

TRUMP GOLF LINKS DEBUTS

18-hole course at Ferry Point officially opens

BY STEVEN GOODSTEIN

After almost 15 years of planning and development, Trump Golf Links at Ferry Point is officially open for golf.

On Tuesday, May 26, Donald J. Trump, chairman and president of the Trump Organization, and special guest Jack Nicklaus officially opened Trump Golf Links at Ferry Point, which is being considered by many as the most anticipated new golf course in the county.

Nicklaus, winner of 18 major championships as well as the 2014 Architect of the Year by Golf Magazine, was chosen as the course designer for the 18-hole Jack Nicklaus Signature Golf Course. The course

was also designed in consultation with Sanford Design.

During the grand opening ceremony, Borough President Ruben Diaz, Jr. and Assemblymen Michael Benedetto and Councilman James Vacca each spoke on the completion of the long-awaited golf course, each thanking Trump and Nicklaus for betting on and believing in the Bronx.

After their short speeches, Trump spoke on the success of the course's completion amidst the initial delays of the project.

"I am honored to have played such a major role with respect to this great course for the people of New York City and finally finished what many could not in a very short

period of time," said Trump, who was accompanied at the grand opening by family members Donald Jr., Ivanka and Eric Trump, executive vice presidents of development and acquisitions for Trump Golf Links at Ferry point.

"Trump Golf Links at Ferry Point is truly an incredible course that will undoubtedly host many major championships in the years to come."

The golf course itself, located at 500 Hutchinson River Parkway, offers New York City residents a championship caliber, luxury resort experience unlike anything else, allowing for private and public venues on the tournament-ready course.

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25 Bronx Influential Women honors

BY JAIME WILLIAMS

The Bronx Times Reporter is proud to present this year's class of 25 Bronx Influential Women.

Each year, the newspaper honors a group of extraordinary women who work hard to make the Bronx a better place.

The newspaper's tradition was started in 2010 by Bronx Times co-founder and current editor John Collazzi, along with publisher Laura Guerriero.

When deciding who to honor, the primary qualification is that the women go above and beyond their job

description to affect change in the borough, said Guerriero.

The women that are chosen are leaders and role models, and they deserve to be celebrated for the work they do.

Guerriero said the way they each give back to the community inspires her.

"People like this are what make the Bronx a special place," she said.

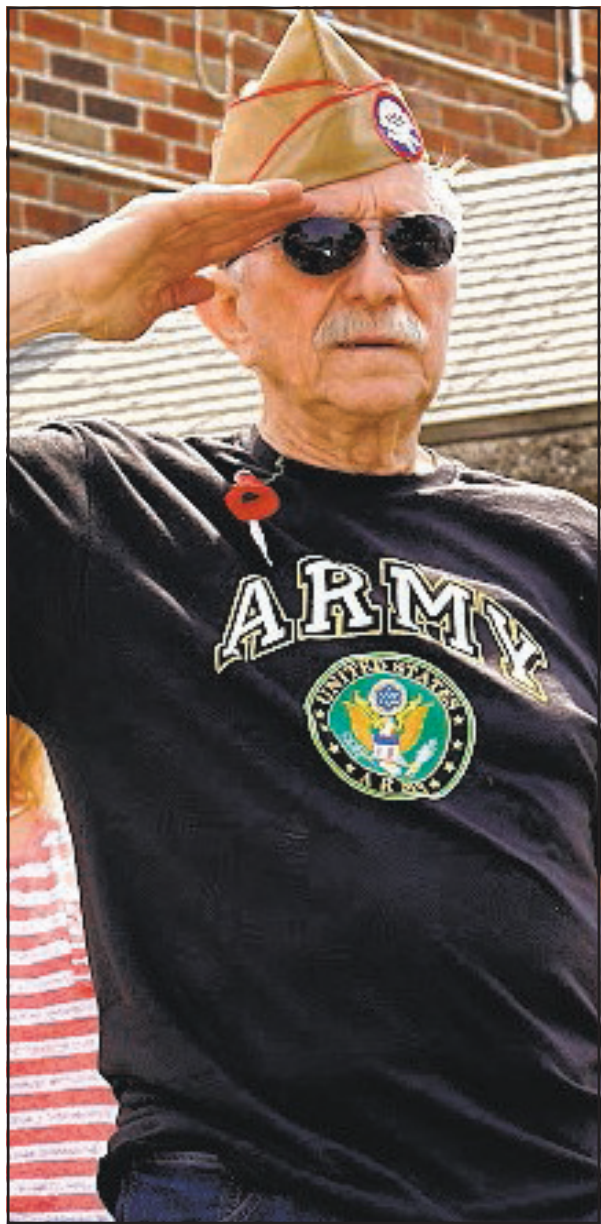
The influential women are chosen by the annual planning committee, made up of Rosemary DeLuca of the Wildlife Conservation Society, Elizabeth Figueroa

of the The New York Botanical Garden, Geri Sciortino of Bronx Design Group, Lisa Sorin of the Westchester Square Business Improvement District, and Anna Vincenty, retired community liaison of the Office of Congressman Jose Serrano.

This year's group of influential women include doctors, educators, judges and community activists, among others.

Their experiences vary greatly, but they are united in their commitment to improving the community of

Continued on Page 51



A Memorial Day Salute

Korean War veteran George Archambault salutes during the national anthem at Edgewater Park's ceremony to commemorate Memorial Day on Sunday, May 24. For more photos from Memorial Day weekend, see pages 30, 34, 38, and 40. Photo by Laura Stone

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CB 10 squashes Tremont Ave.'s road-diet

BY PATRICK ROCCHIO

Community Board 10 scuttled a controversial plan, after intense community opposition, calling for narrowing the roadway on East Tremont Avenue in Waterbury-LaSalle.

Leaders in the business and residential communities, and parents at nearby P.S. 14, appealed to CB 10's full board to oppose the plan that would have seen travel lanes reduced from 4 to 3 on East Tremont Avenue from roughly Waterbury Avenue to Bruckner Boulevard to promote pedestrian safety. One of the travel lanes would have been a designated turn lane.

The city Department of Transportation idea ran into fierce opposition from the Throggs Neck Merchants Association, which organized community opposition from the Pelham Bay Taxpayers, Pelham Bay Merchants, Throggs Neck Home Owners Association and the Waterbury LaSalle Community Association, which showed up in masse at the CB 10 meeting on Thursday, May 21.

The suggested changes was part of the Vision Zero initiative.

The proposal, one of four for traffic calming on East Tremont Avenue, was not supported, by a 29 to 3 vote, with one abstention.

"The community's voice was heard, it held sway, and they got the "no" vote



John Cerini (c, standing) speaks on the East Tremont Avenue traffic plan at Community Board 10's full board meeting on Thursday, May 21.

Community News Group / Photo by Patrick Rocchio

they were looking for," said CB 10 chairman Martin Prince, who added that talking about reducing or slowing the amount of traffic is a difficult subject.

The board encountered opposition from all corners of the board, including P.S. 14, whose parents were concerned that the plan would lead to increased traffic on Logan and Crosby avenues just when the school was about to start an expansion.

Gianna Dell'olio, part of the P.S. 14's School Leadership Team, said at

the meeting that a crucial intersection near the school, where Logan Avenue reaches Bruckner Boulevard, is already backed up with traffic.

If more traffic was to be diverted from East Tremont Avenue because traffic was not flowing well, then the side streets would be impacted, she implied.

TNMA board member John Cerini, who organized opposition to the plan, brought together interested parties to fight the proposal.

"I definitely agree we need to do

something to control the speeding," said Cerini, but added: "I am sure that if we put our heads together between the merchants association, homeowners association, and the schools, we can do something to reduce the speed."

Cerini said that after the April full-board meeting, it seemed like the so-called 'road diet' proposal was not moving forward, but then he learned at a Tuesday, May 12 CB 10 Municipal Services Committee meeting that it was.

Cerini said he was gratified by the final vote.

"I applaud CB 10 for doing the right thing," said Cerini.

Prince said that the board could have been better informed about the community's feelings about the proposal, but he also said that CB 10 has a responsibility to look at all sides.

For its part, through a spokesman, DOT stated that it would be happy to abide with the CB 10 decision.

Also not supported by CB 10 was an idea to make the Hutchinson River Parkway service road between East Tremont and Westchester avenues one way, and the narrowing of East Tremont Avenue at Whitmore Avenue.

Approved by CB 10 was the installation of a concrete island at Ericson Place and East Tremont Avenue.



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Graduation!

Congratulations to Gina Marie Klein on her graduation from Iona College in New Rochelle, NY. Gina graduated Summa Cum Laude with a major in Criminal Justice and minor in Homeland Security Assessment.

We are very proud of her achievements. Mom, Dad, Nana, her brother Jonathan and his family.

Tasty Ladies Honor Cabo

East Bronx-based food blog tastyladiesny.com honored Cabo's restaurant for getting the Tasty Ladies Hot Chili Award 'Best Cinco De Mayo Party 2015.'

The award was presented to Cabo manager Lina Amon

by Tasty Ladies' Therese Cajocar. She and Bailey Provetto are creators of the Tasty Ladies food and restaurant blog.

Cabo features classic and modern Mexican cuisine at 3761 E. Tremont Avenue in Throggs Neck.



Amon (l) and Cajocar when the award was presented.

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Cary Leeds tennis center to open in June

BY JAIME WILLIAMS

A world-class tennis center is set to open in the Bronx next month.

New York Junior Tennis & Learning will celebrate the opening of the Cary Leeds Center for Tennis & Learning in Crotona Park on June 15.

When it opens, the multi-use 12,000-square foot, two-story clubhouse will contain classrooms, a youth lounge and fitness center, and a technology learning lab that will facilitate NYJTL's educational initiatives, as well as a fully-functional tennis club with locker rooms and a pro shop.

The center's 20 tennis courts, 10 of which will be covered for weather, plus two to be built with stadium seating, will host more than 6,000 hours per year of free tennis for New York City youth, in addition to numerous tournaments.

The Crotona Park courts have been home to one of NYJTL's existing community tennis programs, which offers free tennis instruction to thousands of kids across the city, for more than 20 years.

The organization also already provides academic programming at dozens of sites across the city, including 15 schools in the Bronx, five of which are within walking distance of the tennis center.

The ties to the neighborhood made Crotona Park the obvious place for the Cary Leeds center, said NYJTL CEO Deborah Antoine.

"This is an old home for us," she said.

NYJTL's mix of tennis and academic programming uses sports as a vehicle for learning life skills, said Antoine.

Tennis helps the kids learn about persistence, winning and losing, and other important lessons which ultimately help them succeed in school and other areas.

"It's all about developing character," said Antoine.

NYJTL's programming attracts parents because of the emphasis on learning and the nurturing environment,



A rendering of the new Cary Leeds Center for Tennis and Learning in Crotona Park, designed and built by GLUCK+. The first phase of the center, including the clubhouse, will open June 15.

Courtesy of GLUCK+



New York Junior Tennis and Learning director of education Jessica Bailey and CEO Deborah Antoine on the tennis courts at the new Cary Leeds Center for Tennis and Learning in Crotona Park.

Community News Group / Jaime Williams

she said, and the families' love of tennis comes later.

"It's contagious," said Antoine.

The organization wants the center to be a place that hosts model programs, such as Breakthrough New York, which coaches high-ability, low-income middle schools students all the way through the college admissions process. Their third location will be based at the clubhouse.

Other partners include the Tennis Channel, which has provided film equipment to teach the kids about broadcast and media, and the Women Sports Foundation.

"It's so much more than a tennis club," said Antoine about the center.

But the tennis club, the revenue from which will support the non-profit, is filled with reminders of the sport's legends.

The clubhouse itself is named after sports icon and social justice pioneer Billie Jean King, who supported the project.

"New York Junior Tennis and Learning's new Cary Leeds Center is rooted in a great cause, promoting the love of tennis and healthy exercise in one of the most impoverished neighborhoods in our country," said King. "NYJTL strives to build champions on and off the court, and I fully expect this new venue to not only foster a deep appreciation of tennis and education in this community but to make a difference in the lives of so many."

The modern clubhouse was designed and built by Gluck+, which aimed to create a building that was both unobtrusive in the park—one of its two stories is below ground—yet sculptural in nature, said Peter Gluck.

But above all, the function of the center drove the design, which will offer multiple viewing points of the two stadium style tennis courts that will open in 2016.

"It's a wonderful celebration of tennis," said Gluck about the project.

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The intersection of East 188th Street and Bathgate Avenue has once again raised safety concerns after a crossing guard was struck here three weeks ago.

Photo by Walter Pofeldt

Accident prone intersection causes traffic safety concerns

BY ROBERT WIRSING

Safety concerns for a accident prone intersection have resurfaced after a recent incident put a crossing guard in the hospital.

On Friday, May 15, the crossing guard was struck by a car outside of Our Lady of Mount Carmel School at around 8:20 a.m. as students were arriving for class.

"In an unfortunate incident this morning, school crossing guard Jenny Arias was struck by a car at the intersection of East 188th Street and Bathgate in Belmont. She is in great pain, but in stable condition and much appreciation goes to Local 372 for monitoring her progress. My staff and I send our thoughts and prayers to Jenny and her family and wish her a speedy recovery," Councilman Ritchie Torres said.

In years prior, parents and school faculty have petitioned the New York City Department of Transportation to have either an all-way stop sign or traffic light installed at this intersection, however their request were denied by the DOT's traffic study.

The area's present signage and faded crosswalk paint is deemed insufficient by community members and local elected officials in enforcing traffic laws and safeguarding pedestrians and students as they cross the street.

"I share the frustrations of the Mount Carmel school community in advocating for preventive traffic measures. For the past four years, Mount Carmel has reached out to the city's Department of Transportation to get traffic calming measures implemented at that dangerous intersection," Torres expressed. "They've requested speed bumps, stop signs, and lane markings to no avail. While DOT has made the reduction of traffic related fatalities a priority through Vision Zero, in this case instead of implementing the measures it prolonged the process by re-

questing a study to be conducted first. Our children and community members deserve an immediate solution not more red tape and excuses from city agencies."

"Now is the time to take action. I will convene a meeting between DOT, school leaders and community members to discuss what traffic calming measures can be implemented. I'll also work with my colleagues in the City Council to introduce legislation to require DOT to install traffic calming measures in front of schools. We cannot wait for another school crossing guard or one of our children to be hurt to demand change," he added.

According to the NYPD's Motor Vehicle Collision Data Report for April 2015, a collision occurred at this intersection involving two individuals, one driving a sports utility / station wagon vehicle and another driving a vehicle labeled "unknown," however no injuries were reported in that particular incident.

On Friday, May 15, Senator Jeff Klein wrote to NYCDOT Commissioner Constance Moran on behalf of the school urging her to reevaluate this intersection following the morning's incident.

"It's clear that something needs to be done to improve traffic safety at the intersection of East 188th Street and Bathgate Avenue," Senator Klein stated. will benefit all residents. "

According to a NYCDOT spokesperson, the department is currently re-evaluating the feasibility of an all-way stop sign for the intersection and is looking into installing a speed bump on East 188th Street between Washington and Bathgate avenues.

NYCDOT will refurbish the street markings as well as check the area's school crossing and school zone signs to evaluate if additional signage is required.

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POLICE BLOTTER

40th PCT.

Tuesday, May 19, 9:30 a.m. — A 30-year-old man was arrested for an attempted rape. The suspect followed the victim, a 26 year-old female, into her building located in the vicinity of Wales Avenue and East 151st Street and grabbed her by the neck and demanded that she remove her pants. The victim did not comply and the suspect fled the location.

43rd PCT.

Friday, May 15, 7:00 a.m. — Police are searching for a suspect who exposed himself to a 12-year-old girl at the corner of Story and Bronx River avenues before fleeing in a red 2015 Chrysler 200.

Sunday, May 17, 10:49 p.m. — Police reported a shooting at Noble Avenue and the Cross Bronx Expressway. A 25-year-old male was shot twice in the leg.

44th PCT.

Friday, May 22, 8:30 a.m. — Police responded to a call of a person shot at 1174 Sheridan Avenue, and pronounced the victim

deceased on scene. Two suspects fled southbound on Sheridan Avenue.

45th PCT.

Saturday, May 16, 5:15 p.m. — Police are searching for a suspect wanted for leaving the scene of an accident with injuries. A gray Mazda CX-9, traveling southbound on Logan Avenue toward Dewey Avenue, struck a 12-year-old male pedestrian who was running on the street opposite 518 Logan Avenue. The male operator of the vehicle initially stopped and checked on the victim, but then left the scene without reporting the incident.

46th PCT.

Friday, May 22, 1:24 a.m. — Police reported a person shot at 461 E. Fordham Road.. The perpetrator fled on foot. Security reported a gray colored sedan was involved.

52nd PCT.

Wednesday, May 20, 9:44 a.m. — Police responded to a call of a male shot outside of E. 193rd Street and Creston Avenue. The 20-year-old male was pronounced deceased.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 million dead trees

Dear editor,

Hey Mr. Bloomberg, how's your one million trees campaign working?

Well in my neighborhood, only one out of five trees is blooming. So what is going to happen to the dead trees? Are they just going to stay there as street decorations?

This program was a bad idea, especially for the homeowners, who were not asked if they wanted a tree in front of their property.

Mary Caggiano

Justice for 9-11?

Dear editor,

For many years, Khalid Sheik Mohamed (KSM), of Al Qaeda, was held up as the 'mastermind' of the terrorist attack of September 11th, 2001. This was on the basis of a 'confession' extracted from him after years of torture in Guantanamo and elsewhere.

Then, on January 21, 2010, a military court dismissed all charges against KSM, absolving Al Qaeda of any responsibility for this attack.

This also reflected the judgment of the Nine-Eleven Truth Community (NETC). This is a group now numbering in the tens of thousands, confirmed patriots, and trained professionals from several areas of expertise. They have persistently given detailed explanations

of how this event had to have been a false flag operation.

The prohibition against double jeopardy appears not to apply to noncitizens, and extreme right-wing holdovers from the Bush 43 administration managed to finagle a new military trial for KSM, this time to be held at Guantanamo, and this time guaranteed to be held in secret. This, against the specific concerns of the President, and the attorney general.

Yet, none of this is discussed in any of the news media. Do Americans no longer care about justice?

Dr. Aaron Corbet

Wrong plan

Dear editor,

By now the community has heard the news, the NYC D.O.T. East Tremont Avenue 'road diet plan' was voted down. For those who are unaware of the road diet plan, the proposal was to reduce travel lanes on East Tremont Avenue between Waterbury and Baisley avenues from two lanes each way to only one lane in each direction.

I am proud to say that we at the Throggs Neck Merchant Association came together with the rest of the community to fight this proposal. Community Board 10 tabled the proposal at the April meeting of the Municipal Services Committee. We were told there would be no vote in May, but instead it was taken to a vote and defeated by the nine mem-

ber committee on May 12.

I was glad I was able to attend that meeting and bring that news back to the community. In a short period of a few days our community unified to reverse the proposal at the full board meeting held on May 21st.

There were many concerns about the plan that would cause congestion to other areas such as Crosby and Logan avenues. These streets have schools such as P.S.14 and St Benedicts School where hundreds of children would be at risk due to higher traffic flow.

I am a lifelong resident and business owner in Throggs Neck. All my children attend the local schools. As you can imagine, as parent and home owner, I am also concerned about pedestrian safety. While we agree with the community board that we have to do something about the speeding that takes place in certain areas, the solution has to be better than congesting our neighborhood and shifting the danger onto residential areas.

I feel that we as a community can come up with better solutions to this problem. As I walked along East Tremont to have petitions signed against the proposal, I was given some great ideas by residents and business owners.

Some ideas were to add flashing lights as you approach the curve at Whitmore Avenue, speed bumps, additional traffic lights, a stop sign and crosswalk, rumble strips, additional speed limit signs

and speed cameras. Some also suggested having police officers stationed there for a period of time to warn speeders on the first offense and then ticket on the next offense.

Ultimately, while we need drivers to be more cautious, we also need to place additional responsibility on our pedestrians. Pedestrians need to be held accountable and follow the rules as well. In my lifetime I have been hit by two cars, one at seven years old because Iran into the street without looking both ways and one at 14 by a drunk driver.

I am one of the lucky ones who lived to tell my story. I learned to be more cautious today because I know how it feels to be hit by a car. However we cannot let fear allow us to make changes that we will regret later.

We at the Throggs Neck Merchants welcome the opportunity to work with CB 10 and NYC D.O.T to come up with acceptable alternatives that may solve the problem at hand. Again I would like to thank all of those who came out to help get the proposal voted down. A special thanks to all Throggs Neck Merchants, Throggs Neck Homeowners Association, Throggs Neck Volunteer Ambulance Corp, Waterbury LaSalle Association, Pelham Bay Merchants Association, Pelham Bay Taxpayers, St Benedicts Church, P.S.14 and John and Bailey Provetto.

John Cerini, treasurer
Throggs Neck Merchants
Association

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, 3604 E. Tremont Ave., Bronx, NY 10465, 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.

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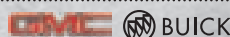
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TransitScreen introduces informed transit choices

BY STEVEN GOODSTEIN

A partnership was recently announced following the grand opening of a new supportive housing residence.

Last week, TransitScreen, a transportation software and digital signage company and pioneer in providing real-time transit information displays, announced their partnership with Volunteers of America and the Housing Collaborative following the ribbon-cutting ceremony of Creston Avenue Residence, 2388 Creston Avenue, which took place on Monday, May 18.

The residence, which was developed by Volunteers of America-New York and the House Collaborative, provides 66 affordable homes for high-need Medicaid clients, low-income families and disabled veterans, is also included with several amenities, including the first ever bilingual TransitScreen, a real-time, multimodal transit information display on a 42" television screen that will rotate between English

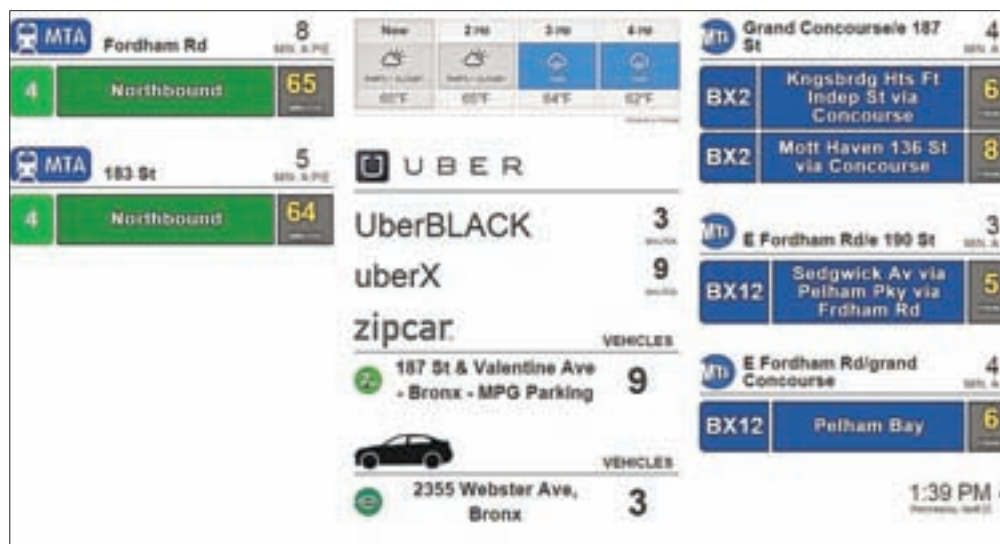
and Spanish in the lobby of the building.

The intention of this new installation is to help residents of the building make better, more informed transit choices, enabling them to navigate around the city more easily.

"It's been amazing to watch the Creston Avenue Residence come to fruition over the past two years, across numerous agencies balancing many stakeholders," said Jay Tedino, TransitScreen city manager in New York City and Philadelphia's metro areas. "Much credit is due, from Governor Cuomo to Tere Pettitt at Volunteers of America and to Robert Sanford at the Housing Collaborative."

"This is a win-for-all project and the nation's first bilingual TransitScreen will have a meaningful impact in the daily lives of all involved."

TransitScreen, a Washington D.C. and San Francisco-based transportation technology company promoting sustainable urban mobility through access to real



A screenshot of the transit information display.

Photo courtesy of TransitScreen

time information, boasts live displays in 18 cities across North America.

"Creating affordable, supportive housing like the Creston Avenue Residence allows Volunteers of America to fulfill its mission to help individuals and families in need create positive and lasting change by offering them the support they need and by empowering

them to live safe, healthy and productive lives," said Pettitt, president and CEO of the Volunteers of America-Greater New York.

"We're delighted to partner with TransitScreen to provide residents, as well as staff and visitors, with an additional, valuable service."

"The TransitScreen display is clearly a win for the Creston Avenue Residence

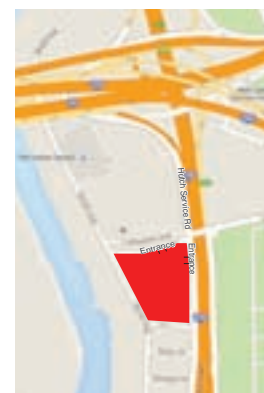
tenants and is one of the most popular features of the building," said Robert Sanford, principal of the Housing Collaborative. "A big thank you to Jay Tedino and the whole TransitScreen team for working with us to provide what is now an essential service to the residents."



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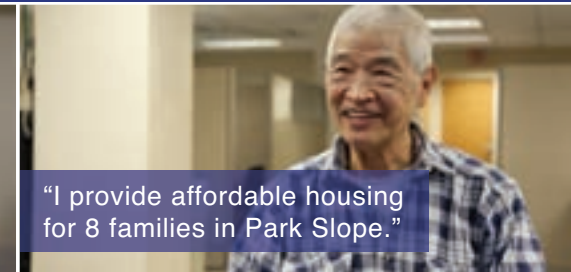
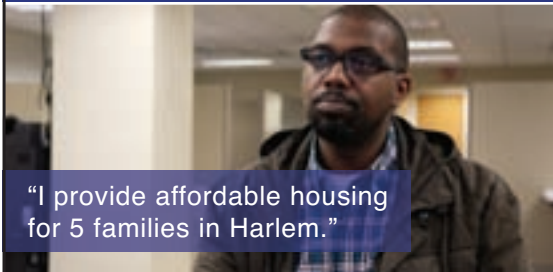
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DePierro send off at 49th Pct. Breakfast

BY PATRICK ROCCHIO

The 49th Precinct Community Council's 27th annual breakfast paid a rousing tribute to the men and women of the precinct, and a goodbye to a 20-year veteran community affairs cop.

Held on Friday, May 22 at Maestro's Caterers, this year's event featured awards for top cops and civilians working at the four-nine, as well as a heartfelt farewell to Community Affairs Detective Victor DePierro, who has been a 'bridge' between the community and many commanding officers over his career.

Joe Thompson, 49th Precinct Community Council president said that all of the communities in the precinct – from the Allerton Coops and Eastchester Gardens, to Morris Park and Pelham Parkway – were represented at the breakfast.

"I had a lot of fun, I think most people did, and I think we honored some great people," said Thompson, who added that what he likes most about the breakfast is a sense of comradery and a feeling like it is almost "a family gathering."

The Cop of the Year award went Joshua Marte, who made over 90 arrests in 2014, including a bribery arrest when a perpetrator allegedly offered him and his supervisor \$1,000 to let someone go.

Awards were presented for police administrative aide to Akeisha Neely, auxiliary police officer Omar Valencia, Explorer of the Year Kerryann Moreno, and a Business Fellowship Award to the catering hall that has hosted the event for years, Maestro's Caterers.

The Tom Twyman Citizen Award went to Ostacio Negrón Sr., who is a volunteer with the Morris Park Community Association's patrol since 1992. He has served as coordinator of the patrol, and before that volunteered for eight years on the Van Nest Community Association Patrol.

DePierro, who will be retiring in June, was described by elected officials as someone who was committed not only to the precinct where he works, but to the borough communities that he calls him, participating in graffiti cleanups in his free time and working as Community Board 10's recycling coordinator before joining the force.



(l-r) Joe Thompson, 49th Precinct Community Council president; Captain Timothy McCormack, commanding officer, 49th Precinct; Detective Victor DePierro with his award; Senator Jeff Klein; Assemblyman Mark Gjonaj; Senator Ruth Hassel-Thompson and Thomas Messina representing Congressman Joseph Crowley. Community News Group / Photo by Patrick Rocchio

clung coordinator before joining the force.

DePierro was given a standing ovation before making some appropriate remarks. He spoke about his parents and his desire to make them proud.

"I just remember (my par-

ents) saying 'make us proud of you,' said DePierro. "I just hope that my parents are up there looking down, and that I have made them proud over 20 years."

The detective said that he was blessed to have been part of such a spectacular team at

the precinct, and said he was happy to remain at the precinct for his entire career.

He said he worked to find niches performing different tasks around the precinct. He has been everything from beat cop to a leader in success of the precinct's National Night Out event, with a yearly attendance in the precinct of 4,000 people.

At the end of his remarks, DePierro said he would not say "goodbye", but rather, "see you around" because he remains a part of the community.

Among the dignitaries present were officials Senator Ruth Hassel-Thompson, Senator Jeff Klein, Senator Gustavo Rivera, Assemblyman Mark Gjonaj, Councilman Ritchie Torres, Councilman James Vacca, and Community Board 11 district manager Jeremy Warneke.

Thompson wishes to thank the larger donors to the breakfast, including Maestro's Caterers in Morris Park, the Bronx Chamber of Commerce, Joseph Kelleher, Simone Development, Einstein, Calvary Hospital and Centerlight (Beth Abraham).

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Community celebrates up-zoned groundbreaking

BY PATRICK ROCCHIO

A groundbreaking just a few blocks from Yankee Stadium may have ushered in a new era of building for the area.

The new 17-story, 134-unit apartment residential building, with first- and second-floor retail space, was said to be the first to take advantage of a 2009 Department of City Planning rezoning of East 161 Street and River Avenue.

The rezoning paves the way for high-density residential and commercial development.

The project being developed on River Avenue between East 157th and 158th streets will include housing for very-low, low and middle income tenants, many 'green' elements and a 61-space garage.

Borough President Ruben Diaz, Jr. indicated that the project was a harbinger of things to come in the area, and said he was proud to provide \$1 million in capital funding.

"This is exactly what we are looking for," said Diaz of

the project, who added that it would set the tone for development in other nearby communities that had been rezoned in recent years.

The building at 810 River Avenue is financed under Mayor de Blasio's comprehensive affordable housing plan that plans to build or maintain 200,000 affordable units in ten years.

The project will include about 26,000 square-feet of commercial and community space.

"(The building at) 810 River Avenue demonstrates how a rezoning can be a catalyst for mixed-use, mixed-income residential redevelopment in transit-rich neighborhoods," said Vicki Been, Department of Housing Preservation and Development commissioner. Anthony Richardson represented the Housing Development Corporation at the groundbreaking.

It is being built by M. Melnick & Co. and Rockower Corporation, on the site of a brown-

field requiring environmental remediation. The block had been the location of a bowling alley for roughly 50 years.

"We thank the city for the opportunity to build a quality project," said Adam Melnick, M. Melnick & Co, vice-president. "This project will serve the neighborhood, Community Board 4, the Bronx and the city on the whole."

As part of the DCP September 2009 rezoning, the River Avenue area was rezoned from a manufacturing zone to a mixed-use zone to promote high-density commercial and residential development.

"This is the start of a transformation: the vertical redevelopment of the sites that had been rezoned in 2009," said Dennis Terry, East 161st Street BID chairman. He added that population growth left little choice but to capitalize on available space.

