.m.** – Jerome Ave. and Kingsbridge Rd. A 43 year old male had his evening plans changed by local police officers. The man was arrested after he was found in possession of a 380-caliber semi-automatic pistol. The gun was vouched as evidence.

## Housing

**THURS, JAN. 12th, 6:50 a.m.** – 800 Sound View Ave. Police officers from Housing's PSA # 8 arrested two persons who failed to have a gun properly registered in NYC. The 45-caliber semi-automatic pistol was vouched as evidence by the arresting officers.

## Fire Log

**MON, JAN. 16th, 5:00 a.m.** – 2363 Valentine Ave. First responders were called to a building where they found an unconscious person. The victim was located inside an apartment causing the building to be evacuated. Additional police officers were dispatched to the scene. High levels of carbon monoxide forced the evacuation of an apartment building in the Fordham section near East 184 St. Engine 75 who responding to the medical assist call requested additional fire units to respond. Firefighters assisted nearly 100 residents who were temporarily evacuated from the apartment house. Carbon monoxide levels exceeding 300 parts per million seeped through the structure. Twelve of the residents were treated at Jacobi Medical Center for exposure. Their injuries were not considered life threatening. Upon checking, officials indicated that the carbon monoxide may have come from a store attached to the apartment building. The levels dropped after building's windows were opened. Some of the residents were put into the Fire Department's Mobile Respiratory Treatment Unit to keep warm.

**MON, JAN. 16th, 6:41 p.m.** – 724 Hunts Point Ave. A three alarm fire damaged an Associated Supermarket near Faile St. Battalion 3 arriving at the incident scene indicated that the firefighters would be faced with a working fire. Engine 94 and Ladder 48 were the first to arrive followed by Engine 82. Engine 73 and Ladder 42 filled out the initial response. Along with Engine 50, Tower Ladder 31, Rescue 3 along with Squad 41 filled out the first alarm assignment. Battalion 3 ordered Tower Ladder 31 to be ready to use their bucket to help contain the spreading flames in the 100 by 200 foot structure as the chief set up for an exterior attack. Within 8 minutes, Division 6 transmitted a second alarm which brought Engines 71, 45, 92, and 60 with Ladder 29 and 19 to the fire scene, in addition to several specialized units. All firefighters were withdrawn from the roof and within the building so that an exterior attack could begin. Two hose lines were turned onto the flames as ladder crew continued to search for extension of the blaze. Shortly after 7 p.m. the smoke-eaters located the fire in the rear of the building. Four hose lines were placed into operation as the fire crews continued with an interior attack. A third alarm was transmitted around 7:30 p.m. which saw six more units respond to assist with the extinguishment operation before the fire was declared under control. Officials declared the fire suspicious and requested fire marshals to respond.



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# Housing opens for aging out foster kids



Photo by Patrick Rocchio

Vicinitas Hall, pictured, is located at 507 E. 176th Street.

BY PATRICK ROCCHIO

One of the first buildings in the city dedicated mostly to housing young adults who are aging out of the foster care system, as well as young LGBTQ community members, has opened.

Vicinitas Hall, a 67-unit seven-story building, with studio apartments primarily for 18 to 20-year-olds who are leaving the foster care system, is now occupied by young people who have just started living independent lives with the help of supportive social services located in the building, said Alissa Kampner-Rudin, chief operating officer for Lantern Community Services. Vicinitas Hall is located at 507 E. 176th Street.

The building was constructed under Mayor Bloomberg's New Housing Marketplace Plan to finance 165,000 units of affordable housing by the close of fiscal year 2014. It is the result of a partnership between the state Office of Temporary Housing and Disability Assistance, the Department of Housing Preservation and Development, and non-profit developer Lantern Group.

"For some of the most vulnerable New Yorkers a quality,

affordable home is the touchstone that can lead to a path of stability in their lives," said Mathew Wambua, HPD commissioner. "Vicinitas Hall is a place where young adults who have aged out of the foster care system can find that stability in a safe and supportive environment. I thank the Lantern Group for their continued dedication to providing affordable housing to those most in need, the New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance, and all of our partners who have helped to make this day a reality."

The project has been in the works for five or six years from the planning phase to its recent opening, about two years longer than is usual for projects developed by the Lantern Group, Kampner-Rudin stated.

Supportive housing for a population that is aging out of foster care is key to making sure that the group does not wind up homeless, said Elizabeth Berlin, executive deputy commissioner of OTDA. The building also houses young LGBTQ community members who may have come to New York City in search of a better life but could

*Continued on page 34*



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3BR 2BA 1,296+/- sf. Approx .16ac lot.

**BAY SHORE, NY** • 11 W William St  
3BR 1BA 1,250+/- sf. Approx .26ac lot.

**BROOKLYN, NY** • 148 Cozine Ave 1-Aa  
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# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## A clearer message

**Dear editor:**

On Monday, January 30, New York State Department of Health will launch a media campaign ad entitled "What's Worse" to promote smoking cessation and the New York State Smokers' Quitline.

The goal of this ad is an appeal to smokers to keep making the attempt to quit for the sake of their loved ones. What's Worse focuses on a woman's reacting to the diagnosis of lung cancer from her doctor, who is now forced to tell her young children. "What could be worse hearing this from your doctor or saying it to your children?"

It calls attention to the real health consequences of smoking and how it affects not only the smoker, but the family as well. Will this ad motivate smokers to quit? We sincerely hope so!

**Cynthia Blount  
Bronx BREATHEs**

## Republicans are ok

**Dear editor,**

This is in response to Ken Reynold's' letter to the editor entitled, Why Does Al Hate All Republicans?

Contrary to popular belief, I do not hate all Republicans. I knew Guy Velella and Vincent Velella for over 60 years. As a matter of fact, I wrote the article Guy Was An Inspiration upon Guy Velella's death in 2011.

Despite being a Republican, Guy Velella knew no political boundaries when it came to helping his constituencies, as both an assemblyman and senator.

**Al Agovino, Jr.**

## Santorum family suffers

**Dear editor,**

GOP presidential candidate Rick Santorum and his wife are in a severe crisis right now, concerning their three year old daughter, now hospitalized and seriously ill.

Politics and differences are now set aside. At any time of crisis, we as good Americans, as good people, wish the best for those affected, regardless if they are the opposition, regardless of political differences.

**Michael S. Wilbekin**

## Making ends meet

**Dear editor,**

As tax time approaches this year, I wanted to make sure you were aware of the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), an important resource for many working families. The EITC is a vital program that helps millions of New Yorkers to make ends meet. Unfortunately, each year up to 25% of eligible individuals miss out on this important tax credit. I wanted to make sure you didn't join those who let this opportunity pass by.

Any family who earns \$49,078 or less may be eligible for the EITC, depending on marital status and family size. Last year in New York State, the average federal refund for eligible

individuals and families was \$2,163. You can also file for this credit whether or not you are a citizen- as long as you have either a Social Security number OR an Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN). To find out if you are eligible for the EITC, please visit [www.irs.gov/eitc](http://www.irs.gov/eitc).

Additionally, if you earn less than \$50,000, you may also be eligible for free tax preparation assistance offered by Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Clinics throughout the Bronx. VITA clinics are run by non-profit organizations who can help you claim the EITC, as well as any other tax credit you are eligible for. In order to find the location nearest to you, visit [http://www.nyc.gov/html/ofe/html/policy\\_and\\_programs/freetaxsite.shtml](http://www.nyc.gov/html/ofe/html/policy_and_programs/freetaxsite.shtml), or call 311 and ask about tax preparation assistance.

**Congressman Serrano**

## Redistricting plan has Common Cause in a fit

**Dear editor,**

Common Cause/NY's (CC) castigation of the draft redistricting plan is wrong on a few counts.

The Assembly plan preserved 65 districts in NYC and added one seat to Long Island bringing it to 22 districts.

The population decline upstate coupled with the population growth on LI necessitated the additional district going there. This resulted in two upstate Republicans and two Buffalo-area legislators (Democrat and one GOP) being placed in the same districts, respectively. CC omits mentioning that six open seats were created (i.e., have no incumbent). I feel funny using these racial/ethnic identifiers, but the draft plan creates three Asian districts (ADs 24, 25, 49); 17 Hispanic districts; and 15 African American districts. The Assembly plan also holds the standard population deviation to below +/-4.0%. Albeit, CC, other good government advocates and Gov. Cuomo, wanted it held to +/-1.0%, the practicalities of the Voting Rights Act and the state constitution required a higher population deviation. Admittedly, the entire GOP plan is partisan, yet legal. The plan draws Democratic districts in Queens. During the last two election cycles, Republican incumbents were defeated.

Yes, in a juvenile pique, they cut Gianaris

out of his district. But in politics, "boys will be boys." The "Asian" SD probably caused the shift that now pits two white incumbents. But I recall CC stating its opposition to any plan that protects white incumbents at the expense of minority opportunity districts. Plus, CC and other goo-goo groups have long insisted that lines be drawn irrespective of legislators residences.

The senate plan does that, albeit, in Queens and Brooklyn only. The only legal solution is to amend the state constitution, as NYC amended its Charter to create its successful independent redistricting commission. In the meantime, NYers who object should file their complaints at the upcoming LATFOR hearings. I believe the districts will be amended and approved by Gov. Cuomo.

If we can't make a silk purse out of a sow's ear, why expect the political process to produce a thing of beauty and perfection. Without bad, there'd be no good or "goo-goos."

**Michael Benjamin**

## Mr. Agovino's America

**Dear editor,**

Apparently even expressing an opinion, (i.e., in my estimation) about the use of a word, not a person, is not to be tolerated in Mr. Agovino's America.

In fact, it justifies retaliation in the form of personal attacks on an individual whom he has never met.

It's also curious that Mr. Agovino knows what I would do in a given situation, a real feat, since I, myself, often don't know what I would or wouldn't do.

Dangerous? I'd say endangered species; someone who won't be bullied into bowing before the altar of Obamamania.

As for the Archie Bunker reference; if only I were of that ilk, I would be thrilled to star in a show, make millions of dollars, and pay my fair share of taxes.

I will no longer respond to any of Mr. Agovino's letters, since I truly believe that his words will land his unfounded musings in the no credibility zone.

