



New York City Housing Authority

Journal

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August 2001

HOOPING IT UP IN HARLEM!

Knicks, Sprite & NYCHA Refurbish King B'Ball Court



The Rollin' Knicks played a quick game on the newly refurbished basketball court at Martin Luther King, Jr. Towers on July 7. The game was followed by a Dress and Dribble Relay, with King Community Center children struggling into jerseys while dribbling to the finish line. Basketball clinics were held afterwards.

By Eileen Elliott

We all know they can play basketball but did you know that the New York Knicks, New York City's hometown team, also spend time on and off the court making things better for the community? Together with Sprite and the New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) they did exactly that on a hot, sunny July 7, at the first-ever Knicks' Community Day in Harlem. Held at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Towers in Manhattan, the community turned out to greet them in numbers 2,000 strong.

The day's activities centered around the dedication of the development's newly renovated basketball court, which was paid for (at a cost of \$36,000) by the Knicks and Sprite.

"The Knicks are committed to making a difference in the community," said Steve Mills, President of Sports Team Operations for Madison Square Garden, "and

we're excited that the kids in Harlem will have a beautiful, new court they can practice on."

NYCHA Vice-Chairman Earl Andrews, Jr. brought greetings from Chairman Tino Hernandez, who said the event was "a grand example of sportsmanship and civic responsibility."

According to NYCHA Department of Economic and Business

Initiatives (DEBI) Director Frank Sanicola, it happened like this. The Knicks approached the Coca-Cola Company, with which DEBI's Business Initiatives Division has a relationship, saying that they were interested in refurbishing one of our basketball courts and holding a clinic for NYCHA kids as part of a New York City community outreach program. They wanted an outdoor court, a court in Harlem, and a full court with spectator seating.

After inspecting six sites, the court at King Towers turned out to be exactly what they were looking for. Not only did it meet all of the specifications, it also happened to be in a development where 40% of the total population — that's over 1,300 residents —

(Continued on page 5)

The Amnesty Program

The New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) has established a Rental Assistance Amnesty Program for all authorized NYCHA residents and Section 8 Leased Housing participants. Applications for Amnesty are being accepted from September 1, 2001 through November 30, 2001. The Program is specifically designed to help those NYCHA residents who have failed to accurately report their household income and/or assets to NYCHA. (See page 9 for details and to find out how you can apply.)

Bushwick Seniors' Picnics



SUNNY SENIORS NYCHA seniors and staff brought merriment and good food to Sunken Meadow Park in Kings Park, Long Island, for the Ridgewood Bushwick Senior Citizens Council Annual Picnics on July 19 and August 16. Many NYCHA staff including **Chairman Tino Hernandez (below, far right)** did a good deal of the cooking. This marks the 29th year of picnics, which are attended by thousands of senior New Yorkers. **Brooklyn Assemblyman Vito J. Lopez (below, center)** who is Chair of the NY State Assembly Housing Committee, created the Ridgewood Bushwick Senior Citizens Council. He continues to play a major role in what has become a New York tradition.



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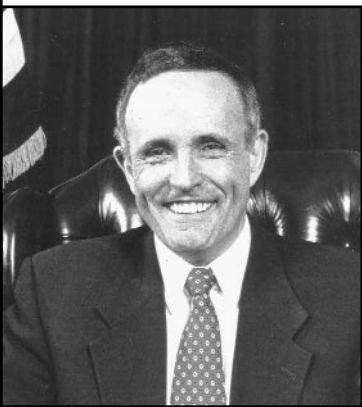
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NYCHA CELEBRATES LABOR DAY!

Message From The Mayor

Transforming Welfare And Expanding Opportunity

Last month I was proud to open the Coney Island Job Center, marking the completion of one City's historic decision to convert all Welfare Offices into Job Centers, where individuals and staff now focus intensively on employment.



