

Free Inside:
7-page Elder Care
Supplement

Pages 19-25



The Bronx's
Number One
Sports

Pages 39-42



The Bronx's
Number One
Classifieds

Pages 34-38



Webster express battle

BY DAVID CRUZ

It's merchants versus riders in a plan to bring a special express bus route to Webster Avenue.

The project, still in the planning stages, could knock out parking along the bustling 5.3 mile stretch of road, home to businesses and residential buildings.

It's also home to the Bx41, dubbed the most unreliable bus in the Bronx, by the Straphangers Campaign.

The parking space-cutting design, one of three, could hurt businesses' bottom line, charged Wilma Alonso, executive director of the Fordham Business Improvement District.

"The question is, what's more important, moving buses faster or cars faster?" she asked.

"The actual project is good, but I don't know if implementing it should go at the expense of businesses."

Those pro and con sentiments were heard during an open house meeting at the Icahn Charter Middle School on May 16.

Many attendees were supportive of a faster Bx41 bus route, according to Nick Mosquera,

Continued on page 26

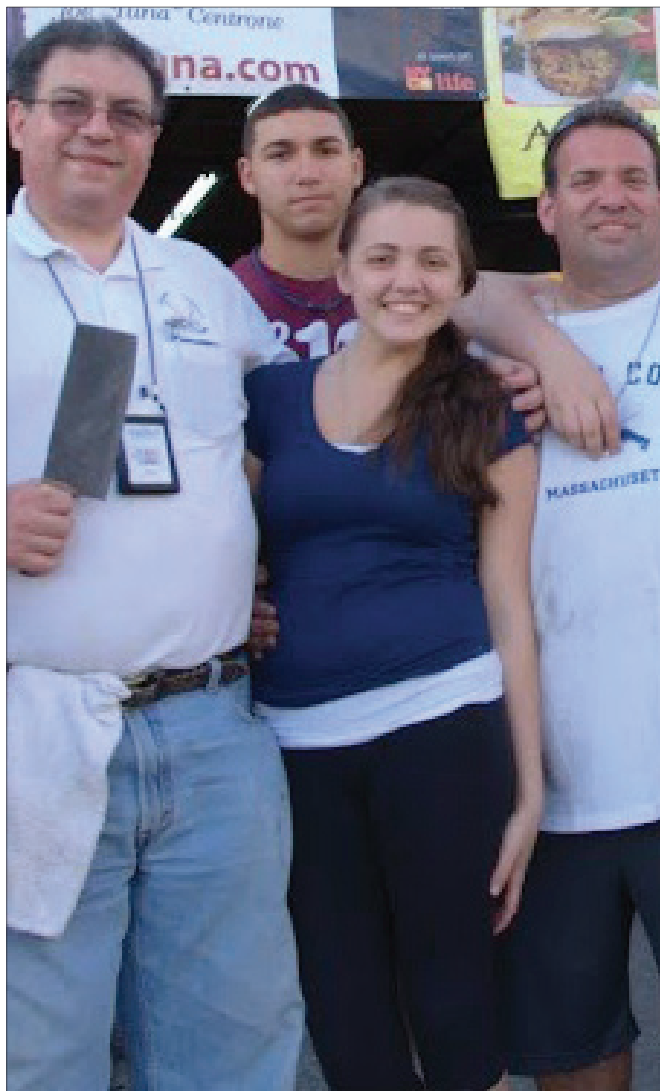


Photo by Robert Benimoff

BARBECUE FUN IN HUNTS POINT

The butcher knives were in full use at the May 17 Employee Appreciation Day Barbecue sponsored by A-1 Distributor in Hunts Point. Meat eaters tasted an array of meats from pig to ribs and enjoyed live DJ music during its fourth annual celebration. Owner Nick Madio (r) poses with seafood cooking legend Joe Tuna (l), and his staff.

YANKING PEDRO'S CHAIN

Clinic takeover talks underway

BY DAVID CRUZ

With the state pushing to close disgraced Pedro Espada's clinic chain, a veteran medical clinic is looking to take it over.

Urban Health Plan of Hunts Point is looking to move in to 731 White Plains Road, home base of his Soundview Health Care chain.

If Urban Health does step in to provide care to the 20,000 patients, the family for convicted embezzler Espada will cease to control the 34-year clinic.

"We are in the middle of trying to finalize conversations with several clinics in the area," was all Soundview spokeswoman Rachael Fasciani said about behind-the-scenes talks.

Urban Health Plan's interest in the floundering clinic comes as

Soundview along with neighboring Hunts Point Multi-Service Center Inc. face possible financial ruin.

A spokesman for Urban Health Plan declined to discuss whether any talks were underway to take over the clinic.

"We can't say anything now, but will in June," said spokeswoman Ivy Fairchild.

Meanwhile, lawyers for the Soundview Health Clinic had their day in court on May 21 against the State Department of Health for allegedly withholding \$182,000 in Medicare payments from the clinic.

Fasciani said the money would go towards paying salaries of staffers who have gone unpaid

Continued on page 26

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Boogie Down cultural treasures taking boro charms to the bank

BY DAVID CRUZ

The Boogie Down has won preservation bragging rights, thanks to a grant contest.

The New York Botanical Garden and the Bartow-Pell Mansion Museum were in the top four sites chosen to split a grant totaling \$405,000 by the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

The grants, part of a \$3 million dollar fund, will help revamp the lush beauty of several respective attractions in the Bronx.

The City Island Nautical Museum, Mind-Builders Creative Arts Center in Norwood and the Woodlawn Cemetery also received grants of lesser amounts, though the figures were not disclosed.

The organizations were among forty other historic places throughout the five boroughs picked for a grant by the nonprofit.

"These sites did a stellar job getting out the vote and their communities to support these important preservation projects," said

Timothy J. McClimon, head of the American Express Foundation, which sponsored the contest.

Powered by social media sites like Facebook and Twitter, the contest allowed the public to vote online for more than three weeks starting in May for the historic places most important to them.

The list was originally 500, then brought down to 40.

Ellen Bruzelius performed mental cartwheels when she found out Bartow-Pell Mansion Museum won.

"We are thrilled," said Bruzelius who started ratcheting up her BPMM's Facebook likes to generate buzz.

"[We started] building our email list so we could send voting reminders," she said.

The group's \$155,000 grant will go towards restoring several of the museum's barren gardens.

The NY Botanical Garden picked up a \$250,000 award dedicated to improving its 2.5 acre Rock Gar-

den, particularly its serene cascading waterfall.

Gregory Long was equally thrilled by the grant.

His thanks extended towards "all of the friends and supporters" who voted online for the organization.

Stephanie Meeks, president of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, was thrilled to see people throwing their support for the sites via cyberspace.

"It has been exciting to watch this program bring people together to show their pride in the places that matter to them."

The May 22 announcement comes just as preservationists celebrate National Preservation Month.

This year's theme's focused on hidden gems throughout major cities.

The other three Bronx organizations will receive a portion of the remaining \$2.1 million dollars next month.

Reach reporter David Cruz at 718-742-3383 or dcruz@cnglocal.com.



Photo courtesy of NYBG

The New York Botanical Garden's historic 2.5 acre cascading Rock Garden will be getting some serious restoration, thanks to winning a grant through Partners in Preservation competition that also saw Bartow-Pell Mansion Museum and other local cultural organizations share in grants that were based on the public registering their votes..


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Photos by Walter Pofeldt

CMT'Y BOARD 3 WELLNESS FAIR HELD

Eating right and living healthy was the focus of Community Board Three's health fair Friday, May 18. Members hosted their awareness event at their headquarters at 1426 Boston Road in Morrisania. The community faces several health issues including a high risk of heart disease, obesity, and diabetes.

(Above) Shivonne Blake-Wynter Demonstrates the preparation of simple healthy food for a group of Community Board 3 residents. Attendees sampled the food and were given health information for their enlightenment.

(Below) Community Board 3 resident Gloria Wynn samples the very healthy vegetable dish made by the instructor as her one year old daughter Jade looks on.



Please, frisk us politely

BY DAVID CRUZ
Go ahead, stop and frisk us. But nicely, please.

That's the gripe/plea from Soundview locals complaining over the 43rd Precinct's use of the controversial stop-and-frisk tactic.

At a community meeting hosted by Assemblyman Marcos Crespo, local residents told precinct that rookies especially are being a bit too heavy handed in how they approach neighbors.

Karen Igrassia of Soundview complained about her son being stopped. She recalled how he was handcuffed, called "fat boy" and struck in the head with an officer's baton.

recently. "He used to want to be a police officer," she told the brass. "Now he can't stand you."

Senator Ruben Diaz Sr., who co-hosted the forum at Monroe High School, pointed out the irony, given the neighborhood complaints, of patrol cars with the

message on the side saying "courtesy and respect."

Other residents gave accounts of unnecessary arrests, verbal abuse and unprofessional conduct from mostly new Police Academy graduates under supervision patrolling a crime-plagued stretch of Westchester Avenue between Bronx River and Metcalf avenues that

without condemning his rookies.

"These officers are brand new," said Gleeson, adding, "It takes us a little time to find ourselves."

Despite the complaints, Gleeson reported a 17.5% overall drop in crime since the new zone was set up.

The latest crime stats show robberies and grand

19.4%, from 186 cases in 2011 to 222 this year.

Business owners, pleased with the overall drop in crime, were still not happy with the approach from officers.

"I know people who don't drive through Westchester Avenue just to avoid getting stopped," said one local businessman too scared to be identified for fear of reprisal from cops.

Concerns over the stop and frisk program come as Commissioner Ray Kelly unveiled new measures to prevent unnecessary stops, including better training and identifying problem cops.

"These measures will help us more closely monitor the daily street encounter activity of precinct personnel," said Kelly in a letter to City Council Speaker Christine Quinn.

Reach reporter David Cruz at 718-742-3383 or email dcruz@cnglocal.com.

Karen Igrassia of Soundview complained about her son being stopped. She recalled how he was handcuffed, called "fat boy" and struck in the head with an officer's baton.

was re-designated an Operation Impact zone earlier this year.

Captain Todd Gleeson, an 18-year veteran who heads the impact zone, did his best to answer concerns

Grand larcenies jumped larceny cases continue to spike in the overall precinct since the start of the Impact Zone. There have been 149 robberies in 2012, up from 141 the same time last year.

JHS 80's new name's a mouthful

BY DAVID CRUZ
While history may record that Calvin Klein, Ralph Lauren and Penny Marshall once attended there, JHS 80 is now itself history.

The New York City Department of Education has wiped away over 90 years of school history by giving it a new name.

The iconic school, voted by the DOE to undergo the federal "turnaround" program, has been renamed the Norwood Academy for Communal Excellence at the Isobel Rooney Campus. The idea behind that mouthful of a name came from the new school's proposed principal in collaboration with

community leaders.

All that remains of its former title is Isobel Rooney, a beloved school board member who donated her entire life to the school. She was the school's first Community School Board president who ran the CSB from 1970 to 1995.

The decision to keep part of the original name comes much to the chagrin of parents, students and education activists, who pleaded with members from the Panel for Educational Policy last month to keep the entire original name of the school at 149 E. Mosholu Parkway.

Deputy Chancellor Dr. Dorita Gibson, who oversaw the meeting, said she would

relay the information to Chancellor Dennis Wolcott. She "heard the passion" and was able to honor part of the community's request.

With the school now in "turnaround" mode, the DOE can request upwards of \$1.8 million federal dollars to tweak the school's curriculum.

Board members can also re-staff the school, laying off nearly 50% of teachers, under the new guidelines. Those removed can re-apply.

The UFT filed a lawsuit in response to the citywide re-staffing move early this month.

They claim the DOE circumvented the union's

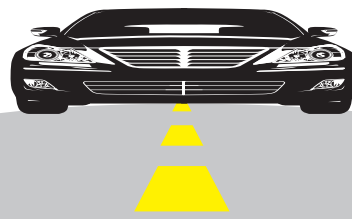
contract agreement by laying off teachers in opened schools.

Both sides agreed to arbitration, granting mediators the right to decide whether the DOE violated its agreement with the UFT. A decision is expected by next month.

Hiring decisions on new teachers can be reversed by the arbitrator's ruling.

As the Bronx Times has been reporting, JHS 80 is one of ten schools in the Bronx voted to be virtually closed and re-opened under a new school name by September.

Reach reporter David Cruz at 718-742-3383 or email dcruz@cnglocal.com.



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St. Mary's Rec. Center sees \$1.38 million in green improvements

BY PATRICK ROCCHIO

This Mott Haven green oasis is getting greener.

St. Mary's Recreation Center in St. Mary's Park has received \$1.38 million in improvements to make the fun times more energy efficient ones.

Students from P.S. 230 and P.S. 161 shut off a symbolic power switch outside the center on Friday, May 18, illustrating the power that will be saved at the city's

oldest recreation center by a number of improvements to make the building at 450 St. Anns Avenue in the park more energy efficient.

On hand to highlight an example of the steps Parks took to becoming a more sustainable agency Kavanagh, Department of Citywide Administrative Services Chief Energy Management Officer Ariella Maron, New York Power Authority vice-president Paul

Belnick, and

"When it opened in 1951, St. Mary's Recreation Center was the first indoor recreation facility in New York City," said Parks Department first deputy commissioner Liam Kavanagh. "Thanks to our partners at the Department of Citywide Administrative Services and New York Power Authority, it is now the first to receive a green retrofit - including energy-efficient lights and

pool motors, and an insulated pool cover - that will both help the environment and save taxpayers money. With these improvements, Parks' recreation centers will not only make the city a healthier and happier place to live, but a greener and cleaner one as well."

The project was managed by Department of Citywide Administrative Services, implemented by the New York Power Authority, and funded through PlaNYC.

The renovations also include new energy efficient lighting and lighting controls, replacing defective

steam traps in the heating system, a motorized pool cover to reduce evaporation and water heating needs, and the installation of a new vestibule at a front entrance, said Ebong Daniel Ukpang, New York Power Authority project manager.

Continued on page 26



Photo by Patrick Rocchio

The green plant systems on the roof of St. Mary's Recreation Center, pictured, helps retain most of the rainwater in a one-inch downpour. The white, reflective rooftop does not absorb sunlight, reducing the need for cooling in warm weather.

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The next time a cop let's you off with a warning and a "have a nice day" over that stop for talking on your cell phone or a broken tail light, thank Bronx D.A. **Rob Johnson** and Police Commissioner **Ray Kelly**.

We first wrote about a summons slowdown over a year ago, an outgrowth of those ticket fixing indictments against 16 cops, mostly union delegates carrying on a long-standing department tradition, like it or not.

When Kelly then had Internal Affairs cops slap three-to-ten vacation day rips on cops losing traffic court cases, cops said enough was enough.

They've been staging a job action, meeting the basic legal requirement for car stops by giving motorists a "warning and admonishment" - but no summonses.

That means the city has been losing close to a million dollars a week over the past year, with summonses down 30 percent in the Bronx alone.

Post City Hall Bureau Chief **Dave Seifman** recently dug up hard

numbers from Mayor Bloomberg's budget office showing cops expected to write close to 270,000 fewer summonses by the end of this fiscal year on June 30.

Multiply that by a MINIMUM of your average \$115 summons, and that's a hefty \$31-plus million lost to the running-on-empty city coffers.

This all could easily have been avoided - and a number of good careers saved from the crapper - if Kelly had stepped in a long time ago and simply ordered the ticket "courtesy" system ended.

But then, micro-manager Kelly swears he was "shocked, shocked!" to discover the system even existed.

We would advise him, however, NOT to swear to that on a Bible in a thunderstorm....

JEFF'S REVENGE

You better believe Bronx State Sen. **Jeff Klein** is gloating as fellow Dems sharpen the ax for Senate Democratic Minority Leader **John Sampson**.

Daily News Albany Bureau Chief **Ken Lovett** reports the Brook-

lyn pol is on his way out as leader, whether the Dems take back control of the Senate in November (not likely we say) or not.

Jeff has no love or respect - zip, zero, nada - for Sampson, a less-than-spectacular leader in a job Jeff coveted after being the long-time legislative mop-and-broom guy on the Senate floor.

That's one of the prime reasons Jeff formed his 4-member breakaway Independent Democratic Conference, to put a lock on the already 32-30 Republican majority.

Working with Majority Leader **Dean Skelos** has reaped them the rewards of committee chairmanships and mucho moola for their districts, with tacit support from Gov. **Cuomo** to get the wheels of government rolling smoothly.

