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Pages 50-53



Uproar over unexpected neighbors

BY DAVID CRUZ

Elected officials and groups say they were blindsided by the recent move of several people diagnosed with mental illness from Brooklyn and Queens into a Pelham Bay apartment complex.

They met Dec. 28 at Community Board 10 offices to meet with Services for the UnderServed, a respected state-backed nonprofit temporarily housing 65 clients

Continued on page 49

MIXED REPORT ON BORO CRIME

Murders, shootings down in 2012

BY BOB KAPPSTATTER

There's good news and bad news for crime in the Bronx.

Despite last year's dramatic headlines of shootings and murders, both took a downward turn, while other stubborn violent crimes inched up.

The numbers, locally and citywide have raised concern that crime reduction has finally bottomed out, going as low as it can go.

But in all cases, the actual numbers were the lowest the borough has seen in decades.

Murders were down 24.3%, with 112 killings, compared to 148 in 2011, while shooting victims dropped from 535 in 2011 to 494 last year - a 7.7% decrease.

Rape, robberies and felony assaults were up 6.6%, 3% and 7.7% respectively.

Police attribute the drop in murders and shootings in part to police and federal agencies taking down a number of local violent drug gangs.

But obviously, high profile

murders and shootings, such as the death of 4-year-old Lloyd Morgan and wounding of other innocents by stray bullets drew big headlines and community outrage.

And Police Commissioner Raymond Kelly's controversial stop-and-frisk (seemingly always missing the "question" part in the middle) is still hotly debated as a significant crime deterrent or a community relations disaster.

If hard numbers are any help in judging the worth of the program, while gun seizures were down 4.7% citywide, they were up 13.3% in the borough, from 757 in 2011 to 858 weapons taken off Bronx streets last year.

Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr. has mixed feelings, opposing the stop & frisk program "as it is currently constituted."

"Not all stops are misused, but many are," he said. "I prefer a return to a 'stop, question & frisk' program as we had in the past, as it would provide for greater in-

Continued on page 30



Photo by Josiane Bauke

Police Officer Jason Campbell (left) and Police Officer Steven Edwards stroll out of Throggs Neck's 45th Precinct, where crime has fallen for the second straight year in a row. Find out how the 45th and 49th precincts did on page 30.

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Lehman High School to be 'phased-out'

Several Bronx high schools get ax; Dewitt Clinton saved

BY PATRICK ROCCHIO

DeWitt Clinton High School escaped the ax this week, but Lehman High School wasn't as lucky in the latest round of city school phase-outs and closures.

Despite improvement on Lehman's progress report for the 2011-12 school year the city Department of Education announced on Monday, Jan. 7 it is proposing to "phase-out" the school.

Lehman most recently posted an overall D grade, up from an F in 2010-11.

DeWitt Clinton received an F on its latest progress report, but held a high-spirited early engagement meeting with DOE officials on Dec. 6 that drew on its large alumni network and a high level of student enthusiasm.

If completed, a Lehman phase-out would mean not accepting a ninth grade

class in September, and gradually decreasing enrollment with each graduating class, with the school shuttered for good in three years.

Also facing phase-out in the Bronx are Jonathan Levin High School in Mount Eden, M.S. 203 in Mott Haven, P.S. 64 in Mount Eden, and M.S. 142 in Baychester.

Better opportunities

DOE officials contend the schools replacing those proposed for phase out will offer better educational opportunities.

"We expect success," said DOE deputy chancellor Marc Sternberg. "After a rigorous review of academic performance, we're proposing to phase out a select number of low-performing schools."

Sternberg added: "We've listened to the community and provided com-

prehensive support services to these schools based on their needs. Ultimately, we know we can better serve our students and families with the new options and a new start."

Pols React

Local elected officials were miffed over the decision on Lehman, the only zoned high school for the Throggs Neck area.

Assemblyman Michael Benedetto said DOE appears to be following through on similar plans it made last year that were blocked by a United Federation of Teachers lawsuit.

"I am annoyed, disturbed and furious, but I am not surprised," he said Benedetto of the phase-out proposal for Lehman.

A former teacher with almost four decades' experience, he questioned DOE's school rating methods.

"[The DOE's] whole educational model is...a whole bunch of small high schools with a more personal touch," said Benedetto.

While there is merit to that approach, he believes Lehman is suffering because of the DOE's own bad decisions and policies.

"It is like a kid murdering their parents, and then going to the court and telling them 'please be easy on me, I am an orphan,'" said Benedetto.

Councilman Jimmy Vacca said he believes that if the zoning of the school were adhered to - sending students mostly from local communities - there would be roughly 2,500 students at Lehman.

With the closure of other large comprehensive Bronx high schools over the past decade, enrollment

Continued on page 49



Photo by Patrick Rocchio

Department of Education representative Elaine Gorman speaks to parents at the Lehman High School Parent Association's meeting on Tuesday, January 8. The DOE announced on Monday that it was proposing Lehman's phase-out over the next three school years, according to two sources.

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Assemblywoman Gibson plans run for City Council

BY BOB KAPPSTATTER
EXCLUSIVE - Bronx state Assemblywoman Vanessa Gibson will announce shortly that she's running for the City Council seat from Highbridge.

The seat, which also covers parts of Melrose and Morrisania, is being vacated by term-limited Councilwoman Helen Foster, whose father Wendell held the seat for several terms before her three terms there.

Sources said that Gibson will announce her candidacy Feb. 1 at a location yet to be determined.

She is serving her second full two-year term in the Assembly after having won the seat in a special election when Aurelia Greene stepped down to become deputy borough president. The 77th A.D. also cov-

ers the heavy voting base of Concourse Village, as well as Claremont Village and the Forrest Houses.

Gibson could possibly face a crowded field of challengers in the Sept. 10 Democratic primary, though she is expected to have the party's backing for the council seat, which pays \$112,000 annually compared to \$79,000 in the Assembly.

Foster's 16th Council District is likely to shrink once the city Districting Commission submits its final proposed lines and they are approved by the City Council in February.

East Harlem's 8th Council District is expected to expand dramatically into the South Bronx, taking in a major portion of Mott Haven and the lower

third of Foster's current district, effectively creating an added Bronx seat. It could also mean current East Harlem Councilwoman Melissa Mark-Viverito facing potential Bronx challengers in this year's primary.

With a heavy African-American population in Highbridge, some political quarters have called the district "a black seat," but Gibson, who is African-American, is expected to face both black and Latino challengers.

Gibson will still retain her Assembly seat while running for the council seat. If she wins the council seat in the November general election, it's likely her Albany seat will be filled sometime in February, 2014.

The Bronx Democratic Party leadership will have a major say in naming her successor, who will have a major advantage running as an incumbent later that year for a full two-year term.

As for an elected switching their seat from Albany to one in City Hall - and vice versa - there is ample precedent, said Doug Muzzio, political guru and government affairs professor at Baruch College.

The most recent Bronx list would include councilman/former state Attorney General Oliver Koppell of Riverdale, former assemblyman, state senator and recently disgraced northeast Bronx ex-Councilman Larry Seabrook, as well as similiary disgraced former east and west Bronx state



Assemblywoman Vanessa Gibson plans to run for term-limited Councilwoman Helen Foster's Highbridge seat.

Senator Pedro Espada.

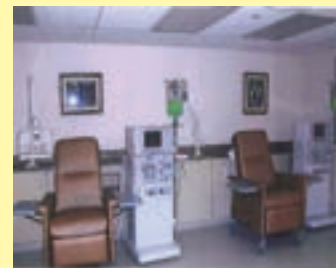
"There's nothing unusual about trading going down in office - at least geographically," said Muzzio.

"The bottom line is, you get out of Albany - in more ways than one - and get to sleep in your own bed."

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BORO BEAT



by Bob
"KAPPY"
 Kappstatter



WHERE'S CHARLIE?

With a redistricted western swath of the Bronx now making up a big 26% chunk of his 15th Congressional District, you'd think Charlie Rangel might want to put down some local roots.

But he still hasn't set up a borough district office, or designated a community representative to deal with Bronx constituents.

Even his website gives the borough short shrift, stating "Outside the borough of Manhattan, the Fifteenth stretches to include a small area of the Bronx...."

But Charlie personally returned our call to his press person to tell us things are in the works to TRY to make his new constituents happy.

He's already talked with Bronx Dem Party Boss **Carl Heastie**, he told us, and once the dust settles in the new congress, and he has a better idea of his office budget, he plans to meet

with both Carl and Borough President **Ruben Diaz Jr.**, as well as other Bronx leaders, to see how to "best serve my constituents," whether they have city, state or federal issues.

While he hopes to designate a Bronx community representative, Rangel said he doesn't expect to open to a Bronx office – "but I'll be listening to a large extent to what the people in the Bronx thinks best for them."

Meanwhile, Bronx folks will have to make do with trekking to his district office in the state office building at 163 W. 125th St. in Harlem.

SLIPPAGE

Former Bronx Boro Prez **Adolfo Carrion** must be singing his version of a Rolling Stones song – "I can't get no traction" – as he seems to keep sliding down the electoral greasy pole.

First he dropped his long-time Democratic affiliation (and a potential shot at running for Comptroller in the Dem primary) to try to sell himself to the GOP

county leaders as their fair-haired mayoral candidate. But love, it seems, is fickle.

With recently resigned MTA chair and former Giuliani deputy mayor **Joe Lohta** now looking like the GOP's potential mayoral boytoy, AC is sliding further down that pole.

"He's boxed in by a real Republican now," sayeth a high ranking Bronx political source.

The Wall Street Journal reported last week that he's a leading contender for the Independence Party nomination for mayor, "but party officials caution that a formal vote hasn't been taken by the party's executive committee and he is still meeting with officials."

The controversial Independence Party was in hot water recently for trying to trick voters into thinking they were voting as INDEPENDENTS.

To add to AC's woes, the Journal recapped his rocky relationship during his brief stint as the White House urban affairs

guy before being shuffled off "to a midlevel position in the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development" before stepping down last year.

And then there's that plea deal and \$10G fine with the city Conflicts of Interest Board over – let's just say taking his time – paying an architect for work on his City Island manse while having official business with the BP.

One political wag thinks that if Lohta keeps traction, AC might hang on to the GOP ticket as candidate for controller, which he had planned to run for anyway when he was still a loyal Democrat. Quien sabe? Who knows?

SKLEINOS

Even if Senate Republicans get up with a 32-30 majority once results from an upstate recount are in, it won't neutralize Bronx Senator **Jeff Klein's** five-member Independent Democratic Conference.

First off, publically cutting a deal for a power-sharing coalition with GOP conference leader

Dean Skelos BEFORE the election was great timing, sayeth an IDC insider – NOT Jeff. "It made Jeff the fourth man in the room with **Governor Cuomo** and Assembly Speaker **Shelly Silver**."

And given the vagaries of the electorate and Republican strength, "This is a long term plan," sayeth the source. "Two years, four years, six years – a lot of things can happen."

LUCKY LARRY

Ex-Bronx City Councilman **Larry "Bagel Larry" Seabrook**, he of the \$177 bagel expense chit, lucked out with a federal judge Tuesday, pulling a minimum five years for hanky panky with city bus, do-nothing non-profits and padding payrolls with his mistress, family and pals. Off to the pokey March 8, wonder if he'll wind up working in the prison bakery?

MEA CULPAS

ΣWhen we're wrong, we're wrong. So we'll man up and peel back on two items from last

week.

First, Bronx Dem Party Boss **Carl Heastie** said that while we hit the nail on the head over Manhattan Dem Boss **Keith Wright** being at loggerheads with **Greg Soumos**, his commissioner to the city Board of Elections, over supporting Bronx Dem Commissioner **Naomi Barret** for the new board exec director's job, Carl NEVER made a deal with Keith to push Naomi for the job if Carl delivered the Bronx for **Charlie Rangel** (which he failed to do. Charlie's primary challenger state Senator Adriano Espaillat edged out Rangel in the Bronx.).

And secondly, new Soundview/Parkchester Assemblyman **Luis Sepulveda** claims he wasn't pulling Community Board 9 member **William (Willie) Rivera's** strings when Rivera made the (failed) motion to vote on ousting district manager Francisco Gonzalez. Willie was supposedly state Senator **Ruben Diaz Sr.** and Boro Prez **Ruben Diaz Jr.'s** hatchet man on that one.

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40th PCT.

MON, DEC. 17th, 11:00 a.m. — 300 East 138 St. Police had a standoff with a person wanted for an assault. At the end of the incident, detectives arrested the suspect who was wanted for an assault that occurred in a city housing residential development.

TUES, DEC. 18th, 10:10 p.m. — 290 Locust Ave. First responders were alerted that a worker had fallen into an oil tank near East 149 St. The worker was reported to be in an unconscious state when rescue workers reached the person. Once extricated from the tank, the victim was decontaminated before being transported to Lincoln Medical Center.

42nd PCT.

FRI, DEC. 21st, 12:15 p.m. — 3872 Third Ave. A woman threatened school workers with another "Newton" was arrested by responding police officers. The female culprit felt that she was not being assisted fast enough by the school staff. Now the woman can explain her actions to a judge.

43rd PCT.

SAT, DEC. 15th, 11:40 p.m. — Authorities were informed that a young female had been raped. The 15 year old girl was provided with medical care at Jacobi Medical Center as specially trained investigation started to scrutinize the information that the young victim provided.

SUN, DEC. 16th, 4:05 a.m. — 2006 Westchester Ave. Police are looking into a report that a Hispanic male had been stabbed several times. The male was suffering from wounds to the hand and shoulder. The attacker fled before police could arrive.

MON, DEC. 17th, 2:10 a.m. — 1934 Ellis Ave. A male was transported to Jacobi Medical Center after being stabbed during a robbery. Apparently four black males robbed the unidentified victim. The male victim was stabbed in the torso before the culprits fled with an I-pod phone.

TUES, DEC. 18th, 9:35 a.m. — 880 Havemeyer Ave. Officials are looking into an incident where a 25 year old male was assaulted near Story Ave. The 25 year old Hispanic male was stabbed once in the shoulder and again in the left arm during a domestic dispute. The injured man was transported to Jacobi Medical Center and was reported to be in stable condition.

WED, DEC. 19th, 10:30 a.m. — 40 Metropolitan Ave. Additional police assistance was needed in the Parkchester community before police officers were able to take a suspect into custody. Investigators from the Bronx Warrants Squad requested Emergency Service Squad units to force an apartment door and also a K-9 unit. On the other side of the door was a person wanted by police officials on an aggravated harassment charge. The assistance was need-



POLICE BLOTTER

ed since the culprit was unable to open the apartment door in order to be taken into custody around 10:50 a.m.

WED, DEC. 19th, 2:40 p.m. — Pugsley Ave. and Seward Ave. Police were alerted that the driver of a yellow cab was robbed at gunpoint. The taxi driver was in the Sound View area when the unknown culprit made off with a cell phone and a hundred-fifty dollars in cash.

FRI, DEC. 21st, 8:10 p.m. — White Plains Rd. and Watson Ave. An unconscious police officer was transported to Jacobi Medical Center after being removed from a damaged police vehicle. Several police vehicle in the area were assigned to assist a police officer who was in a foot pursuit near-by when the accident occurred. One police officer was reported to be unconscious inside the police vehicle while a second officer suffered back and neck injuries. Several ambulance crews from the Emergency Medical Services treated six patients which included the two injured police officers.

44th PCT.

SUN, DEC. 16th, 12:50 a.m. — Anderson Ave. and West 164 St. An inquiry was started after officials learned that a black male had been shot. The male victim was suffering from a bullet wound to the leg when he arrived at Bronx Lebanon Hospital.

THURS, DEC. 20th, 4:00 a.m. — West 171 St. and Undercliff Ave. Police officers grabbed another person who forgot to obtain a license to have a gun in NYC. This time with the arrest a 9-mm semi-automatic pistol was taken off the streets and vouched as evidence.

THURS, DEC. 20th, 5:00 a.m. — 1132 Jerome Ave. A 26 year old black woman was taken into custody. Police were alerted that a woman at gun point robbed a Getty Gas station. Responding officers were able to nab the female suspect.

THURS, DEC. 20th, 10:15 p.m. — 230 East 167 St. The victim of a shooting was transported to St. Barnabas Hospital. A 25 year old black male was suffering from a bullet wound to the left foot upon arriving at the emergency room. Local detectives are handling the inquiry.

FRI, DEC. 21st, 1:45 a.m. — Clay Ave. and East 168 St. A 21 year old black male was arrested after being found with a gun. The young man was in possession of a 38-caliber revolver. The gun was taken away from the culprit and vouched as evidence.

45th PCT.

SUN, DEC. 16th, 12:10 a.m. — 1808 Mulford Ave. Police investigators were alerted that a Hispanic male had been shot. The Latino victim had been shot in the arm officials indicated. The injured male was treated at Jacobi Medical Center.

TUES, DEC. 18th, 11:00 p.m. — 2413 Buck St. Authorities arrested a 38 year old Hispanic male. The culprit was charged with stabbing a 55 year old Hispanic man in the back of the head. The victim is the culprit's father. The injured man was transported to Jacobi Medical Center in stable condition.

46th PCT.

SAT, DEC. 15th, 1:20 a.m. — 1530 University Ave. Authorities took a 32 year old Hispanic man into custody. The male culprit was found in possession of a 380-caliber pistol. Upon checking officials learned that the culprit failed to obtain the proper license to own a gun in NYC. The weapon was vouched as evidence.

SAT, DEC. 15th, 11:00 P.M. — Webster Ave. and East 180 St. A 28 year old Hispanic male was arrested by local police officers. The man was charged with illegal possession of a gun after being found with a 40-caliber semi-automatic pistol. The gun was vouched as evidence.

TUES, DEC. 18th, 4:55 p.m. — 361 East 178 St. Police arrested a 29 year old Hispanic male. Upon questioning the male was unable to produce the proper license to own a gun in NYC. He was arrested and the weapon, a 357-caliber revolver was vouched as evidence.

FRI, DEC. 21st, 2:25 a.m. — 1708 University Ave. Authorities are looking into an incident that sent a 21 year old man to a hospital. The Hispanic victim was suffering from a bullet wound to the left leg when he arrived at St. Barnabas Hospital. Local detectives are handling the inquiry.

FRI, DEC. 21st, 11:55 p.m. — West Burnside Ave and University Ave. Before the day was over, police officers arrested a 33 year old Hispanic woman. The female culprit was taken into custody after being found in possession of a 25-caliber gun. The handgun was vouched as evidence for her pending court appearance.

47th PCT.

SAT, DEC. 15th, 2:05 a.m. — East Cun Hill Rd. and White Plains Rd. Police investigators were summoned to Montefiore Hospital. A 15 year old black male entered the hospital looking for medical

care after being shot. Hospital officials requested police to respond and an inquiry was initiated. The teen was suffering from a bullet wound to the right foot.

SAT, DEC. 15th, 11:10 p.m. — 1035 East 212 St. A suspect was taken into custody after found in possession of a gun. The culprit was arrested and the weapon was vouched as evidence.

SUN, DEC. 16th, 12:50 a.m. — 3780 Bronx Blvd. Police officers patrolling North Bronx streets arrested a 22 year old suspect. The Hispanic male was found with a 22-caliber revolver officials indicated. The weapon was vouched as evidence.

SUN, DEC. 16th, 9:20 a.m. — 4434 Baychester Ave. An inquiry was launched after officers learned that a woman had died. The body of the 44 year old black woman was found lying on the sidewalk. Apparently the woman had been stabbed several times in the head, neck, and about her body. The woman was transported to Montefiore Hospital's North Division where she was officially pronounced. Local detectives are handling the inquiry.

MON, DEC. 17th, 12:05 a.m. — 4246 White Plains Rd. Police officers arriving at the scene of a robbery were informed that three black males had robbed a neighborhood store. The three unknown culprits at gun point robbed the Chinese restaurant of one-hundred dollars. No injuries were reported. Members of the Bronx Task Force were deployed into the area to help with the search.

WED, DEC. 19th, 12:00 p.m. — 850 East 219 St. A search was conducted for two males who robbed a male of a portable phone in addition to other items. The two unknown black males at gun point robbed the victim of an I-phone and a set of headphones. The victim escaped injury.

THURS, DEC. 20th, 9:20 p.m. — White Plains Rd. and East 233 St. Police officers requested the services of an aviation unit to assist in the search for an armed robber. Officials indicated that the unknown culprit committed the robbery at gunpoint. No injuries were reported.

48th PCT.

SUN, DEC. 16th, 11:35 a.m. — 2351 Washington Ave. Authorities are looking into an attempted robbery of a grocery store. The unknown culprit at gun point fired off a shot before fleeing empty handed. No injuries were reported.

FRI, DEC. 21st, 6:30 p.m. — 1956 Crotona Pkwy. Alerted that two males had entered a home at gun point, police officers respond-

ed. The two masked males gained entry from the rear door at gun point. The occupant was secured before the culprits searched the home. They fled with the victim's wallet.

49th PCT.

SUN, DEC. 16th, 11:35 p.m. — 1663 Garfield St. Another teenager was taken into police custody. The 19 year old black male was found in possession of a 380-caliber semi-automatic pistol. The handgun was vouched as evidence.

MON, DEC. 17th, 2:00 a.m. — An inquiry was started after officials learned that a four year old child had been sexually assaulted. Members of the Bronx Special Victims Squad are handling the investigation.

THURS, DEC. 20th, 8:40 p.m. — 1763 Bronxdale Ave. A ranking police officials requested additional assistance after being faced with a standoff. The suspect who authorities were looking to take into custody decided that they were not going to surrender. A stand-off occurred; a request was made for additional help including additional units from the Emergency Service Squad and also a K-9 unit. No injuries were reported.

FRI, DEC. 21st, 1:00 p.m. — 1924 Yates Ave. Local police officers needed assistance in conducting a search. The officers responded to a reported burglary of a home. Apparently the unknown culprits fled and an aviation unit was requested to conduct a low level search of the surrounding area.

50th PCT.

SUN, DEC. 16th, 2:05 p.m. — 233 West 233 St. An emotionally disturbed person kept police officials at bay. Once in custody the person was removed from the building.

