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542	Rare Tree Saved By Parks Dept.	12/3/70
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545	Holiday Trees Decorate NY Parks For 1970 Christmas Season	12/4/70
546	Indoor Track Meet Set For City Youngsters	12/4/70
547	<b>Program Reductions</b>	
548	Heckscher Opposes JFK Expansion; Urges Selection of 4th Jetport Site	12/8/70
548-A	Testimony By August Heckscher, NYC PRCA, At Hearing of Joint Legislative Committee on Environmental Management and Natural Resources,	12/8/70
549	'Ring In The New Year' Party Is Set For Central Park	12/8/70
550	Free Workshops In The Arts Offered At Mt. Morris Park	12/8/70
551	Marionette Theater Presents "Cinderella"	12/8/70
552	Buddy Young Football League Championship Games Scheduled	12/9/70
553	Ice Rink Shuttle Service In Central Park is Popular	12/9/70
554	NYC Weightlifting Team Wins Tournament Title	12/9/70
555	Heckscher Supports Naming Park In Honor of Martin Luther King, Jr.	12/10/70
556	More Lights To Shine On Woodside Memorial Park	12/10/70
557	Marionette Theater Presents "Cinderella"	12/8/70
557-A	New City Skating Rink On S.I. To Be Dedicated This Sunday	12/10/70
558	Ice-Less Ice-Skating Show, Entertainment To Highlight Fifth Ave. Closing Sunday	12/10/70
559	Recreation Dept. Awards Bonds To Skelly Winners	12/13

#560	Pre-School Xmas Parties Planned For Queens	12/11/70
561	Youngsters To Throw Beethoven A Party In Central Park Wed.	12/11/70
561-A	Heckscher Pleased By Settlement On Road Improvement In Douglaston	12/12/70
562	Press Conference Set To Music To Announce New Year's Party	12/11/70
563	PRCA Asks \$76.5 Million In Next Budget Cites Opening Of New Facilities, Economies	12/14/70
564	Mayor To Light Christmas Tree At City Hall Park Thurs.	12/14/70
566	'Ring In The New Year' Party Announced For C.P.	12/15/70
567	V.I.P. Program Gives Christmas Trees To Active Community Park Groups	12/15/70
568	Mayor Lights Christmas Tree Officially Opening Holiday Season	12/17/70
569	Lionel Hampton, Sesame Street Cast To Entertain Headstart Youngsters At Xmas Party Fri.	12/16/70
570	Christmas and Chanukah To Be Celebrated At Third Holiday Festival On Fifth Avenue	12/18/70
572	Heckscher Opposes Proposed Closings At Bklyn. Institute	12/21/70
573	Seasonal Music Added To Repertoire At Delacorte Central Park Zoo Clock	12/21/70
574	Heckscher Says Hall of Science Will Remain Open Open Until June	12/21/70
575	Heckscher Reports on Improvements Completed In Prospect Park in 1970	12/23/70
576	Younger Set Will Entertain at Fourth Holiday Festival on Fifth Avenue This Sunday	12/23/70
577	New Designs to be Drawn For MacLaughlin Park	12/24/70
578	Kissena Corridor Park Development to be Discussed at Jan. 11 Meeting	12/28/70
580	Senior Citizen, Junior Permits for City Golf Courses Available	12/29/70
581	Public Library at 42nd Street Notes Official Designation as Landmark	12/29/70

City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
Cultural Affairs Administration  
830 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

August Heckscher, Administrator

for release

IMMEDIATELY

#521

For further information:  
Sam Samuels 360-8141

P I C T U R E    C A P T I O N

CENTRAL PARK ZOO WELCOMES  
THREE GRIZZLEY BEAR CUBS

Three brown grizzlies sniff their lunch in their new home at the Central Park Zoo, in the cages just north of the Zoo cafeteria, next to the polar bears. The bears, two females and one male, are two-year-old cubs and it is hoped that they will mate when they reach puberty, in two years.

-30-

11/23/70

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IMMEDIATELY  
#522

For Further Information:  
Sam Samuels - 360-8141

**BICYCLE MEET SCHEDULED FOR  
SUNDAY IN CENTRAL PARK**

Boys and girls, ages 8 to 13, will race their bikes in a City-sponsored "Cycle Meet" on Sunday (November 22) at 1 p.m. on Central Park's West Drive, at 67th Street near Central Park West. The meet was originally scheduled for last Sunday (Nov. 15) but was rained out.

The free meet is co-sponsored by the City Department of Recreation and Stelber Industries, and will include 220- and 440-yard bike races and a short bicycle exhibition. Contestants must bring their own bikes.

The contest is open to boys and girls, ages 8 to 13 in four categories: boys 8-10, boys 11-13, girls 8-10, girls 11-13. First and second place winners in each category will receive bicycles.

Racers may enter the competition on the day of the meet at 67th Street near Central Park West. In case of rain, the meet will be held on Sunday, November 29, at 1 p.m.

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11/17/70

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830 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

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IMMEDIATELY  
#523

For Further Information:  
Sam Samuels - 360-8141

V.I.P. GIRL SCOUTS UNITE  
TO CLEAN UP PARK IN BROOKLYN

Some 50 Girl Scouts will be cleaning up park land along the Shore Parkway from 75th Street to the Verrazano Bridge in Bay Ridge, Brooklyn, on Saturday (November 21) from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The Scout clean-up is in cooperation with the City Department of Parks' Volunteers-In-Parks program, which is providing plastic bags and equipment to the girls.

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11/17/70

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830 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

August Heckscher, Administrator

**for release**

IMMEDIATELY  
#524

For Further Information:  
Sam Samuels - 360-8141

ROCK CONCERT SERIES  
UNDERWAY IN BROOKLYN

Brooklynites will have a chance to sample some of the new wave of rock music by amateur teenage musicians in the City Department of Recreation's fifth annual series of free weekly rock concerts at three locations in Brooklyn.

Every Thursday evening through April 30, indoor concerts will be given at the Brooklyn War Memorial, at Fulton and Orange Streets, from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m.

Friday evenings, concerts will be held at the McCarren Recreation Center, at Lorimer Street and Driggs Avenue, from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m.

Saturday nights, the scene of entertainment will be the Prospect Park Picnic House, off West Drive at 5th Street and Prospect Park West, from 6:00 to 10:00 p.m.

No concerts will be held on holidays, including Thanksgiving and Christmas Eve.

The concerts feature teen-age groups organized for the past year and include open audience participation. The performers are between the ages of 16 and 23 and most are high school or college students. Groups should call Peter Crane at SO 8-2300 for auditions.

11/19/70

City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
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82 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021  
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For Further Information:  
Sam Samuels - 360-8141

CHRISTMAS TREE TO BE SET  
IN FRONT OF CITY HALL

A giant sling, a crane and six strong men will move into action next Monday (November 23), starting at 8 a.m. to hoist a 62-foot Canadian spruce Christmas tree into place in front of City Hall, the Parks Department announced. The operation should take a little over an hour.

The sling will be put around the tree and the crane will slowly pull it to an upright position. It will then be placed in a six-foot-deep hole, bolstered with wood wedges, and three wire cables will be attached to the trunk to stabilize one of the largest Christmas trees ever to decorate City Hall.

The Department of Parks purchased the tree in Coaticook, Quebec. The tree will be decorated in time for the official dedication and lighting ceremony in mid-December.

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For Further Information:  
Sam Samuels - 360-8141

CHELSEA RECREATION CENTER PLANS  
TO BE DISCUSSED AT DEC. 1ST MEETING

A community meeting will be held at the Hudson Guild,  
441 West 26th Street, Manhattan, on Tuesday, December 1, at  
8 p.m. to discuss the schematic drawing for the Chelsea  
Recreation Center.

Architect Norman Hoberman and representatives from the  
Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Administration will  
attend the meeting where Mr. Hoberman will present the schematic  
design that includes suggestions made at the program meeting  
last spring.

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For Further Information:  
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**LOCKERS ARE AVAILABLE  
FOR WINTER GOLF SEASON**

Golfers playing the Parks Department's four winter courses may obtain interim locker permits for the winter Season, which runs from November 30 to the end of March. The fee for each locker is \$5.30.

The lockers at Mosholu in the Bronx, Dyker Beach in Brooklyn, Silver Lake in Richmond and Clearview in Queens may be occupied as of December 5. The players may keep them until the end of the winter season.

Golfers holding locker permits for the regular 1970 season must vacate their lockers no later than December 4th.

Golfers from any borough may obtain interim locker permits for the winter season from the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Administration headquarters in the borough in which they wish to play:

Bronx: Bronx Park East and Birchall Avenue, Bronx, N.Y. 10462.

Brooklyn: Litchfield Mansion, Prospect Park & Fifth Street,  
Brooklyn, N. Y. 11215.

Queens: The Overlook, Union Turnpike and Park Lane, Kew Gardens,  
Queens, N. Y. 11415.

Richmond: Clove Lakes Park, 1150 Clove Road, Staten Island,  
N. Y. 10301.

11/23/70

City of New York  
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80 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

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For Further Information:  
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P R E S S   A D V I S O R Y

NATIONAL FIJIAN RUGBY TEAM  
TO PRACTICE IN CENTRAL PARK

A preview for New York City's first international rugby match will be held in CENTRAL PARK, at 97th STREET IN THE MIDDLE OF THE PARK, on TUESDAY (NOVEMBER 24) at 10:30 a.m. when the National Fijian Rugby Side practices for its match with an All-Star Side from the New York Metropolitan Rugby Union. The practice will run until about 11:30 a.m. The match will be held that night at 7 p.m. at Downing Stadium, Randalls Island.

The Fijian Side has a reputation for fast footwork, sometimes playing in bare feet, and for a colorful pre-game war dance that includes native chants to spur the team to victory.

The match is sponsored by the City Department of Recreation, the New York Metropolitan Rugby Union and Miller High Life Beer.

Directions to the practice field: Drive west on 97th Street transverse from Fifth Avenue. Turn right off transverse onto a little road that leads to the field. The road is in the center of the park.

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11/20/70

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830 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

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John J. Heckscher, Administrator

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#### MAYOR SWEARS IN TWO

#### TOP PRCA OFFICIALS

Mayor John V. Lindsay this morning (Fri.) swore Joseph P. Davidson in as First Deputy Administrator of the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Administration at a ceremony in the PRCA headquarters, The Arsenal in Central Park.

Before being appointed by the Mayor in September, Mr. Davidson was Senior Associate and Director of Development and Communications for the National Recreation and Parks Association in Washington, D.C. From 1962 to 1968, he was Commissioner of Parks, Recreation and Conservation for the City of Yonkers. A career administrator in the parks and recreation fields, he has held such positions in Greenburgh and Scarsdale in Westchester County.

At the same ceremony, the Mayor also swore in Alan M. Moss as Deputy Administrator. Mr. Moss was appointed counsel of the Parks Department in 1966 and became counsel of PRCA when the superagency was formed in 1968.

11/20/70

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830 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

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**for release**

**IMMEDIATELY**

**For Further Information:**  
**Sam Samuels 360-8141**

**#531**

**HOLIDAY TRAFFIC SCHEDULE**

**ANNOUNCED FOR CENTRAL PARK**

To help alleviate Christmas holiday traffic congestion, Central Park will be open to automobile traffic on Saturdays during December, the Parks Department has announced. Vehicular traffic will continued to be banned on Sundays from sunrise to sunset.

August Heckscher, who is Parks Commissioner and Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Administrator, also announced that Central Park will be closed from sunrise to sunset for three forthcoming holidays: Thanksgiving, Nov. 26; Christmas, Dec. 25; and New Year's Day, Jan. 1.

-30-

11/23/70

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11/23/70

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830 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

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**for release**

IMMEDIATELY  
#532

**PRCA DEMANDS SAY IN POLLUTION  
CONTROL PLANS FOR JAMAICA BAY**

The City Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Administration has notified the State Attorney General and the Port of New York Authority that it must be consulted in regard to proposed actions to prevent oil spills at John F. Kennedy International Airport from polluting Jamaica Bay. The Bay, with its outstanding wildlife refuge, is mapped parkland and under PRCA's jurisdiction.

The notice was given in letters from PRCA Administrator August Heckscher to Attorney General Louis J. Lefkowitz and Austin J. Tobin, executive director of the Port Authority.

In his letter to Tobin, Heckscher said: "Since PRCA is the administering agency for Jamaica Bay, I must be apprised of your arrangements (to prevent spills) before they are finalized. Please contact me as soon as you have some definite plans on this matter."

The PA last week, as a result of a law suit brought by Lefkowitz, agreed to take steps to curb oil pollution of the Bay.

Heckscher, who has been leading the fight to block the PA's plans to extend the Airport into Jamaica Bay, told Lefkowitz: "It was with great pleasure that I learned of the Port of New York Authority's decision to stop pumping oil discharged from John F. Kennedy Airport into Jamaica Bay by Dec. 8.

"I have been strongly committed to the preservation of Jamaica Bay as a wildlife preserve. In my opinion, maintenance of the Bay, as a sanctuary, is a matter of primary importance to the City and the State of New York."

City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
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869 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

**for release**

IMMEDIATELY  
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830 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

Just Heckscher, Administrator

**for release**

IMMEDIATELY  
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For Further Information:  
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**SHUTTLE SERVICE TO RUN  
TO LASKER SKATING RINK**

Throughout the ice skating season, free shuttle bus service will be available to skaters between the Wollman Memorial Rink and the Lasker Memorial Rink in Central Park on Saturdays and Sundays.

There will be six round trips daily. The first bus will leave Wollman Rink at 10:30 a.m. The last return bus will depart from Lasker Rink at 5:15 p.m. after the end of the afternoon session.

Buses will leave Wollman Rink at 10:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 2:30 p.m., 3:30 p.m., and 4:30 p.m.

Buses from Lasker will leave at 11:00 a.m., 12:00 a.m., 2:00 p.m., 3:00 p.m., 4:00 p.m., and 5:15 p.m.

For information about skating sessions at Lasker Rink, call 348-6297. For information at Wollman, call 360-8260.

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11/24/70

City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
Cultural Affairs Administration  
820 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

August Heckscher, Administrator

**for release**

**IMMEDIATELY  
#533**

**For Further Information:  
Sam Samuels - 360-8141**

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BRONX TEAMS WIN RECREATION  
DEPT. TOUCH FOOTBALL CROWNS

Bronx teams won both the Junior and Senior Division titles in the City Recreation Department's City-wide touch football championships held in Central Park Nov. 21.

In the Junior Division, a team from the P.S. 102 playground in Parkchester shut out a team from the Silver Lake Recreation Center on Staten Island, 40-0.

