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GREEN SCENE Residents from NYCHA developments and surrounding neighborhoods on the Upper East Side shop at the Holmes/Isaacs Greenmarket.

Greenmarket at Holmes/Isaacs Celebrates One-Year Anniversary

By Eileen Elliott

EACH SUNDAY FOR THE PAST YEAR, THE 92ND STREET GREENMARKET ON THE CORNER OF FIRST AVENUE IN MANHATTAN HAS BROUGHT FARMERS FROM THROUGHOUT NEW YORK STATE TO SELL FRESH FRUIT AND VEGETABLES, BAKED GOODS AND JUICES TO THE RESIDENTS OF THE NEARBY HOLMES/ISSACS HOUSES AND THE SURROUNDING NEIGHBORHOOD. On a breezy July 22nd, NYCHA Chairman Tino Hernandez joined residents, as well as the City's Community Assistance Unit (CAU) Commissioner Nazli Parvizi, Greenmarket Director Michael Hurwitz, and elected officials, to celebrate the market's one-year anniversary and to announce that the 92nd Street Greenmarket is now accepting EBT, or Electronic Benefits Transfer cards.

"NYCHA is proud to be a partner in promoting healthy choices for New Yorkers," the Chairman said. "With EBT cards accepted at the Greenmarket, healthy food is even more convenient and affordable."

Commissioner Parvizi, Assembly Member Jonathan Bing, Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer, and City Council Member Dan Garodnick all had words of praise for the City's Greenmarkets and all emphasized the importance of healthy eating, especially in view of the many diseases associated with poor eating habits, such as obesity, diabetes and heart disease.

"My residents are saying it's great that it's here; it's wonderful," said long-time Isaacs Resident Association President Rose Bergin.

Sharon Martinez of the nearby Jefferson Houses was shopping with her mother, Lydia Comacho, and her three children right before the press conference. "I think the Greenmarket is very important especially for children," said Ms. Martinez. "I buy cherries, apples, peaches, carrots, onions, and broccoli." Ms. Martinez said she makes soup with vegetables and gives the children fruit for snacks.

Rhea Tabakin, who has lived on 89th Street and First Avenue since the 1960s, said she has been to the 92nd Street Greenmarket every week since it's opened. When asked what her favorite produce is, she replied, "Where do I start? It depends on the time of year. I buy all of my fruit here, all of my vegetables. I also like to

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Public Hearing for Annual Plan

By Allan Leicht

NEARLY 700 NEW YORK CITY HOUSING AUTHORITY (NYCHA) RESIDENTS, RESIDENT LEADERS, ELECTED OFFICIALS, COMMUNITY LEADERS AND OTHER INTERESTED NEW YORKERS GATHERED FOR THE PUBLIC HEARING ON NYCHA'S ANNUAL PLAN FOR 2008 IN THE GRAND BALLROOM OF THE MANHATTAN CENTER ON WEST 34TH STREET ON THE EVENING OF AUGUST 1ST. Called to order shortly after 5:30 P.M. by Deputy General Manager for Community Operations Hugh B. Spence, speakers stepped to microphones to voice comments and opinions for over two hours.

At the outset, Mr. Spence reminded everyone of the purpose of the hearing, "...to provide a venue where the public gets a final chance to make suggestions and comments. It is our turn to listen." Mr. Spence then introduced the panel on the stage: NYCHA Chairman Tino Hernandez, Vice Chairman Earl Andrews, Jr., Board Member Margarita López, General Manager Douglas Apple and New York City Police Department Housing Bureau Chief Joanne Jaffe.

The majority of speakers addressed issues of general rather than individual concern, which made for a communal, often spirited hearing. Of particular concern was housing for victims of domestic violence, raised by several members of the organization "Voices of Women." Sanitation issues at certain developments were also highlighted, as were matters of security. NYCHA's current budgetary challenge and its potential impact on residents was mentioned by many speakers in the three minutes allotted to each.

The final plan will be submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) by October 17, 2007. HUD then has 75 days in which to review and approve the plan, which will be in effect during the Calendar Year 2008.

The plan contains NYCHA's priorities for the coming year, including

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GOVERNOR ELIOT SPITZER SIGNS LOPEZ/LANZA BILL

Will Bring NYCHA Millions In Additional Funding

NEW YORK GOVERNOR ELIOT SPITZER SIGNED THE SHELTER ALLOWANCE BILL (A. 7905/S. 4329) INTO LAW ON AUGUST 15TH TO INCREASE THE SHELTER ALLOWANCE PROVIDED TO PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITIES SERVING FAMILIES ON PUBLIC ASSISTANCE. The new law will mean approximately \$47 million a year in additional dollars for the New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) by 2010, when it is fully phased in.

