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NYCHA Citywide Basketball Tournament Gets Some Fashion Sense

Hip-Hop Fashion Label ENYCE Donates 3,000 Uniforms

NYCHA youth who took to the court for this year's Citywide Basketball Tournament did so in style. ENYCE, the hip-hop fashion label, donated more than \$250,000 to provide 3,000 ballers with uniforms. The donation is the first time that NYCHA had a sponsor underwrite the cost of the uniforms for the 45-year-old tournament for residents. ENYCE, licensed by Oved Group-5 Star Apparel, has committed to being the uniform donor for the tournament potentially through 2015.

"This partnership with ENYCE is an investment not only in our residents and our community; it also is an investment in the history of a relationship between basketball and players like Kareem Abdul-Jabbar from Dyckman Houses, Rod Strickland from Mitchel Houses and the Knicks' Carmelo Anthony from Red

Hook Houses – all NYCHA housing," said NYCHA Chairman John Rhea.

ENYCE-5 Star Apparel approached NYCHA to make the donation after seeing an online YouTube video showing the history of the Authority's basketball leagues. The donation included shorts, jerseys and a sling bag with NYCHA and ENYCE logos.

"We are excited to be part of such an important program of my home town New York City," said ENYCE's-5 Star Apparel Group President Albert Pardo. "It is important that today's youth have the opportunity to play in organized sports and if we can help them achieve this in any way, we will. We look forward to our continued partnership with NYCHA with not only basketball but with all sports."

This year's tournament kicked off at the Manhattanville Community Center in February, and ended with the championship playoffs at the new Polo Grounds Community Center in Manhattan on May 5. The winning teams in the boys categories were



NYCHA youth wear uniforms donated by the hip-hop fashion label ENYCE at NYCHA's annual Citywide Basketball Tournament on May 5, 2012. (Photo credit: Lloyd Carter)

Baychester Houses and Forest Houses in the Bronx; in the girls categories, they were Atlantic Terminal, Farragut Houses and Williamsburg Houses in Brooklyn, and Pomonok Houses in Queens. Each player received a championship trophy.

Games this year also were held at the Mitchel, Melrose and Sonia Sotomayor Community Centers in the Bronx; the Williamsburg and Red Hook Community Centers in Brooklyn; the Hammel Community Center and Parsons Beacon-

JHS 168 in Queens; and the Stapleton Community Center in Staten Island.

At the final championship games, 170 players from 24 teams joined their family, friends and Chairman Rhea to participate in a half-time contest of foul shots, layups and three-pointers alongside a team of girls in the 11-and-under age category, alongside NYCHA staff. The Chairman and his team won, with the winning shot made by fifth-grader DeJanah Williams

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Former Mets Greats Help Brighten King Towers Community Center



Former Mets Mookie Wilson and Ron Darling help paint the King Towers Community Center at a Brush With Kindness event held by NYCHA, Citi, the New York Mets Alumni Association Presented by Citi and Habitat for Humanity-New York City on May 24, 2012.

By Eric Deutsch

One of them has maintained his ties to the New York Mets as one of the team's television broadcasters. The other perpetually is serenaded by fans as

"Mooooookie!" Ron Darling and Mookie Wilson, former Mets players, helped Habitat for Humanity-New York City give a new paint job to the King Towers Community Center

in Manhattan on May 24.

"I've gotten so much from New York City and still do, I feel obliged to give something back," Mr. Darling

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NYCHA Board Meetings



Notice hereby is given that the New York City Housing Authority's Board Meetings take place every other Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. in the Board Room on the 12th floor of 250 Broadway, New York, New York (unless otherwise noted). The remaining meetings for Calendar Year 2012 are as follows:

June 6	August 15	October 24
June 20	August 29	November 7
July 5 (Thursday)	September 12	November 21
July 18	September 27 (Thursday)	December 5
August 1	October 10	December 19

Any changes to the schedule above will be posted here and on NYCHA's website at nyc.gov/nycha to the extent practicable at a reasonable time before the meeting.

These meetings are open to the public. Pre-registration at least 45 minutes before the scheduled Board Meeting is required by all speakers. Comments are limited to the items on the Calendar. Speaking time will be limited to three minutes. The public comment period will conclude upon all speakers being heard or at the expiration of 30 minutes allotted by law for public comment, whichever occurs first.

Copies of the Calendar are available on NYCHA's website or can be picked up at the Office of the Corporate Secretary at 250 Broadway, 12th floor, New York, New York, no earlier than 3:00 p.m. on the Friday before the upcoming Wednesday Board Meeting. Copies of the Disposition are available on NYCHA's website or can be picked up at the Office of the Corporate Secretary no earlier than 3:00 p.m. on the Thursday after the Board Meeting.

Any person requiring a reasonable accommodation in order to participate in the Board Meeting should contact the Office of the Corporate Secretary at **(212) 306-6088** no later than five business days before the Board Meeting. For additional information, please visit NYCHA's website or call **(212) 306-6088**.

Check out NYCHA's Facebook page!

Got a web-enabled smartphone? Now you can access NYCHA's Facebook page and bonus content in this issue by scanning or taking a snapshot of the QR codes. The QR code for NYCHA's Facebook page is on the right.

Step 1: Download a QR code scanner application from your phone's marketplace (many of these "apps" are free to download). **Step 2:** Point your phone's camera at the QR image.



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in New York City

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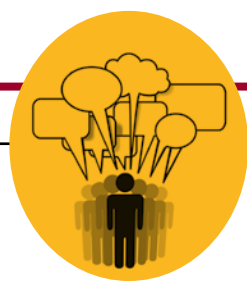
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New and Easier Ways to Pay Your Rent!

As part of NYCHA's efforts to continuously improve customer service to its residents, the Authority now offers new rent payment features that are safe, fast and convenient through its new online payment provider, who has reduced all convenience fees.

- The new telephone number to pay rent by phone is now **1-866-315-6355**.
- There are two options for payment: e-check and MasterCard debit card.
- A 30-cent convenience fee for payment by e-checks and a low convenience fee for debit card (MasterCard only). The debit card fee will depend on the payment amount (fees can be seen on NYCHA's website at **www.nyc.gov/nycha**).
- Residents can sign-up to receive their monthly rent statement as an on-line "e-Bill." All residents who sign up for "e-Bill" will receive FREE online payments via e-check. e-Bill is paperless, convenient, free and environmentally friendly.
- Residents can pay their rent by using their bank's online banking system or online bill payer. NYCHA can be added as a payee, and payments will be made directly from the bank account, without having to use envelopes, buy postage or mail the rent payment. To make an on-line payment or to sign-up for "e-Bill," go to the 'Rent Payment Options' page in the 'Residents' Corner' section of NYCHA's website at **www.nyc.gov/nycha**. Residents with questions can call the lockbox hotline at **212-306-4322** or can contact their Management Office.