When we developed the City's landmark welfare reform program in 1994, over 1.1 million people were on welfare — more than one in seven New Yorkers. And the ratio was nearly the same for New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) residents, with one in eight receiving public assistance in January 1994. We understood that a transition to self-sufficiency could not be accomplished without an underlying change in philosophy. By converting welfare offices into Job Centers, we have helped to restore work and the work ethic to the central roles they once occupied in our City.

We now have 27 Job Centers throughout the City, along with three other specialty Job Centers that seek to help refugees, homeless single individuals, and people in drug treatment programs. The purpose of the centers is to provide welfare applicants and recipients with meaningful opportunities to avoid dependency through employment and job-related activities.

All eligible applicants who enter a Job Center are immediately assisted in exploring and pursuing alternatives to welfare and are initially engaged in a full-time job search focused on obtaining unsubsidized employment. Job Centers provide on-site access to job search and placement services, child-care information, and vocational and educational training.

By emphasizing job placement and substance-abuse treatment, we have brought the welfare rolls down more than anyone had anticipated. As of June, the number of New Yorkers on welfare was down by 497,113, a drop of 57.2 percent from the peak of 1,160,593 in March 1995. At the end of December 2000 (the latest date for which figures are available), the number of NYCHA residents living in conventional public housing who were receiving public assistance had dropped to 33,328 from its high of 54,138 in 1994. With 535,000 residents currently living in NYCHA developments, that means that the number who receive public assistance has dropped from one in eight to one in sixteen. In other words, the number of NYCHA residents currently on welfare is half of what it was six years ago.

This is the first time since July 1966 that New York City has had less than 500,000 people on public assistance. It is a milestone worth celebrating. There are now 663,480 fewer people on welfare now than there were just over six years ago. This is a figure larger than the populations of all but 15 cities in the nation, and more than the populations of Alaska, North Dakota, Wyoming or Vermont.

Last year HRA surpassed its goal of 100,000 job placements by achieving 133,000 jobs. HRA accomplished this goal through many initiatives, among the most important of which was the initiation of strictly performance-based job placement contracts.

Under this fundamental reform, HRA's employment placement contractors, including both for-profit and non-profit entities, are paid on the basis of actual job placements and job retention. The annual number of placements made through these performance-based contracts presently exceeds 15,500 jobs.

In addition, HRA has expanded its effort to enroll all eligible participants in public health insurance programs by reaching out to working individuals and families who are not eligible for welfare but who may be eligible for health insurance.

Instead of looking to add another person to the welfare rolls, Job Centers do everything possible to add another person to the workforce, to give people real independence and control over their own lives. And in the process, we're restoring the work ethic to the center of City life and transforming New York City from the former welfare capital of the world to the work capital of the world.

Rudy Giuliani

Portrait Of The Artist As A NYCHA Resident

By Eileen Elliott

June 10th was a special day for LaGuardia Houses resident Kathleen Sorrells. Not only was it her 53rd birthday, it was also the day she was featured in a *New York Times Magazine* photo essay called, "Always Home," by David LaChapelle, about New Yorkers who are confined to their homes.

Ms. Sorrells' gentle, good-natured demeanor belies a host of problems. She has muscular dystrophy, epilepsy and osteoporosis, and so spends most of her days in the Lower East Side apartment where she has lived with her uncle, Arden, for the past three years. But Ms. Sorrells has found a way to transcend her physical limitations. She draws.

"I wake up in the morning and I start drawing. I draw all the time," she said as Arden arranged a display of her work. "I can do one line, then another. Everything interlocks."

If anyone can be attributed with "discovering" Ms. Sorrells' talent, it's her uncle, whose full name is Arden of Judah.

"It was 1988 and I was studying the Torah," Arden said, referring to the five books of Moses, "and Kathy kept talking, talking, talking. I couldn't concentrate. So I thought, I'll go to Pearl Paints and get her a sketch setup. The rest is history."



Ms. Sorrells' Uncle Arden with home aide Irenise Costumé

Though Arden has had polio since the age of 19 (he is now 66), he has been Ms. Sorrells' principal caretaker for more than 20 years. When his parents died in 1977, Arden, who is a Messianic Jew, meaning he believes in Jesus as the Messiah, returned to the United States from Israel where he had been living for the previous four years. He found his niece living in a nursing home in Massachusetts, fought for her custody and finally won.