And even if Dems somehow manage to squeeze back control by a slim margin, Jeff will still hold sway with his four IDC votes.

HOUSE LOUSE

We're just itchin' to tell this tale. A judge at Bronx criminal court had to gavel a fast adjournment re-

cently when bedbugs were found in the holding pen. A fast steam-cleaning, however, and it was case dismissed.

HAVING A BALL

What it lacked in turnout, this year's Bronx Ball at Orchard Beach made up for it in PAH-TAYing, with honoree **Fat Joe** pumpin' up the volume. We hear that after that kerfluffle over some of Joe's lyrics being demeaning to women, Bronx Boro Prez **Ruben Diaz Jr.** ordered "radio play versions only!"

*Lotta lovely ladies, including Ruben's NYPD sergeant sister **Damaris**, a vision of loveliness in white. Ruben joked that if we had any thoughts of proposing, that would make his state senator dad, **The Rev.**, our father-in-law....

*West Bronx State Sen. **Gustavo Rivera** at the bar, politely nixing an offer to buy him a drink. Ethics, you know. And with his weight loss mantra, drinking water.

*Term-limited and heading for a federal re-trial over where those city funds went, City Councilman **Larry (Bagel Guy) Seabrook**

stirring it up, talking with us about daughter **Latisha** maybe looking at his seat. Larry, you fox!

*Among the missing: former BPs **Freddy Ferrer** and **Adolfo Carrion**; Riverdale Press editress **Kate Pastor**, recuperating from knee surgery and unavailable for that tango she promised us.

COP CORNER

Lt. **Jim Ruane**, longtime respected boss of the 4-4 Precinct detective squad in Highbridge, set a May 31 deadline to lay his badge on that velvet pillow at the retirement section after 25 years. That after trying to swing to the Joint Terrorist Task Force. We hear some high ranking bosses finally took his retirement threat seriously, going to Ray Kelly to swing his move to the JTTF, where he'll have some new shoes to squeeze. Best of luck, pal. And welcome to Lt. **Joseph Lyons** at the squad.

SLIPPING AWAY

Northeast Bronx/Mount Vernon state Sen. **Ruth Hassell-Thompson** lookin' like a tall cool drink in a red dress at the 49th

Precinct Community breakfast last week.

Her staffer and 80th Assembly District Leader **Kenny Agosto** said he and **Ruth** are cheering each other on with a diet and exercise regimen.

Meanwhile, **Venancio (Benny) Catala**, heavy-duty Dem Party go-to guy, lookin' less heavy duty himself these days. Go Benny!

CONDOLENCES

To the family of **Catherine Stroud**, female district leader in Highbridge's 77th Assembly District, who died last Thursday.

FUN-RAISER

Bronx Historian **Lloyd Ultan**, emceeding the Kingbridge Heights Community Center fundraiser June 14 at the Botanical Garden, says the best way to raise bux these days is "put a dollar on the elevator floor and press UP..."

And please, do NOT ask Lloyd what's new!

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PUBLIC NOTICE

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

<u>Address</u>	<u>Block/Lot</u>
151 East Tremont Avenue	2808/4

Under HPD's Asset Sales Program, City-owned buildings are sold at a negotiated price to existing residential or commercial tenants or to a sponsor selected pursuant to a Request for Offers. Purchasers are required to remove all Housing and Building Code violations.

Under the proposed project, the City will sell the Disposition Area, which consists of one vacant building with approximately 13,500 square feet of commercial space, to the St. Margaret Mary Ghanaian Community Organization, Inc. ("Sponsor") at the negotiated price of One Million Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,200,000) ("Disposition Price").

The appraisal and the Deed and Project Summary are available for public examination at the office of HPD, 100 Gold Street, Room 9C11, New York, New York on business days during business hours.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a public hearing will be held on June 5, 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 Mayors 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.



MICHAEL R. BLOOMBERG
Mayor

MATHEW M. WAMBUA
Commissioner

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 Department of Housing Preservation and Development ("HPD") of the City of New York ("City") has proposed the sale of the following City-owned property (collectively, "Disposition Area") in the Borough of the Bronx:

<u>Address</u>	<u>Block/Lots</u>
539 Union Avenue	2582/47
500 Union Avenue	2582/64
830-850 East 149 Street	2582/65

Under HPD's Mixed Income Rental Program, sponsors purchase City-owned land or vacant buildings and construct or rehabilitate multifamily buildings in order to create affordable rental housing units with a range of affordability. Construction and permanent financing is provided through loans from private institutional lenders and from public sources including HPD, the New York City Housing Development Corporation, the State of New York, and the federal government. Additional funding may also be provided from the syndication of low-income housing tax credits. The newly constructed or rehabilitated buildings provide rental housing to low income, moderate income, and middle income families.

Under the proposed project, the City will sell the Disposition Area to Crossroads Developer LLC ("Sponsor") for the nominal price of one dollar per tax lot. The Sponsor will also deliver an enforcement note and mortgage for the remainder of the appraised value ("Land Debt"). The Sponsor will then construct three buildings containing approximately 425 rental dwelling units, plus three units for superintendents, approximately 36,769 square feet of commercial space and approximately 20,911 square feet of community facility space on the Disposition Area, and will develop approximately 19,282 square feet of the Disposition Area as open space.

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

The appraisal and the proposed Land Disposition Agreement and Project Summary are available for public examination at the office of HPD, 100 Gold Street, Room 9-C11, New York, New York on business days during business hours.

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MICHAEL R. BLOOMBERG
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40th PCT.

THURS, MAY 3rd, 11:45 p.m. – East 138 St. and Willis Ave. Police officers were alerted that a bullet had been fired. Upon arriving at the scene, investigators were informed that the bullet had been fired at a livery cab. No injuries were reported.

41st PCT.

SAT, MAY 5th, 3:10 a.m. – 1152 Randall Ave. With an arrest, police removed a semi-automatic gun off of the streets of the Hunts Point community. Taken away from the suspect was a 9-mm semi-automatic pistol. The weapon was vouched as evidence.

TUES, MAY 8th, 1:35 p.m. – Longfellow Ave. and East 165 St. A 20 year old black male can be facing a year in jail after being found with a gun. Taken away from the young culprit was a 9-mm pistol.

42nd PCT.

THURS, MAY 3rd, 2:50 p.m. – 735 East 163 St. Police investigators are looking into an incident where a male had been stabbed. The male victim was suffering from a stab wound to the chest area and was transported to Lincoln Medical Center for additional care.

FRI, MAY 4th, 2:35 p.m. – 1473 Bryant Ave. Detectives are conducting an inquiry into a double stabbing concerning two female victims. Apparently each of the victims had stabbed each other. None of the victims were reported to be in a life threatening condition.

TUES, MAY 8th, 2:35 p.m. – 631 East 168 St. A suspect was arrested as police looking into a dispute that ended with a slashing. A Hispanic teenager was slashed in the arm during a dispute near Morris High School. Responding officers made an arrest.

THURS, MAY 10th, 5:25 a.m. – 1487 Vyse Ave. Officials are looking into a reported robbery. A 20 year old black male apparently at gun point robbed the victim of a gold chain, a cell phone and an I-pad. Before fleeing, the culprit, a black male, fired the gun twice aiming at the victim. The victim escaped injuries.

THURS, MAY 10th, 6:00 p.m. – 1392 Franklin Ave. Police officers responding to a reported family dispute ended up on the lucky side. The officers arrested a person who was in possession of three different handguns. The weapons were vouched as evidence.

43rd PCT.

THURS, MAY 3rd, 2:30 p.m. – Lafayette Ave. and White



POLICE BLOTTER

MON, MAY 7th, 9:55 a.m. – Additional police officers were dispersed into a park area looking for a male who sexually assaulted a 14 year old male. The teen was traveling through the park when the older male groped the young teenager. The culprit fled, but police also checked the surround areas for the attacker.

TUES, MAY 8th, 10:00 a.m. – 1530 Sheridan Ave. Another person was arrested by local police officers after being found with a gun. The weapon was removed from the culprit's possession and vouched as evidence for the pending trail.

WED, MAY 9th, 1:05 p.m. – East 161 St. Police officers arrested over a dozen persons at the Bronx Criminal Court House. The 14 arrested were charged with disorderly conduct and unlawful assembly.

WED, MAY 9th, 5:45 a.m. – 833 Concourse Village. An 82 year old man was admitted to Lincoln Medical Condition in critical condition. The elderly man was punched in his face causing him to fall to the ground during a robbery committed by a black male. The unknown culprit fled with \$20 in cash.

45th PCT.

THURS, MAY 3rd, 7:00 a.m. – 719 Calhoun Ave. A 24 year old Hispanic male was arrested as police vouched a 22-caliber semi-automatic pistol. The young male failed to obtain the proper license to own and also to carry a gun within NYC.

46th PCT.

SAT, MAY 5th, 2:45 a.m. – Webster Ave. and East 175 St. A van being used to transport prisoners from police station houses to the county court facility was involved in an accident. Seven persons who were in custody were transported to Lincoln Medical Center while two injured police officers who received minor injuries were treated at Jacobi Medical Center.

SAT, MAY 5th, 12:30 p.m. – 5 West Burnside Ave. Additional police officers were sent into the area after there was an attempt to rob an area bank. The would-be thief entered the Chase Manhattan Bank passing a note to one of

the tellers. For an unknown reason, the mysterious thief fled the bank empty handed.

SUN, MAY 6th, 2:05 a.m. – 1920 Harrison Ave. responding police officers found a man who had been shot twice. The 34 year old Latino man was suffering from bullet wounds to the right leg and also a shoulder wound.

SUN, MAY 6th, 9:35 p.m. – Topping Ave. and Cross Bronx Expwy. A 38 year old male was taken into custody by police. The unnamed culprit was found in possession of a 32-caliber pistol. The weapon was removed from the man's possession and vouched as evidence for his pending trail.

MON, MAY 7th, 1:45 a.m. – 2015 Creston Ave. Police arrested another person who failed to obtain the proper license to possess a gun within NYC. Taken away from the culprit was a 350-caliber gun.

47th PCT.

SUN, MAY 6th, 2:00 a.m. – White Plains Rd. and East 235 St. Police investigators were summoned to Montefiore Hospital where they found a person who had been shot. A 22 year old black male was receiving treatment for a bullet wound to the left arm. Police gathered information about the incident.

MON, MAY 7th, 11:25 a.m. – 4219 Matilda Ave. Officials are looking into the death of a baby. Apparently the infant died of a cardiac arrest, but investigators are waiting for the results of the Medical Examiner's autopsy before closing out their inquiry.

WED, MAY 9th, 4:10 a.m. – 3812 Boston Rd. Two black males are wanted by police for committing an early morning robbery. The unknown culprits removed over \$1100 in cash in addition to an I-phone.

WED, MAY 9th, 1:45 p.m. – 2875 Edson Ave. Police investigators are looking into an armed robbery. Three black males, with one armed with a gun, fled with less than three-hundred dollars. None of the victims were reported injured.

THURS, MAY 10th, 5:10 a.m. – Police investigators are looking into a incident that a woman reported that she had been raped. The woman was taken to Jacobi Medical Center where she was provided with specialized care. Detectives will continue with the inquiry.

THURS, MAY 10th, 10:30 a.m. – 3989 White Plains Rd. A search is underway for a black male who robbed a cell phone store. The thief was wearing a mask when he entered the store. At gun point the

clerk was directed to turn over the money to the unknown culprit. The thief was provided with three thousand dollars before fleeing.

48th PCT.

MON, MAY 7th, 7:20 a.m. – East 184 St. and Park Ave. Authorities are looking into a reported carjacking. Two Hispanic males at gunpoint drive off with the victim's vehicle on Park Ave. which was described as a Chrysler Pacifica.

TUES, MAY 8th, 12:30 p.m. – 4268 Third Ave. A search is underway for an armed male culprit. The unknown armed male robbed a business of \$1200 in cash. Additional police officers were sent into the local area but their search was fruitless. Now it up to the detectives to identify, locate, and arrest the suspect.

49th PCT.

WED, MAY 9th, 12:15 p.m. – 925 Astor Ave. Two students were arrested after assaulting a school safety officer. The city worker was punched in the face while on duty at Columbus High School. The school officer received medical treatment at a local hospital before being released.

WED, MAY 9th, 6:10 p.m. – 2723 Throop Ave. Police officers arriving at the scene of a 9-1-1 call found the body of a 96 year old man. Investigators called to the scene believe that the man had taken his own life with a gun. Detectives are waiting for the results of the medical examiner's autopsy.

THURS, MAY 10th, 2:40 p.m. – 1740 East Gun Hill Rd. A police officer was transported to Jacobi Medical Center. The officer was injured in a vehicle accident and reported to have minor injuries.

50th PCT.

MON, MAY 7th, 3:00 p.m. – 3840 Greystone Ave. A government employee was transported to an area hospital in stable condition. Police officers responded to assist a postal worker who seemed to be emotionally unstable. Once the police gained control of the worker, they were removed to North Central Bronx Hospital for treatment.

TUES, MAY 8th, 10:15 a.m. – 3965 Sedgwick Ave. An elderly woman kept police at bay. Once in custody the 71 year old woman was transported to North Central Bronx Hospital and provided with medical care.

52nd PCT.

SAT, MAY 5th, 2:55 a.m. – Jerome Ave. and West 183 St. Authorities are looking into a stabbing. A 23 year old Hispanic man was treated at St. Barnabas Hospital for a stab wound to the stomach area. Local detectives are handling the inquiry.

SAT, MAY 5th, 2:45 p.m. – East Gun Hill Rd. A suspect was arrested as police officers came to the assistance of an off duty traffic agent. The culprit is charged with grabbing a scanner from the city worker's hand. The suspect was

charged with obstructing government administration.

THURS, MAY 10th, 1:30 p.m. – 2903 Valentine Ave. Police officers responded to a call where a 4-month old baby had difficulty breathing. Despite efforts to assist the infant, the 4-month old baby died. Officials are looking into the cause of death.

Housing

FRI, MAY 4th, 10:20 a.m. – 1790 Story Ave. The medical staff at Jacobi Medical Center treated a male who had been shot. The 38 year old victim, a black male, was suffering from a bullet wound to the left leg when arriving at the hospital. Police officers from Housing's PSA # 8 handled the initial inquiry, but detectives from the 43rd Pct. Squad will complete the investigation.

SAT, MAY 5th, 11:30 p.m. – 755 White Plains Rd. A 40 year old black male was arrested by police officers assigned to Housing's PSA # 8. The man was found in possession of a 38-caliber revolver.

TUES, MAY 8th, 9:10 a.m. – 303 East 135 St. Police officers from Housing's PSA # 7 and 40th Pct. Detective Squad have teamed up as they look into a reported home invasion. Two unknown males entered the home and started to pistol whip the occupant. The two culprits fled with a small safe reported containing some fifty thousand dollars in cash. The incident is under investigation.

Fire Log

THURS, MAY 3rd, 12:30 a.m. – 188 Lincoln Ave. A 72 year old male required assistance after a fire damaged the building housing his residence. Red Cross officials were at the scene to assist residents of the 17 story dwelling.

THURS, MAY 3rd, 12:40 p.m. – 250 East 156 St. Fire Dept. Haz-mat personnel responded to assist a school worker. A female working in a school cafeteria had Freon sprayed in her face while cleaning the area. The worker was provided with medical treatment by specially trained members of the Fire Dept.

THURS, MAY 10th, 7:00 p.m. – 60 Buchanan Pl. Firefighters arriving at the scene of a reported structure fire indicated that the blaze was in a private dwelling. Under the leadership of Battalion 19, members of Engine 75 & Tower Ladder 33 went to working as other units started to arrive on scene. Engine 43's crew assisted with getting the first hose line into operation while Ladder 59's crews assisted with searches of the two story frame structure. Battalion 19 reported that searches in the basement & first floor were underway. Within minutes the engine crews had water on the flames, the fire was starting to darken down but due to the amount of debris in the structure, an additional engine & ladder crew were requested to respond. By 7:05 p.m. – the incident commander reported that the main body of fire had been extinguished.



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Fresh Direct to service all Bronx zips; Food Stamps

BY KIRSTEN SANCHEZ

The Bronx is getting a nutritional shot in the arm. Fresh Direct will now be delivering directly to every zip code in the borough.

Deliveries to the added zip codes began on Monday.

As part of the expansion, the company is promoting a Bronx grand opening sale with discounts of up to 50 percent on popular items, plus new customer discounts of \$25 for all Bronx residents.