**Carmela Albano**

## Gas hikes in horizon

**Dear editor,**

In this poor economy, with high unemployment, they are predicting \$4 to \$5 a gallon of gas by Memorial Day.

If this comes to fruition, businesses and corporations will pass the costs to consumers that are already having problems surviving in New York.

Higher fuel costs could lead to possible lay offs; and don't forget about the TBTA raising tolls in 2013 and possibly the MTA raising fares.

We should contact our elected officials who are deeply sympathetic with the hardships of their constituents and thank them for making traveling around and living in New York such a real pleasure.

**Robert Neglia**

**MORE LETTERS ON PAGE 22**

# BRONX Times

*Founded in 1981 by*  
**MICHAEL BENEDETTO  
AND JOHN COLLAZZI**

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## Let us hear from you

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

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## PUBLIC NOTICE

### CITY OF NEW YORK DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING PRESERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

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 City of New York ("City") has a proposal to sell the following City-owned property ("Disposition Area") in the Borough of the Bronx:

Addresses	Blocks/Lots
1664 Davidson Avenue	2861/10
1694 Davidson Avenue	2861/21
1702 Davidson Avenue	2861/50

The City previously conveyed the Disposition Area to Bronx Heights Neighborhood Community Corporation and re-acquired the Disposition Area through mortgage foreclosure.

Under the proposed project, the City will sell the Disposition Area, which contains three occupied buildings with 69 dwelling units plus one superintendent's unit, to Bronx Pro Real Estate Management, Inc. ("Sponsor") for the nominal price of one dollar per building. Sponsor will be required to remove all Housing Code violations and provide housing for low income households. The buildings will be subject to rent stabilization.

The appraisal and the Deed and Project Summary are available for public examination at the office of HPD, 100 Gold Street, Room 9C-11 New York, New York on business days during business hours.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a public hearing will be held on February 22, 2012 at Second Floor Conference Room, 22 Reade Street, Manhattan 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.

**NYC**  
Department of  
Housing Preservation  
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nyc.gov/hpd

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Mayor

MATHEW M. WAMBUA  
Commissioner

# Bronx beat

## Prof. Burke historic journals president

Professor Martin J. Burke of **Lehman College's History Department**, a specialist in American intellectual and cultural history as well as the history of Ireland, has been elected president of the Conference of Historical Journals (CHJ), the professional association for the editors of historical journals. Since 2006, he has been executive co-editor of the Journal of the History of Ideas, the oldest and most prestigious international journal in intellectual history. For the last four years, he has served on the CHJ's Executive Board; and has also been a member of the Council of Editors of Learned Journals (CELJ).

Founded in 1982, the CHJ is the umbrella organization for over 100 history journals published in the United States and the United Kingdom and is an affiliated society of the American Historical Association (AHA).

In addition to holding a regular meeting for members at the AHA's annual conference, the CHJ promotes members' journals and organizes discussions on issues as varied as plagiarism and the transition from print to online formats. For the 2013 conference, to be held in New Orleans, Prof. Burke is organizing a jointly sponsored panel session with the AHA's Research Division on peer review and the consequences of open access policies.

Besides journal articles on a variety of topics, he has published three books: *Why Concepts Matter: Translating Political and Social Thought* (Leiden: Brill, 2011); a critical edition of John Quincy Adams's *Dermot MacMorrough, or the Conquest of Ireland*

(Washington: Maunsel, 2005); and *The Conundrum of Class: Public Discourse on the Social Order in America* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1995). His research has been funded by grants from the American Antiquarian Society, the Library Company of Philadelphia, Notre Dame University, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the U.S. Department of Education and the PSC-CUNY awards program.

Prof. Burke holds an A.B. in history from The City College of New York and both an A.M. and Ph.D. in American Culture from the University of Michigan. He has been a Junior Fellow at Institute of Irish Studies of the Queen's University of Belfast, a Fulbright Lecturer at the University of Florence and the National University of Ireland, Galway, and a member of the Society of Fellows at the University of Chicago.

**NYC Department of Sanitation** Commissioner John J. Doherty announced that the Department collected 147,961 discarded Christmas trees at curbside across the city from Tuesday, January 3 through Saturday, January 14. The trees were turned into mulch that will be spread upon parks, community gardens and open spaces citywide.

In addition, Parks & Recreation's 15th annual Mulchfest recycled a record-setting 24,231 trees on Saturday, January 7 and Sunday, January 8. The number of trees chipped at Mulchfest this year was 616 trees greater than the total for 2010.

The total number of discarded

Christmas trees collected and chipped by the City this year was 172,192.

**Municipal Credit Union** has launched a new mobile banking application for members. The new NYMCU Mobile Banking app enables members to bank on the go 24/7 from their iPhone, iPad, and iPod Touch.

The NYMCU Mobile Banking app allows members to safely and securely manage their accounts, check balances, transfer funds between accounts, and even find the closest branch and ATM in MCU's extensive network. The mobile banking app is part of the Credit Union's efforts to increase its convenience to members and expand its offerings of high-tech services, according to Steve Kibitel, MCU's Vice President of Marketing. "We believe MCU's new mobile banking app will also help us attract new members, especially younger members who are comfortable with and often prefer to use digital technologies to conduct all types of transactions, including banking," Kibitel added.

The NYMCU Mobile Banking app is available free from the iTunes® app store.

Sarah Nia Archer-Days, a first year at **Dickinson College** in Carlisle, Pa., has been named to the Dean's List for the fall 2011 semester. She is a graduate of Preston High School.

All students earning a position on the Dean's List, a recognition of academic excellence, must have a grade point average of 3.7 or above on a 4.0 GPA scale for the semester.

## BOB HOPE FOUNDATION PRESENTS GRANT



Bea Castiglia-Catullo (2nd from left) is all smiles the day after the Bob Hope Foundation gave her a \$500,000 grant to help her start mobile soup kitchens for needy Bronxites. Joining her on Tuesday, December 13, were her fellow Bronx Rotarians.

BY FATHER  
RICHARD F. GORMAN

The Carriage House at our Town Hall Headquarters of Community Board 12 sees any number of gatherings and activities each and every week. This Saturday morning past, February 4, at 10 a.m., one of the saddest meetings ever called was convened. At the behest of our Assemblyman, The Honorable Carl E. Heastie, CB 12 opened our Town Hall Carriage House to him, Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz, Senator Ruth Hassell-Thompson, Councilman Larry B. Seabrook, District Attorney Robert T. Johnson, Commanding Officer of Patrol Borough Bronx Assistant Chief Carlos M. Gomez, a number of leaders of our local community-based organizations, and members of the public in order to discuss the tragic shooting of Ramarly Graham a few days prior and a mere stone's throw down East 229TH Street from Town Hall itself. I was proud to note the presence of nearly one-third of my community board colleagues along with our district manager, Carmen L. Rosa.

Palpably, and most understandably, emotions ran high and across the gamut from grief, compassion, anger, disappointment, and fear

## civic center

Community  
Board #12

to doubt and anxiety. The brief appearance towards the conclusion of the meeting by the parents of Ramarly Graham aroused particular feelings of loss and sympathy.

## A word to the wise

Nonetheless, discussion was civil, insightful, informative, and sometimes appropriately and brutally honest. It was a productive meeting despite the many still unanswered questions about this most unfortunate occurrence. The fact that, at the suggestion of one of most eminent local leaders, Alonzo I. deCastro, we conclude our gathering with a prayer, says a great deal about who and what we are as a decent and hope-filled people in CB 12.

While it would take many pages to recount the scores of astute and perceptive comments offered on Saturday morning, I respect-

fully suggest a few thoughts to guide us in the trying times that lie ahead in our neighborhood. First, the reservoir of good will that, by and large, the residents of CB 12 have for the New York City Police Department in general -- and for our own 47th Precinct in particular -- must be fostered and deepened. The people in our District know only too well that we have a genuinely obvious and longtime problem with illicit drugs and with gun violence in our area. We earnestly require the services and the resources of the N.Y.P.D. in order to confront these scourges and to banish them from our midst. More than the present-day quality of life in our locality, the very future of it is at stake. Correspondingly, the Police Department must re-affirm in real terms its professed policy that it is committed to partnering with the community in the war against crime. Long gone are the days of Community Policing and of Precinct Management Teams in which police officers and members of the public had face-to-face interaction. Many of us remember the names and the faces of our 47th Precinct police officers who walked beats on which they got to know us and to understand how they

might be of benefit. Perhaps, such approaches to policing might be branded as luxuries or as fancifully non-essential in the age of guarding against terrorism and maintaining the City of New York as the allegedly safest municipality in America. Nonetheless, they did have their value and they did produce tangible results. Community Policing has given way to the era of COMP-STAT, wherein statistics and supposedly non-existent, but well-known, Headquarters-imposed performance quotas prevail. Has this metamorphosis in policing strategy and tactics possibly led us to a point at which those in charge at City Hall and One Police Plaza should critically re-evaluate them? Do the statistics tell us the whole story that we should know or a story that interested parties in power want us to know? Do we want or need more numbers and documentation to tell us that we are safe or do we require and desire more numbers of police officers whose actual presence really makes us safe? I totally believe Assistant Chief Gomez when he says that the N.Y.P.D. is determined to conduct a full and impartial airing of all of the facts. If I may be so bold as to suggest a further point . . . . . maybe the police de-

partment's examination of this heartbreaking situation should include a questioning of its understanding of the myriad communities that it protects throughout the five boroughs and of its daily interaction with the residents of each of them. Moreover, the N.Y.P.D., along with all agencies of municipal government, must re-discover the four so-called "outer" boroughs and guarantee that their service to and of New Yorkers is the same outside of Manhattan as it is on the Island for the tourists coming to visit our home town.

The people have a right to have their voices heard. They should and must be able to express their points of view and emotions. How this is done, though, is the crux of the issue. Violence is completely out of the question. Unmitigated anger directed indiscriminately is not either as it and the dissemination of misinformation, either unintentionally in a haphazard fashion or deliberately, will not help matters. I echo and applaud the plea of 47th Precinct Council president Elizabeth Gill, who at our Saturday morning meeting poignantly implored that parties extrinsic to our neighborhood with interests and values not necessarily in alignment with ours not be

allowed to seize this moment and this misfortune for their own purposes and agenda. Such will not heal the loss to the family and the friends of Ramarly Graham. Such will not assist New York's Finest to be finer still in their already exemplary service to protect us. Such will not pilot the people of CB 12 is honestly assessing how we might work together to keep our children out of activities and associations that place them squarely in harm's way. The last several days have given us our fill of grief, disillusionment, and frustration. We deserve better and so we must reject those who would have us focus on our angst and anguish in order to exploit them in favor of our better instincts that impel us to the conviction that together we can make certain that crime and incidents such as the untimely death of Ramarly Graham do not afflict any resident or family in CB 12 ever again.