"Today's action by the Governor on the Shelter Allowance bill is a major win for the more than 400,000 New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) residents," said Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg in a statement. "This resolves an inequity that paid private landlords a higher shelter allowance than local housing authorities for individuals on public assistance."

NYCHA Chairman Tino Hernandez commended the Governor for signing the bill and thanked its many supporters. "I am deeply grateful to Governor Spitzer for signing the Shelter Allowance bill into law," the Chairman said. "He has made it clear to NYCHA residents that the State is part of the solution

to preserve public housing for current and future generations.

"The Governor and his staff listened to the broad coalition of concerned people headed by Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg, Assembly Member Vito Lopez and Senator Andrew Lanza, of which included City, State and Federal elected officials, labor partners, housing advocates and residents, to solve a funding problem that he inherited. Today's signing is a watershed moment for NYCHA."

The increased funding for the Housing Authority comes at a particularly crucial time, as NYCHA is facing a \$51 million deficit in the current year, which is expected to more than double in 2008.

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THE SUMMER IN PICTURES



WATCH THAT SPIN! NYCHA Chairman Tino Hernandez pitched the first ball of a minor league game on July 12th between the Staten Island Yankees and the Auburn (New York) Doubledays, at Richmond County Bank Ballpark in St. George, Staten Island. Hundreds of NYCHA summer campers from all five boroughs were among the cheering fans. The Staten Island Yankees won: 9-5. For more, see, "NYCHA Celebrates Summer," on pages 10 and 11.

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IS STARTING



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MAYOR'S MESSAGE

**Back-to-School Vaccinations:
What You Need To Know**



NEW YORK CITY SCHOOLS RE-OPEN ON SEPTEMBER 4TH THIS YEAR. Most parents of school-age children are probably already aware of the Health Department's requirement that all children receive certain vaccinations before they begin or return to school or day care. Childhood vaccinations required for school entry protect against potentially life-threatening diseases including diphtheria, tetanus, measles, mumps, rubella, polio, hepatitis B, pertussis (whooping cough) and chicken pox. Vaccinations are still the safest and most effective way to prevent childhood diseases.

All children entering school must also show proof of having received a complete medical evaluation. Children in day care, pre-K or kindergarten through the 12th grade who do not meet the immunization requirements will not be permitted to attend school. The complete list of required immunizations is available at www.nyc.gov/html/doh or by calling 311.

New Requirements for 2007-2008 School Year

The Tdap vaccine (tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis) is now a requirement for students entering the 6th grade and who are at least 11 years old. This is the first year this vaccine has been required.

Children in day care, pre-K, kindergarten through 4th grade, or 6th through 8th grades, must now have a chicken pox vaccine to attend school (4th and 8th grades were added this year). It is now recommended that all children receive two doses of the varicella vaccine to prevent chicken pox.

Where to Go to Get Your Child Immunized

Check with your child's regular doctor about the vaccines they need and make an appointment. Children who are four and older can receive the required vaccinations at Health Department walk-in immunization clinics in Manhattan, Brooklyn, and the Bronx. For locations, call 311 or visit:

nyc.gov/html/doh/html/imm/immclin.shtml

The NYC Health and Hospitals Corporation (HHC) also offers childhood immunizations at its Child Health Centers around the city. For locations, visit:

nyc.gov/html/hhc/html/community/childhealth.shtml

Update on Vaccines to Protect People of All Ages

Several new vaccines are now recommended to protect people of all ages. These include: Rotavirus vaccine to protect infants against a severe type of diarrhea, HPV (human papillomavirus) vaccine to protect girls and women (ages 9 -26 only) from the virus that causes cervical cancer; Meningococcal vaccine for adolescents; Zoster vaccine to help protect adults ages 60 and over against developing shingles.

Flu season is just around the corner. This year, anyone who wants a flu shot can get one. As always, an annual flu shot is recommended for groups at high risk including people over 50, children aged 6 months to 5 years old, pregnant women, people with chronic medical conditions and all health care workers.

You can find information about your family's immunization requirements, obtain a copy of your child's immunization record or locate the nearest immunization clinic by calling 311.