For nearly two decades, they lived together in a series of overpriced and inadequate apartments, including an unfinished basement in Queens, before landing their current residence at LaGuardia Houses.

"I prayed very hard and so did Kathy," said Arden, "and we got this magnificent place in a safe neighborhood."

Ms. Sorrells produces a drawing a day. Most are in pencil, and all consist of a series of straight lines forming geometric shapes,



Fine Artist Kathleen Sorrells at home in LaGuardia. "I like to work on my art and create beautiful things," said Ms. Sorrells, who averages one drawing a day.

some like stars, some like textured wooden struts that bring to mind the underside of a dome. In many, the real impact comes from the negative space — the white background — which looks like open sky.

Ten years ago, Ms. Sorrells had an exhibition of her work at the Harlem State Office Building on 125th Street called "Treasures In Graphite." She hopes to have another some time in the not-too-distant future. She said she wants a real opening, a black-tie affair.

And, who knows? In the *Times* article, Ms. Sorrells mentioned that she would like to show her work at a high-profile gallery some day, like the Mary Boone

Gallery on Fifth Avenue. The article caught Ms. Boone's eye.

"When I got this letter, I cried," Ms. Sorrells said, carefully handing me an envelope with a red logo for the Mary Boone Gallery printed on it. "And I looked at it and looked at it and looked at it."

In the letter Ms. Boone tells Kathleen Sorrells that she saw the article and was touched by her dedication, tenacity and commitment. It concludes, "We need more artists like you in the world."

"Blessings find us," Arden said, folding the letter up and sliding it back into the envelope. "Everything comes to us."

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Message From The Chairman

You Have a Voice In NYCHA

Since my appointment as Chairman of the New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) back in April, I have had the pleasure of visiting approximately 40 of our developments all over the city. It was my good fortune that half of these visits took place during family days, giving me the opportunity to socialize with



many residents in a relaxed environment, outside of my official role as Chairman, and I want to thank all of you for the warm welcome you have given me.

Informal social events, such as family days, are one way of making your presence felt by NYCHA's executive staff, but they are by no means the only way. Even for veteran residents it is worthwhile to review the many ways in which you can express your views on issues that have an impact on your lives.

The Resident Advisory Board

The most recently formed component of the NYCHA system of resident representation is the Resident Advisory Board — the RAB. It was created in 1999 to assist NYCHA in the development of its Annual and Five-Year-Plans, which are submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The original Board was composed of 12 members, nine representing public housing and three from the Section 8 Program. Last year, the RAB was expanded to 41 members to better represent our residents. It is with the RAB that we conduct the Town Hall Meetings in all five boroughs, during which residents can express their views on the various issues in the Agency Plan, such as pet policy and community service.

Resident Associations

NYCHA residents are probably most familiar with the Resident Associations as their duly elected voice. Resident Associations are the core of resident representation. About 270 developments have Resident Associations and the Authority provides technical assistance and encouragement to the remaining 76 so that every development and every resident is formally, effectively, democratically represented. Resident Association presidents in turn serve on a Council of Presidents (COP) for each of nine districts throughout the city. Each district selects one of its presidents as chairperson, who becomes the Council of Presidents Chair or COP Chair. Each COP Chair serves on the nine-member **Citywide Council of Presidents**.

Resident Association Committees

Under the umbrella of each Resident Association, five specialized committees are dedicated to specific missions within each development. Every resident can serve on these committees and I urge you to do so. **The Community Center Advisory Committees** participate in and guide the development of activities and programs at community centers. **The Tenant Patrols** reinforce security at their local developments, working with police and management to enhance security, monitoring buildings and grounds. Their presence in lobbies and outdoor areas, their surveillance of access to the development, their knowledge of who does and who doesn't belong on the premises provides eyes and ears for the police and the Authority. **The Maintenance/Modernization Committees** consult with and assist NYCHA management, superintendents and contractors on the repair, preservation and improvement of the physical aspects of their developments. **The Drug Elimination Program Committees** work with the Authority on a wide variety of programs providing wholesome alternatives to drugs. **The Alternative High School Committees** assist the New York City Board of Education in the formulation of curriculum and in motivating young residents who live in developments with Alternative High School programs.

