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First Annual Cops & Kids Awards and Recognition Ceremony in Staten Island

By Eileen Elliott

WHEN POLICE OFFICERS SEE GROUPS OF TEENS ROAMING THE STREETS IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT, MORE OFTEN THAN NOT THEIR ASSUMPTION WILL BE THAT THE YOUTH ARE UP TO NO GOOD. So it was for Police Officer Dane Varriano and his partner of the 120th Precinct in Staten Island as they cruised past five teenagers strolling through Mariner's Harbor Houses at two o'clock on Thanksgiving morning. As told by Department of Community Operations Senior Program Manager Raymond Diaz at the First Annual Cops and Kids Awards and Recognition Ceremony on January 7th, what could have been an unpleasant confrontation dissolved into friendly greetings when Officer Varriano recognized the young men. "Those are my guys. Everything's cool," the Officer explained to his partner. "These are the kids I play ball with."

The anecdote perfectly illustrates the goal of the NYPD Community Affairs' Cops and Kids Program, which seeks to build relationships between police officers and community youth through organized recreational activities — in this case, bowling, flag football and basketball.

Approximately 225 youth between the ages of 13 and 19 from all six Staten Island Community Centers participated in the joint collaboration between the NYPD, NYCHA, the Police Athletic League (PAL) and other community organizations, for the duration of the program from October through December.

"We've been able to preserve public housing in New York City largely because of programs like this," said NYCHA Chair John B. Rhea to the crowd of well-wishers gathered in the West Brighton Community Center. "Although we're going to celebrate the 46 who receive awards tonight, it's really not about whether you came in first or second; it's not showing up one time and wanting things to happen. It's about really getting engaged, participating and

dedicating yourself, and over long periods of time that commitment really does pay off."

Serving as Master of Ceremonies for the evening, Mr. Diaz thanked the many dedicated people involved including Deputy Inspector John Denesopolis from the 120th Precinct, NYCHA's Deputy General Manager Hugh Spence, Staten Island Borough Management Director Carolyn Jasper and Resident Association Presidents Brenda Charles from Mariner's Harbor, Sylvia Cunningham from South Beach, Eunice Love from Richmond Terrace and Geraldine Parker from Stapleton Houses.

In addition to the first- and second-place award winners, the 13 police officers from the 120th and 122nd Precincts who volunteered as coaches received Awards of Appreciation.

"The officers that are part of this program committed themselves 110%. These officers all came every day," said Mr. Diaz. "They worked with the kids; they laughed with the kids; they gave the kids high-fives during the bowling tournament; they

sweated with the kids during flag football; and ultimately, what I started to see were relationships being built."

One of those officers, NYPD Community Affairs PAL Liaison Kerry Hylan described some hesitancy on the part of the youth when the program began in Staten Island last year.

"Last year was our first year working with the Housing Authority. We had flag football and all developments participated....When we went to Richmond Terrace Houses the kids didn't want to get in the police van. They wanted us to make it look like we cuffed them so their friends wouldn't see, but after a couple of games they were looking for the cops they would play with."

"This is the essence of the Cops and Kids Program," Mr. Diaz added just before joining Chair Rhea to hand out the awards. "So that when our officers patrol they have a relationship with our young people and public housing becomes an environment of protection, of friendship, of communication."



KEEPING THE PROMISE WPIX Anchor James Ford (left) with NYCHA Chair John B. Rhea at Highbridge Gardens in the Bronx, where WPIX taped part of a half-hour program celebrating 75 years of public housing in New York City.

NYCHA Feature Airs On WPIX

By Eileen Elliott

WPIX CHANNEL 11 RANG OUT 2009 WITH A HALF-HOUR FEATURE CELEBRATING 75 YEARS OF PUBLIC HOUSING IN NEW YORK CITY, ENTITLED, "KEEPING THE PROMISE — THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NEW YORK CITY HOUSING AUTHORITY." The program, which aired on Sunday, December 27th, was hosted by James Ford of the WPIX Morning News. It captured the vitality of what Mr. Ford referred to as "North America's largest landlord" through interviews with NYCHA's Chair John B. Rhea, Board Member Margarita López, prominent former residents, current residents and NYCHA staff, among others.

At the heart of the story is NYCHA's success in maintaining its nearly 174,000 apartments in 336 developments through years of federal disinvestment while other cities have abandoned and even destroyed their public housing.

"There is a huge commitment to preserving public housing here in New York," Chair Rhea explained as he strolled through the grounds of Highbridge Gardens in the Bronx with Mr. Ford. "But it really goes back to the beginning. Public housing was built to be sustainable. It wasn't built as temporary housing. ...The idea of supporting and sustaining families has also always been a big part of NYCHA's philosophy and it still goes on today."

Former residents like Bronx District Attorney Robert Johnson and Schools Chancellor Joel

Klein spoke about their experiences growing up in public housing. Current residents like Council of Presidents Chair Reginald Bowman spoke about the general public's misperceptions about public housing residents, and Garden Competition award-winner Marion Dolphus told how NYCHA's gardening program has enriched her life. Nicholas Dagen Bloom, a professor at the New York Institute of Technology, who published a book about NYCHA last year, "Public Housing that Worked," described the conditions that led to the creation of public housing in 1934, spurred by the reformers who were "distressed over the permanence of the tenements."

Those tenements and their associated ills, including inadequate plumbing, vermin, fires

(Continued on page 5)



RECOGNIZING WINNERS Left to Right: Sergeant John O'Connor joins South Beach Flag Football Champions Melvin Askew, Arique Dross, Brian Zayas, Chairman John B. Rhea, Sal Morando, Nicholas Brown, Dominik Mazzone and Deputy Inspector John Denesopolis for this photo at the First Annual Cops and Kids Awards and Recognition Ceremony in West Brighton.

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CELEBRATES 70 YEARS!