Please keep the family of Ramarly Graham in your prayers. Do likewise for our New York City Police Officers who bravely lay their life on the line every day for the great people of a great Borough and a great City. May God bless us all!

Until next time, that is it for this time!

## BCC Crime Scene Investigation course

With the rising popularity of television crime scene investigation programs such as CSI Miami and New York, Bones, and NCIS young people are finding careers on the scientific side of criminal justice attractive.

In the northern most borough of New York, a team of aspiring crime scene investigating middle and high school students are learning the fundamentals in a unique programs created by the Bronx Community College (BCC) Science and Technology Entry Program (STEP). A free New York State Education Department funded program STEP offers science and mathematics rich academic support and exploration for 7th - 12th graders. Students receive weekly Saturday workshops in grade appropriate math

and science disciplines that include: algebra, earth science, biology, chemistry, and calculus. "The goals of STEP are to help students gain mastery of science and mathematics concepts and to expose them to careers in the science and technology fields", said Iran Pelcyger the programs coordinator.

The BCC STEP program is excited to introduce their newest project the Bronx Community Crime Scene Investigation Unit (BCCSI). To provide students with hands on application and understanding of the core math and science skills principles, "BCCSI teaches students to apply science and criminal investigative research skills towards the solving of a fictitious 'murder mystery'", says Alex Simmons the concepts creator and

one of the program instructors. "Students use criminal forensic techniques to 'analyze' evidence, conduct interviews, and draw deductive conclusions based on the data obtained", continued Simmons. The interdisciplinary design of BCCSI incorporates Social Studies and Language Arts as integral components of the instructional design. Along with the scientific research and application students strengthen writing, vocabulary, and critical thinking skills.

Parents of students interested in science and technology or who could use support in mastering their grade level classes should contact Gene Adams at (718) 289-5952 or eugene.adams@bcc.cuny.edu for more information for enrollment in the BCC STEP program.

## COMPTROLLER CARES STAFF AT BAY EDEN SENIOR CTR.



(L-r) Comptroller John Liu and his Comptroller Cares staff Carlos Rodriguez, Bay Eden Senior Center executive director Michelle Parchment, Comptroller John Liu, Comptroller staff Ismael Malave, Comptroller staff Jason Laidley. The Comptroller Cares Bronx Team organized a day of food, dancing and festivities for the seniors at Bay Eden Senior Center.



# Bronx scene

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## Bronx Zoo to host Run for the Wild for lions

Calling all runners, walkers, and athletic hopefuls – it is time to lace-up your running shoes to prepare for New York City’s wildest race: the fourth annual Wildlife Conservation Society’s Run for the Wild at WCS’s Bronx Zoo.

This year’s 5k-run/walk takes place on Saturday, April 28, and is dedicated to saving lions, their habitat and other wildlife. The Wildlife Conservation Society works across Africa and in the native range of lions in places such as Queen Elizabeth National Park, Uganda, and Nigeria’s Yankari National Park.

WCS’s Run for the Wild registration is now open at [www.wcs.runforthewild.org](http://www.wcs.runforthewild.org). Registration for the run is \$35 for adults, \$25 for children (3 to 15), and \$25 for se-

niors (65+). Participants are encouraged to seek individual sponsors for their run, and all adult (and senior) participants are required to raise a minimum of at least \$30 in order to participate.

“The WCS Run for the Wild has become a favorite of New Yorkers and many have been participating annually since the beginning,” said John Calvelli, WCS executive vice president of Public Affairs. “We are anticipating another tremendous turn-out of runners, walkers, families, and wildlife enthusiasts – all of which will be doing their part to help save lions and other wildlife.”

Participants can choose from two different events. The 5k run for individual runners will begin at 8 a.m.; casual runners and walkers

can take part in the Family Fun Run/Walk at 8:45 a.m.

The event promises an exciting day for runners and walkers, and there will be plenty of post-run festivities including refreshments, music, children’s activities, and more.

After the run, participants are invited to stay and enjoy the zoo and its animal residents for the rest of the day. Everyone is encouraged to visit the Bronx Zoo’s famous African Plains exhibit where they can see African lions and many of their prey species like zebras, Thomson’s gazelles, nyala, giraffes, and more. There are many other wonderful exhibits to visit including Tiger Mountain, Madagascar!, Congo Gorilla Forest, and Jungle World. Complimentary park-

ing and admission will be provided.

Prizes will be awarded to those who meet various fundraising goals. For \$30 in pledges, runners will earn a WCS Run for the Wild T-shirt; \$60 earns a plush lion; \$125 earns a water bottle; \$275 earns a Jackrabbit Sports gift card and a New York Yankees cap; \$600 earns a gym bag; \$1500 earns a breakfast and a special Bronx Zoo animal experience. Visit [www.wcs.runforthewild.org](http://www.wcs.runforthewild.org) for the details.

The Wildlife Conservation Society works around the globe to save wildlife and wild places. Lions are an iconic species and symbolic of strength. Today, fewer than 30,000 remain. Over the last 50 years, their range has collapsed catastrophically to

a relatively small number of countries and protected areas. The lions of Asia have been all but wiped out. Today, Asiatic lions exist only on a single reserve, the Gir Forest in India. North Africa lost all of their lions a century ago and they have been steadily disappearing in other parts of the continent.

This event will sell out, so register early. For more information, to register, or to sponsor a runner/team, visit [www.wcs.runforthewild.org](http://www.wcs.runforthewild.org).

WCS’s Run for the Wild is made possible by the following generous sponsors: Presenting Sponsor: Con Edison; Featured Sponsors: Monroe College and Montefiore Medical Center; Supporting Sponsors: Stevia In The Raw, and UBS; and Media Partners: ABC7.

## Puppet making at Bronx Council

The Bronx Council on the Arts and the Huntington Free Library continue their 2011-2012 family-friendly craft workshop series at 12:30 p.m. on Saturday, February 18, at Westchester Square’s Huntington Free Library with a pre-holiday afternoon creating Greeting Cards with Laura Alvarez.

Have a fun-filled afternoon with puppet maker Lucrecia Novoa who will help you create a small puppet that you will be proud to display. All the supplies will be provided for you. Please bring family, friends and the desire to be creative. The workshop runs from 12:30 to 3 p.m. Admission is free and all are welcome. The Huntington Free Library is located at 9 Westchester

*Continued on page 18*

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New law report! The government is not here to judge how we live. Its role should be collecting taxes to make sure very basic societal needs are met: roads in good working order, street lights on, water, sewer and the allocation of funds in a sober, conservative and prudent way. Somehow government has grown so gargantuan that in Ohio they want to ban smoking in a car if there is a child of a certain age or younger.

On paper this is a nice thought but the implications are insidious. With all of its real problems many people had hoped this country might no longer waste time infringing on personal freedom. Cops are getting killed because of a court system hard on police and soft on crime but now they want law enforcement to judge from afar the age of children in a car, whether all the occupants are wearing seatbelts and to quickly access if anyone is holding a legal substance called a cigarette.

As the average cop is forced to become a literal highway nanny for the state, real crime in a lousy economy-an economy borne from

## rock on the bronx

by Fish Altieri

incompetents who already flout existing economic laws-violently grows around us.

Smoking in a car is not an issue that needs attention or solving. I would like to ban lawmakers creating fad issues while ignoring real problems. I would like government to enforce the laws they have and stop larding the books with new ones. I'm sure there are a few parents out there who puff on a cigarette within the vicinity of their kids.

Those parents would be neglectful in that situation but by letting lawmakers create a designer law laser focused on that type of person is giving away too much leverage and power to a small body of lawmakers. What's next? Do we start mandating all types of tacky, dangerous behavior? Shall I make a list of potentially hazardous situations kids, adults and old people encounter and/or perform every single day?

The freedom being lost by giving such power to the state is far more dangerous than the so called second hand smoke a minor would take in if a parent was ignorant enough to smoke in their child's face.

By the way, hasn't anyone told Ohio there is a device in the car called a window that when opened lets fresh air rush in? I can just hear the response: "But what if it's cold outside and the smoker won't open the car window?"

To them I say: do you really want the government involved in this kind of nominal everyday decision making? This type of law leads to the generational mindset that the government is there to babysit and coddle. Freedom means freedom. You take the good with the bad; the tacky with the classy. Freedom is the language of the genius and the ramblings of the fool. Free to be left alone. Free to live in privacy. I really hope this doesn't become a law no matter how attractive and trendy it seems.

Here's why: your home and land may be next. They may tell you that it's illegal to smoke in your own home

if you have kids. After that it would be easy to make it illegal to smoke if you live within 100 feet of kids but have no children yourself. I could imagine the government then using its legal leverage and turn to food. Does this sound paranoid? If I said to you twenty years ago that there would come a time when the law would try to tell you what to do in your own car you probably would have laughed angrily and said "never!" So

I can't believe that in modern America, when major issues affect the economy of the family unit; the dying middle class; that somewhere in this great land lawmakers are arguing to ban a legal substance within the confines of an individual's legally owned paid for vehicle.

Just because something is a good idea, and make no mistake not smoking with children in a car is a good idea, does not mean government should mandate the idea.

Outlawing random bad behavior is not logical or sustainable. This column is written by a non smoker. Rock on. Rock out.



## EMPIRE CITY GOES BIG BLUE

It was the Giants vs. the Patriots for the championship and Empire City Casino at Yonkers Raceway went blue in a big way. Football fans from across the state descended on the casino in their NFL football finest garb to cheer for their favorite team. With over 100 screens dedicated to the game, including giant projection screens, there was no shortage of viewing opportunities. Among the throngs of football fans were many Bronx residents including Mike Maldonado, Sam Denizard, Wilfred Denizard, Randy Maldonado, Rafaela Zapata, William Zapata, Carmen Texeira, Michael Herring, Rebecca Borrero, and Sheyla Rivera.