Michael R. Bloomberg

Fall Brings Many Educational Opportunities

SUMMER IS OVER AND ANOTHER SCHOOL YEAR IS BEGINNING! FALL BRINGS A NUMBER OF EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES TO NEW YORK CITY HOUSING AUTHORITY (NYCHA) RESIDENTS AND THOSE WHO LIVE IN THE SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES. Take a look at the list below to see which programs might work best for you and your children. All of the programs listed here are free of charge, and most begin in October.

New York City Early Literacy Learning

The goal of the New York City Early Literacy Learning Program (NYCELL), a collaboration between NYCHA, the Mayor's Office and the Department of Education (DOE), is to strengthen language and pre-reading skills of children between the ages of 1 and 3.9, so that they enter school ready to learn and succeed. This pilot program is being offered at five NYCHA Community Centers: the Classic Center at Melrose Houses in the Bronx; the Red Hook and Van Dyke Community Centers in Brooklyn; Rutgers in Manhattan; Hammel in Queens; and South Beach in Staten Island.

Partners in Reading

Partners in Reading is also a collaborative effort between NYCHA, the Mayor's Office and the DOE. The goal of the program is to improve the literacy skills of children ages 6, 7 and 8 years old in the first through the third grades. The program accomplishes its goal through a combination of classroom instruction, homework assistance, individual tutoring, use of interactive projects, and outreach to parents. Partners in Reading is offered at 117 community centers and at other NYCHA community facilities.

Technology Essentials at Community Housing

NYCHA has worked with FUTUREKIDS, NYC, a certified training company, to create an education and job-readiness program for youth and young adults called Technology Essential at Community Housing, or TEACH. TEACH provides access to computers and technology-based educational learning activities for post-secondary education, literacy training and GED preparation, computer preparatory courses at all levels, goal setting, and life skills and job training. This program is currently being offered at 20 NYCHA locations.

Real Journeys

Real Journeys is a comprehensive, after-school computer training program for youth, ages 8-12, in the fourth through the eighth grades, which is offered at 26 selected NYCHA community centers. Real Journeys provides access to computers and technology-based educational learning activities that teach students the proper and logical applications of

computers, and promotes computer mastery skills. Real Journeys has two important components: the "Mind Lab," which focuses on problem-solving, decision-making, mathematical thinking, memory retention, and investigative skills; and "Relate for Kids," which focuses on conflict management, presenting strategies to reduce antisocial behavior and develop empathy, self-esteem and cooperation. It is geared to elementary students.

Technology Gateway Centers

Technology Gateway Centers (TGCs) provide access to computers and technology-based educational and job preparation activities to residents of all ages. There are 20 TGCs. TGCs also provide certification training



programs for adults 18 years and older, seeking employment. TGCs offer courses and training programs in the following areas: computers, job preparation, GED exam preparation, SAT and ACT exam preparation, math and reading, and English as a Second Language.

To find out how you can enroll, or for additional information about any of these programs, call: (212) 306-3511.

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Annual Plan

(Continued from page 1)

ing efforts in Washington to stem the tide of federal funding shortfalls and the federalization of non-federal developments. The Authority will continue to emphasize the need for funding from New York State as it takes measures to lower expenses without service reductions to resi-

dents. In the coming year, the plan anticipates more sophisticated technology applied to security and public safety, like small-scale video camera systems, which have been effective in reducing crime. The much-applauded Centralized Call Center is a prominent feature of the plan for 2008, as are energy conservation and ongoing efforts to increase resident employment opportunities.

The Housing Authority Journal

73
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of Public Housing
in New York City

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CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

A Special Thanks To NYCHA's Many Supporters



ON AUGUST 15TH, GOVERNOR ELIOT SPITZER SIGNED THE SHELTER ALLOWANCE BILL INTO LAW. This will raise the amount of money public housing authorities receive for public assistance families to a level equal to that received by private landlords. That means millions of additional dollars for the New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) at a critical time.

I am deeply grateful to the Governor for signing the bill and, as always, to Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg for his support of public housing. In signing the bill, the Governor acknowledged the State's responsibility to public housing, and to affordable housing.