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

NYC Census 2010: It's In Our Hands



ONE EXCITING AND IMPORTANT INITIATIVE THAT IS TAKING PLACE ALL ACROSS THE COUNTRY THIS YEAR IS CENSUS 2010. The U.S. Constitution mandates that every person, regardless of legal status, living in the U.S. and its territories be counted every ten years.

In mid-March the shortest Census form in history will be mailed out to 3.5 million households in New York City. The form will be addressed to you as "Resident" at your NYCHA apartment and will come with a stamped return envelope. The Census form will ask questions about each person living in your home, such as name, how they are related, sex, age, ethnicity, and race. And for the first time, the form will be mailed in Spanish to census tracts with a high percentage of Spanish speakers. A language guide will be available as well, explaining how those speaking other languages can obtain a form in their native language. The form should be filled out and mailed back immediately, but no later than April 15, 2010.

All information on the form is strictly confidential under Federal law and remains sealed for 72 years. Your personal information cannot be shared with any Federal, state, or city agency, including NYCHA. It is important that every individual living with you – whether or not they are on the lease – be included on your Census form to ensure an accurate count. Again, under Federal law this information will not and cannot be shared with NYCHA.

Why is the Census important? It determines the amount of federal funding the City receives for a variety of programs. Each year NYC receives approximately 25 billion dollars in Federal funding based in part on Census data. The funding is used for programs critically important to NYCHA residents, such as Medicaid, youth and education services, job training, transportation, public housing, and the Section 8 program. It is also used to determine the number of seats New York State and City get in Congress and the State legislature, as well as the size of the City's 51 Council districts.

It is especially important that the nearly 403,000 residents of NYCHA's 336 public housing developments are counted since a number of developments had a response rate of less than 50% in 2000. In the Bronx, these include: Marble Hill, Edenwald, Baychester, Claremont Rehab, Boston Secor, and Sackwern. In Brooklyn: Armstrong, Kingsborough, Brown, Ingersoll, Saratoga Square, Crown Heights, Palmetto Gardens, Stuyvesant Gardens, Roosevelt, Berry Street, Fiorentino Plaza, Lafayette, Brevoort, Marcus Garvey, Albany and Whitman. In Manhattan: Drew-Hamilton, Saint Nicholas, Randolph, Hernandez and Harlem River Houses; and in Staten Island, Stapleton.

Remember, 2010 Census is quick, easy and confidential. For more information, visit the 2010 Census webpage at www.nyc.gov or call 311. Remember, getting the funding and representation we deserve is in our hands, so make sure that when you receive the Census form, you fill it out and mail it back.

Michael R. Bloomberg

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 and 6AM
55 degrees Fahrenheit
whenever the outdoor
temperature falls below
40 degrees.

2,330 Section 8 Vouchers Terminated

IN LIGHT OF SEVERE FUNDING CUTS TO THE NEW YORK CITY HOUSING AUTHORITY'S (NYCHA'S) SECTION 8 LEASED HOUSING PROGRAM, NYCHA IS UNABLE TO HONOR 2,330 VOUCHERS THAT IT HAS ISSUED. Leased Housing Department Assistant Deputy General Manager Gregory Kern sent a letter to all 2,330 affected voucher-holders on December 30th, notifying them that their vouchers would not be processed, while emphasizing NYCHA's commitment to help those affected and their families. NYCHA's current Section 8 tenants are not at risk.

NYCHA's Citywide Section 8 voucher program is the largest in the nation, with 101,559 active Section 8 residents and over 29,000 landlords.

Participants in the Section 8 program, also known as the Housing Choice Voucher program, pay a reasonable share of their income in rent each month to a participating landlord, and NYCHA makes up the difference. The subsidy paid to the landlord is usually between 30% of the household income and the contract rent.

A number of factors have led to NYCHA's inability to honor the 2,330 vouchers. In May 2009, the federal government cut NYCHA's Section 8 funding six times more than expected, rescinding

\$58 million instead of the anticipated \$10 million. At the same time, the demand for Section 8 has been extraordinary over the past year while turnover last year was half what it was in 2008 (3% instead of 6%).

When funding was cut in May, NYCHA took several steps to preserve funding for those most in need, issuing vouchers only to families under duress: these included victims of domestic violence, referrals from the Administration for Children's Services (ACS) and individuals in the Witness Protection Program, among others.

The result was an immediate drop in the number of vouchers issued by 70%.

The 2,330 affected voucher-holders will be given priority to have their vouchers restored should Section 8 funding become available.

NYCHA, along with ACS, the Department of Homeless Services and the Human Resources Administration, is working collaboratively and aggressively to identify alternative housing assistance.

In the meantime, DHS is offering advice and counseling on alternatives to shelter for those at risk of homelessness through Homebase offices located Citywide. Those interested should call 311 for the nearest Homebase location. The Housing Authority is not accepting any new Section 8 applications.

GET CONNECTED...SO THAT WE CAN CONTACT YOU QUICKLY

As part of a new Customer Service initiative, NYCHA is asking residents for the e-mail addresses and cell phone numbers of all Heads of Household. This will allow us to provide you with fast, up-to-date information on everything from building emergencies to maintenance repairs and upcoming community events and programs. Please visit our website at www.nyc.gov/nycha to share/update this information. For security reasons, you will need to enter your Tenant ID. Or, you can provide the information to the CCC by calling (718) 707-7771, or to a maintenance worker the next time one stops by. The information we collect will be used for communications purposes only and will not be shared with a third party without your consent.

JOIN MORE THAN 21,500 SUBSCRIBERS WHO RECEIVE THE NYCHA JOURNAL ONLINE EACH MONTH BY SIGNING UP AT WWW.NYC.GOV, OR BY VISITING NYCHA'S WEBSITE AT NYC.GOV/NYCHA.