Residents' Voices



April 11, 2012

(via mail)

We at Robbins Plaza Senior Housing would like to thank our elevator technicians, Jody Caldwell and John Bohm, for their diligence in keeping our elevators safe and in working condition. Sometimes they are in the building when nothing is wrong and they say, "We're just checking." Thanks Jody and Tim for your concern.

Lavelle Watts,
Robbins Plaza Resident Association President

May 1, 2012

(via e-mail)

I share whatever information I receive through e-mail and the *Journal* to educate the residents of Soundview. Whether it is job opportunities to the struggles we are facing, residents need to wake up. They act as if housing is owed to them and do not understand it is a privilege and we must take better care of where we live and most of all fight to keep it. I fight with the management and borough offices when *Journals* are not distributed, they are beneficial to us all. I have noticed firsthand the positive changes NYCHA has made and continues to make.

Mary McGee,
Soundview Houses Resident Association President

Tell us what is on your mind!

Residents' Voices accepts letters, photographs, poems, drawings – anything that allows you to express yourself!

Please include your full name, development name, address and phone number. We will print only your name and development on our pages; we need your address and phone number for verification purposes only.

Please limit written submissions to 250 words.

The *Journal* reserves the right to edit all content for length, clarity, good taste, accuracy, etc. Because of space limitations, we must limit all contributors to one letter per person per issue.

There are many ways to share your thoughts with us at the *Journal*:

Send an e-mail to **Journal@nycha.nyc.gov**

Send a snail mail to:
NYCHA Journal
Letters to the Editor
250 Broadway, 12th floor
New York, NY 10007

Send a Tweet on Twitter at **twitter.com/NYCHA_Housing**

Post a message on Facebook at **www.facebook.com/NYCHA**

Send a fax to **212-577-1358**

If you have any questions, please send them to **Journal@nycha.nyc.gov**.

Draft Agency Annual Plan Corrections and Reminder

Some information regarding NYCHA's draft agency annual plan provided in the May issue of the *Journal* was incorrect.

The correct location to view the plan in Staten Island is the West Brighton Community Center, 230 Broadway.

The correct location for the Round Table Discussion in Brooklyn on June 5 is the NYC College of Technology, 285 Jay Street.

The correct location for

the Round Table Discussion in Queens on June 12 is the Electrical Industry Center, 67-35 Parsons Boulevard at Jewel Avenue, Flushing.

A reminder that the public is invited to comment on the Draft Annual Agency Plan for Fiscal Year 2013 at a public hearing to be held on July 25, 2012, from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Manhattan Center Studios, 311 West 34th Street, New York, NY 10001.



NYCHA Chairman John B. Rhea shares in the excitement with DeJanah Williams from Lafayette Houses in Brooklyn after the fifth-grader hit the winning shot at a halftime contest during NYCHA's annual Citywide Basketball Tournament on May 5, 2012. (Photo credit: Lloyd Carter)

Message from the Chairman

From superstars in basketball like Carmelo Anthony and Chamique Holdsclaw, to up-and-coming greats like Kemba Walker, some of America's most celebrated athletes honed their skills in NYCHA's youth recreation programs. The special combination of supportive staff and talented kids in our programs helped bring these players to the top of their game and turned them into international stars. But more important is the huge positive impact that NYCHA programs have on the vast majority of young men and women who don't have a 42-inch vertical jump or run the 40-yard dash in less than five seconds – but who become better leaders, stronger students, more compassionate neighbors and happier, healthier kids through their participation.

NYCHA is proud to be a source of enrichment, encouragement and just plain fun for thousands of kids. But we can't do this work alone – especially considering the extremely tough financial reality we face. That's why we're very lucky to have

partners who share our dedication to build vibrant communities through sports and recreation. For example, this year the ENYCE-5 Star Apparel Group pledged to donate more than \$250,000 to NYCHA to supply uniforms for our citywide basketball tournament – the largest in the city. This generous gift will keep the more than 3,000 NYCHA kids who play in the tournament looking sharp through 2015. I attended the championships in May and saw young men and women being teammates, cheering each other on and applauding one other as they collected trophies. (You can read more about the donation and tournament on page 1.)

NYCHA also has partnered with the National Football League to run the NYCHA NFL Officiating Academy, now in its third year. This great program trains NYCHA residents for jobs in sports officiating and teaches important skills that help participants in whatever career they choose to pursue. Some graduates have gone on to officiate in Pop Warner and other leagues around the City – one even got a job with the New York Jets. We're grateful to the NFL for continuing to provide this outstanding opportunity for NYCHA youth.

Through our Education Through Sports Unit, NYCHA also sponsors programs in soccer, softball, track and field and much more. These programs expand kids' horizons and improve physical and mental fitness. NYCHA Summer Day Camps are full of great resources to help kids grow and thrive. With more than 100 camps around the city for kids ages 6-12, and activities from overnight trips to fishing and horseback riding, there's sure to be something for every NYCHA youth.

To find out more about any of these programs, go to your local Community Center or contact NYCHA's Community Coordinators at **(212) 306-3341**, **(212) 306-3388** or **(212) 306-3342**. You also can visit the 'Sports' page on NYCHA's website for more info at on.nyc.gov/JmEGyT. With summer just around the corner, now is the time to sign up!

John B. Rhea

NYCHA Joins Other City Agencies on Effort to Lower Energy Use

As part of the new Municipal Entrepreneurial Testing System, 25 NYCHA buildings will participate in a residential energy tracking program to monitor energy and water usage. NYCHA spends approximately \$500 million a year on energy costs. "Any reduction in those costs releases funds that could be used elsewhere," said NYCHA Chairman John B. Rhea.

The Municipal Entrepreneurial Testing System came about through a new initiative led by New York City Council Speaker Christine Quinn,

Council Member Michael Nelson and the Department of Citywide Administrative Services (DCAS). It pairs start-up technology companies with municipal buildings in an effort to track, measure and ultimately reduce energy use in City-owned buildings.

The 25 NYCHA buildings also will use the EnergyScore-Cards system to identify buildings in need of upgrades. The system was developed by Bright Power, a company that provides renewable energy, energy efficiency and green buildings solutions.

She Has the Tender Touch

By Heidi Morales

This is the latest in a series of Journal profiles of NYCHA's resident gardeners as part of the celebration of the 50th year of the Authority's Garden and Greening Program.

For Eleanor Jordan, tending to her gardens has been a huge departure from driving a tractor trailer and doing track work for the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) from which she retired more than 20 years ago.

Mrs. Jordan, a 55-year resident of NYCHA's Grant Houses, has been an active participant of the Garden and Greening Program since 2006. She has traded the dangers of driving a big and tough rig for the relaxing and delicate job of tending to her four gardens. "I thought gardening would be a lot of fun and I would be giving back to my community, and I would get a chance to meet other residents," Mrs. Jordan said.