Fresh Direct also announced it has secured approval for a new Bronx experimental program it hopes will change federal policy that now keeps food stamp recipients from using their benefits to purchase groceries over the Internet.

Electronic Benefits Transfer, the system that allows recipients to pay for groceries, does not support Internet transactions.

Fresh Direct was un-

able to accept food stamps, prompting them to ask the United States Department of Agriculture to approve the pilot program to allow it to serve a test segment of Food Stamp beneficiaries in the Bronx.

details as they become available. "As we continue to grow and create jobs in New York City, we are thrilled that we are now able to serve the entire Bronx and provide residents there with convenient access to quality, fresh foods," said Jason Ackerman, CEO of Fresh Direct. "This expansion is part of our larger effort to find ways to enable all New Yorkers to lead healthy lifestyles."

"Throughout the relocation process, Fresh Direct has been focused on the needs of Bronx residents, so much so that the company signed a comprehensive memorandum of understanding with my office outlining their commitment to the Bronx on service expansion, accepting food stamps, local hiring and other key concerns," said Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr.

He said the agreement "shows Fresh Direct is ready to live up to those commitments ahead of schedule, years before making the Bronx their home. I am pleased with Fresh Direct's plans to expand its delivery zones to every corner of the boro. Ultimately, this move will offer residents increased healthy grocery options."



It partnered earlier this year with Gov. Cuomo, Mayor Bloomberg, and Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr. to announce the leading fresh food Internet grocer will invest \$112.6 million to build its new headquarters at the Harlem River Yards.

The move will create 1,000 new jobs, retain 2,000 existing ones, as well as 684 construction jobs to build it's new headquarters.

able to accept food stamps, prompting them to ask the United States Department of Agriculture to approve the pilot program to allow it to serve a test segment of Food Stamp beneficiaries in the Bronx.

The USDA approved the pilot program last week.

Fresh Direct will announce the pilot deployment launch date, delivery locations, and other program

Serrano announces BCC, Fordham grants

Congressman José E. Serrano announced that the Department of Education had funded grants for Upward Bound programs at Bronx Community College and Fordham University for the coming year, and will likely fund the programs for five years total. In the first year, BCC will receive \$479,000 and Fordham will receive \$379,000. The Upward Bound program helps prepare students in underserved communities to apply for college and to be prepared academically when they arrive at college.

"These Upward Bound programs deserve the full support of the federal government because the work

that they carry out is vital for our high-achieving students in the Bronx," said Serrano. "Fordham and BCC are the perfect participants in a program that is directed at low-income and first generation college students."

"The Upward Bound grants are an important rung on the ladder of educational and social mobility," said Joseph M. McShane, S.J., president of Fordham University.

"Bronx Community College is excited to learn that it has been awarded an Upward Bound grant that will allow us to continue to provide services to students in four high schools in the

Bronx," said Dr. Carole M. Berotte Joseph, president of Bronx Community College.

"The best resource the Bronx has for a bright future are its children," added Serrano. "Despite the disadvantages that some start with, time and again, Bronx kids have gone on to huge accomplishments. The Upward Bound program will ensure that children over the next several years are given the support and help that they need to go on to successful secondary education careers and ultimately successful lives. There is nothing better that we can do for our community than to help our children to succeed."



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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A profile in courage

Dear editor,

Former New York City Comptroller and 2009 losing Democratic Party Mayoral candidate William Thompson is a profile in courage for resigning as chairman of the Battery Park City Authority. He is now free to run full time for mayor with no conflicts of interest. Contrast his courage with the four cowardly lions -- New York City Council Speaker Christine Quinn, New York City Comptroller John Lui, New York City Public Advocate Bill de Blasio and Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer. They all lack the moral courage of Thompson and continue to hold one public office while openly campaigning for the upcoming 2013 Democratic Party Mayoral Primary. The lines are clearly blurred between their day job and new job they each seek. All have been actively working the Pay for Play fundraising circuit, along with visiting every local and county Democratic Party clubhouse on day one after lame duck Mayor Bloomberg took his last oath of office in January 2010.

Quinn, Lui, de Blasio and Stringer start out with many advantages not available to ordinary challengers. During their respective terms of public office, each incumbent has daily television, radio and newspaper exposure, press conferences, newsletters, guest columns in newspapers, letters to the editor and speaking engagements on a regular basis. Don't forget the perks of public office, including announcements of member items (many of which taxpayers consider local pork-barrel projects) which are used to raise name recognition and assist in greasing the wheels of re-election or attempt at a higher new office.

If Quinn, Lui, deBlasio and Stringer are serious about running for mayor, they should resign their current office today. End the charade by being honest enough to run full time on their own time and dime. Allow citizens a Special Election to elect a replacement who can represent them full time. It is time we elected someone who is not using one public office as a stepping stone to another.

Hard working municipal civil servants who work full time can't campaign part time during the day as Quinn, Lui, de Blasio and Stringer do. They would have to either take a leave of absence or quit their day job.

Larry Penner

We have influence

Dear editor,

Americans need to know that it is our own government that is the problem and that it controls a great deal of the situations around the world that seemingly threaten us. Certainly nearly every dictator or communist system in the world has been set up with the help of either our State Department and/or the CIA since World War II.

Like it or not, it is American Insiders that influence organizations such as Haliburton through the Council on Foreign Relations (subversives against the American people). These same people supply our armed forces and they are helping Communist China to



Photo by Albert Suarez

STARS COME OUT FOR BRONX WEEK FILM FEATURES

Lights, camera, action! The 2nd Annual Bronx Week Film Festival kicked off Saturday, May 12 at the Brucker Bar & Grill, at 1 Bruckner Blvd. The event featured films made in the Bronx or by Bronx filmmakers. Free screenings began on Saturday with a ribbon-cutting. Among the independent films was "Quicksand", written, produced and directed by Alberto Suarez of Parkchester.

The moviemakers of the film "Quicksand" are ready for their close-up. Among them (l-r) are actor Andre DeLeon, director of photography/editor Jabari Clarke, actor Emilio Pantero and associate producer Richard Tobar.

become a military superpower through fake "free trade" agreements and moving American technology and industry to this and other tyrannical nations.

This is what has gone on and is happening now. It's Obama's job to destroy our currency, so Americans will be forced to subjugate themselves under a world currency to be controlled by a tyrannical oligarchy set to take world control through the United Nations.

It is time for the American people to be informed and educated about the true nature of the treachery and treason that has been committed against "We the People". Go to JBS.org, learn the truth and write letters to Congress before "Liberty and Freedom" fade away into a distant memory.

Ed Ventreska

Let us hear from you

Letters to the editor are welcome from all readers. They should be addressed care of this newspaper to John Collazzi, Publisher, the Bronx Times Reporter, 900 E. 132nd Street, Bronx, NY 10454, or e-mail to bronxtimes@cnglocal.com. 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.

A job well done

(The following letter was sent to Councilman James Vacca).

Dear Councilman Vacca,

In May of 2010, I bought an apartment in the Wasde Hampton Apartments at 2081 Cruger Avenue, and then became your constituent. About a year later, I received your newsletter describing the work you had done to rescue failing co-ops in this neighborhood. It happened at the time that this building was headed for the kinds of problems (we had a superintendent, for example, who was an unmitigated disaster) that your report described in the buildings you assisted.

It so happened at the time I received your newsletter, I had taken it upon myself to organize a shareholders' group here to deal with the problems in our building. After reading your newsletter, I contacted your office.

Your office dispatched one of your staff, Ritchie Torres, to talk to our group about how we might prevent our co-op from taking the slide suffered by others in the area. Ritchie has been very helpful, and I can tell you, as a public employee myself (I'm a high school special education teacher), his competence and assistance have impressed me greatly, and helped us immeasurably. I think once Ritchie became involved in our struggle, the managing agent and the board of directors of Wade Hampton finally began to take seriously their obligations to shareholders and tenants of this building.

So I write to thank you for your assistance, to give the highest praise possible to Ritchie, and to assure you that you will always have my vote in any race you choose to enter.

Mark Feltskog

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Pepsico CEO to address Lehman College graduates

BY KIRSTEN SANCHEZ

The chief executive officer of PepsiCo Americas Beverages will be sending more than 2,600 Class of 2012 Lehman College graduates out into the world as this year's commencement speaker.

Albert Carey will address the graduate and undergraduate students during the college's 44th commencement exercises to be held on Thursday, May 31 on the South Field of the Bronx campus, school officials announced last week.

Carey will also receive an honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters degree.

Also receiving honorary degrees will be Shirley Rodriguez Remeneski, chairperson of the Bronx-Lebanon Hospital Center's board of trustees, and Karen Musalo, professor of law at the University of California's Hasting's College of Law.

Carey, a graduate of the University of Maryland, began his career with PepsiCo in 1981 and has served in a variety of roles, including chief operating officer of PepsiCo Beverages & Foods North America, president of PepsiCo Sales, and president and CEO of Frito-Lay North America.

He was named to his current position last September, responsible for all aspects of PepsiCo's beverage business in America.

At Lehman, which several of his family members attended, he has been instrumental in building both scholarship funds and internship opportunities for its students.

In 2008, he received the Lehman Leadership Award at the college's annual awards gala.

Speaking for the Class of 2012 will be Oluwole Onemola, a political science major and current president of student government.

City Island Mother's Day traffic mess should be a lesson to save fire company

BY PATRICK ROCCHIO

Let Mother's Day be a warning, say City Island residents fearful of losing their FDNY Ladder Company to city budget cuts.

Traffic that day this year was backed up about 2 1/2 miles, leaving cars crawling, and any fire truck trying to get on to the island basically stuck while precious seconds count.

With the mayor's budget proposal of FY 2013 yet again containing plans to shutter 20 FDNY companies, the City Island community is mobilizing to fight any cut to its Ladder Company 53, which was named for closure in a 2009 internal FDNY memorandum.

No specific fire companies have been specifically singled out this year for closure, but activists believe that since the island's fire trucks cannot leave the

area for calls due to unique geographic isolation, an "artificially low" number of calls make Ladder 53 a likely company to be cut.

Ladder 53, performs specific initial search and rescue operations at fire scenes and has a ladder able to reach taller buildings on the island, while its sister Engine Co. 70 puts out fires.

The City Council restored funding to keep the fire company open in fiscal years 2010, 2011, and 2012, and Councilman Jimmy Vacca said the Mother's Day traffic snarl on City Island was all the proof needed as to why the isolated island community needs to keep Ladder 53.

"When traffic is this dense, all roads on City Island are backed up. How could a Ladder Company coming from off of the island possibly navigate

through these streets on such a busy day if there is a fire? Mother's Day is only the beginning of days like this that City Island will face over the next four months and it is one of many reasons why Ladder 53 cannot close."

The island has about 33 restaurants that receive many visitors, clogging the streets, especially on holidays, Vacca said.

City Islanders have noted that the rallies, letter writing campaigns, and even a "flashlight" march to save Ladder Company 53 over the past four years seem to have become something to be expected.

"It is an annual tradition every year now," said Fred Ramftl, first vice-president at the City Island Civic Association. "With all of the money that the City collects from City Island in sales tax, among

others, why don't they reinvest that money in our community and leave Ladder Company 53 alone."

Vacca is organizing a rally at St. Mary Star of the Sea school gym at 580 Minneford Ave. for 7:30 p.m. on Monday, June 4, said Barbara Dolensek, second vice-president of the City Island Civic Association.

"It is a budget game that they are playing, and they are using us to show that they are trying to save money," Dolensek said of the city's efforts. "We would be risking a lot if we ignored this, so we have to make a big fuss every year, so they don't cut the money that funds the ladder company."

There will also be a City Council hearing on the proposed fire company budget cuts at 250 Broadway on Friday, June 1, she said.

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City Island veterans to host Mem'l Day Parade, May 28

BY KIRSTEN SANCHEZ

While Bronxites join other New Yorkers out of town, at beaches and at the barbecue grill, City Islanders will be remembering the nation's fallen veterans with a Memorial Day parade on Monday.

Hundreds of sailors and marines will line City Island Avenue for the City Island Memorial Day parade this year.

The parade will step off at 2:30 p.m. on Winter Street.

This year, along with the Monaghan Bagpipe Band, the Salesian High School band will also perform.

A number of American Legion posts from across the Bronx will also be joining in the line of march, said Robert Mennona, service officer for American Legion Post 156.

The parade will head down City Island Avenue, making stops along the

way.

"We will have a ceremony at the monument at Hawkins Park on Hawkins Street, then proceed on to Pelham Cemetery, have a small ceremony there, and finally proceed on to the monuments at the City Island Bridge and have a ceremony there," Mennona said.

The ceremonies will include remarks by the post commander, laying of wreaths on the monuments, and a salute with rifles.

The City Island Little League, as well as the Boy Scout and Girl Scout troops from the area will also march in Monday's parade.

The parade will conclude at the Leonard Hawkins American Legion Post at 550 City Island Avenue, with free hot dogs, soda and beer for all those who attend.

Stand-up comedian Rich Ramirez, 57

Bronx native and long-time resident Rich Ramirez, whose 30-year stand-up comedy career included countless shows through the borough, died May 4, three days after sustaining severe head trauma in a fall. He was 57.

Ramirez, who lived in Pelham Bay for the past 25 years before moving to New Jersey, was also the longtime drama teacher at the Kips Bay Boys and Girls Club.

Ramirez founded the Bronx-based SalSoul ComedyTroupe and had an acting career that included a half-dozen appearances on Law & Order, several soap operas and a small but memorable role in the 1988 Tom Hanks and Sally Field film Punchline.

"Rich was widely respected as a comedians' comedian because of how he approached stand-up," said a friend, John Roche, who worked with Ramirez on comedy nights and with

his comedy troupe over the years.

"He was also the face of stand-up comedy in the Bronx for the past two decades, performing and booking comedy shows throughout the borough right up to his tragic death. And, he was always willing to perform at fundraisers when someone was in need, be it an individual, civic group or organization. Rich brought a lot of laughter to the Bronx and beyond."

Ramirez battled both a rare, often fatal liver disease, primary sclerosing cholangitis, and colon cancer.

Ramirez' weakened state from his liver issues contributed to him collapsing at the home he shared with his wife, Cathy, on May 2.

Family, friends and a slew of comedians attended a memorial service for Ramirez on Monday, May 7.



RICH RAMIREZ

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 2 lbs Chicken Cutlets
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Bronx beat

Lehman College professor awarded a fellowship

A new masters degree program in Marriage and Family Therapy designed specifically to meet the professional education requirements for licensure in New York State as a marriage and family therapist will be offered by the **College of New Rochelle Graduate School** starting this fall. Upon successful completion of the NYS license examination, graduates may find employment in mental health clinics, community agencies, and private practice.

This masters program has a flexible schedule offering students the opportunity to attend college year-round (during fall, spring, and summer sessions) thereby allowing degrees to be earned in less than two years.

The Graduate School Master's Degree in Marriage and Family Therapy is a 45-credit program designed to prepare students to become professionals in providing therapy to couples and families of diverse backgrounds, ages, and needs.

Applications are being accepted now at The College of New Rochelle.

For further information visit our website: <http://www.cnr.edu/AboutCNR/MarriageFamilyTherapy>, call (914)-654-5309, or e-mail the Director of Graduate Admissions at mramos@cnr.edu.

Lehman College anthropology major Jennifer Begazo has been awarded a Jeannette K. Watson Fellowship for her academic achievement and commitment to serving her community. The prestigious award provides paid summer internships, mentoring, and enhanced educational opportunities to New York City undergraduates who demonstrate exceptional promise, outstanding leadership skills and commitment to the common good.

Begazo, who resides in Buchanan, N.Y., is a student in the Lehman Scholars Program, where she maintains a strong academic record while actively taking part in community service.

She has volunteered at a battered women's shelter in New York and traveled to Kenya to work in an orphanage. She also interned at the Museum of Natural History.

Established by the Thomas J. Watson Foundation in 1999, the award provides fellows with competitive job placements in non-profit agencies, business organizations and government service over three consecutive summers, giving them a chance to grow and develop interpersonal skills and gain self-confidence. In their third summer, Watson Fellows can apply for an

international assignment through partnerships with the Institute of International Education, the International Planned Parenthood Federation, Save the Children, and many other organizations.

Students also attend weekly seminars and cultural events in New York City.

More than a dozen Lehman College students have previously won the award.

SUNY North Bronx Career Counseling and Outreach Center, 2901 White Plains Road, offers a number of tuition free services for educational and vocational training.

