



APPRECIATION (Back row, left to right) NYCHA Chairman Tino Hernandez with Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver and Assembly Member Vito Lopez at the Rutgers Community Center join resident Tenant Patrol Volunteers for an Awards Ceremony.

ELECTED OFFICIALS RECOGNIZE RUTGERS HOUSES TENANT PATROL

By Eileen Elliott

THE NUMBER OF NEW YORK CITY HOUSING AUTHORITY (NYCHA) RESIDENTS WHO "SIT" TENANT PATROL AT RUTGERS HOUSES ON MANHATTAN'S LOWER EAST SIDE HAS DOUBLED SINCE LAST YEAR, THANKS TO A \$1.2 MILLION STATE ALLOCATION THAT ALLOWS NYCHA TO PAY MONTHLY STIPENDS TO RESIDENTS WHO PARTICIPATE IN THE TENANT PATROL PROGRAM OR VOLUNTEER AT COMMUNITY AND SENIOR CENTERS IN NYCHA'S 15 STATE-BUILT DEVELOPMENTS. State Assembly Speaker

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It's Heating Season!

October 1st – May 31st

Minimum Indoor Temperature

From 6AM to 10PM

68 degrees Fahrenheit whenever the outdoor temperature is below 55 degrees.

Minimum Indoor Temperature

From 10PM to 6AM

55 degrees Fahrenheit whenever the outdoor temperature falls below 40 degrees.

Call the Centralized Call Center at (718) 707-7771 if you have any problems with heat or hot water. If you live in a privately managed development, call your Management Office.

MillionTreesNYC Seeking Resident Volunteers

YOU MAY HAVE NOTICED SOMETHING BIG TAKING ROOT IN YOUR PUBLIC HOUSING DEVELOPMENT. Thanks to a collaboration spearheaded by the New York City Housing Authority's (NYCHA's) Energy Management and Environmental Sustainability Committee, as of August, MillionTreesNYC had planted 2,600 trees on NYCHA property. This fall, more trees are on the way, and MillionTreesNYC is looking for NYCHA resident volunteers to help plant and care for them.

MillionTreesNYC is an initiative to plant one million new trees throughout New York City's five boroughs by 2017. It is jointly led by the New York City Parks Department and the New York Restoration Project (NYRP). Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg and Bette Midler, founder of NYRP, officially launched MillionTreesNYC on October 9, 2007, and the initiative has since successfully planted more than 98,000 trees citywide. Along with public housing developments, MillionTreesNYC has also planted along New York City streets, at

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Volunteers planted 282 trees at Wagner Houses in East Harlem as part of MillionTreesNYC.

If You See It, Report It!

If you see conditions that need to be addressed in your development call NYCHA's Centralized Call Center.

The Centralized Call Center.
Call Anytime - 24/7
718-707-7771
It's a shared responsibility.

AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

The New York City Housing Authority is launching an awareness campaign to encourage residents to immediately report any conditions at their developments that need to be addressed to NYCHA's Centralized Call Center (CCC) at 718-707-7771. We ask for residents' proactive cooperation in quickly reporting conditions such as those mentioned in the flyer above. It's a shared responsibility. Watch for more information.

NYCHA is the Focus of New Book About Public Housing

By Howard Silver

PROFESSOR NICHOLAS DAGEN BLOOM, CHAIR OF INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES AT THE NEW YORK INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, HAS PUBLISHED THE FIRST COMPREHENSIVE STUDY OF NEW YORK CITY'S PUBLIC HOUSING, ENTITLED, "PUBLIC HOUSING THAT WORKED: NEW YORK IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY," COPYRIGHT 2008, UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA PRESS. The book documents the New York City Housing Authority's (NYCHA's) pioneering of public housing as a municipal service in the New Deal era of the 1930s, chronicles its changes in policy

and perspective through the Welfare State mentality of the 1960s, and charts its present course as a vital part of New York's affordable housing plan.

Throughout this fascinating journey, this central theme is explored: unlike public housing in other major American cities, the Authority has survived, thrived, and continues to meet its challenges.

Dr. Bloom's grandfather had been Chairman of the St. Louis Housing Authority prior to the demolition of its public housing. As a college student,

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MAYOR'S MESSAGE

911 and 311 Can Now Receive Pictures and Video from Cell Phones and Computers



DID YOU KNOW THAT CALLERS TO 911 AND 311 ARE NOW ABLE TO SEND PHOTOS OR VIDEO TO ASSIST IN CRIME FIGHTING AND REPORT QUALITY OF LIFE COMPLAINTS? Callers to 911 are now able to send photos or video from a cell phone or computer to the New York City Police Department's Real Time Crime Center, where relevant images may be used to assist in crime fighting or in

responding to other emergencies. The public can send pictures and videos from computers and web-enabled cell phones and personal digital assistants (PDAs) to accompany certain 311 quality-of-life complaints. The NYPD receives approximately 11 million 911 calls annually and the 311 Customer Service Center receives approximately 15 million calls each year.