In the Senior Division, the team from the Pelham Houses playground defeated the squad from the same Richmond facility, 7-6.

John Repetti intercepted a Silver Lake Center pass and ran 30 yards for the Bronx lone touchdown. John Torterella followed by running the ball over the goal line for the extra point. Under Recreation Department rules, the extra point can be scored by a punt, pass or running play.

The tournament, co-sponsored by WCBS-TV, is composed of teams representing playgrounds and Department recreation centers throughout the City. The Junior Division is open to boys 13 and 15 years of age, while youngsters 16 and 17 years old compete in the Senior Division.

The Bronx teams reached the finals by shutting out Brooklyn-- 26-0 in the Junior level and 6-0 in the Senior competition.

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August Heckscher, Administrator

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Parks, Recreation and  
Cultural Affairs Administration  
30 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

August Heckscher, Administrator

**for release**

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For Further Information:  
Sam Samuels - 360-8141

**MAYOR LINDSAY PROCLAIMS  
'YOUNG AUDIENCES WEEK'**

Commissioner of Cultural Affairs Dore Schary will present singer Marion Anderson with a proclamation on behalf of Mayor Lindsay designating the week of November 30 through December 4 as "Young Audiences Week" in the City. The ceremony will take place Monday (November 30) at 10:30 a.m. in the auditorium of P. S. 87, 160 West 78th Street, Manhattan.

"Young Audiences Week" is being declared in recognition of the service provided by the New York Committee of Young Audiences. For the past 20 years, it has presented free musical programs in elementary schools throughout the five boroughs. In the 1969-70 school year, over 1,100 programs featuring professional musicians were presented, the Mayor's Proclamation notes.

Marion Anderson, who is a member of the National Board of Directors for 'Young Audiences', will receive the proclamation following a regular Young Audiences music program. The Abbey Singers, a quintet of concert and opera soloists, will be featured in the program. Using a dialogue and performance technique, the musicians attempt to lead the children to participate in and discover music.

Mayor Lindsay's proclamation reads, in part:

"In a time when our country's educational system is described as 'joyless,' New York City is particularly fortunate to have Young Audiences bring its joyful message to thousands of our City's children."

City of New York  
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### COMMUNITY MEETING SET

### FOR SOUNDVIEW PARK

A community meeting will be held on Tues., Dec. 8, at 8 p.m. in the Community Room of Lafayette Houses, 825 Morrison Avenue, Bronx, to discuss the development of a portion of Soundview Park at Lafayette and Metcalf Avenues.

The Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Administration, which scheduled the session, is designing, with its own staff, a playground and informal playfield area in that section of the Park. The meeting has been arranged to show the community the schematic drawings for this section, which is being designed in conjunction with an adjoining major swimming pool complex. Both are part of PRCA's master plan for Soundview Park.

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**HERALD SQUARE SPRUCED UP  
FOR CHRISTMAS SEASON**

Herald Square in Manhattan has been spruced up for the Christmas shopping season, the Parks Department announced today.

All benches in the Square--one of the busiest shopping centers in the City--have been repaired and painted, the shrub beds have been cleaned and the shrubs pruned. The Minerva monument was cleaned recently and the wrought iron fencing will be repainted by December 15.

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Miss Anderson is a member of the National Board of Directors of the Committee, which, for the past 20 years, has presented free musical programs in elementary schools throughout the five boroughs.

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#538

### CHORAL GROUPS TO HIGHLIGHT

### OPENING OF HOLIDAY FESTIVAL

Two hundred boys and girls from the All-City High School Chorus, a Brazilian guitar team, the Fordham University Chorus, and colorful folk dancers will highlight the opening cultural program at New York City's first winter Holiday Festival on Fifth Avenue between 34th and 59th Streets this Sunday, (December 6).

Free Chanukah and Christmas entertainment this Sunday and three consecutive Sundays will be presented by the City Department of Cultural Affairs at two locations along the Avenue; at the plaza of the General Motors building at 58th Street, and at the steps of the New York Public Library at 42nd Street. Groups will also appear at Rockefeller Center.

"By turning Fifth Avenue into a pedestrian mall with traditional holiday entertainment, we hope New Yorkers will once again have an opportunity to come together and share in a festive cultural experience similar to that of 'The People Yes!,' " Commissioner of Cultural Affairs Dore Schary said.

Singing show tunes and Christmas selections, members of the All City High School Chorus will perform at 2:30 p.m. at the General Motors Building. Under the direction of John Motley, the choral group has sung at the 25th anniversary celebration of the United Nations and many other public events.

The New York Slovak Folk Dancers, dressed in authentic regional costumes, will appear at the G.M. plaza, at 2 p.m. Accompanied by an accordianist, the group will perform dances representative of the Czechoslovakian regions.

Dancing with linked swords, the Country Dance and Song Society of America will perform the Sword Dance from Ampleforth, England. In a traditional winter ceremony, the dancers slay a victim whose death represents the end of evil. A clown resurrects the victim symbolizing Spring and the return of a bright new life. The group will invite members of the audience to join it in some dances at the G.M. Plaza at 3:30 p.m.

(more)

The La Rocque Bey Youth Ensemble from Harlem will offer African and Afro-American dance and music at the Plaza, at 4 p.m. The ten performers, ranging from 14 to 18 years of age, will be dressed in African dishikis, abubas, and lapers.

The Brazilian guitar team, Los Indios Tabajaras, will strum tunes ranging from primitive tribal music and Latin American favorites to popular songs on the steps of the Public Library, at 2 p.m. The two brothers from the Tabajaras tribe are self-taught musicians who found a guitar in the jungle and in three years have carried their music to four continents.

The colorfully garbed Polish American Folk Dance Group, young Americans enthusiastically practicing the dance of their heritage, will perform at the Library, at 2:30 p.m.

Fordham University Chorus will present an hour of Christmas selections on the Library steps, at 3 p.m.

Similar programs of holiday entertainment have been scheduled at some 20 different locations in the other boroughs during the week of December 18. The borough-wide Holiday Festival is being jointly presented by the Mayor's Office, Parks, Recreational and Cultural Administration and the Economic Development Agency, in cooperation with the Borough Art Councils.

The following is an entertainment schedule for Sunday, (December 6):

<u>General Motors Plaza</u>	<u>Public Library</u>
2:00 p.m. New York Slovak Folk Dancers	2:00 p.m. Los Indios Tabajaras
2:30 p.m. All-City High School Chorus	2:30 p.m. Polish American Folk Dance Group
3:30 p.m. Country Dance and Song Society of America	3:00 p.m. Fordham University Chorus
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City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
Cultural Affairs Administration  
830 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

**for release**

IMMEDIATELY

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Just Heckscher, Administrator

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(more)

WINTER HOLIDAY 2-2-2-2

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For Further Information:  
Sam Samuels 360-8141

**for release**

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#539

**BOXING BOUTS SCHEDULED**

**BY CITY RECREATION DEPT.**

Boxers from all five boroughs will trade punches this winter as the City Department of Recreation holds its city-wide boxing tournament in cooperation with El Diario-La Prensa at Sunnyside Gardens, Queens Boulevard, Sunnyside, Long Island.

Commissioner of Recreation Joseph W. Halper said: "This program is a vital part of our continuing effort to promote physical fitness throughout the City. We certainly thank El Diario-La Prensa for its help and cooperation with our programs."

During December and January, boxers registered with the Recreation Department will compete for individual and team championships in tournaments to be held on Dec. 9 and 16, and on Jan. 6, 13, 20, 26 and 27. All events start at 8 p.m.

More than 50 boxers, aged 16 through 25, will compete in the tournament, classed in flyweight, heavyweight, novice and open divisions.

The program is sanctioned by the Metropolitan Association of the American Athletic Union.

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877 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

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#540**

**For Further Information:  
Sam Samuels - 360-8141**

**MULLALY PARK SKATING RINK  
OPENS IN BRONX FRIDAY**

Rosy-cheeked skaters in the Bronx will glide and pirouette on ice this Friday morning (December 4) at 10 a.m. when the Bronx's first City ice skating rink opens in John Mullaly Park, between Jerome and Rivers Avenues and East 164th and 165th Streets, in Highbridge.

The \$754,000 Mullaly Park Skating Rink is a Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Administration facility. It boasts a rink of approximately 15,700 square feet and a service building that houses a skate rental and sharpening shop, a first aid station, snack bar and 700 lockers, which rent for 10 cents, PRCA Administrator August Heckscher explained.

The firm of Brodsky, Hopf and Adler, architects, designed the rink, which was built by DeFoe Construction Corp.

The rink will be open for general skating daily from 10 a.m. to noon, except on Saturday mornings, from 12:45 to 2:45 p.m., and from 4 to 5:30 p.m. It will also be open every night except Wednesday from 8:30 to 10:30 p.m. For further information for hockey and figure skating sessions, call the rink at 293-2430.

Fees for general weekday skating sessions are 25 cents for children and 50 cents for adults; weekend fees are 50 cents for children and 75 cents for adults.

An official dedication ceremony for the rink will be held in the near future.

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SUNDAY PAPERS, DEC. 6, 1970  
SUNDAY A.M. RADIO & TV  
#541

For Further Information:  
Sam Samuels - 360-8141

**HECKSCHER CALLS HICKEL FIRING  
'OUTRAGE' AGAINST CONSERVATION**

The firing of Interior Secretary Walter J. Hickel "must be judged an outrage against the conservation cause," August Heckscher, the City's Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Administrator (PRCA), declared last night (Saturday).

"This was a man who went out to slay dragons, and now he has himself been cast down," Heckscher said. "However courageous his successor, it will be harder now to take the steps which are required to save irreplaceable natural assets," he continued. New York City has suffered "a blow in Secretary Hickel's dismissal and I believe the nation has, too," he observed.

Heckscher, who is also the City's Parks Commissioner, was the main speaker at a dinner of the New York Society of Architects in the Windsor Ballroom of the Commodore Hotel (speech to be delivered at about 9 p.m.). A member of the State Park Commission for the City of New York, Heckscher was President Kennedy's advisor on the arts.

Heckscher noted that Hickel was a strong supporter of the proposed Gateway National Recreation Area, which will include Breezy Point, Jamaica Bay, islands and beaches in Staten Island and Sandy Hook in New Jersey. The proposal, developed in the Interior Department, was scheduled to be presented by Hickel to Congress next year.

"The Gateway image will not die," Heckscher stated. He added: "Too many are prepared to keep it alive and to see that it moves through the Congress and toward final realization. We must hope that the new Secretary of the Interior, Congressman Morton, will put Gateway high on his agenda. Even while we deplore the Hickel dismissal, we must push for the achievement of this major project."

In his speech, the PRCA head said:

"I well remember the day in the autumn of 1969 when with Mayor Lindsay and myself, Secretary Hickel walked the marshes and beaches of Breezy Point and the concept of Gateway came alive and seemed to glow in his mind. I recall a few weeks ago a walk with him down a Madison Avenue closed to vehicular traffic for the evening. He caught the

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excitement of an urban space being used for human purposes. He saw this as something as exciting and hardly less important than a national park.

"Secretary Hickel, about whom we all had doubts at the start, proved himself a true conservationist and a friend of the cities. He showed rare courage in his fight against those whose off-shore oil drilling polluted the California coast; against companies responsible for mercury pollution; and - perhaps most notably and surprisingly - in his readiness to delay the trans-Alaska pipeline which threatens the ecology of millions of square miles of tundra.

"This was a man who went out to slay dragons, and now he has himself been cast down. His firing must be judged an outrage against the conservation cause. For however courageous his successor, it will be harder now to take the steps which are required to save irreplaceable natural assets."

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"The Gateway image will not die," Heckscher stated. He added: "Too many are prepared to keep it alive and to see that it moves through the Congress and toward final realization. We must hope that the new Secretary of the Interior, Congressman Morton, will put Gateway high on his agenda. Even while we deplore the Hickel dismissal, we must push for the achievement of this major project."

In his speech, the PRCA head said:

"I well remember the day in the autumn of 1969 when with Mayor Lindsay and myself, Secretary Hickel walked the marshes and beaches of Breezy Point and the concept of Gateway came alive and seemed to glow in his mind. I recall a few weeks ago a walk with him down a Madison Avenue closed to vehicular traffic for the evening. He caught the

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excitement of an urban space being used for human purposes. He saw this as something as exciting and hardly less important than a national park.

"Secretary Hickel, about whom we all had doubts at the start, proved himself a true conservationist and a friend of the cities. He showed rare courage in his fight against those whose off-shore oil drilling polluted the California coast; against companies responsible for mercury pollution; and - perhaps most notably and surprisingly - in his readiness to delay the trans-Alaska pipeline which threatens the ecology of millions of square miles of tundra.

"This was a man who went out to slay dragons, and now he has himself been cast down. His firing must be judged an outrage against the conservation cause. For however courageous his successor, it will be harder now to take the steps which are required to save irreplaceable natural assets."

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12/3/70



City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
Cultural Affairs Administration  
8 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

August Heckscher, Administrator

For Further Information:  
Sam Samuels - 360-8141

**for release**

IMMEDIATELY  
#542

**RARE TREE SAVED BY PARKS DEPT.**

The construction of a shaft for the third water tunnel in Cedar Hill in Central Park (79th Street east of East Drive) appeared to have doomed a rare acer campsestre, commonly known as an English Hedge Maple or English Field Maple, which was in the construction site. However, the Parks Department took steps to dig, ball, protect and move the tree to a new, safe location outside the construction area. Only one other specimen of this type of tree is in Central Park at 106th Street and the East Drive. In the series of photos, (1) the tree was raised and balled, (2) transported some 300 feet west of its original location, (3) placed in its new location, and (4) made secure. The multiple stemmed tree is 25 feet high and 14 inches in diameter at the base. When the roots were gathered together, they formed a ball 7 feet in diameter. The operation was arranged and supervised by Cornelius O'Shea, the Parks Department's director of horticulture.

-30-

12/3/70

City of New York  
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830 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

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12/3/70



City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
Cultural Affairs Administration  
30 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

August Heckscher, Administrator

**for release**

IMMEDIATELY

For Further Information:  
Sam Samuels 360-8141

MAYOR LINDSAY HONORS CHARLES WILLIS

Mayor John V. Lindsay (left) presents certificate of appointment to Charles R. Willis, Assistant Administrator for Community Projects of the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Administration (PRCA). Willis, who was formerly Deputy Commissioner of the City's Department of Public Events, heads the division which has prime responsibility within PRCA for maintaining relations with the various communities of the City.