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of Public Housing
in New York City

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CHAIR'S MESSAGE

More on the Mixed Finance Modernization Plan: Addressing Your Concerns



LAST MONTH IN THIS PAPER I ANNOUNCED THE NEW YORK CITY HOUSING AUTHORITY'S (NYCHA'S) PLAN TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF A SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY THAT PRESENTED ITSELF WHEN CONGRESS PASSED THE STIMULUS ACT LAST YEAR. To recap: The Stimulus Act allows for a one-time, unprecedented chance for NYCHA to obtain annual federal operating and

capital funds for the 21 developments in our portfolio that were built by the City and the State. These developments have received no government subsidy for many years. This has forced NYCHA to spread out the operating subsidy it receives for its 315 federally funded developments in order to cover costs for the 21,000 housing units in these City and State developments. That amount has equaled \$1 billion since 1998.

The Stimulus Act allows NYCHA to convert developments into federal housing, but we can do so only with a mix of public and private money. Therefore, NYCHA is in the process of creating a public/private limited partnership that will include a financial institution, a nonprofit organization and NYCHA as the managing partner. It's called the Mixed Finance Modernization Plan.

On December 17, 2009, NYCHA held two public hearings related to the Mixed Finance Modernization Plan and I had the opportunity to hear and address firsthand the concerns that were expressed by residents, elected officials, housing advocates and the general public. This initiative is so important that once again I am devoting my column to it by sharing some of the concerns that were raised at the public hearing, and my responses.

One resident brought up his concern that his 88-year-old grandmother who lives in St. Mary's Houses in the Bronx, one of the City/State developments, would be asked to move out of her apartment. The answer is, no, she will not be asked to leave, nor will her rent go up as a result of this transaction.

One resident leader asked about the word "sell" which NYCHA used at a meeting held with the Citywide Council of Presidents before the Public Hearing. Let me be clear, NYCHA is selling the residential units in the 21 developments to the partnership we are creating. However, we are not selling the land. The developments that we are selling will continue to be operated by NYCHA as they have in the past. They will remain subject to all federal public housing guidelines, income eligibility requirements, and tenant protections.

Putting the buildings into the partnership does not change NYCHA's rights to operate those buildings. We will be selling the 21,000 housing units at fair market value into the partnership and will receive fair pricing based upon current appraisals of each of the buildings. The money we receive for selling the buildings will immediately be reinvested back into the developments; it will be used to complete modernization and rehabilitation work currently underway. We will ground lease the land for a minimum of 15 years and when the lease is up, NYCHA will have the right to reacquire the buildings.

One speaker wanted to know what the incentive was for banks to go into the deal. Banks receive two specific benefits: first, they are required by the Community Reinvestment Act to spend or invest a certain amount of money and do business with residents and customers who live in low-income communities. So, this helps them fulfill that requirement; second, they receive tax credits that they can use against taxes they would normally have to pay.

The Mixed Finance Modernization Plan is important for many reasons but primarily because it provides relief from the operating costs of these developments, which account for nearly two-thirds of NYCHA's structural budget deficit of \$150 million. I assure you that NYCHA is working incredibly hard to close our budget deficit.

This completed transaction must be submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) by the March 17th deadline. Once HUD approves it, all of NYCHA's developments and its residents will benefit. We believe that this Mixed Finance Modernization Plan will attach long-term federal funding and immediate improvements to these units for the families who call them home and help to ensure NYCHA's viability for the next 75 years. Look to next month's Journal for more on our progress.

John B. Rhea

CONGRESS MEMBER UNVEILS LEGISLATION TO HELP RESIDENTS BECOME HOME HEALTH CARE AIDES



Congress Member Nydia Velázquez held a press conference at the New York City Housing Authority's (NYCHA's) Bushwick Senior Center in Brooklyn on December 7th, to announce her new legislation, the "Together We Care Act of 2009," which proposes a three-year federally funded pilot program to train and certify public housing residents as home health care aides. Nationally, the legislation would provide the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) with \$2.5 million per year. "Home care is a profession that will be in high demand for years to come and this legislation will offer hard-working public housing residents with the tools they need to enter this field. By training New Yorkers in a certified trade we can help turn the economy around," Velázquez said. NYCHA Chair John B. Rhea commented, "This legislation is a win-win for NYCHA residents: not only will it help residents obtain jobs, it will provide needed care for seniors in their preferred settings, their homes, allowing them to live independently for as long as possible." Over 35% of NYCHA's households are headed by seniors aged 62 or over, and seniors are the fastest growing segment of NYCHA's population.

General Manager Michael Kelly Addresses New NYPD Housing Bureau Recruits



NYCHA General Manager Michael Kelly welcomed and congratulated approximately 20 new recruits into the New York City Police Department (NYPD) Housing Bureau on December 30th. The NYPD Housing Bureau plays an important role in safeguarding the quality of life of hundreds of thousands of New Yorkers in and around New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) developments. NYCHA residents are serviced by the NYPD Housing Bureau through nine Police Service Areas (PSAs), four Satellite PSAs, and a Staten Island Housing Unit. Six of these sites are located within NYCHA developments. Working in close coordination and partnership with resident patrols, community groups, and development managers, members of the Housing Bureau are committed to effectively reduce crime and aggressively target violations and other conditions that detract from the quality of life for residents in and around NYCHA developments. United in the common purpose of making homes a safer place for working families, seniors, young people, and all the residents of public housing, the NYPD Housing Bureau is dedicated to providing the highest level of professionalism, responsiveness, and sensitivity to the communities it serves.