Eduardo Castell, a consultant on the project with lobbying firm MirRam Group, said



Breaking ground at 810 River Avenue on Thursday, May 21 are (l-r) Adam Melnick and Aaron Segal, Rockower Corporation and M. Melnick and Company; Anthony Richardson, vice president, Housing Development Corporation; Borough President Ruben Diaz, Jr.; Susan Kensky, assistant commissioner, Department of Housing Preservation and Development; Daniel Marks, vice president, Housing Partnership; Kathleen Saunders, chairwoman, Community Board 4 and Mildred Jones, first vice-chairwoman, CB 4.
Community News Group / Photo by Patrick Rocchio

that he believes the new building will provide quality housing that is affordable.

"We want to keep and draw our families and professionals here, and to have the people who already live here have quality and affordable housing," he said.

With a major part of CB 4 along Jerome Avenue north of the construction site being studied for rezoning, Jose Rodriguez, the district manager, said that he wants the com-

munity to be part of the process, helping city agencies develop best practices and have their voices heard on what they would like to see in their community.

As for 810 River Avenue, south of the area being considered for rezoning, the district manager had words of praise for the developers.

"We applaud their courage and investment in the community," said Rodriguez.



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World-renowned violinist performs at Celia Cruz

BY STEVEN GOODSTEIN

An award-winning violinist has proven that no stage is too big (or too small) for him to perform on.

On Thursday, May 21, world-renowned Russian-American violinist Alexander Markov performed free of charge for students at Celia Cruz Bronx High School of Music.

Markov's performance, which took place inside the orchestra classroom, included a mixture of classical and rock music.

During the performance, Alexander used both a traditional violin as well as a gold-plated electric violin.

In the beginning, Markov started by using his traditional violin to play various classical pieces.

After performing a few classical pieces, Markov caught the eyes of each and every student in the classroom when he pulled out his custom-made, gold-plated electric

violin, somewhat of an instrument-hybrid between a violin and an electric guitar.

During this portion of the performance, Markov turned up the energy in the classroom and played various rock ballads.

He even turned off the lights to show his shining red bow, which resembled Darth Vader's red lightsaber, and perform a cover of the Star-Spangled Banner for the students.

Markov, who was born in Moscow, Russia, grew up studying violin with his father, Albert, who was also a concert violinist, and with whom he still performs today.

By the time Markov turned eight years old, he was already appearing as a soloist with orchestras and in double concertos with his father.

Alexander later emigrated to the United States with his parents, receiving his U.S. citizenship in 1982.

After making his New York

recital debut at Carnegie Hall in 1983 at the age of 16, Markov was awarded a prestigious Avery Fisher Career Grand in 1987.

He was also a Gold Medal winner at the Paganini International Violin Competition and has even performed in the Barclays Center during half-time of a Brooklyn Nets basketball game.

Despite the large crowds that he has played in front of, Markov has shown that whether he's performing at a venue in front of an audience of 20 or 20,000, his level of effort remains the same.

"I always give maximum effort during my performances, no matter the audience, the location or the venue, because having the same approach towards every performance will help me continue to make progress as an artist," said Markov, who performed at Celia Cruz Bronx High School of Music for the first time on Thursday.



Markov performs for the students using his traditional violin.

Community News Group / Steven Goodstein

"It's always fun to perform in front of an audience, but performing in front of a young audience with energy like this one (referring to the students) makes a great time even better."

Markov also had advice for aspiring musicians who are motivated to be successful in the music industry.

"Success comes from one magic word - perseverance, because having talent is not enough" said Markov. "The task of making it in the music business is a difficult but pleasant challenge, and if musicians stay optimistic and

patient as well as motivated, they will be successful in the long run.

Markov will once again perform at Carnegie Hall (Stern Auditorium/Perelman Stage, 881 Seventh Avenue at 57th Street) on Friday, June 5 at 8 p.m.

He will be joined by internationally-acclaimed conductor Matthew Savery, who is making his Carnegie Hall debut.

Tickets are priced from \$25 - \$120 and may be purchased by calling Carnegie Charge at (212) 247-7800 or online at www.carnegiehall.org



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NORWOOD NEWS



Soundview forms drug free coalition

BY JAIME WILLIAMS

A newly formed community group hopes they can make a difference in Soundview.

Local residents and representatives from community-based organizations came together on May 26 for the first meeting of the Soundview Community Drug Free Coalition.

The formation of the coalition was initiated by the Soundview Residents Council, which will apply to be part of the federal Drug-Free Communities Support Program, which provides grants to eligible coalitions of \$125,000 per year for five years, renewable for five more.

The program's mission is reducing the abuse of alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, prescription and other drugs among youth, grades 6 through 12.

A grant, if secured, would fund communication campaigns, workshops, and other efforts to address the culture of drugs in the community.

But in order to apply and receive a grant in 2016, the coalition must be established for six months with members

from 12 community sectors, meet regularly and develop a plan for the funding's use. The coalition also must identify matching funds for the grant, although in-kind donations can be included.

The mix of members must include representatives from the sectors of youth, parent, business, media, school, youth-serving organization, law enforcement, religious/fraternal organization, civic/volunteer group, healthcare professional, governmental agency with expertise in substance abuse and other organization involved in reducing substance abuse.

Participating organizations include Urban health Plan, Jobs Plus Goodwill, Leake and Watts, Odyssey House, Bronx Connect, Councilwoman Annabel Palma's office and NYPD PSA 8, among others. The Bronx Times Reporter is participating in the coalition as the media partner.

In order to be successful, coalition members need to learn about the various issues drug issues affecting youth, such as the use of new



Members of the Soundview Coalition for a Drug Free Community, including representatives from the Soundview Residents Council, the Odyssey House, Goodwill Jobs Plus, Leake and Watts, Bronx Connect, NYPD PSA 8 and the Bronx Times Reporter, among others.

Photo by Silvio Pacifico.

powdered alcohol or their access to relatives' prescription drugs, and then develop communication campaigns and workshops to address those issues, said coalition facilitator Dr. Jose Ramirez, who is guiding the group's process.

The goal is to support youth and provide them with guidance, while creating an unfriendly environment for drugs, said Ramirez, emphasizing that the coalition needs to be in it for the long haul.

"You can't beat this drum once and expect the problem to go away," said Ramirez.

Soundview Residents Council president Anne Johnson recognizes the challenges the coalition will face in its mission.

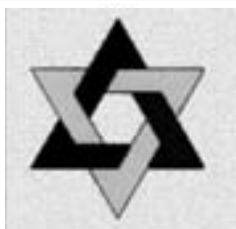
"I know we'll never get all the drugs out of the community, but hopefully we can get some," said Johnson. "We'll let them know we're not going to take it, we're not going to put up with it."

She hopes that as the coalition takes off, more local organizations, community residents, and neighboring housing projects will want to get involved.

Members of the Soundview Residents Council said they felt energized by the first meeting, seeing other organizations come together to address the issue.

"We feel like we're going to do something that matters," said Maxine Rice.

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Independent film shot in Mott Haven

BY ROBERT WIRSING

"Take a picture of my neighborhood and make something beautiful" is the mantra inspiring an independent film recently shot in the south Bronx.

Though it appears on the film's currency, this statement actually came from a resident happy to see a crew shooting this movie in his neighborhood.

Filed in Mott Haven, 'Inside Out/Outside In' is a dance film and live performance art piece created in collaboration by filmmaker Jennifer Klein and 277 Dance Project. Its cast consists of five dancers and one actor.

The independent film was shot inside a working Delbia Do Factory located at 2550 Park Avenue and was filmed around its hours of operation.

'Inside Out/Outside In' is best described as a visually stunning art piece occurring in a factory where each character has a specific role and face life from the inside-out and outside-in.

Initially, these people ap-

pear almost robotic and lack individuality, but reveal their true nature with clarity through symbolism and visual clues.

Filed in a unique grayish blue hue, 'Inside Out/Outside In' depicts the daily struggles workers face inhabiting this gloomy world devoid of dialogue.

"We altered the color temperature to achieve an artistic tone and as a stylistic choice," Klein expressed. "This is a very 'un-Hollywood movie' and what you will hear in it is actual sound bites taken from the block we filmed."

The film explores such powerful themes as social power, injustice, and self-perception, the latter which is considered the main motif.

Klein expressed a lifelong interest in filming and while living in England at age 16, she filmed Cornwall fishermen as part of a film project.

Her background includes experience in production design and film design and she has worked on several Broadway shows including 'Grand

Hotel', 'Anything Goes', and 'Waiting for Godot'.

Klein has film experience most notably shooting two documentaries following the 2010 Haitian earthquake and what doctors experience there everyday.

"I'm inspired by the places I've lived in and by the people I meet. They're a great source of inspiration and whenever you put yourself into another neighborhood, you really absorb a lot around you," she shared.

Founded in 2008, 277 Dance Project's mission is to create emotionally driven work and collaborates with theater artists, original music, and visual art to establish works evoking emotion, empathy, and deeper meaning.

"It was a great experience working with Jennifer and seeing how she transformed the neighborhood all around us into this magical world. It's a very abstract film serving as an art piece that is open to interpretation," Nicole Philip- pidi, 277 Dance Project choreographer and artistic director



'Inside Out/Outside In' is a visually stunning independent art piece filmed in Mott Haven.
Photo by Jennifer Klein

revealed.

The film's score was composed by Philippidis' brother Johnny Philips.

"The score is very industrial in its composition and stays true to the sounds of the environment of the factory," Philippidis explained.

Klein and Philippidis met last August to discuss the film's concept and recently finished a two-day shoot for the movie's main scenes.

Both described the experi-

ence as being great yet challenging given the amount of work needed to perfect this visual masterpiece and they hope people will be able to connect with the final product.

Currently in the editing phase, 'Inside Out/Outside In' is scheduled to premiere later this fall.

To view behind-the-scenes footage and updates for 'Inside Out/Outside In', visit www.277danceproject.com/#/current-project/cjwe.



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Pelham Bayite inducted into veterans HoF

BY ROBERT WIRSING

A Bronx veteran who served as a senior nurse advisor caring for American soldiers and Afghani civilians was recently awarded a certificate of recognition honoring her contributions to her nation and the medical field.

On Tuesday, May 19, Senator Jeff Klein honored Analiza Benjamin, Captain in the United States Navy Reserve Nurse Corps. and North Bronx Healthcare Network senior associate director for nursing administration at the 2015 Veterans Hall of Fame Celebration in Albany.

"For the distinguished men and women in uniform who have proudly served this country, the American people owe you a great debt of gratitude. I am proud to stand with my colleagues in government to honor and celebrate Analiza Benjamin who has served in the U.S. Navy Reserve for nearly 20 years," Senator Jeff Klein expressed.

"Analiza is an inspiration to us all, bravely fighting for the ideals, democracy and freedom we hold dear. I ap-

plaud Analiza for the tremendous sacrifices she has made over the years and it is with great pleasure that I stand here today to honor a true Bronxite and American hero," he added.

This American hero's resume includes enlisting into the U.S. Naval Reserve in 1997, the U.S. Navy Nurse Corp. in 2008, and the U.S. Navy Nurse Reserve in 2012 to pursue her dream of serving her nation as a nurse aiding her fellow soldiers in the line of fire with the medical treatment they require.

Benjamin, a Pelham Bay resident and mother of three, recently returned from active military duty in Kabul, Afghanistan where she served as a senior nurse advisor to the Afghanistan Army's National Military Hospital.

She began working there as a senior nurse mentor, a high ranking position bestowed due to her extensive medical and military experiences.

Serving as senior nurse corps officer, Benjamin worked as senior nurse advisor to the Afghanistan National Army's



Senator Klein with Veterans Hall of Fame inductee Analiza Benjamin.

Photo courtesy of Senator Jeff Klein's Office

Chief of Nursing.

During her 2012 deployment, she penned the first complete pharmacology reference manual for the hospital's nursing department while working with international military partners and health officials to educate and train all nursing staff at the 400-bed coordinated care facility.

Benjamin had this same medical manual translated

into Dari, the native Afghan language and conducted numerous training sessions and presentations regarding patient safety, quality patient care as well as attaining and self-sustaining a quality health care.

Further, Benjamin has worked with the U.S. Navy as well as other military branches and international military partners to better

train and educate Afghan residents on these issues.

In 2013, she was transferred to Operational Health Support Unit Portsmouth Detachment A, Navy Operational Support Center New York City with the rank of captain to ensure proper communication among clinical personnel and certain military liaison/personnel.

As the North Bronx Health Care Network's senior associate director of nursing administration, Benjamin oversees the operation and clinical staffing of the hospital to ensure both patient safety and satisfaction.

In addition, she is responsible for the development and implementation of the nursing department's policies and procedures.

Prior to her military service in Afghanistan, Benjamin engaged in humanitarian medical missions in Thailand and her native Philippines.

"As an immigrant to the United States, being inducted into the Veterans Hall of Fame means a great deal to me," Benjamin divulged.

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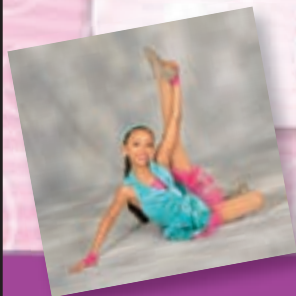


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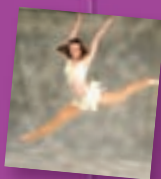
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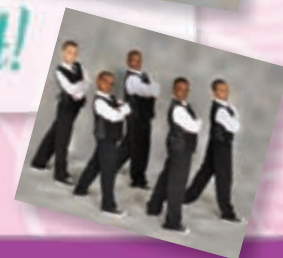
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Bronx beat

St. Barnabas Hospital names new Director of Neurological Surgery

St. Barnabas Hospital has named Dr. William Wirchansky to the position of Director of Neurological Surgery.

Dr. Wirchansky specializes in both cranial and spinal surgery. This includes treating injuries, disease and deformity of the brain and spine due to tumors, vascular disorders, trauma and various degenerative conditions.

Most recently the Associate Director of Neurological Surgery at the Lutheran Medical Center in Brooklyn, Dr. Wirchansky is a graduate of the NYU School of Medicine. He completed a seven-year residency in Neurological Surgery at the University of Maryland Medical Center in Baltimore.

Dr. Wirchansky returns to the Bronx, having earned a Bachelor's of Science degree in biochemistry from Manhattan College. While at Manhattan College, he was awarded a Howard Hughes research grant to study cyclic AMP signaling in astrocytes.

Dr. Wirchansky will see outpatients in the Ambulatory Care Center and at the Bronx Park Pavilion, in addition to providing inpatient consultations in the hospital and the St. Barnabas Rehabilitation and Continuing Care Center.

JASA Van Cortlandt Senior Center, 3880 Sedgwick Avenue, will host Deloitte Impact Day plus Irish folk music for older adults on Friday, June 5. The Gardening and art project will begin at 10:30 a.m., with lunch served at 12:15 p.m., and a folk concert at 1 p.m.

Deloitte and senior volunteers will plant a garden, create nature-themed art and assist with lunch.

Bob Lusk, accomplished Irish folk singer, will entertain volunteers and seniors after lunch. A picnic-style lunch of hamburgers or chicken or tuna salad will be served. 75 guests are expected to attend this cultural event.

Deloitte will sponsor the activities and meal served: meal and event free for senior participants. Non-seniors are welcome. Non-senior meal fee: \$6.15.

For further information call Sharon Wolfe at (718) 549-4700.

At the recent 34th annual Founders Corporate Dinner, The **New York Botanical Garden** saluted two generous funders—Google Inc. and the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation—for their support of NYBG's leading role in World Flora Online (WFO), a global project to create the definitive online scientific resource about plants.

NYBG Board member Sigourney Weaver presented the Garden's Founders Award to Eric Schmidt, Google's Executive Chairman, in appreciation of Google's major financial and technical support for the Garden's work on WFO.

A grant from the Sloan Foundation is not only funding the Garden's work

on WFO but will also be used to make WFO accessible through NYBG on the open-access Digital Public Library of America, a searchable portal of the full breadth of human knowledge and expression.

Research by the Garden's scientists, both in the field and on-site at NYBG's International Plant Science Center, is a major source of the WFO data, expected to be available to the public by 2020. The much-needed project is critical to biodiversity scientists, science educators, government policy makers, conservationists, and the world at large.

Montefiore Health System announced its support for the Coalition for Organ Distribution Equity (CODE), a national coalition with the mission of reducing geographic disparities in wait times for donated organs and the severity of patients' illnesses at the time of transplant. These disparities are responsible for more than 100 avoidable deaths every year.

The demand for transplantable organs in the United States has long outpaced the supply. More than 90,000 people are on the nation's organ transplant waiting list and about 10 percent of them are in New York State. While 7,000 people in our area are waiting for life-saving organs, last year, this area had only 261 donors. On average, 106 people are added to the nation's organ transplant waiting list each day -- one person in desperate need of a transplanted organ every 14 minutes.

Making matters worse, the nation's organ allocation system creates geographic disparities in access to organs: people living in some parts of the country, particularly New York, wait far longer and are sicker when they receive organs than those in other parts of the country. Consequently, hundreds of Americans needlessly die every year waiting for organs. By decreasing the number of regions used to determine organ allocation, discrepancies in wait times can be reduced and lives can be saved.

CODE strongly supports efforts by the Organ Procurement and Transplant Network (OPTN), under the authority of the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), to reform the methodology by which organs are distributed for transplant in the U.S. Last summer, the OPTN-designated United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS) Liver and Intestinal Organ Transplantation Committee issued a concept paper that outlined new organ distribution models. CODE is calling for a data-driven approach to determining a new methodology that will reduce geographic disparities and save lives.

The UNOS Liver Committee is convening on June 22 to discuss its progress and welcome public comment.

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GALLERY HOSTS PHOTOGRAPHER'S EXHIBIT

The Starving Artist Gallery hosted an art exhibit opening party on Saturday, May 23. The event was in honor of photographer Alfio Gangemi, whose photos were displayed in the gallery during the party.



Gangemi displays his artwork with (l-r) Monica and Elliot Glick, owners of the Starving Artist Gallery, Sarah Goode, Hannah Glick, Jenn Wings, Josh Glick, DeMonica Watson, Anton Douglas and Izzy Maria during the opening party.

Photo by Edwin Soto



(l-r) DeMonica Watson, Gangemi and Monica and Elliot Glick, owners of the Starving Artist Gallery, outside the gallery.

Photo by Edwin Soto

EDGEWATER PARK'S MEMORIAL CEREMONY

Edgewater Park commemorated Memorial Day with its annual ceremony at Memorial Circle on Sunday, May 24. Local residents and community organizations paraded through the complex before the ceremony.



Members of Korony Post #253 attended the ceremony

Photo by Laura Stone



Vietnam veteran Huey Finnegan, Vietnam veteran Richard Ardisson, Korean War veteran George Archambault and World War II veteran Frank Slattery salute during the national anthem

Photo by Laura Stone

ORCHARD BEACH SUMMER OPENING

Mitchell Silver, the Parks Department commissioner held a ceremony for the opening of Orchard Beach just before the Memorial Day weekend start to the beach season on Wednesday, May 20. Silver was joined at the annual event by Deputy Borough President Aurelia Greene and Ken Kearns, Community Board 10 district manager, as well as parks department employees. Children from P.S. 72 in Throggs Neck joined in the festivities, at one point, playing on the clean beach sand.



Lifeguards at the Orchard Beach opening (l-r, back) Andy Kapys, Rich Arroyo, Lt. Ulises Pena, Miguel Satis (l-r, front) Louis Alers, Rony Beaz, and Adam Accords.

Photo by Silvio Pacifico



Children from P.S. 72 play on the beach.

Photo by Silvio Pacifico

KING'S SOCIAL MEDIA CLEAN-UP PLAN

Councilman Andy King announced a new social media campaign encouraging residents of the 12th Council District to tell him where to direct community beautification funds on Wednesday, May 20. Residents of the councilman's district can submit specific sites needing attention via e-mail at District12BX@gmail.com; in the comments on Councilman King's Facebook page; or by tweeting @AndyKingNYC with the hashtag #D12OCS. The information should include specifics about the location and the work needing to be done, as well as photos.



Councilman Andy King was joined by students from Learning Tree Cultural Preparatory School and Immaculate Conception Catholic School who volunteered recently to help beautify the blocks around their schools.

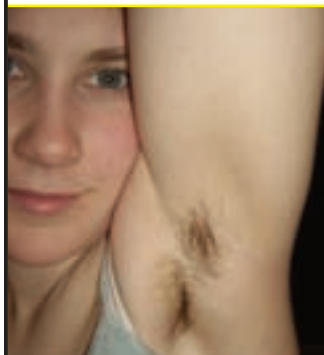
Photo courtesy of Councilman Andy King's office

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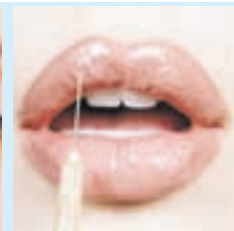
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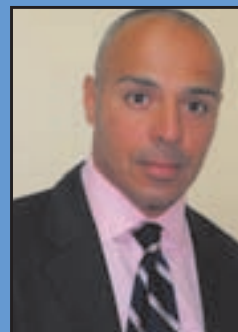
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 Holi Cannoli
 Lick Me Lemon
 Margarita
 Mint Condition Chocolate Chip
 Mucho Mango
 N.Y.P.D. Blue Raxxberry
 Orange Kiss
 Over The Rainbow
 Rainbow Cookie
 Root Beer Mug
 Tropical Pina Colada
 Vanilla Chip Dip
 Vanilla Peanut Butter Chocolate
 Pretzel

ICE CREAM

Birthday Cake Surprise
 Brooklyn Cheesecake
 Cappuccino Chunk
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MESSAGE FROM THE PUBLISHER

Welcome to the Bronx Times' 6th annual salute to 25 Bronx Influential Women. This year's honorees have energized so many aspects of Bronx life. This year's selection process was just as daunting as the previous year.

The 2015 awardees encompass women with far-reaching impact in their lifetime passions. Each has made the Bronx a better place to live.

We congratulate our honorees and the countless other women who contribute to our borough's well being.

Next year's group is already in formation. We invite our family of readers to suggest the individuals they feel are worthy of this recognition.

Beyond this publication, the 25 Bronx Influential Women will be honored on Tuesday, June 30 at Scavello's on the Island, on City Island. Keep an eye out for the announcement. You're more than welcome to attend this exciting event.

BRONX*Times*
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PROFILES OF BRONX INFLUENTIAL WOMEN - 2015 EDITION

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DR. ANITA VAZQUEZ BATISTI

Turns theory into practice for tomorrow's educators

Dr. Anita Vazquez Batisti, an associate dean and founding director of the Center for Educational Partnerships at Fordham University's Graduate School of Education, has raised over \$230 million through public and private sources during her career, to design programs that develop theory into practice for tomorrow's educators.

The center's mission is to provide services and assistance to teachers, administrators, students and parents, as well as to education and government agencies designed to enable all children to achieve and succeed.

Dr Batisti is an experienced, knowledgeable educator, fundraiser and administrator who understands the complexities and subtleties of both urban and suburban school systems, related service providers and empowered networks.

During the course of her career she has served as an administrator, educator and development specialist for NYC schools districts, the NYC Department of Education, Fordham University, Pace University, TNew York University, The United States Department of Education, the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and not-for-profit organizations.



Her grant writing abilities have launched the following initiatives in her role at Fordham: the first Bronx Regional Bilingual/ESL Technical Assistance Center serving the Bronx exclusively, the Lower Hudson Valley Bilingual/ESL Technical Assistance Support Center, Bilingual School Psychology Support Center Long Island/, ESL Teacher Leadership Academy, and the Mathematics and Literacy Coaching.

Her work with the Fordham Partnership Organization gives Anita access to 35 public schools, using a diagnostic-prescriptive approach to develop targeted interventions for students and their families.

The Fordham programs serve over 700 schools, 1,000 K-12 teachers, 100 administrators and 10,000 students in New York state.

"I am a true lover of New York City", the upper east side born and raised native confessed. Growing up in the 'not so chic' mid 60s when it was rent-controlled afforded her the many wonderful amenities the city had to offer. She currently owns a co-op not far from where she grew up.

"My grammar school was a block away and I attended a high school across the street from where I lived, and Central Park was my backyard, what's better than that," she recalled of her childhood.

Her dad, born in Puerto Rico, was a postal worker and her mom of Hungarian descent, always stressed education. When Anita's parents split up she watched her mother become very independent, taking on a job as an airline reservation agent. From this experience she learned how important it was to be self suf-

25 Bronx Influential Women 2015

MOST ADMIRER WOMAN: The most admired woman in my life was Ann Mersereau

FAVORITE BOOK: My favorite book is really a mystery series set in Venice, by author Donna Leon

FAVORITE BRONX LOCALE: Marina Drive, in Throgs Neck, with views of the Long Island Sound, the Whitestone and Throgs Neck bridges.

ficient and to have a career.

Anita's hobbies include reading mystery novels, exercise, jazz, visiting museums and of course travel. Her late husband was from Tuscany and they spent a good amount of their free time in Florence, Italy. She recently remarried.

She has two children, Jennifer who is a physician in internal medicine at Montefiore Medical Center and a son, Felice, who is involved in the Red Hook community and is awaiting placement as a court officer.

Dr. Batisti's most recent honors are the New York State Teachers of English as a Second Language Recognition Award in November 2010 and the Educational Leadership Award from the National Puerto Rican Day Parade, Inc. in May 2010.

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NANCY BIBERMAN

Creating and preserving sustainable affordable housing

25 Bronx Influential Women 2015

Nancy Biberman is a nationally-recognized expert in the creation and preservation of sustainable affordable housing and community-focused development, with more than 30 years of experience advocating for low-income families across New York City.

Nancy began her career as a legal services lawyer. She was part of a team that sued New York City and the state, winning the first class action lawsuit in the country to give battered women access to the court system and police protection. As the founder and director of Women's Housing and Economic Development Corporation (WHEDco), Nancy has worked to provide low-income south Bronx families with the stable, enriching communities and opportunities usually reserved for more affluent neighborhoods.

Her work is inspired by her belief that pride of place is a transformative force in families' lives, leading to a focus on affordable housing and the elements vital to a vibrant community – economic opportunity, retail, healthy food, culture, health care and education.

In 1995, Nancy conceived, financed and developed the dilapidated Morrisania Hospital, long a symbol of



the disinvestment and abandonment that plagued the Bronx. WHEDco reopened the building as Urban Horizons, a mixed-use, award-winning affordable housing complex and economic development center.

At a time when affordable hous-

ing development was disconnected from economic development, health and education, Urban Horizons included a primary health care facility, a food business incubator, and Head Start Center with seats for more than 100 children.

WHEDco's Intervale Green followed in 2009 and is the nation's largest multifamily, Energy Star-certified affordable housing development. Built to provide Bronx families with far more than homes, Intervale Green contains art installations, a rooftop farm, and WHEDco's Childcare Training Institute, which trains hundreds of women each year to become licensed home-based childcare entrepreneurs.

The organization plans to break ground this year on Bronx Commons, an arts-based development with affordable housing and the Bronx Music Heritage Center, in the Melrose neighborhood. All told, under Nancy's leadership, WHEDco now reaches more than 40,000 people annually through affordable homes and a variety of programs.

Nancy first cut her teeth in affordable housing development while working for MFY Legal Services,

where she developed the West End Intergenerational Residence, a multi-generational housing development for low-income residents and the first conversion of privately-held SRO housing to nonprofit ownership in New York City.

Nancy was then hired by Catholic Charities to manage a 23-building city-financed housing rehabilitation project in the Highbridge area. She was founder of the East Side SRO Law Project and negotiated precedent-setting housing preservation language in the Union Square Special Zoning District that created hundreds of units of affordable housing.

Nancy is a graduate of Barnard College and Rutgers-Newark Law School, and is a recipient of the James A. Johnson Fellowship from the Fannie Mae Foundation and a Revson Fellowship at Columbia University's School of Architecture and Planning.

Nancy's work has received recognition from the 2009 National Charles L. Edison Tax Credit Excellence Award for Green Housing and the Paul Davidoff Award for Leadership in Housing and Equal Opportunity from the American Planning Association.

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Bharati S. Kemraj

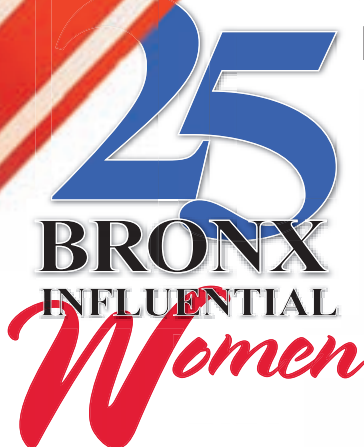
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DR. YVETTE CALDERON

Making strides in HIV/AIDS prevention

25 Bronx Influential Women 2015

One Bronx doctor is making strides in HIV/AIDS prevention.

Dr. Yvette Calderon, director of the emergency medicine director at North Central Bronx Hospital, has been recognized for her significant work in the area.

She was recently named one of the National Hispanic Health Foundation's 'Key Leaders' in expanding health care access, and last year was the The New York State Department of Health AIDS Institute honored her with the Dr. Linda Laubenstein Annual HIV Clinical Excellence Award.

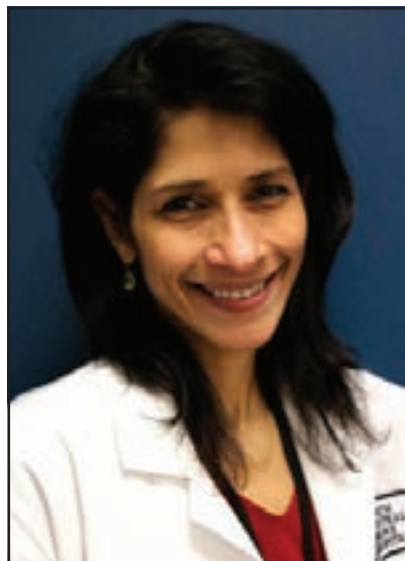
Dr. Calderon, of Puerto Rican heritage, grew up in a housing project. Her family struggled with language barriers in medicine.

"I saw first hand issues of access to care," she said. "That was something I knew I wanted to correct."

Dr. Calderon, who attended Einstein College of Medicine and has spent her entire career within the North Bronx Healthcare Network at both Jacobi and NCBH, said she was drawn to emergency medicine because it's a gateway for patients receiving all types of care.

"You're the first person they get to see," she said.

Her interest in preventing HIV/



AIDS came from her experiences in the emergency departments during the 90s, when she saw many people with the disease coming into the hospital.

"We all knew if we could find these patients earlier, they wouldn't become AIDS patients," said Dr. Calderon.

Dr. Calderon, who is also the associate dean of Diversity Enhancement at Einstein, has spent the past 15 years

doing research in HIV prevention and implementing those findings at NCBH and Jacobi. Her mission of prevention is two-fold.

The first part is to getting as many people tested as possible. The second step is providing 'linkage to care,' which means getting people with positive test results to meet with a specialized HIV provider for a full evaluation and future treatment.

"When you retain these patients in care, you don't see them in the ER," said Dr. Calderon.

In order to achieve these goals, Dr. Calderon and medical director of the North Bronx Health Network's Adult HIV Service Dr. Jason Leider, developed Project BRIEF.

The model for HIV prevention has five components—Behavioral intervention, Rapid HIV Testing, Innovative video, Efficient cost and health care saving and Facilitated seamless link to outpatient HIV care—and Calderon has presented the model all over the world.

One of the key components that Calderon helped develop was the introduction of HIV testing to emergency rooms, to reach more people.

When patients are first seen, they are asked if they would like to take an

HIV test. Those who say no are given an educational video on the subject to help convince them to take a test, and watch a second video while they wait for results.