-30-

12/2/70

City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
Cultural Affairs Administration  
5 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

August Heckscher, Administrator

for release

IMMEDIATELY

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12/2/70



City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
Cultural Affairs Administration  
830 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

August Heckscher, Administrator

**for release**

IMMEDIATELY

# 543

For Further Information:  
Sam Samuels 360-8141

MAYOR NAMES CALLENDER DEPUTY CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSIONER

Mayor John V. Lindsay (left) presents certificate of appointment to Courtney Callender, recently named to the new post of Deputy Commissioner of the Cultural Affairs Department. The Department, headed by Dore Schary, is part of the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Administration.

-30-

12/2/70



City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
Cultural Affairs Administration  
830 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

August Heckscher, Administrator

**for release**

IMMEDIATELY

For Further Information:  
Sam Samuels 360-8141

MAYOR LINDSAY HONORS COMMISSIONER MASTROIANNI

Mayor John V. Lindsay (left) presents certificate of appointment to Theodore Mastroianni, the City Deputy Commissioner of Parks, at a recent ceremony. Mastroianni was an Assistant to the Mayor for four years before assuming his new position in the Parks Department, which is part of the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Administration.

-30-

12/2/70



City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
Cultural Affairs Administration  
830 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

August Heckscher, Administrator

**for release**

**IMMEDIATELY**

For Further Information:  
Sam Samuels 360-8141

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City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
Cultural Affairs Administration  
830 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021  
August Heckscher, Administrator

**for release**

IMMEDIATELY

543

For Further Information:  
Sam Samuels 360-8141

MAYOR HONORS EDWARD DWECK

Mayor John V. Lindsay (left) presents certificate of appointment to Edward M. Dweck of Flatbush, the Assistant Administrator for Design of the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Administration. The presentation was made at a recent ceremony at PRCA headquarters. Dweck, born and raised in Brooklyn, is vice chairman of Community Board 15 (Sheepshead Bay) and is active in a number of Flatbush and Borough-wide civic organizations. In addition to directing the Design Unit of PRCA which develops a large number of the agency's Capital projects, Dweck also supervises the work of outside consultants who design other PRCA facilities.

-30-

12/2/70



City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
Cultural Affairs Administration  
830 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

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Parks, Recreation and  
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830 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

August Heckscher, Administrator

**For Further Information:**  
**Sam Samuels - 360-8141**

**for release**

**IMMEDIATELY**  
**#544**

**NEW YORK CITY MARIONETTE TROUPE  
PRESENTS CINDERELLA IN BROOKLYN**

Cinderella will meet her prince and live happily ever after this Wednesday, Thursday and Friday (Dec. 9-11), when the Marionette Troupe of the City Recreation Department presents five free performances of "Cinderella" at the Brooklyn War Memorial, at Fulton and Orange Streets, Brooklyn.

The troupe will perform on Wednesday (Dec. 9) at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., Thursday (Dec. 10) at 10:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. and on Friday (Dec. 11) at 10:30 a.m.

Classes from neighborhood schools are invited and parents are invited to bring pre-school children, Recreation Commissioner Joseph W. Halper said.

No tickets are needed. Teachers wishing to make reservations for their classes may call the Brooklyn War Memorial at MA 4-6030.

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12/4/70

City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
Cultural Affairs Administration  
85 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

August Heckscher, Administrator

**For Further Information:**  
**Sam Samuels - 360-8141**

**for release**

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**#544**

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12/4/70

City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
Cultural Affairs Administration  
80 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

August Heckscher, Administrator

**for release**

**IMMEDIATELY  
#545**

**For Further Information:  
Sam Samuels - 360-8141**

**HOLIDAY TREES DECORATE NY PARKS  
FOR 1970 CHRISTMAS SEASON**

Thirty bushy Christmas trees, purchased by the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Administration, will be lit throughout the City on Thursday, Dec. 17, at 5 p.m., the same time Mayor John V. Lindsay lights the official New York City tree at City Hall.

The Canadian spruce trees, ranging from 30 to 55-feet high, will be put up in parks, playgrounds, plazas, a hospital and a golf course throughout the five boroughs: 3 in the Bronx, 7 in Brooklyn, 9 in Manhattan, 9 in Queens and 2 in Staten Island.

PRCA sent representatives to Coaticook and Sherbrook Townships in Quebec, Canada, in early November to select the trees. Cornelius O'Shea, director of horticulture, headed the group of tree experts.

"We are happy to announce the arrival of our traditional holiday trees and look forward to all the tree lighting ceremonies that bring our City together and officially proclaim the 1970 holiday season," said Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Administrator August Heckscher.

The trees are at the following locations:

**MANHATTAN**  
City Hall Park, Broadway & Murray Street  
Washington Sq. Park, at Washington Arch  
Central Park, Tavern-on-the-Green, 67th St. & West Side Drive  
Mt. Morris Park, 123rd St. & Madison Ave.  
Ft. Tryon Park, Broadway & Dyckman St.  
Carl Schurz Park, East End Ave. & 85th St.  
Bellevue Hospital, E. 26th St.  
Madison Sq. Park, Fifth Ave., & 24th St.  
Frederick Douglas Circle, Cathedral Pkwy & Central Park West

**-more-**

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BROOKLYN

Borough Hall Park, Fulton & Joralemon Sts.  
Grand Army Plaza, Flatbush Ave. & Union St.  
McCarren Park, Briggs Ave. & Lorimer St.  
Dyker Beach Park, 86th St. & 7th Ave.  
Lt. Ericson Park, 67th St., bet. Fourth & 5th Avenues  
Cadman Plaza, Fulton & Tillary Streets  
Esplanade, Montague Terrace, bet. Remsen & Pierrepont  
Streets

QUEENS

Borough Hall, Queens Blvd. & Union Turnpike  
King Park, Jamaica Avenue & 151st Street  
Flushing Park, Northern Blvd. & Main Street  
Highland Park, Jamaica Avenue & Elton Street  
St. Albans Memorial Park, Merrick Blvd. & 113th Ave.  
Elmhurst Plgd., Broadway & Britton Ave.  
Douglaston Golf Course, Commonwealth Blvd.  
Buddy Monument, Myrtle Ave. & Park Lane South, Forest  
Park  
Flushing Meadow, Administration Bldg. Roosevelt Ave.  
and Grand Central Parkway

BRONX

Joyce Kilmer Park, 163rd St. & Grand Concourse  
St. Mary's Park, Recreation Bldg., St. Ann's Ave.  
St. James Park, Oval Lawn, 191st St. & Jerome Ave.

RICHMOND

Borough Hall, Bay Street & Borough Place  
Tappan Park, Bay and Canal Streets

12/4/70

City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
Cultural Affairs Administration  
830 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

August Heckscher, Administrator

for release

IMMEDIATELY  
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For Further Information:  
Sam Samuels - 360-8141

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-more-

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BROOKLYN

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12/4/70

City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
Cultural Affairs Administration  
830 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

August Heckscher, Administrator

**for release**

IMMEDIATELY

For Further Information:  
Sam Samuels 360-8141

#546

**INDOOR TRACK MEET SET**

**FOR CITY YOUNGSTERS**

Boys and girls, nine to fifteen years old, are eligible to compete in the City Department of Recreation's Indoor Track Meet to be held Dec. 19 at 10 a.m. in the 369th Regiment Armory, Fifth Avenue and East 143rd Street, Manhattan.

The event, conducted in cooperation with WCBS-TV, was announced by Joseph W. Halper, City Commissioner of Recreation.

Youngsters can register until the day of the meet at local playgrounds and Recreation Department centers and at PRCA Borough Headquarters for the competition in the 60-, 75-, 220- and 440-yard dashes.

Late applicants may register at the meet itself up till the first event.

-30-

12/4/70



City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
Cultural Affairs Administration  
830 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

August Heckscher, Administrator

for release

MONDAY P.M.  
DEC. 7, 1970

#547

For Further Information:  
Sam Samuels - 360-8141

#### PRCA ANNOUNCES PROGRAM REDUCTIONS

#### AS PART OF CITY'S ECONOMY DRIVE

The Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Administration, as part of the City's economy program, today (Mon.) announced reductions of \$880,200 in programs throughout its agency.

In making the announcement, PRCA Administrator August Heckscher said: "We are making these reductions after painstaking evaluations involving the leadership of our entire agency. We have made these necessary cuts throughout our Administration. They are affecting our programs in all our areas of interest--parks, recreation, cultural programs, museums, institutions and libraries."

Some of the savings will be realized by closing down indoor swimming pools and outdoor ice skating rinks ahead of schedule next year. In another area, personnel will be assigned to playgrounds later than normal but before the beginning of the school vacation.

The program cuts announced today by Heckscher were:

\* Pools--Five of the 11 Park Department indoor pools will close three months earlier this coming spring, saving \$28,000. They are four of the agency's seven such pools in Manhattan--Carmine Street, Rutgers Place, West 59th Street and East 23rd Street, and one of Brooklyn's three pools--Metropolitan Avenue. Groups using these pools will be notified early so they can make appropriate alternate arrangements.

\* Ice Skating Rinks--All five Park Department rinks will close down in March rather than April. This represents a \$51,000 reduction. They are: Mullaly Park, Bronx; Wollman Memorial in Prospect Park, Brooklyn; Wollman Memorial and Lasker Memorial, both

(more)

PRCA ANNOUNCED BUDGET CUTS 2-2-2

in Central Park, Manhattan; and War Memorial in Clove Lakes Park, Staten Island.

\* Playgrounds--Summer seasonal playground personnel will be assigned during the latter part of June, rather than early in the month, resulting in a \$41,000 cut. However, the recreation leaders will be at the playgrounds before the school vacation period begins.

\* Institutions--Five of the cultural institutions which receive City aid through PRCA will have their budgets reduced by a total of \$350,200. The cuts will be primarily for research, curatorial and educational programs and, in general, should not affect the days and hours these institutions are open to the public. The reductions are: Metropolitan Museum of Art, \$76,700; New York Botanical Garden, \$48,700; American Museum of Natural History, \$81,200; New York Zoological Society, \$67,600; Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences, \$76,000.

\* Libraries--The City's three public library systems will be reduced a total of \$380,000. The ways these reductions will be made will be determined by the libraries. Heckscher noted, however, that while some branches may have to limit their hours, he did not anticipate any branches being closed entirely. The reductions are: New York Public Library (Bronx, Manhattan, Staten Island), \$161,500; Brooklyn Public Library, \$119,700; Queens Public Library, \$98,800.

\* Other reductions were: New York State Theatre, \$20,000; Brooklyn Philharmonic, \$5,000; and Queens Symphony, \$5,000.

City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
Cultural Affairs Administration  
30 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

August Heckscher, Administrator

**for release**

MONDAY P.M.  
DEC. 7, 1970

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City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
Cultural Affairs Administration  
830 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

August Heckscher, Administrator

**for release**

AFTER 11 A.M.  
TUES., DEC. 8, 1970  
#548

For Further Information:  
Sam Samuels - 360-8141

**HECKSCHER OPPOSES JFK EXPANSION;**

**URGES SELECTION OF 4TH JETPORT SITE**

The only way to preserve Jamaica Bay from expansion of the John F. Kennedy International Airport is to have "all sides once and for all get together and select the location for a fourth jetport."

This was the solution proposed by August Heckscher, the City's Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Administrator, at a legislative hearing this morning (Tues.) The hearing of the Joint Legislative Committee on Environmental Management and Natural Resources was held at the International Hotel at Kennedy Airport.

Heckscher, who has strongly opposed the proposed expansion of the Airport into the Bay, pointed out that "the only reason the Port Authority is looking to the Bay is because agreement has not been reached on a fourth jetport. If the new airport was being built or in operation," he added, "the Port Authority would not be looking for this terrible expansion."

He stated: "I realize the selection of a site for the fourth jetport is not an easy task and there is a great desire to put the inevitable decision off until another term or another official is in office. But we just have to stop this indecision and delay. We cannot let the Bay and Refuge be destroyed just to gain another year or so.

"To destroy this last frontier in New York City just to improve air transportation would be a great crime in itself. But to destroy it only as a temporary measure which at its inception is regarded as only a time-saving device would be a catastrophe of

(more)

HECKSCHER OPPOSES JFK EXPANSION 2-2-2

almost unparalleled proportions and one of the darkest days in man's so-called enlightened period."

Heckscher, who is also the City's Parks Commissioner, noted that the Bay "is the last wildlife refuge of its kind, not only in our City and State, but the entire east coast." He said that since the Port Authority announced its proposed Airport expansion, interest in the Bay and Wildlife Refuge has increased and that attendance at the Refuge has doubled. He said: "It is a sad commentary on our times that far too many people do not become concerned until a threat is presented to them."

In his prepared testimony, Heckscher said:

"As congestion increases not only in our city, but in our suburbs as well, the need to have this oasis of nature grows greater. As a living link in the migration patterns of scores of different species of birds and water fowl, the Bay is both an area of appreciation of nature and a giant laboratory, especially for children.

"If the Bay would be destroyed by the expansion plan, there is the serious question of what would happen to birds who now come to the area and the fish which depend on the area as a breeding ground. But I have faith in nature. I am more concerned, in this respect, about man. If the Bay is destroyed, how will he learn about nature; how will he appreciate the beauty of the pattern of migration. The Bay cannot be replaced.

"With the present and projected increases in population in this region, the need for open park and recreation space is heightened. We are in a fight with housing, industry, schools, hospitals, etc., for additional space. While I am hopeful that we will gain additional limited areas for park space, the demand for large areas just cannot be met in the communities.

"We must keep what we have at Jamaica Bay and improve it so it can better serve the recreational needs of the years to come. Whether through the proposed Gateway National Recreational area or by itself, the Bay can and will be developed to increase the recreational facilities of the entire area and at the same time preserve the Bay as a wildlife refuge for the enjoyment of the vast section of the population which is now just becoming aware of its existence and beauty."

City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
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830 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

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for release

AFTER 11 A.M.  
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Heckscher, who is also the City's Parks Commissioner, noted that the Bay "is the last wildlife refuge of its kind, not only in our City and State, but the entire east coast." He said that since the Port Authority announced its proposed Airport expansion, interest in the Bay and Wildlife Refuge has increased and that attendance at the Refuge has doubled. He said: "It is a sad commentary on our times that far too many people do not become concerned until a threat is presented to them."

In his prepared testimony, Heckscher said:

"As congestion increases not only in our city, but in our suburbs as well, the need to have this oasis of nature grows greater. As a living link in the migration patterns of scores of different species of birds and water fowl, the Bay is both an area of appreciation of nature and a giant laboratory, especially for children.