I built a business on the idea that we could improve companies' performance by delivering better information instantaneously, and I've tried to bring that same philosophy to government. By upgrading 911 and 311 to accept photos and video, we are bringing government accountability—and crime fighting—to a whole new level. If your cell phone is equipped with a camera—and many are these days—you might be able to get a picture of something that will help the police solve a crime.

As Commissioner Kelly commented when we made the announcement in September, when it comes to crime fighting, a picture is worth more than a thousand words. This is just one more tool to help the public help the police in a powerful partnership.

Sending Photos and Video to 911

The police operators that staff the 911 call center have been trained to enter a special code in the Police Department's internal communications system every time callers offer photographs or videos in connection with their emergency. The operators have also been trained to inform callers that a detective will be contacting them directly. The coded entry into the communications system automatically alerts the Real Time Crime Center and provides the 911 caller's telephone number. A detective from the Real Time Call Center will personally call the victim or witness and provide a Real Time Crime Center address to which the photograph or video may be sent.

Depending on the case, the images may be shared widely with the public, with police officers on patrol, individual detectives or other law enforcement agencies. The images may also be used in concert with the Real Time Crime Center's powerful data mining and link analysis capacity to identify and locate suspects as quickly as possible. The images may also be used to help in assessing and responding to emergencies.

The new 911 capacity comes a month after the NYPD added text messaging to its Crime Stoppers program. In addition to calling 1-800-577-TIPS, members of the public may now text message crime tips anonymously by texting CRIMES or 274637, and then entering TIP577.

Sending Photos and Video to 311

Customers may send up to three photos or videos per service request by logging onto www.nyc.gov from a computer or web-enabled mobile device. Customers may also tell their 311 operator they have a photo or video to send and the operator will then direct callers to the appropriate page on nyc.gov—through which customers can upload their picture or video files.

Photos or videos can be sent to 311 via nyc.gov for the following types of complaints, with additional complaint types to be added in the coming months: potholes; damaged or missing traffic signs; dirty vacant lot complaints; street and sidewalk complaints; parking meters, bus stop shelter or parking facility complaints; complaints about City parks, such as general maintenance, damaged facilities, graffiti, and animal issues; and damaged, missing or unsanitary public pay telephone complaints. To report a problem online, customers can log onto nyc.gov to directly upload their pictures and videos along with complaint forms. A wide variety of file formats created by most cell phones are accepted. Please visit www.nyc.gov for more information.

Michael R. Bloomberg

Unbridled Enthusiasm for the NY Therapeutic Riding Center's Program for Disabled Residents

By Eileen Elliott

WHEN THE HISTORIC, 115-YEAR-OLD CLAREMONT RIDING ACADEMY ON MANHATTAN'S UPPER WEST SIDE CLOSED IN APRIL 2007 THINGS LOOKED BLEAK FOR RICHARD BRODIE, FOUNDER OF THE NEW YORK THERAPEUTIC RIDING CENTER (NYTRC), AND THE YOUNG NYCHA RESIDENTS THE PROGRAM SERVED. Since 1998, the NYTRC had been providing therapeutic horseback riding lessons to disabled children at Claremont, and in 2000 the New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) began offering scholarships so young residents could participate in the program for free.

Ideal for children with cerebral palsy, muscular dystrophy, multiple sclerosis, mental retardation and developmental disabilities, therapeutic horseback riding promises the benefits of improved balance, posture, coordination and mobility, stronger muscles, increased attention span and communications skills, and improved confidence and self-esteem. Not to mention that it's fun!

Luckily, for Manhattan residents, six-year-old Gevalia Torres of East River Houses and five-year-old Frank Vacca of Elliott Houses, and Brooklyn residents 12-year-old Daniel Valentin of Hope Gardens, eight-year-old Korley Islar of Boulevard Houses, and eight-year-old Noble Joyette of Brevoort Houses, just a few short months after the Claremont Riding Academy closed, the NYTRC had a new home, at the Chateau Stables in the Clinton neighborhood, on West 48th Street, also in Manhattan.

These five young residents were chosen for the latest round of classes which began in June and ended in August. Together with their eight classmates, who are sponsored by New York University Medical Center's Rusk Institute, the NYCHA residents showed up each Saturday at Chateau for one of the three consecutive 40 minute classes.

"NYCHA is pleased to be able to collaborate with the NYTRC to bring this opportunity to young residents with disabilities," said Department of Community Operations Deputy General Manager Hugh Spence. NYCHA sent out 5,000 letters to families with children who might be eligible.

"The real advantage of this program is that it is here in the City," said Mr. Brodie, one



HORSE SENSE "It brings up his confidence and helps his upper body strength," said Carmen Valentin, of Hope Gardens in Brooklyn, about her son Daniel's experience with the Therapeutic Riding Program. Here Daniel is riding one of his favorites, Alvin.

Saturday this past August. "Almost all programs like this are out in the suburbs and rural areas."

The stable, which is tucked into what would be a quiet block between 11th and 12th Avenues, were it not for the massive construction all around it, has been in the McGill family since 1967. It is run by the mother-daughter team, Gloria and Anita McGill, respectively, who donate the space.