Calderon said because people often feel uncomfortable discussing sexual health in person, videos are more effective at getting the message across, and about one-third of the patients who initially deny the test change their mind.

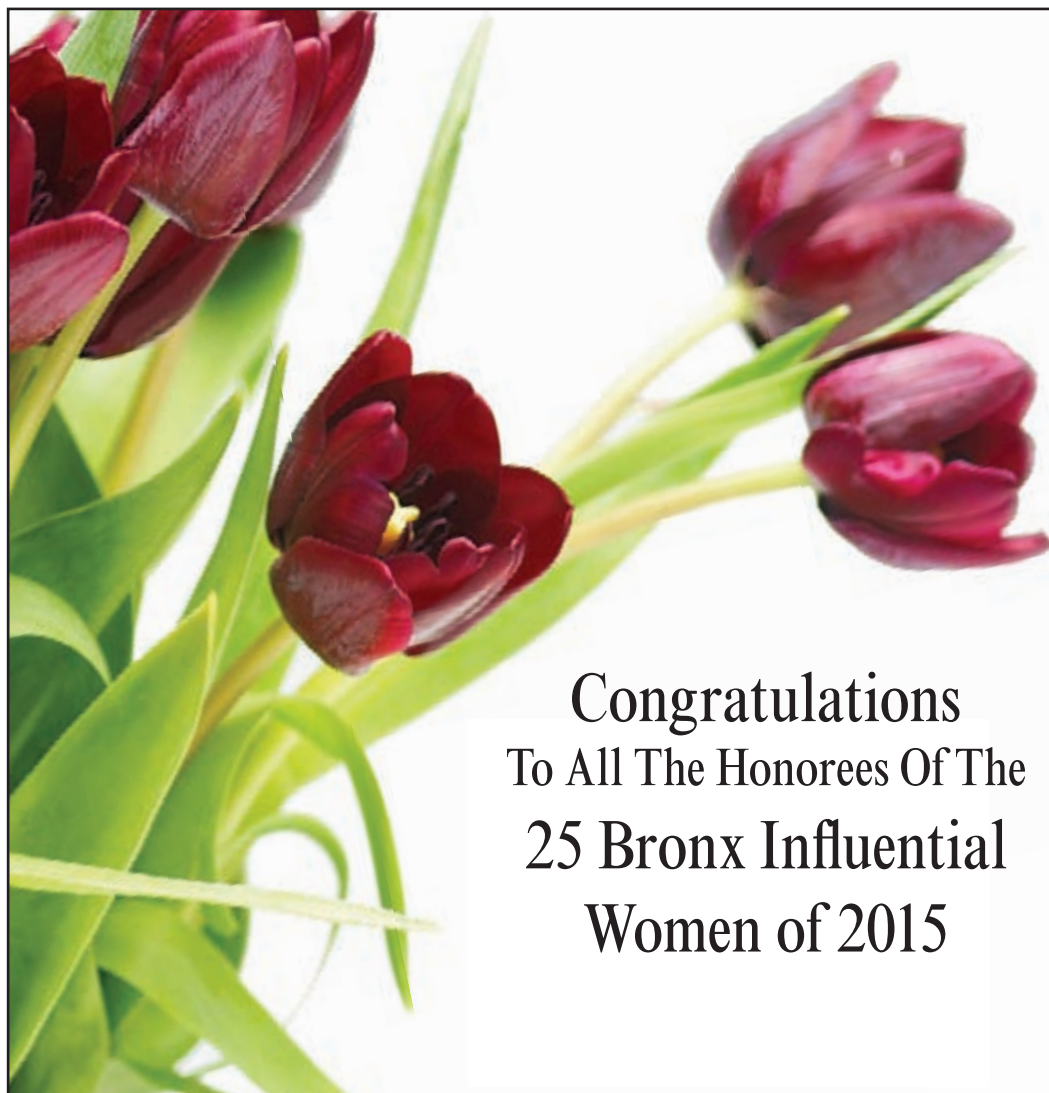
The hospital continues to engage and educate patients after they test positive, sending them links to short videos on various issues surrounding living with HIV.

The videos and other innovative techniques the hospital uses for outreach have been developed through extensive research with community participants.

"You need to know what's important to them to get them to buy in and take care of themselves," said Calderon.

All that hard work has paid off. Since Project BRIEF was launched at NBHN in 2005, Jacobi and NCB hospitals have tested more than 100,000 patients, and the hospital has increased 'linkage to care' to 85 percent.

"We know it works," said Calderon.



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MICHELLE CENTENO

Protecting workers from greedy contractors

Michelle Centeno works for the NYC Comptroller's Office and is responsible for making sure that all firms awarded NYC contracts pay prevailing wages to all their employees.

"We investigate all complaints, some deriving from the worker, others from a union rep," she said.

She explained that recently there was a security installation at Jacobi Medical Center. The prevailing rate of pay for that type of work being performed was \$60 an hour, but the contractor was only paying \$12 to \$20 an hour.

"We come in, review the work records and perform an audit assessment to determine if there is a violation," she explained.

"If the firm is found at fault, it's ordered to pay the underpaid workers the difference in pay plus 6% to 16% interest, compounded daily," she said.

Sometimes contract awarders bring in sub-contractors or labor brokers in an effort to circumvent the prevailing wage law, that has been on the books or over 50 years.

"In a tight employment market, the workers will agree to take a lower rate of pay."

She warned that workers that are



subject to the prevailing wage law and believe they are being underpaid, should report the problem to her office and avoid contacting an attorney.

"A law firm will take a 40% fee for handling the case, while we take nothing," she said.

"With the greed that's out there, I don't think we'll ever be out of a job," she added sadly.

Michelle has served on many boards: former president of the National Conference of Puerto Rican Women NY Chapter, first vice president of the National Conference of Puerto Rican Women, National, member of the Government Affairs Professionals, NY Chapter Delegate to the Vision 2020 National Office affiliated with Drexel University College of Medicine Institute for Women's Health & Leadership, served on the NY Daily News VNY & Hora Hispana Advisory Board and served on the NYS Hispanic Heritage Month Downstate Committee.

Michelle has been recognized by Brooklyn Borough President Latino Heritage Celebration Recognition Award, and Excellent Partnership Recognition Award from the IRS, Labor Council for Latin American Advancement Recognition, NYC Managerial Employees Association Recognition Award, National Puerto Rican Day Parade/Educational/Scholarship Leadership Award, National Hispanic Business Group Public Sector Recognition

25 Bronx Influential Women 2015

MOST ADMIRER WOMAN:

My maternal grandmother, my mother and Alice Cardona

FAVORITE BOOK:

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"With the greed that's out there, I don't think we'll ever be out of a job,"

MICHELLE CENTENO

ognitionSward, Somos El Futuro NY Public Sector Service Award, and the Puerto Rican Woman NYC Chapter.

Michelle currently lives in Fordham Hill and enjoys her three children and four grandchildren.



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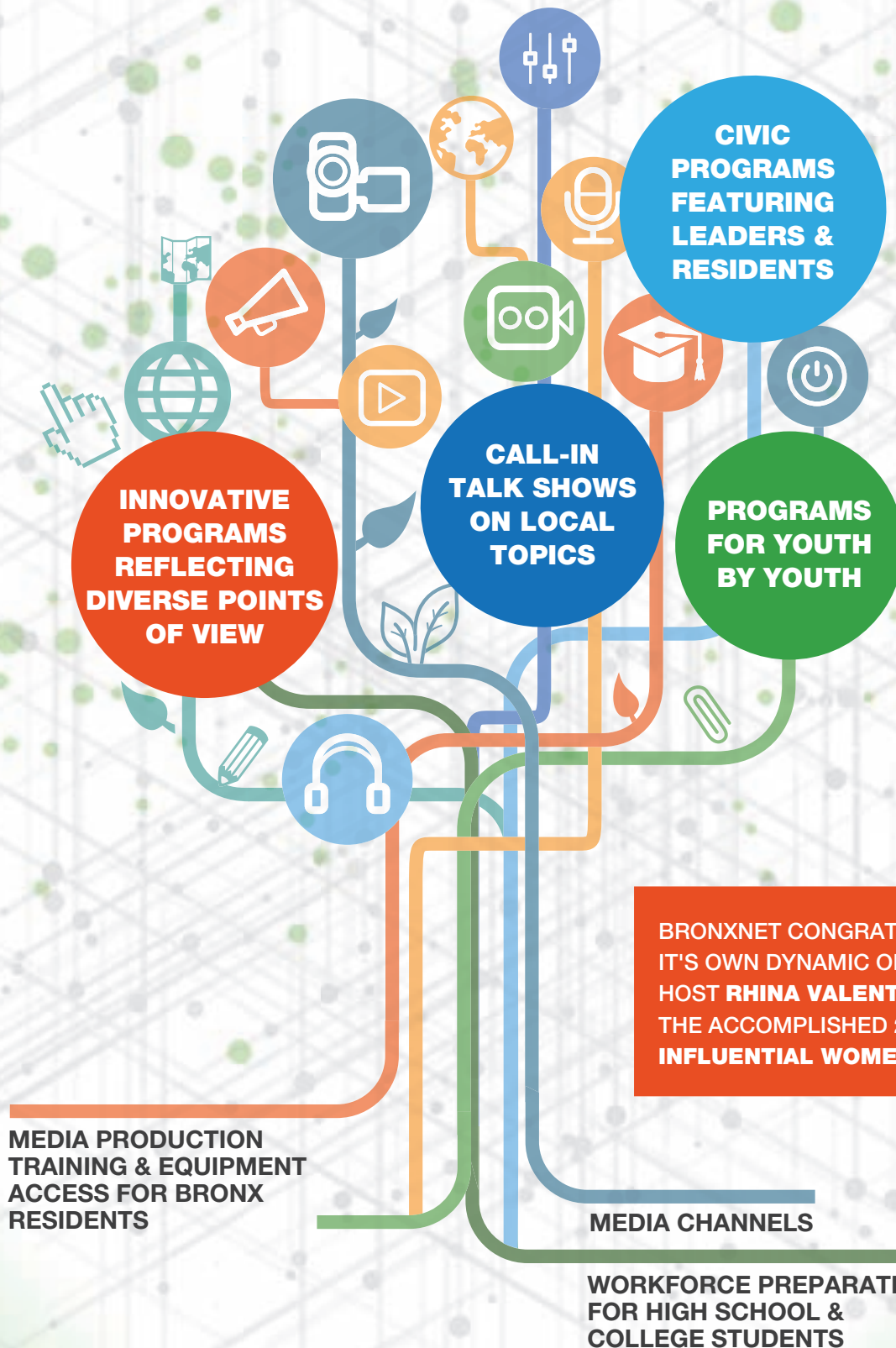
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- Peter Spoto

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REVEREND QUE ENGLISH

A passion to empower our youth

Reverend Que English grew up in a drug and HIV-infested upper Manhattan housing development.

Minister, community activist, social change agent and author of the highly-celebrated book "Will the Real Me Please Stand up!," Rev. English, along with her husband Rev. Tim English, serves as the senior pastors of Bronx Christian Fellowship on E. Gun Hill Road.

She is the co-founder of the Bronx Clergy Roundtable, the largest partner-coalition in the Bronx boasting of over 500 clergy partners comprised of clergy and community leaders.

She is also the co-founder of the New York City Clergy Roundtable, a network of clergy from all five boroughs working together on critical issues facing our city.

Rev. Que has been involved in various campaigns across the city including the living wage campaign, paid sick leave campaign, fair wages for fast food workers campaign, fair wages for airport workers campaign, and others.

Most notably, Rev. Que was one of three negotiators who solidified the historic community benefits agreement (CBA) on behalf of the people



for the Kingsbridge National Ice Center.

After losing a brother to the crack epidemic, Rev. Que became aware that if her brother had the proper

direction, he would still be alive today.

"If we catch the young from making bad choices early, we can change the outcome of their life," she said. "Many of these young adults can't see themselves outside their environment."

She was not drawn into the social scene she was surrounded by and took her school work seriously.

After attending an elementary school gifted program, she was accepted to Stuyvesant High School.

"My breakthrough came at 13 years old. A French teacher took me to a fancy French restaurant where only French was spoken. It exposed me to a world beyond my block. I learned there is more to life," she recalled.

The culture she experienced made her want more.

"If given the opportunity many youngsters living in drug infested, permissive environments would respond. There's a lack of support and exposure," she said.

Her biggest campaign at this time is to raise the age of teens from 16 to 18 to be placed in an adult prison population.

25 Bronx Influential Women 2015

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"Sixteen and 17 year olds don't belong with adults in prison. There are higher rates of suicide, rape and recidivism," she explained.

The bill to correct this matter is pending in Albany.

Rev. Que serves on the board of the Bronx Long Term Recovery Group and on the board of New York Disaster Interfaith Services (NYDIS).

Some of her awards include: Standing on Her Shoulder award, Women of Excellence award, Minister of the Year award, Senator Joseph L. Galiber award and others.

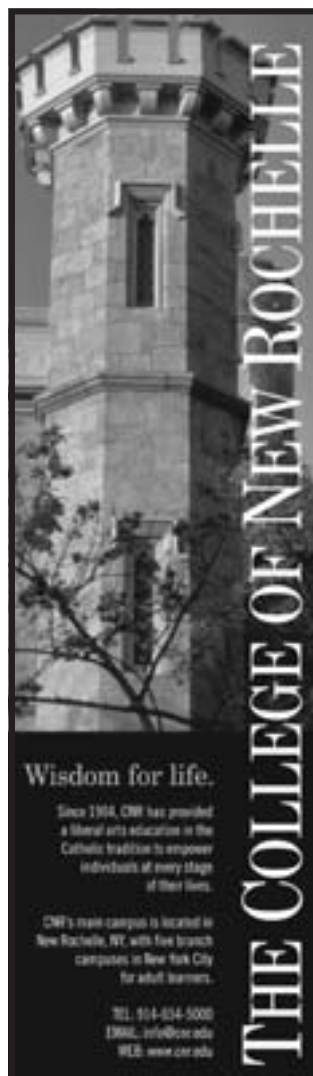
She is the wife of Rev. Tim English, mother of one, Sarah English and grandmother of Julien.

Congratulations to the 25 women being honored, especially our friends, Bharati Kemraj and Nilka Martel!



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ELIZABETH GILL

Creating a working relationship with the police

25 Bronx Influential Women 2015

Elizabeth Gill is a Bronx-born community leader who has devoted a good portion of her life to making a difference.

Raised by Trinidadian parents, she first became involved in community service when she and her brother, at age 14, joined a center run by the Jewish Council. The Daily News and the defunct New York Mirror were conducting a youth leadership program which they both joined.

"It was an opportunity to meet Danny Kaye," she recalled, adding "The program took an interest in us - took us to the Bronx Zoo and other places. It was during WWII and our parents didn't own a car."

From that humble start Elizabeth learned the importance of community service.

When her three daughters attended local schools she was involved in their PTAs, right up to college. "I felt it was important to be involved in their education.

When her youngest daughter came home from a nearby park in 1988, and told her mom, "I can't go back to that park anymore, some guy showed me a gun and another



was smoking marijuana," Elizabeth knew it was time to attend 47th Precinct Community Council meetings.

"I was very fortunate to raise

three lovely daughters at that time and I wanted that same feeling to be shared with all the parents in the precinct," she said.

As the president of the 47th Precinct Community Council for the past 20 years she has worked tirelessly to foster good relations with the police officers. "We're at a point in the 47th where we have a great deal of respect for one another."

Elizabeth pointed to a situation that occurred a few years back when an officer chased a young man into his home and the man was shot dead. When the police officer was acquitted of any wrongdoing, there were no riots, just organized protests, she said. "That was because the community and the police have had a long-standing relationship.

"The NYC Police Department should bring back the 'beat cop,' she feels. In those days everybody knew the police officer's name and he knew their names as well, she said.

"That's the best way to reduce crime in our communities - our kids need to relate to the police," she believes.

Elizabeth's precinct council meetings are held once a month at

various locations within the precinct's confines. A guest speaker is invited that is pertinent to the part of the precinct hosting the meeting. Over 100 people attend her meetings.

"The residents of the community get a chance to voice their concerns directly to the precinct's captain," she said.

The community advocate has worked with many other area organizations over the years including the 47th Precinct Crisis Intervention Report Team, North Bronx Williamsbridge Branch NAACP, Mt. Vernon Police Department, a volunteer at St. Mary's Hospital for Special Needs, coordinated Bronx Borough Harmony Day Event, coordinated the annual 47th Precinct Harmony Breakfast and coordinated the annual 47th Precinct Children's Holiday Party. She has secured many grants for the 47th Precinct community.

She has been awarded for her dedication by the Korean Merchants Association of the Northeast Bronx, Police Reserve Association of NYC, East of Laconia Association, NYS Association of Black and Puerto Rican Legislators, Seton Falls Restoration and many, many more..



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To The Love Of My Life
Debra Ann Jaffee

Congratulations!

25 Bronx Influential Women 2015

*Your Loving Husband
& Beach Buddy*

(Toes In The Water, Feet In The Sand)



The Fordham University
Graduate School of Education community
congratulates

The 25 Influential Bronx Women of 2015

in recognition of their unique contributions to the Bronx
with special salute to our own

Anita Vazquez Batisti, PhD

Associate Dean for Partnerships and
Director, Center for Educational Partnerships

We salute the most influential women selected in the
Bronx for 2015 for their Commitment, Dedication,
and Excellence, and for their influence
and devotion to help improve the lives of others.



New York State Assembly Member
Michael R. Benedetto
82nd District



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Congratulations to the Honorees of the 25 Bronx Influential Women of 2015



Congratulations to **Rhina Valentin**



And All The Other Honorees

Dr. Anita Vazquez Batisti
Denise Pagan
Debra Ann Jaffee
Rev. Carmen Hernandez
Michelle Centeno
Loretta Zaino
Rev. Que English
Maribel Gonzalez
Nilka Martell
Barbara Robles-Gonzalez
Nancy Biberman
Elizabeth Gill

Dr. Lisa Anne Rizopoulos
Cynthia Jones
Naomi Pouchie
Dr. Deborah Dolan Hunt
Wilma Tamayo
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MARIBEL GONZALEZ

Dedicated to making her community stronger

Maribel Gonzalez' career has changed over the years, but her commitment to help others remained steadfast.

She was born on Ramey Air Force base in Aguadilla, Puerto Rico to a career Air Force dad, who was active in both the Korean and Vietnam wars. Her parents divorced soon after and at age of 5 came to New York. She grew up in Pelham Bay and Spencer Estate and currently resides in Bronx Park East

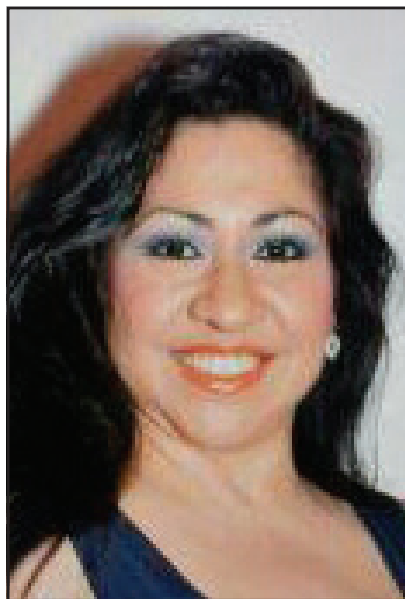
After graduating St. John's University with a degree in Communications she worked in the radio and television industry in sales and marketing at Telemundo TV, as well as WKDM, La MEGA, and Lite-FM radio stations.

Eventhough she has changed careers she is often called upon to develop strategic business plans.

Maribel's love for cooking led her to obtain a culinary certificate - a fortunate decision, because her life was about to change course.

Her mom was working as an entertainer in a Soundview restaurant, when the opportunity arose to buy it.

Soon after, Maribel's 20-year career in sales ended and along with



her mom, she opened South of France Restaurant at 1800 Westchester Avenue.

The restaurant, which offers a Spanish cuisine, got its name from a prior restaurant that once occupied the space. According to legend, the space was gutted by a previous landlord who didn't know what to put there. He went off to southern

France for a time on an extended vacation and really enjoyed the locale's food. During that time he also met a woman who he brought back with him to the Bronx. To forever remember their fateful encounter they opened a restaurant featuring the cuisine they fell in love with in the south of France.

Today Maribel and her mom, who is now 72, run a thriving 100-seat restaurant that's open seven days a week, that features live entertainment, comedy shows and karaoke.

She is extremely active in her community. Maribel is a member to many civic, business and charitable organizations including a women's empowerment group.

She is a member of the New York City Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, National Conference of Puerto Rican Women, Angels to the Rescue, active with Community Board 9, Big Brothers, Big Sisters and the Central Bronx Merchants Association, where she is the secretary.

She has received awards from The New York League of Puerto Rican Women, Angels to the Rescue and St. Lucy's Church.

25 **Bronx**
Influential **Women** 2015

MOST ADMIRER WOMAN: Without a doubt it would have to be my mother. Despite the incredible obstacles she faced she continues to never loose faith, to always strive, to remain positive in her belief that goodness will always prevail.

FAVORITE BOOK: My favorite book is Embraced by the Light by Betty J.Eadie. It is an inspirational message of love, acceptance and spirituality.

FAVORITE BRONX LOCALE: I adore my Pelham Bay Park because I was raised across the street and have many memories of having fun there with my family.

She has assisted the American Cancer Society in its annual funds drive, run food and toy drives for the needy, adopted a homeless shelter on Boynton Avenue and donated to the NYC Food Bank.

Her 17-year old daughter is an honor student at Cardinal Spellman High School and is also very active in community work, volunteering at soup kitchens and organizing food drives.

Congratulations
to our mother

Dr. Deborah Hunt

We are so proud of you and all you've achieved!

With Love from your children
Brian, Meaghan, and John!"

Congratulations

Soror Llinet Beltre Rosado

We are so proud of all you do for the Bronx community.
We know you will continue to provide
the best of yourself in years to come.

Love always,

The Daniel Family

*Dwayne, Chermaine, Brijea,
Zhania and Dakoda*



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***Congratulations to the
Bronx Times'***

25 Influential Women of 2015

*"You can only get out of a community, that
which you put into it." – Mark Gjonaj*

BARBARA ROBLES-GONZALEZ

Putting the emphasis on community in the DA's office

Barbara Robles-Gonzalez was born in 'El Barrio, but raised in the Sound-view area, where she still resides today. She attended Adlai E. Stevenson High School where she ranked in the top 3% of the class.

She attended St. Lawrence University on a scholarship, where she studied Government and Caribbean and Latin American Studies. She obtained her Masters in Public Administration at New York University's Robert F. Wagner School of Public Service.

Ironically she was in the Bronx District Attorney's Explorer Program when she was in high school, never realizing that upon graduating NYU in 1998 she would land a job in the DA's office, where she still serves today as director of the Community Affairs Unit.

"The first time I met Mr. Robert Johnson, the Bronx District Attorney, he appeared so down to Earth. He was so inviting to speak to," she recalled.

During her 16-year tenure, Barbara was the program director for the Operation Weed and Seed program operating in the confines of the 43rd Precinct. The program strategy was a federally-funded initiative that aimed to 'weed' out the criminal element, while 'seeding' positive



programs in targeted high-crime neighborhoods.

She also managed a staff of trained personnel to provide alternatives to the streets through 'Safe Havens', such as recreational programs and homework help.

In 2002 she was promoted to deputy director of the Community Affairs Unit. Her new responsibilities included over-

seeing the programmatic details to many of the effective CAU programs that engaged different facets of the community through outreach, education and intervention.

Barbara has held the director's position for the last eight years. She is responsible for the overall administration of the prevention and intervention programs for youth, adults, seniors, and communities, as a whole

She supervises a staff of seven and over 250 program volunteers.

She is also in charge of keeping the DA abreast of community issues and concerns, coordinating interagency initiatives and developing special programs on behalf of her boss. She is an active member with several community-based task force and advisory boards.

Barbara attends community board meetings and is always available to discuss the functioning of the DA's office before any community organization.

During an adult workshop series residents can ask a prosecutor questions.

Over her 15 years in the Bronx DA office Barbara has been part of Project Envision that aimed to raise awareness of sexual assault; been a guest speaker at a conference hosted by the the City

25 Bronx Influential Women 2015

MOST ADMIRED WOMEN:

My daughter, Imani Loiza Gonzalez. From when I was a little girl, I always knew I wanted to be a mommy.

FAVORITE MUSICAL:

Memphis - the range of emotions I felt watching it was incredible. I loved how the musical highlighted parts of the human experience which we are forced to endure because of unjust societal norms.

FAVORITE BRONX LOCALE:

The New York Botanical Garden. I love the lush gardens and family-friendly programming.

Council of Birmingham, England; successfully attended and completed Leadership training with the NYC Management Institute in 2008; facilitated the Law Enforcement Advisory committees in the 40th and 43rd precincts for eight years; oversaw the CONCEPT program which focuses on anti-violence messages for 6th graders and plays a role in the MEARES project' which is a re-entry program for recently released men and women from state correctional facilities.

She loves to spend her spare time surrounded by family. Barbara is married and the mother of two. She also enjoys reading, traveling, Zumba and yoga.

Congratulations

to the

25 Bronx Influential Women of 2015.

Their endeavors inspire and motivate people of all backgrounds to engage and give back to their communities.

Dara Lustgarten, President

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Pel-Bay Realty and the Vacca Family join to congratulate

Dr. Lisa Rizopoulos,

Chair of the Education Department at Manhattan College,

For her commitment to excellence in teaching and service. Her lifelong dedication to the teaching profession is truly a testament to the LaSallian mission of serving those less fortunate and touching the hearts and minds of others. Congratulations!

Congratulations

To a wonderful woman and author.

Naomi Pouchie

You have done so much for our children



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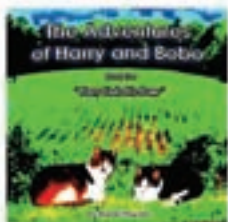
Would like to Congratulate The Bronx Times Reporter's Sixth Anniversary of the "25 Influential Women of the Bronx" Awards Gala as well as to Salute the 2015 Honorees especially recognizing our own...



NAOMI POUCHIE

In Reception of this prestigious Award and Honor for her Meritorius Service to the Community of the Bronx as an Author, Educator and Public Access Producer

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HOST & CO - PRODUCER of the Bronxnet (CH68) Cable Music Show - "Latin Jazz - Alive n Kickin"



CONTACT INFORMATION
EMAIL - NAOMIPOUCHIE@MSN.COM
CELL PHONE (646) 645 - 9872
WEBSITE - WWW.HARRYANDBOBO.COM



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UNIVERSITY DIAGNOSTIC

Dear Mr. Klein,
This note is a result of our conversation on Friday afternoon, June 27th I had just finished an MRI of my brain + wanted to tell an administrator about the professional job done by Alex + Wilson, the techs who handled the procedure. In reality, they took care of me up to the point of the procedure. They took care of me up to the point of the procedure. They took care of me up to the point of the procedure.

“We’re ins
your lo

5/6/15
It is with GREAT Pleasure that I write this letter today.
Today I was scheduled for a Biopsy of a so called “Large Left Thyroid Nodule” being so afraid of malignancy results I had the pleasure of meeting an exceptional staff member. She was compassionate, understanding to my fears and concerns; and she made me feel comfortable during the procedure and answered all my questions. I am truly grateful for the exceptional care I received. Thank you to the staff and the leadership team for their professional demeanors which make us patients turn into a customer service culture.

Dear Mr. Klein,
I would like to commend your staff for their exceptional customer service. The Technicians, they make a patient as us patients turn into a customer service culture. Their professional demeanors which make us patients turn into a customer service culture.

September 19, 2014

RE: Robert Klein, Supervisor
Appointment Desk
University Diagnostic Medical Imaging, P.C.

I am writing this letter to you to thank your appointment desk staff for their professionalism in managing customers experience during the time when I call to schedule an appointment or request copies of imaging reports.

In search for an answer to my demise health every doctor that I saw wanted me to have MRI's in which I ended having a series of MRI's with and without contrast, and sonograms.

Every time that I called I asked your staff to accommodate my request to get an appointment immediately since I was desperate to get the results to my doctors.

Your staff was very professional in handling my request, and quick to accommodate me.

I have to tell you that all my doctors wanted me to use facilities that they have a relationship but, because of my experience at your facility, I could not see myself going anywhere else.

Again, please give my sincere thank you to your staff for the excellent customer experience.

Sincerely,

With heartfelt appreciation
for the thoughtfulness
you've shown.

Thank you for the support you guys have given me at this time. I am truly grateful for the exceptional care I received. Thank you to the staff and the leadership team for their professional demeanors which make us patients turn into a customer service culture.

Being married is a great deal the Lord above to bless you always the way my husband is going well, continuing to be in the Lord. Thank you for the effort and time you took to help me with Dr. Kirschfeld.

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service from the Reception Staff
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very pleasurable experience.
which is obviously a by product of
testament to this outstanding
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Dear Dr. Gurell,
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you note!
On Sept 9th, I had a thyroid
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my life!
Thank you for your

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REVEREND CARMEN HERNANDEZ

Making sure her neighbors receive all services

Reverend Carmen Hernandez has pursued a life of community commitment. The oldest of nine siblings on her mother's side, she has made gargantuan efforts to see that her neighbors receive adequate services.

At the age of 6 her family relocated to the Bronx from Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico. After several stops along the way Rev. Carmen finally settled down as an adult in Soundview.

In 1997 she was ordained a youth-community pastor by the Gathering Place Global Ministry and hasn't stopped organizing since.

"What I noticed very early on during my efforts to help improve the community is that the people too readily give their vote to a political office seeker without getting any promise of a better life - they don't hold them accountable," she said.

This led Rev. Carmen to take a leadership role in her community over 30 years ago. She first became involved in tenant causes, representing 1471-73 Watson Avenue Tenant Group.

She founded the Stratford Community Services, Inc. to empower at-risk inner city children. Through her efforts and a slew of activities specifically targeted towards youth she has



proven to be a vital part of her community. She sponsored self esteem workshops and computer literacy classes

She coordinated the first Stratford Annual Back 2 School Jam Block Party, which continued for two decades.

Next she turned to the merchants, persuading many to work together to

build a stronger business outlook to empower the shopkeepers to create a positive environment in the neighborhood. She credits Rite Check Cashing and Inca Cola for stepping forward to lead the charge on commercial landlord issues

Rev. Carmen also helped build the Bronx Christmas Parade and is currently working on the 1st Macy's Bronx Thanksgiving Parade.

Ten years ago she founded and currently serves as the senior vice president of the Bronx Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Inc. and is presently the president/founder of the 1st NYC LGBTQS Chamber of Commerce.

Eventhough she was diagnosed with a debilitating case of fibre myalgia, which left her disabled, her advocacy goes on undaunted. She came out as a lesbian 30 years ago.

The reverend has received many awards and recognition for community efforts including: the Grounbreaker Latina Leader Award in 2006 by Catalina Magazine; the NYS Regional and International Small Business Administration Award; Lo Mejor de Nuestra Comunidad Award; Our Youth's Hispanic LGBT Activist of the Year award; El Diario's Mujeres Destaca-

25 Bronx Influential Women 2015

"What I noticed very early on during my efforts to help improve the community is that the people too readily give their vote to a political office seeker without getting any promise of a better life - they don't hold them accountable,"

REVEREND CARMEN HERNANDEZ

das Award; At&T Bold Honor Award; honored at the Pride Awards in the Lesbian of the Year category and Our Youth's Hispanic LGBT Activist of the Year honors.