THE NYCHA NOT WANTED LIST

In this issue we continue 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 efforts 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. What follows is a partial list of the people excluded after hearings were held on July 29th and August 5th and 19th, 2009. **For a full list of the "Not Wanted" visit NYCHA's website at nyc.gov/residentscorner. 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 July 29, 2009

Pablo Cartegna	Case 5065/09 formerly associated with the first floor of 905-907 Eagle Avenue, Forest Houses, the Bronx.
Sharon Benson Jessica Pittman	Case 3209/09 formerly associated with the fifth floor of 700 Euclid Avenue, Cypress Hills Houses, Brooklyn.
Divinity Divine Rolando Farrow Barbara Curbelo	Case 5034/09 formerly associated with the eighth floor of 456 Richmond Terrace, Richmond Terrace Houses, Staten Island.
Ulysses Roman	Case 2336/09 formerly associated with the seventh floor of 1817 Story Avenue, Monroe Houses, the Bronx.
Joseph Singleton	Case 4999/09 formerly associated with the second floor of 51-15 Alameda Avenue, Ocean Bay Apts., Queens.
James Outlaw	Case 5054/09 formerly associated with the ground floor of 555 F.D.R. Drive, Baruch Houses, Manhattan.
Justin Stokes	Case 5068/09 formerly associated with the third floor of 177 Continental Place, Mariner's Harbor Houses, Staten Island.
Itury McCroskey Vincent Darrell McCroskey Itury Kitt Stanley Burrus	Case 5036/09 formerly associated with the seventh floor of 1010 Soundview Avenue, Bronxdale Houses, the Bronx.

Prohibited as of August 5, 2009

Ebony Jackson	Case 6856/09 formerly associated with the seventh floor of 507B Howard Avenue, Park Rock Consolidated Houses, Brooklyn.
Donald Shuemake Donald Shuemaker	Case 5238/09 formerly associated with the sixth floor of 29 Avenue W, Marlboro Houses, Brooklyn.
Benjamin Robles	Case 2984/09 formerly associated with the fifth floor of 135 Richards Street, Red Hook West Houses, Brooklyn.
Julio Valdez	Case 5247/09 formerly associated with the fourth floor of 180 Powell Street, Seth Low Houses, Brooklyn.
Richard Johnson	Case 5334/09 formerly associated with the eighth floor of 710 Tinton Avenue, Adams Houses, the Bronx.
Allah Howell	Case 5335/09 formerly associated with the second floor of 108-10 159th Street, South Jamaica Houses, Queens.
Eliga Banks	Case 5228/09 formerly associated with the second floor of 240 Broadway, West Brighton Houses, Staten Island.
Jaron Truluck	Case 7516/09 formerly associated with the fourth floor of 554 Marcy Avenue, Marcy Houses, Brooklyn.
Tony Mills	Case 5264/09 formerly associated with the fifth floor of 192 Sands Street, Farragut Houses, Brooklyn.
Edward Rivera	Case 5303/09 formerly associated with the thirteenth floor of 383 East 143rd Street, Mott Haven Houses, the Bronx.
Williams Saunders	Case 5053/09 formerly associated with the first floor of 4030 Laconia Avenue, Edenwald Houses, the Bronx.
Fredrick Dongo	Case 5351/09 formerly associated with the sixth floor of 320 Kingsborough 3rd Walk, Kingsborough Houses, Brooklyn.
Joseph Robinson	Case 5381/09 formerly associated with the fifteenth floor of 445 East 120th Street, Wagner Houses, Manhattan.

Prohibited as of August 19, 2009

Kenneth Griffin	Case 5378/09 formerly associated with the fifth floor of 2385 1st Avenue, Wagner Houses, Manhattan.
Shelby Dozier	Case 5367/09 formerly associated with the third floor of 140 West 174th Street, Sedgwick Houses, the Bronx.

Red Hook I Celebrates 70 Years!



Red Hook Houses I, or Red Hook Houses East, completed on November 20, 1939, was the first federal public housing development built under the 1937 Housing Act as part of the Federal Works Program initiative under President Franklin Delano Roosevelt. It has 16 buildings, two- and six- stories tall with 1,411 apartments. The development commemorated its 70th anniversary this year with a proclamation from Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg declaring November 20, 2009 Red Hook Houses I Day throughout New York City. **Shown above, left to right, are: Borough Administrator Earl Roberts, Resident Association President Dorothy Shields, Manager Boniface Ezeji and Superintendent Wallace Vereen. The historical photos below are courtesy of the LaGuardia Wagner Archives.**



Clockwise from top: City Planner Robert Moses addresses the crowd at the site of Red Hook I on July 18, 1938. Construction began one month later; **Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia** helps to build a wall at the development on November 1, 1938, and below, children enjoying the playground on August 19, 1943. Red Hook II, or Red Hook West, with 14 buildings, three-, six- and 14-stories tall and 1,480 apartments was completed in 1955. Another 3,308 residents make their homes there. Together, Red Hook I and Red Hook II make up the largest public housing development in Brooklyn. A multi-million brickwork and roofing renovation has been ongoing there since 2002.

CITYWIDE PROGRAMS
COMMUNITY OPERATIONS
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION

2 0 1 0

RESIDENT ART SHOW

CITYWIDE ART COMPETITION
OPEN TO ALL NYCHA RESIDENTS



Artwork will be accepted from
Monday April 5th to Friday April 9th, 2010
Between 12pm and 5pm
at Harborview Visual Arts Center
536 West 56th Street, New York, NY 10019
(Between 10th and 11th Avenue)

For more information please call (212) 541-5172 or (212) 306-3511

Image credit: Jasmine Rojas, 'Rabbit', 2009, paper mache, dimensions variable

SECTION 3 PROFILE

Whitman Houses Mom Finds Employment Close to Home in Project Funded by Stimulus \$\$\$

— By Eileen Elliott —

ONE FORTUITOUS EVENING LAST JUNE, 35-YEAR-OLD CRYSTAL RICART RETURNED HOME FROM ANOTHER DAY OF JOB HUNTING TO FIND A FLYER ON THE FRONT DOOR OF HER APARTMENT IN THE NEW YORK CITY HOUSING AUTHORITY'S (NYCHA'S) WALT WHITMAN HOUSES ADVERTISING THE SERVICES OF NYCHA'S DEPARTMENT OF RESIDENT EMPLOYMENT SERVICES (RES).