In typical Empire City style, it was a tailgate party to end all tailgate parties where guests feasted on unlimited chicken wings, burgers, hamburgers, hot dogs, chili and nachos and enjoyed a broad selection of beer, wine and cocktails. The first 10,000 Empire Club members received a free Big Game T-shirt by visiting a promotion kiosk. The celebration went on well into the night.

(Above, l-r) Rebecca Borrero and Michael Herring.

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## E. Bronx Forum presents Black history

The East Bronx History Forum will hold their next monthly meeting on Wednesday, February 15, at 7:30 p.m. at the Huntington Free Library.

The subject this month will be African-American

history in the Bronx and the PowerPoint presentation will be by Morgan Powell who has made the subject one of his specialties.

The library is located at 9 Westchester Square adjacent to the Apple Bank for

Savings.

Catherine McChesney is the librarian and may be reached at (718) 829-7770 in the event of inclement weather or to clarify directions. The meeting is open to the general public.



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## How to write a screenplay at B&N

Presented by the Bronx Council on the Arts' Bronx Writers Center, "How to Write a Screenplay" is a free hands-on workshop for writers of all levels and ages. Bring a notebook and

pen and prepare to start the writing project that you've been dreaming about. Participants will respond to writing prompts designed to inspire and to motivate, while learning practical

steps for overcoming the obstacles between them and their writing goals at Barnes & Noble at Bay Plaza on Friday, February 24, from 6 to 8 p.m. Admission is free and all are welcome.

## Puppet making at Bronx Council on the Arts

*From page 16*

Square. This workshop is free and open to the public. All are welcome.

Lucrecia Novoa studied Fine Arts in University of Chile and the Massachusetts College of Arts. The turning point of her career was when she attended the Art of the Mask course offered by Eric Bornstein in 1996. Under Eric's patient guidance, she learned not only techniques of mask masking, but also how to mold gestures and expressions into the masks. She began producing fantasy creatures using large masks and sophisticated costumes and soon sought her own characters, based preferentially on dark figures represent-

ing witches, monsters and ghosts.

Over the years, Lucrecia has been involved in several workshops, shows and theater. She's assisted on student art workshops and had a very fulfilling experience with her dramatic adaptation of a Mexican story (Lucia Zenteno), which included masked characters, live music and bilingual (Spanish and English) dialogue. Lucrecia has organized her own workshops and exhibits over the last few years. Of particular significance were the exhibits in the Waltham Public Library, which displayed my drawings, paintings, and masks in three consecutive years.

Puppet-making with

Lucrecia Novoa is part of the free series of Third Saturday Family Craft Workshops presented by the Bronx Council on the Arts and the Huntington Free Library, and NYC Councilman James Vacca through April 21, at the Huntington Free Library. The series continues on March 17 as BCA presents Recycle Art with Star Nigro. Join artist Star Nigro as she shows you cool and clever ways to make great eco art. Learn to construct a masterpiece by creatively recycling old & new elements. Make eco-logical art. Fun for everyone!

Admission to all workshops is free, but space is limited. For information, call (718) 931-9500, ext. 33 or (718) 829-7770, or visit [www.bronxarts.org](http://www.bronxarts.org).

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# Permission to build Santa Maria School granted in 1949

19 BRONX TIMES FEB. 9 - 15, 2012

Father John Caldarola spent 25 years as pastor of Santa Maria Parish. His tenure as pastor ran from 1947 to 1972 and he was not in that position very long before seeking the authority to build a parish school. Permission was granted by the diocese in 1949 and the property at 1510 Zerega Avenue was purchased the following year with the groundbreaking ceremony performed on August 26, 1950 by the Most Reverend Joseph P. Donohue, Vicar General of the archdiocese.

Construction moved rapidly and the \$350,000 school was ready for classes by September. Francis Cardinal Spellman led the dedication and blessing on September 16, 1951 before several thousand parishioners and well-wishers. This was still a largely Italian parish and the cardinal was quoted the next day in the New York Times praising the Italians for their "love of God, love of country and love of family."

## do you remember

by Bill Twomey

The school, which was built to accommodate 500 students, was ready to open that same day with Sister Dolorita as principal. She was succeeded by Sister Ernestine in 1952 and then Sister Thomasine served from 1954 to 1960 and saw the first graduation class was in 1957. The official school song became: "When I see my Fleur de Lis, I'll remember you." Sister Rosemary succeeded Sister Thomasine as principal and the school continued to flourish.

Ground was broken for the auditorium which also served as a gymnasium on All Saints Day of 1955. Construction continued apace and the new building was soon completed and solemnly dedicated by Bishop Joseph M. Pernicone on April 28, 1957. The parish debt had been paid off in

March of 1957 and the parish turned its attention to a convent for the sisters, the Apostles of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

Groundbreaking for the Santa Maria Convent took place on February 24, 1963 and the cornerstone was laid and blessed on June 30th of that year. Bishop Pernicone returned to the parish for the solemn dedication of the convent on May 31, 1964. Sister Mary Grace became the first Mother Superior of the convent and principal of the school. Sister Diane Mastroianna currently serves as principal. Although the student body and the teaching staff have changed considerably over the years, there are currently about 250 students in the school and the quality of education has remained high.



Santa Maria School on Zerega Avenue.

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# Bronx schools

## Spellman seniors raise grant \$\$

Seniors at Cardinal Spellman High School who study Personal Finance and Marketing spent the past four months planning, organizing, and selling Class of 2012 senior sweatshirts. They were responsible for accounting and finance procedures, placing orders with the design company, and coordinating sizes and colors.

This is the 7th consecu-

tive year the Marketing Class, taught by John Schoenberg, has undertaken the sales effort.

The total amount raised came to \$6,492, a record, with the profits going to the Cardinal Spellman SOSS Fund, used to help students in need of financial assistance.

The shirts, with a "2012" logo, were designed this year by English teacher

Rick Quintana and student and sales leader Ernesto Tejada. Overall sales leader was Jelani Wheeler, who is also senior class president, while Carina Lopez placed second in sales.

The undiminished commitment from the entire Class of 2012 and the students in Personal Finance and Marketing in particular showed Spellman at its very best.



Students pose with a check for \$6,492. Front Row: Mr. John Schoenberg, Sr. Veronica Wood OSF, assistant principal, Cindy Pena, Jordyn McLane, Arienne Callender, Jared Ward, Julian Gonzalez, Hagi Garcia, Carina Lopez. Back Row; Jelani Wheeler, Ernesto Tejada, Nicole Awoonor-Renner, Jelani Maynard, Mr. Daniel O'Keefe, principal, Rev. Trevor Nicholls, president.



Preston's Cheerleading Team at the UCA Regionals after being notified they qualified for Nationals in Florida.

## Preston Cheerleaders at new level

The Preston High School Cheerleading Team reached new heights this year receiving an invitation to attend the National High School Cheerleading Competition in Orlando, FL in February. For the Preston Cheerleading team, this is an unprecedented milestone, as they are the first team in the school's history to qualify and attend Nationals. Preston received their qualifying spot by competing in the UCA Regionals at Hofstra University last

April against teams from New York, New Jersey and Connecticut.

Head coach, John Braca, had this to say about his squad, "I think that it's been a dream that we finally get to experience...nationals. This is my 4th year coaching at Preston, and I have watched these girls grow into amazing and talented individuals. I'm their biggest supporter and have always believed in them. I am proud to say I coach them."

All the funds needed

for the Preston Cheerleading team to travel to Orlando must be raised and these girls have been hard at work since tryouts last spring. During Christmas time they sold wreaths, they hosted zumba classes, and sought out sponsors to help pay for their trip. Needless to say, the team is excited and eager to get to the tournament. In March the team will also get the chance to defend their title of being Bronx County Champions.

## Msgr. Scanlan High School recognizes Knitting for Others' efforts

On Wednesday, January 18, 67 members of the Knitting for Others club gathered in the chapel of Monsignor Scanlan High School for its first annual Pin and Patch Ceremony.

This club was started under the direction of Joanne Buonocore, a former Religion teacher at Scanlan. The purpose of this club has been to learn how to knit and crochet and then to use its talent to serve those in greatest need. Karen McKeegan, chairperson of the Religion department, is continuing this tradition.

First to receive patches and pins were seniors Kasandra Alamo, Cristall Aquino, Morgan Betancourt, Patrick Collazo, Ruben Collazo,

Bianca Davenport, Tania DeJesus, Crystal Dindyal, JohnnyLee Farley, Derek Gajadar, Amber Garcia, Sara Garcia, Sherieka Gordon, Karim Hawker, Jada Hutchinson, Danielle LeFebre, Sally Moran, Donique McFarlane, Alexis Nicholas, Liner Nunez, Gina Palmers, Britney Padilla, Shannon Perry, Brittany Ramos, Kiara Rivera, Emely Rodriguez, Jordan Rosario, Dayanara Santos, Mary Ann Skewes, Ashley Tucker, Mynelly Villanueva, Ashley Warde and Leslie Zepeda.

Pins were awarded to juniors Jessica Castillo, Noemi DeJesus, Samantha Collins, Arysdalia Diaz, Tiffany Henry, Samantha Marin, Katherine Meza, Samantha Soriano, Taisha Singer Abi-

gail Sintim, Veronica Rivera, Robert Taylor, Lysa Vasquez, Jeannie-Faye Veloso and Justine Huertas.

Sophomores and freshmen to receive pins included Zaria Ashby, Nemesis Dipre, Marleny Franco, Talanna Jeffrey, Wesley Lindor, Stephanie Londono, Elizabeth Martinez, Melissa Potter, Genesis Reyes, Maria Rivera, Briana Singh, Vanessa Vazquez, Dianna Cruz, Meah Farlow, Chelsea Lowe, Amali Sierra and Nathalie Rosario.

This year's members are involved in making scarves, prayer shawls and baby blankets.

During the second semester these "gifts of love" will be distributed to those in need.



Knitting for Others Club gathered in the Chapel of Monsignor Scanlan High School.