TUES, DEC. 18th, 6:10 p.m. — 2621 Palisade Ave. A 65 year old male was attacked in the Riverdale community. The black male was walking a dog when several males approached the older man. He was slashed by an unknown object. The culprits fled before police could arrive.

Transit

WED, DEC. 19th, 10:05 p.m. — Westchester Ave. and Whitlock St. Emergency personnel responded to the IRT Pelham Bay train line station after receiving a report that there was a person under a train. Train traffic was halted as firefighters directed that power to the third rail be turned off. Transit police officers from District # 12 worked with firefighters and police officers from the 41st Pct. to assist the victim.

Housing

SAT, DEC. 15th, 1:15 p.m. — 300 East 143 St. Authorities are looking for the person who fired several shots at a housing authority development. Police officers from

PSA # 7 responded to the emergency call alerted supervisors that they recovered nine spent rounds. An examination revealed that there was no visible property damage nor any reported injuries.

SAT, DEC. 15th, 4:40 p.m. — 301 East 143 St. Police officers from Housing's PSA # 7 returning to the same block. This time they went across the street to find additional bullet shells that had been previously fired. Again no one was injured, nor was any damage reported. Four shells were marked as evidence.

MON, DEC. 17th, 10:50 a.m. — A Hispanic female informed authorities that she had been forcibly raped in one of the buildings within the Castle Hill development. Police officers from Housing's PSA # 8 contacted the members of the Bronx Special Victim's Squad who learned that the attack occurred at gun point.

Fire Log

SUN, DEC. 16th, 10:49 a.m. — 603 Jackson Ave. Firefighters were informed that there was a structure fire at East 138 St and Jackson Ave. Units arriving at the scene found no indication of any blaze, but other responding fire units found the blaze at East 152 St. and Jackson Ave. A hose line was quickly stretched as ladder crews spread out to start their assigned tasks. The fire was located on the first floor in a commercial area of the residential building. The blaze quickly expanded as flames engulfed floor after floor. Some of the residents were able to self-evacuate as the fire was spreading in the roof area. The flames jumped to an adjacent building causing fire officials to transmit higher alarms as the buildings, over a hundred years old were quickly damaged. Firefighters were taken out of the building and ordered to establish an exterior attack. Before the fire was declared under control a forth alarm was sounded. Several tower ladders were placed into operation knocking down the flames prior to firefighters being permitted to return back inside the structure. Searches were delayed due to concerns over the stability of the buildings. It was not until 4:47 p.m. that the fire was declared under control. Three firefighters and two police officers were taken to Lincoln Medical Center.

FRI, DEC. 21st, 4:46 a.m. — 3167 Villa Ave. Firefighters from the Briggs Ave station only had a few blocks to travel when they arrived at a burning structure near East 204 St. The fire was in a three story frame building housing a commercial business on the first floor and two floors of occupied apartments. First arriving firefighters signaled incoming units that they needed assistance in obtaining a working water source. Water was relayed to the pumper closest to the burning structure. Division 7 upon arrival indicated that the fire was on all three floors in the rear of the structure. A call was transmitted for an additional engine company and two additional ladder companies. After the second alarm units arrived the fire was darkened down before being placed under control.



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GOP uphill battle

Dear editor,
Recent discussions about Republicans continuing to control City Hall may be premature.

Ironically, there are six potential Republican candidates for Mayor: Metropolitan Transportation Authority boss Joe Lhota, businessman John Catsimatidis, Manhattan Media publisher Tom Allon, nonprofit Executive Director George McDonald along with Democrats -- former Bronx Borough President Adolfo Carrion and Queens State Senator Malcolm Smith. Only billionaire supermarket owner Casimatidis has the money to mount a real race. Joe Lhota can do likewise by raising millions between the business community and former Mayor Rudy Guiliani's friends.

As of April, 2012 there are 4,466,746 registered voters in New York City. This includes 2,979,896 Democrats, 485,872 Republicans. Any Republican running for Mayor in 2013 would need both name recognition and \$20 million to compensate for this overwhelming 6 to 1 Democrat to Republican registration deficit.

Whoever wins the 2013 Democratic Party Mayoral Primary - be it Council Speaker Christine Quinn, Public Advocate Bill de Blasio, former Comptroller and losing 2009 Democratic Party Mayoral candidate Bill Thompson or current Comptroller John Liu starts off as the odds on favorite to win. A fifth recently declared candidate -- former Bay Ridge, Brooklyn Councilmember Sal Abanese has been out of office for 15 years. He is essentially irrelevant.

Bloomberg barely won a third term spending over \$160 million to overcome a citywide five to one Democrat versus Republican voter registration advantage. Any GOP candidate running for Mayor in 2013, without the financial means of Bloomberg, is a sure bet to lose.

Democrats occupy the offices of Comptroller, Public Advocate, Council Speaker, 47 of 51 NYC Council seats, four of five Borough President offices and four of five District Attorney offices.

Bloomberg's narrow 2009 victory was assisted by numerous Democratic elected officials who crossed party lines to endorse Bloomberg or stay officially neutral. This time around Democrats are going to support one of their own to end the GOP's 20-year control of City Hall. All yearn for control of City Hall along with the political patronage and potential contracts.

Bloomberg's old friends long ago became strangers. They have no incentive to help him groom a successor.

Democrats will rally around their party's nominee for mayor in 2013. They want a friend in City Hall when running for re-election in 2014 or 2016.

Governor Andrew Cuomo, Attorney General Eric Schneiderman, State Comptroller Tom DiNapoli, State Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver, State Senate Minority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins along with Senators Charles Schumer and Kirsten Gillibrand will all be onboard.

They will be joined by numerous other

Local community board openings

Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr. is inviting Bronx residents to make a difference in their community by joining their local Community Board.

The Office of the Bronx Borough President will be accepting applications for all 12 Community Boards from city residents who reside, work or have professional or other significant interests in the Bronx.

"Participation on local Community Boards can provide Bronx residents with a forum to share with their community their expertise and talents," said Diaz. "It is im-

portant that community residents participate in the decision making process in their communities on important budget, land use and service delivery issues."

Applications are available at the Borough President's Community Board office at (718) 590-3914 or at local community board offices.

Interested applicants may also get forms on-line at bronxboropres.nyc.gov.

The deadline for submission of applications for the next round of appointments is Feb. 8.

Democratic Party public officials including 59 State Assemblymembers, 20 State Senators and 12 Congressmembers from NYC as well as virtually every municipal labor union.

All will provide endorsements, financial support including either hosting fund raisers or making direct campaign contributions. They will collectively supply thousands of volunteers for phone banks and door to door get out the vote operations.

Bloomberg abandoned the Republican Party, whose ballot line he "rented" for convenience in winning a third term. He has continued his past track record of doing little to help finance and run serious Republican challengers against incumbent Democrats.

There are only a handful of GOP elected officials to assist any 2013 Republican Mayoral candidate. Virtually all are from Staten Island. The rest of NYC is solidly represented by Democrats.

Today's six GOP Mayoral wannabes should draw straws. The losers could run for Comptroller, Public Advocate or Borough President. Republicans could have a real diverse city and borough wide group of candidates for the first time in decades. This would also help the handful of GOP competitive NYC Council candidates in expanding their current 4 members to the old record of 7 who served with former Mayor Guiliani during the 1990's.

Crossover Democrats, who voted for Guiliani and Bloomberg continue to move out of town, retire out of state or succumb to old age. There has been no successful GOP outreach to Caribbean, Hispanic, Asian or other new immigrants along with middle class African Americans.

Once the GOP loses any incumbent, they are rarely able to reclaim the district. Bloomberg may go down in the history books as the last Big Apple Republican Mayor.

Larry Penner

Sandy's lesson

Sandy's lesson

Dear editor,
Hurricane Sandy has negatively affected all of New York.

Residents are not used to natural disasters occurring in New York, therefore, most New Yorkers were not prepared for Hurricane Sandy.

This tragic event has made us New Yorkers realize that New York is as vulnerable to natural disaster as any other place.

We must all unite to figure out the best ways in which we can overcome future natural disasters.

It is important for everyone to always have necessary equipment for all kinds of natural disasters in their homes.

It is vital for people to have all their important documents and possessions always packed and ready in case of an emergency evacuation.

The city tried to help its people out by providing transportation to safe public places open to anyone who was addressed to evacuate their homes, but many refused to abandon their homes.

We need to trust our city, as well as accept its help, during situations like Sandy.

New Yorkers need to start planning ways to be better prepared for natural disasters before they actually happen, and we also need to accept the city's guidance.

Faith Veloz

Let us hear from you

Letters to the editor are welcome from all readers. They should be addressed care of this newspaper to Laura Guerriero, 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.

Founded in 1981 by
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AND JOHN COLLAZZI

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City Hall criminal justice report finds Bronx DA soft on criminals

BY BOB KAPPSTATTER

Bronx criminals are getting a free pass, according to a City Hall report that slams Bronx District Attorney Robert Johnson's office as the worst in the city.

The Criminal Justice Indicator Report cites a litany of major categories in which the Bronx prosecutor's office is either at or near the bottom among the city's five district attorneys.

That includes Johnson having the city's highest release rate at arraignment for violent felon arrests and lowest prison rate for them.

Defending himself, Johnson cited a number of variables such as witness cooperation and lack of evidence - issues common to all city prosecutors.

Report findings

Among the findings in the report by Mayor Bloomberg's criminal jus-

tice coordinator John Feinblatt:

•Johnson's conviction rate for violent felony arrests in 2011 was the lowest in the city, at 43%, while convictions for other felony arrests was at 58%, three percentage points higher than the lowest county, Brooklyn.

•The Bronx topped the city - at 47% - for the release rate of "high risk" felony defendants not recommended for release.

•With only 21%, the Bronx has the lowest rate of suspects arrested for violent felonies being jailed. Manhattan was highest with 30%.

•Only 44% of defendants coming up for arraignment were held in 2011 - the lowest rate in the city, compared to the citywide average of 54% held.

•With the average ar-

rest-to-arraignment time 24 hours, Johnson's average time in 2012 was 26 hours and 18 minutes, a few minutes longer than busier Brooklyn.

Case backlog

•The Bronx had the highest number of pending state Supreme Court felony cases in the city - 5,183 - with 29% of them pending over 180 days over almost 30 per with Manhattan having the closest number, 3605.

•It was neck-and-neck at the bottom with Brooklyn at 18% for felony arrests that wound up with prison time in 2011, and lowest in the city at 21% for cases involving violent felony arrests.

•When it came to illegal possession of loaded guns, Johnson's office was again at the bottom at 31% for defendants sentenced to prison. Queens was highest at 76% and Manhattan next

at 68%. Citywide, an average of half the cases wound up with prison time.

•Operation Spotlight created in 2003 to target the most persistent misdemeanor offenders for jailtime shows the Bronx with the least cases - 36% winding up in prison, while Manhattan had 63% and Queens 61% sentenced.

D.A.'s defense

"We believe that the proportion of felony convictions should be a percentage of indictments not arrests. A great deal of evaluation, including whether or not to indict takes place post arrest," said a spokesman for Johnson.

"Nevertheless, at the end of the day crime statistics from the Bronx show comparable dramatic reductions over the last twenty years as the rest of the city. Also by looking at statistics



Photo by Walter Pofeldt

Bronx District Attorney Robert Johnson can't be smiling over critical city report.

alone there are so many variables that cannot be known," the spokesman continued. "The statistics don't show those cases in which a witness is uncooperative, the evidence is insufficient, a search is unconstitutional or were diverted to give a defendant a chance at rehabilitation."

Johnson, 64, has been

Bronx D.A. since 1989, serving before that as an acting Supreme Court Justice and Legal Aide attorney. He became the longest-serving Bronx D.A. in 2005, and was elected to a seventh four-year term in 2011.

To see the report, go to www.nyc.gov, then click on criminal justice coordinator.



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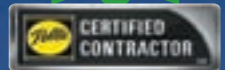
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First Bronxite born in 2013 at Montefiore

BY KIRSTEN SANCHEZ
Happy Newborn!

Baby girl Emerald Adrienne Jordyn Givans arrived at 2:02 a.m. on New Year's Day making her the first baby born in the Bronx in 2013.

The tiny four pound, 12.9 ounce baby was born to mom, Andrea White, and dad, Vincent Givans at Montefiore Medical Center.

Emerald beat the New Year's clock ahead of Joel Javier Sanchez, born at Lincoln Hospital at 3:17 a.m. and weighing in at five pounds, seven ounces.

Just to cover another local hospital, Isabella Cappello came into the world well into New Year's Day, born at 4:02 p.m. at Jacobi Medical Center and weighing in at six pounds, three ounces.

Although White, 46,

said baby Givans was not due until February 14, she was pleased about her early arrival.

"For me, it doesn't matter if it was New Years or any other day. I'm elated," White said. "But I am glad she came on New Years. It is a fantastic way to start the New Year."

White said she actually expected the baby to be born around Christmas, because that is when she started to feel contractions.

"But she never came," White said. "She waited until New Years."

White, a home health aide, said she began having severe labor pains at 10:30 p.m. on Monday.

Dad Vincent said although there have been some conflicting reports, he is ecstatic and would like

to set the record straight, that Emerald was the first baby born in the Bronx in 2013.

"When she grows up I want to say Emerald, girl, you came into this world like a celebrity," he said. "You were the first baby born in the Bronx for 2013."

Emerald is White's fourth child. She also has two 18-year-old daughters and a 10-year-old son.

"I am proud to have a New Year's baby," White said.

The overall city princess for arriving New Year's was Kaylee Sayuri Merino, who arrived in the world - and New York City exactly at midnight on New Year's Day at Elmhurst General Hospital in Queens, weighing a healthy six pounds, 11 ounces.



Photo courtesy of Montefiore Medical Center

(Right) First baby of 2013 in the Bronx, Emerald Adrienne Jordyn Givans, is held by mom, Andrea White. She is surrounded by proud sister, Jewel Gordon (left), and nurses (l-r): Gina McManus, RN, Helen Ayeo, RN, and Terri Malichek, RN.

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TD 5 Boro Bike Tour

The 2013 TD Five Boro Bike Tour rolls around the city in May, but to be a leader of the pack, best to register starting this month.

The Tour, which rolls May 5, will be returning to a "rush" first-come, first-serve registration system which will open at noon, Tuesday, Jan. 22.

Held annually the first Sunday in May, the TD Five Boro Bike Tour is America's largest cycling event with a 40 mile, traffic-free ride through all five boroughs for 32,000 cyclists.

The Tour is co-produced by Bike New York, the city's premiere bicycling organization, and the New York City Department of Transportation, in association with multiple City

of New York departments. Proceeds from the event fund Bike New York's education program.

"This annual spring-time ritual --which keeps growing in popularity -- is simply the most exciting way to experience the dynamic, diverse neighborhoods in all five boroughs of our great city," said Ken Podziba, President and CEO of Bike New York. "Bicyclists wait all year to feel the thrill and freedom of riding 40 miles on car-free streets, highways and bridges as they only can in the TD Five Boro Bike Tour."

TD Bank, America's Most Convenient Bank®, will once again serve as title sponsor.

"TD Bank is proud to continue sponsoring the

TD Five Boro Bike Tour, the marquee cycling event in New York," said Chris Giamo, Regional President, TD Bank. "We feel it is important to invest in our communities, and the TD Five Boro Bike Tour is a fun, environmentally friendly way to see the City while experiencing the TD Bank brand."

Adults must register themselves individually. Youth registration will take place in conjunction with an individual adult registration. All youth registrations must maintain a one child to one adult ratio. Participants hoping to ride with friends and family will have the opportunity to link their registrations together after the event sells out.

Impact Grants applications

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation is now accepting applications for the Environmental Justice Community Impact Grants (EJ Grants).

DEC's Office of Environmental Justice (OEJ) will award more than \$1 million to organizations serving communities that face multiple sources of environmental risks.

"The EJ grants boost areas that are disproportionately affected by a high concentration of pollution sources," DEC Commissioner Joe Martens said. "Under the leadership of Governor Cuomo, these grants will ensure that financial resources are distributed to communities where the impact will be the greatest, and I encourage community organizations across the state to apply for an EJ grant."

EJ grant awards will range from \$2,500 to \$50,000 to help local organizations with projects that address environmental and/or public health concerns. Ten percent of the total EJ grant will be designated as "Green Gems Grants" where individual groups will be

awarded \$2,500 to \$10,000 to be used exclusively for community-based monitoring, stewardship and education projects involving community gardens, parks and other open space.

Funding for the EJ grants comes from the Environmental Justice Community Impact Research Grant program.

Launched in 2006, the program concentrates on communities that have historically been overburdened by problems such as a high density of contaminated sites, noise, air and water pollution, health problems and lack of green space and waterfront access.

A wide variety of projects can be supported by this grant program, including community gardens and green roofs, air and water quality monitoring, lead poisoning prevention, urban forestry, subsistence fishing education, environmental education for urban youth, inventories of local pollution sources and green worker training.

Grant applications are due Friday, March 8, 2013, and awards are expected to be made in early summer.

During the last grant

round in 2011, DEC awarded 24 grants totaling more than \$1 million.

As part of the new EJ Grant application round, OEJ will host a series of grant workshops at various locations around the state in January.

The mission of OEJ at the DEC is to ensure the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations and policies.

OEJ focuses on improving the environment in communities, specifically minority and low-income communities and addressing disproportionate adverse environmental impacts that may exist in those communities.

For more information on the EJ Grants, the upcoming workshops or the Environmental Justice Advisory Group, call Melvin Norris, director of the Office of Environmental Justice, at (518) 402-8556 or visit the DEC Environmental Justice website at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/public/333.html>.



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S. Bronx development group ahead of city smoke-free push

BY KIRSTEN SANCHEZ

A major South Bronx housing group is already way ahead of Mayor Bloomberg's new push to ban smoking inside apartment buildings.

The mayor's proposed residential smoking disclosure policy for apartment buildings would require landlords and owners to disclose their building's smoking policy to prospective tenants, so they can make an informed decision.

The policy would give New Yorkers, including the 86% that don't smoke, a chance to make that choice.

South Bronx Overall Economic Development Corporation, which enhances the quality of life in the South Bronx, announced in June of 2012 that they are committed to adding 522 smoke-free units to their 24 units that are already smoke-free.

They hosted a technical assistance session on June 27 for more than 15 Bronx housing organizations and more than 40 housing representatives.

David Lehmann, borough manager for the Bronx Smoke-Free Partnership said the partnership is very much in favor of the policy.

"What we are doing right now is educating landlords, community boards, and elected officials about the policy," Lehmann said. "Just trying to let people know that this is a win-win. It doesn't require owners to change existing policies, just to disclose them. The number one complaint from residents I have gotten is that they don't know what their building's existing policy is because it is not in writing."

Lehman said the Bronx Smoke-Free partnership has partnered with the City Department of Health to help three Bronx housing facilities go "Smoke Free."

They are Jasmine Court at 79 E. 138th Street, Harmony Court at 1305 Morris Ave, and Jasper Hall, at 863 Melrose Ave.

New York City has the highest concentration of multi-unit housing in the country, which means most of them share walls, stairwells, lobbies, and most importantly, the air.

Studies show that secondhand smoke travels between units and floors, through cracks in piping, ventilation and flooring.

According to the U.S.

Surgeon General, there is absolutely no safe level of exposure. Even brief exposure can cause health problems, especially for children and the elderly.

The south Bronx properties will convert to smoke-free facilities over the next year.

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Special waste drop-off sites

Sanitation Commissioner John J. Doherty announced that the Department is re-opening the Household Special Waste Drop-Off sites in the Bronx, Brooklyn, Queens and Staten Island. The sites have been closed since late October because of storm damages caused by Super Storm Sandy.

The sites have been reopened to accept only non-commercial special waste generated by New York City residents with a valid New York State motor vehicle registration and license -- both with New York City addresses -- for such items as tires, motor oil and filters, fluorescent light tubes, transmission fluid, household and auto batteries, and latex paint.

Commissioner Doherty said: "Sanitation Workers

who were collecting storm debris will be redeployed to the Household Special Waste Drop-Off sites in these boroughs. Sanitation Workers at the Manhattan 6 District Garage will also be available to handle any resident who dispose of household special waste at this location. The Department sees the reopening of these sites as just one more indication of New York City returning to normal."

The Household Special Waste Drop-Off sites (listed below) are open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays, except for the last Saturday of each month. Those weeks the sites are open on the last Friday of the month to accommodate Sabbath observers. The Special Waste Drop-off sites is: Farragut and Halleck streets.

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Mayor launches Gap App Challenge

BY DAVID CRUZ

City education officials and the tech sector are teaming up to combat chronically mediocre Bronx middle school math scores.

Mayor Bloomberg and other city officials have launched the Gap App Challenge, a contest asking techies to craft a kid-friendly app that boosts middle schoolers math know-how.

"Mathematics is the language of the world," said Bloomberg, making the announcement Monday, Jan. 7 on a visit to East Bronx Academy for the Future. "If you don't speak that, you're at a big disadvantage."

Developers will have until April to brainstorm ideas, then submit them to educators and parents for evaluation. A winner will be announced in June.

"Our students are really interested in technology," said School Chancellor

Dennis Walcott, joining the mayor at the West Farms school. "It's the perfect marriage."

School principal Sarah Scrogin could not have agreed more, seeing the value in bridging "the private sector with the tech sector," where tech startups have made millions in developing smartphone apps used around the world. In this case, the apps will be used within the DOE's iZone Program.

The school program consists of 250 schools, personalizing the learning experience through online courses, intimate student evaluations, and more grueling after-school math and English courses.

The middle school years are often the most critical during a child's development, said Bloomberg. That time can create a junction between poor and quality students.

"Students who fall behind in middle school math are likely to remain behind through high school, and less likely and ready to graduate college," said Bloomberg.

In the Bronx, sixth, seventh and eighth grades made some gains in the last state math test. In all, 43% of sixth, seventh and eighth graders passed the level 3-4 state math tests. Citywide, the number was 55.7%.

The winning Best Instructional App will be utilized during the 2013-14 school year at schools like the East Bronx Academy for the Future, part of the DOE's iZone Program. The top five winners will get over \$100,000 in cash prizes.