DEBORAH HUNT

Textbook gives guidance to our caregivers

Deborah Hunt, a local professor and author, has published two textbooks about the nursing profession.

The Nurse Professional: Leveraging Your Education for Transition into Practice is a new textbook by the College of New Rochelle associate professor of nursing, Pelham Bay local, and Community Board 10 Health and Human Services Committee chairwoman.

The book is intended to serve as a guide for student nurses as they transition from the classroom to the workplace in hospitals and medical facilities.

"The new book is for student nurses and new nurses as they are preparing to become registered nurses," stated Hunt. "This is a foundational book for all students and new nurses to prepare them for their transition into their professional practice role."

She explained that the tips and techniques she advocates in the The Nurse Professional have a basis in her own experience both working at hospitals like Montefiore-Einstein, Our Lady of Mercy Medical Center (now Montefiore North) and Westchester Square Medical Center (now Mon-



tefiore Westchester Square), her 20 years in nursing and in her experience as a nurse educator at CNR.

"The book is kind of a culmination of a lot of things that are going on in my career," said Hunt. "When I worked in the hospital I did a lot of recruitment and hired a lot of new nurses, and I noticed that a lot of times

they would leave rather quickly. They would just feel overwhelmed and even though we had orientation programs, reality would hit, burnout would occur, and we would just have this 'revolving door'."

After moving onto academia at CNR, she said she and her colleagues noted that many nurses who had graduated were coming back to the school with questions, sometimes feeling frustrated or overwhelmed, and in other cases having a hard time in their first job, said Hunt. Another challenge is passing the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX), she added.

Presented in four parts, the guide covers topics like successfully passing the NCLEX and getting your first position, time management and organizational skills, feeling confident and competent, nurse bullying and workplace violence.

The book also covers successful transition from college to the workplace, and how to delegate to nurses assistants. One of many ideas it advocates is journaling as a way to break stress and keep perspective during what can be trying times in a career.

25 Bronx Influential Women 2015

"This is a foundational book for all students and new nurses to prepare them for their transition into their professional practice role."

DEBORAH HUNT

The book is needed, Hunt said, because academic studies show as high as 30% turnover in the first year for new nurses, 57% in the second. All this turnover comes at a cost.

Hunt grew up in Morris Park and attended Columbus High School, St. Raymond's High School for Girls, and St. Francis Xavier. She later graduated from Mount Vernon School of Nursing, and earned a Bachelor's Degree at Mercy College, a masters at CNR, and a doctorate (PhD) at Adelphi University, she said.

25 BRONX INFLUENTIAL *Women* 2015

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 25 INFLUENTIAL BRONX WOMEN. THEIR STEADFAST COMMITMENT TO UPLIFTING OUR COMMUNITY AND ADDRESSING THE ISSUES THAT AFFECT US ALL MAKE THEM ESPECIALLY QUALIFIED FOR THIS IMPRESSIVE DISTINCTION. THEIR EFFORTS HAVE BEEN RECOGNIZED AND MUST CONTINUE TO BE ACKNOWLEDGED. THE BRONX TIMES REPORTER'S SPECIAL EDITION IS AN EXCELLENT WAY TO BOTH CELEBRATE THE MANY CONTRIBUTIONS THAT THESE WOMEN HAVE MADE TO OUR COMMUNITY AND TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE IMPORTANT ROLE THAT WOMEN EVERYWHERE HAVE MADE IN MAKING OUR COMMUNITY AND COUNTRY STRONGER.



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JUDY HUTSON

Activist proves 'Home is where the heart is'

25 Bronx Influential Women 2015

'Home is where the heart is' goes the adage and no where is that saying more evident then on East 222nd Street.

Judy Hutson, an executive board member of the East 222nd Street Block Association for the last 15 years, is a second generation caretaker of the broad residential roadway that connects the New England Thruway to the Bronx River Parkway.

Judy remembers that while growing up, her parents, who still live in the original house they purchased on East 222nd Street between White Plains Road and Barnes Avenue, fought the city's plan to turn an old church into a methadone treatment clinic and coordinated efforts with the police to rid the area of illegal drug sale activity.

"Their activism inspired me to get involved", she said of her Barbados-born parents who emigrated to the United States from London, England, when Judy was only 4-years old.

When it came time for Judy to plant her own roots, she purchased the house next door to her parent's home and continued their efforts to improve the quality of life for the families on East 222nd Street..

"We've addressed many concerns



over the years, one of the most urgent being the slowing down of traffic on the heavily-travelled thoroughfare," she explained.

Working through the Department of Transportation traffic calming measures were initiated. The roadway was channeled into single lanes of traffic in each direction, with dedicated turn lanes and a bike lane.

When developers started replac-

ing single-family homes with small apartment buildings, the residents successfully rezoned the area to 2- and 3-family, thwarting any further undesirable attempts to disrupt the current streetscape.

Currently Judy obtained grant money from NYC Committee to purchase sidewalk flower pots for the 700 block. There are now 22 pots adorning the avenue. The city has also promised to install wrought iron barriers around each of the avenue's tree pits.

"Since we placed the pots on the avenue we're seeing less garbage. People respect what we're doing," she said.

"We're just starting to plant the flowers in the pots. Soon you'll see Boxwoods, potato vines and pansies growing from each sidewalk planter," she proudly boasted.

Through the Bronx River Alliance she founded Friends of Shoelace Park to maintain the linear park space along the Bronx River Parkway from East 211th Street at Bronx Boulevard, nearly a mile, to East 230th Street.

She also serves as the co-chair to the Alliance's Greenway Team. For several years Judy organized a 10K run in the park, which started at 'The

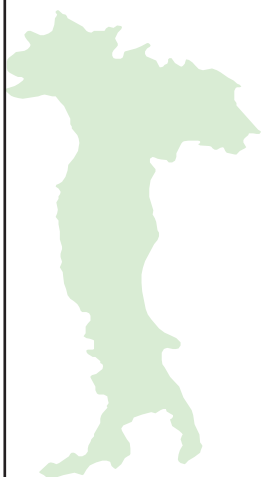
"We're just starting to plant the flowers in the pots.

Soon you'll see Boxwoods, potato vines and pansies growing from each sidewalk planter."

JUDY HUTSON

Forest' and ended in Shoelace Park. Due to a lack of volunteers the run was not held this year.

In 2010 Judy was honored by Bank of America as a 'local hero' at the annual Neighborhood Excellence Initiative Award ceremony.



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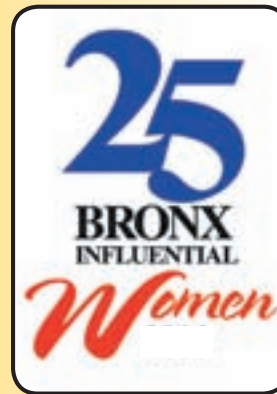
On being named one of the 25 Influential Women

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DEBRA ANN JAFFEE

Commitment to others becomes a Godsend

A Bronxite, through and through, Debra Jaffee has moved only eight blocks over her lifetime from where she was born in Morris Park.

Debra credits her grandmother, who enlisted her at the age 17 to help some seniors complete paperwork, for her strong community commitment.

"I remember there were a couple of seniors that had difficulty reading documents they needed to fill out and my grandma had me do it for them, and that was the beginning," she said. "I continued to go to the senior center on a regular basis to help the seniors".

Little did she know then that her early exposure to volunteer work would become a therapeutic Godsend.

While raising her family she coached t-ball for the Van Nest Little League, became its first woman umpire and participated in local politics, even serving in an elective position as a State Committeewoman. But her biggest challenge was yet to come.

About 13 years ago she was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis. The doctors told her the disease was going to be hard on the caregivers as well,



as she lost her ability to walk and her eyesight deteriorated.

The best way to fight the illness was to remain active and with her husband Keith's encouragement she joined the local community board.

Four years ago an opportunity presented itself when the 40-year old St. Clare's Senior Club's nonpaying

director position became available. The program had become dormant and needed to be massaged back to health.

The club, which does not accept funding, now serves over 100 seniors, complimenting the Morris Park Community Association's 3-day program.

"We meet one day at the center for activities and go on an outing the other day," she said.

"Seniors need to remain active, need to be on the move. This generation of seniors has friendships that go back 60 to 70 years. You'll never see anything like that again," Jaffee said.

The seniors are asked for a \$2 donation on Thursdays to defray the cost of the coffee and light refreshments. Some area merchants such as Conte's Bakery and Exit Realty donate to the center so that the seniors get an extra treat.

On certain holidays, such as Mother's Day, special events are held. This past holiday for \$5 they had a lunch and all the ladies received a red rose. Once a year the center holds an English Tea, when the members get dressed up and they hold a tea social. The club also features speakers

25 Bronx Influential Women 2015

MOST ADMIRER WOMAN:

My Mom, she never gives up. She has fought heart disease and cancer. She taught me, 'home, dedication, family.'

FAVORITE PLAY:

'Les Miserables'.

FAVORITE BRONX LOCALE:

To find solace I go to Hawkins Beach in City Island

and has sponsored the mammogram bus.

Tuesdays are a travel day. A host of activities are scheduled including trips to the tapings of various afternoon TV shows, lunch on Athure Avenue, shopping trips and an occasional trip to Atlantic City.

Debra considers her greatest program to be Bedtime Stories, where she would go into various neighborhoods and have the seniors read to youngsters.

She has helped organize community clean up programs and was honored as Woman of the Year by Congressman Joseph Crowley. Debra has played the Easter Bunny and Mrs. Claus during holidays.


While on Community Board 11 she served on the Sanitation Committee and helped clean out Matthews Muliner Playground.



Primavera Italian Language & Culture Program
Proudly congratulates their Site Director and Teacher,
Loretta Zaino
On being named one of the 25 Influential Women
Thank you for keeping the Program going all these years
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recognizes the religious foundation
and faith provided by the members of:
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Longwood Arts Project

Longwood Art Gallery @ Hostos

You are invited to join us!

BCA's Longwood Art Gallery @ Hostos presents *Freddy Rodríguez: My Geometries 1970-2002*, a solo exhibition featuring paintings, drawings and mixed media works between 1970 and 2002.

Gallery Location: Hostos Community College, 450 Grand Concourse at 149th Street. The exhibition is on view through August 5, 2015.

Find out more at bronxarts.org.

At right: Freddy Rodríguez, *Untitled*, 1971. Acrylic on canvas, 66"x 54"; Photographed by Jamaal Levine.



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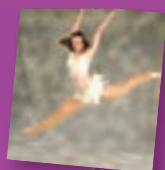
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PROFESSOR CYNTHIA JONES

Passionately educating the most vulnerable

25 Bronx Influential Women 2015

Professor Cynthia Jones has passionately educated the most vulnerable of Hostos Community College students with wonderful results.

The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education recently named the English Department lecturer the 2014 New York State Professor of the Year.

Professor Jones began teaching all levels of English as a Second Language reading courses in the late 1970s as an adjunct professor.

She has taught in the Hostos Community College Early College Initiative Program since its inception and served as an Office of Academic Affairs Faculty Fellow from 2011 to 2014.

Her interest and expertise in areas of high school-collaboration and developmental education have defined her tenure at Hostos.

She is also the chairperson of the General Education Committee, co-director of the Honors Program, and interim co-director of the Center for Teaching and Learning, and coordinator of the Qualitative Reasoning Fellows Initiative.



Professor Jones grew up in the University Heights section of the Bronx, attending P.S.26, J.H.S.82 and Walton High School.

Her dad taught her the importance of reading. He subscribed to the Reader's Digest and always read newspapers, she recalls. Her love for reading was further advanced by her English teachers who recommended many

great novels.

"I went through a phase when I read nothing but books by Russian authors," she confessed. "Today I'm still an avid reader."

She is a firm believer that a good educator can have a profound effect on a student's future.

"As a teacher you seldom know how you impact your students, but I was on an elevator once when a former student recognized me and said 'You are the best teacher. You changed my life. My life had been a mess, but after I took your summer workshop I became so motivated.'"

"Encounters like that remind you that the work you do can produce significant results", she said

Professor Jones believes it is important to give service to the community and donates many hours to her church and her employer where she serves on a conflict resolution committee.

She resides in Parkchester, but spends most of her free time in South Carolina with her mom of 92 years.

During her visits to the south she has become fascinated with the history of the schools that were built

**"As a teacher
you seldom
know how you
impact your
students"**

PROFESSOR CYNTHIA JONES

with 50/50 matching funds provided by Sears Roebuck and Company. All-in-all she believes over 5,000 of these modest school houses were constructed across the south during this program.

"My mom taught in one of them. They were built during the segregation period. Today, very few remain. They were small and could not accommodate the growing needs of the changing times," she said, adding, "Some have received landmark status".

BHARATI SUKUL KEMRAJ

Devoted to touching the heart of many

25 Bronx Influential Women 2015

Born in Meten Meer Zorg, Guyana, Bharati Sukul Kemraj, commonly known as 'Kavita,' migrated to the Bronx at the age of seven. She is the daughter of Chandra Sukul and Pandit Vishnu, a Hindu priest. She has three sisters and two brothers. She graduated from Fordham University in 2006 with a B.A. in Communications and Media Studies.

In 2000, Bharati founded the Bharati Dance Academy at the Vishnu Mandir Hindu Temple, where she is still the dance teacher and choreographer. In 2008, she founded Bharati 'Where the Magic of Exposure Becomes Reality,' a media production and public relations company.

At BronxNet TV from 2005 to 2010, Bharati covered local, national and international news, events and topics for the New York Emmy Award-winning live show 'Open.'

She also coordinated guests, wrote scripts, created graphics and trained students in all areas of production for the weekly program 'Diálogo Abierto' and hosted the monthly program "WELIUS: The Pulse of our Community."

She is currently the host and producer of The Bharati Show, which first



aired in 2011 and which focuses on news, activities and events happening in and around the Bronx.

Hired for her technical skills in 2012, Bharati became Community Board 11's first-ever community assistant, who spent much of her time here helping launch and maintain the board's NYC.gov website among other duties. From 2012 to 2015, she served

on Community Board 9, becoming, in 2014, its treasurer and chairperson of the Youth & Education and Planning committees. In 2013, she graduated from the NYPD Citizens Police Academy.

As a consultant, Bharati has worked in several fields and offices including Power Marketing, LLC, Lehman College's Urban Male Leadership Program, the Bronx Chamber of Commerce, Bronx House and Bronx YMCA.

Bharati believes that, "Life is not what we want it to be, but what we make of it. While there are many things here that will catch your eye, only a few will touch your heart. Pursue those things."

Bharati has been featured in the New York Times, 'The Debrief with David Ushery,' the Daily News, News 12, Bronx Times Reporter and several other local print publications, blogs and social media sites.

In 2012 and 2014, she emceed the Annual Bronx Week Parade.

She currently serves as an advisor for Habitat for Humanity's NYC Faith-Rooted Advisory Council and as a member of the Bronx Clergy Task-

**Founded the
Bharati Dance
Academy at the
Vishnu Mandir
Hindu Temple,
where she is
still the dance
teacher**

force, Bronx YMCA Bon Appetit Fund-raiser Planning Committee and Sonia Sotomayor Cornerstone Advisory Board.

In 2015, she left CB 11 for a position with Borough President Ruben Diaz, Jr.'s office.



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Maribel Gonzalez

South of France Restaurant Owner

Nilka Martell

G.I.V.E./Friends of Starlight Park

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Cynthia Jones

Hostos Community College

Naomi Pouchie

Author

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NILKA MARTEL

Planting the seeds for the next generation to enjoy

25 Bronx Influential Women 2015

Nilka Martel still lives in the same building she was raised in on Virginia Avenue.

The para-legal by profession, turned an employment lull into a very satisfying block beautification effort.

She gathered her two children and her neighbors and they went to work pulling weeds from sidewalk cracks and planting curbside flower beds on her street.

She even got the elderly involved.

"We got a permit to close Virginia Avenue at Newbold Avenue and while the young took care of the spruce up, the older residents of the block cooked," she said.

She formed a not-for-profit organization, GIVE, getting involved in Virginia Avenue Effort, so she could raise hundreds of dollars to continue her work.

"We've now expanded our efforts to other park properties," she said. "We must get the youth involved so they'll protect these valuable green spaces for the future generations."

The efforts involve picking up trash, installing tree guards,



mulching and watering.

"Every week, a group of youngsters would accompany me to Concrete Park, of the Sheridan Expressway, to water the 40 trees

planted there.

"Our group now numbers over 500 volunteers, mostly from the Bronx," she said. "When we have these cleanups, we target our youth and educate them about not abusing our green space," she said.

She's teamed up with the Bronx River Alliance and is now adopting park trees, cleaning up litter-strewn public step streets, and has formed another group, Friends of Starlight Park.

Nilka is planning to retire GIVE and open a new not-for-profit, named in honor of a good friend and fellow park's activist, Friends of Morgan Powell.

Morgan was known for his vast knowledge of the Black history pertaining to the Bronx River area. "We want to preserve his legacy, but add a Latino element to the lectures he presented."

Milka has three children: Iantha Hernandez, 24, and the two that help her in the field, Lialynn, 18, and Isaias, 17. Her children have been instrumental in attracting the many youth volunteers.

"We got a permit to close Virginia Avenue at Newbold Avenue and while the young took care of the spruce up, the older residents of the block cooked."

NILKA MARTEL

SUSAN O'HANLON MENDOJNI

Teaching dance in a supportive family setting

25 Bronx Influential Women 2015

At six-years old Susan O'Hanlon Mendogni, owner of Fancy Feet Dance Studio, was exposed to the artform at Andrea's Dance School in Morris Park and her feet haven't stopped moving since.

With 37 years of teaching experience, Susan now operates studios in Pelham Bay, Allerton and Castle Hill. She holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Drama, Theater and Dance and is a certified Aerobics teacher.

At an early age, her mom, a legislative aide for Councilwoman-at-Large Aileen B. Ryan and her dad, a fireman, instilled in her the confidence to follow her dream - that dream being to open a dance studio.

At the age of 12 she continued ballet, tap and jazz dance instruction at Dorothy's Dance School on E. 231st Street. While attending Preston High School she would trek into Manhattan to study at the Broadway Dance Center, where she was exposed to top talent. She studied jazz and tap under famous choreographers Phil Black, Charles Kelley and 'Luigi' and ballet with the esteemed David Howard.

Susan also worked with Barry Lather, a choreographer to Janet



Jackson and Jackie Slight, a choreographer for Paula Abdul.

She started dating her husband when she was a high school junior. "Under my high school yearbook

photo he wrote 'I will spend the rest of my life helping you achieve your dream of opening a dance studio,'" she shared.

After a brief stint as a Business major at Iona College, Susan switched to Queens College to major in Dance and Theater.

In 1998, 2003 and 2009 Susan's students performed under her direction in Walt Disney World, in 2006 on Norwegian Cruise Line and in March 2011 at Lincoln Center.

Capezio, the ballet shoe makers, commissioned Fancy Feet Dance Studio to choreograph and perform in an in-house national sales video.

Her students have performed on the hit TV show '30 Rock', and with Sean P-Diddy.

Susan's students are regional and national dance champions and were invited to perform at the London 2012 Olympics.

Some of Fancy Feet Dance Studio's students are now teaching dance at the college level.

"Dance teaches good work ethics," Susan said. "It prepares the students for life because it fosters a lot of positive energy."

She donates to and supports

MOST ADMIRER WOMAN:

My mom, Pat O'Hanlon. Besides being a selfless, caring and incredible mom, she taught me to believe in myself, even if no one else does.

FAVORITE MOVIE:

American Soldier. I am so grateful for the freedoms that our young service men and women provide for us so that we can go about our normal lives.

FAVORITE BRONX LOCALE:

I loved my trips to Orchard Beach

the Bronx Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children and has received its Humanitarian award numerous times. She has helped raise money for this organization by organizing a kick-a-thon on Crosby Avenue, outside her studio.

She is also a member of Dance Educators of America.

"I don't believe in competitiveness," Susan said, adding "What I try to instill in my students is that they support one another - like a family."

Susan has received her share of support while pursuing her dream - supportive parents, a supportive husband and two wonderful supportive daughters.

Plays a role to so many...

niece
COUSIN

Sister

teacher

MOTHER

wife

"La Maestra"

Loretta

AUNT

influential woman

Godmother

GRANDDAUGHTER

Friend

DAUGHTER

*Congratulations Loretta Zaino
on being honored as one of the
25 Most Influential Women in the Bronx!*

DENISE PAGAN

Always fostering an entrepreneurial spirit

25 Bronx Influential Women 2015

Denise Pagan was born in NYC, but raised in Puerto Rico, where she acquired her business degree from Universidad Interamericana in Bayamon, Puerto Rico.

After her graduation she returned to NYC where she got married and had two children.

"I had to go back to New York because my parents were so protective. I yearned to spread my wings and take on new and exciting challenges," Denise explained.

She graduated from Major Modeling at Barbizon School and developed a career as a professional and beauty and image consultant where she enjoyed mentoring women to improve their image and inspired them to become entrepreneurs and leaders.

She worked as an aid to Councilwoman Lucy Cruz. This is where her passion to help people and touch lives developed.

Her extraordinary ability to bring out the best in people was recognized by constituents, community leaders and families in her neighborhood.

As an executive assistant to NYC Housing Authority chairman Ruben Franco, she was able to explore her



talent in managerial skills.

When she got engaged, she decided to resign from NYCHA and worked for her fiancée as vice president of his financial enterprise business, where she worked for 15 years.

But, Denise missed getting involved with the community and working as a beauty consultant. This awakening resulted in her starting a

home-based business and today she offers a dual service to her customers: health and beauty.

In the NY area, she was the number one sales leader with a French cosmetic firm, and became a director with a USA cosmetic company where she mentored and coached 34 female salespeople.

Denise's genuine love and care for others is noticed in every intention she has to help every person she comes across. Resulting in great testimonials from people and community leaders who have been touched by her love and passion.

Today, she has a TV segment with TV Exclusivo on BronxNet called *Hablando Con Denise*. In this segment, she interviews entrepreneurs.

Alianza Pueretorriquena was founded by her on November 2014 to focus on her goals and dreams.

Denise has an adventuresome spirit. She loves to experience the thrills and excitement of trying new things.

Along with her children, she has gone on some of the most heart-stopping recreational park rides. She is looking forward to her first skydiving jump.

Denise's genuine love and care for others is noticed in every intention she has to help every person she comes across. Resulting in great testimonials from people and community leaders who have been touched by her love and passion.

NAOMI POUCHI

Writing books so children learn to read

25 Bronx Influential Women 2015

Naomi Pouchi, a retired educator, didn't lose her love of teaching when she left the classroom in 2012.

The start of her teaching career began when she enrolled in Bronx Community College from 1993 to 1995 and earned an Associate Degree in Liberal Arts and Education, earned additional credits at Lehman College and completed her Bachelor's degree in Educational Psychology at Mercy College in 2000.

Throughout her college career she held down a full-time job, taking the bulk of her classes after work. She became a NYC Department of Ed teacher for a short time before transferring to the Archdioceses of New York parochial school system.

Since retiring, she has self-published two picture books that are written specifically to help children learn to read.

Pouchie said she wanted to become a teacher since she was a young child, and first started working in schools as a teaching assistant. After completing her degrees—Pouchie was the first in her



family to graduate college—she worked as a early education literacy and math specialist and then finally as kindergarten teacher for 12 years.

"It's something I've always loved to do," said Pouchie.

As a kindergarten teacher, Pouchie was teaching the very basic building block of education, like how to hold a pencil, write your name, and sound out very simple words.

"A lot of students came in not knowing these things," she said.

Pouchie used her knowledge of how children learn to write a book series designed specifically for students who are just starting to read.

The series of picture books about two cats, called 'The Adventures of Harry and Bobo,' has large print so the kids can follow along to a read-aloud. Pouchie also used basic sentence structure and repeats key words throughout the book, which enhance the learning process.

The stories about the cat's adventures also include possibilities for a range of lessons on subjects like numbers, directions, colors and seasons.

Years of reading to students also provided her insight in to what type of books young kids are drawn to, leading her to write about animals,

MOST ADMIRABLE PEOPLE:

My parents who instilled in me a very strong work ethic from a young age.

FAVORITE BOOK:

To Sir, with Love by E.R Braithwaite

FAVORITE MOVIE:

Lean on Me

while incorporating richly colored illustrations. The book's art was furnished by Pouchie's husband, Steven.

In 1995 as a result of the joint efforts of a small group of people who initiated The New York Latin Jazz Society, she and her husband, in partnership with Bob Velez, started the first Latin Jazz Alive n Kickin through BronxNet.

From the period 1995 to 2003 over 85 half-hour shows were produced and aired spotlighting both local and world renowned musical artists on the local public access channels.

Naomi planned, produced and hosted the series. Her warm and charming character came through week after week as she welcomed cable to the many clubs and music venues which were hosting Latin jazz during those years.



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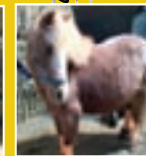
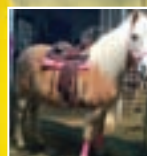
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DR. LISA ANNE RIZOPOULOS

Teaching young educators the value of giving

Dr. Lisa Anne Rizopoulos has forged a career in higher education that has brought together her highly recognized statute as an educator and the love and compassion for others taught to her by her mom and dad.

She is presently the chairperson of the Education Department of Manhattan College. As a full-time professor she has taught undergraduate literacy courses for 17 years.

"When I started at Manhattan College I learned it was a Lasallian college, emphasizing services to the poor and underserved population, and I've followed its mandate," she said.

With her course focus on teaching prospective teachers how to teach children to read in grades 1 to 12, she saw an opportunity to incorporate charity work into the curriculum.

Her students are given the opportunity to participate in volunteer programs that she coordinates. "All the volunteer hours help them get a job offer, often before they even graduate," she explained.

Some of the events she coordinates include a school supply drive, where she contacts principals of local elementary schools and obtains a list of supplies their students need



and then the Education students work with her to ask the Manhattan College community to donate the supplies. She also has the Education students coordinate 'Safe Halloween' and 'Winter Wonderland' where the college opens its doors to the community. The children are greeted by the students who partake in various ac-

tivities.

The Education students do charity work at the Methodist Home as well.

Dr. Rizopoulos serves the Bronx community by working with both Catholic and public school principals in District 10 by placing student teachers and conducting professional workshops for teachers.

Raised in Pelham Bay, she is a product of P.S. 71, I.S. 192 and Lehman High School, where she taught for a seven years. She and her husband Bob have a 23-year old son and a 21-year old daughter.

The Rizopoulos and Vacca families present a Joseph Vacca Scholarship to a needy student attending Manhattan College. The Rizopoulos family also makes a donation to a student in need attending the Greek American Institute.

She has written 15 articles on how to teach diverse learners. She also works with blind adults and Alzheimer's patients. She has trained her dogs to do tricks to bring comfort and love to the elderly.

Dr. Lisa has served on prestigious committees at Manhattan College that include the Senate, Consultor's

25 Bronx Influential Women 2015

MOST ADMIRED WOMEN:

Professionally, Maria Montessori's philosophy of teaching young children inspired me to be confident and ambitious with my pedagogical decisions.

FAVORITE MOVIE:

The movie that resonates with me is The Wizard of Oz. The theme, there's no place like home, brings me back to Pelham Bay, to my mother's house and to Manhattan College, where I teach.

FAVORITE BRONX LOCALE:

A walk in Pelham Bay Park floods me with memories of the people that I love and important milestones in my life.

Board committees and accreditation steering committees.

Her accolades include Westchester County Distinguished Woman of the Year, Pen and Sword Society, Women of Distinction Award from Manhattan College, recipient of the Distinguished Lasallian Educator Award, Kappa Delta Pi International Honor Society in Education, nominated for an Alumni Achievement Award from Fordham University and Who's Who Among America's Teachers.

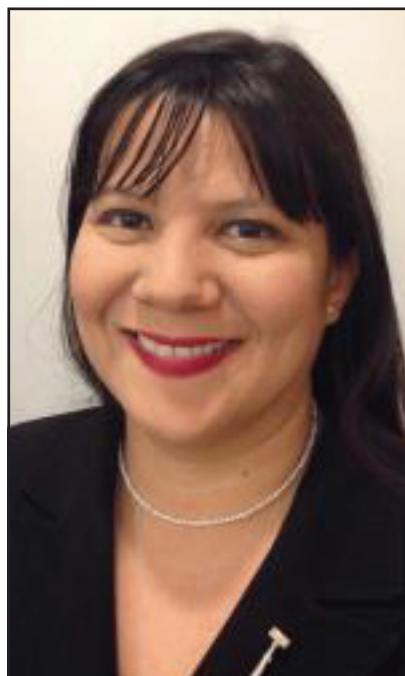
THE HONORABLE FIORDALIZA A. RODRIGUEZ

Fulfilling a lifelong dream of a judgeship

The Honorable Fiordaliza A. Rodriguez was born in the Dominican Republic, and immigrated to New York in 1981. She graduated in 1993 from John Jay College of Criminal Justice (cum laude) with a Bachelor of Arts degree and a major in Government and Public Administration. In 1996, Fiordaliza obtained a Master of Science degree in Urban Policy Analysis and Management from the New School for Social Research, the Robert J. Milano Graduate School.

Thereafter, Fiordaliza accomplished her goal of becoming a lawyer by graduating from the CUNY School of Law in 1999. While at CUNY, she did a one year clinic representing victims of domestic violence in Queens Family Court and co-founded the Main Street Student Legal Defense Fund, a fund created to assist law students in the representation of indigent clients and to create programs that would increase alumni involvement in public interest law.

Fiordaliza began her legal career as an assistant corporation counsel for the Administration for Children's Services where, for four and a half years, she prosecuted parental abuse/neglect and termination of parental



rights cases. In solo private practice she used her bilingual and advocacy skills/background to ensure that her clients fully understood why they were in court and what social services they needed to get out of it.

She is a member and volunteers at the Bronx YMCA. She has represented the Dominican Bar Association in several judicial panel screening committees of the Bronx County Democratic Committee, been a volunteer attorney during elections, and worked on the campaign to elect Judge Julia I. Rodriguez.

Fiordaliza has provided legal services, pro bono, to several non-profit organizations.

In recognition for her service to the community, Fiordaliza has been given the Hon. Alexander A. DelleCese Memorial Scholarship Award, the Theodore F. Kupferman Student Achievement Award and the Law Student Legal Ethics Award.

In 2010, she received a joint award from The University APEC and the Commissioner of Support for Reform and Modernization of Justice of the Dominican Republic for her outstanding legal work as a Dominican Jurist in the United States. In 2011, Fiordaliza was recognized by Centro Altigracia de Fe y Justicia in their International Women's Day for her professional leadership and commitment. In 2012, together with her husband, she was recognized as the Volunteer of

the Year by the Bronx YMCA for her work in the outstanding service to the organization. That same year, Fiordaliza was recognized by the Dominican American National Roundtable as an Inductee of The Dominican List.

Starting in April 2010, Fiordaliza presided in the Family Court as a court attorney referee, a quasi-judicial position, where she handled a caseload involving custody, visitation, guardianship, family offenses, and paternity petitions.

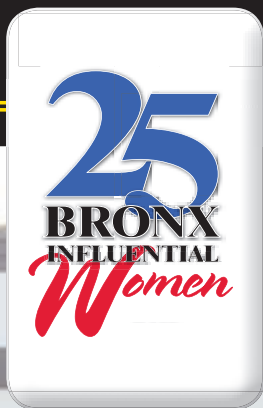
In 2015, Fiordaliza's dream came true when she was appointed by Mayor de Blasio to a 10-year term to the New York Family Court.