Ms. Ricart, who has been living in Brooklyn's Whitman Houses for about 15 years and has raised two sons there, had been trying to support herself by selling clothing she designed to friends and neighbors. She'd had trouble finding work ever since she was laid off from her job in the Accounts Payable division of what was then the brokerage firm Salomon Smith Barney years earlier.

"Let me just send my resumé and see what happens," she said. Within a week she was called in for an interview with RES.

A week after that, she interviewed with the Human Resources Department of the construction management firm, AFG Inc., that was responsible for performing the massive renovation work at Whitman and the nearby Raymond V. Ingersoll Houses. Before she knew it, she landed a job as a Project Assistant with AFG.

The project recently received \$80 million in federal Stimulus funds for apartment renovation, and \$21 million in Stimulus funds has been allocated for elevator rehabilitation. This is being supplemented by more than \$91 million from NYCHA's capital budget.

The developments have been in dire need of repair for some time. Both Whitman and Ingersoll Houses were completed in 1944 and built as temporary housing for workers in the nearby Brooklyn Navy Yard. They have 1,659 and 1,826 apartments respectively.

The total renovation, which will cost \$250 million, consists of replacing 61 elevators in low-rise buildings, and 32 elevators in high-rise buildings, and the rehabilitation and reconfiguration of 2,353 apartments.



**Project Assistant
Crystal Ricart**

Because of the federal Section 3 requirement that contractors who receive certain U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) financial assistance, to the greatest extent possible, must provide job training, employment, and contract opportunities for low- or very-low income residents in connection with projects, Crystal Ricart found a new job.

Ms. Ricart works in a trailer, set up on the grounds of the Whitman Houses. "I do a lot of scanning," she said. "Getting information up on the website, filing, paper work. Sometimes I'm out in the field, helping with the surveying. I like it all. I'm always running around."

"Everything's changed," she said. "I get to pay off all of my bills and my back rent. I didn't think the Stimulus program would affect me but it has because now I have a job."

NYCHA Feature Airs On WPIX

(Continued from page 1)

and the use of coal stoves for heating, were replaced with the likes of the award-winning Williamsburg Houses in Brooklyn, now a historical landmark, and Harlem River Houses in Manhattan. With the completion of Williamsburg in 1938, the superblock was born, providing children with open green spaces for play instead of city streets. Cramped tenements were replaced with apartment complexes that some complained were too luxurious for the working families moving into them.

The program emphasized NYCHA's commitment to working families and to recreational, educational, employment and cultural programs like the NYCHA Youth and Senior Choruses, and the Housing Authority's Green Initiative.

After assurances from Chair Rhea that NYCHA will keep the promise of decent affordable housing for the next 75 years, Mr. Ford concluded, "It's more than bricks and boilers. It's children; it's families; it's community. We're talking about an institution that continues to build self-esteem, hope and independence for more than 400,000 people who call it home." To view the program, visit NYCHA's website at nyc.gov/nycha75.

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5215 FOURTH AVE*
1813 KINGS HIGHWAY*
254 LIVONIA AVE*
151 VANDERBILT AVE*
531 EASTERN PKWY*
187 BEDFORD AVE
2107 BATH AVE
508 CLARKSON AVE
106B NASSAU AVE
642 NOSTRAND AVE
364 GRAHAM AVE
1075 BROADWAY
1588 FULTON STREET
160 ROCKAWAY AVE
593 MYRTLE AVE
254 KINGSTON AVE
451 BROADWAY
553 GRAND ST
687 STANLEY AVE
706 RALPH AVE
5805 FOURTH AVE
1638 CONEY ISLAND AVE
653 CLASSON AVE
832 WASHINGTON AVE

840 FRANKLIN AVE

1083 MANHATTAN AVE
BRONX
11 EAST GUNHILL RD*
159 EAST 170TH ST*
2356 GRAND CONCOURSE*
271 EAST 149TH ST*
350 DEVOE AVE*
797 SOUTHERN BLVD*
1908 CROSS BX EXPWY*
2187 WHITE PLAINS RD*
81 WEST FORDHAM RD*
686 NEREID AVE*
396 EAST 167TH STREET*
4551 THIRD AVE*
697 EAST GUNHILL RD*
890 EAST TREMONT AVE*
1784 WESTCHESTER AVE*
2441 JEROME AVE*
1245 SOUTHERN BLVD*
931 EAST 174TH STREET
977 PROSPECT AVE
1030 MORRIS AVE
1204 ELDER AVE
664 EAST TREMONT AVE
1284 WESTCHESTER AVE
3212 THIRD AVE
25 WEST 170 TH STREET
3725 E TREMONT AVE
3429 E TREMONT AVE
164 EAST 174TH STREET
269 EAST TREMONT AVE

120 FEATHERBED LN

1202 MORRISON AVE
2193 GRAND CONCOURSE
4215 THIRD AVE
MANHATTAN
94 EIGHTH AVE*
590 EIGHTH AVE*
763 NINTH AVE*
926 COLUMBUS AVE*
3352 BROADWAY*
514 WEST 207TH ST*
2168 SECOND AVE*
551 COLUMBUS AVE
4984 BROADWAY
2351 SECOND AVE
3433 BROADWAY
3657 BROADWAY
200 WEST 14TH STREET
224 EIGHTH AVE
295 CHURCH STREET
QUEENS
56-54 MYRTLE AVE*
37-74 90TH STREET*
102-10 ROOSEVELT AVE*
46-18 QUEENS BLVD*
30-14 31ST ST
39-28 QUEENS BLVD
30-08 BROADWAY
40-35 21ST ST
58-14 ROOSEVELT AVE
*OPEN 24 HOURS

* To qualify for an excella Visa Prepaid Debit Card there must be an associated cash load. Minimum suggested load amount is \$40. The excella Visa Prepaid Debit Card is issued by The Bancorp Bank pursuant to a license from Visa U.S.A. Inc. and may be used wherever Visa debit cards are accepted. The Bancorp Bank, Member FDIC. Obtaining Your Card: The USA PATRIOT Act is a federal law that requires all financial institutions to obtain, verify, and record information that identifies each person who opens a Card Account. What this means for you: When you open a Card Account, we will ask for your name, address, date of birth, and other information that will allow us to reasonably identify you. We may also ask to see your driver's license or other identifying documents at any time.