The services that are offered daily include Career Counseling, College Assistance, Financial Aid Assistance, Job Readiness Training, and Resume and Cover Letter Assistance.

SUNY also offers tuition free Computer Literacy or GED programs during the day and evening. Other computer-based training programs, such as Pre: Home Health Aide, Can, Security, Building Maintenance, Office Skills, Customer Service, and much more are available.

For further information call (718) 547-1001.

The **Riverdale Choral Society** will present its final concert of the 2011-2012 season. Their spring concert entitled "Light Classics From Vienna To Broadway" will feature "popular" music of Europe and the United States. Concert-goers will be treated to Mozart's "Regina Coeli" and Haydn's "The Storm" along with selections from such Broadway musicals as West Side Story, Porgy and Bess, and Sunday in the Park With George. Music Director John Lettieri will conduct the chorus with MunTzung Wong on piano.

The concert will take place at Christ Church Riverdale on Sat., June 2, at 7:30 pm. The church's address is 5030 Henry Hudson Parkway at West 252nd Street.

It is located on the northbound Henry Hudson Parkway service road where parking is available.

Admission is \$20. With the Bronx Cultural Card, admission is \$18.

For further information: visit www.riverdalechoral.org or call (718) 543-2219.

The San Juan Philharmonic Chorale will celebrate 25 years of performance history with a special concert in **Lehman College's** Lovinger Theatre on Sat., June 2, at 2 pm. Carmen Acevedo-Lucio, director and founder of the Chorale, will direct the group as it presents a

concert of sacred and secular choral music, including works of Puerto Rican composers.

Admission is free and open to the community.

The concert is one of several performances to be held in and around New York City.

The Chorale will also perform at St. Patrick's Cathedral on June 3, for the opening ceremonies of this year's Puerto Rican Day Parade.

Established in 1987 at the request of the Puerto Rico Symphony Orchestra, the chorale has built a reputation for stellar performances both with the Symphony Orchestra and at the renowned Casals Festival. The chorale is known for producing highly trained choral singers and setting musical standards for other choral groups on the island.

Throughout its history, the chorale has collaborated with some of the world's leading orchestra conductors, including Krzysztof Penderecki, Julius Rudel, Helmuth Rilling, Lukas Foss, Woldemar Nelsson, Yoav Talmi, Margaret Hillis, Romano Gandolfi, Eugene Kohn, Guillermo Figueroa and Maximiano Valdés.

In addition, the chorale has shared the stage with Washington, D.C.'s renowned National Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Mstislav Rostropovich, as well as with renowned singers such as Ben Heppner, June Anderson, Denyce Graves, Simon Estes, Jennifer Larmore, Florence Quivar, Justino Diaz, Wilhelmenia Wiggins-Fernández, Sharon Sweet and Marta Márquez, among others.

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

For more information call (718) 960-8060.

The **Uptown Coffeehouse** presents Rod MacDonald on Sun., June 3, 6 pm, at the City Island Community Center, 190 Fordham Street, lower level.

Admission is \$15. Children under 12 is \$5. Bronx Cultural Cards are accepted.

Throughout a 35-year performing career, MacDonald has been entertaining audiences worldwide with his timeless ballads, modern folk songs, and his musical versatility.

Possessing the heart of a troubadour, the soul of a poet and the voice of a virtuoso, he is as distinctive an entertainer as he is a songwriter. Rod is a master at musically portraying the difficult political and social issues of our time.

For further information icall (718) 885-2955.

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 Department of Housing Preservation and Development ("HPD") of the City of New York ("City") has proposed the sale of the following City-owned property (collectively, "Disposition Area") in the Borough of the Bronx:

Address Block/Lot
 92 West Tremont Avenue 2867/125

Under HPD's Low Income Rental Program, sponsors purchase City-owned land or vacant buildings and construct or rehabilitate multifamily buildings in order to create affordable rental housing. Construction and permanent financing is provided through loans from private institutional lenders and from public sources including HPD, the New York City Housing Development Corporation, the State of New York, and the federal government. Additional funding may also be provided from the syndication of low-income housing tax credits. The newly constructed or rehabilitated buildings provide rental housing to low-income families. Subject to project underwriting, up to 20% of the units may be rented to formerly homeless families.

Under the proposed project, the City will sell the Disposition Area to West Tremont Housing Development Fund Company, Inc. ("Sponsor") for the nominal price of one dollar per tax lot. The Sponsor will also deliver an enforcement note and mortgage for the remainder of the appraised value ("Land Debt"). The Sponsor will then construct one building containing approximately 60 rental dwelling units of housing for low-income seniors, plus one unit for a superintendent and will develop approximately 6,413 square feet of the Disposition Area as open space.

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

The appraisal and the proposed Land Disposition Agreement and Project Summary are available for public examination at the office of HPD, 100 Gold Street, Room 9-C11, New York, New York on business days during business hours.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a public hearing will be held on June 5, 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 five (5) business days prior to the public hearing. TDD users should call Verizon relay services.



MICHAEL R. BLOOMBERG
 Mayor
MATHEW M. WAMBUA
 Commissioner

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Warming up for Orchard Beach season

BY KIRSTEN SANCHEZ
Bring on the beach!

As the unofficial start to summer kicks off this weekend with Memorial Day parades and barbecues, beach goers will be welcomed into the 2012 summer season with an opening day ceremony at Orchard Beach.

Parks Commissioner Adrián Benepe and Borough Commissioner Hector Aponte will officially open the beach on Friday, May 25 on the promenade at Section 9 at 1 p.m.

Along with the commissioners, elected officials and Park Administrator Marianne Anderson will be on hand to talk about how patrons can ensure a fun and safe summer at the beach.

During Friday's opening ceremony, attendees will also be treated to a air and ground helicopter demonstration conducted by U.S. Marines.

Anderson said new this year are concession stands that will be run by Havana Cafe.

"Havana Cafe, which is located on E. Tremont has been awarded concession this year," Anderson said. "I believe they opened about a week ago and they will have three different food stations at the beach. I think people will be excited about that."

Also this year, NYC Parks Department will continue its partnership with the City Island and Castle Hill libraries to bring back "Stories in the Shade" on Thursday afternoons.

"We had someone come and read stories to children last year, so we will continue that this year," Anderson said. "We also had some summer concerts with Latin bands on Sundays, so we are hoping to lock that in for this year again."

Beach parking will begin on Saturday, May 26 and will cost \$7 for cars during the week and \$9 on weekends.

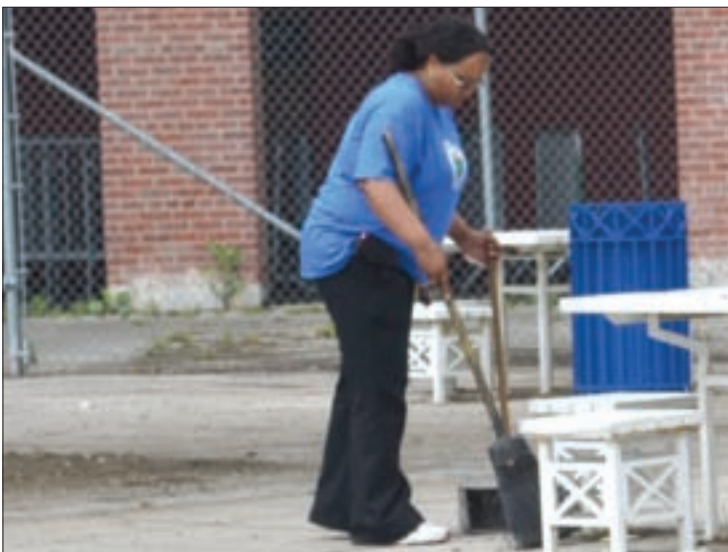


Photos by Kirsten Sanchez

New this year to Orchard beach will be three Havana Cafe concession stands.



Fisherman make one last effort to bring home a big catch before opening day at Orchard beach brings crowds of people.



NYC Parks and Recreation crew member preps the promenade for opening day ceremony to be held on Friday, May 25.



A crew of pre-season beach go-ers make their way onto Orchard beach on Wednesday, May 23.

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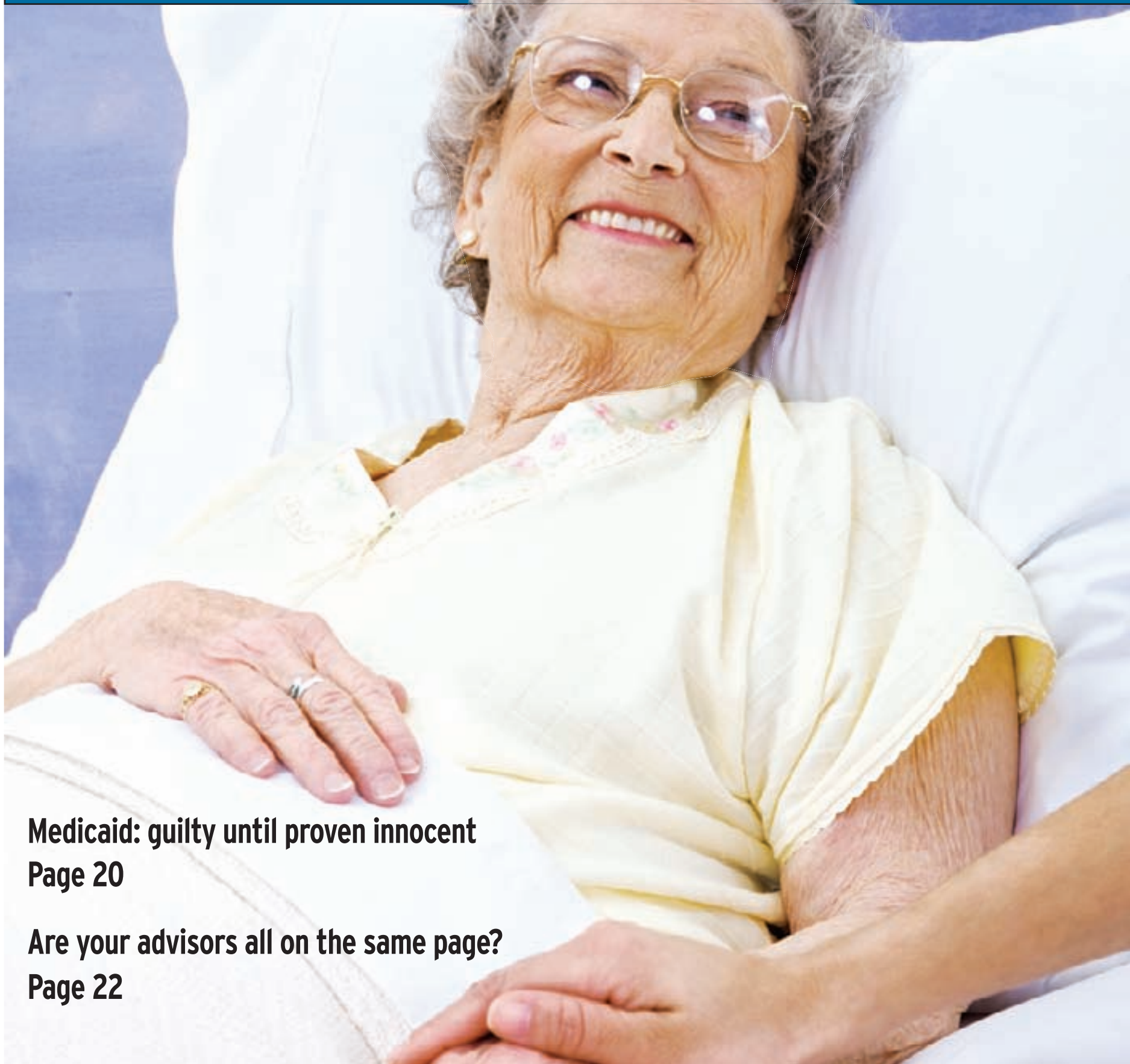
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Eldercare

TOPIC



Medicaid: guilty until proven innocent
Page 20

Are your advisors all on the same page?
Page 22

MEDICAID: GUILTY UNTIL PROVEN INNOCENT

Understanding what your parents need to do to get Medicaid

By Yale S. Hauptman

Your parents were always big believers in paying cash for everything and warned you not to buy on credit. That's a pretty sound financial approach, but it can get Mom and Dad into hot water when it comes time to apply for Medicaid. That's because the Medicaid system works very differently than the criminal system.

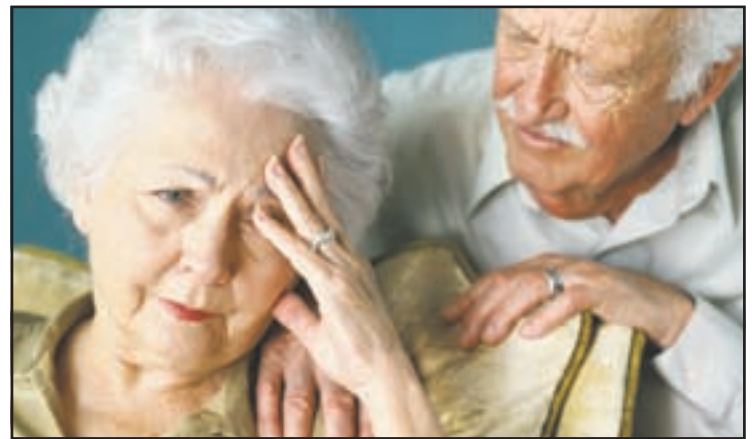
First of all, you need to understand some basics about how Medicaid works. In order to qualify, one must spend down assets first. When essentially all your money is gone (in the case of a married couple, the healthy spouse gets to keep a small amount), then Medicaid will kick in. However, if you have made transfers for less than fair value, what most people would call gifts, then you won't be eligible for Medicaid. The greater those transfers, the longer your ineligibility period.

And before the government will step in and pay

for your care, it will insist that you show it how you spent your money. And by "show," I mean on paper, by producing each and every financial statement dating back to what will soon be five years from the date you apply for benefits.

Everyone knows from grade school the concept of "innocent until proven guilty." With Medicaid, however, that concept is turned around. You are guilty until proven innocent when it comes to transfers for less than fair value. If you can't prove what you have spent your money on, then Medicaid will consider it a transfer for less than fair value, a "gift" in essence, causing a denial of benefits.

Cash is hard to trace. If your parents have been withdrawing cash for their spending needs, how hard is it going to be to prove, going back as many as five years, what they spent that money on? All they'll see on their bank statements are cash withdrawals. No explanations. Who keeps all those receipts? Hardly



If your parents have been withdrawing cash for their spending needs, how hard is it going to be to prove, going back as many as five years, what they spent that money on?

anyone. But that's what Mom and Dad need to do in order to preserve their eligibility for government benefits.

So how do they avoid this potentially catastrophic result? They need to better prepare themselves for the possibility of needing long-term care, well before they need it, and consult with a knowledgeable elder law attorney who can tell them how to spend down their assets and establish a clear paper trail, while preserving their ability to qualify for government ben-

efits.

Yale S. Hauptman of Hauptman and Hauptman is a New Jersey- and New York-licensed attorney who has been focused on elder law for more than 16 years. He recently published "Be Nice To Me — I Pick Your Nursing Home." He and his wife have a law practice in New Jersey. Hauptman has personally helped thousands of seniors and their families plan for the complicated journey through the long-term care system.

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WHAT'S YOUR 88 PLAN?

By Yale S. Hauptman

It seems more and more to me that dementia and Alzheimer's disease are everywhere, but then, maybe as an elder law attorney, I am more tuned in to it. In the last month, three notable celebrities died or were diagnosed with dementia or Alzheimer's: actor Peter Falk of "Columbo" fame; "Rhinstone Cowboy" singer Glen Campbell; and NFL football Hall of Famer, John Mackey. Mackey's case is a particularly illustrative one.

Mackey was a tight end for the Baltimore Colts in the 1960s and early 1970s after having played college ball with some great Syracuse teams in the early '60s. He later became the first president of the NFL Players'

Association and was instrumental in efforts to secure pensions and other benefits for retired and ailing players. Football is a violent sport and, like many players, Mackey began to suffer from dementia. In his last years he needed to be cared for in an assisted-living facility.

Mackey played in the days before athletes made millions. His wife, Sylvia, therefore, had to go back to work as a flight attendant to pay their bills and because they needed the health insurance. As the disease progressed, however, the Mackeys realized what many of our clients come to learn: that traditional health insurance won't cover long-term care. That's when Sylvia and other wives and children of former NFL players pursued



The sooner you start planning your long-term care, the better off you'll be.

the NFL and its Players' Association to establish the 88 Plan.