Thanks especially to Assembly Member Vito Lopez who Chairs the Assembly's Subcommittee on Housing, and who spearheaded the legislation along with Senator Andrew Lanza. I would like to thank the entire New York State Assembly, led by Speaker Sheldon Silver, for passing the bill unanimously, and the State Senate, which also passed the bill unanimously. The City Council was another strong force in support of the bill, and for that I would like to thank Council Speaker Christine Quinn, Chair of the Council's Subcommittee on Public Housing Rosie Mendez, and the 40 City Council Members who signed a letter to the Governor in support of the bill. On the federal level I would like to thank Senators Hillary Clinton and Chuck Schumer for their support as well as Congress Members Nydia Velázquez and Gary Ackerman, and the entire New York City delegation.

These elected officials expressed the concerns not only of the Housing Authority's administration, but of the more than 400,000 New Yorkers who make their homes in public housing. Many NYCHA residents turned out on the steps of City Hall on July 24th and August 10th in support of this legislation, along with unions and advocacy groups. My gratitude extends to them and to the many residents of public housing who participated in a massive letter-writing, postcard and telephone campaign to their elected representatives in support of this bill. Thanks also to those of you who marched on Washington and Albany earlier this year.

I would like to thank the following unions: Teamsters Local 237 and President Gregory Floyd, District Council 37 and Executive Director Lillian Roberts, the New York State AFL-CIO, the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, and the Civil Service Coalition of Building Trades & Municipal Workers. I thank the following advocacy groups: the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now (ACORN), Good Old Lower East Side (GOLES), Public Housing Residents of the Lower East Side (PHROLES), Community Voices Heard, Housing Here and Now, Housing First, Community Service Society, Tenants PAC, Tenants and Neighbors, and the Legal Aid Society of NY.

Last, but not least, I would like to thank NYCHA Vice-Chairman Earl Andrews, Jr. and Board Member Margarita López for their invaluable help and support.

The money we will receive from this new legislation will go a long way toward helping NYCHA meet its financial challenges, and I am confident that the momentum this bill has generated will continue as we focus our energy on Washington. Nevertheless, the Housing Authority still faces serious deficits in 2007 and the coming years. Every additional dollar we receive will help to mitigate the tough choices that still lay ahead. Perhaps the most valuable thing we can take away from this experience is the understanding that residents and their elected officials really do have the power to make things happen and keep public housing as we know it, viable for many generations to come. Thank you all again for forming this tremendous coalition. You are a true force in the preservation of public housing, the cornerstone of affordable housing, in this great City.

Tino Hernandez

NYCHA ISSUES 200 SEC. 8 VOUCHERS

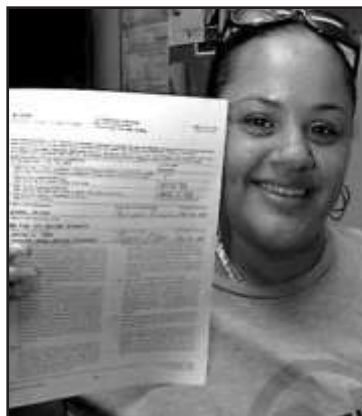
FOR THE 200 NEW YORKERS WHO FILLED THE AUDITORIUM OF THE BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE ON THE MORNING OF JULY 30TH, IT WAS A DAY THEY WOULD NOT WANT TO MISS. They were the newest Section 8 Housing Choice voucher holders, and they had come to pick up their vouchers, attend an orientation and receive a personal welcome into the program from New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) Chairman Tino Hernandez, Vice-Chairman Earl Andrews, Jr., Board Member Margarita López and General Manager Douglas Apple. They would then go out to find their new apartments.

It was an historic occasion because these were the first non-emergency Section 8 vouchers to be distributed by NYCHA since the waiting list was closed approximately 12 years ago for lack of funding. Chairman Hernandez joined Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg in January to announce that the list was reopening with 22,000 new vouchers to be distributed over a two-year period. Within three months of the announcement, NYCHA had distributed nearly 470,000 applications and received over 230,000 completed applications in return.

The Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher program allows recipients to rent apartments from private participating landlords. The voucher holder pays 30% of his or her gross income toward a Fair Market Rent and the government picks up the rest of the tab. One of the most exciting things about the Section 8 program is that voucher holders can use the vouchers anywhere in the country where the Section 8 program is in operation.

In addition to distributing the vouchers and holding an orientation, NYCHA also used the briefing as an opportunity to announce a series of customer service and web-based enhancements to make the Section 8 program more appealing to the

(Continued on page 6)



A new Section 8 Housing Choice voucher holder.