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# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Taking a look at the bigger picture

Dear editor,

The recent Bronx drug bust of a massive hydroponics marijuana farm at 610 Morris Park Avenue that allegedly generated \$3 million per year in sales was meaningless when you look at the bigger picture.

Consumption of marijuana has been part of mainstream America, transcending generations. Despite the best efforts of both government and the Moral Majority social police, just like alcohol prohibition in the 1920s -- both have been total failures.

Creative entrepreneurs will always provide the citizens desire, regardless of government approval. Consumers have voted with their dollars, making marijuana consumption a

multi-billion dollar enterprise today. Legalize it and add a sales tax. Revenues will more than cover the costs of any abuse.

Our tax dollars would be better used if police and judges spend more time prosecuting those who commit real crimes against individuals or property than going after those who consume or distribute marijuana.

Citizens have more to fear from murder, arson, rape, muggings, robberies, auto and identity theft or home break-ins along with ever increasing levels of confiscatory taxation and debt by government than individuals who get high in the privacy of their own home.

Law enforcement authorities should be free to

pursue those who commit real crimes against citizens and property.

At 18, you can vote, be a parent, pay taxes, own a car, take out a bank loan, serve in the military and die for your country -- but not consume marijuana makes no sense.

What consenting adults consume, inhale, perform, read or view in the privacy of their own home or private social club isn't the concern of government. Individual economic and civil liberties prosper best when government stays out of both the bedroom and marketplace.

It is time to permit consenting adults to access pot without fear from government harassment.

Larry Penner

## DOE should permit churches to use space

*(The following letter was sent to Chancellor Dennis M. Walcott, Department of Education).*

Chancellor Walcott:

With respect to the recent ruling by the United States Supreme Court concerning Bronx Household of Faith v Board of Education. it is my opinion that the Department of Education should further review and reconsider the current access policy for faith-based organizations to rent space within public school facilities.

Faith-based organizations that have a long standing relationship in their community should be given

equal access to public school buildings on the same terms as any other organization, and those decisions should be made by individual school leadership teams and the communities those organizations serve.

The DOE has given principals the right to make every other decision about the use of their physical plant, and their power should not be usurped when it comes to faith-based organizations and churches. Principals are in the best positions to determine both how their buildings can be used, and should be empowered to make such decisions.

The Department of

Education should encourage schools to connect with their neighboring community organizations, in order to forge good relationships that can reverberate out into the community-at-large.

Such relationships can have a direct positive effect on the school community and the families of the students that they serve.

I am requesting that the DOE review its current public school access policy to ensure that it is an inclusive policy that seeks to welcome partnerships with all community organizations both secular and faith-based.

Bronx Borough President  
Ruben Diaz, Jr.

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# ICU, ER docs on alert for postpartum signs

A severe headache. Dizziness. Blurry vision or spots in front of your eyes. Perhaps chest pain or swelling of the feet.

When the patient is a woman who has just given birth, emergency and ICU physicians at St. Barnabas Hospital have learned to recognize these symptoms and begin treatment of what could be a potentially serious, even fatal disorder called postpartum preeclampsia.

"We've noticed an increased incidence of this over the last few months, probably because we've done a much better job in educating patients and our ED and ICU staffs to this," said Sally Urang, the Perinatal Safety Nurse in the hospital's OB/Gyn department. "This is a condition which, if not attended to, can lead to seizures or stroke."

Preeclampsia can manifest itself late in pregnancy as the sudden onset of high blood pressure with excretion of protein into the urine. In most cases, delivery of the fetus and placenta cures the condition.

And while some women with this condition will continue to display symptoms post-partum and so are watched closely, it's those who experienced no blood pressure problems during their pregnancy – an estimated seven of 10 post-partum preeclampsia sufferers – who are most in danger. These are the ones, said Dr. Mark Rosing, the chief of the hospital's OB/gyn department, who may view their symptoms as nothing more than the body's normal changes or fatigue after giving birth, and so do nothing.

By educating all post-partum patients, even those who didn't have preeclampsia during their pregnancy, about the signs and symptoms of preeclampsia on discharge from the hospital, St. Barnabas hopes to avoid the complications that may ensue if this condition is allowed to go unrecognized and untreated.

In addition, patients discharged from St. Barnabas who are at the highest risk for postpartum preeclampsia – that is, those who

had elevated blood pressure during the pregnancy or before the pregnancy – are seen several times in the first few weeks after discharge by the Visiting Nurse Service for home for blood pressure checks and close monitoring.

Postpartum preeclampsia can occur up to six weeks after delivery, although in most cases it occurs within the first week. Treatment usually consists of medication to manage very high blood pressures, medication to prevent possible seizures, and close observation in the Intensive Care Unit.

"Most patients can be treated successfully with magnesium sulfate therapy to prevent the seizures of eclampsia," said Urang. "Now, when our ED staff sees a postpartum patient, they are thinking, 'she has XYZ symptoms,' which in the past they might have evaluated in a specific, non-obstetrical context. But if she had a baby, say, a week before, they consider her symptoms in a different light, asking, 'Could this be preeclampsia?'"

## Computerized dental system at St. Barnabas Hospital

BY DARA ROSENBERG, DDS  
DIRECTOR OF DENTISTRY, ST.  
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For more information, contact: Charlotte Hall, Project Manager, Division of Revenue and Concessions, 830 Fifth Avenue, the Arsenal-Central Park, Room 407, New York, NY 10065 or call (212) 360-3407 or to download the RFP, visit <http://www.nyc.gov/parks/businessopportunities> and click on the "Concessions Opportunities at Parks" link. Once you have logged in, click on the "download" link that appears adjacent to the RFP's description. You can also email her at [charlotte.hall@parks.nyc.gov](mailto:charlotte.hall@parks.nyc.gov).

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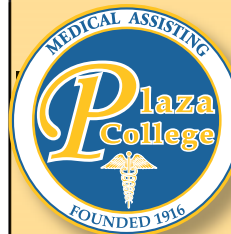
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## PIPE DREAMS

By Bob Connolly

## The residue of design

BY BOB CONNOLLY

The Super Bowl, won by the NY Giants 21-17 over the NE Patriots, was a game that lived up to its publicity 100%.

The pre-game hype included predictions by a lot of experts who said each side would win.

The Pats won the toss and, as usual, deferred so they would get the ball at the start of the second half. It seemed that the Pats were a lot tighter than the Giants and they showed it by making several uncharacteristic mistakes.

I said that the game might be decided by who controlled the ball last. With 3 ½ minutes left and the Pats ahead 17-15, Eli led the "G-Men", who were left with one time-out and the two-minute warning remaining in their tool bag, from their own 12 to an unopposed TD (the Giants didn't convert the two-point attempt). This, to me, was the biggest mistake. NE stood aside and allowed Bradshaw to score so they would have ample time to score themselves (Belichick was mistaken about the NY defensive resolve).

This defeat was a lot worse than the one NE had 4 years ago, because it's a spirit breaker. Gene Collier wrote in the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette: "Brady, for all his surgical precision, did not complete a pass longer than 21 yards and many of his completions

*Continued on page 32*

# Star finds redemption



Photo by Christina Santucci

St. Raymond's Daniel Dingle had 23 points and the go-ahead basket with six seconds left against Mount St. Michael.

"We took good shots, and we were in the game. We just lost focus in the end, which I guess is my fault. They made their shots and you see why Calhoun is that good."

COACH JOE LODS.....PAGE 31

## St. Ray's Dingle conquers Mount

BY MARC RAIMONDI

Daniel Dingle doesn't like failure. He loathes letting his teammates down. That's what the St. Raymond senior felt he did earlier this month when he missed free throws that could have sealed a victory over Mount St. Michael.

Since then, the Temple-bound star watched the tape of the game once with coach Oliver Antigua and three more times on his own.

"I studied and watched the film over and over and over to see what happened and how we lost," Dingle said. "I didn't want the same outcome."

He made sure to redeem himself with future coach Fran Dunphy in attendance.

Dingle had 23 points, eight rebounds and drilled the go-ahead, 16-foot jumper with six seconds left to lead St. Ray's to a 58-56 win over visiting Mount St. Michael in CHSAA Class AA boys basketball Tuesday night in The Bronx. The Mountaineers defeated the Ravens, 66-62 in overtime, on Jan. 10.

"He's one of the best," St. Raymond coach Oliver Antigua said. "His character and the quality of the kid he is, he can fail and still bounce back. He'll work harder if he doesn't succeed. There was no doubt with 10 seconds left who's getting the ball. It was just a matter of what I was gonna run to get

him the ball."

Dingle was an incredible 9-of-10 from the field in the second half and led St. Ray's (12-7, 8-3 'AA') on two separate comebacks in the third quarter. The 6-foot-7 swingman had a personal 5-0 run to put the Ravens ahead 45-44 with 7:24 remaining in the game. They never trailed again.

"We knew he was gonna come out ready," St. Ray's junior guard Shane Rector said. "Dingle is the type of player when he does bad, he goes and improves. I expected that from him. I have a lot of confidence. I knew he was gonna make that shot."

Rector had 19 points and Iowa State-bound forward Kerwin Okoro had 10 points for St. Raymond. Mount (15-4, 6-3) led by as much as 44-36 after a Shaquille Suero basket with 2:19 left in the third quarter. St. Ray's, though, closed the quarter on a 7-0 run capped by a Dingle three-point play.

The Ravens took two five-point leads in the final 4:15 of the game, but the Mountaineers came back twice. Andrew Utate answered a Rector three-point play with a 3-pointer and Ed Correa followed with two free throws with 1:15 remaining.

"I'm proud of our guys," Mount coach Tom Fraher said. "They keep coming. We made big

*Continued on page 32*

## Rice to riches: former players continue school's legacy

BY ZACH BRAZILLER AND MARC RAIMONDI

Rice, the legendary Harlem high school that churned out Division I boys basketball players by the bushel, closed last spring for financial reasons. The school no longer exists, but the tradition of excellence has continued - just at different locations throughout the city and beyond.

Former Raiders are thriving everywhere, from the CHSAA to the PSAL, even New Jersey and Connecticut.

"I'm not really surprised,"

former Rice coach Dwayne Mitchell said. "We had some good kids, we had kids that understood the importance of working hard and being a team player. If you play a certain way, you can have success, and that's what's happening. They're buying in to the programs they are at and listening to the coach."