Many residents take part in the committees and activities I've mentioned, and many others are active in less formal ways. But however you contribute to improving the quality of life at NYCHA, I am sure you find it rewarding and enjoyable. *And I hope to run into you at your development's family day before the summer is through.*

Tino Hernandez

Red Hook Seniors Eligible For Free Lung Screening

By Allan Leicht

Eligible senior citizens living in Brooklyn's Red Hook Houses will have an opportunity to take part in a study that may expand into a program that could be of great benefit to all the seniors of the New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA). The New York Early Lung Cancer Association Program at Maimonides Medical Center will offer state-of-the-art lung screening at no cost whatsoever to Red Hook Houses residents over the age of 60 who have a history of smoking or who currently smoke.

Early detection of cancer is the best chance for a cure. The test that is being offered can detect tiny spots on lungs years before they would be seen on a chest X ray, thereby increasing the chances of surviving one of the most fatal cancers. This lung cancer screening, known as the low-dose CT Scan, is currently not covered by most health insurance, so this is a unique opportunity to take advantage of the most up-to-date medical technology, which would not be affordable otherwise. The CT Scan is a completely painless, non-invasive procedure lasting about 20 seconds.

Brooklyn Assemblyman Steven Cymbrowitz, Honorary Spokesperson for the New York Cancer Project and former director of NYCHA's Office of Intergovernmental Relations, initiated the collaboration between Maimonides Medical Center and NYCHA. Red Hook Houses was selected for the pilot program because of its large senior population and because it is near Maimonides Medical Center. Representatives of Maimonides will visit the Red Hook Senior Center in September to meet with residents, present the program and answer all questions. Those who volunteer and are eligible will receive free transportation to the medical center.

To be eligible for the program, Red Hook residents must: be 60 years of age and older; have smoked one or more packs of cigarettes a day for ten years; have no prior history of any cancer; have had no chest CT scan in the past 2 years; and be in good health.

Red Hook Senior Center Director Rosemary Bland and Brooklyn Community Operations Director Mary Starks said that with a good response at Red Hook Houses, the same service could become available to seniors living in other NYCHA developments.



Deborah's Diary

By Deborah Williams

Congratulations to Davy Johnson of Woodside Houses in Queens. Davy became a published writer when his book entitled "The Figure: A Short Story" hit cyberspace. "The Figure" is a horror story based on the lives of former slaveholders and their emancipated slaves that has a twist of fate involved. It appears to be an interesting story that would intrigue readers. The book can be purchased at the following Web site: www.1stBooks.com. In addition to his fiction, Davy also has a true story to tell. In a letter he wrote to me, he stressed, "that many residents of public housing need to be informed that living in the projects can and has produced persons of various talents. Residents must be told that they can become talented as well, that they needn't think that living in the projects is an impediment to their success — it isn't." And you know what? I agree. I thank you for your inspirational message and wish you continued success!