DEBORAH'S DIARY

By Deborah Williams



Special Congratulations—Samantha McMillian, a resident of Surfside Gardens in Brooklyn and a New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) employee at Smith Houses in Manhattan, graduated on May 24, 2007 from The College of New Rochelle, DC37 Campus, with a Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology. Samantha

is very proud of her achievement and her education isn't stopping there. Samantha has applied to the master's degree program in business administration at St. John's University, Manhattan Campus. "I returned to school to show my son and two daughters that it's never too late to complete your education, and more importantly, to reinforce the value and importance of a good education. I hope to use my bachelor's degree as a tool to advance my career; you know, climb the corporate ladder of success," said Samantha with a smile. **Hey, college graduate, I am very proud of you! You have done well. I look forward to hearing about your graduate experience. I wish you all the best! Keep up the GOOD WORK!**

College Choices—This spring, Joseph Perez of Walt Whitman Houses, Masiah Davis of Brownsville Houses, and Jamel Culver of Bayview Houses, all in Brooklyn, participated in a college tour of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and were accepted into HBCUs right on the spot.

The college tour was made possible with the assistance of Farragut Community Center Director Kisha Jackson. Ms. Jackson knows firsthand the frustration and confusion students face during the college selection process. That's why, in addition to her role as Center Director, she is also a member of the African People Exalting Inc. program (APEX). At APEX the goal is to prepare inner-city youth for productive roles in society. APEX has developed a college preparation program that includes a series of workshops held at Medgar Evers College in Brooklyn. The workshops cover SAT preparation, how best to utilize guidance counselors and college advisors, financial aid, scholarships and grants, and most importantly, how to choose a college. The workshops also cover information on postgraduate studies and career exploration. "APEX creates a beneficial atmosphere where young African-American minds are nourished with knowledge about their past, in order for them to alter their future. As a child care professional, I am proud to be a part of this movement," said Ms. Jackson.

Equipped with their SAT scores, high school transcripts, and two reference letters, the tour participants started in Washington, D.C., where they visited Howard University before travelling on through four states. After D.C. came Maryland, where they visited Morgan State, and from there to Virginia to visit Virginia State and Hampton Universities, followed by a visit to North Carolina Agricultural & Technical (A&T) State University and North Carolina Central, and the final state on the tour, Georgia, for visits to Morehouse and Spelman Colleges in Atlanta. The tour concluded with a stop at the historic Martin Luther King, Jr. Center, also in Atlanta.

Now that the summer of 2007 is winding down, Joseph Perez is looking forward to attending Morehouse College. Masiah Davis will attend North Carolina A&T, and Jamel Culver, who opted to stay in New York, will attend Berkeley College this September.

Also on the college tour were the following middle and high school students: Dayshell Victor of Farragut Houses, Audey Copeland of Pink Houses, Steven Brunson of Walt Whitman Houses, and Amber Obyrant of Albany Houses, all in Brooklyn, and Destiny Hargroves of Queensbridge Houses in Queens.

If this college tour sounds like something you might be interested in, don't hesitate. For more information on the upcoming APEX College tour please call Ms. Jackson at (718) 852-6347. **To Joseph, Masiah and Jamel I extend my congratulations and I wish you continued success in all of your future endeavors. To Dayshell, Audey, Steven, Destiny, and Amber—your decision to participate in the college tour shows that you have the desire to excel. I hope you all get into the college of your choice. Everyone remember to study hard and stay focused and you will reach your goals!**

Sneak Peek—Don't forget to check out "Deborah's Diary" in the next issue of the NYCHA Journal. I will feature an article about some young men who have passed the Local 3 Electrical Union Exam—one of the toughest exams among union apprentice programs.

THE NYCHA NOT WANTED LIST

In this issue we continue our editorial policy of publishing the names of individuals who have been permanently excluded from our public housing developments. This list is part of NYCHA's effort to keep residents informed of the Housing Authority's ongoing effort to improve the quality of life for all New Yorkers in public housing and to allow for the peaceful and safe use of our facilities. Here follows a list of the people excluded after hearings were held on April 12, 19 and 26, 2006. **Please note: These exclusions are based on NYCHA's Administrative Hearing Process and should not be confused with the Trespass Notice Program under Mayor Bloomberg's Operation Safe Housing Initiative.**

**REMEMBER,
 IF YOU SEE ANY OF THESE INDIVIDUALS ON
 HOUSING AUTHORITY PROPERTY, PLEASE CALL
 YOUR MANAGEMENT OFFICE OR NYCHA'S
 SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS UNIT AT (212) 306-8595.**