"If the Bay would be destroyed by the expansion plan, there is the serious question of what would happen to birds who now come to the area and the fish which depend on the area as a breeding ground. But I have faith in nature. I am more concerned, in this respect, about man. If the Bay is destroyed, how will he learn about nature; how will he appreciate the beauty of the pattern of migration. The Bay cannot be replaced.

"With the present and projected increases in population in this region, the need for open park and recreation space is heightened. We are in a fight with housing, industry, schools, hospitals, etc., for additional space. While I am hopeful that we will gain additional limited areas for park space, the demand for large areas just cannot be met in the communities.

"We must keep what we have at Jamaica Bay and improve it so it can better serve the recreational needs of the years to come. Whether through the proposed Gateway National Recreational area or by itself, the Bay can and will be developed to increase the recreational facilities of the entire area and at the same time preserve the Bay as a wildlife refuge for the enjoyment of the vast section of the population which is now just becoming aware of its existence and beauty."



# Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Administration

The City of New York

*John V. Lindsay*  
Mayor

*August Heckscher*  
Administrator  
Commissioner of Parks

*Joseph P. Davidson*  
First Deputy  
Administrator  
Commissioner

The Arsenal  
830 Fifth Avenue  
Central Park  
New York, New York 10021

360-



548A

Testimony by August Heckscher, New York City Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Administrator, at hearing of Joint Legislative Committee on Environmental Management and Natural Resources, December 8, 1970:

I am very glad this Committee is holding this hearing for it is another way which will focus attention on the grave danger which is facing everyone who is concerned about ecology and present and future recreational and environmental educational facilities. It is a sad commentary on our times that far too many people do not become concerned until a threat is presented to them. Since the Port Authority revealed its proposal to expand Kennedy Airport into Jamaica Bay, attendance at our Jamaica Bay Refuge has doubled. Requests for information about the Bay and Refuge have been continuous since the proposal was made. More and more teachers are working a tour of the Refuge into their programs. And thousands upon thousands of people, most of whom have not been to the Refuge, are voicing their opposition to the proposed expansion.

I do not think you would be having this hearing if you did not already recognize the unique value of the Bay, and, therefore, I will not dwell on this area. The Bay is the last wildlife refuge of its kind, not only in our City and State, but the entire east coast.

As congestion grows not only in our City, but in our suburbs as well, the need to have this oasis of nature increases. As a living link in the migration patterns of scores of different species of birds and water fowl, the Bay is both an area of appreciation of nature and a giant laboratory, especially for children.

If the Bay would be destroyed by the expansion plan, there is the serious question of what would happen to the birds which now come to the area and the fish which depend on the area as a breeding ground. But I have faith in nature. I am more concerned, in this respect, about man. If the Bay is destroyed, how will he learn about nature; how will he appreciate the beauty of the pattern of migration? The Bay cannot be replaced.

With the present and projected increases in population in this region, the need for open park and recreation space is heightened. We are in a fight with housing, industry, schools, hospitals, etc., for additional space. While I am hopeful that we will gain additional limited areas for park space, the demand for large areas just cannot be met in the communities. We must keep what we have at Jamaica Bay and improve it so it can better serve the recreational needs of the years to come. Whether through the proposed Gateway National Recreational Area or by itself, the Bay can and will be developed to increase the recreational facilities of the entire area and at the same time preserve the Bay as a wildlife refuge for the enjoyment of the vast section of the population which is now just becoming aware of the Bay's existence and beauty.

While as a park man I could go on about the Bay from a nature and recreational point of view, I think the best criticism of the

proposed expansion is on its own grounds--namely transportation. The undeniable fact is that even if this expansion were permitted, it would not solve the air transportation problems of our region. That problem can only be answered by a fourth jetport. Everyone, including the Port Authority, recognizes and admits this. We don't need just a couple of more runways or more space. We need another airport. The skies over Kennedy, LaGuardia and Newark are so filled now that experts tell us the expansion will not be bringing many more planes into the area. The congestion at Kennedy can be met by adopting plans other than the expansion. They include:

- \* greater use of short takeoff and landing (STOL) and vertical take-off and landing (VTOL) crafts and construction of needed facilities throughout the area.

- \* changes in scheduling to shift flights away from peak hours.
- \* introduction and use of new equipment and methods.

The only reason the Port Authority is looking to the Bay is because agreement has not been reached on a fourth jetport. If the new airport was being built or in operation, the Port Authority would not be looking for this terrible expansion.

Therefore, I feel that the best way to preserve Jamaica Bay for environmental and recreational purposes is for all sides once and for all to get together and select the location for the fourth jetport. I realize this is not an easy task and there is a great desire to put the inevitable decision off until another term or another official is in office. But we just have to stop this indecision and delay. We cannot let the Bay and Refuge be destroyed just to gain another year or so.

To destroy this last frontier in New York City just to improve air transportation would be a great crime in itself. But to destroy it only as a temporary measure which at its inception is regarded as only a time-saving device would be a catastrophe of almost unparalleled proportions and one of the darkest days in man's so-called enlightened period.

In summary, I would say that the value of the Bay to wildlife and to man is unmatched in this entire area. The need for such a refuge is ever increasing. The development of the Bay is the only way we are going to even try to meet the recreational demands of the future. And the transportation needs of our entire region will not be answered by this expansion. A fourth jetport is needed and this is what should be built.

Thank you for the opportunity.

# Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Administration

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Thank you for the opportunity.



City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
Cultural Affairs Administration  
820 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

August Heckscher, Administrator

For Further Information:  
Sam Samuels 360-8141

**for release**

IMMEDIATELY

#549

**'RING IN THE NEW YEAR' PARTY  
IS SET FOR CENTRAL PARK**

The public is being invited to literally and figuratively "ring in the new year" during the fourth annual New Year's Eve Party at Bethesda Fountain in Central Park.

Guests are being encouraged to bring, ring and wear bells of all sorts as part of the multi-media party which will run from 11 p.m. to 1 a.m. The party will be presented by the City Department of Cultural Affairs as part of the City's Holiday Festival and was announced by Commissioner Dore Schary.

WNEW-FM personality Zacherly will emcee the party which will feature music provided by Olatunji and His Drums of Passion. Dancers, drummers, and members of the Bread and Puppet Theatre will provide additional entertainment.

At midnight a spectacular display of fireworks will light up the sky above Central Park Lake to usher in 1971. This is the only time during the year fireworks are permitted in the Park.

The Fountain area will be decorated in the festival mood with blinker lights lining the edge of the Lake, balloons and a canopy of lights strung above the Fountain, and large inflatable forms within the Fountain itself. The Phoenix House is creating wind sock sculpture made from silver milar for the two flag poles. Projection screens will be hung from trees and slide show and film collages will be presented.

While most of the activities will be unconventional, one thing will be typical of other New Year's Eve parties--hot wine punch and rum cider and other holiday beverages will be sold by Restaurant Associates.

In announcing the party, Cultural Affairs Commissioner Schary said: "We have planned a joyous and amusing New Year's Eve party and hope as many people as possible will join together to ring out the old and ring in the new. Regardless of our individual judgement of 1970, the party at Bethesda Fountain will be a unique and different way to end one year and laugh another."

(more)

'RING IN THE NEW YEAR' 2-2-2-2

Central Park will be closed to vehicular traffic starting at 10 p.m. New Year's Eve.

Parks Department personnel will help set up the decorations and other facilities for the party. Both the Parks and Cultural Affairs Departments are part of the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Administration.

-30-

12/8/70

City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
Cultural Affairs Administration  
Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

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For Further Information:  
Sam Samuels 360-8141

**for release**

IMMEDIATELY

#550

**FREE WORKSHOPS IN THE ARTS  
OFFERED AT MT. MORRIS PARK**

Aspiring artists have an opportunity to participate in their choice of free workshops in the arts at Mt. Morris Park Recreation Center at 122nd Street and Mount Morris Park West. The workshop program is being presented by the City Department of Cultural Affairs with a grant from composer Richard Rogers, who grew up in the Mount Morris Park area and contributed to the construction of the new center.

The Weusi Nyumba Ya Sanaa and the Harlem Philharmonic have begun leading groups in art and music on weekday afternoons from 4 to 6 p.m. and Saturday mornings from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. They will continue their programs through June 1971.

"We hope these workshops will encourage teenagers to pursue careers in the arts" Commissioner of Cultural Affairs Dore Schary said.

Under the direction of Ademola Olugebefola, the Weusi Nyumba Ya Sanaa offers classes in graphics, ceramics, painting and drawing. James Sepyo and Ilyas Paul Elias are the instructors.

Karl Hampton Porter and Robert Tyler from the Harlem Philharmonic instruct groups in music theory, appreciation of Black music, and analysis of instruments.

A journalism workshop lead by a staff writer from the New York Times is in progress on Saturday mornings. A drama workshops with classes in voice technique movement and acting will soon be available.

The schedule for the workshops is as follows:

Mondays	4-6 p.m.	Graphics and Ceramics
Tuesdays	4-6 p.m.	Music Theory and Melody
Thursdays	4-6 p.m. 4-6 p.m.	Painting and Drawing Appreciation of Black Music
Saturdays	11-1 p.m. 11-1 p.m. 11-1 p.m.	Painting and Drawing Analysis of Instruments Journalism

For additional program information, call Mt. Morris Park Amphitheater, 348-8141.

12/8/70

City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
Cultural Affairs Administration  
830 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

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For additional program information, call Mt. Morris Park Amphitheater, 348-8141.

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City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
Cultural Affairs Administration  
830 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

August Heckscher, Administrator

For Further Information:  
Sam Samuels - 360-8141

**for release**

IMMEDIATELY  
#~~557~~ 551

**MARIONETTE THEATER  
PRESENTS "CINDERELLA"**

The City Department of Recreation's Marionette Theater will celebrate the Christmas Season by presenting six free performances of "Cinderella" at P.S. 87, 160 W. 78th St., between Columbus and Amsterdam Aves., on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, Dec. 28-30, at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. daily.

This production of "Cinderella" features new three-foot-high sculptured marionettes, a Spanish setting and a bullfight.

Teachers and parents wishing to bring classes and children to the production may obtain passes by writing to the Program Office, Department of Recreation, Room 100, 830 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y. 10021.

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12/8/70

City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
Cultural Affairs Administration  
820 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021  
August Heckscher, Administrator

**for release**

**IMMEDIATELY**

**#007**

**551**

**For Further Information:**  
**Sam Samuels - 360-8141**

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City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
Cultural Affairs Administration  
830 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

**for release**

August Heckscher, Administrator

Immediately

#552

For Further Information:  
Sam Samuels 360-8141

**BUDDY YOUNG FOOTBALL LEAGUE  
CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES SCHEDULED**

Kick-off time for the Buddy Young Football League finals will be noon on Sun., Dec. 20 at Downing Stadium, Randall's Island.

The event, sponsored by the City Department of Recreation in cooperation with the United Block Association, will feature contests between two teams of youngsters from the New York City area in both an intermediate division, players aged 13 to 15; and a senior division, players aged 17 to 20. In the intermediate game, starting at 12 noon, the Riverside Warriors from Manhattan will challenge the East Orange Panthers from East Orange, N.J. In the senior game, the St. Albans Chargers from Queens will take on the Staten Island Panthers.

The Buddy Young Football League is a Harlem-based organization belonging to the United Block Association which seeks to promote football among high school-aged youngsters. At present there are 36 member teams in the League.

The Randall's Island games will include a presentation of trophies to the winning teams by Carl Nesfield, founder and director of the League. Half-time entertainment during the senior game provided by the Riverside Drum and Bugle Corp.

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12/9/70

City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
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830 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

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830 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021  
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IMMEDIATELY

For Further Information:  
Sam Samuels 360-8141

#553

ICE RINK SHUTTLE SERVICE  
IN CENTRAL PARK IS POPULAR

The Saturday and Sunday afternoon free shuttle bus service between the Wollman Memorial Rink and the Lasker Memorial Rink in Central Park aimed at reducing congestion and waiting times, has been enthusiastically received by ice skaters, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Administrator August Heckscher said.

Buses leave Wollman Rink at 10:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 2:30 p.m., 3:30 p.m., and 4:30 p.m.

Buses from Lasker leave at 11:00 a.m., 12:00 a.m., 2:00 p.m., 3:00 p.m., 4:00 p.m., and 5:15 p.m.

Heckscher said: During the three weeks since we initiated the service, literally thousands of ice skaters of all ages have filled the shuttle each trip. We are delighted to provide a service that is popular and adds so much more time on the ice for the enjoyment of skaters."

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12/9/70

City of New York  
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200 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021  
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City of New York  
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Cultural Affairs Administration  
330 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

August Heckscher, Administrator

**for release**

**IMMEDIATELY  
#554**

**For Further Information:  
Sam Samuels - 360-8141**

**NYC WEIGHTLIFTING TEAM  
WINS TOURNAMENT TITLE**

The City Department of Recreation's weightlifting team lifted its collective weight head and shoulders above tough competition from New York and surrounding states to win the Open Handicap Tournament held at Lost Battalion Hall in Queens on Sat., Dec. 5.

The City Recreation team, composed of members from throughout New York City, fended off strong bids for first place by Central Falls, McBurney YMCA and the East New York YMHA in the 11 hours of competition spotlighting 60 athletes. The City team copped top honors with 21 points while McBurney placed second with 15.

Two outstanding individual performances highlighted the meet. Francisco Moncada, 25, 732 Melrose Avenue, the Bronx, topped the morning session by lifting a total of 650 lbs. at a bodyweight of 123 lbs. Stan Bailey, 28, 109-24 172nd St., Jamaica, won the Outstanding Lifter Award.

The following young athletes were winners of trophies and awards:

114-lb Class First Place: Dennis Knight, 12, 230 E. 102 St., Manhattan.

Second Place: Lonnie Gross, 15, 245 Cozine Ave., Brooklyn.

Third Place: Russell Kupfrian, 17, 81 Waldwick Ave., Waldwick, N. J.

123-lb Class First Place: Francisco Moncada, 25, 732 Melrose Ave., Bronx.

Second Place: Mel Schwartz, 14, 908 Jerome St., Brooklyn.