Remembering the Heroes On May 18, 2001, the Manhattan Management Department held a Memorial Day tribute to honor the veterans of 1940 and 1980 Lexington Avenue, two senior citizens' buildings that comprise UPACA 5 and 6, and are managed from the Jackie Robinson Consolidation. The festivities began with an invocation, the pledge of allegiance, and then a moment of silence to remember those veterans who died for all of us. Manhattan Borough Management Director William Russo praised the veterans in attendance and thanked them for their service. Each was presented with a certificate and was asked to tell where they had served and in what branch of the military. They spoke of World War II: Pearl Harbor, the Philippines, Guadalcanal, Okinawa, the European theater, Greece, and Africa, and the Korean War. Also honored were Vietnam Veterans John McMillan and Victor Roman, NYCHA Borough Administrator and Housing Assistant, respectively. Several of the proud seniors commented that they had not been so honored since leaving military service. Among the senior veterans were: James Dawson who served in the United States Army at Guadalcanal in the Pacific in World War II; his brother, Mr. Thomas Harper, who served aboard the USS Intrepid in World War II and also served in the Korean War; and Benjamin Stewart, who was also in World War II, serving in the United States Air Force in Germany, Greece and Japan. These were just some of the accounts given by this group of brave soldiers. It was a powerful and moving experience for all. **We salute all these veterans and all veterans, staff and residents of NYCHA. Special thanks to Mr. William Russo for sending this report to the Housing Authority Journal.**

An Aspiring Inventor—Leon D'Francelay, resident of Robert A. Taft Houses, is the inventor of the "Know Thyself" device. I bet you're wondering what exactly this device is. Listening to its name you might think it is something spiritual for the body and soul, and in a way it is. The Know Thyself is a computerized anatomical reference guide — which means it is designed to help you discover your inner-self — that is your anatomy. Mr. D'Francelay is confident that his invention will become an educational aid for students of anatomy, and serve as a reference tool for doctors, nurses, teachers and all health care professionals. The invention strongly resembles a hand-held, palm type computer with video display and a keypad for inputting data and requests. It has a keyboard optimized for specialized anatomical terms, a voice synthesizer and associated controls for the audible pronunciation of the terms. According to a news release, "a patent application was recently filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office in Washington, D.C. and Mr. D'Francelay is actively seeking a manufacturer to produce and distribute the Know Thyself into the marketplace." So, if you feel this product might be a useful tool then keep a lookout for the Know Thyself. It looks hopeful that it will soon be available in a store near you. **Mr. D'Francelay you are quite the innovative person and I extend my congratulations to you. I hope your invention turns out to be everything you want it to be and more! I also commend you on your participation in NYCHA's 2000 Resident Art Show.**

YOUR CHILD IS NO ANGEL.



Angels don't need health coverage. Your child does. That's why at HEALTH PLUS we offer you Child Health Plus; a New York State program that provides your child or teenager with **FREE or low cost health coverage** regardless of your financial situation. To find out if your child qualifies, call **HEALTH PLUS** at **1-888-809-8009**.

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**Protecting Our Community's Health
Since 1984.**



Children are eligible for Child Health Plus offered by HEALTH PLUS if they: are under the age of 19; are not eligible for Medicaid and do not have equivalent health insurance; and live in **Brooklyn, Bronx, Queens, Manhattan, or Staten Island**.

www.healthplus-ny.org

Places to Apply for Jobs!

The Civil Service Chief-Leader provides valuable information on where to apply for and pick up employment/examination applications. Using their material as well as information from the NYC Green Book, here is a list of some important places where examination and/or job applications may be obtained. We also list phone numbers where you can obtain further details about exams, vacancies and the application process. **Please note the new address for mailing requests for City applications, in bold below.**

City: In person 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday to Friday, Department of Citywide Administrative Services, Application Section, 18 Washington St., (212) 487-JOBS. **Mail requests for applications must be received at DCAS Application Section, 1 Centre Street, 14th Floor, New York, NY 10007, with self-addressed, stamped, business-size envelope, no later than seven days before the filing deadline.** Applications must be returned by mail postmarked on or before the filing deadline. Filing fees range from \$30 to \$80, and are payable by money order only.

CUNY: At the personnel office of any CUNY college, unless otherwise specified in the exam announcement. The filing fees range from \$13 to \$30.

State: In person, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday, New York State Civil Service Department Community Outreach Center, 163 West 125th St., Manhattan, (212) 961-4326 as well as at Labor Department Community Service Centers. Mail requests to: Examination Information, New York State Civil Service Department, Building 1, State Office Building Campus, Albany, N.Y. 12239, (518) 457-6216. The filing fees range from \$15 to \$35.