Named in honor of John Mackey, whose uniform number was 88, the plan provides up to \$88,000 a year to cover long-term care for for-

mer NFL players with dementia. Much has been written about the connection between football and brain injuries — although the NFL still insists there isn't any higher incidence of dementia in football players than

Plan now to make sure you can afford long-term care later

there is in the general population. Maybe the 88 plan is just the NFL recognizing what I have been saying for a long time: that long-term care is a big problem in this country, and the owners and players are doing what we all should — implementing a plan to solve the problem.

The Mackeys' story is instrumental. It's a story of a wife who suffered along with her husband, supporting him physically, financially, emotionally, and psychologically the best she could. It's also a lesson about being unprepared. The Mackeys didn't have a plan, but they were lucky. They convinced John Mackey's former employer to come through with the 88 Plan. The question then is, "who's going to provide your 88 Plan?" Chances

are you'll have to do it yourself, so the sooner you get started the better off you'll be, unless you're thinking that the NFL is going to help us all out — just as soon as it figures out how to solve its lockout and save the coming season. Yeah, right.

Yale S. Hauptman of Hauptman and Hauptman is a New Jersey- and New York-licensed attorney who has been focused on elder law for more than 16 years. He recently published "Be Nice To Me — I Pick Your Nursing Home." He and his wife have a law practice in New Jersey. Hauptman has personally helped thousands of seniors and their families plan for the complicated journey through the long-term care system.



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ARE YOUR ADVISORS ALL ON THE SAME PAGE?

By Yale S. Hauptman

As I am fond of saying, navigating through the long-term care system usually requires a team of advisors.

While the elder law attorney is, no doubt, a pivotal person, the accountant, financial advisor, and insurance specialist are equally important. And when one piece isn't properly in place, it can be catastrophic.

Betty and Tom decided to sell their home in which they raised their four children. They invested the majority of the proceeds in annuities and decided to rent and live off of the income from their investments and Social Security. Tom, however, had exhibited some slight signs of dementia.

After the sale of their home, Tom's condition deteriorated rapidly. He became restless and, at times, physical with Betty, who weighed 100 pounds less than Tom. She could no longer keep him at home. She came to us for help, thinking she could get Tom on Med-

ELDERCARE TODAY

icaid. She didn't realize that the \$300,000 she invested in annuities was now a countable asset and would have to be spent down to \$109,560 before Tom could get Medicaid.

"I am only 65. How can I live on \$100,000?" she asked me. I told her not to worry. She could cash in the annuities, buy another home with that money, and keep it as an exempt asset. After Tom qualifies for Medicaid she could then resell the home if she wanted, to reinvest for income again.

Then we examined the annuities. That's when I discovered the surrender charges of seven percent that Betty would have to pay. While they did have a provision that waived the charges if the owner needed to cash them for long-term care expenses, the problem was that Betty, and not Tom,

was the owner. Betty told me that Tom had definitely been diagnosed with dementia at the time that these decisions were made but couldn't recall any conversations about long-term care or how to provide for it. Big mistake.

We were able to help Betty get Tom into a quality nursing home. She privately paid for seven months, cashed in the annuities, paid a surrender charge, and bought a home. We helped Betty preserve the majority of their savings, money she will need to provide for her own care down the road. But, there are lessons to be learned here.

The result could have been much better had Betty come to us before she sold her home and before she bought the annuities. We might have suggested she wait to sell her home until Tom entered the nursing home. We also would have cautioned Betty about purchasing investments that could easily be liquidated if a large expense

(ie. nursing home care) became necessary. Buying the annuities wasn't the problem. It was the fact that she couldn't sell them without paying a penalty. No one thought to ask what would happen if Tom needed care sooner rather than later. And that's why having a team of advisors working together is so important. All tax, financial, and legal aspects of any decision should be analyzed carefully, and that's more than any one advisor is capable of doing.

Yale S. Hauptman of Hauptman and Hauptman is a New Jersey- and New York-licensed attorney who has been focused on elder law for more than 16 years. He recently published "Be Nice To Me — I Pick Your Nursing Home." He and his wife have a law practice in New Jersey. Hauptman has personally helped thousands of seniors and their families plan for the complicated journey through the long-term care system.

HELP OTHERS WITH PATIENT-CARE TRAINING FROM CUDLEY'S

Some come from a place of limited opportunities with the dream of having a career in the healthcare field. Others yearn for a career change, or an opportunity to make a difference in someone's life. All of them leave with valuable skills to land jobs as home health aides and certified nurses' assistants.

Jairite Anderson Cole, Founder and CEO of Cudley's Training Program, is a registered nurse who also holds a Masters Degree from Teachers College-Columbia University. As an executive nurse, she fully understands the philosophy of caring and is deeply connected with the needs of the homecare community. Throughout her career, Anderson Cole has been steadfast in her commitment to serving the needs of those who are less fortunate. She believes very strongly in providing the highest level of

patient care and she instills this belief in each of her staff. Anderson-Cole believes that this dedication to helping and caring for others is what sets Cudley's Training Program, Inc. apart from other programs. She states that the future of home care will require a diligent, reliable team of individuals to help care for our growing elderly population. We at Cudley's accept the challenges to come."

The economic downturn has affected people in all walks of life. Many people never expected to be among the unemployed, let alone the homeless of our society. Cudley's Training Program is an example of how someone can turn an unfortunate situation into a chance to provide a better future for himself. Aside from the financial reward of being employed in a stable field, obtaining valuable skills and the rewards of

helping people who are sometimes in their most desperate time of need is immeasurable.

The United States Department of Labor expects job opportunities to be excellent because of rapid growth in home healthcare and high placement needs because of our aging population. It also states that many of these workers can work part time, weekends, or evenings to suit the needs of their clients. In addition to rewarding careers helping people in their homes, jobs are also available in hospitals, extended care facilities, group homes, adult day care centers, and assisted living facilities for the elderly. Home health aides and certified nurses' aides have also worked in summer camp programs for children with disabilities.

In the past, news reports sometimes depicted the neg-

ative attributes of a small number of people in the home health aide industry. These stories, although true, portray the field in a negative light. For every frightening event regarding a home health aide or an unscrupulous business owner in the news, there are hundreds of stories about dedicated workers taking care of our parents, grandparents, and children.

Due to the vast changes in government-sponsored public assistance programs, the recipients are now required to work in order to receive social services. One area that many women and now men are turning to is homecare training and nurses' aide training. The training program is short and obtaining a job is almost guaranteed. Ancillary staff in homecare, nursing homes, assisted living, and hospitals are a great asset to the medical team.

Due to the nursing shortage nationwide, ancillary staff can make the difference in supporting the goals of all healthcare environments. Participants will be trained to take care of the sick, elderly, disabled, children with disabilities, and the mentally ill.

Training at Cudley's provides students with a comprehensive list of skills to handle many medical circumstances within their scope of practice including difficult behavior, Alzheimer's care, and end of life issues. Over the years, Anderson-Cole has trained many home aides and nurses aide's that have gone on to advanced training in nursing and other healthcare professions. The demand for nurses is high everywhere. Salaries are competitive and benefits are among the best offered in the healthcare industry. According to Debra Auerbach,

a writer for CareerBuilder, the average salary for a home health aide is \$28,173 and a registered nurse is \$71,692. Nursing can be practiced anywhere in the world and there are many nursing specialties available, such as caring for children, patients with special needs, working in the military or schools.

Sir Wilfred T. Gentrell once stated, "The service we render to others is really the rent we pay for our room on this earth. It is obvious that man is himself a traveler; that the purpose of this world is not to have and to hold" but "to give and serve. There can be no other meaning." Start your journey to helping others at Cudley's.

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FINDING GOLD IN THE GOLDEN YEARS



-JOEL SENDER, MD
Section Chief, Geriatrics
Division, St. Barnabas Hospital

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Photo courtesy of the Parks Department

Children from local public schools join officials from the Parks Department and New York Power Authority in symbolically switching the power shut at St. Mary's Recreation Center as the building becomes more energy efficient.

St. Mary's green improvements

From page 5

The gym and pool areas also have lighting shut on and off by light sensors to make best use of sunlight, said Parks chief of citywide operations and technical services Artie Rollins.

Annual greenhouse gas emissions should be reduced by 406 metric tons, accord-

ing to Parks, when all of the work is completed.

"Each component has a payback," Rollins said. "We can save \$80,000 to \$100,000 a year in energy costs."

The renovations at the center are part of the Mayor Bloomberg's PlaNYC initiative making public buildings more sustainable, Rollins said. St. Mary's is the

first recreation center in the city to undergo the energy efficient enhancements, Ukpang said.

The next phase at the center, in late 2012, includes a solar thermal system on the roof to supply hot water. The center already has reflective white coating on its roof to naturally cool the building, Rollins said.

State yanking Pedro Espada's chain

From page 1

and other expenses.

Bronx Supreme Court Justice Mark Friedlander suggested to Soundview Clinic attorney Nathan Dembin that the Espadas should take Pedro himself to court since he now stands convicted of using the clinic's corporate credit to pay personal expenses.

The State DOH said it doesn't owe Soundview a dime, since a 2009 audit, recently released shows the clinic owes \$212,000 for overpayment of Medicaid reimbursements.

Fasciani, who was not aware of the audit until Monday, saw the release of the audit just now as yet another example of the state's "political vendetta" against

the clinic.

"Why not release it sooner?" she asked.

Friedlander recommended the lawyers for Soundview sue health care provider Affinity Health Plan for what the clinic believes is \$122,000 owed to it.

Reach reporter David Cruz at 718-742-3383 or dcruz@cnglocal.com.

Webster Ave. express bus battle

From page 1

spokesman for the New York City Department of Transportation.

Representatives from the DOT and the Metropolitan Transportation Authority presented a number of route designs to several dozen community members in attendance.

Among the presentations were "offset" bus lanes set up closest to parking spaces. Another plan could place buses on the center portion of the road.

Either way, Community Board 7 district manager Fernando Tirado thinks the

trick behind the project is pleasing both those for and against the project.

"Any SBS plan for Webster Avenue must take into consideration future residential and commercial developments," said Tirado.

The project has been in the works since 2009.

The DOT moved forward with the plan after the success of Bx12 SBS that runs through Fordham Road and along Pelham Parkway. That route, running curbside, eliminated customer parking during the weekdays from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Up to this point, the

DOT has been collecting feedback to finally decide the best design.

Mosquera said the project is likely to improve the travel times for the nearly 19,000 daily commuters on weekdays.

The DOT will adapt the special bus service according to the existing Bx41 bus, although the DOT said its looking into modifying the existing route.

But their exploratory phase is not over yet. Another open house meeting is set for fall.

Reach reporter David Cruz at 718-742-3383 or email dcruz@cnglocal.com.



Photo rendition courtesy of NYCDOT/MTA

This is what a portion of Webster Avenue could look like if the MTA decides to add the Special Bus Service route to the center lane.

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Bronx scene

- Rock On The Bronx 29
- Bartow Pell Mansion Museum Concert..... 30
- Do You Remember - La Lupe, Queen Of Latin Soul 31

Bronx Cultural Trolley to roll again on Wed., June 6th

The Bronx Culture Trolley rolls again on Wednesday, June 6, featuring a number of family activities along the South Bronx Cultural Corridor including art exhibitions at the Longwood Art Gallery @ Hostos, Bronx Museum of the Arts, Pregones Theater, BronxArtSpace, The Clock Café & Martini Bar and the Bruckner Bar & Grill. BCA's bronxArtworks Artisans Collective will set up their boutique of hand-made items in the Hostos lobby. The Longwood Art Gallery will also host a film screening and you can wind down your trolley night with food, drink at the Bruckner Bar & Grill. The Bronx Culture Trolley is a program of the Bronx Council on the Arts (BCA). Admission to venues

is free and all are welcome to hop on board and enjoy them.

June 6's Trolley begins at the Longwood Art Gallery @ Hostos (Hostos Community College, 450 Grand Concourse at 149th Street) at 5 p.m. for a meet-and-greet reception and a viewing of 40.85 °N x 73.86 °W: Home Is Where the Bronx Is. Home Is Where the Bronx Is presents recent work by twenty-one 2010 and 2011 BRIO (Bronx Recognizes Its Own) award-winning artists in visual and media arts. This exhibition, co-curated by Juanita Lanzo, Edwin Ramoran and Kimberly Rose, is the third Bronx artists' biennial and focuses on the notion of home, cultural and political assimilation, personal narratives and histories, the

construction of identity, the environment, the natural and urban landscape, and intimate spaces.

In the Hostos lobby BCA's bronxArtworks Artisans Collective will display and sell such imaginative creations as Korean knotting novelties, crafts, crocheted hats, ethnic masks, illustrations, jewelry, knitwear, metal sculpture, note cards, paintings, paper-mache masks and vases, post cards, and more. All items are original designs created by Bronx crafts artists.

The trolley bell clangs at 5:30, 6:30, and 7:30 p.m. indicating the trolley's departure from Hostos on its way to the evening's cultural events. The Bronx Culture Trolley is your free ticket

to a cultural tour along the South Bronx Cultural Corridor of the lower Grand Concourse. The Bronx Culture Trolley runs on the first Wednesday of each month (except January and September) providing Bronxites and tourists alike a fun way to travel via a replica of an early 20th-century trolley car. Passengers are given the opportunity to sample several of the area's hottest cultural attractions, dining establishments and entertainment venues along the way.

In addition to the Longwood Art Gallery @ Hostos, this month's trolley stops and attractions include: The Bronx Museum of the Arts for a Book Signing with Peggy Robles-Alvarado and her collection of poetry and

prose, Homenaje a las guerreras/Homage To The Warrior Women; a guided tour of Juan Downey: The Invisible Architect, and a viewing of Urban Archives: Our Town Pictures of the Bronx, and Lobby-For-The-Time-Being; Pregones Theater for Ayer y Hoy/Then and Now, a dance performance choreographed and directed by Militeri Tucker and inspired by experiences of the Casa Boricua Senior Center seniors of BCA's SPARC program; and a viewing of TRANSICIONES, Tony Rocco's exhibition of photographs from Colombia and the US; BronxArtSpace for a viewing of

Inside is not the Opposite of Outside, an exploration in video, paintings, and performance of themes re-

lated to the subject of introversion and extroversion; The Clock Café & Martini Bar for a viewing of Recent Work by Ezra Cohen; and the Bruckner Gallery for an art show with music... sputnyc presents clinyc art *design* music with Manyc Records in the Gallery, in the Middle Room and on the sidewalk.

The Bronx Culture Trolley will not run on Wednesday, July 4. The Bronx Culture Trolley will roll again on Wednesday, August 1. Visit BCA's website at www.bronxarts.org in mid-July for information on August 1st's Bronx Culture Trolley as well as other programs and activities of the Bronx Council on the Arts. Additional information: (718) 931-9500, ext. 33.

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Free Memorial Day Concert in VCP

Celebrate Memorial Day with the Bronx Arts Ensemble on Sunday, May 27 at 2 p.m. in Van Cortlandt Park at a free Memorial Day Holiday Concert featuring selections from "Evita" (Andrew Lloyd Webber), and "Carousel" (Rodgers & Hammerstein) and music by Frederick Delius, Douglas Moore, Leonard Bernstein, Johannes Somary, Raymond Torres-Santos, Papo Vázquez, John Philip Sousa and more! The concert features the Bronx Arts Ensemble Orchestra, conductor David Gilbert, soprano Halley Gilbert and trombonist Papo Vázquez. The free outdoor tent concert is scheduled rain or shine. Pack a picnic and bring a blanket. Seating will also be provided under a tent. Pedestrians can enter the park at Broadway and 246th Street. Limited free parking is also available at the Van Cortlandt Golf House. For more information: visit bronxartsensemble.org, (718) 601-7399, [Facebook.com/BronxArtsEnsemble](https://www.facebook.com/BronxArtsEnsemble), twitter.com/bxartsensemble.

Music will include Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice: Selection from "Evita",

Leonard Bernstein: "Glitter and Be Gay" from "Candide", Rogers & Hammerstein: selections from "Carousel", Aaron Copland: "An Outdoor Overture", Raymond Torres-Santos: "Pie Jesu from Requiem" and "Tequiero porque Tequiero", Johannes Somary: "Listen to the Trees (A Prelude on Gregorian Chants)" (World Premiere), Papo Vázquez: "Come Sunday" and "Poquita fe", Frederick Delius: "The Walk to the Paradise Garden" (Intermezzo from A Village Romeo and Juliet) and Douglas Moore: Silver Aria from "The Ballad of Baby Doe".