App development in schools is already happening in the Bronx. Sixth graders at the Bronx Academy of Promise Charter School entered a contest



Photo by Aracelis Batista

Mayor Mike Bloomberg and officials stop by the East Bronx Academy for the Future to launch Gap App Challenge, seeking techies to create kid-friendly math learning apps.

by Verizon where students will personally develop an education app.

To learn more about the Gap App Challenge, go to nyc.gov.

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

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Today, we live in a very different world, but, thank God there are still places where you can go and still feel confident that you will always be treated fairly and more importantly, with honesty. One of these places is LJI Jewelers...they have been serving the Pelham Bay area for nearly 20 years. Aside from selling gold and diamond jewelry they do gold buying and pawning.

I'm sure you have heard of all the horror stories told by people who either sold their gold to gold buying stores or went to events in those convention centers and hotel conference rooms or who even sent their gold through the mail only to find out later that they got paid only a fraction of the money that their gold and diamonds were really worth. You hear this all the time, on the news or on the internet warning you not to go here or send your gold there.

When customers go to LJI to sell their gold or diamonds, they are pleasantly surprised, and in many cases stunned when they hear what they are offered. Some have even, believe it or not, been on the verge of tears. The customers always come back and send all their friends because they know they are being treated fairly, honestly and know they are getting the highest prices.

LJI always wants its customers to feel comfortable in knowing that the prices they are getting for their old gold is the highest price! LJI has put signs up in their stores encouraging people to shop around to see what offers they get for their old gold. Then, they want them to come back to LJI without saying what the other offers were, and then see how much more money LJI pays them.

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This storage firm is big on Bronx

BY DAVID CRUZ

A familiar icon high atop the west Bronx skyline and overlooking the Major Deegan Expressway and Harlem River has taken on a new coat of paint.

That's because Tuck-it-Away, the storage firm offering space-hungry clients "an extra closet," moved into the former H.W. Wilson building in Highbridge in November, making the Bronx home to its corporate office. The Bronx already boasts the most Tuck-it-Away facilities throughout the city.

But they've marked its territory in the industrial building by changing the color scheme of the former powerhouse publishing company's unique lighthouse atop the building, a marketing symbol for the old bookmaking house. The beacon's familiar beige colors were retouched with dark orange tones, reflect-

ing the new firm's colors.

Inside the industrial-style complex, staffers are still settling into the long corridors of the former book factory, with crews piecing new metallic storage units together. In all, Tuck-it-Away intends to spend upwards of \$2 million to renovate the building.

With a breathtaking view of the Harlem River, CEO Nick Sprayregen still has boxes lying around his office. A picture of he and Bruce Springsteen adorns his glass case, along with photos of the Sprayregen clan - three boys and two girls. Sprayregen's large family is fitting to his business - it's still family-owned with dad and former Bronxite Gerald having started the mom and pop venture 32 years ago.

Sprayregen moved his corporate office into the Bronx after losing an

eight-year eminent domain battle with New York State and Columbia University's expansion plans. The company was forced to close its three West Harlem offices, including the main office.

"We needed to find replacement property not only for our office but the 1700 storage tenants that we had in West Harlem," he said. Scouting for a new location, Sprayregen was attracted to the eight-story building at 950 University Ave., particularly its lighthouse, once considered the marketing logo for H.W. Wilson, which surrendered its lease after merging with EBSCO Publishing last year.

Sprayregen was sold on taking over the space along with its five interconnecting buildings along Summit Ave. after just one visit. "Once I saw it I thought it made sense to move in."

He wasted no time making his presence

known to the Bronx by repainting the iconic exterior lighthouse orange.

"By having this prominent light, people will become even more aware of us," said Sprayregen. "We can spread the word and spread the light of what our mission is."

On top of offering clients storage, Tuck-it-Away is now considering a business incubator for potential merchants.

"When H.W. Wilson left, they left a tremendous amount of office cubicles and desks," said Sprayregen, who's also taken notice at the industrial resurgence of the Bronx.

He said his company will be buying even more buildings to "serve its customers."

"We're very bullish on the Bronx."

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



Photo by David Cruz

Nick Sprayregen, owner of Tuck-it-Away, has brought his corporate offices to the borough, purchasing the former H.W. Wilson building still home to its faux lighthouse.

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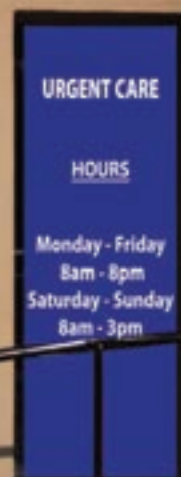
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Bronx beat

Learn to Swim classes offered at Bronx House

The Pelham Bay branch of the New York Public Library will host several free computer classes during the month of January. The classes offered will be: Thursday, January 10, from 10:30 a.m. — 12 p.m.: Internet search basics; Thursday, January 17 from 10:30 a.m. — 12 p.m.: E-mail basics; and Thursday, January 24 from 10:30 a.m. — 12 p.m.: Introduction to MS Word

Free English classes will be offered by the New York Public Library on Monday, January 7 and Thursday, January 10 at noon and 6 p.m. at the Bronx Library Center, at 310 East Kingsbridge Road.

All new students must attend an information session before entering the class.

For more information, call (718) 579-4244.

Bronx House Community Center is now enrolling for a learn how to swim class at 990 Pelham Parkway

South. Enrollment is on going and classes begin January 7. The indoor pool provides a full range of swim lessons and water safety programs for all ages and abilities all year long.

Students participating in all levels are taught by certified American Red Cross staff.

Private lessons, semi-private lessons, parent and toddler swim classes, open swim, lap swimming, lifeguard training, and aqua aerobics are also offered.

For more information on the learn to swim program, contact Tony Perez, Director of Aquatics, at (718) 792-1800 ext. 251 or at tony@bronx-house.org.

The College of New Rochelle (CNR) School of New Resources (SNR), which offers a bachelor's degree program specifically for adults, will hold open houses on five campuses on Saturday, January 12 from 11 a.m. — 1 p.m. Attendees will have an opportunity to tour the campuses,

meet faculty and students, and talk to academic and financial advisors. If they wish, attendees may also complete required testing and apply for admission on that day.

SNR's fully accredited Bachelor of Arts degree program offers: a distinctive program for adult learners 21 years of age and older, professional course sequences in business administration and management; health care administration; human services; and criminal justice, one-on-one advisement on how to finance your education, many six-credit seminars, classes that meet just one morning or evening each week, weekend courses, course credit for learning from life and work experiences, and convenient admission and registration processes.

Open houses will take place at each of the Schools five campuses, located in Westchester, the Bronx, Brooklyn and Manhattan.

For more information contact John Coyne at (914) 654-5281 or at jpcoyne@cnr.edu.

Staples Foundation awards grants

Staples Foundation, the private charitable arm of Staples, Inc., has awarded \$16,000 in grants to New York-area non-profit organizations under a new program that lets Staples associates direct donations.

The grants are part of a new philanthropic initiative created by Staples Foundation which allows Staples associates around the world to direct fund-

ing to non-profit organizations that are focused on education or job skills. The program encourages local community engagement by awarding larger grants to organizations where associates are highly engaged in volunteering or fundraising — up to \$25,000 per organization.

New York-area associates have directed Staples Foundation grants to the

following local non-profit organizations: Reed Academy, \$7,500; Green Bronx Machine, \$5,000; and Brooklyn Community Foundation, \$3,500.

The new program, called 2 Million and Change, will award additional funds to organizations around the world, reaching more than \$2 million in grants for the year.

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COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER GROUP

BCA Journal Making Workshop Jan. 19

The Bronx Council on the Arts (BCA) and the Huntington Free Library (HFL) will present a family-friendly, hands-on "Journal Making" craft workshop with Lis Ortiz on Saturday, January 19 from 12:30 to 3 p.m. at the Huntington Free Library (9 Westchester Square, next to the Apple Savings Bank).

The workshop is free

and open to the public.

Journal Making with Lis Ortiz is part of the free series of Third Saturday Family Craft Workshops presented by the Bronx Council on the Arts and the Huntington Free Library through April 20 at the Huntington Free Library.

The family craft workshop series continues on

February 16, from 12:30-3 p.m., when BCA presents Puppet Making with Lucrecia Novoa.

Admission to all workshops is free, but space is limited.

For information, call 718-931-9500 x33 or 718-829-7770, or visit www.bronx-arts.org.

LIZ VACCA DEBUTS AT SCOTT'S PLACE CAFE



Photo by Alexander Belisle

Elizabeth Vacca, daughter of Councilman James Vacca, made her public singing debut on Friday, January 4, before family and friends at Scott's Place Cafe. The songstress sang some easy-listening tunes to area locals cheering her on. Elizabeth completed her first semester in college.

(Above) Councilman Jimmy Vacca, stopping by as plain old dad, is drawn to his young one's voice.

(Right) Elizabeth sings her heart out!



Photo by Silvio Pacifico

TN AND W.SQ. MERCHANTS DONATE TO TN LITTLE LEAGUE

Merchant associations in Throggs Neck and Westchester Square teamed up to donate over \$1500 to the Throggs Neck Little League. Pictured (l-r) is Bobby Jaen, owner Anthony's Flower Farm, Joseph Regina head of the Westchester Square Merchants' Association, Frank Eisle with the Throggs Neck Little League, Stephen Kaufman, president of the Throggs Neck Merchants' Association, and John Cerini treasurer of the Throggs Neck Merchants' Association.

BPE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION HOLIDAY PARTY



The holiday celebrations just kept on coming for the Bronx Park East Community Association. The newly-formed group held its first holiday party Saturday, December 29. The evening venue loaded with classy music, dancing, tasty food and a friendly, neighborhood vibe drew plenty of friends and family to 612 Allerton Avenue. Santa Claus also dropped by, snapping a few pics with bright-eyed kids.

(Above) Music and laughter was the order of the evening at the Bronx Park East Community Association, where Santa posed with several members.

(Right) Neighborhood kids Brooklyn and Maxine Babb stop by the party hoping to get a chance to meet Santa.

(Far right) Santa playing nice. The jolly man in the red suit dances with Neteara Frazier.



Photos by Josiane Bauke

THEODORE KORONY POST HOLIDAY TOY DRIVE



(L-R) Jan Salveggi, Judy Lanci (co-director), Tony Ferrara (co-director), Dolores Stoltze, Cathy Praino all with Theodore Korony Post & Auxiliary in Throggs Neck collected dozens of new toys for disadvantaged Bronx kids at the annual Toy Drive on Tuesday, December 18. Setting their collection table on the corner of Schurz and Revere Ave, the group picked up Winnie the Pooh, Fisher-Price and Pop on Pals toys. The group was especially grateful to "Youngland" toy store on 2922 Third Avenue for providing discounts for sold toys.

HOLIDAY GALA FOR PELHAM BAY RED HAT DIVAS

The Red Hat Divas had a rocking Christmas time at their holiday gala Thursday, December 27. Nearly thirty members of the organization were on hand with Queen of the Red Hat Divas Fran Arico as mistress of ceremonies. The Red Hat Divas is a club made up of middle-aged women who emphasize the importance of still feeling young. They gather for get-togethers ranging from day trips to charity donations.



Queen of the Red Hat Divas Fran Arico played host to the gala, raising a glass to her fellow divas.



Photos by Alex Belisle

A force to be reckoned with, the Red Hat Divas mingled about this home on Pelham Bay to get down and party.



TORAH ESCORTED BY YOUNG ISREAL OF PELHAM PKWY.

The much-beloved Torah was the star of a street procession in Pelham Parkway. The Torah, newly hand-written by Pelham Parkway local Dan Horowitz, took a painstaking year to be completed. The Jewish community helped escort the Torah to the Young Israel of Pelham Parkway Jewish Center on Muliner Ave. Live music accompanied the religious venue, beginning at 900 Pelham Parkway South with a rededication ceremony taking place.

(Above) Three generations of Jewish followers, Noah Graber, Daniel Horowitz and Rabbi Zuckerman preside over the

(Left) (l-r) Rabbi Zuckerman and neighbor Daniel Horowitz get ready to march the new Torah to the new synagogue down Muliner Ave. Horowitz is credited for donating the Torah.



Live music accompanied the religious venue, beginning at 900 Pelham Parkway South

THE BRONX GOOD SCOUT AWARD RECEPTION

The Boy Scouts of America presented the "Good Scout" honor to local merchants Anthony Mormile and Andrew Squitieri (l-r), pictured with Bronx Chamber of Commerce President Joseph Kelleher. The annual event, this time at Tosca Restaurant, honors those who support the Boy Scout troops in the Bronx. The trio is joined by Scouts Anicho Okoro, Engel Javier and Nelson Nunez.



Photo by Aracelis Batista

THIRD ANNUAL MOTT HALL COMMUNITY SCHOOL WINTER DANCE AND TALENT SHOW

Students from Mott Hall Community School in Throggs Neck showed the power of giving in a fun way. They took part in the holiday dance and talent show at 650 Hollywood Ave to benefit victims of Hurricane Sandy. On December 20, revelers paid a small fee for an evening of dancing, live DJ and pizza. Students also took part in a "Dance Until You Drop" contest along with a talent show open to all.



(Far Left) Chyann Martinez is not shy over showing off her dance moves at the Mott Haven Community School's holiday party benefitting Hurricane Sandy victims.

(Left) Thomas Asis and Lian Ortiz go from breaking into dance to taking a pizza break at the Mott Hall Community School's holiday party.

Sitting by a warm fireplace is Kelvin Susana, Keyla Susana, Najee Williams, and Javay Francis, noshing on some pizza during the big dance.



Photos by Laura Stone

RED HAT "BRONX BOMBSHELLS" CELEBRATE THE HOLIDAYS



Photo courtesy of the Bronx Bombshells

"The Bronx Bombshells" got together at "Good-to-Go" on Thursday, December 13th to celebrate the holidays. They enjoyed a wonderful meal, great service and an exchanging of gifts to celebrate the end of the year.



Photo courtesy of NEB Senior Center

NE BRONX SENIOR CENTER HOLDS CHRISTMAS PARTY

In keeping with long-standing tradition, Jacobi Medical Center (Jacobi) and the North Central Bronx Hospital (NCBH) celebrated their annual recognition and awards ceremony paying tribute to the extraordinary dedication, achievement, and commitment of the staff from each institution. Both institutions comprise the North Bronx Healthcare Network (the Network). The event was held at the Villa Barone Manor, located in the Throggs Neck. This year, a theme of the Renaissance was selected in order to honor the creative and innovative methods staff members take to improve the healthcare their patients receive. Pictured are the 2012 honorees.

SENATOR RUBEN DIAZ CELEBRATES THREE KINGS DAY

All hail Three Kings! In celebration of Three Kings Day, Senator Ruben Diaz invited 500 kids to stop by Public School #5 in Mott Haven for a present with the kings. On top of a toy, kids were also given school supplies. Live music and entertainment were also on hand. The holiday takes place 12 days after Christmas, and it celebrates the visit of the three wise men to infant Jesus.



With Roman-era garb, these Three Kings follow the North Star to P.S. #5 where throngs of Bronxites cheered at their arrival.



Photos by Patricio Robayo

Senator Diaz gladhands neighborhood families who dropped by P.S. #5 to see the Three Kings.



KWANZAA FESTIVAL AT PARKCHESTER METHODIST CHURCH

Parkchester Methodist Church at 2547 E. Tremont Avenue held its annual Kwanzaa celebration on Friday, Dec. 28. The feast included a visit from Assemblyman Luis Sepulveda and some good food. Kwanzaa is a week long celebration every year between Dec. 26 and Jan. 1. that celebrates African heritage.

(Above) Enjoying the celebration, seen here with the kinaras candles, are (l-r) Rev. Sonia Jermin, Assemblyman Luis Sepulveda, and Debra Oguamah.



Food was part of the celebration.

Crime took boro on roller coaster ride in 2012

from Page 1

tigation by our police prior to physical contact.”

But he's serious about fighting the continuing violence and the role seemingly countless available guns play in it.

He called the drop in shootings “a good first step, but we have much more work ahead of us.”

It is those neighborhoods in need of rebuilding, with their poverty, despair and drugs, where crime is most stubborn.

Four of the borough's 12 precincts - the 43rd in Soundview, 44th in Highbridge, 52nd in Fordham/Bedford Park and 47th in Wakefield/Williamsbridge - were in the top ten of the city's 76 precincts for crime complaints last year.

The 43rd Precinct ranked first in the city for murders, with 18 victims. Seven other Bronx houses were in the top 20 for murders.

Borough precincts were also consistently

among the top 20 in the city for various other major crimes, with eight of them in the top 17 for shooting victims.

Some of the quietest precincts were in working and middle class neighborhoods - with the 49 in Morris Park/Allerton and the 45 in Throggs Neck/Co-op City falling mid-way for complaints among the city's 76 precincts, and Riverdale/Kingsbridge 50th Precinct ranked 62nd.

49th safest Bx precinct

BY DAVID CRUZ

The Bronx's biggest drop in major crime goes to the 49th Precinct, overseeing Allerton, Morris Park, and Van Nest.

Overall, major crime dipped 9.44%, ranking it the second safest precinct in the five boroughs, with major crimes like rape, burglaries and grand theft autos crimes plummeting. But murder, the number of shooting victims and incidents spiked in the Four-Nine, according to NYPD numbers. In all, arrest numbers rose across the board.

The house was in transition in 2012 when Deputy Inspector Kevin Nicholson passed the baton to Captain Lorenzo Johnson, who continues fighting quality-of-life issues, a main concern for the working/middle class neighborhoods. Since in command, crime declined.

“I would want to live in the Four-Nine,” said Johnson, crediting the 9.44% drop in crime to the tight-knit relationships the precinct has with community groups who feed tips that keep crime at bay.

“I rather be proactive than reactive,” he said.

But the Four-Nine, considered a calmer house compared to other precincts, logged higher murder numbers in 2012. In all, 8 people were murdered, a 166.7% jump from 2011 when there were 4 re-

BOROUGH

CRIME

BY THE NUMBERS

	2012	2011	% CHANGE
MURDER	112	148	-24.3%
RAPE	289	271	6.6%
ROBBERY	4,719	4,580	3.0%
FEL. ASSLT.	4,822	4,476	7.7%
BURGLARY	3,153	3,550	-11.2%
GR. LARCENY	5,492	4,930	11.4%
AUTO THEFT	1,636	2,089	-21.7%
	20,223	20,044	0.9%
SHOOTING VICS	494	535	-7.7%

Crime down 8.5% in the 45 precinct



Bronx cops made the streets a lot safer, according to yearly crime statistics.

By Patrick Rocchio
Crime continued to decline in the 45th Precinct last year in five of the seven major categories, and once again almost led the city for a second year in crime reduction.

Overall crime dropped 8.5%, with 1,173 total major crimes reported in 2012, down from 1,282 in 2011.

Murder declined 66.7%, with two murders last year, compared to six in 2011. Robberies were down 11.7%, burglaries 20%, grand larceny 2% percent, and grand larceny auto 21.8%.

Shootings dropped 53%, from 17 people shot in 2011 to eight last year.

Over the past two years, precinct crime fell 18.6%.

“We are down 8 1/2 percent - you have got to be

happy with that,” said Precinct Captain James McGeown. “We were number one in decrease in crime last year, and I think, second in decrease in crime this year, so we are basically leading the city for the past two years. Not that I can take all the credit for that. Obviously Deputy Inspector Green gets the lion share of the credit.”

Felony assaults rose 14.8%, while rape increased more than 30%.

McGeown said that four of the total of 17 rapes are age-related, while another seven have relatives involved. There were also special circumstances on a few of the rest of the reported rapes. The increase in felony assaults is primarily domestic violence, said McGeown.

In the past ten years or so, the NYPD and the precinct has seen a decline in manpower, which concerns 45th Precinct Community Council President Bob Bieder.

“With the shortage of officers being what it is for the last several years, the officers have been made to work a lot harder,” said Bieder.

Policing has gone from being preventative to reacting to crimes or patterns of crimes, he said, with officers being redeployed to sectors facing issues on a month-by-month basis. “It is not like we have enough officers that we can constantly have them everywhere,” said Bieder. “So, it is always reactive. And they assign where they can, where the need is.”

ported homicides. The Four-Nine's murder rate tied with the 41st, 42nd, 44th and 48th Precincts. Citywide, the Four-Nine ranked 21 out of the 76 precincts with the most murders.

Among those murdered was Evelyn Shapiro, the 82-year-old grandmother bludgeoned to death inside the troubled Pelham Houses. The case remains unsolved.

While the Shapiro case was linked to a blunt instrument, half of the reported murders involved a gun, said Johnson.

The number of shooting victims also jumped, to 26 in 2012 from 16 in 2011, a 62.5% jump. There were 20 shooting incidents last

year, compared to 15 in 2011. The figures came as cops aggressively rounded up firearms, taking 39 weapons off Bronx streets in 2012 from 34 in 2011, a 14.7% spike.

Grand theft auto cases have dropped, though the number ranked high compared to the rest of city precincts. In all, there were 183 car thefts in 2012, down from 231 in 2011. Johnson looks to push those numbers down, asking anyone to avoid parking their car at public longterm parking spots.

For now, steering crime down is still on Johnson's agenda for 2013, with an emphasis on “more visibility and more accountability from my officers.”

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WHITE PLAINS ROAD BID SANTA ON THE STREET



Photo by Patricio Robayo

Santa Claus came to town! The White Plains Road hosted a meet and greet with Santa Claus on Saturday December 22. Santa walked up and down White Plains Road greeting shoppers, and stopped at The Children's Place, at 2184 White Plains Road, for a photos.

Kelvin Acosta meets with Santa Claus.

SPENCER ESTATE CIVIC ASSOCIATION HOLIDAY PARTY



Photo by Laura Stone

Rocking in the Christmas spirit is the Spencer Estate Civic Association, holding their holiday party on December 19. Dozens stopped by 3243 Ampere Ave. for the Yuletide get-together complete with a giant Christmas tree, decorations and holiday cheer.



Photo by Laura Stone

WESTCHESTER SQUARE LIBRARY ARTS AND CRAFTS

Arts and crafts was the order of the day at the Westchester Square Library, as dozens of kids put their art skills to work at a session courtesy of Westchester Square Zerega Improvement Organization. Sandi Lusk led the class, doling out stickers, glue and magic markers to neighborhood kids while Assemblyman Mike Benedetto stopped by, throwing his support to the crafty class on December 22.