Your neighborhood is now *our* neighborhood.



Our Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly lets you continue to live independently, in the comfort of your own home, delivering personalized care from a team of qualified health professionals.

To learn more, call CCM today!

877-226-8500, (TTY: 1-800-650-2774)

Seven days a week from 8:00 AM - 8:00 PM

Call to find out about your closest CCM site and meet the team that would deliver your health care!

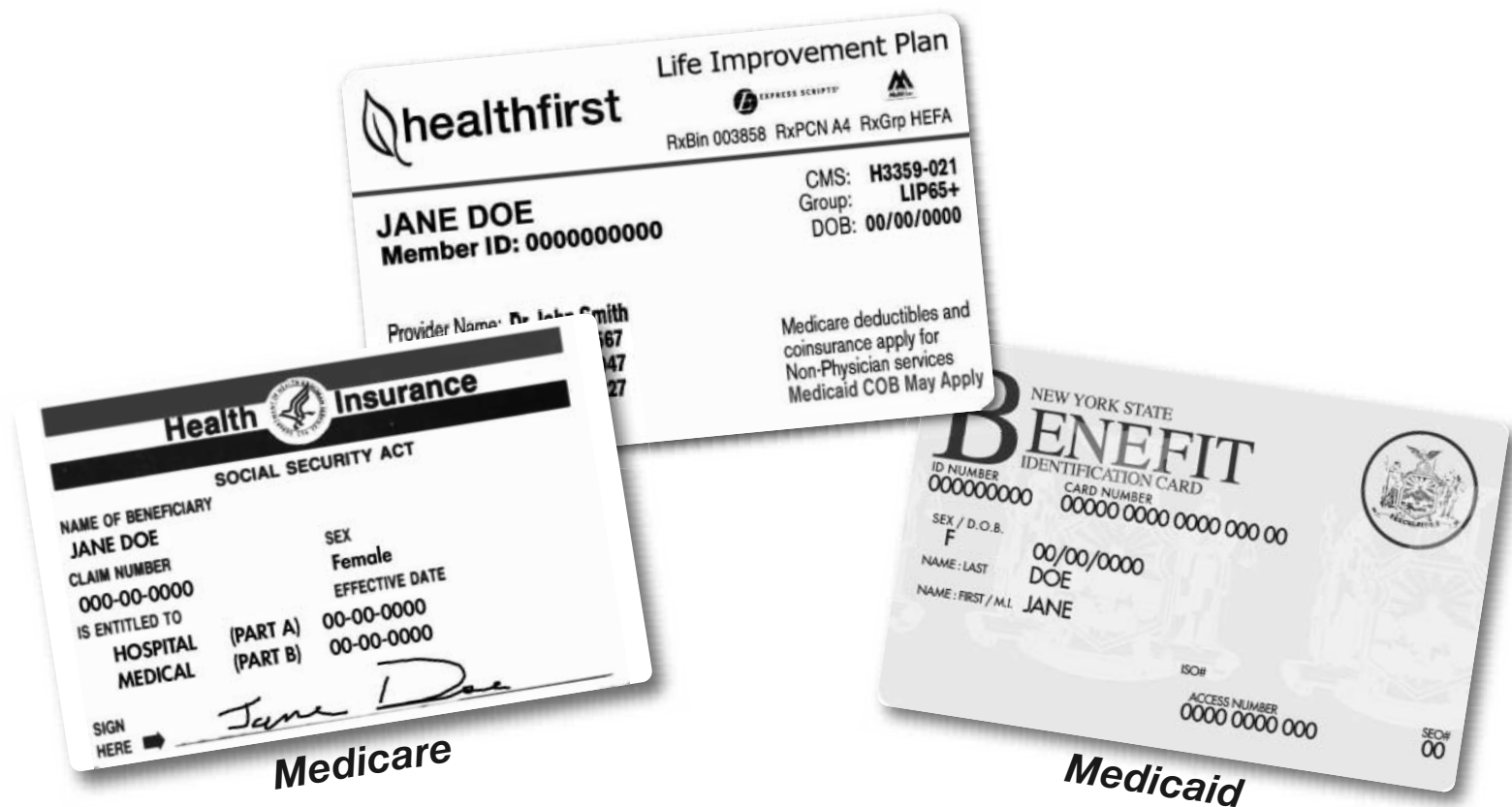
CCM

Comprehensive Care Management Corporation

A Member of the Beth Abraham Family of Health Services

CCM PACE has an approved contract with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and NY State. Additional benefits and restrictions may apply. Members are liable for the cost of services not authorized by CCM program.

The Perfect Match!



If you have Medicare and Medicaid, Healthfirst offers you one of the most comprehensive healthcare plans in New York

Depending on the plan you choose, some of the great benefits you can get include:

- Up to \$600 per year (\$50 per month) for non-prescription drugs and health related over-the-counter items
- \$0 for ALL covered dental services
- FREE car service to and from your doctor up to 16 times per year (4 per quarter)
- \$0 copayment for primary care visits
- \$0 copayment for specialist visits
- No referrals required
- Up to \$500 for hearing aids every three years
- Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage (Part D)



we put your health first

Find out more about Healthfirst Medicare Plan for 2009, call:

1-877-237-1303 | TTY 1-800-662-1220
(for the hearing or speech impaired)

Monday through Friday, 8:00AM – 6:00PM

www.healthfirstny.com

Healthfirst Medicare Plan is a health maintenance organization that has a Medicare Advantage contract with the Federal government and is available in the Bronx, Brooklyn, Manhattan, Queens, Staten Island, Westchester and Nassau. Not all plans available in all counties.