Diligently would best describe how Mrs. Jordan manages her gardens – she wakes up at 5:00 a.m. most days. "If it doesn't rain, I water the flowers and plants every day; clean the garden; stake the plants," she said. "Some plants can get a little heavy and need more support."

Her plants are diverse in size and type, and from different countries. In her gardens you will find a wide selection that includes elephant ears, lilies, pansies, diathesis, gardenias, geraniums, hydrangeas – the list goes on. Mrs. Jordan puts much thought into what she plants, choosing varieties that are drought-tolerant to ensure their survival in any type of condition.

Mrs. Jordan's interest in gardening is stronger today than it was when she began six years ago, and she appreciates the support she receives from



her fellow residents. "So many more residents come up to me and explain how much they enjoy the gardens," she said. "A lot of residents have given me flower seeds; sometimes I come to the garden and find that they left me potted plants. It's really wonderful."

Mrs. Jordan always competes in NYCHA's Gardening Competition, and won in 2008

and 2009 for her flower and children's theme gardens. "Every year there's something new, something else I add," she said.

Overall, Mrs. Jordan explains that her full-time job was hard, "and gardening is hard, but in

a different way because the result is what you see. Sometimes I see the flowers and I can't believe how big they've gotten. It's relaxing for me. It gives me something to do, and the more I do it, the more I learn."

THE NYCHA NOT WANTED LIST

Below is a partial list of names of individuals who have been excluded permanently from NYCHA's public housing developments. This list keeps residents informed of the Authority's ongoing efforts to improve the quality of life for New Yorkers in public housing and to allow for the peaceful and safe use of its facilities. The full list can be viewed at on.nyc.gov/nychanotwanted. The following are the people, with their former addresses, excluded as of February 1, 8 and 22, 2012.

Prohibited as of February 1, 2012

Indir Boike Beach 41st Street Houses, 433 Beach 40th Street, Apt. 10C, Queens

Vincent Cook Baisley Houses, 164-01 Foch Boulevard, Apt. 1K, Queens

David Gilmore Brownsville Houses, 281 Dumont Avenue, Apt. 6A, Brooklyn

Antwan Hicks Stapleton Houses, 75 Hill Street, Apt. 3L, Staten Island

George Hines Borinquen Plaza, 70 Siegel Street, Apt. 3B, Brooklyn

Donald Johnson Johnson Houses, 1830 Lexington Avenue, Apt. 5F, Manhattan

Demetri Louree Beach 41st Street Houses, 38-08 Beach Channel Drive, Apt. 5B, Queens

Tyquan Mapp Beach 41st Street Houses, 433 Beach 40th Street, Apt. 9F, Queens

Kiann Richards Beach 41st Street Houses, 433 Beach 40th Street, Apt. 10C, Queens

Prohibited as of February 8, 2012

William Barkley Murphy Houses, 843 Hunts Point Avenue, Apt. 1B, Bronx

Albert Frazer Long Island Baptist (Unity Plaza) Houses 398 Sheffield Avenue, Apt. 5B, Brooklyn

Jonathan Miller Armstrong Houses, 282 Lexington Avenue, Apt. A, Brooklyn

Raymond Rodriguez a/k/a Rayskee Raymond Howard Houses, 300 Mother Gaston Boulevard, Apt. 4E, Brooklyn

Prohibited as of February 22, 2012

James Breland Armstrong Houses, 441 Gates Avenue, Apt. 2A, Brooklyn

Andre Coe Armstrong Houses, 298 Lexington Avenue, Apt. A, Brooklyn

Keith Dunn Armstrong Houses, 330 Lexington Avenue, Apt. 4C, Brooklyn

Horatio Garcia Tompkins Houses, 200 Throop Avenue, Apt. 15B, Brooklyn

Jamel Gibson Armstrong Houses, 380 Lexington Avenue, Apt. 3D, Brooklyn

Vertell King Armstrong Houses, 380 Clifton Place, Apt. 2B, Brooklyn

Jonathan Moore Edenwald Houses, 1141 226th Street, Apt. 1C, Bronx

Robert Rivera Williams Plaza Houses, 325 Roebling Avenue, Apt. 16A, Brooklyn

Raymond Robinson Armstrong Houses, 360 Clifton Place, Apt. 00A, Brooklyn

Edgar Soto Grant Houses, 1305 Amsterdam Avenue, Apt. 101, Manhattan

Emmanuel Soto Grant Houses, 1305 Amsterdam Avenue, Apt. 101, Manhattan

Traielle Turner LaGuardia –Two Bridges Houses, 250 Clinton Street, Apt. 10G, Manhattan

Comments? Questions?
E-mail Journal@nycha.nyc.gov.



REWARD



Up to **\$1,000** for information leading to the arrest and conviction of persons possessing or distributing fireworks.

Fireworks are Illegal

**The New York City Police Department
urges you to celebrate safely on July 4th**

If you use fireworks, you or someone else can get seriously hurt.
If you have fireworks we can ARREST YOU, your car can be confiscated
or your business can be closed.

Concerned citizens can anonymously report the delivery, sale or storage of fireworks.

CALL: 911 for crimes in progress
311 to provide information

A Public Safety Message from The New York City Police Department, Community Affairs Bureau

SP 14-CAB (06-06)



A sample valid and current NYCHA photo identification card.

Know How to Confirm Someone is a NYCHA Employee

There is a very simple way to confirm if someone asking to gain access to an apartment or building is a NYCHA employee. All NYCHA employees are required to carry photo identification. Residents should feel free to ask for proof of identification before allowing anyone into their apartment, as all NYCHA employees must have their ID visible. The ID cards should have an orange sticker on the front that reads "2012-2013" with NYCHA's logo in the middle; this identifies someone as a current employee. Residents can contact their management office if they have any questions.

◀ continued from page 1

NYCHA Citywide Basketball Tournament Gets Some Fashion Sense

from Lafayette Houses in Brooklyn.

Over the years, the basketball tournaments have showcased the talents of rising stars, such as WNBA LA Sparks former guard Shannon Bobbitt of King Towers, former New York Knick Stephon Marbury of O'Dwyer Houses, and current NBA Charlotte Bobcat guard Kemba Walker of Sack Wern Houses. The League, which is managed through NYCHA's Education Through Sports Unit, consists of approximately 250 teams and serves NYCHA residents, ages 18 and younger. Tournament registration is free and open to all NYCHA residents and community center participants.

To read more about NYCHA's efforts for youth sports, please see the Chairman's Message on page 3.