She is assigned to the Bronx Family Court to handle cases in the area of child protection, termination of parental rights, custody, visitation, orders of protection, guardianships, juvenile delinquency and adoptions.

Fiordaliza lives in the Bronx, with her husband, Eliezer (a lawyer and the Association Executive Officer of the Bronx-Manhattan North Association of Realtors) and their two children, Miguel and Cristian. Her parents, now retired, were hard working business people in the Bronx and Manhattan. Fiordaliza's father, J

25 Bronx Influential Women 2015

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JUDGE LLINET ROSADO

Showing empathy for the underserved

Judge Llinet Rosado has spent her whole professional career empowering those without a voice. Whether an undocumented immigrant or a victim of domestic violence, she had the empathy to guide them to a better life.

The multi-faceted justice's varied background in public service has provided her the tools to make sound decisions from the bench.

She arrived in the Lower East Side from the Dominican Republic with her divorced mom and three sisters when she was 5, and moved to the Bronx when she married. All her legal experience has taken place in the Bronx.

Upon graduation from Union University at Albany Law School she began a career at the Bronx Legal Aid Society, representing indigent people accused of committing crimes. Subsequently, she became an attorney at Children's Law Center, where she represented children in custody, visitation, neglect, child support and domestic violence cases in both the Family Court and Integrated Domestic Violence Part.

"I've dedicated my life to public service," Judge Rosado said, adding, "The pay is small, but the rewards



are great, especially when you help another human being."

Her desire to empower others was instilled in her by an aunt that practices law in her native country. "She proved that the way you handle yourself will define your success," she said. "She is an amazing person."

In 2012, when she came before the screening panel to be a judge candidate, her varied work history made her qualified for the civil, criminal or family court.

Later that year she was elected Civil Court Judge of Bronx County and currently sits in Bronx Family Court where she presides over custody, visitation and family offense petitions. In Family Court, she is the co-chair of

the Custody, Visitation and Family Offenses Taskforce and co-chair of the Bronx Family Court newsletter.

"My various experiences in public service provided me with a broad work history that was very marketable. I had worked in so many areas of the justice system," she explained.

Family court is going through a phase where decisions are made based on what's best for the child according to Judge Rosado. "Children do best when they have access to mom and dad, as long as the parents show respect to one another," she said

Since 1999 she has been a professor at Hostos Community College, where she has taught Criminal Law, Family Law, Trial Advocacy and Introduction to Criminal Justice Administration.

Judge Rosado has served on community boards 4 and 9 in the Bronx, was assistant treasurer of the Association of Law Secretaries of the Supreme and Surrogate's Courts, and served on the Council District 17th Round Table Advisory Committee.

She is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Latino Judges Association, Black Bar Association of Bronx County, Bronx Catholic Law-

25 **Bronx** Influential **Women** 2015

MOST ADMIRER WOMAN:

The most influential woman in my life is my mother, Nazareth Garcia. Her perseverance, faith, commitment, and guidance inspire and motivate me to this day.

FAVORITE BOOK:

I proudly consider myself somewhat of a History buff. In that vein, one of my favorite books is *The People's History of the United States* written by Howard Zinn. The reason I love this non-fiction book is that Mr. Zinn, an American historian and political scientist, presents American history from the perspective of the common people.

FAVORITE BRONX LOCALE:

The place most special to me is the Veteran's Memorial Hall located at the Bronx County Courthouse on the Grand Concourse. The Art Deco designed building is a thing of beauty built in 1933.

yers Guild, Dominican Bar Association Historical Society of the New York Courts and Bronx Women's Bar Association. She has also been a coach for the Thurgood Marshall Mock Trial Competition.

Judge Rosado lives in Pelham Parkway North with her husband and two sons, an 18-year old who attends Fordham University and a 12-year old.

WILMA TAMAYO

Providing legal guidance for the indigent

Wilma Tamayo, in her role as administrator and programmatic coordinator at Fordham University School of Law, oversees initiatives aimed at providing immigrant children, victims of domestic violence, those living in homeless shelters and anyone in need of help, guidance on their legal rights.

Born in the Dominican Republic, she came to the United States with her mom, a sister and two brothers at age 14, residing near the Grand Concourse and Fordham Road.

Her mom, who was a nurse in her native country, was reduced to doing factory work in her new homeland.

"My mom went to Columbia University and obtained a certificate degree in Holistic Medicine and shortly opened a holistic pharmacy," Wilma fondly remembered.

Wilma said her mom would coach her customers on proper nutrition.

"She put me and my sister through college, but unfortunately she did not live long enough to see me graduate," she said.

Since 2008 she has worked at Fordham University Center for Social Justice. In 2009 the school started to administer CLARO, Civil Legal Advice and Resource Office, to provide free le-



gal advice to residents with credit debt who are being sued by either an original creditor or debt buyer.

The program operates through partnerships with the Bronx County Bar Association, New York City Bar, Legal Services NYC-Bronx, NYU Law School Debtor's Rights Project and Fordham.

Many people got into trouble

with consumer debt during the financial crisis, when they lost jobs and fell behind on payments, she explained. Some used the credit cards to pay for medical emergencies she said.

Very often people don't know their rights, she said. They are taken to civil court but don't have legal help, and the majority of the cases end in a default judgment in favor of the creditor. This element of unfairness is part of the reason these cases present a social justice issue.

"These people don't have the money to pay for legal representation," she said. "The other side, they have representation."

"At the beginning there were only 4 to 5 volunteers dealing with 10 to 15 cases a week, but in 2015 over 60 people are counseled each session by almost 15 volunteers, made up of attorneys, law students, experts and staff members," Wilma said, adding "All the volunteers are very giving."

Some of the defendants CLARO helps were not properly served and are not aware of the issue until after a judgment has been entered against them in court, and they find that their bank account is restrained or they receive a notice of garnishment from

25 **Bronx** Influential **Women** 2015

"These people don't have the money to pay for legal representation.

The other side, they have representation."

WILMA TAMAYO

their employer.

The Bronx CLARO program operates out of the Bronx County Courthouse each Thursday afternoon from 3 to 6 p.m.

"For me and for everyone at CLARO, it's important that these defendants to understand what's going on," she concluded.

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RHINA VALENTIN

Recognized in her profession as 'La Reina'

Like any aspiring actress, the journey to success takes many detours before the ultimate dream is realized. And for Rhina 'La Reina' Valentin, the BronxNet host of Open, nothing could be truer.

She is a Jane-of-all-trades in the arts and entertainment industry. She has a commitment to the world, which is to create the door and space for people who think there is no hope in life. This to her means forgiving others, but most-importantly, forgiving oneself.

To facilitate her desire to be an actress she worked in the travel business for a Manhattan firm. While continuing her travel bookings from Los Angeles she auditioned frequently and captured a non-speaking, recurring part on the Fresh Prince of Bel Air.

"I would go into the office at 9 a.m. New York time to take care of my clients and then go to tryouts," she said.

But then the native New Yorker experienced her first 6.5 earthquake, along with days of aftershocks.

At her request her company relocated her - but this time to hurricane-prone Florida, another place she couldn't see herself staying too long.

Finally she returned to New York,



settling in the Castle Hill area.

"I've always wanted to entertain. At Mother Cabrini High School I was a baton twirler," she recalled fondly.

It was in the Bronx that she found her voice as an urban latina artist. In 1999, well-known author Charles Rice-

Gonzalez of Bronx Academy of Arts and Dance (BADD) spotted her and introduced her to choreographer Arthur Aviles, who cast her in a whimsical tale called Maeve de Oz.

This moment forever changed her place in the arts world.

Bronx Council on the Arts executive director Bill Aquado recommended her to host the gala for the opening of the Bronx Museum's new wing honoring Congressman Jose Serrano.

She is a former Bronx Recognizes Its Own winner and continues to develop art pieces and ensembles.

As a multiple-award winning comedic actress, TV personality, producer, dancer and writer Rhina is truly one of the performing arts' most versatile women.

She has been featured on HBO and in nationally syndicated commercials, written, choreographed and performed critically acclaimed pieces for dance, theater and currently serves as the beauty and brains behind her rapidly growing production company La Reina Del Barrio, Inc.

Rhina was recognized twice in 2012 by the Comité Noviembre as Lo Mejor de Nuestra Comunidad and the

25 ^{Bronx} Influential Women 2015

MOST ADMIRER WOMAN:

My grandmother, Josephine Bruckman (may she rest in peace). She was the matriarch of the family. My nurturer!

FAVORITE BOOKS:

My favorite books are - The Alchemist and The Four Agreements. They allow me to always view life through the eyes of possibilities.

FAVORITE BRONX LOCALE:

When needing a break to just think, my great escape and place to visit regularly was the waterfalls at River Park near the Bronx Zoo.

Violence Intervention Program, Inc with a Activist Survivor Award.

In 2011, Borough President Ruben Diaz, Jr. presented her with a Certificate of Merit. Community Board 6 and Senator Gustavo Rivera also honored her for her community service.

In 2011 Rhina was officially crowned 'La Reina Del Barrio' at a special official coronation by her peers.

She has also dedicated much energy to the development of La Reina's Barrio-esque, which initially began as an open mic at Carlito's Cafe and materialized into a residency at the Nuyorican Poet's Cafe with monthly performances. It was also presented at The Viva Bronx! Festival in 2005.

EVA YAN

A Long Island girl finds happiness in the Bronx

Eva Yan's path to success could never have been predicted.

Her parents immigrated to the United States from British-ruled Hong Kong in 1967 to find better opportunity for their family. The family located in Carle Place, Nassau County, and Eva started 7th grade with a huge language barrier, a problem she quickly overcame.

She excelled in Math and Science and contemplated a career in Medicine. While attending Adelphi College in Garden City on a full scholarship, a friend's misfortune made her reconsider her career objective and she instead chose Optometry.

"A good friend of mine got into a car accident and had to be hospitalized for months. When I visited him I realized I didn't like the hospital setting, where patients often got sicker and died. So I chose a field where I could work with well people," she said.

Being that she resided on Long Island, Eva knew very little about the Bronx, except the negative stereotypes she saw on the TV news broadcasts, so when she landed her first job after graduating in 1982 at



Metro Optics in Parkchester, she didn't expect to be there any longer than a year or two.

"When I started working at the small storefront eye glass store I gave it my all. Eventhough I was only an employee, I worked as diligently as if I was the owner," she said.

The store's owner, Michael Ug-

ara, recognized Eva's efforts and offered her a partnership opportunity when he opened a second store on Westchester Square,

"I wasn't going any where and I liked that Mike ran the business very ethically, so I accepted the offer and in 1988 I became a partner," she related.

By 1989 Eva's life took another unexpected turn when she and Mike started dating. By 1990 the two were married and had a daughter, Elisa, a year later.

"Mike and I are so different, but somehow it all works", she mused.

Their young lady is now grown up and graduated from Emerson College in Boston with a Masters in Health Communication.

"A young girl raised on Long Island I could never have imagined the direction my life took," she reflected.

Now 60- years old and still a workaholic, Eva's pondering slowing her life down a notch or two, but has no definite plans in mind.

Today the couple operate four Metro Optics store, adding the newest store earlier this year at the

25 ^{Bronx} Influential Women 2015

MOST ADMIRER WOMAN:

My mother, hands down! With only 3 years of schooling, she managed to raise seven professional children.

FAVORITE BOOK:

My favorite book is Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen. I like the older days for its simplicity. The protagonist is a strong woman, and I suppose I'm just a romantic at heart.

FAVORITE BRONX LOCALE:

Einstein Hospital (don't laugh), for that's where our daughter was born and she's surely my pride and joy!

Throggs Neck Shopping Center, where Eva now spends most of her time. In 1992 John Bonizio joined the company as its general manager and he became a partner in 2004..

Eva's very active with Visions, an organization that helps the visually impaired. She also is involved with the American Optometric Association and the New York State Optometric Association and is a member of the Beta Sigma Kappa, International Optometric Honor Fraternity; Delta Tau Alpha, Adelphi University Honor Society; and Beta Beta Beta, National Biological Honor Society.



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LORETTA ZAINO

Bringing Italian language and culture to youngsters

Timing is everything in life and Loretta Zaino is living proof.

When Loretta entered junior high school, she was fast tracked to do 7th, 8th and 9th grades in two years. So when she graduated from college in 1973 with a teaching degree she quickly landed a job at a Soundview school teaching 6th grade. Her peers, that graduated the following year, had difficulty finding work because the city was in the midst of layoffs due to a financial crisis.

Her impressive work performance during her short stint at C.S. 232 and the fact that she was a licensed Math teacher got her an immediate position at a high school where she spent her entire career. After retirement she accepted a teaching assignment at Villa Maria Academy.

Loretta also had a license to teach Foreign Language and when an opportunity to teach Italian in St. Theresa's Aurora program, sponsored by the late-Senator Guy Vellela, was offered to her she did not hesitate to sign up.

When the funding dried up for the Italic Institute-run afterschool program she went out and convinced Senator Jeff Klein of the class' importance,



and he agreed to contribute funding. Now with a smaller budget, she drastically cut her salary and moved the newly named Primavera Program to St. Benedict's. The program is offered on Saturday mornings for children in grades 4 through 8. There is no cost to the families that use the program.

"A lot of schools don't provide language, especially parochial schools," Loretta said adding, "Speaking another language gives a student an advantage."

Due to limited funds the class size has been cut in half and only 40 students per year can now receive instruction.

"We do more than teach Italian. The class is exposed to the Italian culture and cuisine as well," she said. At times a cook is invited in to make meatballs, and at other times a baker will make cannolis for the class.

From time-to-time some students have been able to turn their Italian class into a college scholarship. One student was recently awarded a 4-year high school scholarship to the Scola d'Italia and four free years of college in Europe. Another student received a Columbus Citizen Foundation partial tuition scholarship to Fordham University.

In addition to the language program, she hosts an Italian Night Fundraiser for her parish, St. Benedict's every year since 2003. And she teaches an adult Italian language class as well.

The Pelham Bayite won a Ma-

25 Bronx Influential Women 2015

MOST ADMIRER WOMAN:

The most admired woman in my life is my mother who taught me to be independent and never rely on anyone but yourself.

FAVORITE BOOK

The Five People you Meet in Heaven by Mitch Albom

FAVORITE BRONX LOCALE:

Waterview has always given me solace and comfort so I go to the many places in the Bronx where there are spectacular water views..

ria Montessori Educator's Award in 2010.

For many years she was a community planner for the Archdiocese of New York's drug awareness program where she created her own workshops.

While her daughter Tiffany attended school she was a PTA president at P.S. 14 and president of the Mother's Guild at Villa Maria Academy, as well as a Girl Scout leader.

Loretta is committed to teaching the Italian language. As funds have decreased she has drastically reduced her meager salary and enlisted her daughter to help out. Eighth and 9th grade Confirmation candidates have also provided volunteer service to the program.

"All of our dreams can come true, if we have the courage to pursue them."

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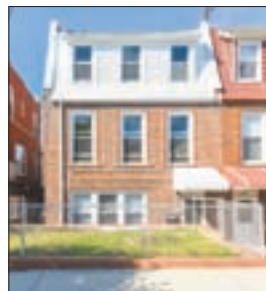
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VAN CORTLANDT PARK'S HOLIDAY CONCERT

On Sunday, May 24 a free Memorial Day concert sponsored by Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz and the Bronx Arts Ensemble was held in Van Cortlandt Park. The event honoring our nation's fallen service members was lead by conductor David Gilbert and featured live musical performances from soprano Halley Gilbert, trumpet soloist Angela Grosse, trombonist Papo Vazquez and tenor saxophonist Willie Williams accompanied by the Bronx Arts Ensemble.



Papo Vazquez (l) on trombone and Willie Williams on tenor sax accompany Bronx Arts Ensemble to Duke Ellington's 'Come Sunday'. Photo by Laura Stone

KLEIN HONORED BY JCCPP

On Sunday, May 17, Senator Jeff Klein, along with Bronx elected officials, civic leaders, and local community members, was honored by the Jewish Community Council of Pelham Parkway at the 37th Annual Leadership Breakfast which included a keynote address from Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie. Klein was presented with the Legislative Achievement Award for his outstanding accomplishments over his more than 20 year career in public office.



(l-r) Charles Landsberg, JCCPP president; Senator Klein and David Edelstein, JCCPP executive director. Photo courtesy of Senator Jeff Klein's Office

SPECIAL SCHOOLS HONOR BENEDETTO

On Thursday, May 21, St. Joseph's School for the Deaf, Lavelle School for the Blind, and New York Institute for Special Education participated in a Spirit Day Parade which began from SJSD and concluded in front of Assemblyman Michael Benedetto's East Tremont Avenue district office. Thanks to efforts made by both Assemblyman Benedetto and his colleagues, SJSD and its community of 4,201 schools have received increased statewide funding approximating \$2.3 million which is their first increase in nearly six years. All three schools thanked Benedetto for his dedication and support to their schools by presenting the assemblyman with awards and certifications of achievement as an expression of their everlasting gratitude.



Assemblyman Benedetto was honored by students at SJSD, LSB, and NYISE for his support and dedication in ensuring their achievements continue to be recognized in Albany. Community News Group / Robert Wirsing

LOTUS FLAME RESTAURANT RE-OPENS

Lotus Flame Restaurant and Bar held a grand re-opening celebration in Morris Park on Sunday, May 24. The eatery, located at 866 Morris Park Avenue, offers Indo-Caribbean and BBQ fusion cuisine.



(l-r) owner Savitri McCree, bartender Tatiana Serrano, Michael We Chef and bartender Sunita Ramdaran at the grand opening. Photo by Miriam Quin

CITY ISLAND MEMORIAL DAY PARADE



The Leonard Hawkins American Legion Post led the parade. Photo by Silvio Pacifico

The Leonard Hawkins American Legion Post hosted the City Island Memorial Day parade on Monday, May 25. Local organizations marched up City Island Avenue to the veterans memorial traffic circle for a ceremony to honor our fallen service men and women.



The City Island Boy Scouts marched in the parade. Photo by Silvio Pacifico

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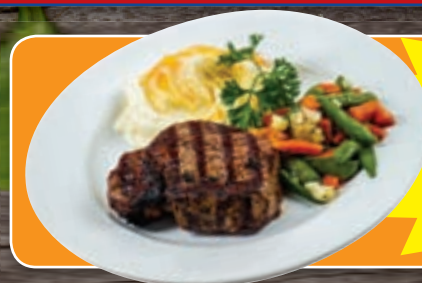
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RENAISSANCE FESTIVAL FOR RESIDENTS



Bronxwood Living Assistance hosted a Renaissance festival at the home's location, 799 E. Gun Hill Road, on Wednesday, May 20. The festival included a petting zoo, a magician and jugglers for the residents' entertainment.

(Top) Residents and staff of Bronxwood Living Assistance enjoy the Renaissance festival.

Photo by Silvio Pacifico



Bronxwood Living Assistance staff members Angel Davila and Saifra Feuerstien play with the animals in the petting zoo at the festival.

Photo by Silvio Pacifico

NORTH BRONX CHURCH HOLDS FORUM

The Ex-Correctional Officers Association of Jamaica and the North Bronx Seventh-Day Adventist Church held a forum about preventing incarceration, at the church's location, 3743 Bronxwood Avenue, on Sunday, May 24. The event is dedicated to reducing incarceration among young people to build and foster good relationships with law enforcement groups including the Ex-Correctional Officers Association of Jamaica. The event also aimed to assist the education of financially challenged high school graduates who are looking to go to college.



(l-r) Senior Pastor Donnieval Walker, North Bronx Seventh-Day Adventist Church, Rodney Smith, probation department, Harvey Taylor, case manager of the federal bureau of prisons, Ralph Fatigate, former Mount Vernon police commissioner, Ronnie Hammick, president of Ex-Correctional Officers Association of Jamaica, and Harold Bailey, Ex-Correctional Officers Association of Jamaica, pose at the forum.

Photo by Edwin Soto

MISS USA VISITS MONROE COLLEGE

On Tuesday, May 26, reigning Miss USA beauty queen Nia Sanchez visited Monroe College students in their school's Mintz Auditorium to spread a message of self-defense, self-confidence, and self-empowerment. Originally from California, Sanchez won the 2014 Miss USA title as Miss Nevada and in addition to being an avid jazz and ballet fan, she is also an enthusiastic Taekwondo practitioner holding a fourth degree black belt in the martial art. Sponsored by the college's School of Criminal Justice and the Office of Student Activities, Sanchez was able to relate to students on a very personal level about her first-hand understanding of the challenges many face when growing up in tough urban environments.



Miss USA Nia Sanchez speaking during Tuesday's event at Monroe College.

Photo by Walter Pofeldt



Monroe College student Cloe Diaz presents Sanchez with a gift basket.

Photo by Walter Pofeldt

COMMUNION MASS AT VILLA MARIA

On Thursday, May 21, Villa Maria Academy held a First Holy Communion Mass inside their Visitation Center for the surrounding area's Catholic schools. Students who participated in this celebration attend area schools such as Our Lady of the Assumption, St. Frances de Chantal, St. Theresa, and St. Benedict.



Monsignor Donald Dwyer addresses the communicants and their parents during Mass.

Photo by Silvio Pacifico

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MR. PUERTO RICO 2015 PAGEANT

On Saturday, May 23, the Mr. Puerto Rico 2015 Men's Pageant was held at the Sotomayor Community Center. Winners of this prestigious event included Mayaquez Jose Figueroa who was crowned the Bronx Puerto Rican Day Parade King as well as First Prince Musig Orly and Second Prince Christian Claudio.



(l-r) First Princess Marta Cecelia Torres from Yauco Puerto Rico with First Prince Orly, Queen Wanda Guzman with King Figueroa and Second Princess Elizabeth Ruiz Delgado from Juncos Puerto Rico with Second Prince Claudio from Toa Alta Puerto Rico. Photo by Miriam Quin

TRUMP LINKS HOSTS FUNDRAISER

Trump Golf Links hosted a fundraiser for the City Parks Foundation on May 11. The foundation provides programming in parks throughout the city. Notable attendees included retired NFL stars Michael Strahan and Boomer Esiason, as well as LACOSTE president Francis Pierrel.



(l to r) Brendan O'Rourke, Mike Kenny, Boomer Esiason and Mike Barrett.

Photo by Silvio Pacifico



Michael Strahan takes a swing during the golf fundraiser.

Photo courtesy of City Parks Foundation

BX. HISTORY FORUM HONORS VETERANS

The East Bronx History Forum held a Memorial Day ceremony at Van Nest Park on Monday, May 25. The ceremony honored deceased service men and women, including the names listed on the monument in the park.



The Star of the Sea Cadet Corps attended the ceremony.

Photo by Miriam Quin



MEMORIAL DAY AT PEACE PLAZA

The annual Memorial Day ceremony was held at Peace Memorial Plaza on Monday, May 25 on Pelham Parkway. Local veterans groups and community organizations honored fallen servicemen and women at the event.

(Above) Organizer Silvio Mazzella addresses the crowd.

Photo by Miriam Quin

The color guard from Theodore Korony Post #253: (l to r) Christine Ryall, Guy Richardson and Edward McGee.

Photo by Miriam Quin



TNCAP sponsors a free alcohol training awareness program

TNCAP is sponsoring a New York State Liquor Authority-approved and certified Alcohol Training Awareness Program for all businesses that serve and/or sell alcohol.

The program will be held on Thursday, June 4, from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at 2789 Schurz Avenue (corner of Schurz and Swinton Avenues). This 2½ hour training brings immedi-

ate benefits:

- Improved customer service.
- Preserves the health, safety and welfare of customers and communities.

- Decreased penalties for alcohol violations.
- Comply with Alcohol Beverage Control Laws.
- Stop underage drinking and sales to intoxicated per-

sons.

Registration is required. Call Joanne Timmins at (718) 904-1333, ext. 28 or e-mail jtimmings@adapp.org.

Temple Hatikva celebrates baby naming at next service

The entire community is welcome to join Temple Hatikva as it celebrates a 'Simcha' (happy event), the baby naming ceremony of Samantha Anne Babchik, as part of its next Shabbat service on Friday, June 5, at 7:30 p.m.

Proud parents Michael and Bethany Babchik, long-time members of the synagogue, and 'big' brother Joey, welcomed Samantha into the world, and into their family, on December 31, 2014.

While the Hebrew naming for boys occurs during a ceremony called a Brit Milah, is usually held in a private home eight days after birth, the ceremony for girls is typically held during a regular Shabbat worship service. It is a way of bringing blessings upon the new baby and her family and introducing her to the community, as well as allowing the community to show their support and commitment to the well-being of the child.

Traditionally, Jewish children are given both a secular, as well as a Hebrew name, by their parents. The names chosen often honor important people in the child's family, making connections to previous generations. The Hebrew name is used at Bar or Bat Mitzvahs and other religious ceremonies and rituals, and will be passed down to future generations.

"Temple Hatikva is 'tickled pink' to officially welcome Samantha into our Temple

Hatikva family," Cantor Kyle Cherry remarked. "We are delighted that we are once again celebrating the growth of our congregation, and that of the northeast Bronx Jewish community."

"Everyone is welcome to join us at a celebratory Desert Kiddush, sponsored by the Babchik family in honor of this happy occasion, at the conclusion of the service."

Temple Hatikva serves all those of the Jewish faith for our

traditional, yet modern services, offering a meaningful experience to all, even those with no synagogue background.

The next Shabbat service at Temple Hatikva will be held on Friday, July 10, followed by a 'Make Your Own Sundae' Buffet.

Temple Hatikva is located at Bronx House, 990 Pelham Parkway South, and can be reached at (718) 892-5766, TempleHatikva@aol.com, or on the web at www.TempleHatikva.com.

BY MARY JANE MUSANO

Just in time for summer, there's another report on sunscreens. It says that 80% of sunscreens either don't work as effectively as the makers say and/or contain harmful ingredients. That is alarming because proper protection from the sun is crucial if we are to protect ourselves from skin cancer.

The analysis was published by Environmental Working Group (EWG) in their 2015 Guide to Sunscreens. They found that four out of five sunscreens, lip balms, and moisturizers don't live up to the manufacturer's promises. Many contain oxybenzone which can penetrate the skin, enter the bloodstream,

and then disrupt the hormone system by acting as estrogen. Many also contain vitamin A, which sounds good but can heighten sun sensitivity and speed development of skin tumors.

According to EWG the best sunscreens were made by: John Masters Organics, Seventh Generation, Adorable Baby, Alba Botanica, Allure, Blue Lizard, Bull Frog, Burt's Bees, Earth's Best, Nature's Gate, Raw Elements USA, Tropical Sands, True Natural and Vanicream. It's worth checking these out!

Surprisingly, EWG found the following sunscreen manufacturers to be the worst: Neutrogena, Banana Boat, Coppertone, NO-AD and Ocean

civic center Waterbury LaSalle Community Assoc.

Potion. Who knew! And yes, the sunscreen I use is on this list! I think I'll try Bull Frog or Burt's Bees.

Another important point brought out by EWG is that according to the FDA, there's no increased protective benefit in products having a SPF above 50. Also SPF refers only to protection against UVB rays that burn the skin not UVA rays that accelerate aging, suppress the immune system and can cause skin cancer.

About 3.5 million people in the U.S.A will develop skin cancer this year and nearly 74,000 of these cases will be melanoma. That is three times as many as in the 1970's according to federal health statistics.

EWG suggests that we buy broad spectrum SPF sunscreens between 15 and 50, limit sun exposure, buy products with natural ingredients that block both UVA and UVB rays and check the UV index each day to help plan activities accordingly.

Please heed EWG's warnings or at least do your own research. Protection from skin cancer is paramount. Don't take a chance with your health.

June Membership Meeting

Our last meeting before the summer break will be on Thursday, June 11 at 7:30 p.m. at P.S. 14. Our guest speakers will be Tom Vasti and possibly Tom Casey, our Bronx historians. They will speak about the history of our Bronx community. Their presentation will include a power point presentation and lots of interesting historical trivia that you will not want to miss.

Our community has a rich history, a history that we all should know well. Please mark the date on your calendar so that you will be sure to be there. Bring your friends and neighbors and we can all learn about the history of our community together!

BY GENE DEFRANCIS

First and foremost we hope everyone had a very healthy and safe Memorial Day weekend. And we want to especially thank our men and women who served our country both past and present.

This week I was at the GI Film Festival that takes place every year within the DC and Virginia area. The stories told were inspirational and captivating. And reminded me a simple core principle. To be grateful of all that we have and grateful for all those who sacrificed their health and life. While we strive for a better community each and every day.

There is more good than evil in the world. And when

Allerton International Merchants Association

the good stick together, communicate, and work together that is when communities flourish.

Our next meeting is this coming Tuesday, June 2 at 7:30 p.m. at 815 Allerton Avenue (The Sanz Banquet Hall). You are welcome to join us in creating a stronger community with any of you questions, comments or concerns.

Or simply email us at AllertonMerchants@gmail.com

BY PAUL GOLLUSCIO

Hello all!

The post BBQ went well. The Latin American Riders Motorcycle Club was in attendance and a great time was had by all.

This week's column is one of remember the dates.

Remember, Saturday, August 15 at 6:30 a.m. is the Comedy Night here at the post. Forty dollars gets you five comics, buffet dinner, coffee, cake and a 50/50 raffle. There will be an open bar.

The women's empowerment group headed by our own Sandy Rolon is having a Spa Day on Saturday, August 22 from noon on. There will be a nail salon, massage and aroma therapy, motivational speakers stuff for kids and

civic center Samuel Young Legion Post 620

food. This is open to female vets and their families.

On Friday, June 12, at 7 p.m. is our Flag Retirement Ceremony where worn, tattered and well used flags will be retired.

On Sunday, June 14 we will be hosting a BBQ for the shut-ins at the Kingsbridge VA Hospital. This begins at noon. I need volunteers!!!

Army Week begins Monday, June 8. I didn't know I had a whole week devoted to

me.

Replacement DD-214 can be obtained by calling (866) 272-6272 and following the instructions.

Trivia Time!!

Captain Kidd was hanged on May 23, 1701.

Sam Morse sent his first telegram on May 24, 1844.

On the same date in 1883, The Brooklyn Bridge opened.

On the same date in 1935, the first major league baseball night game was played. Reds 2, Phillies 1.

Babe Ruth hit his 714 homer on May 25, 1935.

Big Ben rang for the first time on May 31, 1859.

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

PROVIDENCE REST HOLDS SPRING GALA



Providence Rest held a Spring Gala at the Glen Island Harbour Club on Thursday, May 7. The event included dancing, music and more entertainment, and was attended by Borough President Ruben Diaz, Jr. and Sister Seline Mary Flores, among others.

(Above) (l-r) Rosemarie Hofstein, Scott Larue, Pat Simone and BP Diaz, Jr. pose at the Spring Gala.

Photo by Walter Pofeldt

(l-r) BP Diaz, Jr., Flores and Joseph Sciamie pose at the Spring Gala.

Photo by Walter Pofeldt

FLAG CEREMONY AT MEMORIAL PARK



A flag ceremony was held at Bicentennial Veterans Memorial Park to commemorate Memorial Day on Monday, May 25. Locals honored servicemen and women at the event.

(Above) Area veterans and their families gathered in the park. Photo by Silvio Pacifico

Richard Ardisson plays taps at the ceremony. Photo by Silvio Pacifico



#1456 HOLDS MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY

Throggs Neck Memorial Post #1456 held a Memorial Day Ceremony on Monday, May 25.



Michael McNerney places a wreath during the ceremony.