Prohibited as of April 12, 2006

Peter Kilpatrick	Case 1986/06 formerly associated with the second floor of 82-01 Hammels Blvd., Hammel Houses, Rockaway Beach.
Tyrone Taylor	Case 2014/06 formerly associated with the fourth floor of 2140 Madison Avenue, Lincoln Houses, Manhattan.
Kareem Johnson	Case 2082/06 formerly associated with the second floor of 325 East 143rd Street, Patterson Houses, the Bronx.
Fred Scott	Case 2113/06 formerly associated with the thirteenth floor of 1010 East 178th Street, Murphy Consolidated Houses, Manhattan.
Eduardo Guzman	Case 2169/06 formerly associated with the third floor of 124 Bush Street, Red Hook East Houses, Brooklyn.
Ricardo Martinez	Case 160/06 formerly associated with the first floor of 311 Osborn Street, Brownsville Houses, Brooklyn.
Joshua Perez	Case 3177/05 formerly associated with the thirteenth floor of 1420 Bronx River Avenue, Bronx River Houses, the Bronx.
Durell Gaines	Case 2361/06 formerly associated with the fourth floor of 12-70 Redfern Avenue, Redfern Houses, Far Rockaway.

Prohibited as of April 19, 2006

Charles Pannell Jermaine Pannell	Case 2292/06 formerly associated with 54-09 Alameda Avenue, Ocean Bay Apartments, Far Rockaway.
Galvin Harris	Case 2286/06 formerly associated with the sixth floor of 342 Hudson Walk, Ingersoll Houses, Brooklyn.
Iris Monsegur	Case 2367/06 formerly associated with the sixth floor of 90 Avenue D, Jacob Riis Houses, Manhattan.

Prohibited as of April 26, 2006

Marquita Gilliard	Case 2445/06 formerly associated with the first floor of 155-22 Jewel Avenue, Pomonok Houses, Flushing.
Richard Rivera	Case 2250/06 formerly associated with the eighteenth floor of 340 Alexander Avenue, Mott Haven Houses, the Bronx.
Adonis Moreno	Case 2498/06 formerly associated with the eleventh floor of 555 FDR Drive, Baruch Houses, Manhattan.
Derrick Williams Isobel Bernier Ellis Williams	Case 8710/04 formerly associated with the fifteenth floor of 785 Courtlandt Avenue, Jackson Houses, the Bronx.
Rahassan King	Case 2509/06 formerly associated with the second floor of 891 Schieffelin Place, Baychester Houses, the Bronx.

Greenmarket

(Continued from page 1)

try new things like purslain, a wonderful green that I can't find anywhere else."

While chopping vegetables for an onion, garlic, and corn salsa, Greenmarket Director Michael Hurwitz explained that the Greenmarket, an independent nonprofit, was established 31 years ago in collaboration with the City's Council on the Environment.

Today there are a total of 44 Greenmarket sites throughout the City, 17 that operate year-round, and another 27 that are seasonal. The 92nd Street Greenmarket is now one of the 13 that accept EBT cards.

The CAU worked with Council Member Garodnick to facilitate the Greenmarket's opening last summer, and it was Council Member Garodnick's words that, perhaps, best summed up the sentiment of the day. "The 92nd Street Greenmarket is a model for serving public housing communities, as well as for building a bridge to connect neighbors. I look forward to another successful year."

LOPEZ/LANZA SHELTER BILL

(Continued from page 1)

The Shelter Allowance Bill was spearheaded by Assembly Member Vito Lopez, who is Chair of the Assembly Housing Committee, and Senator Andrew Lanza. It was passed unanimously by the Assembly and Senate in June.

An unprecedented coalition of residents, advocates, union representatives and elected officials at all levels came out in support of the bill. A rally was held in Albany this spring, and two more rallies were held on the steps of City Hall this summer: one led by the City Council and its Subcommittee on Public Housing Chair, Rosie Mendez, on July 24th, and the other led by Assembly Member Brian Kavanagh on August 10th. In addition, the entire New York City Federal delegation, led by Congress Member Nydia Velázquez, has provided strong support.

The Shelter Allowance increase will be phased in over three years.



Have You Seen The Sign Below In Your Resident Parking Lot?

Parking in New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) parking lots is by permit only.