Anita, who is 30, suffered a stroke ten years ago and underwent rehabilitation at the Rusk Institute. "I see how animals help people with disabilities," she said with a youthful enthusiasm that betrayed none of the ordeal she had gone

through. "I've come a long way. We're very happy about this program. We wanted to give back."

On this particular Saturday, National American Riding for the Handicapped Association (NARHA)-certified Therapeutic Riding Instructor Stefanie Pleschinger stood in the middle of the 1,500-square-foot ring, calling out instructions, while a lead walker and two side walkers accompanied the three students per class as they circled around her.

Ms. Pleschinger maintained a steady stream of commands and encouragement as the riders performed a variety of exercises including two-point riding, arm

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CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Residents Are Invited to Attend Domestic Violence Conferences in October



ONCE AGAIN THE NEW YORK CITY HOUSING AUTHORITY (NYCHA) TURNS ITS FOCUS TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE BY BRINGING A SERIES OF CONFERENCES TO NYCHA RESIDENTS DURING NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH. The theme for this year's conferences is "Survivors' Stories."

During the week of October 20th, NYCHA's Department of Social Services will host one

conference in each borough centered around stories from domestic violence survivors. Serving as possible role models for others, the survivors will share their personal experience of breaking away from the abuse and starting new lives free from violence.

In addition, each conference will have a resource fair, with a wide range of materials on domestic violence and available social services. City agencies such as the Department of Health, Department for the Aging, and Adult Protective Services will all be represented as well as the Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence, and local community based organizations.

Domestic Violence Intervention, Education and Prevention Program

Representatives from Safe Horizon, the nation's leading nonprofit victim assistance, advocacy, and violence prevention organization, will also be at the conferences. NYCHA has a long and successful relationship with Safe Horizon, which provides services to victims of domestic violence through NYCHA's Domestic Violence Intervention, Education and Prevention Program (DVIEP). The DVIEP Program uses case managers from Safe Horizon, and the NYPD Housing Bureau's Domestic Violence Officers to conduct outreach and assistance for victims of domestic violence who reside in NYCHA developments citywide. DVIEP case managers work with clients to identify their most urgent needs and provide information and services, safety planning, and referrals to other agencies for a broad range of comprehensive and supportive services.

Emergency Transfers

NYCHA residents who believe that they are victims of domestic violence can request an Emergency Transfer through their development's Management Office. Residents who are too fearful to do this, or who prefer to, may also initiate an Emergency Transfer by going to Safe Horizon. To find the nearest Safe Horizon location, the resident should call the Domestic Violence Hotline at: 1-800-621-HOPE.

The Domestic Violence Aftercare Program

The Domestic Violence Aftercare Program is a valuable source of support for victims and witnesses of domestic violence and their families, assisting them with the transition to a new community. Victims of domestic violence who are relocated under NYCHA's emergency transfer program and newly relocated families who have just moved into public housing to escape domestic violence receive the support of NYCHA's trained social workers, who provide psychosocial assistance and concrete services to help victims break free from the cycle of violence and adjust to life in a new community. Services include counseling, case-management, safety planning, and assistance with day care and after-school programs. In addition, NYCHA can advocate on behalf of victims to get other services from the Human Resources Administration, the Department of Education, and City hospitals and refer victims to other community service providers.

I encourage all interested residents to attend. Even if you aren't experiencing domestic violence in your own life you can learn how you can help others who are victims of domestic violence. If you are a victim of domestic violence this conference just might help you gather the strength as well as the resources you need to make a change. **To find the details for your borough, please refer to the advertisement on page 6.**

Tino Hernandez

TENANT PATROL

(Continued from page 1)

Sheldon Silver and Assembly Housing Committee Chair Vito Lopez, who are responsible for obtaining funding for the program, hosted an Awards Ceremony at the Rutgers Community Center on September 4th to thank the volunteers for their commitment.

"Our focus is on the safety of public housing residents," the Speaker said to the volunteers from Rutgers who filled the brightly painted multi-purpose room. "While law enforcement has done a remarkable job reducing crime, police officers cannot be all places at all times. New York City is blessed with many civic-minded citizens but more are needed, so we offered a small incentive to encourage participation in the Tenant Patrol."

"Without him," Assembly Member Lopez said of the Speaker, "this program would not have happened."

"What a wonderful program this is," added State Senator Martin Connor, who was also in attendance.

"When these people make a commitment it is a commitment of honor," remarked NYCHA Chairman Tino Hernandez of the elected officials present. The Chairman's most emphatic thank-you, however, was reserved for the resident volunteers. "Through your commitment, participation in the Tenant Patrol program has doubled at Rutgers," the Chairman said.

Richard Fazio, a 67-year-old resident of Rutgers, who recently joined the Tenant Patrol, said he has noticed less crime and vandalism at the development. The presence of Tenant Patrol members "helps keep some of the young people better behaved," said the 18-year Rutgers resident, who was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation.