David Gilbert is acclaimed for his dynamic performances with orchestras throughout the United States, the Far East and Europe. He was the first American to serve as principal guest conductor of the Beijing Central Philharmonic. Gilbert is a faculty member of the Manhattan School of Music where he has conducted both symphony and opera. His compositions for chamber ensemble, orchestra, and opera include his "Concerto for Trombone, Brass and Orchestra," "Ballade Concertante for Tuba

and Orchestra," and "Phoenix Madrigal" for flute and strings. Gilbert is Music Director and Conductor of the Greenwich Symphony and music director of the Bergen (NJ) Philharmonic and the Senior Concert Orchestra of New York.

A graduate of Eastman School of Music, Soprano Halley Gilbert has already distinguished herself in many operatic roles with Opera for Humanity, Harrisburg Opera, Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, Greenwich CT Symphony Orchestra, Bergen Philharmonic, and the Genesee Chamber Orchestra. She has performed as featured soloist with the Lake Placid Sinfonietta, Bronx Arts Ensemble, North Jersey Philharmonic, Oswego Opera Theatre's recital series, and Gateway Classical Music Society. She is the winner of many awards including Syracuse Opera Club, and first prize in the Steinway Hall Vocal Competition.

Raymond Torres-Santos is a Puerto Rican born composer, conductor, educator, pianist and arranger. Dr. Torres-Santos is equally at

Continued on next page

ITEM: This column wants to personally thank Bronx Filmmaker Jerry Landi and everyone involved with Amuck Duck Productions for letting me be on set as they filmed a major gore scene last week for the upcoming horror sequel "Krackoon 2". I will have a full report next week.

ITEM: The thing about the new Brewskis Bar and Grill at 3718 East Tremont Avenue is how perfectly and comfortably it fits into the surrounding area. This past Friday afternoon I

found the place filled with locals and familiar faces. Brewskis feels like it's been here for years. Cousin Al says the food is great. They don't blast the music so people can talk. The classic extra large 'cheers' style bar gives all customers a nice vantage point, lots of big screens and a unique, but very cool digital Times Square style ticker tape goes round the bar near the top providing sports and news updates.

rock on the bronx

by Fish Altieri

ITEM: Scott Place Café is more popular than ever. The dessert selections and sandwiches named after areas of the Bronx have a growing following among comfort food fans. Outdoor area is open.

ITEM: Got over to McGee's on East Tremont and took in a rocking set from "The Tub Band"! These young energetic men picked up their instruments and proceeded to get the customers and fans moving to sounds of the 80s and 90s. You could see the whole sea of heads bobbing along. "The Tub Band" is a fun solid guitar, bass, drum, vocal (and harmonies!) unit that you should catch up with.

OVERHEARD IN A BRONX BAR: "Throggs Neck High School? Are you kidding me?"

ITEM: A hot beautiful

night in May? That means some major traffic going into City Island where I caught a set by Duo "No Stringz Attached" featuring Charlie Spina and Laura Valenti. They never sounded better. Laura's voice immediately wins over any room, any crowd, any time.

ITEM: Here's an opinion about the traffic going into City Island. It's worth the wait. If you have good company in your car, air conditioning and a CD or MP3 player just ride it out. I find the traffic usually dissipates after that first batch of restaurants and then the Island is yours to explore. Just hope you don't encounter a traffic accident because that will slow you down even more.

Some long time locals shake their heads watching tourists think they can speed down the fire lane only to suddenly come bumper to bumper with NYPD. It's going to be a great summer in City Island. Rock on. Rock out.

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Singer, songwriter Maya Caballero to perform at Bartow Pell Museum

Bartow-Pell Mansion Museum, 895 Shore Road, will present singer, songwriter, and musician Maya Caballero for its First Friday! on June 1, from 6 to 8 p.m. Caballero has a whimsical 1920's ragtime/Dixieland sound that encompasses the bossa nova, folk, and blues influ-

ences of her travels in France and the American Southwest. A self-taught musician born and raised in New York City, Caballero plays guitar and will be accompanied by a full band.

She is currently preparing for the release of her first album, featuring two songs

— All Roads Lead to Here and beni — that appear on the soundtrack of the indie film White Boy Brown. Additionally, Maya Caballero can be heard on the albums of Toby Goodshank (The Moldy Peaches), Pimps of Joytime, Soft Black, Alex Chappo, and Brian Hullfish (Miss-

ing Parts). She is active in humanitarian work and performs at many fundraisers.

"We warmly welcome Maya Caballero to Bartow-Pell for her first performance," says BPMM executive director Ellen Bruzelius. "Visitors to our historic house and gardens will step

back in time with Maya's unique sound—perfect for an early June evening. Keeping in the spirit of the past, First Friday! guests can also visit our exhibit of antique garden tools, Dibbles to Daisy Grubbers, on display through July 1. There's truly something for everyone at Bartow-Pell."

Tickets are \$8; \$5 for seniors and children from 6-17; and free for members. Light refreshments will be provided at no charge. Free transportation is provided by the Bronx Seaside Trolley,

Reservations are requested; call (718) 885-1461 or email info@bpmm.org.

Free Memorial Day Concert planned at Van Cortlandt Park, Sun., May 27

From previous page

home in both classical and popular music. His style bears the hallmark of no particular orthodoxy and his versatility and music has attracted audiences in Europe, Asia, Latin America and the United States. Considered one of the leading composers of his generation, his works include orchestral, electronic and vocal music for the concert hall, ballet, film, theater, television and radio. Dr. Torres-Santos arrangements have been written for the best opera and popular performers such as: Plácido Do-

mingo, Andrea Bocelli, Angela Gheorghiu, Ana María Martínez and Juan Luis Guerra. He has also served as orchestrator for film composers in Hollywood, such as Ralph Burns (Phantom of the Opera) and Ry Cooder (Brewster's Millions). As jazz pianist, he has worked with Maynard Ferguson, Freddie Hubbard, Bobby Shew, and Tito Puente. In addition, he has served as music director for pop singer Vikki Carr and Dianne Schuur. As conductor, he has led the London Session Orchestra, Taipei Philharmonic, Cosmopolitan Symphony Orchestra, Puerto

Rico Symphony and Philharmonic Orchestras, Dominican Republic National Orchestra, Queens Symphony Orchestra, Adelphi Chamber Orchestra, Bronx Arts Ensemble Orchestra, and Hollywood studio orchestras in concerts and recordings. Dr. Torres-Santos, is the Dean of the College of the Arts (Music, Film, Theater, Design, Dance, Art) at California State University in Long Beach.

Trombonist, composer and arranger Papo Vázquez is more than thirty-five years into a career spanning the jazz, Latin, Afro-Caribbean

and classical music and recording worlds. Recent honors include a commission from Wynton Marsalis for a new work inspired by Cuban painter Wilfredo Lam, which was performed as part of Jazz at Lincoln Center's Jazz and Art concert this past February, and a Grammy nomination for Best Latin Jazz Album for Papo Vázquez' Mighty Pirates 2008 recording Marooned/Aislado, on his own independent label, Picaro Records. He will be presented with a Latino Masters Award by the Pregonos Theater in 2011 under the National Endowment for

the Arts American Masterpieces: Presenting program. He has been commissioned to compose for the 19-piece Afro-Puerto Rican Jazz Orchestra, and was the first artist to receive a commission to compose for the Afro-Latin Jazz Orchestra, resident band of Jazz at Lincoln Center. Papo's first classical composition was premiered in 2004 for the Bronx Arts Ensemble at Hostos Center for the Arts & Culture. A native of Philadelphia, Papo began performing at 15 with such bands as those of Willie Colon and Eddie Palmieri. In New York he began record-

ing and performing with top names in salsa - The Fania All-Stars, Ray Barretto and Chico O'Farrill. He has toured with the Ray Charles Orchestra and performed also with Dizzy Gillespie, Mel Lewis, Hilton Ruiz and Milton Cardona, touring as a member of Tito Puente's Latin Jazz Ensemble and Dizzy Gillespie's United Nations Orchestra. He has performed on film soundtracks for "Mo' Better Blues" and "The Mambo Kings". His latest CD is Papo Vazquez Mighty Pirate Orchestra "Marooned/Aislado" on his own independent label, Picaro Records.



“ My dream is to be a nurse, so I signed up for nursing school and paid \$6,000. Ten months later, I found out the school wasn't licensed and the Attorney General shut it down. My dream is shattered, and I'm in debt. To owe money for nothing is so hard.

But I'm not giving up. I'm going to the City's Workforce 1 Healthcare Career Center for help.”

— Paula, Brooklyn

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"Protect your Money"

La Lupe, Queen of Latin Soul, lived on E. 140th St.

There's a stretch of East 140th Street between St. Ann's Avenue and Cypress Avenue that carries an official street sign bearing the name "La Lupe Way." Someone recently asked me about it and I recalled it very well as there had been some controversy surrounding the bill when it was first introduced by Fernando Ferrer. It was later re-introduced by Borough President Adolfo Carrion to a more receptive City Council who approved it in December of 2001.

Guadalupe Victoria Yoli Raymond, commonly known as La Lupe, was unquestionably the most important Latin female singer to come out of Cuba after the revolution. She was born on December 23, 1936 in San Pedrito, a barrio of Santiago, and was studying to become a teacher until becoming star-struck after winning a singing contest on the radio in 1954. The following year her family moved to Havana and soon

do you remember

by Bill Twomey

she was making a name for herself at the local clubs. Her performance at Club La Red in 1958 really showcased her talent as she kept telling the pianist Homero Balboa to play faster and faster. She was more than just another singer, she was a performer.

She recorded her first album, "Con el diablo en el cuerpo" (With the devil in my body), for RCA Victor in 1960 and two years later was exiled to the United States. She became an immediate sensation for her extreme antics, such as banging her high heels on the piano, throwing herself on the floor, tossing clothes and anything else available at the audience. The crowds went wild urging her on and she responded with unbounded energy.

She was manic and almost impossible to control. She was fighting a losing battle with herself and it would certainly help bring about her early demise. Stardom only added to her erratic behavior especially after Pedro Almodovar included her song "Puro Teatro" in his film "Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown." Her stage shows are unforgettable which is why she managed to sell out her performance at Madison Square Garden, the first Latin singer to do so.

La Lupe, also known as La Yiyiyi by some of her fans, moved to East 140th Street here in the Bronx in 1986 and remained here until her untimely death on February 29, 1992. It was during these years that

she settled down somewhat, turning to religion and switching to gospel music. The "Queen of Latin Soul" was reigning as a more becalmed soul but the damage was already done and death finally knocked on her door at age 52. She's now at peace in St. Raymond's Cemetery.

The official street sign bearing her name was unveiled at a gala ceremony on June 12, 2002 and both former Borough President Fernando Ferrer and the then current Borough President Adolfo Carrion were there to help celebrate. La India sang one of La Lupe's biggest hits, "Que Te Pedi" (What did I ask of you?) and La Lupe's son, Rene Camano, and daughter, Rainbow Garcia, joined in the singing. Joe Cuba also performed and many tributes to her work with Mongo Santamaria and Tito Puente could be heard. There will never be another La Lupe but her antics have been captured on film and can be viewed on the internet.



I took this photograph of La Lupe's grave site on Wednesday, May 16. While visiting St. Raymond's Cemetery, my wife and I decided to pay our respects to "The Queen of Soul." Although she passed away in 1992, the grave was carefully tended and fresh flowers were placed there.

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Bronx schools

Bronx Science violinist BAE winner

Madeleine Manasse, violinist and a sophomore at Bronx Science High School, was awarded first prize at the Bronx Arts Ensemble's Young Bronx Artist Contest held on Saturday, April 21 at Vladeck Hall, Amalgamated Houses. As top prize winner, Madeleine will be awarded \$500 and a solo performance with the BAE on one of its subscription concerts for the 2012-2013 season.

Runners-up who received cash awards were violinist Sidarth Jayadev, 9th grade student at Bronx Science High School and Maguette Ndiaye, flutist, a senior at Celia Cruz Bronx High School of Music. The BAE competition has been held each year since 1981 and

is open to music students between ages 14 and 20 who either live in the Bronx and/or attend school here. Open to instrumentalists and singers, it affords a valuable public performance experience for talented musicians, some of whom have gone on to professional solo and orchestra careers.

Madeleine Manasse, age 16, began her studies at 5 and by the age of 10 was a featured soloist with the School for Strings Orchestra. Last year she was top prizewinner in the Princeton Competition, and became the youngest violinist to hold a position in the New York Youth Symphony. She is a member of the St. Barth's Music Festival and has participated in the East-

ern, Greenwood and Mead-owmount Music Festivals. Madeleine is currently a scholarship student of Ann Setzer in the Pre-College Division of the Juilliard School of Music and is concertmistress of the Pre-College Symphony Orchestra there.

Judges for the BAE competition were William Scribner, bassoonist and executive/artistic director of the BAE; John W. Freeman, composer and contributing editor of Opera News magazine; and oboist Marsha Heller, music faculty member at Montclair (NJ) State Teachers College.

For further information: www.bronxartsensemble.org.

Leadership recognized

Recently, Monsignor Scanlan High School held its annual Leadership Assembly. Those in elected positions, within the school's clubs and organizations, were recognized for their leadership ability. Clubs were cited for their generous fundraising efforts that resulted in a number of inhouse scholarships being awarded to very deserving classmates.

Recognition of academic leadership was also applauded at this assembly. Padilla Bradley, principal of Msgr. Scanlan, distributed certificates to those in the Founders Club. A member is the number one ranked student of each year. Freshman Daurys Gonell, sophomore Alexandra Andreani, junior Nicholas Pappas, and senior Sik Ho Wong are this year's members.

Members of the Principal's List are those students who have an overall cumulative average of 95% or better. Those recognized include Nirvana Dipre, William Mendez, Zaria Ashby, Vi Nguyen, Aidan Dominguez, Robert Schaefer, Tiffany

Henry, Lysa Vasquez, Danny DeLa Cruz, Brandon Rodriguez and Edgar Montano.

Students who have an overall cumulative average of 90% to 94% received First Honors. Those so honored include Paola Garcia, Leslie Parra, Chelsea Lowe, Abraham Gonzalez, Brandon Jines, Nemesis Dipre, Emma Barrera, Angellyn Rosario, Joseph Charles, Jose Cardona, Genesis Reyes, Jade Garcia, Joshua Mouzon, Victor Cruz, Mariama Jalloh, Alexander Cabrera, Kase Cruz, Sharella Hogan, Jessica Castillo, Madison Ramirez, Arysalia Diaz, Abigail Sintim, Jeannie-Faye Veloso, Briana Delorbe, Lisbeth Parra, Marilyn Solis, Kyle Stevenson Sims, Danielle Rosario, Arlene Vivar, Jayden Rodriguez, Cierra Howard, Gianna Casatelli, Nina Crespo, Rohan Lawrence, Paola-Rodriguez Infante, Nina Simone Frederick, Perla Jaquez, Crystal Dindyal, Andrea Conde, Kwasi Mensah, Lisa Marie Ortiz, Satesh Persaud, Melody Martin, Joshua Downes, Cindy Feliciano and Liner Nunez.

No shortcuts to success

Preston High School's Varsity Softball team is running with full steam ahead.

Setting their sights on the Archdiocese Championship, the Preston Panthers are going into the playoff season, with a 12-1 record and are the current Bronx/Westchester Champions.

Head coach, Rachel Mazza has high hopes for this team. Mazza feels confident that this young team possesses the inner workings to accomplish this goal.

This team knows there are no shortcuts to success. Softball games are won by hours of hard work, in well planned, organized practices.

Their hard work is paying off and will soon be put to the test.

For further information concerning Preston High School, and its sports program, contact Jennifer Geideman at (718) 863-9134, ext. 143, or email jgeideman@prestonhs.org.

SALESIAN PRESENTS STUDENT ENRICHMENT AWARD



Paul Carty of the the Bronx (center), Stepinac High School principal, received the Student Enrichment Award at Stepinac's 2nd Annual Trustees Awards Reception held recently. With him (l-r) are William F. Plunkett, Jr, chairman of the Stepinac Board of Trustees and Father Thomas Collins, Stepinac president.