Miami commit Melvin Johnson has emerged as one of the top players on New Jersey powerhouse St. Benedict's Prep, ranked seventh in the country by USA Today. Talented combo guard

Dayshon Smith left the city for Putnam Science Academy and has shined for the Connecticut prep school, scoring 37 points in a recent loss to top-notch Notre Dame Prep (Mass.).

Cardinal Hayes is considered the class of the Catholic school league despite moving up from Class A this fall in no small part to the impact Rice transfers Tyler Wilson, Chris Robinson, Shavar Newkirk and Naasir Williams have made.

Wings Academy has owned Bronx AA in the PSAL and its

glue guy is Jaequan Brown, a versatile 6-foot-4 junior wing. Additionally, 6-foot-8 forward Dominique Nelson has given coach Billy Turnage an inside presence that was sorely needed, combo guard Stephen Turner has surpassed expectations at Wadeigh and forward Jean Toussaint has fit in well at Brooklyn AA up-and-comer South Shore. Mount St. Michael isn't quite thriving like Hayes, but the Mountaineers have upset perennial contender St. Raymond, with 6-foot-4 for

*Continued on page 32*



# Iona's Combs UCLA bound

BY JOSEPH STASZEWSKI

Justin Combs' dream got a little bit sweeter.

The Iona Prep cornerback and son of rap mogul Sean (Diddy) Combs signed his National Letter of Intent to play football at UCLA next season with his famous father and plenty of family by his side. When he picked the Pac-12 school back in November, head coach Rick Neuheisel had just been fired. He has since been replaced by former Atlanta Falcons and Seattle Seahawks head man Jim Mora Jr.

"When I was younger I loved the Falcons and Mike Vick," Justin Combs said. "He was my favorite coach. Now I am like, 'Wow, I'm about to play for him.' It's like a dream come true."

The 5-foot-9, 170-pound Combs, an excellent cover corner, called himself blessed to be able to sign. The thought of getting to play for a former NFL coach has made him extremely excited to get to UCLA.

"He's been to the

league," he said. "The ultimate goal is to go to the league."

He played in the Semper Fidelis All-American Bowl in January after helping lead the Gaels to the CHSFL Class AAA semifinals. He filled in for injured quarterback Mario Biaggi in the quarterfinals against Chaminade and scored twice on the ground and also threw a touchdown pass in a 24-20 win.

Iona Prep coach Vic Quirolo has called Combs the most dedicated athlete he's ever had at the New Rochelle. Combs' father attended the majority of his son's games and even acted as one of the team's water boys in a playoff loss to St. Anthony's.

Justin Combs spent the summer attending as many college camps and clinics as possible to improve his game and even worked out with Jets star cornerback Darelle Revis. He joked that he might have to pass along some of Revis' tips to coach Mora.



Photo by Joseph Staszewski

Justin Combs (c.) signs with UCLA with his father Diddy by his side Wednesday.



by Denis Gostev

Truman's Lynda Fields ran her team to perfection in a huge win over Kennedy.

## Mustangs sweep rival

BY MIKE SMOLLINS

Truman took its home court with something to prove against John F. Kennedy and finished the night with a season sweep of its biggest rival.

Led by the strong play of Krystal Pearson and Lynda Fields, the Mustangs improved their potential playoff seed and earned their sixth win in a row with a 65-54 victory against the visiting Knights on Wednesday in PSAL Class AA girls basketball.

The win was the second straight victory for the team over Kennedy this season, after besting them in a road game by just two points on Dec 14.

Pearson and Fields entered the game with something to prove after feeling that their first win was wrongfully seen as a fluke. The two were a key reason for Truman's victory and combined for 42 of the Mustangs points by contributing 24 and 18 points, respectively.

"This was a statement win for us," Truman coach John Burke said. "I love Krystal to death. I've had her for four years and she actually was enrolled in Kennedy four years ago until her mother decided she wanted her to come here be-

*Continued on page 32*

## Nazareth gets revenge on Christ The King

BY MIKE MCAVOY  
AND MARC RAIMONDI

Nazareth finally got the game it wanted against Christ the King and exacted its own form of punishment.

Almost a month to the day of the first scheduled meeting that Christ the King refused to play, Nazareth hammered the host Royals, 74-44, in CHSAA Brooklyn/Queens Division I girls basketball yesterday in Middle Village.

"We've been wanting to

play them since that game," Naz sophomore Bianca Cuevas said. ... "We had a lot of anger in us."

Cuevas poured in 36 points to lead the nationally ranked Lady Kingsmen (11-1), who were supposed to play Christ the King (7-10) on Jan. 7. CK administrators decided their team would not go to that game at Nazareth because it was too soon after the death of Nazareth coach Apache Paschall, who died of cardiac arrest Jan. 3, and they believed Paschall

would be buried that day.

Paschall, though, wasn't buried until a week later and Nazareth administrators, coaches and players all wanted to play the game. Bishop Ford also refused to play Naz on Jan. 5.

Nazareth athletic director Rochelle Murphy filed a grievance with the league and requested both Christ the King and Ford get hit with forfeits. The CHSAA Eligibility and Infractions Committee agreed in a ruling that was first reported

by The Post on Friday. The case will go Wednesday to the principals committee, which will make the final determination.

"At the end of it, I don't think anyone should decide how we grieve our coach," said Lauren Best, the former assistant who has taken over the reins along with Ron Kelley. "That should be our decision."

In the meantime, Cuevas and her Nazareth team-

*Continued on page 33*





Photo by Denis Gostev

Stepinac's Przemyslaw Popek will be kicking at Stony Brook next season.

## Stepinac's football newbie to kick for Stony Brook

BY JOSEPH STASZEWSKI

It wasn't too long ago that Przemyslaw Popek didn't know what American football was. A soccer player growing up, the first game the Stepinac senior watched was Super Bowl XL between the Pittsburgh Steelers and Seattle Seahawks.

"I never thought about playing it," he said.

Popek and his parents immigrated from Poland 12 years ago. They were a soccer family and Popek played stopper for the White Plains school for 2-1/2 seasons. That was until some of his friends on the football team saw him booming kicks on the field in the back of the school midway through their season a year ago.

"I was like, 'Dude you should play football,'" center Jesse Gwin said. "He came and he showed coach [Mike O'Donnell] and he just gave him a helmet and pads right away."

After helping to lead the Crusaders to their first ever CHSFL Class AAA title game appearance, Popek will suit up to kick for Stony Brook next year after signing his National Letter of Intent at the school Wednesday. A kicker from the New

York City area playing at the Division I level is a rarity.

The Seawolves, the defending Big South champion, took interest in him at the CHSFL Senior Bowl. Along with the school's fine academics, his was draw was its excellent physical therapy program. Popek shared the day with teammates Jesse Gwin (C.W. Post) and Austin Taps (UPenn).

"I signed my life off today," joked Popek, who also had interest from UConn, Marist and Lafayette. "It's a good feeling though."

O'Donnell said he was skeptical when Popek popped into his office asking to kick. The Crusaders already had a kicker in Shane Hogan who was 29-of-29 on extra points. He figured he would give him a shot. As a junior, Popek ended up kicking off and this season he added kicking field goals and extra points to his repertoire.

"He went outside and he started kicking the ball and I was like, 'Oh my God,'" O'Donnell said. "This kid has unbelievable leg strength and he doesn't even know what he is doing and he is kicking the ball

out of sight."

Added Tapps: "You just heard it off his foot, 'boom, boom.' We are looking over and he is kicking 50-yard field goals."

Popek gave the Crusaders an invaluable weapon. The majority of his kickoffs were out of the end zone, leaving opponents to start at the 20. O'Donnell called it a deflating thing especially after a Stepinac score. His longest field goal he hit in practice was 60 yards. He averaged 34 yards per punt and 25 of his kickoff went for touchbacks. Popek made 34 extra points and kicked four field goals with a long of 50 yards.

"In the beginning I just kicked it," Popek said. "When I learned the technique it got easier."

His parents had never watched a football game until he started playing. When Popek began they didn't know the rules and didn't understand how well he was playing. The reaction of those around them told them all they needed to know.

Popek has now ridden that leg to a spot on a college team and possibly more if you ask his coach.

# Victory slips away from Hayes in 4th quarter

BY MIKE MCAVOY

One message remained clear in Middle Village after Cardinal Hayes dropped yesterday's showdown with Christ the King -- the Cardinals have to become tougher.

Christ the King topped Hayes, 68-52, in CHSAA Class AA boys basketball Saturday in Middle Village, though the final score didn't tell the story of the game. Hayes entered the fourth only trailing by a point, 46-45, but soon was lost in CK's clinching run.

"I feel like we played 31 minutes of complete basketball," Hayes coach Joe Lods said. "We kept it close up until the end, but then they started hitting shots."

The fourth quarter is where his team lost it, being outscored 22-7, and falling victim to the hot hand of CK's senior Omar Calhoun. The future Connecticut Huskie scored 29 points on the night, none more controversial than his last two, which can be directly connected to Lods' statement about his team's lack of toughness.

With the game intact, and CK (15-6, 9-1 'AA') up 14 points with one second remaining, Calhoun found himself with the ball under the basket uncontested. He took the shot and he scored, padding his stats by two points.

"That play should have turned into a football one," Lods said. "Nothing against Calhoun, but we can't let him take that shot."

Lods' leading scorer for the season, Amadou Sidibe, who finished with just 10 points, agrees with the sentiments his coach portrayed.

"Honestly, that's [messed] up man," Sidibe said. "I felt disrespected by that play, and if I was on the court, I don't think he would have gotten that easy of a basket. ... I took it very personal and I hope I get the chance to play him again."

Calhoun left the gym before speaking with the media. Christ the King coach Joe Arbitello said he had no problem with the late basket



Photo by Christina Santucci

Hayes' Jalen Jenkins (r.) shoots over Christ the King's Malik Harmon.

since Hayes was still trying to steal the ball or foul.

Hayes (18-3, 10-1) has emerged as city title favorite despite this being its first year at the 'AA' level. After losses to Boys & Girls and now CK in a week's span, the Cardinals have some reflecting to do.

"I think we've become a little corrupted by the praise we've been receiving," Lods said. "I have some guys more worried about their haircut before being on TV than diving for a loose ball."