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A U D I T I O N S

WE ARE LOOKING TO **AUDITION** NEW MEMBERS
DURING OUR RECRUITMENT DRIVE..

IF YOU ENJOY SINGING, PERFORMING AND WOULD LIKE
TO DEVELOP YOUR MUSIC SKILLS, GIVE US A CALL,
DON'T WAIT

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(212) 427 - 6648 / 8603



AUDITIONS ARE OPEN TO
BOYS AND GIRLS FROM
12 TO 19 YEARS OLD



 COMMUNITY OPERATIONS
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION-CITYWIDE PROGRAMS

Visit NYCHA on the Web



The New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) website has a host of information for residents. Here are some of the resources that are just a click away:

www.nyc.gov/nycha

75th Anniversary Website

NYCHA recently launched a 75th Anniversary website that celebrates NYCHA's contribution to public housing in New York City. Check out the a slideshow of historical NYCHA photos, a timeline of important dates in NYCHA's history, along with an overview and a timeline of NYCHA's "green" initiatives.

Online Rent Payment

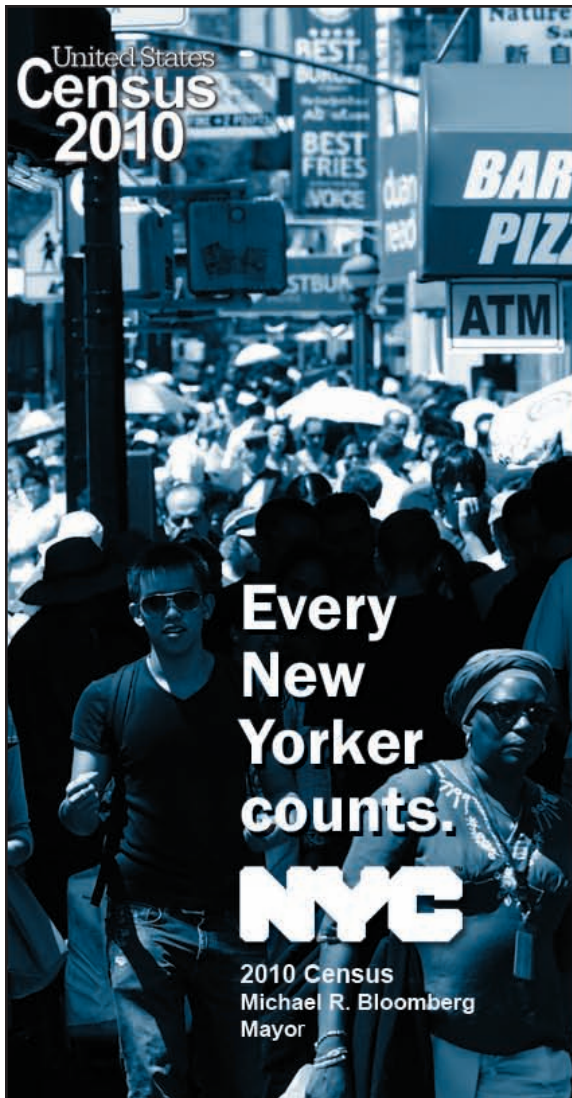
Pay your rent at any hour of the day or night on our website. Set up re-occurring payments and view past ePayment history online! The NYCHA ePayment system is a quick, convenient and economical way to manage your monthly rent payments.

NYCHA News

In addition to the news that you receive monthly in the Journal, NYCHA also posts news that you can use exclusively on our website. For example, browse our Press Release section to find the latest news coming out of the Authority.

Residents' Corner

Get the latest policies and procedures, learn how you can get involved with your Resident Association and Tenant Patrols, and browse the NYCHA Not Wanted List, which contains the names of individuals which have been permanently excluded from Housing Authority property to protect the safety of our residents.



United States
Census 2010

Every New Yorker counts.

NYC

2010 Census
Michael R. Bloomberg
Mayor

Your neighborhood.

Your resources.

Your voice.

Participation in the 2010 Census means representation.

A census form will be mailed to you in March 2010. Fill it out with information about every person who lives with you and mail it back immediately!

For more information, visit nyc.gov or call 311.

The census is a count of every individual in the United States, regardless of status. It happens every 10 years. If everyone fills out a census form, your community will have more power in Washington, D.C. and New York will get more money for important services, such as:

- EDUCATION
- JOB TRAINING
- HEALTH CARE
- TRANSPORTATION

2010 CENSUS TIMELINE: KEY DATES

March 15, 2010 Census questionnaires are mailed or delivered to households.

April 15, 2010 Fill out and return questionnaires in the mail by this date; census takers will visit households that did not return a questionnaire by mail between May and June.

December 2010 Census Bureau delivers population counts to the President of the United States for congressional apportionment.

FEBRUARY IS BLACK HISTORY MONTH!

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 10:00AM in the Board Room on the 12th floor of 250 Broadway, New York, New York (unless otherwise noted). The meetings for Calendar Year 2010 are as follows:

February 3, 2010	July 21, 2010
February 17, 2010	August 4, 2010
March 3, 2010	August 18, 2010
March 17, 2010	September 1, 2010
April 1, 2010 (Thursday)	September 15, 2010
April 14, 2010	September 28, 2010 (Tuesday)
April 28, 2010	October 13, 2010
May 12, 2010	October 27, 2010
May 26, 2010	November 10, 2010
June 9, 2010	November 24, 2010
June 23, 2010	December 8, 2010
July 7, 2010	December 22, 2010

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

These meetings are open to the public. Pre-registration 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.