NYCHA and Partners Break Ground for New Affordable Green Housing in the Bronx

By Zodet Negrón

In an effort to continue expanding affordable housing opportunities for New Yorkers, NYCHA has partnered with the New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development, Bronx Pro Group LLC, Services for the UnderServed, Chase and Enterprise to develop a new building at 1070 Washington Avenue in the Bronx. The 49-unit development will feature on-site supportive services for special needs residents including veterans, and 21 public housing units, making 1070 Washington the first transaction of its kind with NYCHA on privately-owned land. The construction of the public housing units is made possible through NYCHA's Replacement

Housing Factor funds received from the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

"NYCHA is pleased to be a part of this important partnership that will feature 21 public housing units," said NYCHA Chairman John B. Rhea during the groundbreaking on May 4. "Housing, at the end of the day, is to support families and with the support of our partners, Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz and HUD, we will be able to support nearly 50 families."

The development will have an on-site superintendent and 27 units available for families and individuals earning at or below 60 percent of the Area Me-

dium Income (AMI), or \$49,080 for a family of four. Ten units will have a preference for people with special needs and veterans who require supportive services. Services for the UnderServed will provide these supportive services, which include counseling and employment guidance.

The development will be energy-efficient, incorporating the latest green technologies, including roof insulation, fiberglass windows and insulated tanks to store preheated water.

To apply for these units, prospective tenants must submit an application to a housing lottery. Leasing is scheduled to begin in March 2013. Applications will be handled on a first-



Breaking ground for new affordable housing at 1070 Washington Avenue in the Bronx on May 4, 2012, were Samuel Gaccione, Great American Construction/TNS Development; Peter Magistro, Bronx Pro Real Estate; Jane Silverman, JP Morgan Chase; Ruben Diaz, Jr., Bronx Borough President; John B. Rhea, NYCHA Chairman; Victor Gonzalez, NYCHA Board Member; Susan Kensky, Department of Housing Preservation and Development Commissioner; Abby Jo Sigal, Enterprise Community Investment; and John Dudley, Bronx Community Board 3 District Manager.

come, first-served basis. Qualified applicants will be required to meet income guidelines and additional selection criteria. For information on how to apply for this and other affordable

housing developments, please visit the "Apartment Seekers" section of the Department of Housing Preservation and Development's website at www.nyc.gov/hpd.

NYCHA Installs New Carbon Monoxide Alarms as Alarm Replacement Law Goes into Effect

By Zodet Negrón

NYCHA residents can feel a little more safe in their homes now, with the installation of new carbon monoxide (CO) alarms. As reported in the January/February issue of the *Journal*, Kidde, a leading manufacturer of home safety products, donated 60,000 CO alarms to NYCHA.

The replacement of some CO alarms is needed throughout the City, after a new law went into effect in April that requires an audible signal to alert residents when a CO alarm expires.

NYCHA already is in compliance with the law. Now that the law is in effect, the Authority is installing alarms in apartments as needed when old alarms expire. Kidde's donation will help NYCHA in its replacement efforts.

"I feel really safe now," said Elizabeth Crespo, from Queensbridge South Houses in Queens. "It's important to have an alarm that works because it will save my family."

The new law signed by Mayor Michael Bloomberg is an extension of a previous CO alarm requirement in 2004. Because CO alarms have a lifespan of



Queensbridge South resident Elizabeth Crespo watches NYCHA Maintenance Worker Roberto Balina install a new carbon monoxide alarm in her apartment on April 25, 2012.

approximately seven years, any unit installed in compliance with the 2004 law may have expired and need to be replaced. This includes CO alarms installed in single-, two- and multi-family houses, apartments, condos, dormitories and hotel rooms.

"Carbon monoxide alarms alert you and your family when there are dangerous levels of carbon monoxide in your home," said NYCHA Chairman John B. Rhea. "Most homes and residential buildings in New York City are required by law to have carbon monoxide detectors installed near all sleeping areas."

Carbon monoxide is the

leading cause of accidental poisoning deaths in America, killing more than 400 people and hospitalizing another 20,000 each year, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. It is a year-round threat for families with malfunctioning or improperly vented fossil fuel-burning appliances such as boilers, hot water heaters and clothes dryers; other common household sources include car exhaust, portable generators and grills. The only safe way to detect this silent killer is with a CO alarm.

SENIOR NEWS



Tips to Avoid Scams

Scams try to trick you into giving out money or personal information. Common scams include risk-free investments, fake charities, free prizes, sweepstakes, amazing health products and fake calls from your bank. Scams occur through the mail, phone and computer. You also can be scammed in person by someone you know.

► Know the warning signs of scams

- Someone shows a new interest in your money
- You are asked for money in advance
- Use of the terms "low-cost," "no-risk," or "once-in-a-lifetime opportunity"
- You are told that "you must act now"

► Guard your personal information

- Do not share your credit card, Social Security or bank account numbers
- Shred bills, receipts and papers with personal information, before throwing them out
- Have your Social Security checks and other benefit payments deposited directly into your bank account – call Go Direct at (800) 333-1795
- Do not make on-the-spot purchases
- Never rush to send cash or wire money
- Sign up for the national Do Not Call Registry, call (888) 382-1222
- Remember, if something sounds too good to be true, it probably is

Talent Show Correction Two of the contestants in the NYCHA Annual Talent Show were identified incorrectly in the photos in the May issue of the *Journal*. The resident at middle left was Tonya Minto from Campos Plaza and the resident at bottom left was Tina Smith from Hammel Houses.

NYCHA Residents to Get Preference for Jobs at Barclays Center in Brooklyn



NYCHA Chairman John B. Rhea speaks at the announcement of 2,000 jobs at the Barclays Center in Brooklyn, which will include priority hiring for local NYCHA residents. Joining him on April 26, 2012, were, from left to right, Bruce Ratner, President of Forest City Ratner; Mayor Michael Bloomberg; and Robert W. Walsh, Commissioner of the Department of Small Business Services.

By Zodet Negrón

The new home of the Brooklyn Nets soon will welcome local NYCHA residents to the team. The Barclays Center, which is near completion, will provide approximately 2,000 jobs, with preference given to NYCHA residents in neighborhoods near Atlantic Yards, the mixed-use commercial and residential development project in Prospect Heights that the Barclays Center is a part of.

Priority hiring for the jobs, which will include full- and part-time positions in areas such as food service, security and ticketing, will be for residents of Atlantic Terminal, Farragut, Gowanus, Ingersoll, Lafayette Gardens, Warren Street, Whitman and Wyckoff Gardens, along with residents in Brooklyn Community Boards 2, 3, 6 and 8, and graduates of Brooklyn United for Innovative Local Development's training program. Job fairs are being held throughout this summer in locations near the arena to fill the majority of the positions. The effort is the result of a partnership among Mayor Michael Bloomberg, NYCHA, site-developer Forest City Ratner Companies and the Department of Small Business Services (SBS).