**-more-**

- Third Place: Jerome Fleming, 16, 85 Fremont Ave., Staten Island.
- 132-1b. Class First Place: Fred Hallock, 16, 309 11th St., Brooklyn.
- Second Place: Eric Konig, 13, 248-32 Deepdale Ave., Little Neck.
- 148-1b. Class First Place: Luis Contreras, 22, 507 W. 175 St. Manhattan.
- Second Place: Fred Masten, 31, 14 Josephine St., Staten Island,
- Third Place: Tony Petillo, 38, 31 Martin Lane, Westbury, N. Y.
- 165-1b. Class First Place: Lloyd Rudy, 16, 7-12 67th St., Glendale.
- Second Place: Steve Scott, 21, 220 E. 95th St., Manhattan.
- Third Place: Richard Landrey, 23, 290 33rd St., Lindenhurst.
- 181-1b. Class First Place: Mark Cameron, 18, 116 Prospect Ave. Middletown, Rhode Island.
- Second Place: Alex Parzych, 23, 534 Graham Ave., Greenpoint, Brooklyn.
- Third Place: James Curry, Jr., 17, 24-54 29th St., Astoria.
- 198-1b. Class First Place: Pat Donnelly, 22, 100 Gardner St., Arlington, Mass.
- Second Place: Joel Jessinowski, 27, 1120 Wyatt St., Bronx.
- Third Place: Mike Bernard, 25, W. 147th Street, Manhattan.
- 242-1b Class First Place: Peter Galle, 20, 200 Oldfield Rd., Fairfield, Conn.
- Second Place: Laurie Weissbrot, 23, 2086 Stanley St., New Britain, Conn..
- Third Place: Bob Jurinek, 23, 43-44 Kissena Blvd. Flushing.

City of New York  
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WINS TOURNAMENT TITLE**

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The City Recreation team, composed of members from throughout New York City, fended off strong bids for first place by Central Falls, McBurney YMCA and the East New York YMHA in the 11 hours of competition spotlighting 60 athletes. The City team copped top honors with 21 points while McBurney placed second with 15.

Two outstanding individual performances highlighted the meet. Francisco Moncada, 25, 732 Melrose Avenue, the Bronx, topped the morning session by lifting a total of 650 lbs. at a bodyweight of 123 lbs. Stan Bailey, 28, 109-24 172nd St., Jamaica, won the Outstanding Lifter Award.

The following young athletes were winners of trophies and awards:

114-lb Class First Place: Dennis Knight, 12, 230 E. 102 St., Manhattan.

Second Place: Lonnie Gross, 15, 245 Cozine Ave., Brooklyn.

Third Place: Russell Kupfrian, 17, 81 Waldwick Ave., Waldwick, N. J.

123-lb Class First Place: Francisco Moncada, 25, 732 Melrose Ave., Bronx.

Second Place: Mel Schwartz, 14, 908 Jerome St., Brooklyn.

-more-

- Third Place: Jerome Fleming, 16, 85 Fremont Ave., Staten Island.
- 132-1b. Class First Place: Fred Hallock, 16, 309 11th St., Brooklyn.
- Second Place: Eric Konig, 13, 248-32 Deepdale Ave., Little Neck.
- 148-1b. Class First Place: Luis Contreras, 22, 507 W. 175 St. Manhattan.
- Second Place: Fred Masten, 31, 14 Josephine St., Staten Island,
- Third Place: Tony Petillo, 38, 31 Martin Lane, Westbury, N. Y.
- 165-1b. Class First Place: Lloyd Rudy, 16, 7-12 67th St., Glendale.
- Second Place: Steve Scott, 21, 220 E. 95th St., Manhattan.
- Third Place: Richard Landrey, 23, 290 33rd St., Lindenhurst.
- 181-1b. Class First Place: Mark Cameron, 18, 116 Prospect Ave. Middletown, Rhode Island.
- Second Place: Alex Parzych, 23, 534 Graham Ave., Greenpoint, Brooklyn.
- Third Place: James Curry, Jr., 17, 24-54 29th St., Astoria.
- 198-1b. Class First Place: Pat Donnelly, 22, 100 Gardner St., Arlington, Mass.
- Second Place: Joel Jessinowski, 27, 1120 Wyatt St., Bronx.
- Third Place: Mike Bernard, 25, W. 147th Street, Manhattan.
- 242-1b Class First Place: Peter Galle, 20, 200 Oldfield Rd., Fairfield, Conn.
- Second Place: Laurie Weissbrot, 23, 2086 Stanley St., New Britain, Conn..
- Third Place: Bob Jurinek, 23, 43-44 Kissena Blvd. Flushing.



City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
Cultural Affairs Administration  
830 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

August Heckscher, Administrator

**for release**

IMMEDIATELY  
#555

For Further Information:  
Sam Samuels - 360-8141

HECKSCHER SUPPORTS NAMING PARK  
IN HONOR OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

The Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Administration has thrown its support behind a move to designate the park area bounded by Shakespeare Avenue, West 168th Street and Woodycrest Avenue, in the Bronx, as the Martin Luther King Memorial Park.

In backing the move, PRCA Administrator August Heckscher noted that it is his agency's policy to support the naming of parks and playgrounds "in honor of those who have contributed substantially to the areas of parks, recreation and cultural affairs, or who have distinguished themselves in service of the nation." He added that his Administration supported the renaming of Linton Park in Brooklyn as the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Park.

A resolution making the change has been submitted to the City Council by Bronx Councilmen Barry Salman, Bertram R. Gelfand and Aileen B. Ryan.

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12/10/70

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Parks, Recreation and  
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220 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

August Heckscher, Administrator

**for release**

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#556**

**For Further Information:  
Sam Samuels - 360-8141**

**MORE LIGHTS TO SHINE ON  
WOODSIDE MEMORIAL PARK**

"There will be more lighting in Woodside Memorial Park," Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Administrator August Heckscher announced today, "which we hope will make the park safer and encourage residents to further enjoy its facilities."

Community concern about lighting in the park, located at Roosevelt and Woodside Avenues and 60th Street, Queens, spurred a site inspection of the park by the PRCA Engineering division. Although it is commonly known as Woodside Memorial Park, the park's official name is Rev. Matthew J. Grosson Memorial Park.

The inspectors agreed that more lighting was desirable and a contract has been given by the Department of Public Works to Broadway Maintenance Corp. to install four floodlights to shine into the park to two existing light poles.

The lights will be up next spring, the Public Works Department experts said.

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City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
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87 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021  
August Heckscher, Administrator

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830 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

Arlo St Heckscher, Administrator

**For Further Information:**  
**Sam Samuels - 360-8141**

**for release**

**IMMEDIATELY**  
**#557**

**MARIONETTE THEATER**  
**PRESENTS "CINDERELLA"**

The City Department of Recreation's Marionette Theater will celebrate the Christmas Season by presenting six free performances of "Cinderella" at P.S. 87, 160 W. 78th St., between Columbus and Amsterdam Aves., on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, Dec. 28-30, at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. daily.

This production of "Cinderella" features new three-foot-high sculptured marionettes, a Spanish setting and a bullfight.

Teachers and parents wishing to bring classes and children to the production may obtain passes by writing to the Program Office, Department of Recreation, Room 100, 830 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y. 10021.

-30-

12/8/70

City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
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830 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

Arrest Heckscher, Administrator

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830 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

August Heckscher, Administrator

for release

IMMEDIATELY  
#557 A

For Further Information:  
Sam Samuels 360-8141

NEW CITY SKATING RINK ON S.I.  
TO BE DEDICATED THIS SUNDAY

The newly-completed Staten Island War Memorial Skating Rink, already the busiest of the seven city-operated rinks, will be dedicated at ceremonies this Sunday (Dec. 13) at 1 p.m.

Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Administrator August Heckscher, Richmond Borough President Robert T. Connor and Councilman Robert G. Lindsay of Staten Island will lead off the speakers during the ceremony in front of the rink, in Clove Lakes Park opposite Victory Boulevard and Labau Avenue.

The rink was built by PRCA at a cost of \$1,122,500 which included a substantial contribution from the Staten Island War Memorial Association. Cornelius Bregoff, president of the Association, will be among the speakers.

The City Recreation Department will present an ice review by leading amateur skaters following the dedication and unveiling of a plaque commemorating the Island's war dead. The show was arranged by Recreation Commissioner Joseph W. Halper.

Mayor Lindsay will be represented by Holt Meyer, Staten Island Development Director. Also on the program will be a color guard made up of representatives of the Staten Island veterans associations and Aldo Benedetto, past State Commander of the American Legion.

Lawrence Mohr, County Commander of the American Legion, will lead the Pledge to the Flag and Tim Martin will sing the national anthem. There will be an invocation by the Rev. J. Ashton Nicholson of the Staten Island Council of Churches.

The new rink, designed by Brodsky, Hopf and Adler and built by Phillips Construction Co., was opened for use on Thanksgiving Day. It features 20,000 square feet of skating surface, 900 lockers, a skate shop, cafeteria and first aid station.

Refreshments will be served to invited guests, courtesy of East Coast Restaurants Co.

City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
Cultural Affairs Administration  
80 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021  
August Heckscher, Administrator

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800 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021  
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**IMMEDIATELY  
#558**

**For Further Information:**  
Sam Samuels 360-8141

**ICE-LESS ICE-SKATING SHOW, ENTERTAINMENT  
TO HIGHLIGHT FIFTH AVENUE CLOSING SUNDAY**

A closed-to-traffic Fifth Avenue this Sunday (Dec. 13) afternoon will feature national champions cutting fancy figure eights on a synthetic ice-less ice-skating rink, ethnic entertainers performing at two locations and the placing of benches and Christmas trees to add to the festive mood.

These events have been scheduled by the three Departments of the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Administration (PRCA) as part of the City's Holiday Festival along the Avenue from 2 to 5 p.m. PRCA Administrator August Heckscher said: "These various programs will demonstrate, once again, how PRCA adds to the enjoyment and life of our City."

Executing some of their award-winning jumps and swirls, champion skaters from local high schools will present a figure skating revue starting at 3:30 p.m. A portable ice-less rink will be installed for the afternoon between 56th and 57th Streets.

The skating rink is made of slick, a specially treated thermo-plastic vinyl material that works like ice in any temperature. It has been lent to the Department of Recreation by K. Sales Co. for the Holiday Festival. The slick rink was first introduced at the Canadian Pavilion at the Osaka World's Fair. The ice skating show was arranged by Recreation Commissioner Joseph W. Halper.

Continuous ethnic entertainment has been planned by Cultural

-more-

2 -2 -2 -2 -2

Affairs Commissioner Dore Schary between 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. on the steps of the New York Public Library at 42nd Street and the plaza of the General Motors building at 59th Street.

The Bergerfolk, a family of folksingers; the La Rocque Bey African Dancers and Drummers, and gospel singers known as the Jordanares of Long Island will perform at the Public Library.

Spanish language Christmas carols sung by members of the choral group Puerto Rico Sings, spritely jigs by the Scotia Country Dancers, and folk dances by the New York Estonian Educational Society will be presented at the General Motors building.

Parks Department men will place Christmas trees at 42nd and 59th Streets. Forty park benches will line the Avenue for those who want to sit and enjoy the events or just "people watch."

-30-

12/10/70

City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
Cultural Affairs Administration  
83 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

August Heckscher, Administrator

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880 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021  
August Heckscher, Administrator

**for release**

**IMMEDIATELY  
#559**

**For Further Information:  
Sam Samuels 360-8141**

**RECREATION DEPT. AWARDS  
BONDS TO SKELLY WINNERS**

Thirty-four City youngsters from all five boroughs have been awarded prizes of \$25 United States Savings Bonds as winners of the 1970 Skelly Contest conducted by the City Department of Recreation and the Yoo-Hoo Beverage Company during the summer.

Thousands of youngsters between the ages of six and twelve competed in the Skelly Tournament in more than 200 local Recreation Department playstreets, playgrounds and centers.

**Winners, by borough, are:**

<b>BRONX:</b>	Wilfred Andrades	1038 Tiffany Street
	Patrick Ciullo	1610 Williamsbridge Road
	Vicki Daily	2516 Tratman Avenue
	James Kerner	2328 Huges Avenue
	Anthony Lombardo	1933 Mayflower Avenue
	Chuck Taylor	2342 Ryer Avenue

<b>BROOKLYN:</b>	Brenda Fowler	921 Myrtle Avenue
	Frances Looney	3502 Avenue "S"
	Philip Peck	2883 12th Street
	Hector Perez	63 Scholes Street
	Anthony Stallings	1730 Carrol Street
	Leslie Terrell	45 Wyona Street
	Michelle Tersion	2331 West 11th Street
	Noel Torres	3 President Street
	John Tullo	934 52nd Street
	Harry Williams	162 Saratoga Avenue

<b>MANHATTAN:</b>	Jose Barrete	1017 FDR Drive
	Cathy Bennett	128 East 98th Street
	Victor Berenguer	349 East 76th Street
	Hidal Fou	521 West 135th Street
	Donald Lauritsen	661 West 180th Street
	Louis Maldonado	182 South Street
	Israel Ramirez	426 West 27th Street
	Jack Stone	59 Morningside Avenue

**-more-**

2 -2 -2 -2 -2 -2

QUEENS: Cheryl Brooks

Brenda Burke  
Jimmy Cannella  
Stephen Dames  
Nathaniel Greene  
Howard Klein  
Kenneth Molinari  
Olivia Vargas

41-08 Vernon Boulevard, Long Island  
City

40-25 Lawrence Street, Flushing

220 Sunnyside Avenue, Brooklyn

41-08 43rd Street, Sunnyside

174-11 128 Avenue, Jamaica

65-54 Parsons Boulevard, Flushing

93-15 107 Street, Richmond Hill

94-40 210 Street, Queens Village

RICHMOND:

Barbara Ambler  
Jimmy Schaeffer

245 Hart Boulevard

239 Jefferson Street

12/11/70

City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
Cultural Affairs Administration  
200 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021  
August Heckscher, Administrator

for release

IMMEDIATELY  
#560

For Further Information:  
Sam Samuels 360-8141

PHOTO TIP

PRE-SCHOOL XMAS PARTIES  
PLANNED FOR QUEENS

The City Department of Recreation is sponsoring 31 Christmas parties for pre-school children in Queens (ages 4 to 6) enrolled in the Department's pre-school programs. There will be poetry recitals, games, refreshments brought by mothers and, of course, a visit from Santa Claus.

Some party dates and locations are:

Wednesday, 12/16

Crocheron Park, 214th St. and 35th Ave., Bayside, 10 a.m.

Kissena Park, 164th St. and Oak, Flushing, noon

Thursday, 12/17

Jackson Pond, 108th St. and Myrtle Ave., Richmond Hill, 10 a.m.

Kissena Park, noon

Friday, 12/18

Jackson Pond, 10 a.m.

Lost Battalion Hall, 93-29 Queens Blvd., Rego Park, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Kissena, noon

Monday, 12/21

Grover Cleveland Park, Grandview and Stanhope Aves., Ridgewood, 11 a.m.

Tuesday, 12/22

Grover Cleveland Park, 1 p.m.