NYCHA recently changed its parking lot signs to make clear that parking is by NYCHA permit only. The language of the new signs was coordinated with the NYPD in support of NYCHA's effort to have owners of illegally parked cars ticketed to stop them from parking in residents' parking lots. The ticketing of illegally parked cars will free up space for those with valid NYCHA-issued parking permits.

Parking permits can be obtained from the development Management Office.

Thank you.

NO PARKING EXCEPT BY NYCHA PERMIT

- PARK ONLY WITHIN DESIGNATED PARKING SPACES
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NYCHA ISSUES SECTION 8 VOUCHERS

(Continued from page 4)

29,000 landlords who currently participate. These include the ability for private landlords to receive rent subsidy payments electronically and to list available Section 8 apartments online.

"Today's event demonstrates the value of the Section 8 program to provide affordable housing to thousands of New Yorkers who struggle to make ends meet," said Chairman Hernandez. "I wish you the best of luck in finding an apartment."

As of March 31, 2007, 82,740 voucher holders rented apart-

ments through Section 8 administered by NYCHA. Anyone who has applied for a voucher should note that this is only the first wave of vouchers to be distributed. As mentioned earlier, NYCHA plans to distribute a total of 22,000 vouchers over two years.



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Benefits that work for you.

Actual benefits depend upon which plan you choose for 2007. Healthfirst is a health maintenance organization that has a Medicare Advantage contract with the Federal government and is available in the Bronx, Brooklyn, Manhattan, Queens and Nassau. Not all plans available in all counties.

NEW YORK CITY HOUSING AUTHORITY Board Meeting Schedule

Notice is hereby given that the New York City Housing Authority's Board Meetings take place every other Wednesday at 10:00 A.M. in the Board Room on the 12th Floor of 250 Broadway, New York, NY. The remaining schedule for Calendar Year 2007 is as follows, unless otherwise noted:

September 5, 2007

September 19, 2007

October 2, 2007 (Tuesday)

October 17, 2007

October 31, 2007

November 14, 2007

November 28, 2007

December 12, 2007

December 26, 2007



Any changes to the above mentioned schedule will be posted on the NYCHA website at nyc.gov/nycha and in the *NYCHA Journal* to the extent practicable at a reasonable time before the meeting.

What to Do if a Compact Fluorescent Light (CFL) Bulb Breaks

Fluorescent light bulbs contain a very small amount of mercury sealed within the glass tubing. Be careful when removing a CFL from its packaging, installing it, or replacing it. Always screw and unscrew the lamp at its base (not the glass), and never forcefully twist the bulb.

- If a bulb breaks, first make sure all pregnant women, children and pets are out of the room.
- Then, wearing gloves, scoop up the broken bulb with some cardboard and place in a double plastic bag.
- Wipe any remains with a wet paper towel and put that in the double plastic bag with the broken glass and cardboard.
- Sticky tape (such as duct tape) can be used to pick up small pieces and powder.
- Seal the bulb in two plastic bags and put into the outside trash. Wash your hands after disposing of the bag.
- Don't sweep or vacuum!
- The first time you vacuum the area after you have cleaned up the bulb, change the vacuum bag afterwards.

Notice of HUD Inspections

Dear New York City Housing Authority Residents,

The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) will be conducting a physical inspection of NYCHA's Federal developments within the next few weeks (State and City developments will not be included). The system that HUD developed for these inspections is called the Public Housing Assessment System (PHAS). As part of this process, a certain number of residents' apartments will be inspected.

You can assist us by reviewing the following items:

Electricity

- Your circuit breaker or fuse panel should not have any missing breakers or fuses. (You should not see any of the wiring or parts inside the breaker or fuse panel.)
- All light switches and outlets should operate properly and have cover plates over them.
- In apartments with Call for Aide units, switches and pull cords should operate properly with pull cord hanging down.
- Ground Fault Interrupter (GFI) outlets should test properly when pushing the Test button.

Smoke Detectors/Carbon Monoxide Detectors

- Detectors should be installed. There should not be empty brackets with missing detectors.
- Detectors should test properly (beep) when the Test button is pressed.

Stove/Oven

- Check each burner. Each burner should light individually by turning the knob. The oven should work.

Refrigerator

- The refrigerator door should close all the way. Door gaskets should not be cracked or broken. Lights should work.

Doors

- Bathrooms, Bedrooms and Closets—Doors should close and latch properly.
- Door knobs and latches should be in good working order.
- Doors should be free of holes or damage.