ST. DOMINIC'S PRO-LIFE RALLY AND PARTY



Photo by Alex Belisle

Singer Vaughn Ephraim sings about the gift of life at a pro-life festival at St. Dominic's Church at 1739 Unionport Road. Morris Park neighbors and beyond stopped by the evening gathering December 21 celebrating the power of life. All is Love put together the event with help from World Youth Parliament and Idente Youth.

HOLIDAY TOY DRIVE AT MONTEFIORE MEDICAL CENTER



Photo by Alex Belisle

A tenth annual holiday toy drive organized by the Bronx Detective Squad and Montefiore nurses delivered toys for more than 100 children hospitalized during the holidays at The Children's Hospital at Montefiore. About 20 New York Police Department officers delivered the donated toys on Wednesday, Dec. 19. The drive is organized each by a brother and sister team: Deputy Inspector Christopher McCormack of the 40th Precinct in Mott Haven and Patricia Doyle, a nurse in Montefiore's Moses Campus emergency department. Seen here are the cops and nurses with some of the collected toys in CHAM's lobby.

DIAZ JR. DISTRIBUTES TOYS TO VETS AT BRONX ZOO

Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr. joined Santa and Mrs. Claus at the Wildlife Conservation Society's Bronx Zoo last month to distribute toys to local Bronx military families for the holidays. The toys were collected by WCS's Bronx Zoo in partnership with the Borough President's annual holiday toy drive.



Photo by Alexander Belisle

Borough President Diaz rides through the Bronx Zoo in his modern day sleigh, along with Santa and the National Guard disguised as elves, to deliver presents to children of Bronx veterans.



Photo by Josiane Bauke

P.S. 97 STUDENTS BRING JOY TO AREA SENIORS

Children from PS 97 and Calvary Lutheran Church collected stuffed animals last month, for every nursing home resident and put on a musical performance while distributing them among the residents.

(Above) Music teacher of PS 97 Michael Drummond and his 5th grade mixed choir perform for residents at East Haven Nursing Home.



Shane Ortiz (left) delivers a stuffed animal to resident Donald Whitely with help from classmates Leybi Matthew Mercado

Fox anchor's heart belongs to Bronx

BY KIRSTEN SANCHEZ

You can take the boy out of the Bronx, but you can't take the Bronx out of the boy - or out of his stomach at least.

Fox Business Network anchor Charlie Gasparino said after being born in the borough known for some of the best food in NYC, he has had a hard time staying away.

"That was my home away from home basically when I was a kid, up until I was twenty and then I went away to graduate school," Gasparino said. "My wife is from Brooklyn, but I used to tell her instead of going out to Brooklyn, there are some great restaurants right here and we started going back.

"Even rather than going to Arthur Avenue I used to go to Throggs Neck. The places I've been shopping - I mean Pastosa Ravioli has been there since 1980 - are the easiest three places to shop for really good food: Pastosas, that meat market,

Ritchie's, and that fruit and vegetable store and you get everything you need. And I still do it once a week."

If he had to dream up the perfect meal, Gasparino said it would all come from Throggs Neck.

Gasparino provides on-air reporting throughout the business day for the network, covering the latest news from the financial world.

But on his free time, he enjoys cooking and eating, especially back in his old stomping grounds.

Gasparino lived in the Bronx until he was about six, and then moved with his family to Westchester, but said he spent almost every weekend back at his grandmother's apartment on Bruckner Blvd.

"My grandparents lived in a housing project and you know, I think it helped me in that regard. You understand people a little differently, you understand that people aren't that different. In a lot

of ways economics plays a role in the way people act."

One of two sons, Gasparino said he was the first to graduate college and attend graduate school.

"My dad was a construction worker, he drove a cab when he was out of work, bartended a lot. I come from that type of back ground. I thought I was privileged to go there."

Gasparino returned to New York after graduating with a Master's degree in journalism and started his career in print journalism as a senior writer at Newsweek magazine where he broke major stories involving Wall Street and corporate America, including developments at the New York Stock Exchange under Richard Grasso and former New York Attorney General Eliot Spitzer's crackdown on corporate crime.

Gasparino also served as a writer for The Wall Street Journal, earning him a New York Press Club

award for best continuing coverage of the Wall Street research scandal.

Prior to joining Fox Business Network, he was also an on-air editor for CNBC, responsible for breaking some of the biggest stories during the financial crisis.

"I think the most important story of my career was covering the financial crisis," he said. "I think you could say the reporting I did during that time was the most significant I ever did. It was important it shined a light on some of the crappy practices that Wall Street engages in."

Gasparino is also the author of three best-selling financial books, "The Sell-out: How Three Decades of Wall Street Greed and Government Mismanagement Destroyed the Global Financial System" and "Blood on the Street," as well as critically acclaimed "King of the Club: Richard Grasso and the Survival of the New



Photo By Kirsten Sanchez

Charlie Gasparino at the Fox Studios in New York City.

York Stock Exchange."

Gasparino said he worked hard to master the craft of writing and always made sure he was able to multi-task, which he believes has always kept him working.

His advice to aspiring writers, reporters and journalists would be to keep

writing.

"I would say this, to someone who wants to be in journalist - get literate, writing sharply, communicating and asking good questions. And the only way you can do that is if you are literate and can understand the world around you."



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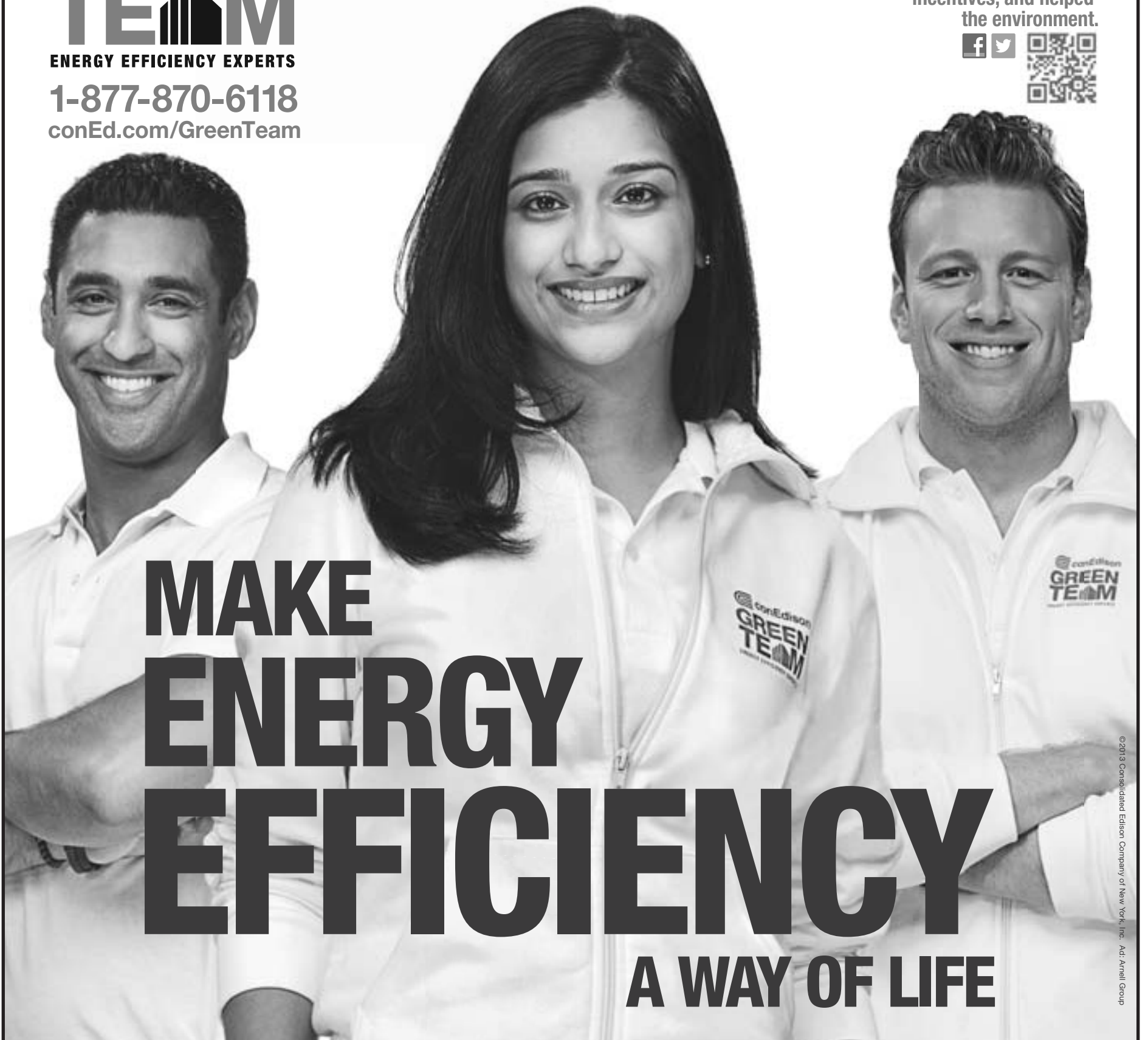


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Bronx scene

- The Thieving Magpie At Bronx Opera.....39
- Rock On The Bronx39
- Upcoming Wave Hill Events.....39

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All Aboard! Join Thomas and Driver Sam for an adventure at the New York Botanical Gardens.

Help Thomas find his way from Knapford Station

to Brendam Docks using teamwork, friendship, and discovery in a fun-filled sing-along, mini-performance adventure.

Bring a camera to have a photo taken with Thomas

after the performance.

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more than 140 replicas of New York landmarks such as the Empire State Building, Yankee Stadium, the Brooklyn Bridge, and the original Pennsylvania Station—all created from plant parts such as gourds, berries, pine cones, leaves, and seeds.

The Thomas and Friends Adventure runs through January 27.

Pricing: Adults \$20, Seniors/Students \$18, Children ages 2-12 \$10, Children under 2 free.

There are between two and four performances a day; times vary between 11 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.

Visit nybg.org for the full schedule.



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Bronx Opera presents The Thieving Magpie

The Bronx Opera will open its 46th season with *The Thieving Magpie* (Rossini's *La gazza ladra*), the story of a servant girl unwittingly embroiled in intrigue because of her romance with a young soldier.

The simple theft of a silver spoon brings her in contact with the soldier's unscrupulous mother and a lecherous politician who must never know the real identity of the servant girl's father. Will this or-

deal bring her to her true love... or her own execution?

Sung entirely in English with a full chorus and orchestra,

The Bronx Opera's tradition of supplying the borough with lavish musical fare as well as intimate engrossing concerts and educational programming continues.

The show will take place in the Bronx: Sat., Jan. 12 at 7:30 p.m. and Sun., Jan. 13 at 2 p.m. at

The Lovinger Theatre at Lehman College; Tkts: \$15 - \$30.

The show will take place in Manhattan: Sat., Jan. 19 at 7:30 p.m. and Sun., Jan. 20 at 2p.m. at The Kaye Playhouse at Hunter College; Tkts: \$25 - \$40.

For further information or tickets call (212) 772-4448 or visit Bronx Opera's website at <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/269789>.

Upcoming Wave Hill events

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INFORMATION: Call (718) 549-3200. On the web at www.wavehill.org.

Bronx House Performing Arts registration

Bronx House School for Performing Arts is currently accepting registration for our winter session. Music and dance classes for children, teens and adults are offered on Mondays through Saturdays, begin the week of January 7th and run for ten weeks. Group music classes include pre-school music appreciation and pre-instrumental classes in piano and violin as well as beginner piano or guitar for ages 6 and up. Ongoing registration is also available for private

instruction in piano, guitar, voice, violin, drums, and other instruments. Dance classes offered include Creative Movement, Pre-Ballet, Ballet, Tap, Jazz, Hip-Hop, Flamenco, Bellydance and Latin.

Additional specialty classes offered this session include Toddler Music for children ages 18 months to 2.5 years and Musical Theater Workshop for grades 1-3.

All classes are held in a state-of-the-art 7,000 square

foot wing that includes soundproof and sound enhanced music rooms and dance studios. The school offers scholarships to students who qualify for financial assistance as well as instruments available for loan, free of charge.

Bronx House is located at 990 Pelham Parkway South. For more information or to register call 718-792-1800 ext. 235, or check the website at www.bronx-house.org.

rock on the bronx

by Fish Altieri

Rock on the Bronx presents Part Two of a 2012 look back at all the bands, bars, restaurants, people, creative projects and favorite news issue mentioned in this column:

Rubber Soul, The Stuyvesant Yacht Club, Anthology of an Unknown CD, Alice in Coverland, Superhero, Le Grand Entertainment, Lido's in City Island, PJ Brady's, Paddy's on the Bay, "Mr. Catskills" Peter McKiernan, Buddy Connolly, Just Nut's CD "The Feeling is Right", Amuck Duck Productions, Jerry Landi, Krackoon 2, Cousin Al, City Island traffic, director Damian Chapa, Martin Vanihel, Jeff Guerrero, Jeff Adorno, Lisa Giordano, Marc Makowski, Sal Amore, New York soda ban, government intrusion on freedom of choice in America, Jessica Rose, Providence Rest Fundraiser, singer Dennis Dell, Emil Pulicchio, The Triad Jazz

Guitar Trio, getting off foreign oil, the Alive and Kickin' Duo, The Squirrels, Trash Rules, Mike DiMaggio, Mark Bernardo, Chazz Palmeri, Jimmy Kane, Red Eagle Saloon, Summertime Symphonies 2012 presented by New York State Senator Jeff Klein, Charlie Thomas's Drifters, Westchester Swing Band, Larry Chance and The Earls, Jameson's Revenge, Beatles Tribute band Strawberry Fields, Kenny Vance and The Planotones, Gloria Gaynor, Jay Black, Tony the Wine Guy, bartender Flambo, Bridges Bar, trying to maintain a common sense viewpoint in an exceedingly left or right all or nothing world, McDermott's Pub, football, the nanny state, Just

Nuts Music School, tribute to the Bronx Time's very own John Collazzi, Shakers, Chateau La Mer, Luciano's, San Martino, Gene DiNapoli's Rat Pack Tribute, Frankie Ocean, Angelina's, Gavi, Rini's, Larry Russell's Beatlestock, The Cutting Room NYC, Bandland Book One on Amazon, Alfie's, the presidential debates, soda ban revisited, Gus Amador, Rich Deans, bassist David Concepcion, Curtis Becraft, guitarist Lou Volpe, The Icehouse Restaurant, Ron Rogers, Playground and their Four Season's Revue, Creole, Don't Tell Mama, Nicky's Beer Garden, Beatles Tribute "britishmania", Katie Pearlman, Cathy Kreger, Tony T's Jazz Quartet, Liz Vacca, Tony D., JD and Johnny Valenti.

Whew! Wow! What a Year! See me next week as we settle in to 2013.

Rock on. Rock out.

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BY JOANNE TIMMINS

In the infancy of the New Year, we're pulling out our list of resolutions made last year to see how we did. Did we make admirable progress toward our goals? Did they get lost somewhere near the bottom of our daily to-do list? Did we tough it out til February and then chuck them altogether? The New Year's Resolution is not generally known for its longevity, but it is a good indicator of what matters to us most at this point in time.

Look at the list of any parent's New Year's resolu-

tions and you'll probably see common themes, like "more family time", "more patience", "more time at the gym" and "less TV watching". But what would make the hearts of those of us in the alcohol abuse prevention field really skip a beat would be the following list:

1. I resolve to listen more and talk less when with my kids. I resolve to demonstrate my respect for their opinions and my confidence in their problem-solving abilities by listening fully when we speak about tough issues. I resolve to admit to it when I

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Throggs Neck Community Action Partnership

don't know something.

2. I resolve to help my kids learn how to handle the stress of everyday living. I resolve to teach my kids that stress is a normal part of life at any age; that there are healthful and unhealthful ways to deal with it and we need to be careful which habits we are cultivating in response to it; that alcohol

and other drugs create more problems than they solve. I resolve to role-model healthy ways to cope with stress. I resolve to teach my kids how to handle social pressures to drink and use other drugs.

3. I resolve to talk to my kids about the dangers of drinking. I resolve to inform them how alcohol changes the way the body and the brain work; how alcohol is a powerful depressant drug that slows down their thinking process and makes it more likely that they will do something or say something that they normally would not

do; how using alcohol when under 21 can increase their risk of becoming a problem drinker later in life; how alcohol is a factor in dating violence, car accidents, suicide, homicide, school truancy and drop-out rates; how alcohol is illegal for use under the age of 21. I resolve to learn more about the dangers of alcohol so I can share this with my kids.

4. I resolve to have open, ongoing discussions about our family values around using alcohol and other drugs. I resolve to use "teachable moments" that occur in ev-

eryday life to make clear our family's values and expectations of its members; to reinforce that underage use of alcohol is not acceptable and that there are consequences for its use; that the family is always there to help and support each other when we run into problems; and that there is more good in the world than not.

TNCAP wishes you a happy and healthy New Year. Good luck, remember you're not alone in trying to deal well with these tough issues...oh, and see you at the gym.

East Bronx History Forum

The Huntington Free Library and The East Bronx History announce the forum's 77th meeting will be on Thursday January 17th 2013 at 7:30pm. The East Bronx History Forum will start the new year celebrating the 125th anniversary of Bronx Parks with a presentation titled "Greener Pastures: A Brief History of Bronx Parks".

The guest presenter is Jonathan Kuhn, Direc-

tor, Art & Antiquities, New York City Parks & Recreation.

Mr. Kuhn is a twenty-five year veteran of New York City Parks & Recreation, and has served as its Director of Art & Antiquities since 1995. He has curated more than 30 exhibitions on the history of parks in New York, and has authored the catalogue, "The Outdoor Gallery: 40 Years of Public Art in New

York City Parks (2007).

Mr. Kuhn also oversees the placement, display and care of permanent and temporary art, and monuments in the City's parks. If you would like to find out about the secret treasures of the parks department, Please join us at 7:30 pm Thursday January 17th 2013 at the Huntington Free Library.

All meetings are free and open to the public at

The Huntington Free Library and Reading Room, located at 9 Westchester Square,

View the East Bronx History Forum web page at BronxNYC.com for details, or follow us on Facebook.

(Right) Conga line at a concert at Poe Park band shell, 1964.



BY FRANK V. VERNUCCIO, JR.

2013 may be an epic year for New York, with both challenges and opportunities ahead.

The city will have to recover from the ravages of both Hurricane Sandy, and a federal government that is moving to provide aid far less readily than it did in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina along the Gulf Coast. Once again, the ability of our state's federal representatives must be called into question for their failure to speed this process along, despite being part of the Democrat majority both in the state's strong support of President Obama and in the U.S. Senate.

A similar problem may exist for the injured heroes of 9/11, who, despite the Zagroda settlement, continue to wait for their promised compensation. These men and women didn't hesitate to rush to save lives; they didn't wait for mountains of paperwork to be completed before working for long months in the dangerous conditions

that continued to prevail. It's unacceptable that they must now be subjected to bureaucratic nonsense.

The Fiscal Cliff deal will hit New York City harder than any other part of the nation. With above average salaries necessary for an above average cost of living, higher income taxes will hit the paychecks of many New Yorkers in greater numbers than anyplace else in America. The same can be said for small business owners. Their expenses are exceptionally greater than those throughout the rest of the nation, and so their incomes may seem larger in comparison with other locales. This leaves their owners vulnerable to the Fiscal Cliff agreements' higher rates, as well.

This will be, of course, a mayoral election year. It will be an opportunity to end the Manhattan-centric focus of city government. For far too long, the problems and potential of the four majority boroughs have been downplayed. The issue is

Community Action civic Association

not just geographic. There is a profound sense that the priorities of middle-income New Yorkers, as well as small businesses, have been consistently last on the list—if they make the list at all—of city government.

Under Bloomberg's administration (in an era when national inflation was relatively low) both taxes and the city's budget have skyrocketed, with little to no benefit to middle income New Yorkers. A new mayor must reverse that equation.

As COMACTA has frequently noted, the boutique issues of our billionaire mayor and some of his aloof appointees (especially Commissioner Janet Sadik-Khan, who believes that bike lanes are more important than efficient commuting for the

overwhelming majority of New Yorkers) are a cartoon version of real government.

We cannot tolerate another mayor who short-shrifts genuine problems while concentrating on how much soda we drink or whether mothers of newborns breast or bottle feed.

Bronxites continue to endure an over 13% official unemployment rate (the real rate is far worse.) Small business owners continue to suffer at the hands of a gov-

ernment that views them as cash cows. Our police force shrinks. Our schools continue to underperform.

At the same time, the potential for economic opportunity in this borough remains unexploited. A prime example: there is no area of New York City more ripe for increased tourism and development than the Bronx's own Belmont area, where Arthur Avenue's authentic restaurants and businesses, the Bronx Zoo, the Bronx Botani-

cal Gardens and Fordham University come together to make it one of the most attractive urban centers in America.

2013 will present an opportunity to meet those challenges and grasp the opportunities that exist.

Contact COMACTA at nycommunityaction@gmail.com; tune into our sponsored radio broadcasts, and visit our website at comactainc.com.

BY TONY SALIMBENE

Happy New Year again members, friends and readers!

Our first meeting of 2013 will be at American Turners NY - the Turner Club on the 3rd Sunday as usual. We start at 10:30am with coffee and buns, meeting at 11am sharp and around 12noon it's snacks and cash bar in their club for more intense discussion and solving of the world's problems.

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Korony American Legion Post 253

Don't forget the Mid-Winter Conference of the Legion's Dept. of New York in Albany at the end of the month. Time is running out for room reservations and ride plans.

Continued good wishes

to Throggs Neck Memorial Post 1456 as they rebuild and recover from Sandy.

That's it for now. Call me with any info, Email, carrier pigeon, Twitter, whatever...

Remember, for the 3rd straight year, more troops have committed suicide than have been killed in combat!

Until Next Time: Don't poke fun at your wife's decisions - you were one of them.

BY MARCIA PAVLICA

It is still the time of the year, when it is politically correct to say Happy 2013- to one and to all.

This weekend has been a blitz of telephone calls and e-mails and the news of the new arrivals to our community even made last week's Bronx Times Reporter. It was greeted by both positive and negative comments on line, some of which were very mean spirited, hurtful and meant to incite panic.