Cunningham Park, 193rd St. and Union Tnpk., Flushing, 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
Cultural Affairs Administration  
100 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

August Heckscher, Administrator

**for release**

**IMMEDIATELY  
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**PHOTO TIP**

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Cultural Affairs Administration  
10 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

August Heckscher, Administrator

for release

IMMEDIATELY

For Further Information:  
Sam Samuels 360-8141

#561

# YOUNGSTERS TO THROW BEETHOVEN

## A PARTY IN CENTRAL PARK WED.

Beethoven's 200th birthday will be celebrated with a brass band, birthday cake and a chorus singing "Happy Birthday" at the Beethoven Monument in Central Park on Wednesday (December 16) at 3 p.m.

Twenty-eight students from Lincoln Square Academy will gather around the monument, opposite the 72nd Street Bandshell in Central Park, for a party to celebrate the 200th anniversary of Ludwig Von Beethoven's birth.

The celebration, conceived by Mrs. Patricia Window-Klein, a teacher at the Academy, was planned with the cooperation of the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Administration (PRCA).

A small brass band from the Manhattan School of Music will play and children from the Metropolitan Opera Children's Chorus will lead the group in singing "Happy Birthday, Mr. Beethoven." A large birthday cake, donated by London Records, will be served.

With assistance from Parks Department personnel, the students will wash and polish the 17'2" bronze bust and marble pedestal, so that Beethoven will be in top condition for his party.

"I'm certainly pleased that these young New Yorkers are gathering around a park monument and using it as a focal point for a celebration to honor this great composer," PRCA Administrator August Heckscher said. "The monument was a gift to the City, and, as such, should be enjoyed by the people," Heckscher, who will attend the party, added.

The Parks Department maintains two monuments to the German composer. The one in Central Park was presented to the City by the Beethoven Mannerchoir on its 25th anniversary, July 22, 1884. Ten years later, a second monument was erected in Prospect Park, Brooklyn, as a gift by the United German Singers of Brooklyn. Henry Baerer sculpted both pieces.

12/11/70

City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
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Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

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Parks, Recreation and  
Cultural Affairs Administration  
Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

August Heckscher, Administrator

**for release**

IMMEDIATELY

#561-A

For Further Information:  
Sam Samuels - 360-8141

**HECKSCHER PLEASED BY SETTLEMENT**

**ON ROAD IMPROVEMENTS IN DOUGLASTON**

August Heckscher, Bayside-Little Neck-Douglaston Task Force chairman, today said he was "very pleased" by the settlement reached yesterday whereby the City Transportation Administration will carefully study and evaluate the necessity and desirability of improving 38th Drive and 39th Avenue after 41st Avenue is improved in Douglaston.

Heckscher noted: "I think this agreement reflects the Transportation Administration's recognition of the concern of the community and the community's recognition of the need for some road improvements. The community and my Task Force will be involved in the evaluation and decisions which will be reached."

In a settlement reached yesterday before Supreme Court Justice Leo Brown, the Transportation Administration said it would proceed with construction of 41st Avenue. Actual work will begin around April 1, 1971, and should be completed by June 1 of the same year. Some temporary patch-work on 41st Avenue will be done immediately so the road will be more passable during the winter.

During the 60 days following the completion of the work, the Administration added, it will assess the traffic patterns and, after consultation with Heckscher and the community, reach a decision on work on 38th Drive and 39th Avenue.

In view of this action by the Transportation Administration, the Douglaston Civic Association withdrew its court action seeking to enjoin the City from working on any of the three roads.

Heckscher, who is the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Administrator, added: "I would like to thank Transportation Administrator Constantine Sidamon-Eristoff for the concern about the community's interests he has demonstrated throughout our talks. Working through the Task Force, the community was involved in the negotiations on this difficult problem."

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August Heckscher, Administrator

**for release**

IMMEDIATELY  
#562

For Further Information:  
Sam Samuels 360-8141

PRESS CONFERENCE SET TO MUSIC  
TO ANNOUNCE NEW YEAR'S PARTY

Commissioner of Cultural Affairs Dore Schary will hold a press conference ringing with bells to officially announce plans for the City's "Ring in the New Year" Party in Central Park on New Year's Eve.

DATE: Tuesday, December 15.

TIME: 2:30 p.m.

PLACE: 2nd Floor Conference Room  
The Arsenal  
830 Fifth Avenue

Schary will exhibit and ring some 30 different types of bells as he discusses plans for the party, which will take its theme from the ancient tradition of ringing bells at festive occasions. Many varieties of bells-- including Indian, cow, New Year's and religious bells -- will be demonstrated at the conference.

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12/11/70

City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
Cultural Affairs Administration  
800 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021  
August Heckscher, Administrator

**for release**

IMMEDIATELY  
P.M.s Mon. Dec. 14, 1970  
#563

For Further Information:  
Sam Samuels 360-8141

**PRCA ASKS \$76.5 MILLION IN NEXT BUDGET  
CITES OPENING OF NEW FACILITIES, ECONOMIES**

The Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Administration this afternoon (Mon.) submitted a 1971-72 Expense Budget request of \$76,464,155, which "reflects both our need for additional personnel and equipment for new facilities, as well as a recognition of the financial crisis facing New York and all major cities of the nation," according to PRCA Administrator August Heckscher.

Heckscher pointed out that some \$3.3 million in additional funds will be needed for personnel "to man new facilities we will be opening during the coming fiscal year, or facilities which, through repair and rehabilitation, we will be re-opening to the public." This includes playgrounds, parks, swimming pools, ballfields, a senior citizen center and a recreation center.

Some \$1.2 million in additional funds will be needed for mandated salary increases and \$600,000 for repairs and replacement of equipment caused by vandalism, Heckscher added.

While the request figure is \$6,563,380 over PRCA's present modified budget of \$69,900,775, Heckscher noted the sum is less than half the increase his agency asked for last year.

In a statement submitted with his request at the Bureau of the Budget's headquarters in the Municipal Building, Heckscher said:

"I am submitting for your consideration and approval, the Parks,

-more-

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Recreation and Cultural Affairs Administration's Expense Budget request for the 1971-72 fiscal year. Amounting to \$76,464,155, it reflects both our need for additional personnel and equipment for new facilities, as well as a recognition of the financial crisis facing New York and all major cities of the nation.

"This total is \$6,563,380 over our present modified Budget of \$69,900,775. However, this is less than half the increase we asked for last year. Last December, we asked for a 1970-71 Budget which was some \$13.5 million over the 1969-70 modified Budget.

"The largest part of our request for increased funds, some \$3.3 million, will be needed for personnel to man new facilities we will be opening during the coming fiscal year, or facilities which, through repair and rehabilitation, we will be re-opening to the public. This includes many playgrounds, parks, swimming pools, ballfields, a senior citizen center and a recreation center.

"Some \$1.2 million is needed to meet mandated salary increases, including those resulting from collective bargaining agreements. Some \$600,000 is required for repairs and replacement of equipment caused by vandalism. The remainder is for other than personal services. This reflects the need for equipment and supplies for our new facilities as well as increases in the prices of our normal supplies.

"While we fully recognize the financial problems of our City, we hope you will take into consideration the fact that PRCA has already felt heavily the effects of Budget curtailments and belt tightening. This includes reductions in Budget requests, job freezes, budget modifications and reductions in programs. We have carefully

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reexamined and analyzed all our operations and have been extremely conservative in estimating our needs.

"Through improved management and greater output by our personnel, we have been working to maintain our level of performance. This Budget request--modest when viewed against our requirements-- will enable us to continue the programs and services the public expects and which the public needs."

-30-

12/14/70



City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
Cultural Affairs Administration  
830 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

August Heckscher, Administrator

**for release**

IMMEDIATELY  
P.M.s Mon. Dec. 14, 1970  
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For Further Information:  
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12/14/70

City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
Cultural Affairs Administration  
830 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

August Heckscher, Administrator

**for release**

IMMEDIATELY  
\$564

For Further Information:  
Sam Samuels 360-8141

P R E S S   A D V I S O R Y

MAYOR TO LIGHT CHRISTMAS TREE  
AT CITY HALL PARK THURSDAY

Mayor Lindsay will officially mark the start of the City's  
holiday season when he lights the City's Christmas tree on Thursday.

DATE: THURS., DEC. 17

TIME: 5 p.m.

PLACE: CITY HALL PARK

Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Administrator August Heckscher will be master of ceremonies. The program will include brief speeches by the Mayor and Manhattan Borough President Percy E. Sutton and songs by the All City High School Chorus. The program was arranged by the Department of Cultural Affairs, headed by Commissioner Dore Schary.

-30-

12/14/70

City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
Cultural Affairs Administration  
830 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021  
August Heckscher, Administrator

**for release**

IMMEDIATELY  
\$564

For Further Information:  
Sam Samuels 360-8141

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12/14/70

City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
Cultural Affairs Administration  
830 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

Arrest Heckscher, Administrator

**for release**

**TO: STATION MANAGERS  
PUBLIC SERVICE DIRECTORS  
ANNOUNCERS**

**FROM: SAM SAMUELS, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC INFORMATION, 360-8141**

**RE: NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY IN CENTRAL PARK**

There's a fast growing tradition in New York City--a New Year's Eve party at Bethesda Fountain in Central Park. I'm enclosing a press release to fill you in on details of this year's celebration.

I am also enclosing copy for three 30-second public service announcements, which I hope you will consider and use as frequently as possible.

Of course you are free to change the copy as you wish, or to use the copy and release as the basis for your own announcements. If you need an additional information or would like to set up special arrangements (such as having Cultural Affairs Commissioner Dore Schary tape the announcements or setting up interviews with the Commissioner), please give me a call.

I realize you normally like more advanced time, but I hope we can count on your cooperation in making this a festive time for all.

City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
Cultural Affairs Administration  
830 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

**for release**

FROM: **SAM SAMUELS** 360-8141  
August Hecton, Jr., Administration

**NEW YEAR'S PARTY IN CENTRAL PARK-1**

**30-SECONDS**

There's a new tradition developing in New York City--celebrating New Year's Eve in Central Park.

There will be music, dancers, decorations, lights and fireworks--the only time of the year you can see fireworks in Central Park.

This year's theme is "Ring in the New Year" and everyone is invited to bring...or wear...a bell.

The celebration will start at 11 p.m. and run until 1 a.m. It will take place at Bethesda Fountain at 72nd Street in the center of Central Park. Everyone is welcomed to join together at this free City party to say goodbye to 1970 and hello to '71.

This announcement from the City Department of Cultural Affairs was presented as a public service.

-30-

City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
Cultural Affairs Administration  
830 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

**for release**

August Heckscher, Administrator

**FROM: SAM SAMUELS 360-8141**

**NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY IN CENTRAL PARK--2**

Want to be part of a crowd on New Year's Eve but one that's different from Times Square? Then join the party at Central Park's Bethesda Fountain.

There will be music, dancers, decorations, lights and fireworks. The theme is "Ring in the New Year," so bring bells to ring or wear.

It's a free City party from 11 p.m. to 1 a. m. at Bethesda Fountain, 72nd Street, in the center of Central Park.

This announcement from the City Department of Cultural Affairs was presented as a public service.

-30-

12/17/70



City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
Cultural Affairs Administration  
830 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

August Heckscher, Administrator

**for release**

**FROM: SAM SAMUELS 360-8141**

**NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY IN CENTRAL PARK--3**

Bells have been a form of celebration through the ages and this year, bells are the theme of a gigantic New Year's Eve celebration in Central Park.

There will be music, dancers, decorations, lights and fireworks--the only time of the year you can see fireworks in Central Park.

It's a party by the City and it's free. Everyone is encouraged to bring a bell to help ring out 1970 and welcome 1971.

The party will be at the Bethesda Fountain at 72nd Street in the center of Central Park and will run from 11 p.m. to 1 a.m.

This announcement from the City Department of Cultural Affairs was presented as a public service.

-30-

12/17/70

City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
Cultural Affairs Administration  
830 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

August Heckscher, Administrator

**for release**

**IMMEDIATELY  
#565**

**For Further Information:  
Sam Samuels 360-8141**

**'EYE OPENER' IS A VISUAL TREAT  
FOR YOUNGSTERS THIS HOLIDAY**

During this Christmas vacation, youngsters and adults can share a holiday treat and explore the City's mobile visual exhibit "Eye Opener," which will be at Stuyvesant Oval in Manhattan through Dec. 31.

Presented by the City Department of Cultural Affairs and the Metropolitan Museum of Art, through a contribution from the Billy Rose Foundation, "Eye Opener" is especially designed to awaken young people to the art which exists in the world around them.

"During this holiday time, we are especially happy to have "Eye Opener" visit one of our communities. It certainly will be a visual treat," Cultural Affairs Commissioner Dore Schary said.

"Eye Opener" is housed in a 40-foot flatbed trailer which is covered by a double-walled air structure. The Spiral Show inside is built around spiral forms common in nature, everyday objects, and works of art.

The exhibition features a four-minute film, a fingerprint wall, a 24-inch Kalliroscope by Paul Matisee and two continuous slide shows.

Big Brothers of New York City, a non-profit social work organization, in cooperation with Stuyvesant Town, owned and operated by Metropolitan Life Insurance Co., are the local neighborhood hosts.

Young boys from Big Brothers, assisted by Museum staff members,

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~~will~~ will guide other youngsters through the exhibit daily, except Sunday, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. On Sundays the exhibit will be open from noon to 6 p.m. "Eye Opener" will be closed on Christmas Day.

The "Eye Opener" trailer is transported to the different communities through a contribution of the F. & M. Schaefer Brewing Company.

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12/14/70

City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
Cultural Affairs Administration  
830 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021  
August Heckscher, Administrator

**for release**

566

**TO: STATION MANAGERS  
PUBLIC SERVICE DIRECTORS  
ANNOUNCERS**

**FROM: SAM SAMUELS, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC INFORMATION, 360-8141**

**RE: NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY IN CENTRAL PARK**

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City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
Cultural Affairs Administration  
830 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

**for release**

FROM: SAM SAMUELS 360-8141

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There will be music, dancers, decorations, lights and fireworks--the only time of the year you can see fireworks in Central Park.

This year's theme is "Ring in the New Year" and everyone is invited to bring...or wear...a bell.

The celebration will start at 11 p.m. and run until 1 a.m. It will take place at Bethesda Fountain at 72nd Street in the center of Central Park. Everyone is welcomed to join together at this free City party to say goodbye to 1970 and hello to '71.

This announcement from the City Department of Cultural Affairs was presented as a public service.