Windows

- Windows should work properly, staying up when opened.
- Window glass should not be cracked or broken.

Faucets

- Faucets and their parts should not leak when either on or off.
- You should have rubber stoppers for the sinks and tub.

Exterminator

- You should not have any type of infestation condition.

If any of the above items are not in good order contact your Management Office if you live in the Bronx, Brooklyn or a NYCHA development managed by a private management company. If you live in Manhattan, Queens or Staten Island, call the Call Center at (718) 707-7771 to schedule an appointment to have those items repaired.

Thank you in advance for your continued cooperation.

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Serving homeless, formerly homeless and low income women.

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Health insurance from Fidelis Care provides the benefits of quality healthcare, and the security of knowing your family is protected. So if you're a New York State resident and don't have health insurance, or need coverage for your child, call Fidelis Care today and see how we can help.



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 Proof of age, income and address necessary to enroll.

ATTENTION SENIORS

The New York City Housing Authority
 Community Operations
 Resident Support Services Department

is pleased to announce the 3rd annual

SENIOR BENEFIT+ENTITLEMENT FAIR Take Charge of Your Health

Date: Thursday, October 4, 2007

Time: 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Location: Riverbank State Park
 679 Riverside Drive at 145th Street, Manhattan

Learn about and apply for programs
 and services that can benefit you.

Call (212) 306-8443 for more information



DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO . . .

- Pretends they were hurt on Housing property?
- Doesn't report their income or pretends to be unemployed?
- Doesn't report everyone in the household?
- Rents out their apartment?

If you do, money is being wasted!

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Toll-Free

Terrorism Hotline

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1-888-692-7233

NYCHA CELEBRATE



At NYCHA's 6th Annual Kids Walk on August 14th at Clove Lakes Park in Staten Island, are (left to right) Board Member Margarita López, Deputy General Manager Hugh Spence, "Harry" from the Big Apple Circus, and Chairman Tino Hernandez.



The free Harlem Summer Stage Concert Series is a summertime favorite. This year's kick-off concert was held on July 5th and featured Charles Carrington Company Jazz Band, Seleno Clark, Harlem Groove Band and Lady Cantrese & Gents.



St. John's Summer CampUS provides youth with educational opportunities at the St. John's Campus in Queens, to help them be better prepared for school in the fall.



NYCHA Chairman Tino Hernandez with Captain Kieran Creighton of PSA #8 at Boston Secor Houses in the Bronx for the 24th National Night Out Against Crime on August 7th.



More fun at Night Out Against Crime at Boston Secor Houses in the Bronx (above) on August 7th and at the Citywide Olympics on August 17th in Riverbank State Park in Manhattan (left).



Tug-of-war competition at the Citywide Olympics in Riverbank State Park, Queens.

ES SUMMMER 2007!



The Harlem Summer Stage held a special tribute concert for Patti LaBelle on the evening of August 9th. Ms. LaBelle (third from left) is shown here with (left to right) NYCHA Vice-Chairman Earl Andrews, Jr., Apollo Theater President Jonelle Procope, and Harlem State Office Building Director Willie Walker.



An obstacle course was never as much fun as it was at Sports Education Field Day at Van Cortlandt Park in the Bronx on July 26th (above). And two young residents show off the fish they caught at the Fresh Air Fund Day Camp in Fresh Kills, New York in August (left). Don't worry, that fish went right back in the water in this "catch and release" activity.



(above) was another game featured during Sports Education Field Day in Baisley Park on July 20th, as was volleyball (above, center).

Young residents take a break from fishing at the Fresh Air Fund Camp in Fresh Kills, New York, this August (above.)

KNOW SOMEONE STRUGGLING WITH ALCOHOL OR OTHER DRUGS?

The ALBERT EINSTEIN COLLEGE OF MEDICINE DIVISION OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE has confidential treatment programs that can provide medication and counseling to help you take the next steps towards health and wellness. Now offering special interventions for abuse of methamphetamine ("Crystal Meth"). We are here for you, your family and community.

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**Diabetes EXPO
September 29th**



The American Diabetes Association's 'Diabetes Expo' will be at the Jacob Javits Convention Center in New York City on September 29th from 10AM to 4 PM. Admission is FREE. There will be lots of product demonstrations, free samples, services and information on diabetes. Call (212) 725-4925 for more information.



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