Eighty-eight-year-old Nicolasa Pena was also among those Tenant Patrol leaders who accepted a Certificate of Appreciation on behalf of the resident volunteers. Ms. Pena said the program has definitely been effective in discouraging potential vandals from causing harm. "If they see me, they don't come," she said. "They respect me."

Ms. Pena was Tenant Patrol Supervisor at the development from 1987 to 1993. She now volunteers along with the others. When asked about the \$45 a month stipend she said, "I care about my neighborhood;

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DEBORAH'S DIARY

By Deborah Williams



College Bound — Manhattan Community Operations' new College Bound program held a graduation send-off event on August 21, 2008, for the 19 participants, seven of whom were high school seniors when they started and now have all been accepted into college. The program's goal is to ensure high school graduation and the successful matriculation of high school seniors into accredited colleges or universities. "We achieved our goal 100 percent," said an emphatic Manhattan Community Operations Director Jenelle Mitchell at the ceremony, which was held at NYCHA's 90 Church Street location.

The College Bound Program began in September 2007 and all participants were either high school students or recent graduates. The program was held at various NYCHA community centers throughout Manhattan. As part of the program, twice a week, for eight weeks, all participants received intensive tutoring at the Sylvan Learning Center in preparation for the SAT exam.

Michael Roman, a senior at Chelsea High School and a resident of Jacob Riis Houses, received the "Highest SAT Score" award for his 1500 SAT score. Lorraine Bolton, who does not live in public housing, was a close second. Lorraine, who had already graduated when she entered the program said, "After joining the Manhattan College Bound Program and receiving SAT prep at Sylvan I jumped from 900 to 1333." Lorraine will be attending the Borough of Manhattan Community College, as will Deryll Alleyne, also not a public housing resident.

The participants got an "up close" look at college and campus life by attending an overnight college tour that included colleges and universities in North Carolina and Virginia. Each was also assigned a mentor to assist with the final stages of picking a college and applying for financial aid, grants and scholarships.



(Left to Right) Davon Smith, Evelynda Santos, Lorraine Bolton, Deryll Alleyne, and Irma Scott with their special awards.

For Davon Smith, of Smith Houses, the program was an eye-opener. Davon never planned to go to college, but at the College Bound graduation he was proud to say that he will be attending New York City Tech this fall. "I couldn't believe it when I received a phone call from Manhattan Community Operations informing me of my acceptance into the program," said Davon. That day changed my life." According to his mom, Davon is the first in his family to attend college.

Maryan Escarfullet, a resident of Chelsea Houses, will be attending the College of New Jersey with an annual scholarship of \$15,000! Wow! Maryan was also the recipient of the program's "Most Collegiate Award." Asia Ceasar, of Rutgers Houses, couldn't be at the graduation ceremony to accept her "Magna Cum Laude" award because she had already begun her classes at SUNY Buffalo, but her mom, Shurnetta Thompson, graciously accepted on Asia's behalf and read Asia's touching farewell address to the audience.

Evelynda Santos, of Baruch Houses, will be attending St. Joseph's College, the "college of her dreams." She was voted "Most Promising Star" and has aspirations of becoming a math teacher.

Irma Scott, of Rutgers Houses, will be making the journey to Medgar Evers College and was the proud recipient of the "Most Improved" award.

The graduation ceremony was full of tears and laughter. The ceremony ended with lots of food and beverages but Davon Smith summed up it up best when he said, "In life one must do what they have to do in order to do what they want to do." *If you are interested in additional information on the Borough of Manhattan Community Operations College Bound Program, please contact Leroy Williams or Katwy Heru at 212-306-3324.*

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. The purpose of this list is 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 June 6, 13, 20, and 27, 2007. **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 June 6, 2007

Serafin Rodriguez, Jr.	Case 3841/07 formerly associated with the sixteenth floor of 100 Pitt Street, Gompers Houses, Manhattan.
David Keith	Case 3946/07 formerly associated with the tenth floor of 1535 University Avenue, Sedgwick Houses, Bronx.
Antonio Washington	Case 3990/07 formerly associated with the fifteenth floor of 2971 Eighth Avenue, Polo Grounds Towers, Manhattan.
Avery Bullock	Case 4037/07 formerly associated with the third floor of 198 Bond Street, Gowanus Houses, Brooklyn.
Orlando Alvarez	Case 4047/07 formerly associated with the seventh floor of 3050 Park Avenue, Jackson Houses, Bronx.

Prohibited as of June 13, 2007

Chrystal Vega	Case 4069/07 formerly associated with the eleventh floor of 20 Catherine Slip, Smith Houses, Manhattan.
Ernesto Carmona Junior Carmona Victor Carmona	Case 4121/07 formerly associated with the eighteenth floor of 1458-1460 Webster Houses, Bronx.
Vincent Cassidy	Case 4161/07 formerly associated with the fourth floor of 5705 Avenue H, Glenwood Houses, Brooklyn.
Samuel Rosario	Case 4162/07 formerly associated with the ninth floor of 64 Baruch Drive, Baruch Houses, Manhattan.
Davon Pearson Jasmine Morton	Case 4230/07 formerly associated with the thirteenth floor of 40-20 Beach Channel Drive, Beach 41st Street Houses, Far Rockaway.
Anthony Williams Anthony Irons	Case 3400/07 formerly associated with the fifteenth floor of 330 Dumont Avenue, Tilden Houses, Brooklyn.
Lavasia King	Case 4393/07 formerly associated with the seventh floor of 2834 West 23rd Street, Carey Gardens, Brooklyn.