Overnight changes in the community should not shock us. They are a part of the Master Plan (Plan NYC 2030) of which we have little to say especially if we turn our head, put on blinders and don't get involved. Every politician has his own agenda and if a community boasts only a handful in attendance, we are written off as not to be worried about.

Overnight, the old Pelham Bay General Hospital, along side the Hutchinson

River Parkway in Pelham Bay, was occupied, just like several years ago the shelter on St. Peters/Weschester Square of single women and their children. The services offered in both cases would keep the clients off the street and not homeless and the temporary housing in the name of humanity or shelter from the storm (Sandy) would not create any social problems. But moving people from one end of the world (Far Rockaway) to another end of the world (Pelham Bay) doesn't happen without a lot of leg work to make for a smooth transition. Where have these 65 people been living since their Far Rockaway building was declared uninhabitable due to the assault by Storm Sandy, two months ago. YES, there was a meeting called with only one person from Pelham Bay invited and attending, and the local elected politicians and their representatives, but

civic center

Country Club Civic Association

one day later, the personal affects of the 65 new to the neighborhood were already being moved through the front doors. We have always shown compassion and sensitivity, although many of us have chosen not to egotistically announce our efforts for others publicly. We have not stood at meetings and announced "I DID, I did, I did" But our area of the Bronx never had SRO (Single Room Occupancy) hotels to house those needing help.

Thirty years ago, we all witnessed Bernadette at Pelham Bay Station and more recently two youth living on the streets, picked up as the temperature dropped and then re-deposited often

on the same street corner as the temperature rose in the Spring. These homeless challenged individuals had no services.

On the Internet, written at midnight and at 2 a.m. are those who accuse our elected officials of block busting and even accuse them of turning Pelham Bay into a ghetto. But, supposedly, the state agency of NYS Mental Health has the right to supersede any NYC law or policy.

That's why this move did not have to come before the local community board. As the district manager of Community Board 10, Ken Kearns said, it was "as of right". The building had already been rehab-ed to be turned into high end condos for seniors \$\$\$, but when no buyers came, the building was available as a rental. But again the rents were high, and the building stood empty, waiting...

Was it perhaps pur-

posefully priced high and left empty as a part of a bigger plan or with promise of a pending lease or sale? None of us, the taxpayers has the answer. The lease \$\$\$ will come from state, City and federal grants- that means from you and from me.

The door opened and with a private lease the facility is now operational. Many will say this private contract and the move should have been put before the public. If the Internet comments, mostly unsigned, are any indication, this lack of transparency has merely caused an on-line panic to take place. Those who asked for calm and vigilance were mocked. We need to separate emotion and volatility from the facts.

There are those who have been heard to say clearly and unfortunately repeatedly that if something doesn't affect or happen on their block, they don't get excited or involved and

couldn't care one fig newton who moved into someone else's community. In some communities, the word COMMUNITY isn't even in their dictionary, nor is the word NEIGHBOR - not used, not understood. Raymore & Flanigan and P.C. Richards are the ties that bind the houses to their blocks, and not necessarily together. It is a daily struggle to get taxpayers and homeowners to even commit to calling 311. Imagine if you can the Wakefield League working for their community and for its integrity for now 100 years.

Happy 100th anniversary to our friends and neighbors in Wakefield. Our association is the new kid to the game of believing in community. This year our association will be celebrating its 40th anniversary.

And as always, your home extends beyond your property line. Take pride in your community.

BY CHRYS NAPOLITANO

One of the things I said I would like to accomplish with this column is to highlight specific phrases and acronyms that we hear but don't know what they mean. For example, what is a "CSA"?

"CSA" stands for Community Supported Agriculture and it is when a group of people purchase, in advance, shares of a farmer's harvest that is distributed on a weekly basis. When it comes to trying to eat fresh, seasonal, local produce, joining a CSA is the best way to achieve this goal. The vegetable CSA is the standard model and a full share will generally be enough to provide a family of four with a weekly supply of vegetables, typically an assortment of 6 to 8 vegetables per week. Sign up for the year begins in January and payments are required by the end of May as the first farm distribution is usually mid-June and the 24 week season goes right up to Thanksgiving week.

A few days before each delivery, members receive a listing letting them know what will be in that week's share, based on what the farm was able to harvest that week. Unlike a typical grocery shopping trip,

a list is not required as the farmer, with some help from Mother Nature, has determined what will be available that week. In other words, the farmer ships the lettuce, but you choose which head of lettuce you want. If the share includes 2 pounds of tomatoes, you select and weigh the tomatoes you want. This is also different from a Farmer's Market, where seasonal, local vegetables are also available, but the shopper is free to purchase whatever they want and pay for it on the spot. I find the CSA makes my life simpler as it is one thing I don't have to plan ahead for; the vegetables arrive, I bring them home and we eat them. Or I freeze them so that I can cook them during the winter.

After a few years on the CSA circuit, you begin to appreciate how the season progresses. I love how the season starts off with lots of leafy greens, nature's way of cleaning out our systems after a winter of stews and root vegetables. By offering a splendid variety of produce, the farmers provide insurance against drought, too much rain, too little sun, pests or diseases. A summer of too much heat will produce plenty of zuc-

food for thought

chini and tomatoes, a cold snap will help the greens be sweeter. As the season gets to the end, cabbages, winter squash and root vegetables fill your share and, properly stored, can help extend the season way beyond that last delivery before Thanksgiving.

While it is understandable that you would need to purchase things like citrus fruit, bananas or kiwis from great distances (we can't grow them in the Northeast), berries, grapes, stone fruit, apples and pears grow right here in New York State. Local, no spray or low spray fruit is available through some CSA's.

Aside from being a great way to provide your family with healthy, organic produce, CSA's are important because they promote local agriculture and local jobs. When you purchase a share, 100 percent of the money you pay goes direct to the farmer. When you shop at a grocery store, only 16 cents of every retail

dollar goes to the farmer. The other 84 cents go to marketing and distribution costs. In other words, 84% of your food dollar is really spent on the costs to convince you to buy something that needs to be shipped to you from over 1500 miles away (which is the average distance food travels to get to your plate).

Stoneledge Farm in South Cairo, NY is a family owned and run organic farm that produces over 45 varieties of vegetables and distributes to two sites here in the Northeast Bronx: Locust Point and City Island. Stoneledge Farm sources their fruit from a number of farms in their area so that members can purchase the optional fruit share. My husband and I split a full vegetable share with another couple, but he actually asked me to get us a full fruit share for 2013.

There are many other benefits to joining a CSA that go beyond simply accessing good food. The "C" in CSA is Community and once new members have gone through a season, they are encouraged to spread the word to their friends and neighbors. Many members of the Locust Point CSA are from not only Locust Point, but Silver Beach, Pelham

Bay, Edgewater, City Island and the Waterbury LaSalle area. In typical Throggs Neck fashion, everyone seems to know everyone somehow.

With the Locust Point CSA housed in our Civic Center, it was very easy for our members to hang out for a bit, share recipes and talk to their fellow group members. Because of the catering kitchen, we were able to hold cooking demos and food tastings. I am using the past tense here; as of Hurricane Sandy the civic center is presently uninhabitable. We ended up holding the last few 2012 distributions in my backyard. For the last week of the season, we enjoyed a cooking demo with a noted local chef who showed us some great recipes for Thanksgiving using the vegetables from our CSA. We prevailed and we weren't going to let the lack of an actual kitchen stop us from showing our members how to enjoy their shares. And we will be rebuilt in time for the first distribution in mid-June.

Membership is now open for 2013 and you can go to www.stoneledgefarmny.com to sign up. Peruse the website, check out the photos and farm blog. On

the lower left hand corner of the home page is the "register for 2013" icon. Click on the icon and select "Locust Point" as your site and the system will prompt you through the sign up process.

A full vegetable share costs \$508 for 24 weeks, which comes out to \$21.17 per week. A full fruit share costs \$235 for 20 weeks, which comes out to \$11.75 per week. The first distribution is mid June for vegetables only; the first fruit delivery is in mid July. Half shares are available, so it's a good idea to get a friend or another family to share with. You can pay in full by check or credit card. If you don't have the money all at once you can split your payments up, so it's best to sign up early.

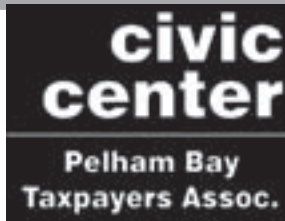
As I said, a full share will feed a family of four. However, if you are a vegetarian, a full share will only feed one or two people. If you need a share partner, contact me at cnapolitano@netzero.net and we will connect you with a share partner. We will be attending many of the local community organization meetings over the next few months to promote the CSA, so keep an eye out for notifications in the various Civic Center columns this Spring.

BY ANITA VALENTI

Here we go again. It's less than a month when we woke up on December twenty first, 2012 and heard the birds singing and the sun shining. The dooms day prophecy came and went. . . However, a few days later, I answered the ringing of my door bell. Through the glass pane on my door, I could see a couple of people standing on the sidewalk. A man pressed his face against the glass window of my door and in a loud voice exclaimed that they wanted to come inside and inform me of the bible stating that we are facing the end of the world. I told him I never open my door to strangers and also I

didn't believe the world was ending on December twenty first and don't believe it now. Very loudly and in a panicky voice, he asked if I had a bible and if I had the bible to be sure and read it, fore telling the end of the world for our generation. I waved goodbye and went back into my apartment. So be aware that this group is on a mission to inform all of us of this message.

On January 28th, we were informed of another new event happening in our community. Dr. Yves Ades, from Services for the Under Served informed us, Senator Klein, Councilman Vacca, a representative from Assemblyman Benedetto and



Ken Kern of Community Board 10 of the necessity of moving their 65 clients from their former residence in Rockaway, Queens. The roof of their building was blown off by Hurricane Sandy and other serious damage occurred. The management of the building had to quickly search for housing for these displaced clients into temporary and safe residence while the building is being repaired. We were told

it would take six to seven months to complete the work so that the clients can return to their former residence. I cannot imagine the panic and horror of being in a building that was being torn apart by the treacherous winds of Sandy and one of the worst hurricanes in memory

On the night of the 28th a family member getting off the bus at St. Paul Avenue saw many adults going into the former Pelham Bay General Hospital. Rumors have stated that this building was purchased for 21 million dollars. He failed and rented to Plumber Pavilion. We saw signs that read Plummer Pavilion, Luxury

apartments for rent. The Plummer Pavilion owners also invested a lot of money transforming the building into apartments with high rentals. Many who looked at the apartments claimed the apartments were too small. We do not know if any apartments were rented. This building seems to have a very bad track record.

It is a shame that the original owner over priced the building because it would have been an ideal purchase for Montefiore Hospital instead of them buying a lot of smaller facilities. We have heard that the government has "AS OF RIGHT" privileges and in an emergency such as this

they have the right to find a building to house clients in need without going through the Community Board or any other group. We are not sure if this is accurate at this point in time.

Two meetings are scheduled, one at Villa Barone on January 17th and the other as a tour on January 23rd at 1870 Pelham Parkway. Both meetings will be held at 7:30 p.m.

We do not meet in January or February. Your membership dues of \$10 which include the Bronx Times Reporter mailed to your home can be mailed to "Pelham Bay Taxpayers & Civic Association, Pilgrim Station, P.O. Box 610233, Bronx, N.Y.

BY MARY JANE MUSANO

It's the new year and I know that many of you have weight loss on your mind. And to some this means consuming products that are sugar free. The problem is that the truth isn't sweet when it comes to artificial sweeteners!

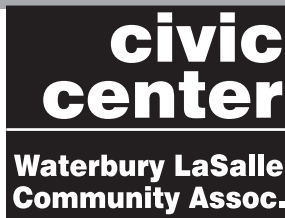
In a study released by Harvard, researchers analyzed data from the Nurse's Health Study and the Health Professionals Follow-Up Study. The information was gathered over a period of 22 years from 77, 218 women and 47,810 men and it was confirmed that consuming aspartame, an artificial sweetener, has dreadful health consequences. Artificial sweeteners just may be the single most dangerous food additive on earth!

More than 250 million

people drink beverages containing deadly aspartame because they think it is a healthy choice. The facts say otherwise. And if you're thinking that you'll take your chances so that you can lose some weight—well, studies have taught us that aspartame may actually make you gain weight!

This mega-study revealed that as little as one diet drink a day leads to a 42% higher risk for leukemia in both men and women, a 102% higher risk for multiple myeloma in men and a 31% higher non-Hodgkin lymphoma in men.

Several studies over the years have revealed a link between cancer and aspartame consumption but they were criticized as being too small, too short or poorly constructed. This



study puts those doubts to rest and legitimizes the results. So, don't take a chance and ignore a large-scale, long-term study that shows a link between aspartame consumption and cancer as well as other dreadful health consequences.

Aspartame is the active ingredient in many artificial sweeteners such as NutraSweet, Equal, Spoonful and Equal-Measure. It is found in over 6,000 foods and beverages including children's vitamins!

After more than 8,000 complaints regarding Nu-

traSweet's side effects, the FDA compiled a list of possible side effects to be released to the public. Many very serious chronic conditions are linked to aspartame. They are: memory loss, Alzheimer's disease, dementia, brain lesions, Multiple Sclerosis, ALS, Parkinson's disease, epilepsy, hearing loss and vision problems. There are also acute conditions such as, migraine and headaches, depression, diarrhea, infertility, seizures, fatigue, nausea, rashes, heart palpitations, insomnia, asthma, chest tightness, hallucinations and weight gain.

Aspartame is made of three chemicals—aspartic acid, phenylalanine and methanol. Aspartic acid, when not bound to proteins, slowly destroys your neurons. Seventy-five percent of neu-

ral cells in one area of your brain can be killed before you show any clinical symptoms! Phenylalanine can build up in your body causing plummeting serotonin levels, depression, anxiety and violent rages. Methanol (wood alcohol) is a deadly poison that breaks down into formaldehyde and formic acid in your body. Formaldehyde is a deadly neurotoxin and a known carcinogen. It also causes retinal damage, birth defects and it interferes with DNA replication. Even the EPA calls methanol a cumulative poison.

Most people know that soda may contain aspartame but did you know that over 6,000 foods and drinks contain this deadly food additive. Get into the habit of reading the food labels of every item you buy because

you just may be surprised at the items that contain aspartame.

Here's a list of items that may contain this chemical: mints, gum, candy, flavored water and syrups, ice cream, ice cream toppings, fruit spreads, Jello and pudding, instant cocoa mix, ice tea powder, juice blends and drinks, meal replacements, protein shakes, nutritional bars, veggie drinks, yogurt, vitamins and any "sugar free" or "no sugar added" foods.

Start the new year off right—read labels, commit to eating healthy foods and doing the research to know what they are. We really do have the power to be agents of change. Don't buy the junk some manufacturers call food and eventually they will have to stop making it!

Benjamin Franklin Democratic Club considers local endorsements

The Benjamin Franklin Reform Democratic Club will hold the first of its endorsement meetings for this year's Democratic Primary election.

The Benjamin Franklin Democratic Club membership will hear from candidates seeking the club's endorsement for Bronx Borough President and City Council (11th Dis-

trict) at the club meeting on Wednesday, January 16th at 7 p.m.

The meeting will not be at the Benjamin Franklin Democratic Club headquarters but will instead be at the Tibbett Towers Community Room, 3130 Irwin Avenue between West 231st and West 232nd streets.

The Primary election is currently scheduled for September 10th, but several good government leaders

and elected officials have called for the Primary to be moved to June.

That is a decision that can only be made by the New York State Legislature.

Any candidate seeking the Benjamin Franklin Democratic Club's endorsement for either of these positions should contact Democratic District Leader Bruce Feld at (718) 543-1153.

Baby-naming at Temple Hatikva

It's always a "simcha" (joyous event) when celebrating a baby-naming at Temple Hatikva and welcome a new child into the Jewish community.

Temple Hatikva will be doing just that on Friday, January 18 at 7:30 p.m. as Joy and Dmitriy Gluzman, parents of a newborn girl, officially "name" the infant as part of the Shabbat services.

And, to celebrate this wonderful event, Temple Hatikva be having a sumptuous Oneg Shabbat following the services sponsored

by the Gluzman and Werner families.

Temple Hatikva will share in a celebratory meal along with the proud parents.

The entire community is invited to share in this momentous occasion, so bring your children, friends and neighbors to Temple Hatikva on January 18 and join the festivities! Additionally, on Sunday, January 20 at 10 a.m., Temple Hatikva continues its free Adult Education Program sponsored by the Shalom Jewish Funeral

Home.

The course is "Understanding the Shabbat Prayerbook", so enjoy a free breakfast with us, complete with bagels, cream cheese, juice, coffee and cake as you study together.

Of course, the entire community is invited to join Temple Hatikva for this unique learning experience.

Temple Hatikva is located at 2440 Esplanade. For more information call (718) 792-1109 or e-mail TempleHatikva@aol.com

Free Throw Competition at Preston High School

All boys and girls ages 10 to 14 are invited to participate in the Guiding Star Knights of Columbus competition for 2013 Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship.

The local competition will be held January 26, with registration starting at 1pm and the "Free Throw" beginning at 2 p.m.

This event will be held at Preston High School gymnasium.

The Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship is sponsored annually, with winners progressing through local, district and state competitions. International champions are

announced by the K of C international headquarters based on scores from the state-level competitions.

All boys and girls ages 10 to 14 years old are eligible to participate and will compete in their respective age divisions.

Last year more than 120,000 sharpshooters participated in over 3,600 local competitions.

All contestants on the local level are recognized for their participation in the event.

Participants are required to furnish proof of age and written parental consent.

For entry forms or additional information

contact: James McNamara, Grand Knight at the Knights of Columbus Council 212(Guiding Star) on Ampere Avenue in Country Club at 646-302-5142.

The Knights of Columbus is an international Catholic family fraternal service organization with over 1.8 million members in 14,000 local councils. Last year,

Knights donated over 70 million volunteer hours and \$154 million to charitable and benevolent causes, sponsoring projects to benefit their church, councils, communities, culture of life, families and youth.

BRIO application deadline

The submission deadline for the Bronx Council on the Arts' 2013 BRIO award is Friday January 25, 2013 at 11:59 p.m. Application and guidelines for the 2013 BRIO (Bronx Recognizes Its Own) awards is available online on the Bronx Council on the Arts (BCA) website at www.bronxarts.org.

Completed applications must be submitted online no later than 11:59 p.m. on Friday, January 25, .

Bronx artists may apply in one of the following categories: Acting, Choreography, Crafts, Dance, Digital Arts, Fiction, Film Animation, Illustrated Text, Illustration/ Artist Book, Installation Art, Instrumental and Vocal Music Performance, Mixed Media, Music Composition, Narrative/Documentary/ Experimental Film or Video, Non-Fiction, Painting, Per-

formance Art, Performance Poetry, Photography, Playwriting, Poetry, Printmaking/Drawing, Screenwriting, Sculpture, Spoken Word, and Storytelling.

A total of 25 awards of \$3,000 each are available this year to Bronx artists. Eligible applicants must be 18 years or older, live in the Bronx, and not be enrolled as a full-time graduate or undergraduate student. Individuals who work for BCA or who are recipients of any of the Council's awards in 2012 including BRIO, Bronx Writers Center Fellowship Program, or Digital Matrix Commissioning Program are also ineligible.

The selection of the awards are based solely on artistic excellence and decided by a panel of professional artists of various disciplines. All materials involved in the selection process are kept

confidential and are reviewed anonymously. Winners are notified of panel decisions by e-mail approximately four months after the deadline date and are invited to an awards ceremony in June to receive the first payment of \$2,500. The remaining balance of \$500 is to be paid to the artist upon completion of a community service activity which is required of all awardees.

Application assistance and tips on presenting your work professionally is available on Friday, January 18, from 6 to 8 p.m., at Longwood Art Gallery @ Hostos [Community College], 450 Grand Concourse, Admission is free. RSVP at www.bronxarts.org.

Individual Consultations by appointment only call (718) 931-9500.

BY PAUL GOLLUSCIO
Hello all!

Let's talk about the actor Charles Durning. Let's talk about his military service.

At 21 years of age, he was drafted into the Army in WWII. He entered the war at Normandy and fought in the Battle of the Bulge. There he was taken prisoner and was among the sur-

vivors of the Malmedy Massacre. OK, I'll help you out here. Malmedy is a town in Belgium. It was here where American Prisoners of War were taken by the Germans. They were taken to a field and murdered. Durning narrowly escaped and came home with a Silver Star and three Purple Hearts. As you know, he went on to become a very successful actor. The

civic center

Samuel Young Legion Post 620

Malmedy Massacre became a point in the Neurenburg War Trials.

Many Movie Stars had careers in the military.

George C. Scott, Lee Marvin, Steve McQueen and Gene Hackman were Marines. Robert Duvall and James Garner did stints in the Army. Rod Steiger and Paul Newman served in the Navy. There are more and I'll get to them.

Last week, I wrote about all the good stuff we here at Post 620 do. Well, I left out the fact that we

helped get temporary financial assistance to Vets and we're happy about that.

Stay tuned to this column as there will be a happening in February you might want to attend. More on that next week.

Trivia Time!!

Babe Ruth was sold to the Yankees on January 3, 1920.

Alaska becomes the

49th State on January 3, 1959. From whom did we get it.

Not to be outdone, Utah became the 45 state on January 4, 1896.

Teddy Roosevelt died at the age of 60 on January 6, 1919.

That's it. Your minds are Boggled, so, Keep the troops in your prayers, hug a Vet and God Bless.

BY LYNN GERBINO

Just a reminder again to send in your dues as soon as possible. Please send a check for \$10 to: Throggs Neck Homeowners, PO Box 25, Throggs Neck Station, Bronx, New York 10465. We would very much appreciate it if you would help us save some postage! Thanks in advance!

Here is some community news worth reading!

Councilman Vacca sned a note around that there will be an Italian Language Program available if you are interested.

A 12-week Italian Language Program is now being offered and registration will be at Providence Rest at 3304 Waterbury Avenue on Saturday, January 28th from 7 PM until 9 PM. Tuition will be \$80 per hour and there will be an additional \$35 charge

for the exercise and learning booklet. If you are interested or have any questions, you can reach Cav. Edward Jackson by phone at (718) 597-7545 or (917) 834-4584. He can also be reached by email at ejacedward@aol.com.