Lods attributes his team's inconsistency of late to this new attitude.

"We've made our free

throws all year, except for tonight," Lods said. "Losing the free throw battle 29-9 isn't going to work. We've also been rebounding well all year, too, but that didn't translate to this game."

Lods did say that he was not completely disheartened with the loss to the Royals. He gave a lot of respect to two-time defending champion, but also noted that his team followed its gameplan, only to falter at the end.

"We took good shots, and we were in the game," Lods said. "We just lost focus in the end which I guess is my fault. They made their shots and you see why Calhoun is that good."



# Mustangs sweep rivals

from page 30

cause it was closer. I'm very proud of her."

After a back and forth first half, Kennedy (14-7, 9-3 'AA') saw its eight-point lead trimmed to just two and went into halftime clinging to a 34-32 lead. It was in the second half that Pearson would turn it on, converting 12 of her points as Truman (17-6, 11-3) outscored the Knights 20-9 in the quarter and went on a 10-0 run to close out the third with a 52-45 lead.

"It's great to win in front of our home crowd," said Pearson, who went on a visit to VCU last week. "It was good to prove everybody wrong because everyone thought the first win was a fluke. Lynda is a great point guard and got the ball to everyone when they were open."

Kennedy tried to keep pace in the fourth but crucial turnovers and failure to capitalize on free throws came back to haunt them. Fields was very strong on the ball and kept setting up Pearson for open shots.

"Last year we had everyone we had now including one of the best players in the city in Krystal Pearson," Burke said. "Now we're number three in the city and there's one reason for that and that's Lynda Fields. The girl is just quality. She has a high basketball IQ and was able to get Pearson the ball all night tonight."

Fields, a transfer from

Blessed Sacramento, joined the team in March of last year, and has found great success and chemistry with Pearson.

"Before we went into this game, people thought that the first time we beat them was just luck," Fields said. "We had to prove to them that it really wasn't and that we're capable of doing anything

Truman has put itself in the driver's seat for a No. 3 seed in the 'AA' playoffs and remains without Joella Gibson, who took a hiatus from the team for academic reasons. Kennedy just seemed to be building momentum after four straight victories.

"I thought we played hard but just made a lot of stupid mistakes," Kennedy coach O'Neil Glenn said. "We made a lot of mistakes and didn't move the ball the way we should have and it came back and bit us. We just didn't come to play. A game's a game, I don't care rivalry or not, it's part of the season. It's a game."

Truman hopes that its latest victory will show it is are good. Not lucky.

"We had a very good start to the season," Burke said. "Then we lost two games in a row and were banged up. We beat Kennedy in The Bronx and it was seen as an upset then, but tonight was an important statement for us, it was an important win in showing who we are."

## St. Ray's beats Mount

from page 29

shots tonight."

Mount did have chances to go ahead, including a big one after an Okoro offensive foul with 51.9 seconds left, but St. Raymond came up with key stops. Dingle's jumper put the Ravens ahead with six seconds left and Rector got a piece of a Malik Gill floater from behind as time expired to seal the victory.

"He did just enough to get it off [the mark]," Antigua said.

Likewise, St. Ray's did enough to win. After three straight league losses, the

Ravens are now on a three-game winning streak heading into Friday night's showdown against Christ the King at home.

"We're definitely getting our confidence back," Dingle said. "Friday we got another big game against Christ the King. We need another league win. We know guys are gonna be hungry and I know it's gonna be a sold-out gym. And it's our Senior Night. It's our last time playing here. I want to go out with a win, not a loss."

That determination sure worked Tuesday.

# Pipe Dreams: preferred positions; different Knicks

from page 29

didn't travel more than 30 feet. Wes Welker turned a little flip into a 19-yard gain. Twenty-five of Brady's 27 completions measured no more than that."

**Preferred Positions**  
150 of 153 NFL-MVPs and 71 of the 76 Heisman Trophies went to QBs and RBs. The Vikings' Alan Page was the last lineman to win the MVP in 1971. Leon Hart, from Notre Dame, was the last lineman to be awarded the Heisman in 1949.

Even though 90% of the action in a football game takes place away from the ball, the eyes of most watchers are glued to the glory boys and not on line play or coverages, Greg Easterbrock (ESPN.com) told us.

This might be a case of strength envy.

**Different Knicks**  
The Knicks started the shortened season by scoring 106 pts. In beating-yes, beating the Celtics. Then they went out west and put in 78 in a loss to the Warriors,

with David Lee, and 82 in a loss to the Lakers.

I don't know who they are, yet, but until I do I'm thinking we'll see 20-25 wins.

The worst things that you can say about a NY Pro team, like the Knicks, are that they're uninteresting and irrelevant. One answer might be to replace GM Glen Grunfeld with Chris Mullin, if Walsh says no, and make sure he doesn't have anyone looking over his shoulder. Tyson Chandler WAS brought in to clog the paint, intimidate the opposition with shot blocking, play defense, but not be a scoring leader.

I find it hard to believe that an experienced basketball mind would have made some of the recent Knicks' moves. Stoudemire and Anthony are guaranteed \$169million over the next four years. So, D'Antoni will probably go before them.

Dan Shaughnessy (Boston Globe) witnessed the

rebirth of the Knicks and didn't like it. "It looks like the Jets are out of the way, but brace yourself for some weeks, maybe months, of chest-thumping from your obnoxious friends from New York. Make way for the Big Apple Frauds. The Knicks think they are finally better than the Celtics.

In a Holiday Festival that was everything David Stern could have wanted to cure post-lockout stress disorder, the "all-new," muscle-flexing Knicks squeaked out a 106-104 victory against the Paul Pierce-less Celtics yesterday at Madison Square Garden.

Playing in front of Walt Frazier, Earl Monroe, and a raft of B-list celebs (Matthew Modine, anyone?), the Knicks blew a 17-point first-half lead at home, and needed every ounce of luck and strength

Greg Drinnen (Kamloops Daily News) passed along this headline from SportsPickle.com: "SportsPickle.com: \$55 mil-

lion federal investigation successfully forces Barry Bonds to watch TV at home for 30 days to beat the Celtics, who were playing without their best player.

**What He Learned In 2011**  
Bob Molinaro (Hamp-tonRoads.com) sent along these thoughts: "Football players don't fumble anymore. They "put the ball on the ground." August's East Coast earthquake wasn't San Andreas' fault. (OOOF)

A semi-retired Marty Schottenheimer is a better coach than some of the guys on the sidelines Sunday afternoon. The only thing worse than the Red Sox falling apart in September is every other problem in the world. As an NFL rookie, Cam Newton is nearly as good as he said he was and a lot better than most people thought. It's never been easier for an NFL quarterback to complete a pass. The backroom dealings associated with college conference realignments would make Tony Soprano blush."

## Former players continue school's legacy

from page 29

ward Ed Correa breaking out as a possible all-league selection.

Naturally, with all this success, it has made some consider what Rice would've been like this year if the school never closed. Smith thinks he has a pretty good idea - it would've competed for a city title.

"Almost everybody is the star player on their team," Smith said.

One Division I coach who recruits the city heavily and is familiar with all the Rice players echoed Smith's belief.

"They made the city championship game last year and with all the kids they had returning, come playoff time they would've been the favorite," the coach said.

Talent evaluator Tom Konchalski said Rice certainly would've been a contender to win a city and state championship. He feels the school's closure has evened out the Catho-

lic league, improving 15-3 Mount and 16-1 Hayes in particular. Hayes coach Joe Lods certainly attests to that.

"They do have that swagger to them. They all have that tough mindset," he said of the Rice guards. "You play at Rice, you have that quality experience. You're never gonna see anything that surprises you. They don't get flustered. The moment isn't too big for them."

The backcourt at Rice this year, in particular, would've been deep and explosive, Konchalski said. The sharpshooting Johnson has become a top 100 prospect and would've been a Mr. New York Basketball contender, Konchalski said.

Wilson has broken out as a heady floor leader with plenty of Division I interest and Smith has garnered scholarship offers from Fairfield, St. Peter's, Quinnipiac and Robert Morris. Add in Newkirk and Robinson - highly thought-of sophomores - and the vet-

eran Williams, and this may have been Rice's best group of guards in several years.

"We got shooters, we got drivers, we all play a different style - but we complement each other well," said Wilson, speaking in the present tense - like Rice was still open. "We would've been the best backcourt in the city and one of the best backcourts in the country."

Though the Raiders would've been undersized, the production from Brown at Wings, Correa at Mount and presence of Toussaint and Nelson lends itself to the belief Rice would've been fine in the CHSAA, a small league in stature anyway this winter.

The players admit to thinking about what would've been often. Wilson said he either speaks to or text-messages with his former teammates three times a week and often reminisces with Hayes teacher Bro. William Sherlog, who was the athletic

director at Rice. As soon as he's finished with practice or a game, he immediately logs onto Twitter or signs into Facebook to see how they're doing. He's rooting for all of them, even Correa - except when Hayes faces Mount.

Mitchell, the former coach, has seen all of his former players in action this winter except for Johnson and Smith. He plans to catch them soon, though he's been busy working as a trainer and coaching second and third graders with the New York Gauchos. It is somewhat bittersweet, Mitchell said, watching so many of his former players at different locations excelling. He's tried not to think about what might have been, instead looking toward future endeavors.

Still, he is quick to point out, Rice is still a part of all these kids, where they got their start on the high school level. In that way, it's a source of pride. The school is closed, but the tradition continues.



Photo by An Rong Xu

Nazareth's Bianca Cuevas poured in 36 points against Christ the King.

## Nazareth beats Christ The King

from page 30

mates certainly played like a team who had some anger in them. The Lady Kingsmen went on a 12-0 run in the matter of two minutes in the second quarter, seven of which were courtesy of Cuevas creating offense off steals and also dissecting the defense in the half-court.

Christ the King went the first 5:53 of the second quarter without scoring a single point. From then on out, the rout was on.

Cuevas repeatedly broke down Christ the King's defense with a quick first step and a crossover that leaves every knee it sees buckled. Cuevas, per-

sonally, was excited for the matchup against Christ the King and fellow sophomore star Sierra Calhoun.

"Calhoun receives a lot of attention, so I just wanted to show that I could play with her," Cuevas said.