Prohibited as of June 20, 2007

Terrance Cleckley	Case 4403/07 formerly associated with the twentieth floor of 635 Castle Hill Avenue, Castle Hill Houses, Bronx.
Reginald Taylor	Case 4248/07 formerly associated with the third floor of 1961 Schieffelin Avenue, Edenwald Houses, Bronx.
Dennis Ferguson	Case 3249/07 formerly associated with the first floor of 734 Gates Avenue, Stuyvesant Gardens, Brooklyn.

Prohibited as of June 27, 2007

Dana West	Case 4455/07 formerly associated with the sixth floor of 1609 East 174th Street, Bronx River Houses, Bronx.
Leslie Davis	Case 4520/07 formerly associated with the sixth floor of 444 Beach 54th Street, Ocean Bay Apartments, Queens.
Rasheen Stone	Case 3343/07 formerly associated with the eighth floor of 2971/07 8th Avenue, Polo Grounds Towers, Manhattan.
Cynthia Michael	Case 4599/07 formerly associated with the eighth floor of 1428 Webster Avenue, Butler Houses, Bronx.
Jason Deida	Case 4601/07 formerly associated with the seventh floor of 415 West 25th Street, Elliott-Chelsea Houses, Manhattan.
Nydia Anthony	Case 3743/07 formerly associated with the nineteenth floor of 1373 Washington Avenue, Morris Houses, Bronx.
Arion Grant	Case 4655/07 formerly associated with the eleventh floor of 300 Cherry Street, LaGuardia/Two Bridges Houses, Manhattan.

RIDING PROGRAM

(Continued from page 2)

swings, scissors, hands on head, and hands on hip. Horses walk, trot or canter and in addition to the physical exercise, children also bond with the horses by grooming them.

"The riding helps coordination, muscle tone, posture, spatial orientation," Ms. Pleschinger said between classes. "Two-point riding is great exercise," she continued, referring to the position riders take when they prepare for jumps, where they are not sitting but leaning forward. "It takes the weight off the rider's back. They need to use arm muscles, leg muscles. It requires balance, confidence."

When asked what his favorite part of the class was, Daniel Valentin, who has been attending for three consecutive years, responded, "two-point." "It brings up his confidence level and helps his upper body strength," Daniel's mother, Carmen, added. "It's fantastic. He loves it. He looks forward to it every summer."

"Some children get nervous but once they're on the horse, it's all smiles," said Kathy Islar, whose son Korley was taking the course for the first time this year. Noting that Korley is shy, Ms. Islar commented that she already sees improvement in her son's "focusing, speaking a little more than usual."

Approximately 20 volunteers help out with the therapeutic riding classes, each of which are also attended by either a physical or occupational therapist. Mr. Brodie hopes to add another therapeutic riding session for adults.

To find out more about the New York Therapeutic Riding Center call (212) 535-3917.



Korley Islar at the New York Therapeutic Riding Academy.

THE CHIEF'S CORNER

Trick or Treat: Safety Tips for Halloween



HOUSING BUREAU POLICE
CHIEF JOANNE JAFFE

The New York City Police Department wants to remind you that Halloween is one of the most enjoyable days of the year for children but parents should be aware of the potential risks that can affect children who are not supervised properly. Trick-or-treaters should always have adult supervision even if they are traveling in a group of friends, to ensure that the only scary experiences children have are those associated with the spirit of Halloween. The following recommendations are for parents and guardians.



An adult should always examine Halloween treats before children eat them. Never eat opened or unwrapped Halloween foods.



Costumes should be flame-retardant and should allow children to walk freely without tripping. Children's ability to see, hear and move should not be impaired by unwieldy masks.



Make certain that any face paint or make-up used on skin or costumes is non-toxic.



Extra care should be taken on streets and at crossings, especially at dusk and after dark.



Emergency identification information should be placed discreetly inside clothing of small children, in case of accidental separation.



Avoid having children wear their names outwardly on clothing or jewelry, which may allow a stranger to call them by name and appear to know them.



As always, children should be cautioned to avoid strangers, as well as poorly lit areas and homes of people they do not know.



Halloween treats should be consumed only if they are packaged appropriately. Parents can help protect their children by making sure that treats are wrapped in their original, unbroken packages—no loose candy, open glasses or bottles, fresh fruit, or homemade goods.

If after eating a Halloween treat there is evidence that it may have been tampered with, or it has a strange taste, or if a child feels sick, parents or guardians can call the NYC Health Department's Poison Control Center. **The Poison Control Center is open 24 hours a day, 365 days of the year, for emergencies and advice at (212) POISONS (764-7667), (212) VENENOS (836-3667) for Spanish language speakers, or (212) 689-9014 for TDD users. The National toll-free number, 1-800-222-1222, connects to the nearest poison control center. In case of emergency, dial 911.**

Get Your Flu Shot

Flu season is near and flu shots become available this month. Call your doctor or health care provider to get your flu shot. Call 311 for the nearest location. Don't delay. Protect yourself.