Copies of the Agenda are available on NYCHA's Website or can be picked up at the Office of the Secretary at 250 Broadway, 12th floor, New York, New York, no earlier than 3:00PM on the Friday before the upcoming Wednesday Board Meeting. Copies of the Minutes are also available on NYCHA's Website or can be picked up at the Office of the Secretary no earlier than 3:00PM on the Thursday after the Board Meeting.

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

For additional information, please visit NYCHA's Website or contact us at (212) 306-6088.



Avoid Delays and Higher Costs: Sign up for Medicare Early

**Are you turning 65 this year?
If so, then you should sign up for
Medicare three months before your
birthday.**

**If you sign up after your birthday,
your Medicare start date may be
delayed or your cost may increase.**

**Medicare coverage begins on the
first day of the month of your
birthday.**

**If you are already getting Social
Security benefits you will auto-
matically be enrolled in Medicare.
You should receive your Medicare
card by mail about three months
before your 65th birthday. Other-
wise call 1-800-633-4227 or go to
www.medicare.gov for more
information and to enroll.**

**Help is available 24 hours a day,
7 days a week.**

FREE 14-week job training program for homeless & low-income women

First Step Program

Computer Training - Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook
Internet Research • Resume Writing • Interviewing Skills
Job Placement Assistance • Self-Esteem Building
2 Month Internship • Case Management • Typing
Literacy Building • Mentoring • Yoga & Meditation
Support Groups • Empowerment

GED not required • New class starting soon!

FREE Continental Breakfast & Metrocards Provided

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



Notify NYC

Timely, accurate information can make a world of difference in an emergency. In New York City, emergencies — from water main breaks and power outages to fires and severe weather — happen every day. Notify NYC delivers important information about emergencies and City services affecting New Yorkers like you at home, work, school, and in the community.

The Notify NYC notification service provides subscribers with real-time information about emergencies throughout the five boroughs. You can specify the zip codes that interest you most.

Register for free via www.NYC.gov/notifnyc or by calling 311 to receive e-mails, text messages, or recorded phone calls. **To learn more about emergency preparedness and the Ready New York program, visit our website at www.NYC.gov/readyny.**

COMMUNITY OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION - CITYWIDE PROGRAMS

2010 CITYWIDE GIRLS BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

GIRLS' AGES
 FUTURE: 11 & UNDER
 NOVICE: 13 & UNDER
 JUNIORS: 15 & UNDER
 SENIORS: 18 & UNDER

THE BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT
 IS OPEN TO GIRLS WHO RESIDE IN
 NEW YORK CITY HOUSING AUTHORITY
 DEVELOPMENTS

THE LEAGUE WILL START IN JANUARY, 2010
 ONLY 12 PLAYERS PER TEAM
 3 Non-Residents Allowed Per Team

REGISTRATION FORMS CAN BE OBTAINED AT:
 Community Operations
 Department of Administration - Citywide Programs
 90 Church Street - 5th Floor
 New York, NY 10007

For Additional Information,
 Please contact the
 Education Through Sports Unit at
(212) 306 - 3338

Approved for Posting

COMMUNITY OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION - CITYWIDE PROGRAMS

2010 CITYWIDE BOYS BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

BOYS' AGES
 FUTURE: 8-10
 BANTAM: 11-13
 JUNIORS: 15 & UNDER

THE BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT
 IS OPEN TO BOYS WHO RESIDE IN
 NEW YORK CITY HOUSING AUTHORITY
 DEVELOPMENTS

THE LEAGUE WILL START IN JANUARY, 2010
 ONLY 12 PLAYERS PER TEAM
 3 Non-Residents Allowed Per Team

REGISTRATION FORMS CAN BE OBTAINED AT:
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 90 Church Street - 5th Floor
 New York, NY 10007

For Additional Information,
 Please contact the
 Education Through Sports Unit at
(212) 306 - 3338

Approved for Posting

IT'S TAX TIME! DON'T FORGET TO FILE FOR TAX CREDITS!

Tax season is here again – which means that you could be eligible for tax credits and free or low-cost tax preparation. Tax credits can reduce the amount of taxes you owe, or give you a refund from the government. Your family could be eligible for up to \$6,500 with the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), and working individuals could be eligible for up to \$600. You might also benefit from the Child Tax Credit and other tax credits for parents, which could add up to an even bigger refund. **Call 311 or visit nyc.gov/ofe**, when you receive your W-2 form(s) to learn more about your eligibility for tax credits and to find the location of a free or low-cost tax preparation site near you. And remember to beware of Refund Anticipation Loans (RALs). RALs are not tax refunds but actually high-interest loans borrowed against your anticipated tax refund. You will pay interest and could owe a lot if you do not qualify for the refund you expected.

Community Operations
Department of Administration

READING IS FUN

Reading classes for children 6 to 8 years old -1st to 3rd Grades
(Some classes may be open to 4th graders)

REGISTER NOW

OPEN ENROLLMENT
PROGRAM DATES
 OCTOBER 5, 2009 -
 MAY 27, 2010

MONDAYS / TUESDAYS
 OR
WEDNESDAYS / THURSDAYS
SESSIONS 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm

The Partners in Reading Program is

- FREE
- STAFFED BY CERTIFIED DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TEACHERS
- OFFERED IN ALL BOROUGHS

For more information, please call
 212-306-2935/3232/3246

Dennis M. Walcott Deputy Mayor for Education and Community Development	Michael R. Bloomberg Mayor City of New York	Joel L. Klein Chancellor, Department of Education
Earl Andrews, Jr. Vice Chairman	John B. Rhea Chairman NYC Housing Authority	Margarita López Member

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