Preston, Citibank hold community art show

Preston High School, in conjunction with the East Tremont Avenue branch of Citibank held its annual community Art Show during the month of March. The artwork, created by over 50 Preston High School students graced the walls of the branch for the entire community's enjoyment. In addition Preston invited alumnae and friends to view the showcase and submit their choices for the best works. A wide variety of media and formats was featured including paint, ink, pencil and digital art. Students and their works were selected by the art department faculty for this special

exhibition.

On the final day of the showcase, Thursday, March 29, an awards ceremony and reception was held at Citibank. In attendance were the student artists, their families, Preston art teachers, Preston principal Jane Grendell and Citibank branch manager, Patricia Fournier, a Preston alumna. "It is an exciting event for the bank and our patrons. We look forward to holding it every year", Patricia stated at the awards ceremony. The following students were recognized as the winners of the showcase:

Best in Show: Chelsea Rosado; Best Painting: Al-

exandria Foglia; Best Drawing: Charlee Gloriani; Most Creative: Toni Senior; Honorable Mentions: Sneha Jose and Patricia Collazo.

Each of the winners also received a special proclamation from Senator Jeff Klein.

Preston's art program culminated with a school-wide Art Show held on April 25th. The PHS gymnasium came to life with the vibrant colors of paint, exciting hand-made masks and interesting sculptures. All Preston students were invited to display their works of art during this special reception.



Pictured (l-) PHS art teachers, Glen Edelstein, Elisa Narizhnaya and Kristin Larsen, with Citibank branch Manager, Patricia Fournier, and the PHS Art Show winners.

for your health

May is Osteoporosis Month

Osteoporosis, loss of bone density due to abnormal bone structure, is a debilitating disease that affects millions of people in the US. Spine fractures, typically in the form of vertebral compression fractures (VCF), are a common and painful problem associated with osteoporosis. As the bone gets weaker, patients become more susceptible to fractures. Accurate diagnosis and appropriate treatment is vital as these fractures can lead to many related conditions including spinal deformity (hunched back), loss of height, decreased lung capacity, sleep problems and loss of appetite. Any or all of these can lead to impaired function and decreased quality of life.

Montefiore Medical Center, a leading academic medical center, has a plethora of experts including Allan Brook, MD, director of Interventional Neuroradiology, Adam L. Wollowick, MD, Adult and Pediatric Spine surgeon, Department of Orthopedic Surgery and Anna M. Lasak, MD, FAAPMR, clinical director, Department of Rehabilitation, who care for patients with osteoporosis and can provide advice on how to cope with and treat this disease.

Radiofrequency-Targeted Vertebral Augmentation™ is one treatment option available at Montefiore. This is a gentle approach that stabilizes the fractured vertebra while maximizing the preservation of healthy bone. A specially designed instrument is used to safely enter the fractured vertebra and a small space is created within the vertebra. Bone cement is then injected into the space. This procedure allows physicians to repair fractured vertebrae through smaller cavities – limiting damage to surrounding healthy bone, and improving cement placement, often providing back pain relief, improvement in mobility and res-

toration of quality of life. Dr. Brook, President of the American Society of Spine Radiology, is a strong advocate of treating patients with acute pain and restoring strength to the spinal column.

Another procedure offered at Montefiore is Kyphoplasty, a minimally invasive procedure in which a small balloon is inserted in the fractured vertebra and inflated to restore the bone's normal height.

Once the spine is returned to a more normal position, bone cement is injected to stabilize the fracture, resulting in pain relief for the patient and a restoration of normal alignment. This procedure is typically performed in an outpatient setting under local or general anesthesia and recovery time is minimal.

Kyphoplasty is a procedure endorsed by The American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons for the treatment of VCF and Dr. Wollowick believes it can be a life-changing procedure for many patients suffering from osteoporotic spinal fractures.

Dr. Wollowick also provides some important advice to maintain healthy bones:

It is vital that people eat a healthy, well-balanced diet with lots of fresh fruits and vegetables in order to get all the important vitamins they need, such as Vitamin D and calcium, for strong, healthy bones. • Many foods are an excellent source of calcium and other important vitamins and nutrients, however they may still be insufficient for some people, in which case supplements are recommended. In particular, adults over 50 are advised to supplement their dietary intake of calcium and Vitamin D. Often, a basic multivitamin is suitable. All individuals should consult with their doctor before beginning any type of nutritional

supplementation.

• Patients should avoid smoking and excessive alcohol consumption as these habits can have an adverse effect on bone health.

• Exercise has been proven to strengthen our bones. A regular exercise program including weight-bearing activities, aerobic fitness, and muscle strengthening can help people maintain healthy bones.

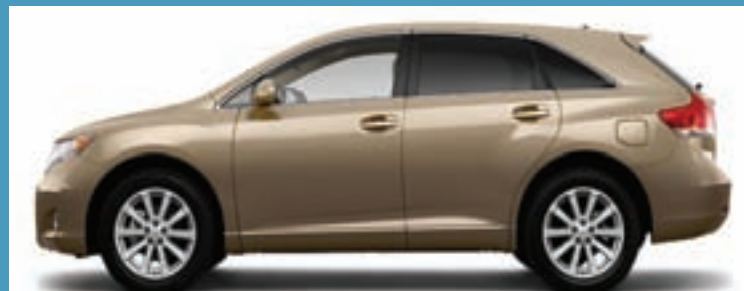
Anna M. Lasak, MD, FAAPMR, clinical director, Department of Rehabilitation, Montefiore Medical Center is an expert in treating people, in particular women, with osteoporosis. As a Physiatrist, Dr. Lasak plays a special role in the prevention and treatment of the disease.

“Exercise is necessary to maintain the health and strength of our skeletal system,” says Dr. Lasak. “It is widely-recognized that exercises that put sufficient load on the skeletal system can lead to increased bone mass density of 1 – 2% per year.”

Exercises commonly recommended for osteoporosis prevention and treatment are those which strain the bone sufficiently enough to stimulate bone formation; for example high intensity strength training with weights. Often swimming is cited as a good preventative measure, however, while it is proven to be beneficial for cardiovascular health, it does not improve bone mass density. Exercise should be site specific, for example to prevent vertebral fracture, strengthening of back extensor muscles is prescribed.

Treatment of osteoporosis with an exercise regimen is individualized for every patient and other co-morbidities need to be taken in to consideration, but in general exercise is shown to reduce the risk of fall, improve neuromuscular coordination and reduce the risk of osteoporotic fractures.

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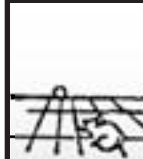
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Career Change

BY TREVOR KRONK

Are you facing that career change decision point? Do you wish you were?

Career change is a natural life progression. Most studies show that the average job seeker will change careers several times over the course of his lifetime.

Use this plan to ensure that you will be on a path toward success.

- Assess likes and dislikes

Many people change careers because they dislike their job, boss, company, and so forth. Identifying the dislikes is often the easier part of this step.

You will not know what direction to go in unless you examine your likes. What do you really like doing when you are working, when you are at home, and in your spare time? What excites you and energizes you? What is your passion?

- Research new careers

Once you have discovered your passion, spend some time researching the types of careers that center on your passions. Do not worry if you are feeling a bit unsure or insecure; it is a natural part of the career-change process.

- Transferable skills

There are many skills that are transferable and applicable to what you want to do in your new career. You may be surprised to see that you already have a solid amount of experience.

- Training and education

If the skill you need to learn is one you could use in your current job, see if your employer would pick up the tab. Take a course or two to ensure you really like the subject matter.

If you are going for a new degree or certification, make sure you check the accreditation of the school. Get some information about placement successes.

- Networking

One of the real keys to successfully changing careers will be your networking ability. People in your network may be able to give you job leads, offer you advice and information, and introduce you to others.

You can also broaden your network through joining professional organizations in your new field and contacting alumni from your college.

Set positive goals for yourself, but expect setbacks and change. Do not let these things get you down. You might also consider a lateral move that could serve as a springboard for a bigger career change.

Trevor Kronk is the author of articles on topics ranging from credit and finance to career counseling. See more at <http://career.davidresourcesite.com>

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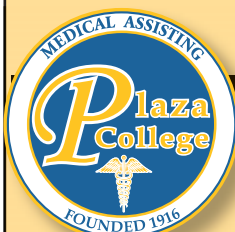
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“[Danielle] said that I needed to lace into them, that they needed a real yelling at. I’m usually pretty stoic, but I pick my spots. I’m proud of everyone. We all just pulled through.”

JEREMY BASSIE.....PAGE 41



PIPE DREAMS

By Bob Connolly

It could have bowled me over

Ethics In Watching Football

NY Giants DE, Osi Umenyiora said that it’s likely that he’ll finish his life confined to a wheelchair. Because of that he’ll try to keep his children from playing football.

I’ve always felt that football players, especially pro players, were a lot like gladiators and that half of them were like visiting warriors in Coliseum games. Greg Doyle (CBSSports.com) told us that, “At Midwest Sports Fans, Josh Tinley wrote, ‘As we learn more about the connection between what happens on the field and what happens in a former player’s head later in life, we will have to make difficult choices.’

And the AtlanticWire.com asked: ‘Is it ethically defensible to watch and enjoy a game of football?’

“Fascinating question. Without fans, football dies. With fans, football players die. It’s probably not that simple, but this statistic here begs to differ: According to a study at the University of Michigan, retired NFL players in their 50s are five times more likely to have been diagnosed with a dementia-related syndrome -- and retired NFL players from age 30-49 are 19 times more likely to have such a diagnosis.

“Nineteen times more likely!”

“Staggering fact. So we’re back to the question: Knowing what awaits NFL players after retirement, is it ethically defensible to watch it --

Continued on page 42

Fofana sends Clinton to quarters

BY MARC RAIMONDI

The ball seemed to hang in the air for hours.

Cardozo leadoff hitter Gabriella Valdes socked a hard line drive up the middle. DeWitt Clinton pitcher Maguette Fofana didn’t knock it down – she sent it upward with her glove.

“I know this is going to sound like the craziest thing in the world, but when it hit her glove I thought we lost and when it went up in the air, Maguette seemed to have this calm about her that I actually believed she was gonna catch it,” Clinton coach Rich Eaton said.

Fofana stumbled at first, then looked up. She turned around, took a few steps behind the mound and settled the ball into her glove.

To complete the game-ending double play, Fofana tossed to first to force out Jasmine Estrada, who didn’t tag up.

The wild end game gave No. 12 Clinton an incredible, 3-1 upset win over No. 5 Cardozo in the PSAL Class A softball second round Friday in Oakland Gardens. The Governors, in their third quarterfinals in five years and second straight, will meet No. 4 Construction on Monday.

“Just catch it,” Fofana said she told herself. “It was my natu-

ral instincts. It just snapped into my head and I caught it. I still can’t believe it.”

The junior right-hander ended up with her best start of the season, giving up just one run on five hits with 10 strikeouts in seven innings.

But Fofana was running out of gas after throwing more pitches than she has since injuring her ankle last month. She went to a two-ball count on Estrada to lead off the seventh and Eaton took her out for Kimberly Martinez, a strike-throwing slingshot pitcher.

Martinez ended up walking Estrada and the coach reinserted Fofana, telling his ace it was her game to win from there on out. Fofana then struck out Crystal Estrada before Valdes’ hard liner.

“I couldn’t believe we won the game,” Eaton said. “Maguette was breaking down. The speed was falling apart. The control was starting to go. I didn’t like us in extra innings in that game.”

But Clinton (12-6) gutted it out somehow. The Governors didn’t even win PSAL Bronx A this year like it had six of the last seven years with at least a share of the crown. That didn’t matter to Eaton – his team is the last one from the borough remaining



Photo by Marc Raimondi

Clinton coach Rich Eaton (c.) and assistants Moe Rivera (l.) and Steve Bernstein talk to their team.

after Stevenson lost to Francis Lewis on Friday.

“Nobody remembers who won The Bronx,” he said. “They talk about the final eight teams in the city. If somebody came down from heaven and said, ‘Coach, you can’t have The Bronx

and the final eight, it’s not fair. Which one do you want?’ I would have taken the final eight every single time.”

Clinton got its first two runs in the third inning when Savannah Lopez drove in Brittany Ruff
Continued on page 42

Preston win sets up Archdiocesan title game

BY MARC RAIMONDI

Megan Kelly didn’t think about it – not before and not after she made the biggest play of the game.

The Preston junior ran in from her center field position and dived full extension to catch pinch runner Christina Paporito off second after a Kristen Broecker single up the middle. It was the second out of the seventh inning with Moore Catholic threatening, but Kelly showed no emotion.

“I just wanted to get the third out,” she said. “I just wanted to finish the game.”

The next batter, Kirsten Reina, hit a hard liner back to the circle, which pitcher Julianna Orrico

snared with her glove. Preston had escaped with a 4-1 win over Moore Catholic in the CHSAA Archdiocesan softball semifinals Sunday afternoon at Bicentennial Veterans Memorial Field in The Bronx. Kelly was one of the first players to run and mob Orrico in the circle.

“I was just like, oh my God, we did it, we won – we’re going to the championship,” Orrico said.

Preston meets St. Joseph by the Sea back at its home field Tuesday in the final, its first title game since 2004. Sea beat Preston earlier in the season, but then again so did Moore Catholic. Both of those losses to Moore actually came in the sev-

Continued on page 42



Photo by William Thomas

Preston players celebrates their victory.

Spellman pushes back CHSAA playoffs after spat with commish

Pilots' coach, Lou Brescia, suspended for two games



Photo by Kendall Rodriguez

Mount St. Michael coach and CHSAA baseball commissioner Wall Stampfel was involved in two altercations with Cardinal Spellman coaches last week.

BY MARC RAIMONDI

A bitter feud between Cardinal Spellman and CHSAA baseball commissioner Wally Stampfel has reverberated throughout the league and has directly contributed to postponing two playoff games initially scheduled for Sunday, The Post has learned.

Cardinal Spellman baseball coach Lou Brescia has been suspended two games, including his team's first playoff contest, for an on-field altercation with Stampfel, also the Mount St. Michael coach – an incident that escalated a day later at the CHSAA Archdiocese coaches meeting, sources said.

Feeling that the penalty given to Brescia by the league executive committee was not harsh enough, Mount athletic director Mario Valentini pulled his field as the host site for Sunday's CHSAA Class AA first-round elimination games, according to sources.

Sources told The Post that the bad blood between Spellman and Stampfel started last week in a disagreement about when a rained-out game with All Hallows would be rescheduled. It intensified Monday during a league game between Spellman and Mount, multiple sources said.

Brescia accused Mount of batting out of order, sources said, but because the accused batter did not complete his plate appearance there was no violation, by rule. In a conversation with Brescia and the home plate umpire, Stampfel cracked wise to Brescia, winking
Continued on page next page



Photo by Marc Raimondi

SCAN's 16-and-under team.

Team SCAN wins Under Armour Shootout in Conn.

BY MARC RAIMONDI

Team SCAN's No. 1 national ranking held up last weekend.

With five players in double figures, the SCAN 16-and-under team defeated Long Island Lightning Law, 73-38, in the CT Elite Under Armour Shootout championship game playing up at the 17s level.

Chris McCullough, Shavar Newkirk, Conrad Chambers, Quincy McKnight and Kevin Seymour all scored in double figures and SCAN won five games in the tournament by an average of 23 points.

Terry Larrier, Eric Long, Cheick Diallo and Michael Jurzynski also contributed for the Bronx-based Team SCAN, which competes this weekend in the King of New York Classic at Gauchos Gym.

Zodiacs Track Team competes in Youth Challenge Series #3

BY WINSTON DINKINS

On Saturday, May 20, the Zodiacs competed in the Youth Challenge Series #3 at Icahn Stadium (Randall's Island).

Besides winning many medals, the event hosts the trials for the Adidas Grand Prix for 7 and 8 years old fastest kid in the 100 meters and the Youth Girls and Boys 4 x 400 meter race.

Nine athletes who have won a total of 26 World Championships medals have been added to the field for the Adidas Grand Prix on June 9.

Continued on page 42



Zodiacs Track Team before the Hershey Games.

Photo courtesy of Zodiacs Track Team

Pilots' coach suspended 2 games

From previous page

and sucking his teeth, according to sources, and the Spellman coach went off.

Brescia, incensed by the show of disrespect, told Stampfel, "I will bury you" and cursed at the commissioner/coach. The umpire got between the two and Brescia made contact with the ump. Stampfel ended up falling to the ground during the tussle.