MillionTrees NYC Seeking Volunteers

(Continued from page 1)

schools, at hospitals, faith based institutions, and other areas in need of the environmental, health and economic benefits that come with new trees.

NYCHA Developments Slated for Trees

On the Lower East Side, new trees will be planted at the Gompers, LaGuardia, Rutgers and Vladeck Houses. In East Harlem, new trees will take root at the Carver, East River, King Towers, Lexington, Metro North and Washington Houses.

NYCHA residents in Brooklyn can help plant and care for new trees at the Linden, Nostrand, Penn Wortman, Sheepshead Bay, Tilden and Van Dyke Houses.

Trees are also scheduled for the Pomonok Houses in Queens; Berry, Mariner's Harbor and Stapleton Houses in Staten Island; and Beach 41st Street and Ocean Bay Houses in the Rockaways.

Be sure to visit www.milliontreesnyc.org to stay informed about the dates of all MillionTreesNYC NYCHA tree plantings.

MillionTreesNYC Needs Your Help

MillionTreesNYC needs the help of NYCHA's dedicated residents to ensure the success of our new city trees. If you would like to take a more active role in the MillionTreesNYC initiative this fall, you can sign up to become a NYCHA MillionTreesNYC Guardian. Guardians will be responsible for leading tree stewardship efforts in their respective NYCHA developments and ensuring that trees are watered on a regular basis.

MillionTreesNYC would like to find one or two Guardians in

each housing community who can develop tree watering schedules to be posted in nearby Community Centers, Senior Centers, and various locations where volunteer gardeners are likely to volunteer.

Also, MillionTreesNYC is counting on NYCHA Guardians to report any sick or dying trees on their housing campus grounds. Finally, the Guardians will be invited to a group check-in meeting to offer feedback about MillionTreesNYC planting efforts and to share their stories with other NYCHA MillionTreesNYC Guardians. **For more information about the MillionTreesGuardian volunteer positions, please contact Angela Michie at New York Restoration Project at amichie@nyp.org or 212-333-2552.**

Ensuring that new trees are watered, cared for, and protected from vandalism will help keep New York City's valuable NYCHA communities green. With your help, New York City will be well on its way to becoming a healthier and more beautiful place.



TENANT PATROL

(Continued from page 3)

"I don't care about the money...but if they want to give me money that makes me happy."

NYCHA's Tenant Patrol program utilizes resident volunteers who sit in the lobbies of their developments to decrease the incidents of loitering, vandalism and other criminal activity. Volunteers are encouraged to report any criminal activity they witness to their local Police Service Area.

Any interested resident of a State-built NYCHA development can call the program's Central Office Liaison at (212) 306-2846.



THE DIGITAL TV TRANSITION

Are You Ready?

What You Need To Know About DTV

After **February 17, 2009**, all full-power television stations will broadcast only in digital. If you use "rabbit ears" or a rooftop antenna with your analog television you must take action to continue receiving television broadcasts after February 17, 2009.

There are three options to keep receiving television broadcasts after February 17, 2009:



Buy a converter box that will plug into your analog TV.



Buy a TV with a digital tuner.



Connect your analog TV to a cable pay service.

NOTE: NYCHA residents are prohibited from installing any television or satellite antennas on the window sill or at any place outside of the apartment such as window frames, window guards, or the brickwork on the exterior of the building without prior written consent from NYCHA.

- Certified TV converter boxes are expected to cost between \$40 and \$70.
- The Federal Government is offering U.S. households up to two \$40 coupons to help with the cost of certified converter boxes.
- Coupons are free, but supply is limited.
- Coupons expire after 90 days and cannot be reissued.
- Coupons will be mailed to you from the Federal Government. The coupon will look and work like a plastic gift card.

With your coupons you will also receive instructions for using the coupon, a list of coupon eligible certified converter boxes, a list of retailers where you can use the coupon, and frequently asked questions about the Program.

i For more information or to request your coupons, call **1-888-DTV-2009 (1-888-388-2009)** or **1-877-530-2634 (TTY)** visit online at: www.DTV2009.gov, apply by mail at: P.O. Box 2000, Portland, OR 97208, or fax 1-877-DTV-4ME2 (1-877-388-4632).

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Don't forget, the deadline for filing for the Economic Stimulus Payment (Tax Rebate) is October 15, 2008. Even if you are not otherwise required to file a tax return you may be eligible. For additional information on where and how to file, please contact your local IRS center or visit the IRS Website at: www.IRS.gov. NYCHA mailed letters out in April to all eligible residents.

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7th Annual Domestic Violence Conference



Hear the stories from domestic violence survivors, how they left their abusive relationship and are now living violence free lives.