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation is now accepting applications for the Environmental Justice Community Impact Grants (EJ Grants), DEC Commissioner Joe Martens announced today. DEC's Office of Environmental Justice (OEJ) will award more than \$1 million to organizations serving communities that face multiple sources of environmental risks.

EJ grant awards will range from \$2,500 to \$50,000 to help local organizations with projects that address environmental and/or pub-

civic center

Throggs Neck Home Owners Assoc.

lic health concerns. Ten percent of the total EJ grant will be designated as "Green Gems Grants" where individual groups will be awarded \$2,500 to \$10,000 to be used exclusively for community-based monitoring, stewardship and education projects involving community gardens, parks and other open space.

Funding for the EJ grants comes from the Environmental Justice Community Impact Research Grant program. Launched in 2006, the program concentrates on communities that have historically been overbur-

dened by problems such as a high density of contaminated sites, noise, air and water pollution, health problems and lack of green space and waterfront access.

A wide variety of projects can be supported by this grant program, including community gardens and green roofs, air and water quality monitoring, lead poisoning prevention, urban forestry, subsistence fishing education, environmental education for urban youth, inventories of local pollution sources and green worker training.

Grant applications are due Friday, March 8, 2013, and awards are expected to be made in early summer. During the last grant round in 2011, DEC awarded 24 grants totaling more than \$1 million.

As part of the new EJ

Grant application round, OEJ will host a series of grant workshops at various locations around the state in January. Details will be posted on OEJ's grant web page at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/public/31226.html>.

Reminder: Bronx-Whitestone Bridge's 3rd Avenue Exit Closing Monday, Jan. 7th at 10 AM. The 3rd Avenue exit, the last exit in Queens before entering onto the Bronx-bound Bronx-Whitestone Bridge, will be closed to all traffic beginning Monday, Jan. 7th as part of a \$109million reconstruction of the bridge's Queens approach.

Separate car and truck detours will be in place while the northbound 3rd Avenue exit ramp is closed. Signs will be in place and traffic agents will be on hand when the detours begin in January. The closure is expected

to remain in place for approximately two years.

Passenger vehicles driving from the Bronx-bound Cross Island Parkway will have to exit at Utopia Parkway (Exit 34), and those driving from the northbound Whitestone Expressway will get off past the 20th Avenue exit and merge onto the Cross Island Parkway. All commercial vehicles must exit the Whitestone Expressway at 20th Avenue (Exit 15).

The ramp is being closed to accommodate construction work being done nearby. The work is part of a Capital construction project to reconstruct and widen the 1,010-foot-long Queens approach roadway structure.

Enjoy the week and, as always, we are available by phone at 718-823-0327.

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Bronx schools

Scanlan takes part in Macy's holiday campaign

In the spirit of Christmas Monsignor Scanlan High School's National English Honor Society took on a new endeavor this December. The students from the organization came up with the idea to take part in Macy's holiday campaign. They collected 151 letters to Santa from the students in the school to be dropped off

in a local Macy's box. For every letter Macy's receives they are donating \$1 to the Make a Wish Foundation. This is just one of the many ways Monsignor Scanlan High School students try to get involved in their community.

In addition to this, the senior members of the honor society volunteered their

time after school to go to a local day care center to read to the preschool children on Monday December 17th. They visited Ivy League Learning Center on Tremont Ave. in the Bronx and read in six classrooms. The students involved truly enjoyed this experience with their little learners.



ST. BARNABAS ENJOYS A TASTE OF EATALY

The Saint Barnabas High School Italian club took an afternoon journey to Manhattan on Sunday, December 16 to enjoy a taste of Eataly, an indoor market at East 23rd Street and Fifth Ave. They feature exclusive Italian products from cheeses, pastas and pastries. Prior to heading out, the Italian Club attended the early morning Italian mass at St. Barnabas Church in Woodlawn. The club prides itself on exploring the many aspects of Italian culture within New York City.

(Above) Members of the St. Barnabas High School Italian Club, moderator Caterina Lamanna is third from the left.



Vanessa with students of AMSU after the AMSU Christmas Concert.

Vanessa Williams Visits AMSU

On Friday, December 21, 2011 at 9:45a.m., Academy of Mount St. Ursula, the oldest all-girls Catholic High School in New York State celebrated the Christmas season with a performance dedicated to the young victims of Newtown, Ct..

At the invitation of Fr. John Vigilanti, Ms. Vanessa Williams and her daughter Sasha visited AMSU for the Christmas Concert and assembly held on Friday, December 21, conducted by Ms. Laura Mulholland, AMSU's music instructor. Ms. Williams last visited the school five years ago

during a blizzard on her way to filming an episode of Ugly Betty in which she was starring. Ms. Williams is a parishioner of St. John and Mary parish in Chappaqua, NY, where Fr. Vigilanti resided for 14 years. Although not a graduate of AMSU, Ms. Williams did not hesitate to lend support by her presence to the students participating in the Christmas Concert, which focused on Christmas carols from around the world and a performance by students in the Juilliard-sponsored Instrumental Music Program (IMP). IMP offers

group lessons on various instruments to New York City school students in fourth through twelfth grades. Juilliard student teaching fellows prepare the IMP students to perform in two concerts for their peers, one in December and one toward the end of the school year. At the end of the concert Ms. Williams graciously answered questions from the students about her career. At the end of the concert Ms. Williams counseled the girls to be focused and dedicated to their academic and spiritual lives.

Monsignor Scanlan volunteers at Kid's Zone soup kitchen

On Tuesday, December 18th, eight senior members of the Health and Wellness Club volunteered at the Father's Heart Ministry "Kid's Zone" Soup Kitchen, located in Manhattan.

Abigail Sintim, Robert

Taylor, Kiana Hill, Nicholas Pappas, Tiara Locus-Davis, Lysa Vasquez, Kyle Stevenson-Sims, and Marilyn Solis spread Christmas cheer and love by serving dinner to children and their families, playing games, decorating

cookies, and praying with them.

The students look forward to making a monthly service trip to the mission. Students were accompanied by Mrs. Tulipano and her sister, Victoria Fichter.

St. Raymond participates in internship program

St. Raymond seniors Andre Stephenson and Sebastian Yumiseba recently participated in a Phage Phinders internship at the Price Research Center, which is part of the Albert Einstein Medical Center. The seniors gained invaluable experience that they have been able to apply to their work as seniors this year and that they will take with them when they go off to college next year.

The program was headed by Dr. Bill Jacobs, who has devoted his life to finding a cure for Tuberculosis by finding phages. Phages are microorganisms that infect bacteria and reproduce inside the bacteria, similar to the way the HIV virus works. Tuberculosis is one of the leading causes of death in the world, infecting one-third of the world's popula-

tion. Dr. Jacobs set up his own lab at Albert Einstein in 1987 and the first phage he discovered called the "Bronx Bomber" has now been featured in 13 scientific publications.

Andre and Sebastian were among eleven high school students from New York to participate in this program.

Dr. Jacobs and lab team member Oren Mayer helped these students understand the wonders of genetics and phages through hands-on projects and experiential learning.

The seniors were taught basic research and lab procedures and then were exposed to more difficult procedures including how to find phages, making a lawn of bacteria, calculating the numbers of bacteria to phage and finding colony forming units.

"The highlight of this experience was finding phages from places such as our own backyard, from the rivers, parks and the Bronx Zoo," Andre said. "We got to learn how they identify new phages, resistance to phages, how to map them, and about mutations."

Students in the program spent six weeks following the footsteps of lab workers, learning to do exactly as they did. "The experience we gained from this has increased our interest in the medical field and helped us focus on a major for college," Sebastian said.

Both Andre and Sebastian live in the Bronx. After graduating from St. Raymond in May 2013, Andre hopes to attend Boston University while Sebastian would like to go to Amherst College. Both



St. Raymond seniors (l-r) Sebastian Yumiseba and Andre Stephenson.

students are interested in obtaining a degree in medicine. St. Raymond students have also participated in internships through the Einstein Enrichment Program and the ACE Mentor Program.

Lehman College spring semester

Lehman College's School of Continuing and Professional Studies is offering the first of its spring semester free career/information sessions on Saturday, January 19 at 10:30 am.

Expert guidance will be provided on several of its non-credit certificate programs.

These sessions are designed for those who wish to change jobs or upgrade skills.

Programs covered include Alcoholism and

Substance Abuse Counselor (CASAC); Business; Finance (CFP); IRS Enrolled Agent and Tax preparer; Computer Information Technology including basics, Microsoft Office Specialist Certification, graphic design and multimedia, Web design, A+ computer technician, Health IT Technician and Cisco certification; Medical Billing and Coding; Pharmacy Technician; Dental and Medical Assistant; Home Health Aide; CNA; EKG and Phlebotomy Technician

and PCA (Nurse Technician; Child Care and Family Child Care; and Small Business Development (Entrepreneurship).

These sessions will be held on the Lehman College campus in the Music Building. The information seminars will be repeated on Thursday, January 31 at 6:30 pm.

For additional dates, more information or a catalog of all spring semester adult and children's classes, call (718) 960-8512 or visit www.lehman.edu/ce.

Children and teen offerings at Lehman

An Information Session for the spring semester of the Lehman Academy: Programs for Children and Teens is being offered by the Lehman College School of Continuing and Professional Studies on Saturday, January 19 at 10:30 am.

Expert guidance will be provided on a wide range of academic, creative arts, recreational and sports classes to be held on Saturdays. Information about our popular, licensed summer day camp will also be given. The session will be held

in the Music Building on the Lehman College campus.

For additional information session dates or a catalog of all spring and summer classes for children and adults, please call (718) 960-8512 or visit www.lehman.cuny.edu.

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LEGAL NOTICE

2706 VALENTINE AVE. LLC Art. Of Org. Filed Sec. Of State of NY 06/29/1999. Off. Loc.: Bronx Co. SSNY designated as agent upon whom process against it may served. SSNY to mail copy of process to The LLC, c/o P. Christopher Cotronei Esq., 107 Lake Avenue, Tuckahoe, NY 10707. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.

LEGAL NOTICE

624 MORRIS, LLC Art. Of Org. Filed Sec. of State of NY 10/03/2012. Off. Loc.:Bronx Co. SSNY designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY to mail copy of process to The LLC, 17 East 128th Street, New York, NY. Purpose: Any lawful act or activity.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of a domestic Limited Liability Company (LLC). Name: CASTLE ENTERPRISES OF THE BRONX, LLC, Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 11/16/2012. Office location: Bronx County, Secretary of State is designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon him to C/O CASTLE ENTERPRISES OF THE BRONX, LLC, 1252 Stratford Avenue, Bronx, New York 10472. Purpose: any lawful activity.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION of limited liability company (LLC). Name: FAITH DAY CARE LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 08/10/2012. Office location: Bronx County, SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: Fedora Ramirez, 2908 Valentine Avenue, Apt. 4B, Bronx, NY 10458. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. NAME: (Healthy Happy Children Medical Services), LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on (10/23/12). Office location: Bronx County, SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to the LLC, (Healthy Happy Children Medical Services, P O Box 8201, Saddle Brook, NJ 07663). Purpose: For any lawful purpose.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. A&E COUTURE COLLECTION, LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on October 9, 2012. NY Office location at 4350 Furman Avenue Suite 1K Bronx County, Secretary of State NY is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. The Secretary of State of New York shall mail a copy of process to the LLC, A&E COUTURE COLLECTION, 4350 Furman Avenue Suite 1K, Bronx, NY 10466. Purpose: For any lawful activity.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of Little Scholars Toddler Time, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 12/5/12. Off. loc.: Bronx County, SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 1937 Vyse Street, 1st Fl., Bronx, NY 10460. Purpose: any lawful activity.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of LLC. Name of LLC: CJ DELLATORE TEXTILE LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with NY Dept. of State 11/13/12. County of office location: Bronx County. Sec. of State designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against corporation may be served. Sec. of State shall mail a copy of any such process to: Levi Lubarsky & Feigenbaum LLP, Attn: Terrence M. Bennett, 233 Broadway - Suite 2208, NY, NY 10279. Purpose(s): Any lawful purposes.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of Rising Real Estate, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 12/17/12. Off. loc.: Bronx County, SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o The LLC, 945 Summit Ave., Bronx, NY 10452. Purpose: any lawful activity.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of WP Master Lease LLC, Art. of Org. filed Sec'y of State (SSNY) 11/20/12. Office location: Bronx County, SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to 668 Crescent Ave., Bronx, NY 10458. Purpose: any lawful activities.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of DMARC 2007-CD5 GARDEN STREET, LLC. Authority filed with NY Dept. of State on 11/30/12. Office location: Bronx County, LLC formed in DE on 6/16/09. NY Sec. of State designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to: c/o CT Corporation System, 111 8th Ave., NY, NY 10011, regd. agent upon whom process may be served. DE addr. of LLC: 1209 Orange St., Wilmington, DE 19801. Cert. of Form. filed with DE Sec. of State, 401 Federal St., Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: all lawful purposes

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of Vail HealthCare Medical, PLLC. Arts. of Org. filed Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 12/6/12. Off. loc.: Bronx County, SSNY designated as agent of PLLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Margaret Davino, Kaufman Borgeest & Ryan LLP, 120 Broadway, NY, NY 10271. Purpose: practice the profession of medicine.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given a License Number (PENDING) for on-premises Liquor has been applied for by the undersigned to sell liquor at retail in a Restaurant under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at 1738 Edison Avenue, Bronx, NY 10461 for on premises consumption. Pelham Bay Cafe Inc.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given a License Number (PENDING) for on-premises Liquor has been applied for by the undersigned to sell liquor at retail in a Restaurant under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at 1161 Castle Hill Avenue, Bronx, NY 10462 for on premises consumption. 1161 Castle Hill Inc. D/B/A Pinstripes Sports Bar & Grill

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that an application for on-premises liquor licenses and restaurant wine licenses will be submitted to the New York State Liquor Authority for the New York Botanical Garden to sell liquor at retail for on-premises consumption at 2900 Southern Boulevard, Bronx, NY 10458 under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Bronx County on Dec. 5, 2012, bearing Index Number NC-000505-12/BX, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at 851 Grand Concourse, Bronx, NY 10451, grants me (us) the right to: Assume the name of (First) Josiah (Middle) Jayvriel (Last) Murillo. My present name is (First) Jayvriel (Middle) Josiah (Last) Murillo (infant). My present address is 3363 Sedgwick Avenue, Apt 3C, Bronx, NY 10463. My place of birth is Bronx, New York. My date of birth is April 17, 2008.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Bronx County on Oct. 19, 2012, bearing Index Number NC-000450-12/BX, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at 851 Grand Concourse, Bronx, NY 10451, grants me (us) the right to: Assume the name of (First) Sylvia (Middle) Denise (Last) Dushain. My present name is (First) Sivela (Middle) Denise (Last) Dushain AKA Sylvia Denise Dushain AKA Sylvia D. Dushain AKA Sylvia Dushain. My present address is 3569 DeKalb Avenue, Apt 4I, Bronx, NY 10467. My place of birth is Brooklyn, New York. My date of birth is April 17, 1972.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF SALE
CitiMortgage, Inc., in accordance with its rights as current secured party, will conduct a public sale of security: the proprietary lease and 261 shares of stock of ARCHER COOPERATIVE, INC. Said security is appurtenant to premises: located at 1430 THERIOT AVE, APT 2A, BRONX, NY 10460. Said sale includes the fixtures and articles of personal property now or hereafter affixed to or used in connection with said premises. The sale shall be on January 28, 2013 at 01:30 PM on the front steps of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, County of Bronx, located

at 851 Grand Concourse, Bronx, NY 10451. The secured party reserves the right to bid. The secured party makes no representations or warranties as to the title or premises being sold herein.

The sale is subject to any conditions of transfer set by the cooperative corporation or its board, and subject to any tenants or occupants of the subject premises and the Terms of Sale to be read at the sale. Victor Rawner, Auctioneer,
License # 1224356
ROSICKI, ROSICKI & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
Attorneys for Secured Party
Fishkill Office 2 Summit Court
Suite 301
Fishkill, NY 12524
845.897.1600

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF SALE
CitiMortgage, Inc., in accordance with its rights as current secured party, will conduct a public sale of security: the proprietary lease and 200 shares of stock of 675 Walton Avenue, Inc. Said security is appurtenant to premises: located at 675 WALTON AVENUE, Apt. 1A, BRONX, NY 10451. Said sale includes the fixtures and articles of personal property now or hereafter affixed to or used in connection with said premises. The sale shall be on January 28, 2013 at 01:00 PM at the front steps of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, County of Bronx, located at 851 Grand Concourse, Bronx, NY 10451. The secured party reserves the right to bid. The secured party makes no representations or warranties as to the title or premises being sold herein.

The sale is subject to any conditions of transfer set by the cooperative corporation or its board, and subject to any tenants or occupants of the subject premises and the Terms of Sale to be read at the sale. Victor Rawner, Auctioneer, License # 1224356
ROSICKI, ROSICKI & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
Attorneys for Secured Party
Fishkill Office 2 Summit Court
Suite 301
Fishkill, NY 12524
845.897.1600

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF SALE
SUPREME COURT: BRONX COUNTY, BOARD OF MANAGERS OF HARBOUR POINTE AT SHOREHAVEN CONDOMINIUM I, Pltf. vs. BRENDA CAUGHMAN, Def. Index #380907/10. Pursuant to judgment of foreclosure and sale dated Nov. 20, 2012, I will sell at public auction in Room 600 at the Bronx County Courthouse, 851 Grand Concourse, Bronx, NY on Monday, Feb. 4, 2013 at 2:00 p.m., prem. k/a 112 Beacon Lane, Bronx, NY a/k/a All that certain plot, piece or parcel of real property, situate and being a part of a Condominium in the Borough of the Bronx, County of Bronx, City and State of NY, known and designated as Unit No. 73 together with an undivided 0.80645% interest in the common elements defined in the Declaration of Condominium entitled "HARBOUR POINTE AT SHOREHAVEN CONDOMINIUM I" dated 9/30/06 establishing a plan for Condominium Ownership of the land and buildings thereon erected, made by grantor pursuant to article 9-B of The Real Property Law of the State of NY, and recorded in the Office of the Register of the County of Bronx on the 2nd

day of Nov. 2006 in CRFN #20060006513969. The unit is also described and designated as Block 3432 Lot 1373 in the Tax Assessor's Office in the County of Bronx. Approx. amt. of judgment is \$5,951.94 plus costs and interest. Sold subject to terms and conditions of filed judgment and terms of sale. ANDREA OSBORNE, Referee. JAY L. YACKOW, Attys. for Pltf., 1400 Old Country Rd., Ste. 309, Westbury, NY. #82161

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF SALE
SUPREME COURT: BRONX COUNTY, RIDGEWOOD SAVINGS BANK, Pltf. vs. UB ALLRIGHT LLC, et al, Defts. Index #381415/11. Pursuant to judgment of foreclosure and sale entered Dec. 10, 2012, I will sell at public auction in Room 600, at the Bronx County Courthouse, 851 Grand Concourse, Bronx, NY, on Feb. 4th, 2013 at 2:00 p.m., prem. k/a 1355 Webster Ave., Bronx, NY. Said property beginning at a point 547.49 ft. North from the intersection formed by the Northerly side of East 169th St. with the Westerly side of Webster Ave.; being a plot 90.00 ft. x 25.00 ft. Approx. amt. of judgment is \$611,522.17 plus costs and interest. Sold subject to terms and conditions of filed judgment and terms of sale. JEANNETTE WESTPHAL, Referee. CULLEN AND DYKMAN LLP, Attys. for Pltf., 100 Quentin Roosevelt Blvd., 4th Fl., Garden City, NY. #82180

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF SALE
SUPREME COURT: BRONX COUNTY EVERHOME MORTGAGE COMPANY; Plaintiff(s)
vs. RUKMINIE D. RAMLALL, INDIVIDUALLY AND AS SURVIVING JOINT TENANT OF BAMAN RAMLALL; KAMALCHAND KUTAYIAH, INDIVIDUALLY AND AS SURVIVING JOINT TENANT OF BAMAN RAMLALL; et al; Defendant(s)
Attorney (s) for Plaintiff (s): ROSICKI, ROSICKI & ASSOCIATES, P.C., 2 Summit Court, Suite 301, Fishkill, New York, 12524, 845.897.1600
Pursuant to judgment of foreclosure and sale granted herein on or about July 6, 2010, I will sell at Public Auction to the highest bidder at the Bronx County Courthouse, 851 Grand Concourse, Room 600, Bronx, NY 10451.

On February 11, 2013 at 2:00 PM
Block: 3774 Lot: 29
Premises known as 1246 BOYNTON AVE, BRONX, NY 10472
ALL that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with building and improvements thereon, erected, lying situate and being in the Borough and County of Bronx, City and State of New York.
As more particularly described in the judgment of foreclosure and sale.

Sold subject to all of the terms and conditions contained in said judgment and terms of sale.
Approximate amount of judgment \$210,317.97 plus interest and costs.
INDEX NO. 380290/09
Lorraine C. Corsa, Esq., REFEREE

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Plans to 'phase-out' Lehman

From page 3

at Lehman hit 4,200, said Vacca.

The DOE subsequently decreased enrollment to less than 3,000.

Principal Rose LoBianco should be given more time to turn the school around, said Vacca, who called the phase out plan a "slow bloodletting for the next three years."

"Lehman High School had 30 years of success before the Department of Education brought this school to its knees," he said. "and the tools the school administration implemented last year, including a new principal, have barely been given a chance to make a difference."

Smaller schools

Vacca acknowledged that the trend citywide has been away from larger

zoned high schools, and a DOE spokesman recently said that there is no longer any such thing as "zoned schools" in the New York City system.

At a meeting of the Lehman High School Parent Association Tuesday evening, Jan. 8, Lehman principal LoBianco laid out her case for saving the school.

She said that despite her being appointed principal as the school bottomed out at an F rating over a year ago, and a turnaround plan that could have led to exceeding of up to 50% of the school's teachers last year that caused turmoil with the staff, Lehman opened up six smaller academies of about 500 students each.