Calhoun led Christ the King with 18 points, but was overshadowed by the stellar performance of Cuevas.

"Bianca is the No. 1 player in her class in the state," Best said. "And easily in the country, I would say top five. I think she made a statement today as who's the best sophomore right now."

Cuevas and West Virginia-bound Nazareth senior point guard Darius Faulk aren't interested in forfeits — they said they ac-

tually would like to play Christ the King again, so they could potentially blow them out for a second time.

"Actually I wouldn't mind playing, so we can do it all over again," Faulk said.

Best doesn't feel the same.

"I think the punishment should fit the crime," she said. "If it was us, you might not see us for the rest of the season. That's what the rule says."

Christ the King coach Bob Mackey declined comment on the matter.

Mackey praised Cuevas for her impressive performance. He wasn't interested in comparing her to Calhoun, however.

## Spellman basketball standout signs Northeastern commitment

Onia Webb, a senior at Cardinal Spellman High School, has signed a National Letter of Intent to attend Northeastern University in Boston in the fall on a full scholarship.

Onia graduated from Holy Rosary Elementary School, and has played basketball all four years

at Spellman. Starting for the varsity for the past two years as a small forward, she achieved a triple double in a game against Preston High School last year.

Onia also serves on the school's Student Government Executive Committee, and is Sergeant of Arms of Student Government. She

played volleyball during her freshmen and sophomore years.

In addition to continuing her basketball career in college, Onia is planning to study Physical Therapy.

Meanwhile, her sister, Shana, now in 8th grade, will attend Spellman in September.



Onia Webb signs National Letter of Intent with her mom, Stacey Ellis, and standing behind them Varsity Basketball coach Jane Morris and assistant coach Kasey Grisanti.



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## 'Lincoln Art Exchange' at medical ctr.

*From page 6*

hospital in exchange for much needed medical care is really innovative and I think it is a win-win for the hospital, and a win-win for the artist community par-

ticularly in the Bronx, the birthplace of Hip Hop."

Lincoln Hospital has gone the distance in addressing medical care needs of Bronx artists, Scott said. The program should not

just benefit the artists involved, but also the patients and health care community with everyone coming "from their own center of strength," Scott stated.

## Housing opens for aging out foster kids

*From page 11*

wind up homeless without support from family, Kampner-Rudin said.

The people moving into the building are guided along by an in-house program director, case managers, program assistant that helps with matters related to everyday living, life specialist and employment specialist, Kampner-Rudin said.

"This is designed to promote independent liv-

ing, housing stability, and really take them to the next level whether through employment, education, or both, Kampner-Rudin stated. "The case managers help them with their goals, which are directed by the young people themselves."

All the support services are necessary because of the haphazard upbringing many of the young people have had where they might not have learned very basic

things that other people who grew up in a nuclear family take for granted, Kampner-Rudin stated.

The rent of the apartments are paid 70% by the City through localized Section 8, and 30% by the young residents, Kampner-Rudin said. The cost is designed not exceed 30% of the young person's income, and if a resident has no income, they then pay a nominal amount, Kampner-Rudin said.

## Fresh Direct to Harlem River site

*From page 1*

rise apartment buildings.

From its new headquarters and operations, the company will expand its service area to regions surrounding New York City, as well as New Jersey, Connecticut, and Philadelphia.

Mayor Bloomberg said it is important to have companies like Fresh Direct investing in the state.

"Making sure that companies like Fresh Direct can grow and invest in New York City is a key part of our strategy to rebuild and diversify our economy," Bloomberg said. "A thousand new jobs

at the Harlem River Yards is great news for the Bronx and a welcome boost to our city's economy."

Borough President Ruben Diaz, Jr., said he welcomes Fresh Direct into the Bronx with open arms.

"This iconic company will not only stay in New York where it belongs," Daiz, Jr., said. "but more and more companies are discovering that the Bronx is a great place to do business, and Fresh Direct's move to our borough is a major positive step forward for our economy."

Fresh Direct chief executive officer Jason Ack-

erman said he is grateful to Mayor Bloomberg and Governor Cuomo for their support in making New York a place for Fresh Direct to want to stay and grow in.

"With significant growth in our customer base, we need to expand our operations," Ackerman said. "A new state-of-the-art facility at the Harlem River Yard in the Bronx would allow us to operate more efficiently, maintain our relationships with New York state vendors, local farmers and continue our long track record or growth and job creation in New York."

## 4 shot at Vidalia Park B-court

*From page 1*

violence. I urge the community to provide any information that will aid the authorities on the arrest of those responsible by calling the crime stoppers hot line at 1-800-577 TIPS (8477).

It is important that we continue to work with the NYPD, elected officials and other community organizations to ensure that the four victims, one being a 12-year old boy, receive justice and that our community can remain at peace."

Borough president Ruben Diaz Jr. said he is very disappointed and deeply saddened by the senseless act of gun violence that took place in Vidalia Park.

"It is unacceptable that, despite the efforts of my office the police department and our district attorney to take as many illegal guns off our streets as possible, these senseless acts of gun violence continue to plague our borough," Diaz said. "I am deeply saddened that our kids cannot play a friendly

game of basketball without looking over their shoulder because of gun violence. I know I speak for all Bronxites in condemning this despicable, cowardly act. My office will continue to work with the police, our district attorney, elected officials, and other community organizations to take as many illegal guns off of our streets as we possibly can."

As of Wednesday, no arrests have been made in connection with the shooting, police said.



# How to get whiter dentures

BY DR. WILLIAM WOLFSON

There are many ways to remove stains from your teeth. Solutions for teeth whitening include drugstore whitening strips, at-home gel kits, professional teeth whitening services, and laser teeth whitening. Laser teeth whitening is becoming more and more popular with cosmetic dentists because it offers patients the most convenient way to brighten teeth, and because the light penetrates the enamel, whereas superficial gels and pastes, strips and paints can not.

## Does Laser Teeth Whitening Work?

There are many trade-marked laser teeth whitening (or more accurately, "light-accelerated bleaching") systems available to patients, and most dentists generally agree on Philips ZOOM! Whitening as most effective formulation. The benefits of ZOOM! laser teeth whitening include:

- Reduced chair time (effects in as little as 30 minutes)
- Longer-lasting white (up to 5 years!)
- Less damaging than over-the-counter products

Laser teeth whitening works better than other whitening products because it reaches deeper into the tooth's enamel. Just like other teeth whitening products, laser teeth whitening systems make use of a hydrogen peroxide gel compound to bleach your teeth. After applying the gel, your dentist will apply light energy to accelerate the bleaching process, which activates the hydrogen peroxide reaction within the teeth's crystal enamel structures and bleaches stains.

Laser teeth whitening is usually performed with a halogen light in the blue light spectrum, as blue light wavelengths have been shown to

## Dental Diary

most effective at accelerating this reaction.

### Laser Teeth Whitening Side Effects

As with any peroxide-based teeth whitening procedure, some patients may experience tooth sensitivity after treatment. Brushing with Sensodyne toothpaste for a few weeks prior to treatment can ease these symptoms.

### Be Prepared

You do need to start off with Clean Teeth! Biofilms on the teeth caused by foods and bacteria, as well as any superficial staining should be removed BEFORE starting any whitening system. The system simply works better on clean teeth. In addition, and periodontal problems should be treated. Already irritated gums are swollen and puffy, masking the tooth area at the gumline, and inhibiting the application of the whitening gel.

### An Experienced Practitioner

It's also important that your dentist and his/her Hygiene department be experienced with laser teeth whitening system. The ZOOM! Whitening system requires experienced application of a gum protectant and sunscreen before the actual whitening begins. Gum tissue needs to be screened from ultraviolet light, just like the rest of your skin! Mis-application of these protectants can lead to tender gums or lips. A chemical "sunburn" from either the lights or the gel is uncomfortable.

*Come in and get to know us! In an effort to prevent Dental problems, and to get to know us and our caring staff, our office is offering new patients a consultation, x-rays, an oral examination and oral cancer screening for \$ 49.00. Just mention this article. Dr. William Wolfson is the director of Morris Park Dental Associates, located at 960 Morris Park Ave. Just dial (718) D-R-S-M-I-L-E or 718-377-6453 to schedule an appointment.*

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## Ridgewood names new chairman

Ridgewood Savings Bank announced that its Board of Trustees has approved the promotion of Peter M. Boger to chairman and chief executive officer.

Boger will continue to serve as the bank's president.

Boger, who joined

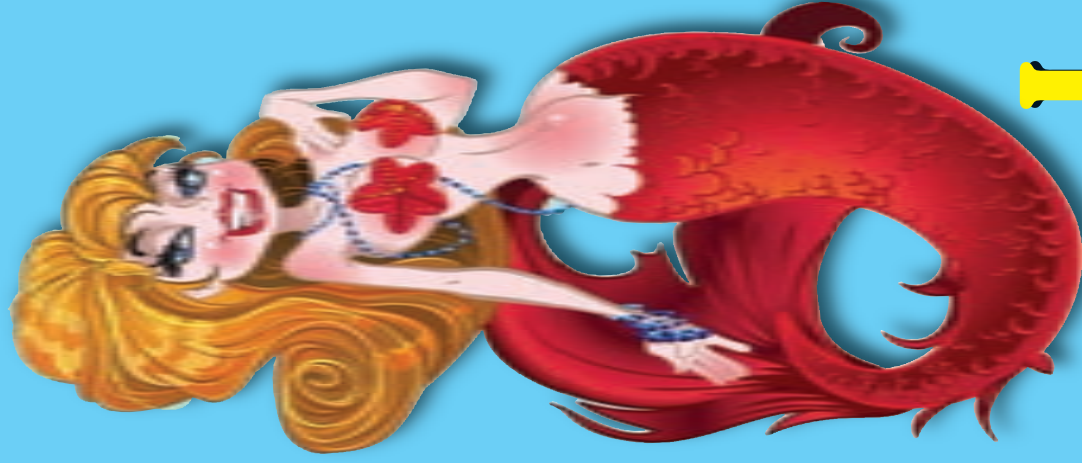
Ridgewood Savings Bank during March 1999, succeeds William C. McGarry as chairman and chief executive officer.

McGarry is retiring after having served as chairman and chief executive officer of Ridgewood Savings Bank since January 2004.



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