STATEN ISLAND	QUEENS	BROOKLYN	BRONX	MANHATTAN
October 20, 2008 5:00pm - 8:00pm West Brighton Community Center 210 Broadway Staten Island, NY 10305	October 21, 2008 5:00pm - 8:00pm Jacob A. Riis Neighborhood Settlement 10-25 41 st Avenue Long Island City, NY 11101	October 22, 2008 5:00pm - 8:00pm Van Dyke Houses Community Center 392 Blake Avenue Brooklyn, NY 11212	October 23, 2008 5:00pm - 8:00pm Bronxdale Houses Community Center 1000 Rosedale Avenue Bronx, NY 10472	October 24, 2008 5:00pm - 8:00pm Manhattanville Community Center 530 West 133rd Street New York, NY 10027
To register, please call 718-816-1521	To register, please call 718-206-3286	To register, please call 718-498-3243	To register, please call 718-409-8699	To register, please call 212-334-2506

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5215 FOURTH AVE*
1813 KINGS HIGHWAY*
254 LIVONIA AVE*
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151 VANDERBILT AVE
187 BEDFORD AVE
2107 BATH AVE
508 CLARKSON AVE
531 EASTERN PKWY
642 NOSTRAND AVE
364 GRAHAM AVE
1075 BROADWAY
1588 FULTON STREET
160 ROCKAWAY AVE
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271 EAST 149TH ST*
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1908 CROSS BX EXPWY*
2187 WHITE PLAINS RD*
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686 NEREID AVE*
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1283 WESTCHESTER AVE
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120 FEATHERBED LN
396 EAST 167TH STREET
664 EAST TREMONT AVE
697 EAST GUNHILL RD
931 EAST 174TH STREET
977 PROSPECT AVE
1030 MORRIS AVE
1204 ELDER AVE
1784 WESTCHESTER AVE
2441 JEROME AVE
3212 THIRD AVE
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164 EAST 174TH STREET
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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 AM (unless otherwise noted) in the Board Room on the 12th Floor of 250 Broadway, New York, New York. The remaining meetings for Calendar Year 2008 are as follows:

October 2, 2008 (Thursday)
October 16, 2008 (Thursday)
October 29, 2008
November 12, 2008
November 26, 2008
December 10, 2008
December 24, 2008



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

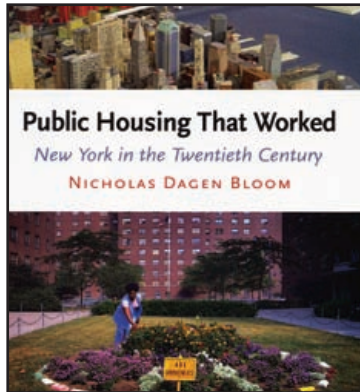
These meetings are open to the public. Pre-registration of speakers is required. Those who wish to register must do so at least forty-five (45) minutes before the scheduled Board Meeting. Comments are limited to the items on the agenda. Speakers will be heard in the order of registration. Speaking time will be limited to three (3) minutes. The public comment period will conclude upon all speakers being heard or at the expiration of thirty (30) minutes allotted by law for public comment, whichever occurs first.

For Board Meeting dates and times, and/or additional information, please visit our Website at nyc.gov/nycha or contact us at (212) 306-6088. Copies of the agenda can be picked up at the Office of the Secretary at 250 Broadway, 12th floor, New York, New York, no earlier than 3PM on the Friday before the upcoming Wednesday Board Meeting.

Any person requiring a reasonable accommodation in order to participate in the Board Meeting, should contact the Office of the Secretary at (212) 306-6088 no later than five (5) business days before the Board Meeting.

New Book About Public Housing

(Continued from page 7)



Dr. Bloom would visit his parents in New York, where they had moved to a middle income condominium across the street from Harlem's Grant Houses.

"I was impressed by how well managed [it] seemed [compared] to public housing elsewhere," he writes, citing this as a factor in his later interest in public housing.

"Nationwide, the quality of public services is threatened and declining," Dr. Bloom said. "I wanted to explore public sector competence and show that it can operate well in an urban society, especially in light of a negative press."

Why write about NYCHA? No one had written a comprehensive study of the largest, most successful public housing authority in the country, only the failed or troubled ones. NYCHA can be seen as an example of smart government. The information was readily available from the Housing Authority's detailed and well-organized records in the LaGuardia-Wagner Archives.

What surprises did you find? The attention to management detail was something that I discovered. This showed in everything from the tenant selection policy, with low levels of welfare tenancy, to the large investment on renovation and landscapes (that evolved from large, empty spaces to welcoming and recreational ones), to adequate staffing and numbers of committed administrators. Other surprises included the Housing Police.

You credit NYCHA's success to many of these factors, along with its determination to keep its sound buildings clean, safe and well-maintained. Why couldn't other PHAs do this? New York was committed to public housing because of the failure of earlier housing reform to provide decent homes for its working and middle class. NYCHA gained wide political

support to maintain the much needed units because developments were built in every borough. In some other cities, public housing was seen as part of urban renewal, mostly as a means to clean out the slums.