The academies seek to give students the benefits of a smaller school without losing any of the benefits of a

larger school, she said.

DOE representative Elaine Gorman said at the PA meeting that if Lehman is phased out, three new smaller high schools would gradually be phased there.

Any student close to graduation by or before August 2016 who is already in Lehman can remain there, Gorman added, and guidance counselors will work to find those who cannot graduate in that time another "path" to graduation.

Many parents working with the Lehman PA have decided to fight the closure. Gorman said the DOE will hold a meeting at Lehman in late-February to give parents and stakeholders a chance to speak about the school.

Carlos Blanco, a parent working with the PA, said a massive reach-out to parents will be in the next



Photo by Patrick Rocchio

Principal Rose LoBianco addresses parents at Lehman High School on Jan. 8.

ten days "to ensure that parents' voices are heard and that they do make a difference."

Parents can e-mail lehmanparentassociation@gmail.com, said Blanco.

He said he believes that

Principal LoBianco should be given at least three years to implement her ideas for Lehman.

Community leaders react to supportive housing facility

From page 1

in the long-vacant Pelham Grand.

The tenants are former mental care services patients who are dealing with their illness and working or attending school, said the nonprofit's chief operating officer, Dr. Yves Ades. He's promised walking tours to anyone interested.

Officials with Community Board 10, Senator Jeff Klein, Councilman Jimmy Vacca and Ben Randazzo, Chief of Staff to Assemblyman Mike Benedetto attended, though they say the meeting wasn't publicly announced simply because they were invited guests.

They discovered the transient tenants had already moved into 1870 Pel-

ham Parkway South a day before the information meeting.

State law says no open meeting is required when setting up a supportive housing facility within a neighborhood since it doesn't have to go through the NYS Site Selection Law process, a move CB10 chairman John Marano opposes. Still, Marano under-

stood this was an emergency situation. He insists the meeting was not "secret" as others have characterized it.

"For all those naysayers that say it's a secret meeting is sad," he said.

The public will still have a chance to air their concerns at the next CB10 general board meeting Jan. 17 at 7:30 p.m. at the Villa

Barone Restaurant in Pelham Bay.

Public knowledge

Despite little public disclosure, elected officials agreed the gathering was publicly represented by Anita Valenti with the Pelham Bay Taxpayers Association.

But Assemblyman Mike Benedetto maintains he would have reached out to the public to alert them of this move.

"If I was running the meeting I would think it'd be responsible of me to call the media," he said, adding he's cautiously optimistic tenants won't wear out their welcome by staying beyond the nine-month max as agreed upon on the lease terms. For now, Benedetto intends to keep an eye on SUS to make sure their brief stay doesn't expand to two years.

"Am I nervous about it, yes," said Benedetto. "But I also realize this is kind of an emergency."

Senator Klein also will keep a close eye on the residence, said spokesman Eric Soufer.

"The non-profit organization has committed to

provide full-time security and to make social workers available around the clock for those tenants in need," Klein's spokesman noted.

Hurricane Sandy

The new neighbors were left homeless after Hurricane Sandy destroyed their Far Rockaway, Queens building, forcing them to stay at hotels, other SUS-sponsored buildings and community centers.

SUS and the state Office of Mental Health teamed up to find the six-story high-end apartment residence, vacant for the past three years.

SUS is funded by the OMH since it operates supportive housing buildings that combines affordable housing with supportive, recovery-oriented services like on-site social workers.

Traditionally, OMH pays higher rents than regular tenants. The steady rent flow is also reliable.

The current owner of the building is East 110th Street LLC, according to Propertyshark.com, a real estate database.

Reach reporter David Cruz at 718-742-3383.

FASTRACK Comes to Grand Concourse

MTA New York City Transit announces the expansion of its successful FASTRACK maintenance program to line segments outside of the Central Business District and Downtown Brooklyn. On Monday, January 14, FASTRACK comes to the Grand Concourse Line in the Bronx. The Concourse (B, D) Line will be shut down from 10 p.m. until 5 a.m., for four consecutive weeknights from Monday, January 14 to early Friday morning, January 18, suspend-

ing service between 205th Street and 161st Street in both directions

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- Free shuttle buses

will provide connecting service between the Norwood-205th Street (D) and the Mosholu Parkway (4) stations only.

FASTRACK was introduced in January 2012, devoting four straight weeknights to perform maintenance work in tunnels, stations and on tracks, completely suspending service within a given line segment for a seven-hour period between 10 p.m. and 5 a.m.

This gives free access to the system, allowing an army of maintenance workers to perform dozens of tasks without the concern

of having to "clear up" to allow trains to pass.

When a line segment is closed at night, customers can expect to add 20 minutes to their usual travel time.

Alternative transportation options will be detailed in announcements and posters on trains, in stations and on selected buses; brochures will be available in both English and Spanish. Information will also be available on the web at www.mta.info and through social media, email and text alerts.

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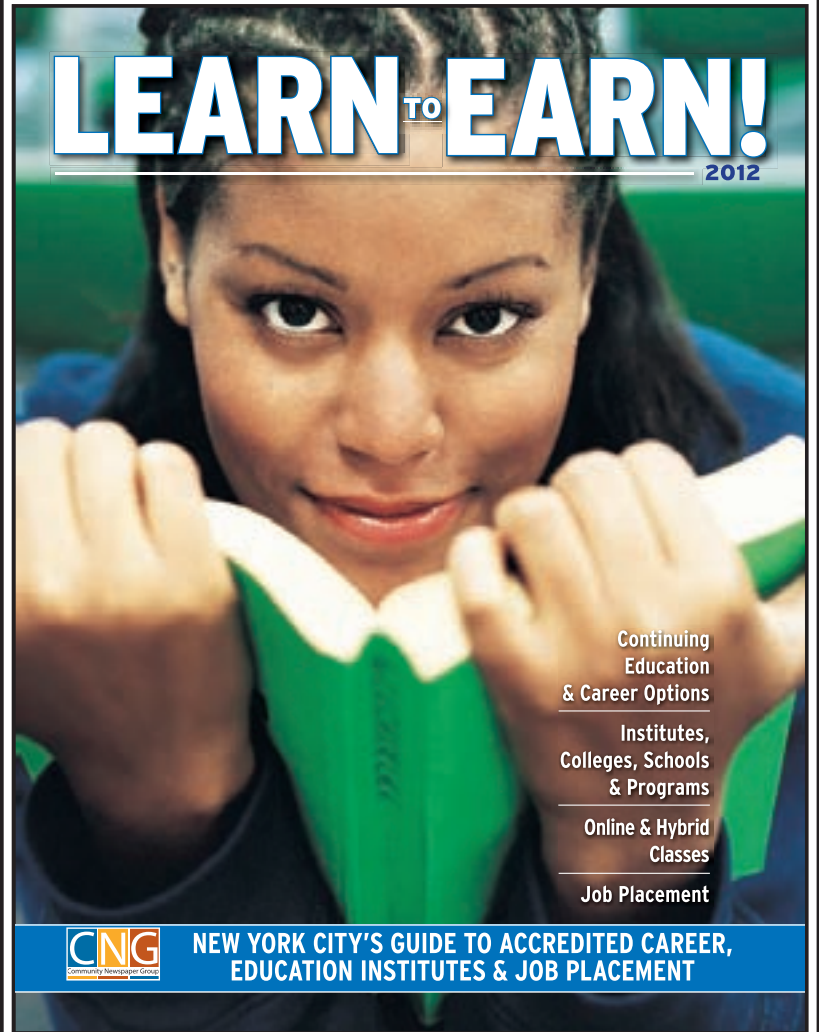
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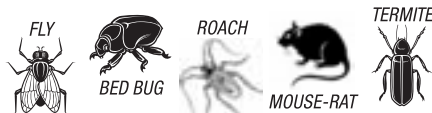
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NOTICE OF SALE
 SUPREME COURT: BRONX COUNTY
 NYCTL 1998-2 TRUST AND THE BANK
 OF NEW YORK AS COLLATERAL AGENT
 AND CUSTODIAN OF THE NYCTL 1998-2
 TRUST; Plaintiff(s)
 vs. BESSIE BROWN; et al; Defendant(s)
 Attorney (s) for Plaintiff (s): ROSICKI,
 ROSICKI & ASSOCIATES, P.C., 2 Summit
 Court, Suite 301, Fishkill, New York, 12524,
 845.897.1600

Pursuant to judgment of foreclosure and
 sale granted herein on or about September
 25, 2012, I will sell at Public Auction to the
 highest bidder at The Bronx County
 Courthouse 851 Grand Concourse, Room
 600, Bronx, NY 10451.

On February 4, 2013 at 02:00 PM
 Premises known as 2845 DECATUR
 AVE, BRONX, NY 10458
 Block: 03284 Lot: 0045

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

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

Approximate amount of judgment
 \$26,123.50 plus interest and costs.

INDEX NO. 14523-06
 Henry Adler, Esq., REFEREE

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF SALE
 SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF
 BRONX

FREMONT INVESTMENT & LOAN,
 Plaintiff,
 Against
 JULIO RIVERA; CARMEN SANBRAIA;
 ETAL.
 Defendant(s)

Pursuant to a judgment of foreclosure and
 sale duly entered 11/29/2011, I, the
 undersigned Referee will sell at public
 auction at Bronx County Courthouse, 851
 Grand Concourse Room 600, Bronx, NY on
 2/4/2013 at 2:00 pm premises known as
 2701 Dewitt Pl, Bronx, NY 10469

ALL that certain plot piece or parcel of
 land, with the buildings and improvements
 thereon erected, situate, lying and being in
 the Borough and County of the Bronx, City
 and State of New York. Block 4564 Lot 1

Approximate amount of lien \$341,334.16
 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold
 subject to provisions of filed judgment Index
 # 380318-08

Gary S. Basso, Esq., Referee.
 Leopold & Associates, PLLC, 80
 Business Park Drive, Suite 110, Armonk, NY
 10504

Dated: 12/10/2012 File Number:
 7090800694 JVR

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF SALE
 SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF
 BRONX

WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A.
 Plaintiff,
 Against
 GEORGIANA MARTINEZ, et al.
 Defendant(s)

Pursuant to a judgment of foreclosure and
 sale duly entered 11/29/2010, I, the
 undersigned Referee will sell at public
 auction at Bronx County Courthouse, 851
 Grand Concourse Room 600, Bronx, NY on
 2/4/2013 at 2:00 pm premises known as
 1256 Findlay Ave., Bronx, NY 10456.

ALL that certain plot piece or parcel of
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Approximate amount of lien \$570,700.61
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 # 381307/08

Joyce A Brown, Esq., Referee.
 Leopold & Associates, PLLC, 80
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 10504

Dated: 12/19/2012 File Number:
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LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF NEW YORK
 SUPREME COURT: COUNTY OF
 BRONX

In the Matter of the Application of
 PATMOS FELLOWSHIP, INC.
 For Dissolution
 NOTICE OF APPLICATION
 Index No. 260952/12

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the under-
 signed, being a majority of the trustees of the
 PATMOS FELLOWSHIP, INC., a religious
 corporation, will on the 20th day of February,
 2013, apply to the Supreme Court of the
 State of New York at Part 15, Room 702, to
 be held in and for the County of Bronx, at the
 Courthouse at 851 Grand Concourse, Bronx,
 New York 10451, at 9:30 in the forenoon
 thereof or as soon thereafter as counsel can
 be heard, for an order decreeing the dissolu-
 tion of the said PATMOS FELLOWSHIP,
 INC., and for that purpose ordering and di-
 recting the sale and conveyance of any and
 all property belonging to said corporation and
 after providing for the ascertaining and pay-
 ment of the debts of said corporation and the
 necessary costs and expenses of such sale
 and proceedings of such dissolution, so far
 as the proceeds of such sale shall be suffi-
 cient to pay the same, ordering and decreeing
 that the balance to be transferred to THE
 CHRISTIAN AND MISSIONARY ALLIANCE
 CHURCH OF MOUNT VERNON, NEW
 YORK, located at 61 South Third Avenue,
 Mount Vernon, New York 10550.

Trustees of Patmos Fellowship, Inc.
 MARGUERITA ARCHIBALD
 RAFAEL SANTIAGO

LEGAL NOTICE

SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF
 BRONX EASTERN SAVINGS BANK, FSB,

Plaintiff against SHELDON FRANCIS
 a/k/a SHELDON M. FRANCIS, et al
 Defendant(s).

Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure
 and Sale entered herein and dated
 November 19, 2012, I, the undersigned
 Referee will sell at public auction at the Mario
 Merola County Building, Room 600, 851
 Grand Concourse, Bronx, NY on the 28th
 day of January, 2013 at 2:00 PM premises
 situate, lying and being in the Borough of
 Bronx, City and State of New York, bounded
 and described as follows: BEGINNING at a
 point on the Westerly side of Olinville
 Avenue, distant 290.42 feet Northerly from
 the corner formed by the intersection of the
 Westerly side of Olinville Avenue and the
 Northerly side of East 213th Street; being a
 plot 94.96 feet by 22 feet by 94.96 feet
 by 22 feet. Said premises known as 3631
 OLINVILLE AVENUE, BRONX, NY.
 Approximate amount of lien \$ 261,172.34
 plus interest & costs. Premises will be sold
 subject to provisions of filed judgment
 and terms of sale. Index Number 381879/09.

HOWARD B. BERG, ESQ., Referee,
 KRISS & FEUERSTEIN LLP

Attorney(s) for Plaintiff 360 Lexington
 Avenue, Suite 1200, New York, NY 10017

LEGAL NOTICE

SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF
 BRONX NYCTL 1998-2 TRUST, and THE
 BANK OF NEW YORK as Collateral Agent
 and Custodian for the NYCTL 1998-2 Trust,
 Plaintiff against MANSION HOMES, INC., et
 al Defendant(s). Pursuant to a Judgment of
 Foreclosure and Sale entered herein and
 dated September 19, 2012, I, the
 undersigned Referee will sell at public
 auction at the Mario Merola County
 Building, Room 600, 851 Grand Concourse,
 Bronx, NY on the 4th day of February, 2013
 at 2:00 PM premises situate, lying and being
 in the Borough and County of Bronx, City and
 State of New York, bounded and described
 as follows: BEGINNING at a point on the
 southerly side of Summit Place (30 feet
 wide), distant 58.84 feet easterly as
 measured along Summit Place from the
 corner formed by the intersection of the
 southerly side of Summit Place and the
 easterly side of Heath Avenue; being a plot
 107.96 feet by 19.87 feet by 107.03 feet by
 24.60 feet. Block: 3257 Lot: 119

Said premises known as SUMMIT
 PLACE, BRONX, NY Approximate amount
 of lien \$ 20,845.00 plus interest & costs.

Premises will be sold subject to
 provisions of filed judgment and terms of
 sale. Index Number 381078/09.

DENNIS E. KROLIAN, ESQ., Referee.
 Windels Marx Lane & Mittendorf, LLP
 Attorney(s) for Plaintiff Michael Resnikoff,
 Esq., (212) 237-1102, 156 W 56 Street, NY
 10019

LEGAL NOTICE

SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF
 BRONX

NYCTL 1998-2 TRUST, and THE BANK
 OF NEW YORK as Collateral Agent And
 Custodian for the NYCTL 1998-2 Trust,
 Plaintiff against JOSEPH PENNYFEATHER,
 ALTHEA PENNYFEATHER, et al
 Defendant(s).

Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure
 and Sale entered herein and dated
 September 19, 2012, I, the undersigned
 Referee will sell at public auction at the Mario
 Merola County Building, Room 600, 851
 Grand Concourse, Bronx, NY on the 28th
 day of January, 2013 at 2:00 PM premises
 situate, lying and being in the Borough of
 Bronx, County of Bronx, City and State of
 New York known and designated as Block
 4716 Lot 35 on the Bronx County land and
 tax map as it presently exists. Said premises
 known as 3617 EASTCHESTER ROAD,
 BRONX, NY. Approximate amount of lien \$
 5,733.34 plus interest & costs. Premises will
 be sold subject to provisions of filed
 judgment and terms of sale. Index Number
 382523/09.

GERALD LEONESCU, ESQ., Referee.
 Windels Marx Lane & Mittendorf, LLP
 Attorney(s) for Plaintiff Michael Resnikoff,
 Esq., (212) 237-1102, 156 W 56 Street, NY
 10019

LEGAL NOTICE

SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF
 BRONX NYCTL 2008-A TRUST, and THE
 BANK OF NEW YORK as Collateral Agent
 and Custodian for the NYCTL 2008-A Trust,
 Plaintiff against TEDDY OSEI BONSU,
 VANESSA BONSU, WILFREDO
 SANTIAGO, JOEL LONGER, et al
 Defendant(s). Pursuant to a Judgment of
 Foreclosure and Sale entered herein and
 dated August 8, 2012, I, the undersigned
 Referee will sell at public auction at the Mario
 Merola County Building, Room 600, 851
 Grand Concourse, Bronx, NY on the 4th day

of February, 2013 at 2:00 PM premises
 situate, lying and being in the Borough of the
 Bronx, City and State of New York, bounded
 and described as follows: BEGINNING
 at a point on the easterly side of Brook
 Avenue, distant 110.45 feet northerly from
 the corner formed by the intersection of the
 northerly side of 164th Street and the
 easterly side of Brook Avenue; being a plot
 102.25 feet by 25.92 feet by 111.47 feet
 by 27.50 feet. Block: 2386 lot: 005 Said
 premises known as 994 BROOK AVENUE,
 BRONX, NY Approximate amount of lien \$
 12,836.10 plus interest & costs. Premises will
 be sold subject to provisions of filed
 judgment and terms of sale. Index
 Number 380766/09.

HOWARD M. ADELSBERG, ESQ.,
 Referee. Windels Marx Lane & Mittendorf,
 LLP Attorney(s) for Plaintiff Michael
 Resnikoff, Esq., (212) 237-1102, 156 W 56
 Street, NY 10019

LEGAL NOTICE

PROBATE CITATION
 File No. 2009-2474

SURROGATE'S COURT - BRONX
 COUNTY

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW
 YORK

By the Grace of God Free and
 Independent

TO: John Thompson; Attorney General of
 New York State and the Public Administrator
 of Bronx County and to the unknown heirs at
 law, and next of kin of Mary Connolly,
 deceased, if they be living, and if they be
 dead, to their Executors, Administrators,
 Creditors, and Leinors, their husbands or
 wives or successors in interest.

A petition having been duly filed by
 THERESA FLEMING, who is domiciled at
 5440 Netherland Avenue, Bronx, NY 10471.

YOU ARE HEREBY CITED TO SHOW
 CAUSE before the Surrogate's Court, Bronx
 County, at 851 Grand Concourse, Bronx,
 New York, Room 406, on February 20, 2013
 at 9:30 o'clock in the forenoon of that day,
 why a decree should not be made in the
 estate of MARY CONNOLLY lately domiciled
 at 2975 Independence Avenue, Bronx, NY
 admitting to probate a Will dated December
 17, 1997, a copy of which is attached, as the
 Will of MARY CONNOLLY deceased, relating
 to real and personal property, and directing
 that Letters Testamentary issue to:
 THERESA FLEMING

Dated, Attested and Sealed
 December 17, 2012
 HON. Lee L. Holzman
 Surrogate
 Michael Hausler
 Chief Clerk
 Michael L. Taub, Esq. Worby Groner
 Edelman LLP
 Attorney for Petitioner
 (914) 686-3700
 Telephone Number
 11 Martine Avenue, PH, White Plains, NY
 10606
 Address of Attorney

(NOTE: This citation is served upon you
 as required by law. You are not required to
 appear. If you fail to appear it will be
 assumed you do not object to the relief
 requested. You have a right to have an
 attorney appear for you.)

LEGAL NOTICE

Robert C. Bowman Jr. (SBN: 232388)
 LAW OFFICES OF BOWMAN &
 ASSOCIATES

A Professional Law Corporation
 3841 North Freeway Blvd., Suite 185
 Sacramento, CA 95834

T: (916) 923-2800
 F: (916) 923-2828

Attorney for Petitioner
 EDUARDO MORALES

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF
 CALIFORNIA

COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO
 CASE NO: 11AD00096

CITATION TO APPEAR AT HEARING
 (Family Code 8604(b))

In the Matter of the Adoption Petition of
 EDUARDO MORALES,

Adopting Grandparent
 THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF
 CALIFORNIA

To Raynel Casul aka Raynel Morrow:
 YOU ARE HEREBY CITED to appear at

8:30 a.m. on February 5, 2013 in Department
 123 of the above-entitled court located at
 3341 Power Inn Road, Sacramento,
 California 95826. At that time and place, you
 must show cause why the petition of Eduardo
 Morales to adopt your minor child, Jacob
 Anthony Morales, should not be granted
 without your consent in the above-entitled
 proceeding, on the ground that you have
 abandoned that child. The above-referenced
 adoption petition alleges that for a period of
 one year after April 30, 2001, you willfully
 failed to communicate with, and to pay for the
 care, support, and education of, the above
 child although you were able to do so. A copy
 of that petition is attached.

YOU ARE FURTHER ADVISED that if
 you appear at the above hearing and wish to
 have legal counsel but are unable to afford
 counsel, the court will appoint counsel on
 your behalf.

Dated: Dec. 27, 2012
 Clerk of the Superior Court
 By: Eunice Bridges
 Deputy

LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN,

PURSUANT TO LAW, that the NYC
 Department of Consumer Affairs will hold a
 Public Hearing on 1/16/2013 at 2:00 p.m. at
 66 John Street, 11th floor, on a petition from
 Cakor Restaurant, Inc., to establish,
 maintain, and operate an unenclosed
 sidewalk cafe at 632 East 186th Street in the
 Borough of Bronx for a term of two years.

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PIPE DREAMS

By Bob Connolly

Playoffs, What Playoffs?

Neither of our teams made the playoffs this year so they're in the same boat. Sanchez had another Jet hat trick- 2 fumbles and an INT. This team is demoralized an its managerial team is al in the wrong slots. Rich Cimini said that Ryan, "will (yet) get to hire another coordinator. He needs to find someone with a progressive approach, a playcaller who can fix Sanchez (if he's back) and install a sophisticated passing attack. Ground-and-pound is old-school." Wasn't this team once 5-1 only to wind up 6-10.