Silvio J. Pacifico



Post commander Joe Faix (l) and post chaplain Bob Keavny. Photo by Silvio Pacifico

VAN NEST NEIGHBORHOOD FUNDRAISER

Van Nest Neighborhood Alliance held its 2015 fundraiser on Wednesday, May 20. During the event, the board of the organization honored Senator Gustavo Rivera; Fr. Robert Badillo, pastor of Our Lady of Solace-Saint Dominic church; parks advocate Renata Sokoluweki; and the Golden Eagle Restaurants.



(Above) Honoree Fr. Robert Badillo (holding plaque) with the Van Nest Neighborhood Alliance board members.

Photo by Patricio Rabayo

Honoree Senator Gustavo Rivera with VNNA president Shradhanand Pirtam and vice president Bernadette Ferrara

Photo by Patricio Rabayo



Benedetto's Summer Reading Challenge

Assemblyman Benedetto announced that the Assembly's annual Summer Reading Challenge is just around the corner. Every year, the Assembly partners with New York State libraries to encourage children to continue reading during the summer after the school year ends. Upon completion of the Summer Reading Challenge, children will receive a New York State Assembly Excellence in Reading Certificate.

"Learning shouldn't stop when the last bell rings at the

end of the school year," Assemblyman Benedetto said. "The Summer Reading Challenge offers a fun and exciting way for children of all ages to read, expand their imaginations and learn new things all year round."

To participate in the program, children must read by themselves or with a partner for a minimum of 15 minutes every day, for at least 40 days through the months of July and August. The days can be marked off on a provided calendar and submit-

ted to Assemblyman Benedetto. Those who participate will be awarded a New York State Assembly Excellence in Reading Certificate during a presentation at the end of the summer. This year's Summer Reading Challenge theme is, "Every hero has a story."

"Reading is a fun, inexpensive and educational activity that can also provide quality family times," Assemblyman Benedetto said. "Fostering a love of reading in our children is a gift that will last for many years to come."

This year's Summer Reading Challenge themes are "Dig Into Reading" for children and "Beneath the Surface" for tweens. The challenge, while fun for the entire family, is a significant way to keep books in the hands of children throughout the summer months, noted Assemblyman Benedetto. The initiative helps combat the inevitable decrease in learning – known as the "summer slide" – that takes place when young people are not in school during the summer.

Unfortunately, the slide disproportionately affects children in high-need communities, where families may not have adequate out-of-school access to books and other educational resources.

For more information about the 2015 Summer Reading Challenge, please visit the website www.summer-readingnys.org or contact Assemblyman Benedetto's office either by calling (718) 892-2235 or sending an email to benedem@assembly.state.ny.us.

MetroCard schedules stops

Assemblyman Michael Benedetto announces that the MetroCard Mobile Van will visit the Throggs Neck section. The van will be parked at the curb in front of the assemblyman's office located at 3602 E. Tremont Avenue, on Friday, June 12, between the hours of 1 to 3 p.m.

We apologize for any inconvenience caused last month. We received a call that morning stating the MetroCard Van had broken down and would not be available to us.

The MetroCard Mobile Van enables:

- Senior citizens 65 years of

age or older to apply for Reduced-Fare MetroCard and receive a temporary card on the spot (Bring proof of age such as a Medicare card and valid photo identification);

- People with disabilities that qualify, and who present a Medicare card and valid photo ID such as a driver's license to apply for Reduced-Fare MetroCard;

- Daily riders to add money to their Reduced-Fare MetroCard; and

- Everyone to get all MetroCard questions answered.

For more information, call (718) 892-2235

Mosholu Day Camp registration

Mosholu Day Camp offers a fantastic summer experience at its country day camp in the Bear Mountain area on beautiful Lake Cohasset. Mosholu Day Camp serves boys and girls entering kindergarten through 6th grade.

The day camp features sports including tennis, baseball, basketball, challenge courts and fitness areas as well as playground facilities.

There are buildings for art, ceramics, drama, dance, native American

crafts, storytelling and music. There are changing rooms and a lunch space.

Bus stops are available at central points all over the Bronx, Riverdale, Mt. Vernon, Central Avenue.

Visit the camp on Sunday, May 31, starting promptly at 10:30 a.m. and Saturday, June 13, starting promptly at 12:30 p.m.

Transportation available from MMCC is \$10/person. Registration at the MMCC front desk by noon of Thursday before each tour date.

Mosholu Day Camp is an

ACA accredited day camp that offers a traditional fun-filled and safe program.

Campers swim twice a day, play sports, art, take part in drama, archery, boating, music and dance.

Mosholu Day Camp offers various session packages, lunch and bus transportation from points in the Bronx and Southern Westchester.

For information including directions call (718) 882-4000, or email: daycamp@mmcc.org or go to www.mosholudaycamp.com.

Bronx County Historical Society walking tour June 7th

Take a historic stroll on Sunday, June 7, at 10 a.m., with Bronx County Historical Society tour guide Nestor Danyluk in one of the most ex-

clusive neighborhoods in New York City.

The tour will include marvelous views of the Hudson River, famous tales of the

neighborhood's great estates, and much more.

The tour will meet at the Henry Hudson Monument inside Henry Hudson Park near

Kappock and Independence avenues.

Tour cost is \$10 for Bronx County Historical Society members, \$20 for non-mem-

bers.

Contact the society at (718) 881-8900 to reserve your ticket. The tours generally run about two hours.

BY AL D'ANGELO

Many across the country celebrated Memorial Day this past Monday. Memorial Day commemorates those who gave their lives for our freedom. It was a day to remember, with honor and reverence, those 1,343,812 Americans killed in action so that we may enjoy the liberties we have today.

Take time to consider the families and friends impacted when they receive notice their loved one has been killed in action. Consider the hearts forever broken and lives forever altered with the loss of a son or daughter. Take time, as you put your head on your pillow to pray for those who died and those who lived with the pain



of a loved one lost.

I was a young boy when a Marine came to our door and

announced to my aunt that her son, my cousin, was killed in action. It feels like only yesterday, but I can still hear the sound of taps echoing through the stillness of the cemetery and the crack of gunfire and the neatly folded flag they presented when they laid him to rest. My aunt never recovered from her broken heart.

A verse from R. W. Lillard should give us pause. "Fear not that ye have died for naught. The torch ye threw to us we caught. Ten million hands will hold it high, and freedoms light will never die." The cost for our freedom came at a very high price and we must not break faith with those who died to preserve that freedom.

Bartow-Pell Mansion Museum weeklong summer program

The Bartow-Pell Mansion Museum will again offer BPMM Adventures, its weeklong program for children entering grades 1 to 6 for three weeks in July.

This outdoor summer pro-

gram mixes core activities in the organic Children's Garden at Bartow-Pell with exploration of the historic mansion and the natural wonders of the museum's grounds—located in Pelham Bay Park. Led by

garden educator Lauren Gill, participants learn about gardening and sustainability while engaging in planting, watering, harvesting and cooking. They delve deeply into the garden to harvest

fruits, vegetables, and herbs that they then have great fun preparing as their own lunch and snacks.

Each weeklong session runs daily from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and includes snacks, but

children must bring their own lunches. The cost is \$195 per child: \$170 for members at the family friend level or higher; scholarships are available for qualified families. Call (718) 885-1461.

St. Catharine's National Honor Society inductees

At a ceremony on the evening of May 19, twenty-nine Juniors and Seniors were inducted in the Mercy Chapter of the National Honor Society; twenty-nine Juniors and Seniors were inducted into the National English Honor Society; five Seniors were inducted into the Italian Honor Society; and twenty-four Juniors and Seniors were inducted into the Spanish Honor Society. Thirteen Seniors were inducted into the National Beta Society. The societies are moderated by the following faculty: Carmela Melucci-Ivanov (NHS), Doreen Emerita (English), Margo Gilberg (Italian), Patricia Linardi (Spanish), and Sheree Petrignani (Beta).

The induction ceremony featured alumna keynote speaker Dr. Jeanne Vissa, a noted educator who is currently the Senior Program Officer at the Knowles Science Teaching Foundation. Following graduation from SCA in 1966, Dr. Vissa earned her BA in English from Hunter College, MST in Mathemat-

ics from Fordham University, and Ed.D from Teachers College, Columbia University in curriculum and teaching mathematics education.

The following students were inducted into the National Honor Society: Seniors: Gbemisola Adaramola, Danielle Cavaluzzo, Kadean Chambers, Doralis Corniel, Francesca DiMarco, Jada Harper, Hiarianne Hewitt, Cindy Hidalgo, Gabriella Mordan, Yuliya Samboryk, Aliyah Santana, Bianca Valenti, and Lydia Yearwood. Juniors: Bianca Amanini, Celandra Adon, Chelsea Beato, Jhosalie Danseco, Vivian Doan, Angelica Gilbes, Mirna Gonzalez, Denisha Lopez, Sarah Maldonado, Yei Mansuo, Nikoleta Rezaj, Aliyah Williams, Miranda Zumbado.

The following students were inducted into the National English Honor Society: Seniors: Mariah Blanco, Kadean Chambers, Doralis Corniel, Francesca DiMarco, Jada Harper, Gisselle

Lara, Adwoa Manu, Johnae McGraw, Yuliya Samboryk, Aliyah Santana, Charitssa Tavaras, and Lydia Yearwood. Juniors: Celandra Adon, Bianca Amanini, Joeanne Colon, Jhosalie Danseco, Vivian Doan, Emma Eisenberg, Angelica Gilbes, Mirna Gonzalez, Katera Griffiths, Denisha Lopez, Sarah Maldonado, Yei Mansuo, Nikoleta Rezaj, Natasha Saywack, Brianna Vazquez, Aliyah Williams, and Miranda Zumbado.

Inducted into the Italian Honor Society are Martine Cioffi, Francesca DiMarco, Gisselle Lara, Sabrina LoMedico, and Stephanie Pepdjonovic.

Inducted into the Spanish Honor Society are seniors Gbemisola Adaramola, Dana Austin, Nerys Castillo-Santana, Kadean Chambers, Kiana Chen, Arrianna Colquhoun, Doralis Corniel, Diana Djurasevic, Allison Griffith, Jada Harper, Hue Hue Huynh, Tamie Le, Serena Molina, Kimberly Pena, Brianna Picone, Melody Pujols, Rabeea Rafiq, Ashley



SCA students inducted into the National Honor Societies with their moderators.

Rodriguez, Alina Sydorenko, Pamela Udoe, and Shelda Zaimi. Juniors: Bianca Amanini, Caitlin Paniaqua, and Aliyah Williams.

Inducted into the National Beta Society are Gbemisola Adaramola, Genevieve Agu-

ilan, Dana Austin, Allison Griffith, Hiarianne Hewitt, Hue Huynh, Branda Lim, Adwoa Manu, Karina Meythaler, Rabeea Rafiq, Alina Sydorenko, Pamela Udoe, and Lydia Yearwood.



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Some thoughts on sleep and sleep disorders

I've been thinking a lot about sleep lately. It is a topic many complain about and discuss occasionally with friends and family, but it still remains a very mysterious topic to most people around the world.

After air, water, and food, sleep is probably the most essential thing in our lives to ensure our health and daily functioning. It bears repeating that almost all humans spend one third of their lives (25–30 years!) sleeping.

So why do we still know so little about this time when our brains and our bodies seem to turn off? What role does sleep play in our overall health? What role do dreams play in our psychological well being?

When I was a freshman in college, I took an introductory psychology class and the professor spent a lot of time teaching about sleep and its important relationship to our waking lives. He also assigned us to read a book by a famous Stanford sleep researcher Dr. William Dement called "Some Must Watch While Some Must Sleep." Out of the hundreds of books I read in college, that one still stands out as groundbreaking and ahead of its time.

There are more than 80 diagnosed "sleep disorders" according to the American Institute of Sleep, and many of them

can only be diagnosed in sleep laboratories where patients are wired up to electrodes all night to monitor their sleep and brain waves. The two best-known disorders are sleep apnea (constricting of breathing airwaves that leads to frequent arousals each night) and restless leg syndrome (an involuntary jerking of the leg which awakens those who suffer from it and their bedmates).

But sleep and its discontents is a much more multi-faceted problem and it seems to get worse each year despite the technological and medical progress we are making. In fact, technology has recently been discovered to be a new and onerous impediment to good sleep: the more "blue light" one is exposed to in the hours before sleep, the harder it is to fall asleep and this exposure to computer devices also negatively impacts the quality of one's sleep.

Teenagers today, many of whom desperately need at least eight to nine hours of quality sleep each night, are tethered to their phones in bed, making our kids weary and less productive. Technology, the great advance of the late 20th century, which is supposed to make our lives better and easier, is actually in some ways an impediment to a healthier, quieter life.

In addition to technology, the major

advances in pharmaceutical drugs of the 20th century may also be a counter-productive element in our desire to lead healthier, better-rested lives. Rather than seek natural and behavioral fixes to our sleep problems, a growing percentage of Americans are resorting to quick fixes in pills. These may help in the short-term, but they can have significantly deleterious effects in the medium- to long-term. Chronic dependence, memory impairment, and other negative side effects are now being discovered in recent research about sleep medications.

More than 70 million Americans have chronic sleep problems and almost half get less than the recommended amount of sleep according to a recent Gallup survey. The amount of money spent each year on sleep related products — including specialized mattresses, white noise machines, apps that monitor your sleep, and a wide range of prescription and over-the-counter medications — is almost \$24 billion and growing.

What can we do to deal with this growing public health problem? First of all, we have to stop looking at sleep as a sign of weakness and prizing those who work so hard that they are chronically sleep deprived. We have to recognize that our teenagers need more sleep, and simple fixes like starting their school



TOM ALLON

day later will go a long way to help alleviate the problem. We must begin to educate people on the many ways they can help themselves get better nights of sleep through nutrition, sleep hygiene (no technology or television in the bedroom) and common sense approaches such as no food just before going to bed, no caffeine for at least 8 hours before sleep time, and keeping a regular sleep schedule even on weekends.

Now, if you'll excuse me, I need to hit the sack.

Tom Allon, the president of City & State, NY, is a recovering insomniac and a former Republican and Liberal Party-backed candidate for mayor. Reach him at tallon@cityandstateny.com.

BY FRANK V. VERNUCCIO, JR.

New York City Mayor de Blasio has been traveling from the confines of the Big Apple and his duties as chief executive of America's largest city to advocate for a nationwide progressive agenda.

As outlined in the Huffington Post, his priorities are:

1. Raise the federal minimum wage to \$15 per hour.
2. Reform the National Labor Relations Act to enhance workers' rights.
3. Pass comprehensive immigration reform.
4. Oppose trade deals that "move power to corporations at the expense of American jobs, workers' rights, and the environment."
5. Pass national paid sick leave
6. Pass national paid family leave.
7. Make pre-K, after-school programs and child care universal
8. Expand the Earned Income Tax Credit.
9. Allow students to refinance student loan debt.
10. Close the carried interest loophole.
11. End tax breaks for companies that ship jobs overseas
12. Implement the "Buffett Rule" so millionaires pay

their fair share.

13. Closing the CEO tax loophole that allows corporations to take advantage of 'performance pay' write-offs.

Noticeably absent in that list are key topics that should be the concern of a big city mayor, such as combatting local crime, reducing unemployment and easing traffic, all significant problems that should command his attention.

Murders in New York City are up 20% in 2015, according to the NYC Police Department. The city's 7.2% unemployment rate far exceeds the national level of 5.5%.

Two-thirds of student test-takers in grades 3 to 8 didn't meet state standards on the English language arts (ELA) and math tests. New York ranks fourth in traffic congestion.

And then there is the issue of taxes. In addition to New York State's already high taxes, the city itself imposes a personal income tax. As noted in Forbes, "Very few other U.S. cities assess individual income taxes and/or business income taxes. (Pennsylvania and Ohio have local school taxes on earned income but the rates are fairly low, except in Philadelphia.) Many investment advisers and pro-

Community Action civic Association

professionals moved their residences and businesses to Connecticut where the top tax rate is 6.5%, saving 10% of their highest-marginal income." If you own an unincorporated business, there is a special tax on that, too.

Some of the mayor's national ideas are harmful to his constituents. Allowing more illegal immigrants into the nation at a time of high unemployment places downward pressure on wages. Increasing the minimum wage encourages companies to move their operations overseas.

Emphasizing spending on 'progressive' issues at the expense of basic services such as having a sufficient number of police on patrol threatens to make municipalities unsafe. The residents of cities run by 'progressive' mayors are noticing.

Joel Gilbert, who researched cities run by progressives, described what he found in a WND interview: "In my journey through America

...I met a lot of people living in horrible conditions, particularly African Americans, who I was surprised to learn were now staunch conservatives as a result of living in progressive-controlled cities like Detroit, Chicago and Newark," Gilbert said...After 60 years of progressive politics in their cities, they understood very clearly that they had not been progressing but rather regressing all this time, and they were mad."

Indeed, a recent Quinnipiac poll notes that de Blasio's overall approval ratings have dropped to 44%, a particularly low number considering his landslide victory in the last election.

Here is a breakdown of the ten cities with populations above 250,000 that have borne the brunt of long-term rule by progressives, as outlined by Frontpage: St. Louis's poverty rate is 26 percent overall; Newark, New Jersey's poverty rate is 26.1; The residents of Cincinnati, OH are afflicted by a poverty rate of 27.4 percent overall; Philadelphia, PA, 28 percent of city residents overall live in poverty; Milwaukee, WI sports a poverty rate of 29.9 percent overall; In Buffalo, NY, 29.9 percent of residents overall

are living below the poverty level; El Paso, TX, one-in-four live in poverty; In Cleveland, OH, 36 percent of its residents live in poverty; And then, there is Detroit, MI, in a class by itself, with 36.2 percent of residents living in poverty; Camden, NJ rounds out the top ten, with a poverty rate of 42.5 percent.

The National Review notes that American cities "are by and large ...monopolies generally dominated by the so-called progressive wing ... The results have been catastrophic, and not only in poor black cities such as Baltimore and Detroit. Money can paper over some of the defects of progressivism in rich, white cities such as Portland and San Francisco, but those are pretty awful places to be non-white and non-rich, too:

Blacks make up barely 9 percent of the population in San Francisco, but they represent 40 percent of those arrested for murder, and they are arrested for drug offenses at ten times their share of the population."

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What New York really runs on

It is the place you can grab a gallon of milk or a can of frosting at midnight, but is it possible it is also one of those amazingly New York things that, like Central Park, makes us all a little calmer and happier?

The bodega is what we're talking about today: That humble store, often as tall as it is wide, stocked with every item you didn't expect to find there. (Except you sort of did, or why'd you go there in the first place?)

Muffins mummified in cling wrap, plantain chips both salted and un, Hershey bars slightly reshaped by global (or at least store) warming — all these are staples at the typical mom-and-pop bodega.

But you can also find these staples — cheaper, bigger, less lumpy — at the local supermarket, which is often just a block or two further. So why would anyone patronize the dinky little deli when there is a bona fide grocery right across the street?

"Speed!" says Bill Dysel, an opera singer and tech manual writer. (Yes. Both.) "I often run into my local bodega, pay, and

get out within 60 seconds. At the grocery everything has to be scanned and there are long lines. Somehow bodega cashiers always know what everything costs from memory."

"And it's across the street!" says Brooklyn's Isabel Kraut, a mom of two. Convenience is the key.

"You can send your kid to get milk without any wayward glances," adds another mom, Liz Gustafson.

There's also something of the scavenger hunt about the bodega. You go in there and think, "They can't possibly have a strawberry syrup." Or, "I don't want to go to the supermarket just for *one* package of onion soup mix." And then you look way, way, waaaaay up on the shelf — and there it is!

Maybe slightly past its sell-by date. Maybe 29 cents more than at the grocery. But still. Score.

But even beyond the speed and clown-car quality of being stuffed with a million items you can't believe all fit, there is another draw.

"The cat!" says Eileen Mullin, a web designer in Rego



RHYMES WITH CRAZY

Lenore Skenazy

Park.

Well, yes, but beyond that, too. I'm talking about the two-footed friends. The people.

"I've run to my local bodega to grab sodas or snacks a few times and realized I didn't have enough cash on me. And rather than run to the ATM and back, the owners — who know me as a regular — have let it go

with the promise that I'll bring back the full amount the next day," says Inwood's Jena Tesse Fox, a writer. "You can't do that in a supermarket."

"On Monday when I needed an avocado I went to get one at the bodega and the owner said, 'They're not so good, but they're the only ones we have today,'" reports social researcher Marla Sherman. She skipped the purchase, but that is the way bodega owners win hearts. They're on our side.

"When I lived on 10th Street, I liked the bodega on Second Ave and 10th because they would feed snacks to Dooley — little pieces of turkey," says journalist Adrienne Press. Dooley was her basset hound.

Homemade food also lures us in. In the backroom or upstairs, some grandma is making pakoras, or tacos. I was in an East Elmhurst bodega the other day that sold homemade glazed fruit. And the smells are irresistible, too.

"At the bodega on my corner, they always seem to be making bacon," says lawyer Diane Glass. She keeps kosher, but it's not verboten to pass by

and sniff!

As the years go by and relationships deepen, the family bodega owners become our extended family, too.

"When my mom had a severe stroke, the owner of the local mini-market saw me through his window, walking home from the hospital in tears," marketing consultant Amanda Hass recalls. "It's a bit of a blur, but he made sure I had food. And, years later, he made the platters to feed folks after she died. He let me 'borrow' his best worker to help me move her belongings. Twice. So hell yeah, I don't mind paying a premium."

When you live in a city where the people who sell you your gum also lend you money, love your dog, and see you through life's biggest transitions, you live in a city that cushions the slings and arrows of daily life.

Let us raise a cup of \$1 coffee, then, to the very best bodega in New York City.

The one down your block.

Lenore Skenazy is a public speaker and founder of the book and blog Free-Range Kids.

Throggs Neck Merchants' Fair Event Listing

Saturday, May 30, 2015 11:00AM-4:00 PM

Historical Bus (MTA).....	T D Bank-3755 E Tremont Avenue
Antique Firetruck (FDNY).....	T D Bank-3755 E Tremont Avenue
Career Tabling (FDNY).....	T D Bank-3755 E Tremont Avenue
Doctor's Express.....	TD Bank-3755 E Tremont Avenue
Board of Elections.....	TD Bank-3755 E Tremont Avenue
Grand Concourse Charter School.....	TD Bank-3755 E Tremont Avenue
Stuffed Animal Station (Preston).....	Capital Shield Agency-3707 E Tremont Avenue
Face Painting, Cotton Candy, Popcorn.....	Capital Shield Agency-3707 E Tremont Avenue
Cotton Candy Station.....	NY Community Bank-3681-83 E Tremont Avenue
Hot Dog Station.....	Fine Fare Supermarket-3680 E Tremont Avenue
Bronx Children's Museum.....	Throggs Neck Post Office-3630 E Tremont Avenue
Exit Realty.....	Throggs Neck Post Office-3630 E Tremont Avenue
Stuffed Animal Station (Preston).....	Power X Press Mortgage-3609 E Tremont Avenue
Face Painting (Sandi Lusk).....	Alley Cat Café-3604C E Tremont Avenue
Child ID (NY Life).....	Alley Cat Café-3604C E Tremont Avenue
Rock Wall (NYPD).....	Rite Aid-3590 E Tremont Avenue
Stage (Assemblyman Benedetto).....	Rite Aid-3590 E Tremont Avenue
Tony Traina Entertainment, Frank Sinatra Retrospect, Renaissance Youth Ctr., Singers, Dancers & Musicians	
Cub Scouts Registration.....	Rite Aid-3590 E Tremont Avenue
TNCAP.....	Rite Aid-3590 E Tremont Avenue
Ridgewood Savings Bank.....	Rite Aid-3590 E Tremont Avenue
Bronx Community Board #10.....	Rite Aid-3590 E Tremont Avenue
BASE.....	Rite Aid-3590 E Tremont Avenue
Pony Rides.....	Zero's Cab Co-3553 E Tremont Avenue
Sisters Servants of Mary.....	Chase Bank-3528 E Tremont Avenue
Electronics I D (NYPD).....	Anthony's Flower Farm-3240 E Tremont Avenue
Vehicle I D (NYPD).....	Anthony's Flower Farm-3240 E Tremont Avenue
Pelham Bay Library (NYPL).....	Anthony's Flower Farm-3240 E Tremont Avenue
New Beginnings Animal Shelter.....	Anthony's Flower Farm-3240 E Tremont Avenue
Child ID (Free Masons).....	Sapito's-3168 E Tremont Avenue
Food Samplings.....	Sapito's-3168 E Tremont Avenue
Beer Tasting.....	Skibbo's-3156 E Tremont Avenue
The Bronx Tourism Trolley will be transporting visitors up and down E Tremont Avenue (Dewey to LaSalle avenues)-free of charge. The Bronx Council of the Arts will have 12 artists along the route displaying art & crafts, jewelry, photography, paintings, and clothing.	



The Bronx Chamber of Commerce and The Office of NYC Councilman Andrew Cohen hosted an informational session for Webster Avenue merchants on May 21st at The Bronx Community Charter School, 3170 Webster Avenue. Merchants learned about the many resources available to help them grow their business as well as the services offered to help them with operational issues.

The Bronx Chamber of Commerce was established to strengthen the economic viability and improve the quality of life for the Bronx. The committees and board members have helped the chamber grow to become a champion of fostering ethical business practices and ensuring the borough's future as economically thriving.

(Abov, l-r) Daniel Johnson (Chief-of-Staff, NYC Councilman Andrew Cohen), Michelle Dolgow Cristofaro (Chief-of-Staff, Bronx Chamber of Commerce), Marques Payne (Director of Membership and Merchant Services, Bronx Chamber of Commerce), and Webster Avenue Merchants

Mount St. Michael names top students

Mount Saint Michael Academy announces the Class of 2015's Valedictorian, Matthew Barrett, and Salutatorian, Kai Cash. Both young men are not only tops in their class academically, but also have been very involved in athletics and extracurricular activities during their years at The Mount.

Matthew has been a member of the National Honor Society for the last four years and has received various outstanding achievement awards including being named semi-finalist in the 2015 New York Times College Scholarship Program. He participated in the Minority Introduction to Engineering and Science (M.I.T.E.S) at M.I.T in Cambridge, MA, a rigorous academic en-

richment program for promising high school juniors interested in studying and exploring careers in science, engineering, and entrepreneurship. He has been on the track and soccer teams and is a member of Student Council, Campus Ministry, the school newspaper-The Tower, Fuerza Latina Dance Group and volunteers with POTS Soup Kitchen. Matthew is also enrolled in the Sports Medicine and Mentoring in Medicine program at The Mount.

Matthew will be attending Princeton University this fall, majoring in Biology and Bio-Medical Engineering. He plans to pursue a career as a physician. His advice to the underclassmen "Develop a good work ethic as early as

possible and strive to become better in all aspects of life."

Kai was selected as a Class of 2015 Gates Millennium Scholar and as a Questbridge finalist in the 2014 National College Match, a program that "matches" talented, low-income high school seniors with admission and full scholarships to top colleges and universities. He participated in Harvard's Pre-College Program as well as the Summer Science Program at M.I.T. During his six years at The Mount, beginning in the 6th grade, Kai has been involved in the Marist Youth Group, Campus

Ministry, Student Council, Chess Club, the school newspaper-The Tower, Afro-Caribbean Club, Fuerza Latina Dance Group, the Fitness Club and is a member of the National Honor Society. Kai is also a member of the Soccer, Lacrosse, Track and Wrestling teams and is enrolled in the Sports Medicine as well as Mentoring in Medicine program at The Mount.

Kai has been accepted at Williams College in Massachusetts where he plans to major in Biology, concentrating in Cognitive Behavior with plans of becoming a Physician.



MSM Class of 2015 Valedictorian Matthew Barrett and Salutatorian Kai Cash.

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Lehman Center for the Performing Arts will present live on stage the Puerto Rican Masters with director Isidro Infante featuring Paquito Guzman, Ray de la Paz, Luisto Carrion, Michael Stuart, Moncho Rivera and special guest Diva Miki Vimari and more on Saturday, June 6, at 8 p.m.

The Puerto Rican Masters are a select group of the most prominent representatives of classic and contemporary Salsa of the last forty years.

The Orchestra, led by Maestro Isidro Infante, is composed of some of the best Puerto Rican musicians resident in New York City. Produced by Lehman Center and Leo Tizol.

Lehman Center for the Performing Arts is on the campus of Lehman College/



Puerto Rican Masters Isidro Infante, Paquito Guzman, Ray de la Paz, Luisto Carrion, Michael Stuart, Moncho Rivera, and Miki Vimari.

CUNY at 250 Bedford Park Boulevard West.

Tickets for Puerto Rican Masters on Saturday, June 6, at 8 p.m. are \$65, \$55, and \$50

and can be purchased by calling the Lehman Center box office at (718) 960-8833 (Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and beginning at noon

on the day of the concert), or through online access at www.LehmanCenter.org.

Lehman Center is accessible by #4 or D train to Bedford

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Spring luncheon at Bartow-Pell Conservancy

On Thursday, June 11, at noon, the **Bartow-Pell Conservancy** will host its annual spring luncheon overlooking the formal garden at Bartow-Pell Mansion Museum. This year's elegant outdoor boccadivino—taste-of-Italy luncheon—will transport guests to one of the most gorgeous regions of Italy—Campania. Famed for its magical gardens, it is an area where the art of *il dolce far niente*—“the sweetness of doing nothing”—has been perfected. Author and photographer Robert I.C. Fisher will entertain guests with an illustrated talk on his just-published book, *Gardens of the Amalfi Coast*, setting the mood with spectacular photographs.

Robert I.C. Fisher spent twenty years as an editor at *Fodor's*, as well as writing for *Town & Country* and *Art in America*. His love affair with Italy began during graduate studies with Sir John Pope-Hennessy at New York City's Institute of Fine Arts and came to fruition with his books *Escape to the Amalfi Coast* (1999), *Close to Paradise: The Gardens of Naples, Capri and the Amalfi Coast* (2011) and *Gardens of the Amalfi Coast* (2015). A native of New York City, he is currently working on a book about the gardens of Long Island's Gold Coast.

Tickets to the luncheon start at \$85 per person. Registration is required; for tickets and information call (718) 885-1461, visit www.bpmm.org or email at

info@bpmm.org.

Artists are invited to exhibit their art at **Focal Point Gallery**, 321 City Island Avenue from June 5 to June 28, with an opening reception on Friday, June 5, from 7 to 10 p.m. Call (718) 885-1403 for more information.

Wave Hill joins with its partners in the Fairfield Westchester Museum Alliance in presenting *Seven Deadly Sins: Wrath—Force of Nature*, one in a groundbreaking series of seven exhibitions taking place this summer. Each of seven cultural institutions explores one of the seven deadly sins, a favorite subject of painters and poets over the centuries.

This dense exhibition pictures a collective anxiety about the frequency and intensity of natural disasters—tsunamis, hurricanes, floods, droughts and forest fires—and climate change. It features 26 paintings and sculptures that showcase the ways in which artists respond to these catastrophes. The exhibition will be complemented by programs across the institution, especially on Sinful Weekend, Saturday and Sunday, August 8 and 9.

Underpinning the show is Wave Hill's interest in presenting work that contributes to the way we think about these disasters, and the conceptual and visual tools we need in order to make sense of, and, ultimately, cope with, an increas-

ingly precarious world. Building on a rich legacy of allegorical paintings depicting wrath over the centuries—a tradition that continues today—paintings take pride of place, rounded out with one sculpture and one installation. The works in the show, tightly hung to envelop the visitor, will fill Glyndor Gallery, a former Georgian Revival home situated on the southern slope of Wave Hill's property. The intensely beautiful, ordered character of the garden landscape offers a striking contrast to the subject of the work in the exhibition.

