

Community Board 12, Manhattan Traffic & Transportation Committee
Resolution to Co-Name NE Corner W. 182nd St. & Audubon Ave. in Honor of Ourania Pappas
May 6, 2013

- Whereas:** Ourania “Ronnie” Pappas (3/9/53-7/16/12), the former Principal of IS143M / The Eleanor Roosevelt School, was a beloved educator, mentor, colleague and friend who suffered a heart attack and died while preparing to leave her home for another day of summer school; and
- Whereas:** Ms. Pappas was an inextricable part of the fabric of our Washington Heights community, having been born at Wadsworth Hospital (formerly located near where her mother lives to this day) and worked at IS143 for four decades; and
- Whereas:** Ms. Pappas’ professional journey at IS143 began as a teenager, working as a school aid and eventually as a paraprofessional, then as an English & Reading teacher, an Assistant Principal, and, beginning in 2005, as Principal; and
- Whereas:** In her 40 years at IS143, Ronnie Pappas constructively touched the lives of thousands of people – from the children she taught (whose names she rarely forgot, and some of whom returned years later to the school as educators themselves) to their parents and family members, to community residents and leaders, as well as her many colleagues – with her plain-spoken manner, common sense and decency, firm kindness, and deep commitment to learning; and
- Whereas:** A petition with more than 400 signatures from around Washington Heights and throughout the tri-state area – and as far away as Florida, Georgia and Germany – and including moving testimonials from dozens of current and former students and colleagues was submitted to and discussed by CB12M’s Traffic & Transportation Committee; and
- Whereas:** It is altogether fitting that the community to which Ronnie Pappas gave her life’s work and passion now extend to her memory and to her family the honor of co-naming the block that she knew better than any, “Pappas Way;” now therefore be it
- Resolved:** that Community Board 12, Manhattan honor the life and legacy of Ouriana Pappas by co-naming the northeast corner of West 182nd Street & Audubon Avenue as “Principal Ourania Pappas Way” (or “Principal O. Pappas Way”).

Approved unanimously: (4-0-0-0 Committee, 9-0-0-0 Public).