"NYCHA applauds Mayor

Bloomberg, Forest City Ratner, the Barclays Center partners and SBS for their commitment to the neighborhood, especially in connecting local residents to meaningful employment with opportunity for growth at the new arena," said NYCHA Chairman John B. Rhea. "This will continue to help build a strong future for so many NYCHA families."

Scheduled to open in September, Barclays Center will be a major sports and entertainment venue in the heart of Brooklyn. Barclays Center will host an extensive variety of events, including Nets basketball, concerts, boxing, college basketball, family shows and hockey.

"We are very excited that we are close to opening and even closer to hiring," said Bruce Ratner, president of Forest City Ratner. "From the start, we've been focused on how Barclays Center and the larger Atlantic Yards project can provide opportunity for the people of Brooklyn."

"We will work to ensure that local residents know about these jobs and benefit from this project," said SBS Commissioner Robert W. Walsh. "The arena will provide a great diversity of employment, which means greater opportunity for a wide range of people."

Job openings are posted online at www.BarclaysCenter.com.

Father Knows Best

By Eric Deutsch

A television show in the 1950s was called 'Father Knows Best.' Through a program that is part of the NYCHA Fatherhood Initiative, a number of NYCHA youth learned just how much their fathers know.

The Father Knows Best – Faith, Integrity, Sacrifice, Leadership and Legacy (FISLL) Program encourages fathers to take a more active role in their children's lives, especially their sons.

The program allows fathers to bond with their children through workshops to discuss the five principles of FISLL and basketball instruction.

George Darden from Berry Houses in Staten Island participated with three boys he is a father figure to – his son, Michael; his girlfriend's son, Ray; and his girlfriend's nephew who also is her foster son, Shawn. "The program gave them a chance to listen to stories about how important a father figure is in their lives, without it sounding like preaching coming from me," Mr. Darden said.

One of the principles of

FISLL is integrity, which Mr. Darden considers very important. "School comes first," he said. "Even if they love basketball, bad grades means no basketball."

The program is the result of a collaboration of NYCHA Community Operations; the Allan Houston Legacy Foundation, led by the former New York Knick; the New York City Department of Youth and Community Development; and Project Hospitality. Mr. Darden said he would like to see more programs like Father Knows Best-FISLL. "A mother can raise them to a certain point, but it's very important to have that father or mentor to teach them how to be a man or to be a father someday," he said.

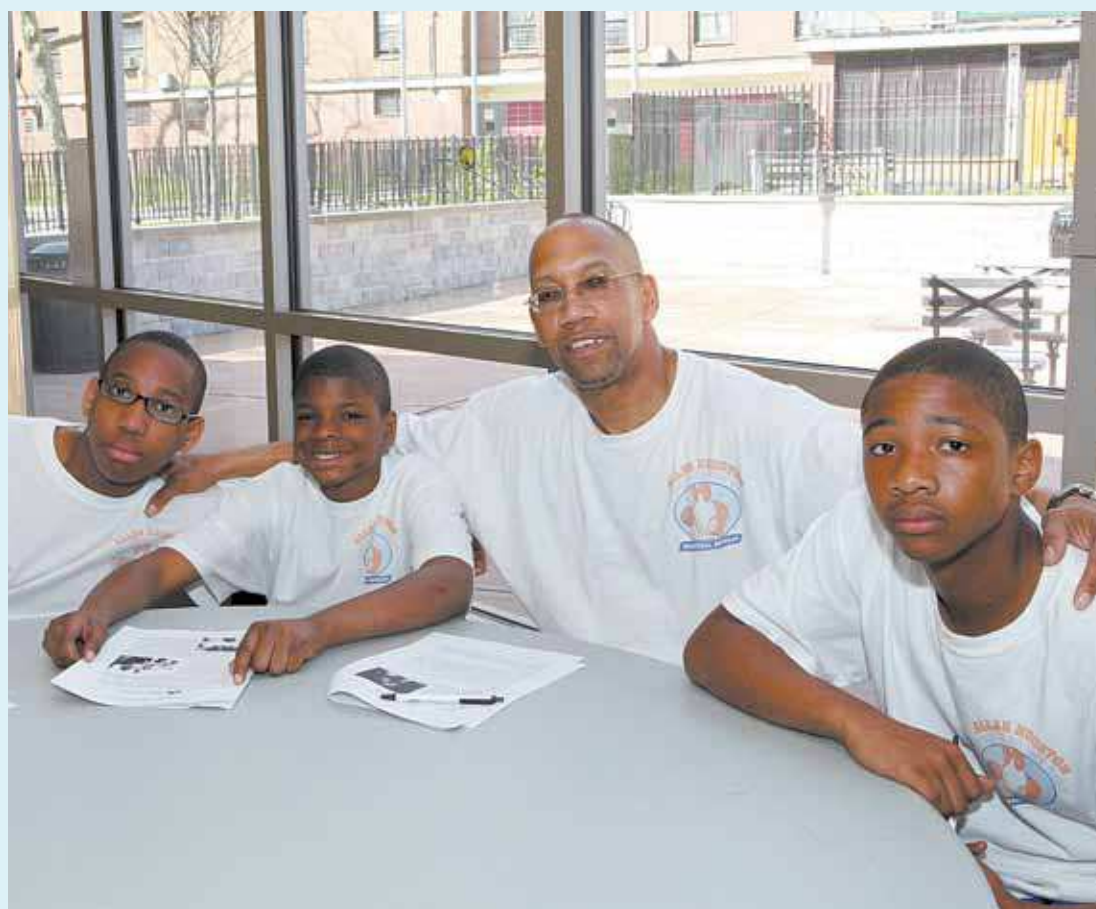
Father Knows Best-FISLL was held at the Gerard Carter Center at Stapleton Houses in Staten Island from March to May, ending with a closing ceremony on May 12. But just because their Saturdays no longer are filled with FISLL does not mean those days won't still be spent together. "We'll be on the basketball court at Berry every Saturday anyway," Mr. Darden said.

George Darden kept a diary about his experience in the Father Knows Best-FISLL program. Here is one excerpt:

April 7, 2012

This week we got a chance to talk about "Faith" and what that means on and off the basketball court. We did exercises and explained the real meaning of "Faith" and how important it is to have it in your father and teammates as well. We also explained how important it is for the father to have that very same "Faith" in them and reward them and tell them "I knew you could do it, I had Faith in you the whole time!" The one thing I always tell my sons is that, "If you don't stand and believe in something, you'll fall for anything."

To see photos from the Father Knows Best-FISLL graduation ceremony, point your smartphone's camera here.



George Darden sits with his son, Michael; his girlfriend's nephew and foster son, Shawn; and his girlfriend's son, Ray; at a session for the Father Knows Best – Faith, Integrity, Sacrifice, Leadership and Legacy (FISLL) Program on April 14, 2012.

Comments? Questions? E-mail Journal@nycha.nyc.gov.