While your book documents NYCHA's success, it also includes some criticisms. What are some? While the uniformity of buildings makes them cost-effective to build and maintain, they can be seen as bland or cold. Decisions made about slum clearance on such a vast scale sacrificed some distinct neighborhoods, and the early tenant selection policy is certainly paternalistic by today's standards.

Compared to difficulties NYCHA has faced in the past, how severe is the present fiscal crisis from federal underfunding? The Authority is still in relatively good shape, with 45% of its residents working families. The decline in funding has been gradual, allowing NYCHA to adjust. We don't know for how long they can 'do more with less.' Certainly things are not as bad as the worst times,



Nicholas Dagen Bloom

such as the crack epidemic of the 1980s, which also had steeper funding cuts. Buildings are still in good repair.

What do you hope your book achieves? The public needs to know there is a role for good public services. The size of NYCHA's budget to house over 400,000 people who can't afford other housing options is not excessive. Certainly the large investment in New York's public housing should be maintained for its usefulness.

Editor's Note: This interview by NYCHA Bulletin Editor Howard Silver, was printed in the August 2008 edition of the *Bulletin*. It has been edited slightly.

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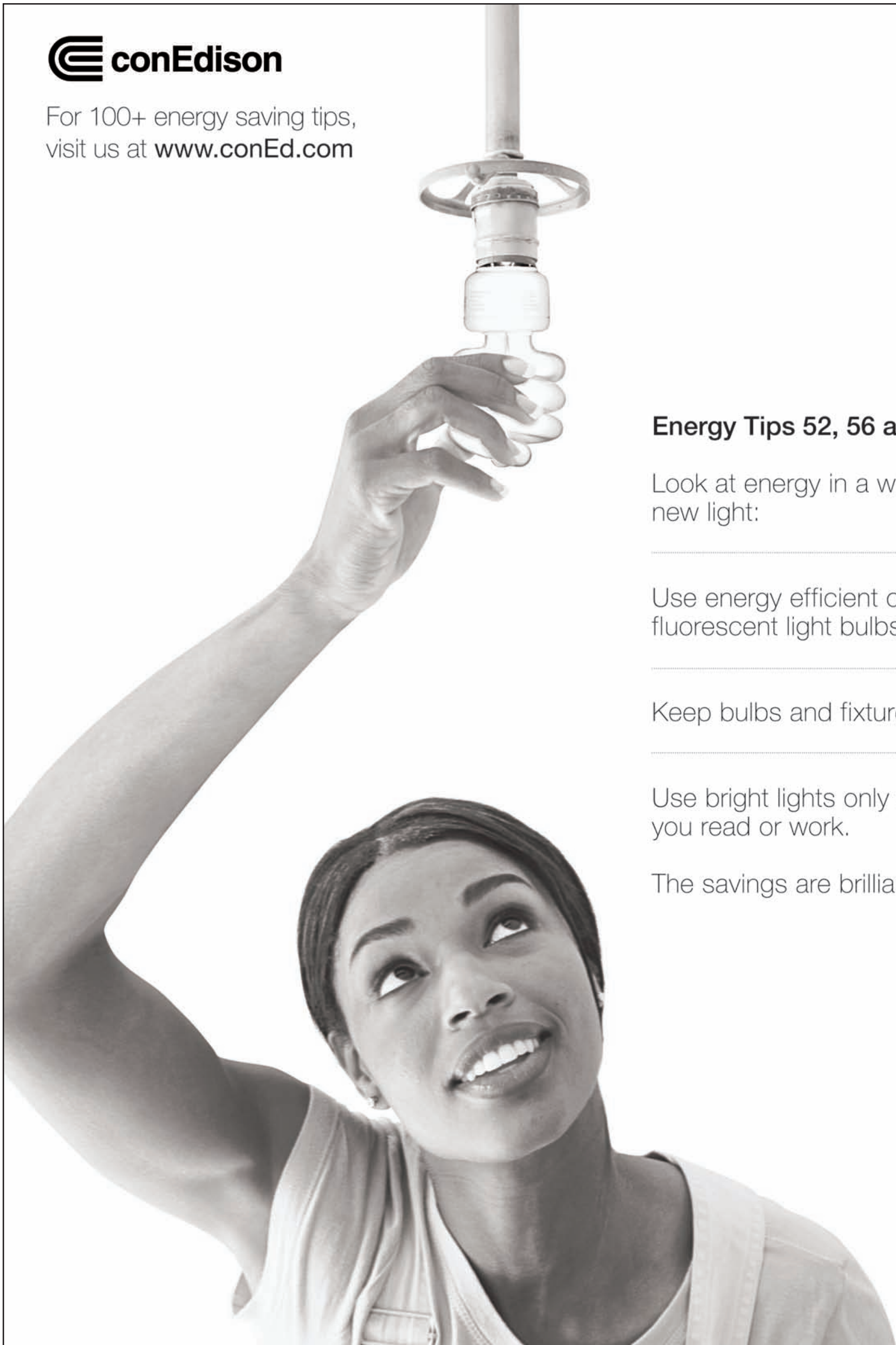
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