Brescia was then ejected from the game and suspended the next two contests, the first being Friday's game against Fordham Prep, which finished up after 14 innings Saturday, a Spellman victory. The Pilots will likely compete in a second-round playoff elimination game sometime this week.

Brescia declined comment directly on the incident.

On Tuesday, at a league coaches meeting at Mount St. Michael, Spellman assistant coach Donald Van Bommel and Stampfel got into heated arguments on two separate occasions with Van Bommel angry that Stampfel was not ejected from the game against Spellman.

In the final exchange, near the end of the meeting, Stampfel, according to sources, told Van Bommel never to "f----- talk to me

again." The Spellman assistant got in the commissioner's face, but sources said there was no physical contact made as coaches broke up the potential fracas.

Van Bommel, who could not be reached for comment, has also been suspended for an undetermined amount of time, sources said. Sources said he has a history of being ejected from games.

Stampfel, who has been commissioner for 15 years, declined to comment on the situation except to say he wasn't sure when the first-round games would be played. He referred all questions about the field to Valentini, who did not return a voicemail message left by The Post.

Meanwhile, league coaches are angry that the playoffs will be pushed back another day. Monsignor McClancy was slated to meet Regis and Monsignor Farrell and Salesian were supposed to face off at Mount.

"We're extremely upset that we're not playing [Sunday]," McClancy coach Nick Melito said. "There's uncertainty about when we're gonna be playing and now these games are going to be bunched all up. It's not fair to any of the teams."

Coach lights fire under Science

BY MARC RAIMONDI

Jeremy BasSie handed his sports jacket to his wife and assistant coach Danielle and turned to his players on the bench. Then, the Bronx Science coach let loose.

The even-keeled, mild-mannered BasSie yelled, he screamed and he called individuals out. The Wolverines were stunned.

"He's never done that before - ever," senior middle hitter Preet Singh said. "But I was happy he did."

When BasSie called timeout, Science was down six points early in the third set. Afterward, the second-seeded Wolverines reeled off the next three points and gutted out a wild, 25-21, 24-26, 25-21 win over No. 6 Brooklyn Tech in the PSAL boys volleyball semifinals Tuesday at Hunter College in Manhattan.

"I guess it woke us up," junior setter Jerry Henriquez said.

Henriquez said that Science players were yelling at each other on the court and getting frustrated - something the team, which has great chemistry, didn't do all season. BasSie nipped that

in the bud right away.

"[Danielle] said that I needed to lace into them, that they needed a real yelling at," BasSie said. "I'm usually pretty stoic, but I pick my spots."

Singh ended up with 13 kills, including three in the final eight points to close the door for Science (14-0). Henriquez had 30 assists and four kills, Alex Barbulescu added nine kills and Nate Chin finished with six kills. The Wolverines meet top-seeded Academy of American Studies in the championship match 5:30 Thursday back at Hunter. Science will be making its second appearance in the final in three years.

"I can't even believe we won, to be honest with you," BasSie said.

That's because Brooklyn Tech (15-1) was relentless. The Engineers didn't quit, even down 23-17 in the first set as they climbed to within 24-21 before Henriquez finished it with a dump kill.

BasSie said he felt like Tech carried momentum from that point on, yet somehow his team willed its way to a victory. Sci-

ence got every big point, stopped runs and went on its own runs when the timing was right.

"I'm proud of everyone," Singh said. "We all just pulled through."

It sets up a rematch with Academy of American Studies, the undefeated No. 1 seed. The one time the two teams played this season, in a non-league match, was a two-set sweep by the Eagles. But Bronx Science didn't have Barbulescu, who was nursing an ankle injury at the time.

He's been vital throughout the playoffs and arguably the top go-to hitter in the middle or otherwise. Barbulescu had two booming kills late in the third set that helped propel the Wolverines to victory.

"After we lost to them, we went back to practice to fix our game so that we could eventually beat them," Henriquez said of Academy of American Studies. "Now we're going to see if that paid off."

BasSie's outburst certainly seemed to propel them on Tuesday. Science was down 9-3 at the

Continued on next page

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Zodiacs Track Team competes in Challenge

From page 40

Zodiacs were blessed to have seven athletes qualified to compete in the Adidas Grand Prix and with the possibility of 4 more making it. Qualifiers in 7 and 8 years fastest kid on the block race, were Adaria Reeves for the girl's race, plus Julian Coley and Nasir West for the boys. For the youth boys (Taylor Douglas, Hugh Fraser, Keelan Thomas, and Shem Spencer) qualified with third place finish in the 4 x 400 meter relay.

There is a possibility that the youth girls relay team may be accepted to Adidas Grand Prix.

In the beginning of their race, the lead off athlete tripped and fell to the ground. One official tried to stop the race, but when he notified the starter, there was no more bullets in his piston (to stop a race, the starter shoots his piston a second time).

At this time, the Zodiac athlete got up and started running and the officials let the race continue. The other girls were too far for the Zodiac athlete to catch. A protest was issued and will be considered by the meet director of the Adidas Grand Prix. Hopefully they will allow the youth girls to compete. If the

athlete wasn't tripped, she would have definitely qualified.

Truman High School won the Borough Championship!

On Saturday, May 26, the Zodiacs will host the Elizabeth Gaynor/Robert Taylor Track Meet Invitation at Truman High School. There will be some of the best team from the tri-state area competing. The meet start at 10 a.m., registration starts at 9 a.m. For \$15, your child can compete in three events. There will be a baby's race for free. Medals will be given out to the top three in each division (except babies' race). There will be plenty of food and drinks. For additional information visit www.Zodiacstrack.org.

Join one of New York's top track and field teams. They compete all year round in multiple events from Cross Country to In-door and Outdoor Track and Field meets. The children learn how to balance sports and education. If you have or know of any children between the ages of 6 and 16, who are looking to utilize track and field to improve their horizon, contact president Thomas Francis at (718) 679-2060 or co-president Winston Dinkins at (914) 441-6196, email WATCLT@AOL.COM or visit www.ZODI-

Pipe Dreams: No for Nash; safety first

From page 39

and enjoy it -- as they do this to each other? "And let's be honest: The lifestyle of an NFL player is incredible. Even if it ultimately shaves years off their lifespan -- and lessens the quality of those remaining years -- there's an argument to be made that it's worth it. The fortune, the fame. The thrill of the crowd. That's a lifestyle they can't get anywhere else. Live like a king at 30, hobbled at 50, dead at 65? Not sure I'd take it, but many would. And do. "The lifestyle of a college player? Not so precious, not when weighed against the odds of (not) playing in the NFL for a decade. Those are young men who made a choice. In lots of cases, those are young men who wouldn't be in college -- wouldn't have a shot at being in the same general workforce as lots of us -- without football. Playing football is a risk, but it comes with a reward."

Dan Daly (DC Times) feels that there is some self-delusions in the players' ranks, "They didn't realize, as they came up through the football ranks, that they had chosen a dangerous pursuit? They weren't aware that the brain is a sensitive organ, and that injuries to it can have catastrophic consequences? It never dawned on them that they were paid

these large sums of money, far more than the average working stiff earns, basically because they were selling their bodies? Wasn't any of that covered in the NFLPA's rookie symposium?

Banning The Flying Wedge Didn't Kill Football

Teddy Roosevelt, when he was President, banned the use of the Flying Wedge in football games because of the number of player deaths it caused.

Bruce Jenkins (SF Chronicle) gave his opinions on player concussions, "As my wife likes to say, 'Men go to war.' She's not all that crazy about the concept. But it's a pretty handy slogan, whether it's two kids wrestling in the backyard or tough guys choosing fists before words. This is a country in which boxing, race-car driving and other life-threatening sports thrive, and always will, in the face of eternal outrage. (As the late Los Angeles Times columnist Jim Murray once wrote of the Indy 500, 'Gentlemen, start your coffins.') "Pop Warner football has been around since 1929, and it's quite an institution, but I've always found it a little bit sad, especially as it involves really little kids. Already they're wearing uniforms and knocking heads? Play touch football, get your chops down, craft a bit of feel for the

game, then take that crucial next step at the high-school level. By then, you'll know if you really want it that badly, and unless I'm misjudging the unbridled passion for this sport, I don't think there are enough protective parents to turn football into a wasteland. Too many moms and dads either revere the sport or live their lives through their kids' high-school deeds.

"If the NFL ever eliminates the kickoff, a truly exciting play that represents the essence of the sport, it will have gone too far on the safety issue. Otherwise, every new rule gets hearty applause from here. In the face of current and imminent lawsuits, rumored to be in the thousands, the NFL will do everything in its power to reduce and monitor concussions, including a program that would keep track of every retired player, many of them too proud to take measures on their own or admit to any brand of vulnerability.

"So we live with all that. What the doomsday critics forget is the gorgeous leaping catch in the corner of the end zone, a clever running back darting miraculously through the opposition, a perfectly thrown pass against a wave of blitzing linebackers - elements that will always be in place. Never forget that this is an elegant, beautiful

game, and it's something that cannot be killed."

No for Nash

Yes. Steve Nash was an MVP, an assist leader, and a veteran point guard. But the biggest word we MUST remember is "WAS."

It Could Have Bowled Me Over

Dwight Perry (Seattle Times) said that, "Stunt woman Jolene Van Vugt of London, Ontario, broke a world land speed record when she clocked 46 mph in Sydney, Australia -- on a motorized toilet. "Canadians are reportedly so flush with pride they can't keep a lid on it."

More From Dwight

"A high-school PE teacher in Big Lake, Minn., has been placed on paid administrative leave after shooting a gopher that popped out of the ground during an archery demonstration, Minneapolis' WCCO-TV reported. The teacher refused to comment, other than to deny his name is Carl Spackler.

"Bumper sticker: "Always give 100%, except when donating blood.

"Robert Griffin III, the Redskins' rookie QB, has taken steps to trademark "RGIII" and "RG3," ChangeLegal.com reported.

The Indianapolis Colts, not to be outdone, immediately declared first dibs on "LOL."

Fofana sends Clinton to quarters

From page 39

with an RBI single and Alondra Soroa scored on a wild pitch. Cardozo ace Shelby Yacovone got out of bases-loaded jam in that inning.

Ruff was on base three times on bunts and scored on a bunt single and three-bases error in the top of the seventh.

"We believed in our-

selves," Ruff said. "We used all our heart on the field."

Daysia Wehder drove in Krystle Roldan with a booming triple in the bottom of the sixth as Cardozo (14-3), the Queens A-I champ, began getting to Fofana.

It wasn't enough, though. The mercurial windmill, who has had what she described as "a rollercoaster" season, pre-

vailed in the best outing of her career.

Eaton keeps telling her that if she throws strikes, Clinton can be in the game with anyone.

On Friday, she proved it. "I was never this confident during the season," Fofana said.

"I was so confident today. We all wanted the game badly."

Tech's momentum held up. The coach lit into his players with a fury that carried across the packed, raucous

gym.

"He had a right to," Henriquez said.

Preston win sets up title game

From page 39

enth inning and Panthers coach was having the feeling of déjà vu -- until Kelly made that diving tag.

"Whoa," Mazza said. "That's just 150 percent. That's just giving it all. Just like the slogan on our wristbands -- 'going for it all.'"

Orrico, only a freshman, was brilliant, giving up just one run on seven hits and no walks in seven innings for Preston (15-1) in what was the biggest game of her career so far.

"She's a big-time player," Mazza said. "And if she's like this freshman year, it's going to be scary senior year."

Moore (9-5) got to Orrico in the seventh, though, with

more hits (four) than it had the whole game up until that point. Maxine Jasko singled and scored on a wild pitch and Nicole Guzzone, Corrina Strype and Broecker all had singles.

"We were on the ball all game, we just happened to hit where they were standing," Mavericks coach Kristine Knuth said. "Eventually they started to fall in the seventh inning."

Victoria Rivera had an RBI ground out in the second inning and Preston got two more runs in the third on RBI singles by Orrico and catcher Kitty Lajqi, the lone senior regular. The Panthers chased Mavs starter Gianna DeCesare in the fourth after

a leadoff walk by Madeline Giannini. Danielle Kibler, another freshman, drove her in against Guzzone, who came on in relief.

Kibler was one of the big hitting stars, going 2-for-4 with a double, an RBI and a run scored. The cleanup hitter refused eye black before the game when asked by assistant coach Alex Mazza, the head coach's daughter, because she performed poorly in the quarterfinals Saturday against Notre Dame Academy with it on.

"If that works for her, that works for me," Rachel Mazza said with a laugh. "If she plays all the time like that without eye black, don't wear it."

Coach lights fire under Bx Science

From previous page

time and looking at a potential elimination if Brooklyn

Healthfirst, American Heart Assoc. launch Bronx gardens program

Healthfirst and the American Heart Association announce their partnership to present the American Heart Association Teaching Gardens Program at P.S. 55 in the south Bronx.

The educational initiative teaches children how to plant seeds, nurture growing plants, harvest produce and ultimately understand the value of good eating habits.

One in three American children is overweight or obese. A study by The New York City Department of Mental Health and Hygiene found that in the South Bronx, nearly one in four children in public elementary schools is obese and nearly four in ten are overweight or obese.

The P.S. 55 Health-

first and American Heart Association Teaching Garden combines nutrition education with garden-based learning to promote the consumption of more fruits and vegetables by children. Studies show programs like this improve healthy behavior and positive attitudes towards healthier eating.

"The teaching garden project is a key step in eliminating childhood obesity in our high-risk communities," said Pat Wang, Healthfirst president and CEO.

"This joint effort with the American Heart Association supports Healthfirst's mission to promote healthy living from an early age and provide the building blocks for improved academic perfor-

mance and overall long-term health."

"Today, nearly one in three American children is overweight or obese. And, in a society where French fries make up one-fourth of children's vegetable intake and are the most common vegetable, it's not that surprising, said Dr. Mary Ann McLaughlin, president, New York City American Heart Association Board of Directors.

"But, the American Heart Association teaching gardens program can change that by educating children early about healthy eating habits while also changing attitudes about fruits and vegetables."

The garden is dedicated to Megan Charlop, a veteran public health advocate and director of Community Health at Montefiore Medical Center's School Health Pro-

gram, who was killed in a tragic cycling accident in 2010.

A beloved community organizer in the area, Megan was actually on her way to P.S. 55 the day of the accident to attend a summer camp school fair, one of the many projects she spearheaded for local children to experience.

Her passion was to improve the health and well-being of Bronx resi-

dents, especially children, through fitness and improved nutrition.

A special tribute ceremony will be held in her honor.

For more information about the Healthfirst and American Heart Association Teaching Gardens program, visit www.healthfirst.org and www.heart.org/teachinggardens.

Mercy College honors 5

Mercy College honored influential business leaders at its 31st Annual Trustees Scholarship Dinner, held on April 19th at The Plaza Hotel. The event was attended by more than 300 prominent dignitaries, as well as Mercy College board members, alumni and supporters. An impressive total of more than \$555,000 was raised for student scholarships.


The college celebrated the accomplishments of notable executives from the fields of real estate, luxury marketing, finance, and publishing. The honorees were: Faith Hope Consolo, chairman of the Retail Leasing and Sales Division of Prudential Douglas Elliman Real Estate; Gregory J. Furman, chairman and founder of The Luxury Marketing Council; Duncan L. Niederauer, CEO of NYSE Euronext; as well as brothers Frank Sadlier Dinger and William Sadlier Dinger, chairman of the board and president, respectively, of William H. Sadlier, Inc.

At the close of her speech, Faith Hope Consolo announced that she would match all night of event funds raised, which

totalled \$65,000, with a donation from her newly created Real Estate Has a Heart Foundation.

"Mercy College is honored to salute these individuals who each have reached the pinnacle of their professions," said Mercy College president Dr. Kimberly R. Cline. "Our college puts forth the honorees dedication, innovation, and success as a source of inspiration to our students, as they soon look ahead to their own promising careers."

Several Mercy College students who have received scholarships poignantly related how the opportunity has had a tremendous impact on their lives. Mercy College freshman Meriem Sbaiti, who helps care for her autistic younger brother at home, is now able to pursue a degree and career in healthcare due to her scholarship. "My goal is to be able to make a difference not only in my brother's life, but in the lives of kids everywhere," she said. "Each of you who support the Mercy College scholarship fund is responsible for making my dreams of helping others become a reality."



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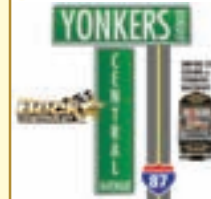


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