The 12 artists shown have a history of engagement with the subject of natural disaster. Alexis Rockman's monumental studies of the sky in vibrant motion neatly counterpoint the near-abstract small paintings of Brian Novatny, which suggest shipwrecks and collapsing bridges. Using collage as a way to patch together imagery, both Brian Adam Douglas and Tameka Norris focus on the human toll of disasters. Amer Kobaslija and Diane Burko have rigorously pursued the observation of landscape in distress, through plein-air studies and aerial perspective painting respectively. Anne Peabody contributes a baroque installation of scorched copper leaves, evoking a wildfire, while David Opdyke's broken telephone pole erupts directly onto Wave Hill's pristine grounds. Angela Dufresne's virtuosic brushwork and Julie Heffernan's

haunting imagery suggest people in retreat or standing courageously against a risk-filled world. And in the work of Kent Monkman and Jon Rappleye, the human figure is taken violently apart and reconstituted, using art-historical, botanical and cultural references.

Wrath—Force of Nature is curated by Director of Arts and Senior Curator Jennifer McGregor, Curator of Visual Arts Gabriel de Guzman and Curatorial Fellow David Xu Borjonjon.

Wave Hill's collaborators in this summer's series of exhibitions are The Aldrich Museum (Sloth), Bruce Museum (Pride), Hudson River Museum (Envy), Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art (Lust), Katonah Museum (Gluttony) and the Neuberger Museum (Greed).



The **Bronx Trolley** First Wednesday Arts & Culture Tour, a program of the Bronx Council on the Arts, rolls again on June 3 with an evening of exhibitions at BCA's Longwood Art Gallery @ Hostos, Bronx Museum of the Arts, Bronx Documentary Center and WallWorks Gallery. Additionally, the evening will include a book signing and reading at the Bronx Museum of the Arts. The evening begins and ends at Longwood Art Gallery @ Hostos on the campus of Hostos Community College. Admission to venues is free and all are welcome to hop on board the trolley and enjoy them.

EAST BRONX HISTORY FORUM EVENT



The 101st meeting of the East Bronx History Forum May 20th 2015 at the Huntington Free Library was a historic and entertaining event. A welcomed standing room only crowd of over 60 members and friends filled the great hall of the Huntington and enjoyed Tom Vasti and Bob Apuzzo multimedia event and presentation. This was the first time that one of our presenters, Tom Vasti, delivered his program in full period costume while discussing the various local road houses and speakeasies in the east Bronx. Mr. Vasti, vice president of the East Bronx History Forum used many images from his private collection to highlight the era of prohibition. In addition, Mr. Vasti selected movie footage from “Boardwalk Empire” to dramatize his point. The Huntington Free Library actually was used as a set location for the filming of three different “Boardwalk Empire” scenes. Robert Apuzzo, author of “Bottles of Old New York” used his expertise as a captain of the tugboat, “The Bronx” to showcase the many ways that ships and boats smuggled booze into the Bronx from far away as Cuba and Canada. As with all crime, many infamous Bronx mobsters that were discussed received a fast trip to prison or the morgue. The show stopper was a four minute short, filmed on Westchester Creek, titled “Bootleggers Return to the Bronx”, starring Bob Apuzzo, Tom Vasti and “The Bronx” tugboat. The film is available on Vimeo.com or by just searching the internet using the title.

(L-r) EBHF Officers Mike Gupta, Tom Vasti, Bob Apuzzo, Anthony Pisciotta and Thomas X. Casey.

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Doris Roberts, of Everybody Loves Raymond, a local gal

When you see the name Doris Roberts, the first thing that comes to mind is Marie Barone, Ray's meddling mother, on the hit show "Everybody Loves Raymond."

The series ran from 1996 to 2005 and although she was supposed to be just a supporting character, to many viewers she was the star of the show. Roberts played the doting Italian housewife who spent much of her life in the kitchen or next door at her son's house. They were the two main ingredients that made the show a big hit and garnered four of the five Emmys received by Roberts. The other was for her portrayal of a homeless woman on 'St. Elsewhere.'

She was in far too many movies and television shows to enumerate them all here but among my favorites is Chevy Chase's "Christmas Vacation." She played the part of Frances Smith in that 1989 flick. She also played Jessie, the mayor's wife, in "The Taking of Pelham One Two Three" and I mention that film for its obvious Bronx connection.

She did love to cook and even co-authored a cookbook.

do you remember

by Bill Twomey

She is a fine actress and if you recall the episode of "Everybody Loves Raymond" where she took the whole family to Italy to visit her family, her dialogue was incredible. You would swear she spoke Italian all her life. But, Italian she was not. She was raised by her mother and grandparents in the typical Jewish household here in the Bronx where cream cheese and lox was far more likely to be served than lasagna.

Roberts was born on November 4, 1930 in St. Louis, Missouri but her father deserted the family so her mother, Ann Melzer, took her to the Bronx where they moved in with her mother who helped raise Doris in the Jewish faith. Her mother married Chester H. Roberts and Doris took her stepfather's last name.

Her parents ran the Z.L. Rosenfield Agency which was a stenographic service that

catered to the entertainment industry. It was, therefore, no mystery how Doris ended up in show business.

We should all be grateful that she chose acting over stenography or there would be one less star on Hollywood's Walk of Fame. Her pink terrazzo and brass star was unveiled on February 10, 2003 in front of 7001 Hollywood Boulevard. I haven't been to the Walk of Fame since 1967 at which time there were far fewer stars than exist today.

The first permanent star was installed on March 28, 1960 to honor director Stanley Kramer. Today there are about 2466 stars each weighing almost 300 pounds and about 10 million people now visit the site each year generally starting at Grauman's Chinese Theatre at 6935 Hollywood Boulevard.

By the way, every now and then someone decides to vandalize or even remove a



REPRINTED FROM 5/31/2012

DORIS ROBERTS

star from the Walk of Fame. Oddly, some star thieves have actually been successful and the stolen stars had to be replaced. It's somewhat more difficult today, however, as closed circuit television cam-

eras have been installed to deter thieves. Thankfully, Doris Roberts' star is quite safe. Perhaps there's something in our Bronx water that helps to produce such great stars.

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Name of LLC: 2678 Bailey Avenue LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with NY Dept. of State: 4/15/15. Office loc.: Bronx Co. Sec. of State designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to: Business Filings Inc., 187 Wolf Rd., Ste. 101, Albany, NY 12205, regd. agt. upon whom process may be served. Purpose: any lawful act.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of Bailey Distribution LLC (LLC). Articles of Organization with Secretary of State of New York on November 18, 2014. Office location: Bronx County, Secretary of State is designated as agent upon who process against the LLC may be served. Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC service upon the LLC to C/O 3119 Bailey Avenue, Bronx, NY 10463. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of Cruz Feng Service LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with NY Dept. of State: 5/13/15. Office location: Bronx County. Sec. of State designated agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to: Corporate Creations Network Inc., 15 N. Mill St., Nyack, NY 10960, regd. agent upon whom process may be served. Purpose: all lawful purposes.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Qualification of MD HUTCH OWNER LLC Appl. for Auth. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 05/04/15. Office location: Bronx County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 04/28/15. Princ. office of LLC: c/o Simone Development Companies, Attn: General Counsel, 1250 Waters Pl., PH-1, Bronx, NY 10461. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC at the addr. of its princ. office. DE addr. of LLC: c/o Corporation Service Co., 2711 Centerville Rd., Ste. 400, Wilmington, DE 19808. Cert. of Form. filed with DE Secy. of State, Div. of Corps., John G. Townsend Bldg., 401 Federal St., Ste. 4, Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of Domi American LLC, a domestic or foreign Limited Liability Company (LLC). Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State on 06-24-2014. NY Office Location: BRONX County. Secretary of State is designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon him/her to C/O Peter Calderon, 2727 Gifford Ave., Bronx, NY 10465. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of HWK Properties LLC, a domestic Limited Liability Company (Domestic LLC). Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State on January 22, 2015. NY Office location: BRONX County. Secretary of State is designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon him/her to C/O Shaldon Watson and 3328 Eastchester Road, Bronx NY 10469. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF FORMATION of limited liability company (LLC). Name: MDF TAX AND ACCOUNTING SERVICES LLC. Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 10/03/2014. 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: SAM A FORSON 100 BENCHLEY PLACE 30M BRONX, NY 10475. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of Makeup by Jenessa, LLC. Arts of Org filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) 01/02/2015. Office location: NY County. SSNY designated agent upon whom process may be served and shall mail copy of process against LLC to: United States Corporation Agents, Inc. 7014 13th Avenue, Suite 202, Brooklyn, New York 11228. Principal business address: 1633 Haight Avenue., Bronx, NY 10461. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of MARK I CONTRACTING LLC
Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 05/06/15. Office location: Bronx County. Princ. office of LLC: 3138 Spencer Ave., Bronx, NY 10456. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC at the addr. of its princ. office. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of UBC 138TH DEVELOPER LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 05/01/15. Office location: Bronx County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to c/o Urban Builders Collaborative LLC, 334-336 East 110th St., NY, NY 10029. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of UBC 138TH LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 05/01/15. Office location: Bronx County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to c/o Urban Builders Collaborative LLC, 334-336 East 110th St., NY, NY 10029. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Formation of Wet & Dry Hair Lounge LLC, a domestic or foreign Limited Liability Company (LLC). Article of Organization filed with Secretary of State on 02/23/2015. NY Office location: BRONX County. Secretary of State is designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the LLC served upon him/her to C/O Wet & Dry Hair Lounge LLC, 5806 Mosholu Ave, Bronx NY 10471. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

LEGAL NOTICE

Mon Ami Salsa Lounge Corp. has apply to NYS Liquor Authority for a full liquor license. Address: 2434 Tremont Ave., Bronx, NY 10461.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that a license number_pending_for on premises liquor license has been applied for by the undersigned to sell Liquor at retail under alcoholic beverage control law for L' VIOLET RESTAURANT & LOUNGE Inc. at 535 E Tremont Ave. Bronx, NY 10457 for on premises consumption .

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF SALE
SUPREME COURT: BRONX COUNTY
JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION; Plaintiff(s)
vs. JAMES MAU; 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 March 9, 2015, I will sell at Public Auction to the highest bidder at The Bronx County Courthouse, Room 600, 851 Grand Concourse, Bronx, NY.
On June 8, 2015 at 2:00 pm.
Premises known as 3011 SCHLEY AVE, BRONX, NY 10465
Block: 5437 Lot: 5
ALL THAT CERTAIN PLOT, PIECE OR PARCEL OF LAND, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough and County of Bronx, City and State of New York.

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 \$126,335.23 plus interest and costs.

INDEX NO. 380459/11

Leonard C. Aloï, Esq., REFEE

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Bronx County on March 25, 2015, bearing Index Number NC-000112-15/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) Ana (Middle) Laura (Last) Hernandez Perez. My present name is (First) Ana (Middle) Laura (Last) Perez Hernandez (infant). My present address is 243 Willis Avenue, Apt 2S, Bronx, NY 10454. My place of birth is Bronx, New York. My date of birth is October 10, 2002.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Bronx County on May 6, 2015, bearing Index Number NC-000171-15/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) Botou (Last) Marong. My present name is (First) Botou (Last) Marong AKA Yaya Marong. My present address is 2608 Creston Avenue, Apt #1E, Bronx, NY 10468. My place of birth is Banjul, The Gambia. My date of birth is January 12, 1956.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Bronx County on May 14, 2015, bearing Index Number NC-000193-15/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) Abdul (Middle) Munan (Last) Ara. My present name is (First) Abdul-Munan (Last) Ara AKA Abdul Munan Ara. My present address is 2164 Barnes Ave, #334, Bronx, NY 10462. My place of birth is Brooklyn, NY. My date of birth is October 30, 1981.

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE OF POSTPONEMENT OF SALE
SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF BRONX
HSBC BANK USA, N.A., AS INDENTURE TRUSTEE FOR THE REGISTERED NOTEHOLDERS OF RENAISSANCE HOME EQUITY LOAN TRUST 2007-1,
Index No.: 381331/11
Plaintiff,
Against
GLORIA HARRIS, CROMWELL W. HARRIS, MELLISSA PHILLIPS, DAPHINE STEWART, JOAN DENNIS, SEAN ELLIS, NISHARA PHILLIPS, SAHARAH STONE, et al.,
Defendant(s).

Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly entered in the Bronx County Treasurer as 3/2/2015, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Bronx County Courthouse, 851 Grand Concourse, Room 600, Bronx, NY on 6/8/2015 at 2:00 pm premises known as 2723 Cruger Avenue, Bronx, NY 10467, and described as follows:

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

York, and designated on the tax maps of the Bronx County Treasurer as Block 4509 and Lot 56.

The approximate amount of the current Judgment lien is \$ 778,223.34 plus interest and costs. The premises will be sold subject to provisions of the aforesaid Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale; Index # 381331/11. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney.

Original sale date 5/18/2015 at the same time and location.

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

Dated: 5/6/2015 PB

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE OF POSTPONEMENT OF SALE
SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF BRONX

DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY, AS TRUSTEE FOR THE REGISTERED HOLDERS OF MORGAN STANLEY ABS CAPITAL I TRUST 2007-HE6 MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2007-HE6,

Plaintiff,
Against
OBIANUJU NWAKILE, ET AL.,
Defendant(s).
Index # 380768-08

Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly entered in the Bronx County Clerk's Office on 11/15/2012, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Bronx County Courthouse, 851 Grand Concourse, Room 600, Bronx, NY on 6/8/2015 at 2:00 pm premises known as 629 East 229 Street, Bronx, NY, and described as follows:

ALL that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough and County of Bronx, City and State of New York, and designated on the tax maps of the Bronx County Treasurer as Block 4832 and Lot 64.

The approximate amount of the current Judgment lien is \$447,272.50 plus interest and costs. The premises will be sold subject to provisions of the aforesaid Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale; Index # 380768-08.

Original sale date 5/18/2015, 2:00 pm at the same location.

Edmond J. Pryor, Esq., Referee.
Clarfield, Okon, Salomone, & Pincus, 425 RXR Plaza, 4th Floor, Suite 400, UNIONDALE, NY 11556

Dated: 5/7/2015 JPF



SAVE MONEY

BY SHOPPING IN OUR CLASSIFIEDS

Trump Golf Links at Ferry Point Park officially opens

From page 1

The course also offers four practice facilities, including a 66,000 square foot, two-tiered driving range tee. The views of the Manhattan skyline, Long Island Sound, Whitestone and Throggs Neck bridges are sure to generate a calm, scenic atmosphere for golfers.

"You have an ideal situation with Ferry Point Park, located just minutes from downtown Manhattan and included with great views," said Jack Nicklaus. "It's an unbelievable golf course and I hope it's a great source of pride for New Yorkers and a special ex-

perience for those who visit."

The state of the art, 7,400-yard course, which is the first public course to open in New York City in more than 50 years, was developed by both Trump and Nicklaus, who took over the project after the original developer stepped down in 2011.

Prior to the golf course, this portion of Ferry Point Park was a landfill.

In 2016, a \$10 million clubhouse designed by architectural firm Hart-Howerton will greet golfers on their way to playing the course.



Trump (l) poses with Nicklaus.

Photo courtesy of Trump Golf Links



Trump (l) poses with Diaz, Jr.

Photo courtesy of Trump Golf Links

Class of 2015 25 Bronx Influential Women honorees

the Bronx in ways small and large.

The women will be honored at an awards gala at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, June 30 at Scavello's on the Island. Tickets can be purchased by calling (718) 260-4595.

To read the bios of 2015's 25 In-

fluential Women and the details of their accomplishments, see the supplement at the center of this week's paper.

Readers are invited to nominate women for the award in 2016 by contacting the Bronx Times Reporter.



Bronx Times Reporter co-founder John Collazzi (c) and publisher Laura Guerriero (far right) with the 25 Bronx Influential Women planning committee members Rosemary DeLuca, Elizabeth Figueroa, Geri Sciortino, Lisa Sorin and Anna Vincenty at last year's event. File photo

**THIRD ANNUAL
BOY SCOUT
GOLF INVITATIONAL**

TUESDAY, JUNE 2ND 11:30AM
Pelham Bay & Split Rock
870 Shore Road, Bronx, NY



Event Rates:

Foursome - \$750 - Includes:
18 holes of golf for 4 w/cart, lunch, buffet dinner and awards ceremony.

Single Entry - \$200 - Includes:
18 holes of golf w/cart, lunch, buffet dinner and awards ceremony.

2015 Golf Committee:
Joseph Kullback, Michael Murphy, Danny Loring, Cary, David Chandra, Steve Rocco, Scotty Steger

The proceeds from this tournament will help provide Camp Scholarships for Scouts in need from The Bronx & Manhattan

Competitions:
Putting Contest, Team Low Gross, Closest to Pin, Longest Drive, Hole in One Prize

Sponsorship opportunities available.
Register online
WWW.BSA-GNYC.ORG/GOLFINVITATIONAL
Will Montano-212.651.2883
Field Director Bronx and Manhattan
Jason Tewes-212.651.2616
Development Director

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT BRONX COUNTY

Bank of America, N.A., Successor by Merger to BAC Home Loans Servicing, LP, Plaintiff against Bossman Boateng ,et al Defendants Attorney for Plaintiff(s) The Law Office of Fein, Such & Crane, LLP 28 East Main Street, Suite 1800, Rochester, NY 14614 Attorney (s) for Plaintiff (s).

Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale Entered October 9th, 2014

I will sell at Public Auction to the highest bidder at the Bronx County Courthouse, Room 600, 851 Grand Concourse, Bronx, NY 10451 on June 22nd, 2015 at 2:00 p.m. Premises known as 2090 East Tremont Avenue, Apartment 8F, Bronx, NY 10462 A/K/A 2090 East Tremont Avenue, Apartment 8F, Building N-7, Bronx, NY 10462 A/K/A 2090 East Tremont Avenue, Apartment 8F, Building N-10, Bronx, NY 10462.Sec N/A Block 3944 Lot 2909. All those certain Lot, Pieces or Parcel of Land situate, lying and being in the Borough and County of the Bronx, City and State of New York Approximate Amount of Judgment is \$171,934.58 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index No 380312-2012 .

Joseph Strasburg, Esq. , Referee

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF BRONX

JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, N.A. SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, AS TRUSTEE

C/O Litton Loan Servicing, LP
4828 Loop Central Drive
Houston, TX 77081
Index #17763/07
Plaintiff(s),
Against
PAUL LOPEZ, et al.,
Defendant(s).

Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly entered in the Bronx County Clerk's Office on 6/29/2010, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Bronx County Courthouse, Room 600, 851 Grand Concourse, Bronx, NY on 6/22/2015 at 2:00 pm premises known as 2869 Schley Avenue, Bronx, NY 10465, and described as follows:

ALL that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Bronx, County of Bronx, City and State of New York, and designated on the tax maps of the Bronx County Treasurer as Section 18, Block 5562 and Lot 170.

The approximate amount of the current Judgment lien is \$237,870.79 plus interest and costs. The premises will be sold subject to provisions of the aforesaid Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale; Index # 17763/07.

Edmond J. Pryor, Esq., Referee.
Clairfield, Okon, Salomone, & Pincus, 425 RXR Plaza, 4th Floor, Suite 400, UNIONDALE, NY 11556
Dated: 4/29/2015 JPF

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF BRONX HSBC Bank USA, National Association as Trustee for PHH 2007-1, Plaintiff, against Andrea Pearn; et al., Defendant(s). Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated December 4, 2014 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Bronx County Courthouse, Room 600, 851 Grand Concourse, Bronx New York on June 22, 2015 at 2:00PM, premises known as 1027 East 216th Street, Bronx, NY 10469. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough and County of Bronx, City and State of New York, Block 4699 Lot 14. Approximate amount of judgment \$472,294.66 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index# 382297-09. Allison Brockington, Esq., Referee Shapiro, DiCaro & Barak, LLC Attorney(s) for the Plaintiff 175 Mile Crossing Boulevard, Rochester, NY 14624 (877) 759-1835 Dated: May 13, 2015 1141508 5/22, 5/29, 6/5, 06/12/2015

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF SALE SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF BRONX NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC, Plaintiff, against EDWIN CHIQUITO, et al., Defendant(s). Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated 2/27/2015 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Bronx County Courthouse, Room 600 (Ground Floor), 851 Grand Concourse, City of Bronx, NY on 06/22/2015 at 02:00PM, premises known as 1482 BRYANT AVENUE, Bronx, NY 10460 All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough and County of Bronx, City and State of New York, BLOCK 3000 LOT 13. Approximate amount of judgment \$495,908.98 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index# 380004-14. Hedydyeh P. Broumand, Esq., Referee Gross Polowy, LLC, Attorney for Plaintiff, P.O. Box 540, Getzville, NY 14068 1139997

LEGAL NOTICE

REFEREE'S NOTICE OF SALE IN FORECLOSURE SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF BRONX

COUNTRYWIDE HOME LOANS, INC., Plaintiff - against - LYNETTE WILSON, et al Defendant(s).

Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered on March 20, 2007. I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Bronx County Courthouse, Room 600 f/k/a B-129, Ground Floor, 851 Grand Concourse, in the City of Bronx, NY on the 22nd Day of June, 2015 at 2:00 p.m. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land; with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough and County of Bronx, City and State of New York.

Premises known as 2658 Bainbridge Avenue, Bronx, NY 10458.
(SBL #: 12-3287-28)

Approximate amount of lien \$429,545.21 plus interest and costs.

Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed judgment and terms of sale.

Index No. 16580/06. Howard Vargas, Esq., Referee.
Davidson Fink LLP
Attorney(s) for Plaintiff
28 East Main Street, Suite 1700
Rochester, NY 14614-1990
Tel. 585/760-8218
Dated: April 14, 2015

LEGAL NOTICE

SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF BRONX

HOUSEHOLD FINANCE REALTY CORPORATION OF NEW YORK, Plaintiff against

PAUL CONRAD A/K/A PAUL W. CONRAD, MARIA CONRAD, et al, Defendant(s).

Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered on March 4, 2013.

I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Bronx County Courthouse, 851 Grand Concourse, Room 600, Bronx, N.Y. on the 15th day of June, 2015 at 2:00 p.m.

Said premises known as 1948 Cruger Avenue, Bronx, NY 10462.

Tax account number: BL # : 4258-4.

Approximate amount of lien \$ 387,768.12 plus interest and costs.

Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed judgment and terms of sale.

Index No. 381228-08. Lee Huttner, Esq., Referee.

Fein Such & Crane, LLP
Attorney(s) for Plaintiff
1400 Old Country Road
Suite C103
Westbury, N.Y. 11590

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

LEGAL NOTICE

SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF BRONX

JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, Plaintiff against

KOI E. GERMANY, et al Defendant(s).

Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered on March 4, 2015.

I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Bronx County Courthouse, 851 Grand Concourse, Room 600, Bronx, N.Y. on the 29th day of June, 2015 at 2:00 p.m.

Said premises known as 4052 Grace Avenue, Bronx, N.Y. 10466.

Tax account number: SBL # : 4980-20.

Approximate amount of lien \$ 562,289.55 plus interest and costs.

Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed judgment and terms of sale.

Index No. 380098-13. Jeffrey E. Dinowitz, Esq., Referee.

Fein Such & Crane, LLP
1400 Old Country Road, Suite C103
Westbury, N.Y. 11590

"If the sale is set aside for any

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

Please note: Referee will only accept bank check, certified check or money order at the sale. (NO CASH WILL BE ACCEPTED!)

LEGAL NOTICE

SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF BRONX

LASALLE BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR CERTIFICATEHOLDERS OF BEAR STEARNS ASSET BACKED SECURITIES I LLC, ASSET-BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2005-HE11, 800 STATE HIGHWAY 121 BYPASS, LEWISVILLE, TX 75067, Plaintiff against

FRANCINE E. TERRY, et al, Defendant(s).

Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered December 31, 2014.

I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Bronx County Courthouse, 851 Grand Concourse, Room 600, Bronx, N.Y. on the 29th day of June, 2015 at 2:00 p.m.

Said premises known as 800 East 170th Street, Bronx, N.Y. 10459.

Tax account number: SBL # : 2963-16.

Approximate amount of lien \$ 382,216.96 plus interest and costs.

Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed judgment and terms of sale.

Index No. 381034-07. Jeffrey E. Dinowitz, Esq., Referee.

McCabe, Weisberg, & Conway
Attorney(s) for Plaintiff
145 Huguenot Street - Suite 210
New Rochelle, New York 10801
(914) 636-8900

Please note: Referee will only accept bank check, certified check or money order at the sale. (NO CASH WILL BE ACCEPTED!)

LEGAL NOTICE

SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF BRONX

NYCTL 2011-A TRUST and THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON, as Collateral Agent and Custodian of the NYCTL 2011-A, Plaintiff against BYRON MCFARLANE, CYNTHIA MCFARLANE, et al Defendant(s). Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered herein and dated December 12, 2013, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Bronx Supreme Courthouse, Room 600, 851 Grand Concourse, Bronx, NY on June 22, 2015 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 easterly side of the Bronx Boulevard, distant 75.36 feet northerly from the corner formed by the intersection of the northerly side of 213th Street with the easterly side of Bronx Boulevard; being a plot 100.06 feet by 25.12 feet by 100.06 feet by 25.12 feet. Block: 4645 Lot: 4 Said premises known as 3608 BRONX BOULEVARD, BRONX, NY

Approximate amount of lien \$ 12,832.40 plus interest & costs. Premises will be sold subject to

provisions of filed judgment and terms of sale. Index Number 21046/2012.

RICHARD TOLCHIN, ESQ., Referee
O'Connell, Doyle & Lewis, LLC
Attorney(s) for Plaintiff
260 Madison Ave, Suite 204, New York, NY 10016

LEGAL NOTICE

SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF BRONX

U.S. BANK TRUST, N.A., AS TRUSTEE FOR LSF8 MASTER PARTICIPATION TRUST, Plaintiff against

DEBORAH JACKSON; MITCHELL JACKSON, et al Defendant(s).

Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered on March 31, 2015.

I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Bronx County Courthouse, 851 Grand Concourse, Room 600, Bronx, N.Y. on the 29th day of June, 2015 at 2:00 p.m.

Said premises known as 3996 Rombouts Avenue, Bronx, N.Y. 10466.

Tax account number: SBL # : 4971-29.

Approximate amount of lien \$ 572,309.91 plus interest and costs.

Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed judgment and terms of sale.

Index No. 380266-13. Jeffrey E. Dinowitz, Esq., Referee.

Fein Such & Crane, LLP
Attorney(s) for Plaintiff
1400 Old Country Road, Suite C103
Westbury, N.Y. 11590

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

Please note: Referee will only accept bank check, certified check or money order at the sale. (NO CASH WILL BE ACCEPTED!)

LEGAL NOTICE

SUPREME COURT - COUNTY OF BRONX BOARD OF MANAGERS OF PARKVIEW CONDOMINIUM, Plaintiff

against JOHN DEGIORGIO, et al Defendant(s). Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered herein and dated April 9, 2015, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Bronx Supreme Courthouse, Room 600, 851 Grand Concourse, Bronx, NY on June 29, 2015 at 2:00 PM premises lying and being in the Borough and County of Bronx, In the Condominium known as "Parkview Condominium", known as Apartment No. 2B. Together with an undivided 3.289% percent interest in common elements. This Unit is also designated as Tax Lot No. 1002 in Block 4174.

Said premises known as 1600 PARKVIEW AVENUE, APT 2B, BRONX, NY

Approximate amount of lien \$ 47,577.63 plus interest & costs.

Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed judgment and terms of sale. Index Number 21192/2013E.

CESAR FERNANDEZ, ESQ., Referee SMITH, BUSS & JACOBS, LLP Attorney(s) for Plaintiff

733 Yonkers Avenue, Yonkers, NY 10704



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PUBLISHER'S NOTICE

All employment advertised herein is subject to section 296 of the human rights law, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination because of race, color, creed, national origin, disability, marital status, sex, age, sexual orientation, or arrest conviction record, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination. Title 29, U.S. Code, Chap 630, excludes the Federal Gov't from the age discrimination provisions. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for employment which is in violation of the law. Our readers are informed that employment offerings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

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Nota Pública

El Departamento de Conservación Ambiental del Estado de Nueva York ("NYSDEC" por sus siglas en inglés) ha recibido una aplicación al Programa de Limpieza Brownfield ("BCP" por sus siglas en inglés) de parte de la compañía 167-168 Third Avenue LLC para el sitio conocido como 3475 Third Avenue (No. de identificación: C203080). Este sitio está localizado en el municipio del Bronx, en la ciudad de Nueva York, dentro del condado del Bronx, y esta ubicado en el 3475 de la Tercera Avenida. Comentarios relacionados a esta aplicación deben ser entregados no más tarde del 26 de junio del 2015. Información acerca de este sitio, la aplicación, y de como presentar comentarios puede ser obtenida en la siguiente página web

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/60058.html> o puede enviar sus comentarios a Dana Mecomber, Directora del Proyecto, NYSDEC, Region 2, 47-40 21 Street, Long Island City, NY 11101; Dana.Mecomber@dec.ny.gov o llame al 718-482-7451.

Para recibir información, como esta nota pública, enviada directamente a su correo electrónico, inscribise en la lista de correo electrónico del condado disponible en la siguiente página web:
www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/61092.html

Public Notice

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has received a Brownfield Cleanup Program (BCP) application from 167-168 Third Avenue LLC for a site known as the 3475 Third Avenue, site ID #C203080. This site is located in the Borough of Bronx, City of New York, within the County of Bronx, and is located at 3475 Third Avenue. Comments regarding this application must be submitted no later than June 26, 2015.

Information regarding the site, the application, and how to submit comments can be found at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/60058.html> or send comments to Dana Mecomber, Project Manager, NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation Region 2, 47-40 21st Street, Long Island City, NY 11101; Dana.Mecomber@dec.ny.gov or call 718-482-7541.

To have information such as this notice sent right to your email, sign up with county email listservs available at www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/61092.html.

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LEGAL NOTICE

File No.: 2009-2640/A
SURROGATE'S COURT - BRONX COUNTY
SUPPLEMENTAL CITATION
The People of the State of New York
By the Grace of God Free and Independent

To:
"JOHN DOE" FATHER OF CHMAAR KITT a/k/a CHMAAR SCOTT KITT WHOSE IDENTITY AND WHEREABOUTS ARE UNKNOWN, IF LIVING OR DEAD, TO THEIR RESPECTIVE HEIRS, LEGATEES BENEFICIARIES, FIDUCIARIES, ASSIGNEES, SUCCESSORS AND CREDITORS OF INTEREST WHOSE NAMES ARE UNKNOWN AND CANNOT BE ASCERTAINED, AFTER DUE DILIGENCE, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK AND THE UNKNOWN HEIRS AT LAW, NEXT OF KIN AND DISTRIBUTEES OF CHMAAR KITT a/k/a CHMAAR SCOTT KITT, DECEASED, IF LIVING OR DEAD, TO THEIR RESPECTIVE HEIRS, LEGATEES, BENEFICIARIES FIDUCIARIES, ASSIGNEES, SUCCESSORS AND CREDITORS OF INTEREST WHOSE NAMES ARE UNKNOWN AND CANNOT BE ASCERTAINED, AFTER DUE DILIGENCE
NYC HUMAN RESOURCES ADMINISTRATION

A petition having been duly filed by PATRINA KITT as Administratrix of the Estate of CHMAAR KITT, deceased, who is domiciled at 654 Burke Avenue, Bronx, NY 10467.