◀ continued from page 1

Former Mets Greats Help Brighten King Towers Community Center

told the *Journal*. He also sits on Habitat-NYC’s Board. “Citi, the Mets and Habitat for Humanity are trying in our way to make everything better.”

Citi, the financial services corporation, and the New York Mets Alumni Association Presented by Citi teamed up for the event with Habitat-NYC as part of the Brush With Kindness program. Brush With Kindness is a partnership between NYCHA and Habitat-NYC to refurbish the Authority’s community centers. In the last year alone, more than 40 community centers in developments in all five boroughs were painted. “This work has a huge impact on lives at NYCHA. Bright, clean, friendly spaces make all the difference in the world – especially for the kids that are this city’s future,” said NYCHA Chairman John B. Rhea. “That’s really what Brush With Kindness is all about. One good deed inspiring another, creating a chain reaction that uplifts communities and changes lives.”

Ruby Kitchen, the Resident Association President at King Towers, said the community center needed a new paint job. “This is a fantastic idea. There should be more events like this for other community centers,” she told the *Journal*. “It’s not very often you get someone to give you something like this.”

Citi and Habitat-NYC volunteers joined in to paint the community center, filling in pre-drawn patterns such as flowers, lions and giraffes. “I understand what good housing means,” Mookie Wilson told the *Journal*. “I came from an underprivileged area, so it’s a privilege to give back when I can.”

The event’s corporate sponsors echoed that sentiment. “By partnering with organizations like the Mets, Habitat-NYC and NYCHA, we are able to collectively make a tremendous impact,” said Bill Borden, Managing Director of Citi Transaction Services.

Mets Chief Operating Officer Jeff Wilpon also was at the



At the Brush With Kindness event at the King Towers Community Center on May 24, 2012, were EVP for Community Programs and Development Sharon Myrie, Board Member Victor Gonzalez, former Met Mookie Wilson, King Towers Resident Association President Ruby Kitchen, Chairman John B. Rhea, Mr. Met, Mixed Finance Sr. Dep. Dir. Michael Rosen, former Met Ron Darling, Manhattan Community Operations Borough Director Ukah Busgith, VP for Community Operations Deidra Gilliard, and Managing Director of Citi Transaction Services Bill Borden.

event. And of course Mr. Met, who maintained his perpetually positive facial expression, as Chairman Rhea noted. “Facilities that are friendly, inspiring and supportive bring out the very best in young people,” he said. “They brighten outlooks and put smiles on

faces – right, Mr. Met?”

Mr. Darling and Mr. Wilson also signed a home plate that will be displayed at the King Towers Community Center. “We know what (NYCHA) does for the City,” Mr. Darling said. “It couldn’t exist if it wasn’t for you guys.”

To see more photos from the event, point your smartphone’s camera here, or go to www.flickr.com/NYCHApics.



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NYCHA office phone _____

Doctor or Hospital:

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City _____ Zip _____
Phone _____

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☐ Rocking bed respirator
☐ Electrically operated respirator (used more than 12 hours a day)
☐ Apnea monitor (infant monitor)
☐ Hemodialysis equipment (kidney machine)
☐ Other, please specify: _____
Frequency of use: Times per week _____ Hours per day _____
Is equipment used during sleeping hours? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If yes, how often? _____

Please mail this survey to:

Con Edison Life-Sustaining Equipment/Medical Hardship
30 Flatbush Avenue, Room 515
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A Citi Bike and kiosk that will be used for New York City's public bike share program.

Share a Citi Bike to Get Around the City!

Citi Bike, the newest option for getting around town, is coming to New York City this summer! Citi Bike is a public bike sharing system that will provide an affordable, 24/7 transportation option for all New Yorkers. Citi Bike will launch in July 2012 in parts of Brooklyn, Manhattan and Queens.

- Check out a Citi Bike demonstration at locations near NYCHA housing in June. Come out, meet the street team, take a spin on a bike share bike and have all of your questions answered about how bike sharing works.
- Need a helmet? The City Department of Transportation's Helmet Fitting Program will be at Citi Bike demos to fit adults and children with a free helmet.
- Citi Bike NYC is hiring. Go to www.citibikenyc.com/jobs to learn more about job opportunities.

Follow Citi Bike on **twitter** @citibikeNYC and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/citibikeNYC for regular updates.



Congressman Edolphus Towns Holds Final Resident Breakfast

NYCHA Chairman John B. Rhea (left of center) and Brooklyn Congress Member Edolphus Towns (left of Chairman Rhea) join NYCHA residents, staff and New York City police officers at Rep. Towns' annual breakfast for public housing resident leaders on April 21, 2012. Rep. Towns is retiring, so this was his last annual breakfast.

MILESTONE ANNIVERSARIES



Bland Houses Celebrates 60th Anniversary

Bland Houses in Queens turned 60 recently. On hand to celebrate were Raymond Alequin, Property Maintenance Supervisor; Victor Gonzalez, NYCHA Board Member; Carolyn Jasper, Queens/Staten Island Property Management Director; Craig Kinsey, Resident Association President; and Matthew Algozino, Queens/Staten Island Property Management Administrator.



Farragut Houses Celebrates 60th Anniversary

Farragut Houses in Brooklyn recently celebrated its 60th anniversary. Commemorating the event were Mary Andrew, Resident Association President; Victor Gonzalez, NYCHA Board Member; Tena Morgan, Property Manager; Marguerite Mann, Brooklyn Property Management Director; Calvin Brown, Supervisor of Caretakers; Isaac Long, Resident Watch Supervisor; Neche Coriolan, Assistant Property Manager; Jose Miranda, Supervisor of Grounds; and Carlos Falu, Property Maintenance Supervisor.



Audubon Houses Celebrates 50th Anniversary

Audubon Houses in Manhattan had its 50th anniversary recently. Marking the occasion were Demetrice Gadson, Manhattan Property Management Deputy Director; Jorge Vizcarondo, Supervisor of Caretakers; Elizabeth Johnson, Resident Association Secretary; Victor Gonzalez, NYCHA Board Member; Lorna Bovian, Property Manager; Bettye Rolle, Resident Association President; Kimball Brown, Property Maintenance Supervisor; and Anthony Mazzeo, Paint Supervisor.

Are you looking for an internship opportunity? Earn up to \$2,500 in 14 weeks!

YOUNG ADULT INTERNSHIP PROGRAM (YAIP)

A 14-week internship program for NYC young adults (16-24) not working or in school.

Get work experience and training in your field of interest!

Info Sessions: Tues.-Thurs., 10 a.m. Ongoing recruitment.