Federal: To inquire about vacancies and where to apply, contact the Office of Personnel Management, 600 Arch St., Philadelphia, Pa. 19106, (215) 861-3070. Information is also available at 26 Federal Plaza in Manhattan.

Postal Service: Applications for exams in Manhattan or The Bronx may be obtained, only when tests have been ordered, at the Main Post Office, 380 West 33rd St., (212) 330-2851. For exams in Queens, Brooklyn and Staten Island, please contact the Post Office's Triborough District Annex, located at 78-02 Liberty Ave., Queens, (718) 529-7000.

Good luck, keep on persevering and keep on using this paper as an aid to finding a job!

State Exams Open Continuously

20-804
Accountant Trainee/Auditor Trainee
(Downstate)
\$33,940

20-551/20-552
Actuary Trainee and Assistant Actuary
\$28,794, \$30,488

20-526
Addictions Counselor I
\$35,292

20-527
Addictions Counselor I
(Spanish Language)
\$35,292

20-557
Addictions Counselor II
\$39,469

20,552
Assistant Actuary
\$30,488

20-280/20-281
Assistant Sanitary Engineer/
Senior Sanitary Engineer
\$39,902, \$49,250



Knicks Pix Michael Wright from Arizona (left) and Eric Chenowith from Kansas (right) join Knick LaVor Postell at the ribbon-cutting for the newly refurbished basketball court at King Towers in Harlem.

Has Your HRA Security Agreement Expired?

Housing Managers are in the process of reviewing the records of each resident for whom the Housing Authority received a Security Agreement issued by the Human Resources Administration in lieu of a cash security deposit, to determine if it has expired. The Security Agreement expires when a resident's public assistance case is closed, in other words, once the resident stops receiving public assistance. Once the Security Agreement expires, the resident must pay the applicable security deposit, which is the prevailing amount currently charged for new residents. HRA Security Agreements for those residents who were issued a "one-shot" public assistance grant for rental expire immediately. Those residents who owe a security deposit will be notified by a letter. **The amount of the deposit is one month's rent, or an amount according to the following schedule, whichever is greater:**

Efficiency Apartment	\$154.00
3 1/2 Rooms	\$174.00
4 1/2 Rooms	\$194.00
5 1/2 Rooms	\$212.00
6 1/2 Rooms	\$223.00
7 1/2 Rooms	\$230.00

Hardship Installment Plan

If you believe that payment of the entire security deposit in one payment will create a hardship, your Housing Manager may arrange an installment plan of not more than six (6) consecutive monthly payments. You should discuss this matter with your Housing Manager.

VISIT THE HOUSING AUTHORITY'S WEB SITE:
www.nyc.gov/nycha

Knicks (Continued from page 1)

is under the age of 21.

Coke's Vice-President for Public Affairs Robert J. Lanz called the project a perfect blend of private and public partnerships and said he had just one message for the children, teens and anyone else from the community who will be using the court, "These things don't come cheap. Use it. Have fun. Take care of it."

The renovations include a new court surface, new backboards and rims, and a refurbishment of the seven-tiered concrete bleachers surrounding the court. What's more, the Knicks will also cover the cost of maintaining the court for the next 18 months.

Two Knicks draft picks — Michael Wright from Arizona and Eric Chenowith from Kansas — along with Knick LaVor Postell were on hand to greet the cheering crowd. Mr. Chenowith commented that he was visiting New York for the first time and was, "overwhelmed by how nice people in New York are." And Mr. Postell told the younger people in the audience to, "Work hard, believe in yourself, stay happy, survive."

But the day was about more than basketball. Thanks to Scholastic, Inc., early in the afternoon award-winning children's books authors, Walter Dean Myers and his son, Christopher Myers, gave a reading and signed copies of their books.

"We're another successful team from Harlem," Walter Dean Myers said. He is a Harlem native, and with Christopher, collaborated on an acclaimed poetry book entitled "Harlem." Scholastic also provided a face painter and balloon sculptor, contributed arts and crafts materials, and gave away 5,000 books.