-30-

City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
Cultural Affairs Administration  
830 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

**for release**

Assistant Heckscher, Administrator

**FROM: SAM SAMUELS 360-8141**

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12/17/70

City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
Cultural Affairs Administration  
830 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

Armin Heckscher, Administrator

**for release**

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12/17/70

City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
Cultural Affairs Administration  
830 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021  
August Heckscher, Administrator

for release

IMMEDIATELY  
#566

For Further Information:  
Sam Samuels 360-8141

**'RING IN THE NEW YEAR' PARTY  
ANNOUNCED FOR CENTRAL PARK**

Central Park will ring with bells and music and light up with a midnight display of fireworks as part of the active celebration of the City's fourth annual New Year's Eve Party at Bethesda Fountain in Central Park.

Officially announcing plans for the New Year's Eve Party at a press conference today (December 15), Commissioner of Cultural Affairs Dore Schary explained that the party, to be held from 11 p.m. to 1 a.m., will be part of the City's Holiday Festival.

"The theme of this year's party is 'Ring in the New Year' and we want to invite everyone to join in this ancient tradition of ringing bells at festive occasions," Commissioner Schary explained. "Wear bells, ring bells and even make your own bells and bring them to Central Park this New Year's Eve," he said while demonstrating a number of the different bells which will decorate the Fountain for the party.

WNEW-FM personality Zacherly will emcee the party while Olatunji and His Drums of Passion provide the music which will keep everyone dancing.

At midnight, a spectacular display of fireworks will light up the sky above Central Park Lake to usher in 1971. This is the only time during the year fireworks are permitted in the Park.

Commissioner Schary called the party an "active celebration"

-more-



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because "people will be needed to participate in and create the activities at the party." Dancers, decorated in bells and long capes, will weave through the crowd encouraging guests to join them. A large communal instrument is being designed for everyone to play. Large inflatable forms will float in the Fountain and can be bounced around by the guests. The Bread and Puppet Theater will perform.

WABC-TV is producing a special color film collage, which will highlight events of 1970, on one of several white projection screens hung from surrounding trees. Films showing the Fountain area and a slide show will also be featured.

The Fountain area will be decorated in the festival mood with blinker lights lining the edge of the Lake, balloons, a canopy of light strung above the Fountain and a huge display of bells donated by the Bells of Sarna. Phoenix House is creating silver milar wind socks for the two flag poles.

Hot wine punch and rum cider and other holiday beverages will be sold by Restaurant Associates.

"Parks are used by so many people for celebrations during the year, it is therefore very fitting to have a New Year's Eve Party in the park to close this year and usher in a new one," Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Administrator August Heckscher said.

Parks Department personnel will help set up the decorations and other facilities for the party. Both the Park and Cultural Affairs Departments are part of the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Administration.

City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
Cultural Affairs Administration  
830 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

August Heckscher, Administrator

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City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
Cultural Affairs Administration  
830 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

August Heckscher, Administrator

For Further Information:  
Sam Samuels 360-8141

**for release**

IMMEDIATELY  
#567

**V.I.P. PROGRAM GIVES CHRISTMAS TREES  
TO ACTIVE COMMUNITY PARK GROUPS**

Christmas trees will sparkle in parks and playgrounds throughout the City this season as an offshoot of the City Department of Parks' Volunteers-In-Parks Program.

The V.I.P. Program is giving over a dozen trees to communities which cleaned and spruced up their neighborhood parks and lots in cooperation with the V.I.P. Program, and requested the trees.

In Manhattan, the trees will be at:

Attorney Playground, between Stanton and Rivington Sts.

(Given to "Right on!," a group of young Puerto Ricans who cleaned up and held weekly parties last summer at the playground)

Vest-pocket Park on 3rd St. between Aves. C. & D. (Third Street Park Committee)

Vest-pocket Park on Rutgers St. ("It's Time" group)  
West 21st St., Chelsea ("Compass" a drug rehabilitation program)  
Park at 50th St. and 11th Ave. ("Environment" group)  
PS 28, Harlem, 475 W. 155 St.  
Garden at 127th St. bet. Lenox & Fifth Aves. (Golden Star Senior Citizens)  
Vest Pocket Park at 115th St. & Madison Ave. (Young Devils group)

In Brooklyn, trees will be at:  
Triangle at Union, Metropolitan & Meeker Aves., Williamsburg, Brooklyn ("Education Action" group)  
396 South 3rd St., Williamsburg, Brooklyn (History, Art & Art Den)

12/15/70

City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
Cultural Affairs Administration  
830 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

for release

IMMEDIATELY  
#567

August Heckscher, Administrator

For Further Information:  
Sam Samuels 360-8141

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12/15/70

City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
Cultural Affairs Administration  
830 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

August Heckscher, Administrator

for release

IMMEDIATELY  
#568

For Further Information:  
Sam Samuels 360-8141

MAYOR LIGHTS CHRISTMAS TREE  
OFFICIALLY OPENING HOLIDAY SEASON

Mayor John V. Lindsay officially opened the 1970 holiday season in New York City when he flicked the switch to light the Christmas tree in City Hall Park at 5 p.m. this afternoon (Thurs., Dec. 17).

The All City High School Chorus sang Christmas carols at the ceremony and Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Administrator August Heckscher was the master of ceremonies.

Manhattan Borough President Percy Sutton brought holiday greetings to New Yorkers and Mayor Lindsay gave a Christmas message before lighting the tree.

The 55-foot high Canadian spruce placed in front of City Hall glimmers with 450 blue, green and white lights, large red balls, shimmering mirrors and 35 hand-decorated silver globes. The globes were decorated with colored tape, sequins and paper disks by 12 elementary school children of the New York City Creative Arts Workshop at the Alfred E. Smith Recreation Center, 80 Catherine St., Manhattan. The Center and program are operated by PRCA.

The City Hall tree is one of 30 Christmas trees put up throughout the five boroughs by PRCA. The trees were selected by a PRCA representative and shipped here from Coaticook, Quebec. They are all Canadian spruces and range in size from 20 feet to 55 feet and decorate borough halls, city buildings and parks throughout the City.

Official tree lighting ceremonies also took place this afternoon in the Bronx, Brooklyn, Queens and Staten Island. The trees in Joyce Kilmer Park, the Bronx, and at the Borough Halls in Brooklyn, Queens and Staten Island were lit at the same time Mayor Lindsay lit the City Hall tree.

City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
Cultural Affairs Administration  
830 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

August Heckscher, Administrator

**for release**

IMMEDIATELY  
#568

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Sam Samuels 360-8141

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The All City High School Chorus sang Christmas carols at the ceremony and Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Administrator August Heckscher was the master of ceremonies.

Manhattan Borough President Percy Sutton brought holiday greetings to New Yorkers and Mayor Lindsay gave a Christmas message before lighting the tree.

The 55-foot high Canadian spruce placed in front of City Hall glimmers with 450 blue, green and white lights, large red balls, shimmering mirrors and 35 hand-decorated silver globes. The globes were decorated with colored tape, sequins and paper disks by 12 elementary school children of the New York City Creative Arts Workshop at the Alfred E. Smith Recreation Center, 80 Catherine St., Manhattan. The Center and program are operated by PRCA.

The City Hall tree is one of 30 Christmas trees put up throughout the five boroughs by PRCA. The trees were selected by a PRCA representative and shipped here from Coaticook, Quebec. They are all Canadian spruces and range in size from 20 feet to 55 feet and decorate borough halls, city buildings and parks throughout the City.

Official tree lighting ceremonies also took place this afternoon in the Bronx, Brooklyn, Queens and Staten Island. The trees in Joyce Kilmer Park, the Bronx, and at the Borough Halls in Brooklyn, Queens and Staten Island were lit at the same time Mayor Lindsay lit the City Hall tree.

City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
Cultural Affairs Administration  
830 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

August Heckscher, Administrator

**for release**

**IMMEDIATELY  
#569**

**For Further Information:  
Sam Samuels 360-8141**

**LIONEL HAMPTON, SESAME STREET CAST  
TO ENTERTAIN HEADSTART YOUNGSTERS  
AT CHRISTMAS PARTY THIS FRIDAY**

Santa Claus will share the spotlight with members of the cast of "Sesame Street," the award-winning children's television program, Lionel Hampton and his Orchestra and the Off-Center Children's Theatre at a Christmas party on Friday (Dec. 18) for more than 2,600 youngsters from Project Headstart program in all five boroughs.

The party, from 10:45 a.m. to noon, will be at the Apollo Theatre, 253 West 125th Street, Manhattan.

The entertainment program has been arranged by the City Department of Cultural Affairs, co-sponsor of the party with the Division of Headstart Services and Sesame Street Productions.

-30-

12/16/70



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Cultural Affairs Administration  
830 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

August Heckscher, Administrator

**for release**

**IMMEDIATELY  
#570**

**For Further Information:  
Sam Samuels 360-8141**

**CHRISTMAS AND CHANUKAH TO BE CELEBRATED  
AT THIRD HOLIDAY FESTIVAL ON FIFTH AVE.**

Dylan Thomas' poem "A Child's Christmas in Wales" and Hebrew folk songs and dances heralding Chanukah will highlight the City's Third Holiday Festival this Sunday (Dec. 20) from 2 to 5 p.m. on carless Fifth Avenue.

As on the two previous Sundays, the City Department of Cultural Affairs will present programs from 2 to 4 p.m. on the steps of the New York Public Library at 42nd Street and the General Motors Plaza at 59th Street.

Chanukah will be celebrated by folksinger Bill Johnson, who will sing Hebrew and Yiddish folk songs at the General Motors Plaza at 2 p.m. and by the YM-YWHA Israeli Folkdance group at 2:30 p.m. at the New York Public Library.

The Little Theater of the Deaf will dramatize Dylan Thomas' narrative poem at 2:30 p.m. at the General Motors Plaza. Four young, deaf actors and actresses will act in mime while the selection is read.

Other entertainment planned for the steps of the Public Library are a 2 p.m. performance of Russian folkdances by "YULA," a group of young Russian students, and a concert by the Staten Island Community Band at 3 p.m.

At the General Motors Plaza following Bill Johnson and the Little Theater of the Deaf, the "YULA" group will perform at 3 p.m.

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12/18/70

City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
Cultural Affairs Administration  
830 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

August Heckscher, Administrator

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Parks, Recreation and  
Cultural Affairs Administration  
820 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

August Heckscher, Administrator

for release

IMMEDIATELY  
#572

For Further Information:  
Sam Samuels 360-8141

HECKSCHER OPPOSES PROPOSED  
CLOSINGS AT BKLYN. INSTITUTE

Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Administrator August Heckscher this morning (Sun.) called proposed closings at the Brooklyn Institute "irresponsible, uncalled for and a disservice to the public." He noted the Institute "cannot act unilaterally" in closing its doors to the public and if the Institute proceeds with its indicated plans, "we shall take appropriate action."

Heckscher pointed out that the City allocated \$2,252,000 to the Brooklyn Institute in its current Expense Budget, of which only \$76,000 is currently being reduced. "I think it is apparent to all that a three per cent reduction should not cause the mass closings indicated by the Institute," he added.

The PRCA head issued a statement as there were reports that the Institute's leadership would be making announcements on closings later in the day.

Heckscher's statement follows:

"I have been informed that this afternoon, the Brooklyn Institute will announce the closing of some of its facilities. The magnitude of this anticipated action is irresponsible, uncalled for and a disservice to the public.

"The Brooklyn Institute was allocated \$2,252,000 in the City's 1970-71 Expense Budget. The recently-announced reduction of \$76,000, therefore, represents a cut of only three per cent. While I in no way want to under emphasize the problem this reduction will have, I think it is apparent to all that a three per cent reduction should not cause the mass closings anticipated.

"PRCA, as well as other agencies of the City, has made sacrifices in performance and programs because of the economic conditions affecting the nation and all large city governments. It was only after other aspects of PRCA activities were sharply reduced that we reluctantly had to allocate budget reductions to many of the cultural institutions which receive City assistance through our agency. We carefully analyzed all operations and the impact cuts would have. The sum reduced at the Brooklyn Institute is half the figure which was first proposed.

"Obviously, budget reductions will mean reductions in some programs. The decision on how the \$76,000 would be applied within the operations and departments of the Institute was left to the Institute itself. The City, therefore, is not proposing to close

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doors or cut certain personnel. The Institute has proposed the most dramatic way to apply these reductions, without regard to program or effects on the general public.

"We will not allow this to happen. The Institute has various contractual agreements with the City regarding keeping its doors open to the public. The Institute cannot act unilaterally in this area. If it does, we shall take appropriate action.

"It is my hope that instead of working to frighten or inflame the public, the Institute would work with us on ways in which these necessary reductions can be made with the least effect on the Institute's service to the public. It is toward this end that I feel the Institute should be directing itself."

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830 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

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830 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

August Heckscher, Administrator

for release

IMMEDIATELY

#574

For Further Information:

Sam Samuels 360-8141

SEASONAL MUSIC ADDED TO REPERTOIRE

AT DELACORTE CENTRAL PARK ZOO CLOCK

The sculptured animals on guard duty on top of the Delacorte Clock on the arch between the Central Park Zoo and Children's Zoo will be dancers to Christmas music until the turn of the year.

The Christmas and winter tunes will be tinkling on the hour and half-hour, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day.

Special seasonal tapes are alternated periodically to the more than 20 nursery rhyme tunes played by the clock.

The tunes were selected by George T. Delacorte, Jr., philanthropist and founder of Dell Publishing Company, who donated the clock to the City.

The musical menagerie of the bronze sculpture includes animated monkeys who take turns telling the hours by striking a bell with hammers while below them circles an orchestra of six pirouetting animals playing instruments familiar to the thousands of children and adults who congregate each day to enjoy the performances.

A dignified penguin drums a tattoo on a kettle drum strung across his chest, head averted to listen to the notes that float from a pair of flutes tootled by a high-stepping kid.

A bear throws his head up and flings back his arm as he prepares to trail his nails over a loosely-clutched tamborine.

An elephant stretches out his leg almost as far as the accordion he dandles between his hooves and joins in with his own trumpet.

A kangaroo sits upright, devoting herself to serious concentration on her brass horn while her youngster sticks his head out of her pouch to blow a few hot licks on his own horn.

And a hippopotamus, posturing as though he were on the concert stage, dreamily draws his bow across his violin.

12/21/70



City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
Cultural Affairs Administration  
830 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

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830 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

August Heckscher, Administrator

**For Further Information:**

**Sam Samuels 360-8141**

**for release**

**IMMEDIATELY**

**#574**

**HECKSCHER SAYS HALL OF SCIENCE**

**WILL REMAIN OPEN UNTIL JUNE**

The Hall of Science in Flushing Meadows-Corona Park will not be closing until June, when construction of new facilities will launch a program of portable programs, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Administrator August Heckscher has explained.