Call **Sindy Rivera (718) 609-2131**

LaGuardia Community College/Division of Adult and Continuing Education
Workforce Education Center > 29-10 Thomson Avenue > Room C-344
Long Island City, New York 11101



CONTINUING
EDUCATION
WORKFORCE
EDUCATION



Department of
Youth & Community
Development
Darius B. Mulgrew
Commissioner

Center for
Economic Opportunity
Stephanie White
Executive Director



Comments?

Questions?

E-mail Journal@nycha.nyc.gov.

Hurricane Season: Be Prepared

As New York City saw last year during Hurricane Irene, severe coastal storms have a local impact. NYCHA, working with the New York City Office of Emergency Management (OEM), is committed to ensuring that NYCHA residents and staff are well prepared in case of a storm emergency. With hurricane season having started on June 1 and running through November 30, here are important suggestions to help prepare in case of a hurricane warning.

Figure out if you live in an evacuation zone:

- NYCHA developments most vulnerable to coastal storm flooding generally are located in the Rockaways, Coney Island and the Lower East Side.
- For a detailed listing of city evacuation zones call **311 (TTY: 212-504-4115)** or log onto nyc.gov/oem and check the Hurricane Evacuation Zone Finder.

If you do live in an evacuation zone:

- Discuss and prepare a disaster plan with household members that outlines clear action steps. Be sure to include information on the best way to communicate and where to meet in case of an emergency.
- Identify family or friends living outside evacuation zone boundaries that you can stay with. If this is not an option, identify in advance the nearest evacuation center that you can go to by calling **311** or logging onto nyc.gov/oem.
- Keep a "Go Bag" ready. A "Go Bag" is a collection of items you may need to grab in a hurry in case you

have to evacuate. The bag should be accessible and packed in an easy-to-carry container such as a backpack. A "Go Bag" should include:

- Copies of important documents
- Extra set of keys
- Credit/ATM cards
- \$50 to \$100 in cash in small denominations
- Bottled water and non-perishable food
- Flashlight
- Battery-operated AM/FM radio and extra batteries
- Medical information, medications and a first-aid kit
- Contact and meeting place information for your household
- Small regional map
- Childcare supplies
- Other special items
- Assemble an Emergency Supply Kit in case you are asked to shelter in place (stay at home). The Emergency Supply Kit should include:
 - Enough food and water for at least three days. You should have one gallon of water per person per day, ready to eat non-perishable canned foods and a manual can opener

- First Aid Kit
- Flashlight
- Whistle
- Cell phone
- Personal hygiene items
- If you are asked to evacuate, do so immediately!
- If you are going to an evacuation center, pack lightly, and bring your Go Bag, a sleeping bag or bedding, and medical supplies and equipment. Always let friends or relatives know where you are going.

A Word about Pets:

- The NYC emergency sheltering system is friendly to all pets, but you will be responsible for their care, so please bring your pet's food, leashes, crate or carrier, a copy of vaccination and medical records, and any medication. Also make sure that your pets wear collars and tags with up-to-date identification information.

Stay informed:

- If a hurricane is expected please stay tuned to TV and radio broadcasts, go online and access www.nyc.gov or call **311 (TTY:212-504-4115)**.

Research Study

The Albert Einstein College of Medicine IS NOW RECRUITING FOR A RESEARCH STUDY OF TREATMENT FOR COCAINE DEPENDENCE

We are looking for individuals aged 18-65, who are addicted to cocaine and have used opioids (such as heroin, codeine, oxycontin, vicodin) in the past year, and would like no-cost treatment.

- This study is 8 weeks long; in-clinic visits three times per week
- Participation is voluntary and of no cost to you
- Compensation will be provided for your time and travel costs.

Please call Andrea or Matthew
For more information.



(347) 493-8555



FREE 15-week job training program for homeless & low-income women

First Step Program

Computer Training - Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook
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Support Groups • Empowerment

GED not required • New class starting soon!

FREE Continental Breakfast & Metrocards Provided

For more information, please call (212) 776-2074



Resident Board Member Spends Day in Frontline Staff's Shoes

NYCHA has a recurring program that sends members of its executive staff to spend the day at assignments at developments or customer centers. Board Member Victor Gonzalez, the only resident member of the Board, attended his first frontline assignment on May 11. And he ended up jumping right in. "The super that I was supposed to shadow was out that day," he said. "The property manager said, 'Since you're going to be the super let me get you to the desk.' So I actually sat at the super's desk, answered the phone and actually got to do something."

But Mr. Gonzalez did not spend the entire day answering

phones. "I walked the grounds. I saw a lot of things. I learned that they have one hell of a job to do," he said. "Everyday life for those people working is very tough and full and challenging. And, they need supplies. I've taken that information and passed it along."

Calling it a "wonderful experience," Mr. Gonzalez feels the frontline assignments also can benefit residents. "We make decisions at the management and staff level that are going to affect residents," he said. "If you're actually engaged with them and they're not just information on a piece of paper, you're now in tune with the everyday life. I think it is crucial that we do this."



NYCHA Board Member Victor Gonzalez speaks with Authority staff at Manhattanville Houses during his frontline assignment on May 11, 2012.

Comments? Questions? E-mail Journal@nycha.nyc.gov.

A Home and a Job at NYCHA

By Howard Silver

At a resident engagement meeting in April at the Red Hook Houses Community Center to discuss Plan NYCHA, one resident in particular was anxious for her neighbors to hear what she had to say.

“Tomorrow I am graduating from the Resident Training Academy and soon I will be working at NYCHA as a Caretaker,” Yolanda Lovett declared. “I was an unemployed, single parent with two daughters and soon, thanks to NYCHA, I’ll be caring and providing for them as a full-time employee. There are programs out there for you and I know they can be effective because they helped me.”

NYCHA’s Resident Training Academy (NRTA), funded by Robin Hood, offers training programs in janitorial work, pest control and construction. All the programs lead to professional certifications and are geared to preparing residents for employment at NYCHA.

The four-week program in janitorial services for Caretakers includes two weeks training in basic skills and customer service, and two weeks in specialized janitorial skills tailored to what Caretakers at NYCHA encounter.

Ms. Lovett’s motivation, she said, comes from her two daughters, ages 14 and 10. “I needed something steady for them, a good job with benefits and a future,” she said.

By May, Ms. Lovett’s transformation from unemployed mother to working mom was complete – she is a Caretaker at Ingersoll Houses in Brooklyn. The job is physically hard, she said, but her fellow employees are friendly and helpful. “The training didn’t hold any punches and I knew what to expect,” Ms. Lovett said.

With tasks that include sweeping stairwells, mopping lobbies, cleaning elevators, stripping floors and working the compactor, it is not surprising that she also is a bit sore. “My body has to get used to it, but in a short while I’ll be in shape,” Ms. Lovett said.



Red Hook Houses resident Yolanda Lovett is a NYCHA Caretaker after graduating from the NYCHA Resident Training Academy.