YOU ARE HEREBY CITED TO SHOW CAUSE before the Surrogate's Court, Bronx County, at 9:30 a.m. or the forenoon of that day in the Surrogate's Court, County of Bronx, New York, located at 851 Grand Concourse, Room 406 Bronx, NY 10451, on June 16, 2015, at 9:30 a.m., why a decree should not be made in the Estate of CHMAAR KITT a/k/a CHMAAR SCOTT KITT, lately domiciled at 756 Kelly Street, Bronx, NY, in the County of Bronx, New York, granting leave to allocate and distribute the Net Proceeds of a wrongful death actions on behalf of CHMAAR KITT, a/k/a/ CHMAAR SCOTT KITT and

WHY the Administratrix should not be authorized and empowered to allocate and distribute net proceeds settle a certain claim for the wrongful death of the decedent, against Senior Care Emergency Medical Services for the sum of \$187,500.00 settled in the Bronx Supreme Court By Order of the Hon. Stanley Green dated September 22, 2014, and

WHY the entire net recovery of \$126,704.97 should not be allocated to the cause of action for decedent's wrongful death, and

WHY the provisions in the Letters of Administration heretofore issued to your petitioner on December 4, 2009 restraining the Administratrix from compromising or collecting upon the aforesaid claim should not be modified to permit said compromise, and

WHY the filing of a bond should not be dispensed with, and

WHY the account of Patrina Kitt as Administratrix in this proceeding, should not be judicially settled, and

WHY, the net balance of the settlement, to wit the sum of \$126,704.97 should not be distributed to those distributees having sustained a pecuniary loss as follows: 100% of the balance of the settlement to Patrina Kitt,

mother of the decedent, and

WHY the net recovery of \$126,704.97 should not be allocated to the cause of action for decedent's wrongful death, and

WHY the claim of Medicaid lien in the amount of \$2,939.73 should not be rejected, as it would only have a lien against conscious pain and suffering.

Dated, Attested and Sealed

April 27, 2015

Hon. Nelida Malave-Gonzalez

Surrogate

Michael P. Hausler

Chief Clerk

Name of Attorney for Petitioner: Wallace & Associates, P.C. Tel. No. 914 224-6411 (718) 596-6146

Address of Attorney 360 Furman, Suite 723, Brooklyn, NY 11201

NOTE:

THIS CITATION IS SERVED UPON YOU AS REQUIRED BY LAW. YOU ARE NOT OBLIGED TO APPEAR IN PERSON. IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR IT WILL BE ASSUMED THAT YOU DO NOT OBJECT TO THE RELIEF REQUESTED. YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO HAVE AN ATTORNEY-AT-LAW APPEAR FOR YOU.

LEGAL NOTICE

ACCOUNTING CITATION File No. 2013-2376. SURROGATE'S COURT - BRONX COUNTY CITATION. THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, By the Grace of God Free and Independent, TO: Attorney General of the State of New York; NYC Department of Social Services; and The unknown distributees, next of kin and heirs at law of KENNETH WOODSIDE, deceased, if living, or if dead, to their respective distributees, next of kin, heirs at law, legatees, devisees, beneficiaries, fiduciaries, assignees, creditors or other successors in interest, whose names and post office addresses are unknown and cannot be ascertained after due diligence; A Petition having been duly filed by the Public Administrator of the County of Bronx, having offices at 851 Grand Concourse, Room 336, Bronx, New York 10451; **YOU ARE HEREBY CITED TO SHOW CAUSE** before the Surrogate's Court of the State of New York, Bronx County, at 851 Grand Concourse, Room 406, Bronx, New York 10451 on JUNE 23, 2015 at 9:30 o'clock in the forenoon of that day, why the Court should not grant the following relief: (1) that the account of the Public Administrator of the County of Bronx, a summary of which will be served therewith, as Administrator of the Estate of KENNETH WOODSIDE, deceased, who at the time of his death was a domiciliary of 1070 Havemeyer Avenue, Bronx, NY, be judicially settled; (2) that legal fees of \$2,044.13 as listed in Schedule C-1 of the account, of which \$1,022.06 will be paid upon the completion of jurisdiction herein and the remaining \$1,022.07 will be paid upon the entry of a Decree herein, to Rodman & Campbell, P.C. as attorneys for the Public Administrator be allowed; (3) that the Administrator be allowed its statutory charges calculated pursuant to SCPA 1106(3); (4) that the commissions calculated pursuant to SCPA 2301 and 1106 (1) & (2) be allowed; (5) that the claim of NYC Department of Social Services in the approximate amount of \$838,680.64 be allowed; (6) that, in the absence of anyone appearing and filing objections hereto, the entire net estate be paid to NYC Department of Social Services on account of its allowed claim; (7) that, in the event objections are filed herein, the Court hold a hearing to establish the identity of the decedent's distributees and grant pursuant to SCPA 2225 if ap-

propriate; (8) that such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and proper be granted.

HON. NELIDA MALAVE - GONZALEZ, Surrogate. Michael P. Hausler, Chief Clerk. Dated, Attested and Sealed, May 8, 2015.

Attorney for Petitioner(s): RODMAN AND CAMPBELL, P.C. Tel. No. (718) 882-2681. Address of Attorney: 1428 East Gun Hill Road, Bronx, New York 10469. **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-at-law appear for you.**

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Public Sale

Secure Self Storage will be holding a Public Lien Sale located at 1037 Zerega Avenue, Bronx NY 10462. The sale will be held on Monday June 15th 2015 at 4:00PM. The Contents of the units will be sold for cash to the highest bidder. Certain terms and conditions apply. See manager for details. For more information call 718-904-7867

UNIT NUMBER/UNIT ITEMS:

1008 Jesus Perez, 1087 Miosotis Ventura, 1159 Tiffany Cruz, 1227 Alfredo Larrazabal, 2061 Idania Diaz, 2064 Sara Shipping, 2147 Roger Dunmore, 2370 Douglas Britton, 2520 Bobby Oneal, 2562 Elihut Hernandez, 2597 Marsha McCormick-Burke, 3027 Oscar Arriaga, 3048 Brenda Ayala, 3089 Ramon Dejesus, 3101 Edward Montanez, 3145 Nadine Dantzer, 3179 Ce-Asia Carrigan-Bobb, 3189 Sharon Walker, 3190 Jerome Bennett, 3212 Steven Rodriguez, 4017 Wilberto Gonzalez, 4113 Andres Rosa, 4137 Annette Marie Febo, 4176 Jennifer Villanueva, 4238 Vanessa Reyes, 4273 Wayne Scurry, 4280 Hamlet Munoz, 2194C Nelida Pagan.

LEGAL NOTICE

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF NEW YORK. In the matter of Index No. 652793/2014. Date Index No. Purchased: 09/12/14. **AMENDED SUMMONS.** CHOICE MONEY TRANSFER, INC., Plaintiff, -against- ENVIRO-CORP CORPORATION, MARIA D. GARCES, LORENA E. BACULIMA, MARTHA PINTADO, HUMBERTO PINTADO, URSULA C. MENDOZA a/k/a NARCISA ALONSO and JOHN DOES 1-10 - Defendants. Defendants To Be Served: **Maria D. Garces** 30 Ardmore Drive Brentwood, New York 11717. **Humberto Pintado** 110 St. James Terrace Yonkers, New York 10701. **Martha Pintado** 110 St. James Terrace Yonkers, New York 10701. The basis for the venue designated is the Plaintiffs principal place of business. **TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANTS:** PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer the amended complaint of the Plaintiff(s) herein and to serve a copy of your answer on the Plaintiff(s) at the address indicated below within 20 days after the service of this Summons (not counting the day of service itself), or within 30 days after service is complete if the summons is not delivered personally to you within the State of New York. YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT should you fail to answer, a judgment will be entered against you by default for the relief demanded in the complaint. Dated: Hackensack, New Jersey. September 30, 2014. **s/Michael J. Cohen.**

Michael J. Cohen WINNE, BANTA, HETHERINGTON, BASRALIAN & KAHN, P.C. 21 Main Street - Court Plaza South Hackensack, NJ 07601 (201) 487-3800 (ph) (201) 487-8529 (fax) Attorneys for Plaintiff.

Choice Money Transfer, Inc. seeks \$447,100.00 in damages plus interest, costs, disbursements, and attorneys fees against, among others, Envirocorp Corporation and the above named defendants. Choice alleges that the defendants: breached an Agent Agreement by converting funds; were unjustly enriched; breached the implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing; breached their fiduciary duty / duty of loyalty; defrauded Choice; violated N.Y. Debtor & Creditor Law § 270 et seq.; are individually liable for Envirocorp's acts based on fraud and undercapitalization; violated N.Y. Gen. Oblig. Law § 11-104; engaged in unfair competition; and conspired to harm Choice. Choice also prays for punitive damages for fraud, violation of Debtor & Creditor Law § 270 et seq., and Gen. Oblig. Law § 11-104; for a constructive trust; to compel the defendants performance under the

Agent Agreement; granting a writ of attachment; for an order enjoining the defendants from engaging in unfair competition; and for other relief as the Court deems proper.

LEGAL NOTICE

Order of Publication Commonwealth of Virginia. Richmond Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court Commonwealth of Virginia, in re Jalin Eubanks. The object of this suit is to: Terminate the Residual Parental Rights ("RPR") Jermel Bailey (Father) of Jalin Eubanks, child, DOB 11/27/2008. "RPR" means all rights and responsibilities remaining with parent after transfer of legal custody or guardianship of the person, including but not limited to rights of: visitation; adoption consent; determination of religious affiliation; and responsibility for support. It is ORDERED that the defendant Jermel Bailey, appear at the above-named Court to protect his/her interest on or before July 29, 2015 at 2:15 p.m. Kate D. O'Leary, Deputy City Attorney 730 East Broad Street, 8th floor Richmond, Virginia 23219. (804) 646-3493.

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Draft Lottery

As soon as I saw Mills sit at the Knicks' desk I knew it was a lost cause.

Ian O'Connor (ESPN.com) wrote, "You win 17 games in the NBA, you deserve exactly what you get. And for those who would follow that logic to the conclusion that 16-win Minnesota sure didn't deserve the No. 1 pick, hey, at least the Timberwolves had their owner, Glen Taylor, sit up there with his dunce cap on.

What a joke. Jackson had an opportunity to prove that he's not merely a detached consultant who took the job, according to his former GM in Chicago, Jerry Krause, because he wanted to pocket James Dolan's money. Jackson had a chance to show everyone he isn't already reviewing future exit strategies as eagerly as he's scouting future pros.

But he just wouldn't reduce himself to a prop on that stage. Instead Knicks fans discovered something else Steve Mills isn't particularly adept at -- being a good-luck charm.

"Towns was the prospect who best matches up with those images, and the Knicks scout who trailed him all season at Kentucky, Mark Warkentien, had fallen hard for him. So had every basketball lifer who watched Towns

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Fieldston wins third straight NYSAISAA softball crown



Fieldston rushed the field to celebrate its third straight NYSAISAA softball title. Photo by Steven Schnibbe

BY JOSEPH STASZEWSKI

The Fieldston softball team knew it still had plenty of talent despite losing six seniors from consecutive championship squads. It just needed to reestablish its personality if it was going to get to the top of again.

"We had to find that chemistry," Fieldston coach Stefanie Gozdziwski said. "It was a long haul. A lot of quiet kids and just encourage them to be silly."

The personalities eventually came out and familiar success followed. There was plenty of team singing, dancing and chanting after the second-seeded Eagles beat No. 1 Poly Prep for their third

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Fieldston celebrates its third straight NYSAISAA softball title.

Photo by Steven Schnibbe

St. Catharine Academy honors student athletes



Danielle Cavaluzzo, Senior Athlete of the Year, with retiring Athletic Director Sandie Capifali.

On Friday, May 15, 2015, St. Catharine Academy honored its student athletes at the 30th Annual Athletics Awards Dinner held at Maestro's. Administrators, faculty, parents, and friends gathered to acknowledge the accomplishments of these fine athletes.

The Most Improved Trophies were presented to: Jaileen Cortes, Soccer; Luisa Uljic, JV Volleyball; Nicole Lingayo, Varsity Volleyball; Alyssa Gaetano, JV Basketball; Danielle Cavaluzzo, Varsity Basketball; Ziara Martinez, Softball; Olivia Albertelli, JV Cheerleading; Nerys Castillo-Santana, Varsity Cheerleading.

The Most Valuable Player Trophies were presented to: Kaitlyn Britt, Soccer; Samantha Juncaj, JV Volleyball; Larimar Rivera, Volleyball; Janelle McCoy, JV Basketball; Evelyn Aguilar, Varsity Basketball; Gabrielle Iglesias, Softball; Mariah Blanco, JV Cheerleading; Briana Givens, Varsity Cheerleading.

The Senior Athlete Award for the Year was presented to Danielle Cavaluzzo for her dedication and contribution to the sports of volleyball and basketball.

The entire St. Catharine Academy community congratulates our athletes and coaches on their achievements and dedication.

It was also with saddened heart



Danielle Cavaluzzo holding her Senior Athlete Award with her mother Suzanne Cavaluzzo.

that Athletic Director Sandie Capifali announced her retirement from St. Catharine Academy. Ms. Capifali has served at SCA for 31 years.

Stepinac High School Senior Dylan DeMuro Named 2015 U.S. Lacrosse All-American

Will Attend Manhattan College to Play NCAA Division 1 Lacrosse



Joining Dylan at a signing ceremony last fall were his parents (standing behind him) and Stepinac head lacrosse coach James Goldmann.

White Plains, NY (May 15, 2015) Archbishop Stepinac High School senior Dylan DeMuro of Yorktown was named a 2015 United States Lacrosse All-American. It is the first time since 2002 that a Stepinac student, Tyler Nugent, earned the distinguished honor.

A four- year starter for Stepinac's lacrosse team who also played varsity football and basketball, DeMuro will attend Manhattan College in the fall

this year on a lacrosse scholarship and play NCAA Division 1. The college competes out of the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference.

James Goldmann, Stepinac's head lacrosse coach as well as a Stepinac alumnus (Class of '04), said in a memo to the school's faculty: "Dylan told me in his freshman that this was his goal and I am incredibly grateful that you were all able to help make his dream a reality."

SCA Youth Cheerleading Tryouts for 2015-2016 Season



St. Catharine Academy announces tryouts for its STARS Youth Cheerleading Team. Our SCA youth teams are the Bronx's only two competitive recreational cheerleading teams.

Tryouts for girls entering Grades 2 to 5 for the 2015-2016 school year will be held on Monday, June 15th from 6 P.M. to 8 P.M. at the St. Catharine Academy gym.

Tryouts for girls entering Grades 6 to 8 for the 2015-2016 school year will be held on Monday, June 15th from 6 P.M. to 8 P.M. and Tuesday, June 16th, 6 P.M. to 8 P.M. at the St. Catharine Academy gym. Girls must attend both days of tryouts.

For more information please email: starsyouthcheer@gmail.com.

Heartbreak finds Preston in Archdiocesan final

BY LESLIE MONTEIRO

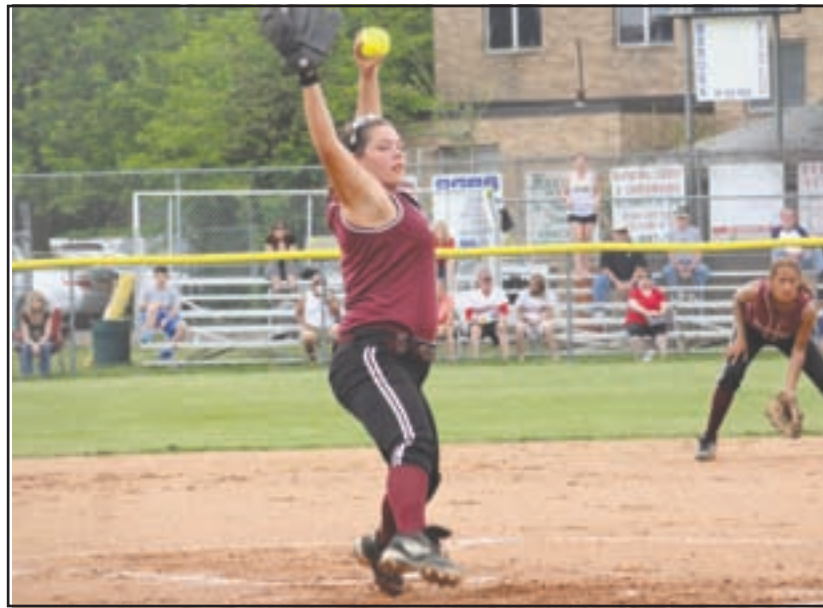
Preston was leading by a run and four outs away from celebrating their first CHSAA Archdiocesan softball championship before everything changed on one bang-bang play.

Host St. Joseph by the Sea scored two runs with two outs in the bottom of the sixth inning on a misplayed throw on Alex Cusamano's infield grounder. The mistake was enough to hand visiting Preston a 4-3 loss in the championship game May 19 in Huguenot. It is the Vikings fourth straight crown and fourth time it beat Preston in the final to do so.

"We were all in a stare of shock," Preston ace Julianna Orrico said. "We were winning the entire game and then it just slipped away from us. It felt unreal and then it set in that our high school careers were over."

Preston led 3-2 with two on and two outs in the sixth. It appeared Orrico was out of the jam when Cusamano grounded to Ashley Puig at short. Her throw brought Marissa Denner off the bag at first. Cusamano was called safe as she collided with Denner, who was trying to find the base with her foot.

Nicole Meliak, who singled to start the inning, scored the tying run from third. Time was not called and Sea



Preston ace Julianna Orrico allowed just two unearned runs in a loss to St. Joseph by the Sea.

Photo by Joseph Staszewski

coach Jillian Rini sent Julianna Cretella home from second. She scored to give the Vikings a 4-3 lead.

"I was overly aggressive, but I told the girls that I rather be aggressive than coach scared," the second-year

softball coach said of her decision.

It was a play Preston coach Frank Toscano and his team will rue for a long time. "There's no way to handle it," he said. "There's no next year for our seniors. They won't get it back

ever. That's what it makes tough for us. We have been through this together," he said.

Toscano's club missed a chance to pad its lead in the top of the six. Vikings starter Cara O'Leary was in a jam after getting the first two outs. She gave up hits to Bianca Mastropietro, who was 3-for-3 with a double and two runs scored, and Danielle Kibler. With Mastropietro at third and Kibler at first, Puig struck out to end the threat.

"It was the turning point of the game," Toscano said

Preston went up 3-0 early on s Puig's sac fly in the second and Victoria Rivera's two-run single in the fourth. Orrico did all she could to hold it and give Preston a chance to win. She gave up no earned runs on seven hits with two strikeouts.

It wasn't the ending she and her teammates hoped for, but it doesn't diminish what they accomplished during their time at Preston. This group believes its pushed the program to another level.

"We could not be prouder," Orrico said. "We got Preston on the map and we never won a championship. I've seen how far this team has come in four years and it truly is amazing."

Fieldston wins third straight NYSAISAA softball crown

from Page 59

BY JOSEPH STASZEWSKI

The Fieldston softball team knew it still had plenty of talent despite losing six seniors from consecutive championship squads. It just needed to reestablish its personality if it was going to get to the top of again.

"We had to find that chemistry," Fieldston coach Stefanie Gozdziwski said. "It was a long haul. A lot of quiet kids and just encourage them to be silly."

The personalities eventually came out and familiar success followed. There was plenty of team singing, dancing and chanting after the second-seeded Eagles beat No. 1 Poly Prep for their third straight NYSAISAA crown at Manhattanville on May 20.

"We had a lot of team traditions we had to teach to the new kids," Fieldston senior centerfielder Alexa Mendel said. "We dance to music before every game. We had a lot of cheers to teach them. That was a huge part of our success."

It was an early season loss to Poly in Bay Ridge that finally brought the team together. The players sensed the energy around the club wasn't the same as in past years and worked even harder to bring things together. Fieldston didn't lose again.

"People feel like they are part of a team," Mendel said.



Fieldston celebrates its third straight NYSAISAA softball title.

Photo by Steven Schnibbe

The Eagles (18-1) and ace Temma Levis hung together and stayed calm as Poly Prep attempted to rally back from a 5-1 deficit in the final three innings. The junior limited the damage, allowing two runs in the fifth and just one in the seventh after surrounding a lead off single. Levis scattered six hits,

struck out eight and did not walk a batter.

"It just gives us an air of confidence knowing that she is on the mound," Gozdziwski said. She is always so steadied and in control."

The Eagles felt it was import to get ahead of Poly (16-4) early. They got

on the board in the first inning on an RBI single from Savannah Stern that scored Phoebe May, who has two hits and two runs scored.

Poly got even in the second before Fieldston grabbed control of the game with a three-run third. Mendel, who was 3-for-4 with two runs, delivered

Fieldston given a reminder of its finest hour

BY JOSEPH STASZEWSKI

The second-seeded Eagles fell 11-3 to No. 1 Rye Country Day in the NY-SAISAA boy's lacrosse final at Manhattanville on May 22. It was the program's first appearance in the title game since 2012.

First-year Fieldston coach Spencer Wright huddled his team near its bench once the awards were given out and showed them the Ivy League championship plaque they earned with an undefeated regular season. He brought it just incase the state crown didn't come back to Riverdale.

"To see that, just to remind us that we did have a really phenomenal season, it meant the world," senior defender Stephen Lese said. "Right now we are a little down."

His quad found itself down nearly the entire game. Rye Country Day, which beat Fieldston 14-10 during the regular season, scored seven straight goals to grab an 8-1 lead with 7:24 to in the third quarter. The score was tied at 1-1 midway the first quarter.

Rye Country Day's defense was suffocating and physical and denied Fieldston good lucks at the net. Even when it did get quality changes it felt like athletic Rye keeper Sean Price stepped in front of the shot.

The misses and rebounds turned into transition opportunities and early



Fieldston captain Noah Knopf fights for a ground ball against Rye Country Day.

Photo by Steven Schnibbe

goals for Rye Country Day. Even in the set off the ball moves quickly and effectively enough to the Fieldston defense off balance.

"They shut down our attack," Wright said. "Our attack was our bread and butter all year. That's what they were able to do today."

Rye senior Riley van den Broek scored five goals and dished out and assist and Justin Weissman found the back of the net twice Chris White scored twice for Fieldston and Dane Gordan added a goal.

The disappointment slowly dissipated and Fieldston remembered what it accomplished this year. It was upset in the first round by Poly Prep a year ago and refused to let them happen again.

"We said in the beginning of the season, 'We are going to the finals,'" Lese said.

The Eagles beat Hackely in the semifinals for the third time this season on an overtime goal from sophomore Charlie Geiberman to do just that. A state crown wasn't meant to be, but the sight of the Ivy League title plaque eased the disappointment.

It just meant the world and kept our head up," Lese said.

Iona Prep 9, Fordham Prep 7: The Gales out scored Fordham 6-2 in the second half to claim its second straight CHSAA Class AA crown at May 22 at Murphy Field. Andrew Abbattista tallied two goals and three assists for Fordham. Thomas Marra had three assists and Jack Casella added two goals. Chris Kownacki paced Iona with two goals and an assist. Christian McHugh and Brendon Lao tallied two goals apiece.

Pipe Dreams: Beantown Pitching Woes; Perry Patter: Cynics "R" Us

from Page 59

grow from a long-range shooter at a New Jersey high school, St. Joseph of Metuchen, into a defensive anchor with enough developing low-post moves to lead Kentucky to 38 consecutive victories and a place in the Final Four.

"In my mind he's the No. 1 pick in the draft," Bob Hurley Sr., the legendary New Jersey high school coach, said during the NCAA tournament. "Okafor is a more polished offensive player, but Towns is a better defender, rebounder, and foul shooter, and is a bit more versatile now. He's personable, a great interview, plays with passion, and has a more outgoing personality than most big kids do. You can put him on the Knicks and he's an NBA All-Star."

Only you can't put him on the Knicks now. Towns will be long gone, and so will Okafor, when the Knicks step to the plate in the unwelcome role as the draft's cleanup hitter."

"I think it's not a setback at all," Mills said. (BC- can you say knucklehead? We can still hope for a trade with Minny for #1)

Beantown Pitching Woes

The Sports Curmudgeon told us about Boston's solution, "Well, so far this year, the Sox pitching staff as a whole - starters and relievers - has

been well beneath "questionable". And what did the Sox do to deal with that situation: Trade for Cole Hamels? No. Bring up their top pitching prospects? No. Lure Roger Clemens out of retirement? Thankfully, no.

What they did was to fire their pitching coach, Juan Nieves, who was the same pitching coach upon whom everyone lavished heaps of praise when he guided the Sox pitching staff that won the World Series. That was in 2013 which means Nieves got really dumb really fast..."

Perry Patter

Dwight Perry (Seattle Times) wrote about "deflate-gate" by saying, "What do the Vietnam War and Deflategate have in common?

Answer: Both inspired sit-ins.

Four Tom Brady fanatics - angered over the Patriot QB's four-game suspension for his role in deflating footballs - handcuffed themselves together in the lobby of NFL headquarters for 15 minutes Tuesday before New York's finest hauled them away.

"Hopefully it goes somewhere," Chris Spagnuolo, a protest organizer, told the New York Post, "but obviously it only went to central booking."

Tweeted protester Dave Portnoy in advance: "I don't want to beg, but a GoFundMe for our bail would be nice."

Sideline Chatter

A baseball fan in Chicago, eschewing the typical player's jersey, went to last Thursday's Cubs-Mets game dressed as the Wrigley Field ivy.

So what's next, the Incredible Hulk showing up in Boston to salute the Green Monster?

At SportsPickle.com: "On this day in history, one day ago: Patriots claim their equipment guys use the term 'deflation' to talk about weight loss."

A woman in Lexington, Ky., being strangled by a burglar with a bra KO'd her female attacker with a ceramic chicken, CNN reported.

The loser immediately claimed a pre-existing shoulder injury, claimed she'd won the fight on points and demanded a rematch.

A Las Vegas musical based on TV's "Duck Dynasty" is shutting down because of poor ticket sales.

Guess it wasn't all it was quacked up to be.

Comedian Argus Hamilton, with the latest Deflategate update: "Vladimir Putin just gave back Robert Kraft's Super Bowl ring, saying if a team can't play by the rules, it isn't worth having."

Bo Jackson, to ESPN, when asked if he misses playing football or baseball: "OK, you're a CPA. Do you miss doing

somebody's taxes when you're on vacation?";

RJ Currie of SportsDeke.com, on Prince William and Kate naming their newborn daughter Charlotte Elizabeth Diana: "NHL translation: Charsy";

History will be made when the new span connecting Detroit to Windsor, Ontario, is named in honor of hockey great Gordie Howe.

It's believed to be the first Howe-inspired bridge that wasn't installed by a dentist.

The most common injuries in the NBA involve:

- a) ankles
- b) knees
- c) leg muscles
- d) a ricochet from a Dwight Howard free throw

Cynics "R" Us

I agree with Bob Molinaro (Hampton Roads Pilot) when he wrote, "The national poll showing that the overwhelming majority of people who identify themselves as NFL fans support Brady's four-game suspension also reveals that even more people believe every NFL team pushes the envelope - the latest euphemism for cheating. It appears that Roger Goodell's homilies concerning the "integrity of the game" are not getting through. Not that there's any reason they should."

The South bronx fitness team got pumped up to regain title as Marine Corps Physical Fitness National High School champs

Meet the Team and Watch Them Work Out...Join In, If You Dare

Watch out Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson! The young men of The South Bronx Physical Fitness Team are in serious training to retain their title as Reigning National Champions of the Marine Corps Physical Fitness Program. The team, led by Coach Lou Schlanger, has held the honor for nine years out of twenty.

You can catch their washboard abs and chiseled pecs at a training session/demonstration either at the Mott Haven Campus or in-studio.

Find out what motivates these Bronx teens to get up before dawn every day, give up fast food, and push themselves beyond known limits. Discover why they are hanging in vs. hanging out – health and fitness over the lure of the streets.

Marine Corps Fitness events include push-ups, sit-ups, pull-ups, standing broad jump, and a 300-yard run. The National Championships are held each year in San Diego in May.

WHAT:

Bronx Teens Train to Retain Title as Marine CorpsPhysical Fitness Na-

tional High School Champs

WHERE:

Mott Haven Campus, 730 Concourse Village West, North Gym, Bronx, NY 10451 Or In-Studio



Velocity Track Club New York highlights

BY WINSTON DINKINS

Velocity Track Club New York was blessed by winning the 20th Roy Wilkins Invitational which was held on Sunday May 3, 2015 at Roy Wilkins Park in Jamaica Queens, NY. Trophies were awarded to the top 5 teams. The team generates points from their individual athletes finishing in the top 3 in their event / gender. VTC earned the most points and was awarded the team trophy. Congratulations to the other 4 winning teams.

Congratulations to the top five trophy winning teams from the 20th Annual Roy Wilkins Invitational.

1st Place, Velocity Track Club, 376.5 points; 2nd Place, Harlem Children Zone, 233 points; 3rd Place, New Haven Age Group TC, 214 points; 4th Place, Bronx Tigers, 194 points; and 5th Place, Medgar Evers Cougar T&F C, 156 points.

Then the blessing continued on Saturday, May 23rd at the AAU Metropolitan (New York) District Qualifier at the lovely Dasilva Memorial Field at St. John's University in Jamaica New York. The children had an opportunity visit and compete on a division 1 campus. Most top teams

throughout New York participated in this event for a chance to advance to the AAU Regional 01 Championship at New Haven CT. I'm please to say that our entire team advance to the Regional Championship and now have a chance to advance to the National Championship.

Medals were awarded to the top three athletes in their event/gender. I'm also pleased to say that VTC won 44 medals (18 gold medals, 18 silver medals & 8 bronze medals).

The following student athletes won medals: Olyvia Burrell (3), Julian Caldwell (1), River Sampson (2), Danielle Jackson (2), Kristian Cadiz-Domville (3), Nariah Mathis (1), Tyron Ingram (3), Dontae Lindo (3), Darius Gordon (3), Tiarra Jackson (2), Lisha McKenzie (1), Adrian Swift-Henry (3), Jordan Samuels (2), Jaelah Eargle (1), Brianna Burrell (1), Jaysiah Moore (2), Shantae Leach (1), Dante Dacosta (1), Avery Philip (1), Matthiaius Love-Anderson (1), Christopher Ruiz (1), Kaseam Shand (1), Daijon James (1), Ladarius Jones (1), Allyson Wright (1), Desiree King (1), Jordan Ingram (1) & Erwind Valentin (1). Great job to all!

As VTC was racking up medals



Velocity Track Club New York

and qualifying for the regional championship, we had two girls competing for their high schools. In the PSAL Championship, I'm please to say that Dominique Jackson won the Freshman Girls 100 meters & 200 meters City Championship. In the CHSAA New York State Inter-sectional Championships, Pearl Webster took 2nd in the Varsity Shot Put Champion-

ship. Great job ladies, we are proud of your!

Velocity Track Club New York is also a 501C3 Non for profit. 100% of your donation will go to help our children. For additional information, you can go to our web site Velocitytrack.org or contact me, Coach Winston Dinkins at 914-441-6196 or email me at.



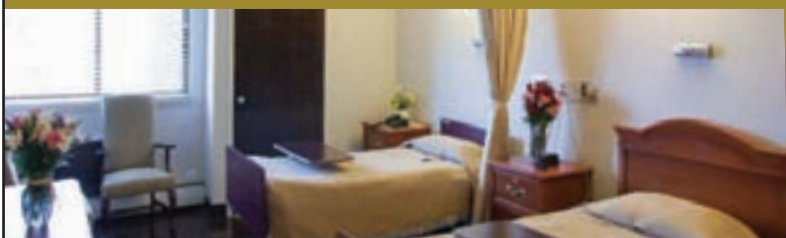
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