Heckscher issued a statement to clarify the situation, following reports that the Hall might have to close during the winter.

In his statement, Heckscher said:

"I am concerned that many people may be unclear about what will be happening at the Hall of Science during the massive construction program which will begin this summer.

"To begin with, the Hall will not be closing until the end of June. While the Hall of Science, as well as every other cultural institution in the City, is currently facing financial difficulties, I am very glad that the directors and administrators of the Hall have reached decisions which will allow this wonderful facility to remain open through the end of the current school year.

"The nature and scope of the construction program, which will last some two and a half years, is such that the existing buildings cannot remain open to the general public during the construction period. But, here again, the leadership of the Hall of Science has developed alternate programs which will allow its valuable programs to continue. The Hall will be operating portable units which will be placed throughout the City.

"Details of this program will be announced by the Hall of Science as soon as they are completed.

"While the closing will cause some interruptions in service, I am sure we will all take joy in the enlarged and improved Hall of Science complex once it is completed."

12/21/70

City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
Cultural Affairs Administration  
830 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

August Heckscher, Administrator  
**For Further Information:**  
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City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
Cultural Affairs Administration  
839 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

August Heckscher, Administrator

**for release**

**For Further Information:**  
**Sam Samuels 360-8141**

**IMMEDIATELY**  
**#575**

**HECKSCHER REPORTS ON IMPROVEMENTS  
COMPLETED IN PROSPECT PARK IN 1970**

A special Parks Department horticultural task force has been working in the Tea Garden and Wollman Memorial Skating Rink sections of Prospect Park, relandscaping and replanting eroded areas, as part of several beautification projects completed in 1970 in the Park. This is the report issued today by August Heckscher, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Administrator and Commissioner of Parks.

In a year-end report, Heckscher said:

"The maintenance and improvement of Prospect Park is of prime concern to my agency, as well as many elected officials and the residents of Brooklyn. I have had several meetings with City Councilman Thomas J. Cuite, who has expressed his deep interest in the Park and who has been extremely helpful in achieving the necessary approvals for many projects underway in the Park. I have also assured Councilman Cuite that although there are several individual projects scheduled, we regard these operations as part of a continuing rehabilitation and improvement program.

"Six months ago, on a visit to the Park, I directed that special emphasis be given to repairing eroded areas. Now I am pleased to announce that we not only have a special horticulture task force whose sole job it is to work on replanting and regrading the landscape, but that two areas, the hillside between the Tea Garden and Breeze Hill and the area around the Wollman Memorial Skating Rink, have been repaired and replanted.

"The eight-man task force will work through the winter and next spring in other areas of the Park, restoring lawns, working on badly eroded hillsides and replanting.

"Three other projects were completed this year in the Park. PRCA men realigned walls, replaced damaged structural supports and put a new roof on the lake shelter, the only wooden shelter in Prospect Park, located on the south side of the Lake, near the Wollman Skating Rink."

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The Well House, the oldest building in Prospect Park, has also been improved, with a new roof, paint job and repaired windows and doors. On the northwest side of Prospect Park Lake, it is the last remaining building of those designed by Calvert Vaux, who, with Frederick Law Olmsted, designed the Park.

Lastly, Heckscher noted, a gift from the Parks Council enabled PRCA to purchase new plantings for the outside of Litchfield Mansion, including azelia, taxus, new hedges and dogwood plantings.

Heckscher also pointed out that in October, PRCA awarded a \$1,010,600 contract for the rehabilitation of the exterior of the Proposed Park Boathouse. Preliminary work on the project has begun. It is scheduled to be completed in 1972.

-30-

12/23/70

City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
Cultural Affairs Administration  
220 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

August Heckscher, Administrator

**for release**

**For Further Information:**  
**Sam Samuels 360-8141**

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830 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

**for release**

IMMEDIATELY  
#576

August Heckscher, Administrator

For Further Information:  
Sam Samuels 360-8141

**YOUNGER SET WILL ENTERTAIN  
AT FOURTH HOLIDAY FESTIVAL  
ON FIFTH AVENUE THIS SUNDAY**

Youngsters from the Bronx, Queens and Manhattan will be the featured performers of the entertainment program for the City's fourth Holiday Festival along traffic-free Fifth Avenue this Sunday (Dec. 27).

As it did during the past three Sundays, the City's Cultural Affairs Department will be in charge of entertainment programs presented on the steps of the New York Public Library at 42nd Street and the General Motors Plaza at 58th Street. This Sunday, a group will also be riding mini-trains along the Avenue.

Fifth Avenue will be closed to traffic from 34th to 59th Streets from 2 to 5 p.m.

Forty youngsters from Co-Op City in the Bronx, ranging from 7 to 17 years old, will present "Christmas Across the Continent" on the Library steps at 2 p.m. The original revue will feature an African Christmas candle ceremony, and interpretive poetry, music and dancing. Fredrica Payne, the 23-year-old director of the program, worked with the City at "The People, Yes!" festival.

Members of a lively steel band, "Pan Am 99th Street Jets" will beat out Caribbean rhythms on huge steel drums as they ride up and down Fifth Avenue on mini-trains. The band is composed of 25 boys and girls ranging from 11 to 17 years old.

A group of youngsters from the St. Albans' Children's Choir in Queens will sing Christmas carols on the Library steps at 3 p.m.

Three traditional folk dance troupes will entertain during the afternoon. The Lithuanian Folk Dance Ensemble will perform at General Motors at 2 p.m. and at the Library at 3:30 p.m. The Matusz Polish Dance Circle and the Scotia Country Dancers will perform at the General Motors Building at 3 p.m. and 3:30 p.m.

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Parks, Recreation and  
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830 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

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Parks, Recreation and  
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830 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

August Heckscher, Administrator

for release

IMMEDIATELY

#577

For Further Information:

Sam Samuels 360-8141

NEW DESIGNS TO BE DRAWN  
FOR MACLAUGHLIN PARK

Design plans for Ruth MacLaughlin Park at Greystone Ave. and 238th St., the Bronx, will be altered to reduce construction cost and to speed up the project, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Administrator August Heckscher announced today.

The decision was reached at a meeting in Heckscher's office Dec. 22, attended by Richard Baldwin, president of the Greystone Avenue-Manhattan College Parkway Association, Robert Rosenberg, former Task Force Chairman in Riverdale, June Margolian, a representative from the Mayor's Task Force and other members of the Greystone Association.

The construction of the park has been delayed because the original price request was too high, so the members at the meeting decided to return the plans to the PRCA design division. After PRCA redesigns the plans to accommodate an \$80,000 cost ceiling, PRCA will submit the plans to the community for approval and then send them to the Bureau of the Budget for review.

"I can assure you that this project will be given priority in this agency," Heckscher told community members at the meeting, "and that I will make every effort to see that the park is constructed as fast as possible."

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830 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

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Design plans for Ruth MacLaughlin Park at Greystone Ave. and 238th St., the Bronx, will be altered to reduce construction cost and to speed up the project, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Administrator August Heckscher announced today.

The decision was reached at a meeting in Heckscher's office Dec. 22, attended by Richard Baldwin, president of the Greystone Avenue-Manhattan College Parkway Association, Robert Rosenberg, former Task Force Chairman in Riverdale, June Margolian, a representative from the Mayor's Task Force and other members of the Greystone Association.

The construction of the park has been delayed because the original price request was too high, so the members at the meeting decided to return the plans to the PRCA design division. After PRCA redesigns the plans to accommodate an \$80,000 cost ceiling, PRCA will submit the plans to the community for approval and then send them to the Bureau of the Budget for review.

"I can assure you that this project will be given priority in this agency," Heckscher told community members at the meeting, "and that I will make every effort to see that the park is constructed as fast as possible."

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City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
Cultural Affairs Administration  
830 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

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August Heckscher, Administrator

#578

For Further Information:  
Sam Samuels 360-8141

KISSENA CORRIDOR PARK DEVELOPMENT  
TO BE DISCUSSED AT JAN. 11 MEETING

Plans for the development of the 92-acre Kissena Corridor Park in Flushing, Queens, will be discussed at a community meeting Monday, Jan. 11, at 8 p.m. at the P.S. 120 auditorium, 58th Avenue and 136th Street, Flushing.

The Assistant Administrators for Design and for Construction of the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Administration will attend the meeting to discuss the PRCA proposal for developing the Park, located at Main Street, 56th Street, Kissena Boulevard and Golden Street.

The proposals outlined in the PRCA plan are: two jointly-operated playgrounds, pedestrian bridges, bicycle paths, rehabilitation of two existing playgrounds, a football field, a baseball field and future park development.

The architects for the J.O.P. playgrounds will be at the meeting to discuss requirements and facilities, based on community and school needs.

In addition, a representative from the School Planning and Research Division of the Board of Education will discuss a proposal for a one-acre "Living Laboratory" gardening within the Park to be used by students and community residents.

12/28/70

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For Further Information:  
Sam Samuels 360-8141

MIDNIGHT FIREWORKS DISPLAY  
TO LIGHT UP NEW YEAR'S EVE  
PARTY IN CENTRAL PARK

The new year of 1971 will be ushered in with a huge aerial display of multi-colored fireworks as the highlight of the City Department of Cultural Affairs' gigantic free New Year's Eve party around Bethesda Fountain at 72nd Street in Central Park. More than 15,000 people are expected to attend the fourth annual event.

The party will run from 11 p.m. to 1 a.m., regardless of the weather. Bethesda Fountain is in the center of Central Park, which will be closed to vehicular traffic starting at 10 p.m.

Guests are being asked to bring bells to the celebration and to shake, clang and ring them just before midnight as part of an activity called "Ring Around the Fountain."

Commissioner of Cultural Affairs Dore Schary said: "The steady firing of fireworks will climax with a grand finale that will light up the sky above Central Park Lake. This is the only time during the year when fireworks are allowed in the Park."

Flashing lights, bouncing inflatable forms, dances, television film highlights of 1970, radio personality Zacherly, drummer Olatunji, the Bread and Puppet Theatre, movies and communal instruments will add to the continual entertainment planned for the celebration.

The program for the evening is as follows:

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11 p.m. - 1 a.m.	Olatunji and His Drummers will present continual music.
11 p.m.	Marilyn Wood and Festival Dancers will perform "Dragon Dances."
11:15 p.m.	Greetings from Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Administrator August Heckscher, and Commissioner of Cultural Affairs Dore Schary.
11:30 p.m.	Bread and Puppet Theatre
Midnight	"Ring Around the Fountain" Fireworks
11 p.m. - 1 a.m.	Continual showing of films: "Images of 1970" produced and created by WABC-TV "Parties in the Movies," compiled by Christopher Steinbrunner "Films of the Fountain," by Jean Vale.

Hot wine punch and rum cider and other holiday beverages will be sold by Restaurant Associates.

-30-

12/28/70

PRESS NOTE: Press headquarters will be in a mobile trailer along the 72nd Street Transverse, at the top of the steps directly above Bethesda Fountain. Cars with press identification can enter the Park at Fifth Avenue and 72nd Street and park at the Horseshoe Oval, located west of the Fountain area on the right side of the 72nd Street Transverse.

City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
Cultural Affairs Administration  
830 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

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August Heckscher, Administrator

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#580

August Heckscher, Administrator

For Further Information:  
Sam Samuels 360-8141

SENIOR CITIZEN, JUNIOR PERMITS  
FOR CITY GOLF COURSES AVAILABLE

City residents 62 and over or 17 and younger can pick up special permits for discounts at City golf courses starting Jan. 4, the Parks Department has announced.

The permits must be obtained in person at any of the Department's five borough headquarters.

To be eligible for a senior citizen permit, a City resident must be 62 years of age or older and present some identification indicating date of birth. A passport-type photograph is also required. Those who have received such permits in the past do not have to apply for a new one since their present permits last until Dec. 31, 1972. With a permit, a senior citizen can play at any of the City's 13 golf courses on weekdays, except holidays, for \$1, rather than the normal \$2.50 fee. Four of the courses are year-round facilities.

Youngsters 17 or younger must also present proof of age and a photograph to receive a junior permit, which is good for only one year. The fee with a junior permit is 75 cents on weekdays, except holidays.

In making the announcement, August Heckscher, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Administrator, said: "We have found increased interest in golf among youngsters and our senior citizens and are pleased to offer these discounts so members of these two groups can further enjoy these City facilities."

Permits can be obtained at the following Parks Department borough headquarters:

Bronx: Bronx Park East and Birchall Avenue.

Brooklyn: Litchfield Mansion, Prospect Park West and 5th Street.

Queens: The Overlook, Forest Park, Union Turnpike and Park Lane.

Richmond: ~~Grove Lakes~~ Park, 1150 ~~Clove~~ Road.

Manhattan: The Arsenal, 830 Fifth Avenue.

-30-

12/29/70

for release

IMMEDIATELY  
#580

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Manhattan: The Arsenal, 830 Fifth Avenue.

12/29/70

City of New York  
Parks, Recreation and  
Cultural Affairs Administration  
830 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

August Heckscher, Administrator

for release

P.M.s WED., DEC. 30, 1970  
#581

For Further Information:  
Sam Samuels 360-8141

PUBLIC LIBRARY AT 42ND STREET NOTES  
OFFICIAL DESIGNATION AS LANDMARK

The Public Library at 42nd Street and Fifth Avenue "has long been a landmark in the minds of generations of New Yorkers," August Heckscher, the City's Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Administrator, said today (Wed., 11 a.m.) at a ceremony officially noting the designation of the central Public Library building as a Registered National Historic Landmark and a New York City Landmark. The ceremony was held in the Trustees Room of the library.

Heckscher noted that City funds for the three library systems in the City come out of the PRCA budget and that the Landmarks Preservation Commission, which designates City landmarks, is also part of PRCA.

In his speech, the PRCA head said:

"I am very pleased to take part in this ceremony which once again highlights the cultural and historic importance of the Public Library to the life of our City.

"I take double pride in this recognition. The City's financial contribution to this main center as well as to the New York, Brooklyn and Queens Public Library systems comes under the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Administration. Working with the officials of the libraries, their trustees and the public-spirited citizens of our City who aid these institutions, we join together to improve the educational and cultural life of the City.

"Secondly, the Landmarks Preservation Commission is also part of PRCA. We are all very proud of the outstanding work this Commission and its chairman, Harmon Goldstone, are doing to save the treasured landmarks which do so much to recall our City's great past and to point to the future.

"This Public Library has long been a landmark in the minds of generations of New Yorkers, I am glad we are holding this ceremony today to mark its official designation as a National and City landmark."

City of New York  
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830 Fifth Avenue, Central Park 10021

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P.M.s WEB., DEC. 30, 1970  
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