Sore muscles aren’t the only new feeling Ms. Lovett has. “I have a feeling of accomplishing something for my family and our lifestyle,” she said. “I walk around with a smile feeling good. And my kids love that mom is working and they are proud of me.”

Ms. Lovett’s supervisor already is singing her praises. “I wish I

could clone her,” said Supervisor of Caretakers Hiram Mendez. “She’s a quick learner and also seems to know a lot from her training. She’s completely reliable and does an excellent job in any assigned task.”

More than 200 residents who

completed the Caretaker training program during the past two years are NYCHA employees.

For information about training courses offered at NRTA, call the Resident Economic Empowerment and Sustainability (REES) Hotline at 718-289-8100.

West Nile Virus Mosquito Treatment

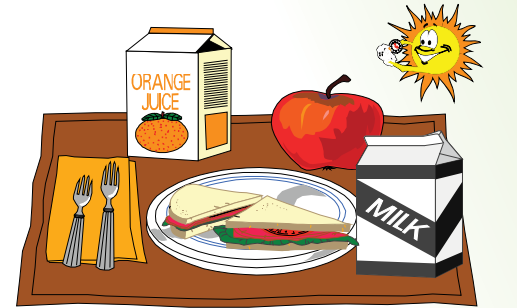
The New York City Housing Authority will be treating all of the catch basins located on Housing Authority developments to reduce the mosquito population in an effort to minimize the transmission of the West Nile Virus. **These applications will take place between June and September of 2012. One or more of the following pesticides will be used:**

- Vectolex CG, EPA Reg. No. 73049-20, Toxicity Category – “Caution”
- Summit B.i. Briquets, EPA Reg. No. 6218-47, Toxicity Category – “Caution”
- Altosid XR, EPA Reg. No. 2724-421, Toxicity Category – “Caution”

Contact names and numbers for this application are:

- NYC Housing Authority:**
- Ray Gamble, Administrator, 718-707-5306 available from 9 am – 5 pm
 - Jamal Rashid, Technical Resource Advisor, 718-707-5808 available from 8 am – 4 pm
 - NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation, Region 2, Bureau of Pesticide Management – 718-482-4994
 - National Pesticide Telecommunications Network – 1-800-858-PEST
- Inquiries concerning symptoms of pesticide poisoning should be directed to the Poison Control Center**
- 1-800-222-1222**

2012 Summer Food Service Program FREE Nutritious Breakfast and Lunch Available Citywide



Beginning Monday, July 9, 2012
Ending Friday, August 31, 2012

Youth 18 years old and under

Meals are served
Monday through Friday
Breakfast 9:00am - 10:00am
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For additional information or to inquire about a location near you please call 311 or (212) 306-3358



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Bronxchets 510 East 156 St. Bronx, NY 10455	Justice Sonya Sotomayor 1471-73 Watson Ave. Bronx, NY 10472	572 Warren/Wyckoff 572 Warren St. Brooklyn, NY 11217	Marcus Garvey 10 Amboy St. Brooklyn, NY 11212	Grant 75 LaSalle St. New York, NY	Hammel 85-10 Rockaway Beach Blvd. Rockaway, NY 11693
Bronx River 1625 E. 174 St. Bronx, NY 10472	Marble Hill 5220 Broadway Bronx, NY 10462	Bayview 2085 Rockaway Pkwy. Brooklyn NY 11236	Marcy 604 Park Ave. Brooklyn NY 11206	Grant 1295 Amsterdam Ave. New York, NY	Ocean Bay Apartments 339 Beach 54 th St. Rockaway, NY 11692
Castle Hill 615 Castle Hill Ave. Bronx, NY 10473	McKinley 730 East 163 rd St. Bronx, NY 10456	Breukelen 618 East 108 th St. Brooklyn, NY 11236	Marlboro 2249 Stillwell Ave., #1H Brooklyn, NY 11223	Holmes Towers 1780 First Ave. New York, NY 10128	Pomonok 155-26 Jewel Ave. Flushing, NY 11367
Claremont Consolidated 1128 Finlay Ave. Bronx, NY 10456	Mitchell 360 East 137 th St. Bronx, NY 10454	Brownsville 295 Osborne St. Brooklyn, NY 11212	Pink 1258 Loring Ave. Brooklyn NY 11208	Jacob Riis 468 East 10 th St. New York, NY 10009	Queensbridge 41-07 12 th St. Long Island City, NY 11101
Claremont Consolidated 1195 Clay Ave. Bronx, NY 10456	Millbrook 530 East 137 th St. Bronx, NY 10454	Bushwick 24 Humboldt St. Brooklyn, NY 11206	Ralph Avenue Re-Hab 1196 East New York Ave. Brooklyn NY 11212	Lower East Side Group II 296 East 4 th St. New York, NY 10009	Ravenswood 35-35 21 st St., #2F Long Island City, NY 11106
Claremont Consolidated 1100 Teller Ave. Bronx, NY 10456	Monroe 1790 Story Ave. Bronx, NY 10473	Coney Island 3030 Surfside Ave. Brooklyn, NY 11234	Red Hook East 167 Bush St., #1B Brooklyn, NY 11231	Lower East Side Group 5 89-97 Avenue C, #5D New York, NY 10009	STATEN ISLAND
Claremont Consolidated 3820 3 rd Ave. Bronx, NY 10457	Morris 1481 Washington Ave. Bronx, NY 10456	Cooper Park 20 Debevoise Ave. Brooklyn, NY 11211	Red Hook West 428 Columbia St., #1C Brooklyn, NY 11231	Rangel 159-70 Harlem River Dr. New York, NY 10039	Richmond Terrace 151 Jersey St. Staten Island, NY 10301
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Eastchester 3010 Yates Ave. Bronx, NY 10469	Murphy 1805 Crotona Ave. Bronx, NY 10455	Fiorentino Plaza 2155 Pitkin Ave. Brooklyn, NY 11207	Tompkins/Berry 71 South 10th St. Brooklyn, NY 11211	Seward Park 64-66 Essex St. New York, NY 10002	Todt Hill 204 Schmidt’s Ln. Staten Island, NY 10314
Edenwald 1175 E. 229 St. Bronx, NY 10466	Sedgwick 140 West 174 th St. Bronx, NY 10453,	Gravesend 3146 Bayview Ave. Brooklyn NY 11234	Surfside 3030 Surf Ave. Brooklyn, NY 11224	St. Nicholas 2374 Eighth Ave. New York, NY 10026	
	Soundview 1704 Seward Ave., #6B Bronx, NY 10473	Howard Ave. Rehabs 583 Howard Ave. Brooklyn, NY 11212	Williamsburg 254 Maujer St. Brooklyn, NY 11206		
		Hylan 131 Moore St. Brooklyn, NY 11206			
		Kingsboro 354 Kingsboro 1 st Walk Brooklyn, NY 11233			