The Giants ended up 9-7 with another December swoon- that's on Coughlin. The team shouldn't have to rely on outside inspiration to get them going. This year's draft might be a good time to start looking for Eli's successor.

Face The Music

Dwight Perry (Seattle Times) quoted Scott Ostler asking, "So, how did acquiring Tim Tebow to push Mark Sanchez work out for the Jets? "If you seek to inspire the San Francisco Philharmonic to a higher level," wrote Scott Ostler of the San Francisco Chronicle, "you don't try to scare 'em by bringing in a hot kazoo player."

Campaigning For Tebow

Mike Bianci

Continued on Page 55

Wings fails to close out South Shore



Photo By Joseph Staszewski

Wings coach Billy Turnage talks to his team during a time out

BY JOSEPH STASZEWSKI

Victory was there for Wings to grab on multiple occasions. Each time they failed to attain it and instead watched South Shore star Shamiel Sheppard convert a game-winning tip in at the buzzer.

It left the Wings having to lament what could have been after a 72-70 double overtime loss at the PSAL Steve Simms Memorial Showcase at Cardozo Sunday. They missed a chance to knock off one of the favorites to win the PSAL Class AA boys basketball title.

"We played not to lose the ballgame instead of going out

and taking the ballgame and winning," Wings coach Billy Turnage said. "I thought we had the ballgame won three or four different times."

The Bronx power missed two free throws with 22 seconds left in a tie game in regulation. It missed a defensive assignment on Sheppard, allowing him to score at the buzzer on a cross-court inbound pass to send the game to double overtime.

Marvillo Berroa scored 16 points and Jaequan Brown added 14 for Wings (11-3). Sheppard led South Shore (12-3) with 23 points. Wings realized it let a game that could affect playoff seeding get

away.

"There were a number of times where we didn't close out the game," sophomore guard Desure Buie said. "We should have made free throws we should have boxed out.

Buie, who Turnage believes can be a high Division I player, was the biggest bright spot for Wings. He scored 22 of his 28 points after halftime. Buie weaved through defenders and converted a flouter along the baseline that gave Wings a 65-63 lead with 28 seconds remaining in the first overtime. The situation or the opponent doesn't intimidate him.

"I'm young by my confidence

is high," Buie said.

Despite the loss the game put Wings in the type of environment against a top team Turnage had hoped for. His squad, which lost in the semifinals a year ago, is expected to cruise to another division title. Putting them in pressure situations before the postseason will only leave them better prepared to face them when it matters most.

"I took this game because I knew what type of competition South Shore would bring," Turnage said. "...Being the midpoint of the season we needed something like this."

Bronx native Chong scores 46 to beat Royals

BY JOSEPH STASZEWSKI

Saniya Chong doesn't let anything stop her. Adversity only fuels her fire.

The Ossining star and Bronx native was sick all day and struggled through the first half against Christ the King, scoring just nine points. Ossining coach Dan Ricci said he told the nauseous Chong her teammates were playing their hearts out for her and she needed to take the game over. She didn't need to be told twice.

"It's just knowing I don't want to give up on my team," she said. "Feeling sick just makes me go even 10 times harder."

Chong, who is headed to UConn next season exploded in the fourth quarter. She scored 29 of her game-high 46 points in the frame with Huskies coach Geno Auriemma in attendance. It was enough to get her team past the visiting Royals 89-84 in non-league girls basketball Friday night. She added 11 assists and seven rebounds.

"I knew this was a huge game," Chong said. "I knew I had to step it up. I just gave it all I could give."

She had to facing off against UConn recruit Sierra Calhoun. The junior scored 30 points and grabbed 14 rebounds and Kollyns Scarbrough added 32 for the Royals. Chong fouled Calhoun out with 53 seconds left and Ossining up just 83-78 with two free throws. She enjoyed the challenge for facing Calhoun for the first time.

"It was a huge opportunity going up against one of the girls who could possibly be one of the players on UConn," Chong said "It is always a good thing to play against the best."

Chong is considered the best player in the state right now and her team is the early favorite to win the state Federation Class AA title. People look at her gaudy scoring numbers,



Photo by Robert Cole

Ossining's Saniya Chong drives to the basket during clash of New York State girls basketball powers Christ the King and Ossining High School, at Ossining High School Gym, on Friday January 4, 2013.

but it's the rest of her game that impresses Auriemma.

"She finds teammates that are open," he said. "She is looking to make a great pass to her teammates. Most people who score that many points aren't really looking to pass."

Christ the King did

its best to frustrate Chong, throwing fresh defenders on her and double-teaming her when she had the ball. It worked for three quarters, but Chong refused to let anything stop her.

"Saniya has 29 points in the fourth quarter," CK coach Bob Mackey said. "What can you say?"

All-Bronx Girls Soccer Honors

BY JOSEPH STASZEWSKI

The Bronx was the home girls soccer champions this season. Injuries set Horace Mann and Bronx Science back during the regular season, but the teams thrived when healthy in the playoffs. Horace Mann won its first ever NYSAISAA crown and the Wolverines won the PSAL Class A title. Riverdale and Preston were again two of the city's top teams. Here are the players who distinguished themselves: All-Bronx Girls Soccer Player of the Year: Sarah Heintz, Horace Mann

Heintz and her fellow seniors wanted nothing more than to final bring a NYSAISAA title to Horace Mann. They completed that goal after getting healthy and completing a difficult playoff run. Heintz, who had 19 goals and eight assists, was a force at midfield and scored the lone goal in the Lions 1-0 win over Columbia Prep in the final.

All-Bronx Girls Soccer Coach of the Year: Annie Eckstein, Bronx Science

In her second season at the helm, Eckstein was a calming influence during a roller coaster season. Injuries to top players and a new division led to the Wolverines losing at a rate they weren't use to. Eckstein kept things together and when her team got healthy it went on to win the PSAL Class A title.

All-Bronx Girls Soccer First Team

D Carly Amon Horace Mann

The senior missed time with a neck injury, but thrived along with her defense in the playoffs. She strength and speed made her tough to shake.

M Zoe Clark Riverdale

The Cal-bound senior is on of the city's most skilled players. Clark can



Horace Mann's Sarah Heintz the All-Bronx Girls Soccer Player of the Year.

dictate play at midfield all by herself and score in the blink of an eye.

F Madeline Giannini Preston

The speedy sophomore is one of the main reasons for Preston's turn around. Giannini can score goals in bunches and makes players around her better.

F Amaris Hemmings Riverdale

Hemmings showed she is going to be a force for years to come. The lightning-quick sophomore was the Falcons top scorer and a headache for defenses.

M Hanna Kaeser Fieldston

There aren't many things Kaeser can do on the soccer field. The junior is a prolific scorer, who developed into a dominant force at midfield.

M Isabella Pecorari Bronx Science

The junior missed time early because of injury. When she returned her physical style allowed her to dictate play at midfield and ignite the Wolverines offense.

GK Anna Karavangelas Bronx Science

The senior matured into a top-level keeper. Karavangelas made six saves in the Wolverines championship game win over Beacon.

F Nasya Sandy Cardinal Spellman

Sandy is one of the city's most underrated players. She moved from midfield to forward and replaced the graduated Taylor Addison as the team's top scorer.

D Elizabeth Schaefer Bronx Science

The senior was a beacon of strength and leadership during a difficult season. Her efforts were rewarded with the second city title of her career.

F Summer Sofer Riverdale

Sofer didn't have the statistical season she was use as RKA moved to a new division. The junior drew the attention of defenses and kept her team competitive.

F Sydney Watson Horace Mann

The freshman has a bright future ahead of her. Her speed and skill made her a tough cover on for defense. She could strike from anywhere on the field.

Honorable Mention

M Lillian Barreto Truman

F Chloe Chasanoff Fieldston

D Emily Dan Riverdale

F Danae Dookhie Cardinal Spellman

M Danielle Kibler Preston

F/M Dalia Martin Truman

F Sydney Rodriguez DeWitt Clinton

GK Christina Sasson Preston

M Alexandra Scheman Bronx Science

M Mandy Tario Christopher Columbus

D Rachel Trebach Horace Mann

Pipe Dreams: Swish; That's cold; National Hockey League update

from Page 55

(Orlando Sentinel) wants Tim Tebow to sign with the Jaguars. "It's puzzling and bumfuzzling to me why other young quarterbacks are drafted into the NFL and are given two and three years to develop, learn from their mistakes and go through the process of becoming a pro quarterback. Not Tebow. Nobody has ever given this kid a chance to grow and progress into an NFL quarterback. Never, ever.

Why it is that guys like Brandon Weeden, Christian Ponder, Blaine Gabbert, Josh Freeman, Jake Locker, etc., etc. get opportunity after opportunity to fall on their face, but Tebow — one of the greatest players in college football history is on the verge of being drummed out of the NFL?

Not one time has any pro team ever committed to Tebow. Not once. Last year, the Broncos finally bowed to public pressure, threw him

into the starting lineup for half-a-season and watched him lead the team into the postseason and to a playoff victory over the Pittsburgh Steelers. And that was it. Denver acquired Peyton Manning and traded Tebow to the Jets, where he rotted on the bench this season while watching two lesser quarterbacks play ahead of him.

Memo to the Jaguars: Peyton Manning ain't coming to Jacksonville.

When you've got nothing, you've got nothing to lose.

Bring Tim Tebow back home where he belongs.

I've said it once and I'll say it again: If you have a once-in-a-lifetime freak athlete like Tebow -- a big, bullishly strong man who can run the ball, take a pounding and throw when necessary -- why not draft him, build a system around him and let him do his thing? Especially when his thing involves being the ultimate

leader, winner, role model and rock star?

Swish

Steve Swisher scored a 4-yr, \$56mil deal, with the Indians, along with an easily reached mark governing a 5th year option. Swisher had been a good fit with NY, during the regular season, but not for \$14mil/year.

That's Cold

Dwight Perry (Seattle Times) quoted this headline from SportsPickle.com, "Gary Bettman fires NHL Network president over drop in TV ratings."

Bowl Game Swag Bag

"The MAACO Bowl Las Vegas has this year's best swag among the 35 bowls, according to the L.A. Times' rankings," Dwight Perry (Seattle Times) wrote. "Washington and Boise State players got to choose a combination of gifts — including a 24-inch flat-screen TV, iPod Touch, a Blu-ray player or Nintendo Wii — totaling up to \$550 from a list of 43 items."

Dwight Just Wondered

Dwight Perry (Seattle Times) asked, "Why is there a University of Phoenix Stadium, but no University of Phoenix football team?"

NHL Update

John Feinstein (DC Post) has been following NHL Owners-NHLPA negotiations and wrote that, "Since Gary Bettman became commissioner almost 20 years ago, the league has had three lockouts. The word "lockout" is important: It is never the players insisting they can no longer survive under the existing terms of the collective bargaining agreement; it is always the owners.

Bettman and hockey's owners clearly don't believe in compromise. To them, compromise means the players accept exactly what they are offered without negotiating and thank them for allowing them to share the same room.

That may sound harsh, but it is almost literally true.

During one bargaining session, the owners made a proposal, and when the players responded by making counteroffers on three of the points in the proposal, the owners and their representatives got up and walked out of the meeting.

In fact, when NHL Players Association Executive Director Donald Fehr said a couple of weeks ago that he believed the players and owners were close to making a deal, Bettman was apoplectic, making it clear that they were not close to a deal and how dare Fehr imply such a thing.

Without getting too technical, here's what that is about: The union voted last week to authorize its board to file a "disclaimer of interest." This is a legal shortcut to decertifying. It would allow the players, because they would no longer be a union at that point, to file an antitrust lawsuit against the owners. That's the last thing the owners

want. In 1995, when baseball owners tried to field non-union teams, the baseball union — led by Fehr — took the owners to federal court and won, ending the strike.

That was a different case than this because baseball owners were trying to unilaterally end free agency and arbitration. But if a court were to find the hockey owners have not bargained in good faith, it could order the lockout ended."

Our Kind Of 2012 Stories

Tom Jones of the Tampa Bay Times has listed stories that may create a few year-ending smiles, especially if you love the comic misfortunes of others. Jerry Greene (Orlando Sentinel) said that this is one of his favorite Sports Stories of 2012 "My favorite is the hunter that tried to kill a mouse with the butt of his rifle and shot himself in the head. No, not dead but everybody knows he lost to a mouse."



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Operation Kathy's Kids and YMCA bring joy during holidays

Bronx-ManhattanNorth Association of Realtors and the Bronx and Staten Island YMCAs are worked together to bring joy during the holiday season to families living in the Bronx and Staten Island affected by Super Storm Sandy.

Each year, members and friends attending BMAR's holiday party donate new unwrapped toys for underprivileged children.

According to Richard Guarino, 2013 BMAR president, ERG Property Advisors, "Donating Christmas and Chanukah gifts are a good way of making the spirit of the holiday season memorable to children less fortunate than our own, especially this year."

For this holiday season Kathy Zamechansky, 2013 BMAR president-elect, KZA Realty Group, Inc. stated "There is no place like home" and suggested that all toys collected or bought should go to the families in the Bronx and Staten Island. Her suggestion led to the launching of "Operation Kathy's Kids."

BMAR's holiday party on December 5, was a smash and hundreds of toys were

dropped off by the guests attending the biggest holiday party in town. Many of the guests also donated money to be used to purchase additional toys.

**Donating
Christmas and
Chanukah gifts
are a good way
of making the
spirit of the
holiday season
memorable to
children less
fortunate than
our own.**

Richard Guarino

Ray Negron, author of Yankee Miracle stated, "I came to hit a grand slam for Operation Kathy's Kids." Ray signed many copies of his book and a portion of each sale will go to Operation

Kathy's Kids.

On Friday, December 22, 12 affected families living in Staten Island each received a \$100 gift card and some toys. The families were all thankful for the generosity and kindness they have received during the holiday season.

On December 25, seven affected families in the Bronx received a home visit from Operation Kathy's Kids.

According to Eliezer Rodriguez, Esq., executive officer for BMAR, "We are sharing the true meaning of Christmas by bringing joy and helping our neighbors."

The executive director for the Bronx YMCA, Sharlene Brown stated, "With each home visit, I am thankful for being able to spread the spirit of the Holiday Season and for standing behind our motto--'The Y is here for good.'" The Rodriguez Family, Mrs. Fiordaliza Rodriguez and her two boys, Miguel, age 10, and Cristian, age 8, went along on the sleigh ride to help Eliezer and Sharlene bring joy to their neighbors.

Miguel and Cristian said, "I hope we can help our neighbors every year. 'God bless us all, everyone.'"

Christmas tree recycling begins

BY BOB KAPPSTATTER

Thank you very much. That's the word from the city's Parks and Sanitation departments, who once again are dealing with folks more than ready to dump their needle-shedding Christmas trees.

The Sanitation department began its annual curbside tree collection and recycling program on Wednesday, Jan. 2, running through Saturday, Jan. 12.

And folks who just can't part with their trees 'til the bitter end, can bring them to drop-off centers and mulching sites after that.

Residents who'd rather avoid a living room floor covered in needles and dump them quickly curbside, should remove all tree stands, tinsel, lights, and ornaments - and NOT put their

trees in plastic bags - before they lug them curbside for removal.

Trees left curbside, said Sanit Commissioner John Doherty, will be collected, chipped, and made into compost, to eventually be spread around parks, ball fields and community gardens throughout the city.

Doherty said Sanit workers typically collect over 140,000 discarded Christmas trees every year for "tree-cycling".

"The Department is very pleased to offer this special recycling service. Providing collection and recycling options for residents is environmentally valuable and benefits our neighborhoods," said Doherty, noting that the mulch-minded can reuse their composted Christmas trees to fertilize

for the spring.

"Compost is a natural fertilizer and is an excellent soil enrichment that promotes the healthy growth of plants and grass," said Doherty.

Parks Commissioner Veronica White said that starting Jan. 9, folks that lug their trees - also stripped of decorations - to a chipping site and can "and return home with a bag of fresh fragrant mulch for your own garden."

The Parks & Recreation Department will be hosting Mulchfest 2013 on Saturday, Jan. 12 and Sunday, Jan. 13 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at drop off sites throughout the Bronx and rest of the city.

To find Bronx locations, visit www.nycgovparks.org/highlights/festivals/mulchfest.

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THE LATEST BRONX SPORTS SCORES

BY DR. WILLIAM WOLFSON
Injuries to Teeth
(Part 2)

What if I get my teeth knocked out? The upper front permanent teeth are the most common teeth to be completely knocked out. Children with forward-protruding front teeth that have not had orthodontic treatment to bring them into alignment are at increased risk.

Knocked out baby or primary teeth are usually not reimplanted in the mouth, since they will be naturally replaced by permanent teeth later. However, knocked out permanent teeth should be retrieved, kept moist, and placed back into their sockets (reimplanted) as soon as possible.

The most important variable affecting the success of reimplantation is the amount of time that the tooth is out of its socket. Teeth reimplanted within one hour of the accident frequently reattach to their teeth sockets.

The knocked out tooth is rinsed in clean water or milk, and placed back (reimplanted) into the socket from which it came.

This can be done by the patient or parent and then checked by the dentist. Care should be taken to handle the tooth only by its crown and not by its

root.

If the parent or patient is unsure about reimplanting the tooth, then the tooth should be stored in milk (if available) or in water and brought to the dentist as soon as possible.

Alternatively, in older children and adults who are calm, the tooth may be held within the cheeks inside of the mouth while traveling to the dental office.

After reimplanting the tooth into its original socket, the dentist can then splint this tooth to adjacent teeth for 2-8 weeks. Splinting helps to stabilize it while the bone around it heals.

During the splinting period, the patient eats soft foods, avoids biting on the splinted teeth, and brushes all the other teeth diligently to keep the mouth as clean as possible.

In adults, the reimplanted tooth should have a root canal procedure within 1-4 weeks.

On the other hand, reimplanted permanent teeth in children (where the tooth root has not yet completely formed) may not need a root canal procedure.

These teeth are observed for at least five years for symptoms of dying pulp, such as pain, discoloration, gum abscesses,

Dental Diary

or abscesses seen on an x-ray.

In most patients who have had tooth reimplantation, over-the-counter medications like acetaminophen (Tylenol) or ibuprofen (Advil) are sufficient for pain relief. Chlorhexidine (Peridex) mouth rinse may be prescribed to

prevent and control gum inflammation (gingivitis), since the splinted teeth cannot be brushed normally and the splint usually collects extra dental plaque and food debris.

Oral antibiotics and tetanus toxoid injections are considered for patients with accompanying significant soft tissue cuts (lacerations).

What is a displaced tooth?

Instead of being completely knocked out of the mouth, a tooth can

be displaced. A displaced tooth may be pulled out and appear elongated, or be pushed in and appear shorter.

A displaced tooth can also be pushed forward, backward, sideways, or rotated. While not an emergency, the sooner the dentist can splint or realign the tooth with orthodontic brackets and wires, the easier it can be brought back into proper alignment.

Trauma significant enough to cause tooth dis-

placement can also lead to pulp injury. Therefore, a displaced tooth should be evaluated periodically for several months to determine if a root canal procedure or tooth extraction is needed.

(To be continued next week: Prevention)

Dr. William Wolfson is the director of Morris Park Dental Associates, located at 960 Morris Park Ave. Call 718-377-6453 for more info.

Fordham-Tremont Mental Health Center to distribute donated items

Clean and gently used coats, toys, books and canned goods that have been donated to the Fordham-Tremont Community Mental Health Center will be distributed to members of the community in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Day on Tuesday, January 15 (in the lobby at 2021 Grand Concourse in the Bronx) from 9:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

This is the fourth year the drive is being held, and goods have been collected since August by Fordham-Tremont, the behavioral health arm of St. Barnabas Hospital.

"In the past, we've seen the relief and joy in the eyes of mothers who have braved the winter without

overcoats for themselves or their young children get to leave with nearly brand new coats," said Martha Sullivan, executive director of Fordham-Tremont. "We feel privileged to support the people of this Bronx community."

Fordham-Tremont CMHC is a multicultural, community-based organization committed to improving mental health and overall quality of life for the diverse residents of the Bronx. In partnership with the community, Fordham-Tremont CMHC promotes individual and family well-being and social justice through innovative, holistic practices that enhance recovery.

Dr. Amy Lustbader

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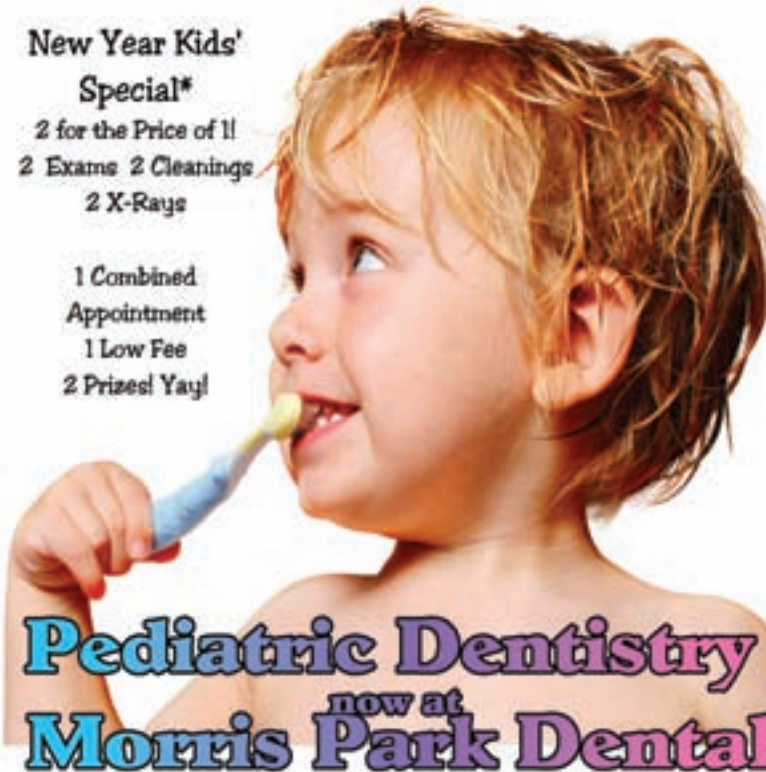
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