And for any child that may have had trouble reading those books because of poor eyesight, Child Sight, of the non-profit organization, Helen Keller World-wide, had optometrists set up to perform free eye examinations and give away eyeglasses on the spot.

The non-profit Harlem Educational Activities Fund (HEAF) was there to teach interested youngsters how to play chess, and a steady stream of kids visited the nearby Knicks Groove Truck to shoot hoops for free T-shirts, CD's, magazines and tickets.

King Towers Resident Association President Ruby Kitchen and Manhattan North Council of Presidents Chair Barbara G. Barber thanked everyone involved. "Today is a great day for all of us," Ms. Barber said.

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. Listing the proscribed persons is part of the effort to keep residents informed of NYCHA’s ongoing efforts to improve the quality of life for all New Yorkers in public housing and to allow the peaceful and safe use of our facilities. Here follows a list of the people excluded after hearings were held on July 19 and 26, and August 9, 2000. **REMEMBER, IF YOU SEE ANY OF THESE INDIVIDUALS ON HOUSING AUTHORITY PROPERTY, PLEASE CALL YOUR MANAGEMENT OFFICE OR THE POLICE! THIS LISTING IS PROVIDED TO ALL POLICE SERVICE AREAS.**

Prohibited as of July 19, 2000

Harold Barclay	Case 2750/00 formerly associated with the eighteenth floor of 70 East 115th Street, Taft Houses, New York.
Christopher Franklin	Case 2752/00 formerly associated with the fourteenth floor of 2130 Madison Avenue, Lincoln Houses, New York.
Emanuel Feliciano	Case 2676/00 formerly associated with the Jesus Feliciano third floor of 820 Henderson Avenue, West Brighton Houses, Staten Island.
Charles Patterson	Case 2726/00 formerly associated with the eighteenth floor of 2698 8th Avenue, Drew Hamilton Houses, New York.

Prohibited as of July 26, 2000

Shaheem Riddick	Case 4280/00 formerly associated with the eighth floor of 422 Blake Avenue, Van Dyke Houses, Brooklyn.
Axel Quintana	Case 2934/00 formerly associated with the sixth floor of 510 East 146th Street, Betances Houses, the Bronx.
Johnnie Houston	Case 2935/00 formerly associated with the first floor of 164-01 Foch Boulevard, Baisley Houses, Queens.
Ferdinand Ramirez	Case 2936/00 formerly associated with the eighth floor of 849 Flushing Avenue, Bushwick Houses, Brooklyn.
Warren Crooms	Case 2890/00 formerly associated with the fourth floor of 201 West 93rd Street, Wise Towers, New York.
Michael Keyes	Case 2891/00 formerly associated with the second floor of 212 Throop Avenue, Tompkins Houses, Brooklyn.
Daniel Wilkins	Case 2922/00 formerly associated with the second floor of 3050 Park Avenue, Jackson Houses, Bronx.

Prohibited as of August 9, 2000

Johnny Cedano	Case 3003/00 formerly associated with the tenth floor of 60 Baruch Drive, Baruch Houses, New York.
Levar Davis	Case 3010/00 formerly associated with the second floor of 5612 Farragut Road, Glenwood Houses, Brooklyn.
Daniel Vasquez	Case 3012/00 formerly associated with the sixth floor of 1305 Loring Avenue, Pink Houses, Brooklyn.
Elaine Harrison	Case 3055/00 formerly associated with the first floor of 606 Clinton Street, Red Hook Houses East, Brooklyn.
Andrew Norris	Case 3059/00 formerly associated with the second floor of 81 North Portland Avenue, Whitman Houses, Brooklyn.

From The Chief’s Corner

A Fond Farewell To Sergeant Harold Leamon

Back in 1991, the New York City Housing Police Department and the New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) collaborated on a new program to turn young, educated public housing residents into police officers. The program had a lot to offer. It gave NYCHA residents who were college students the opportunity to serve as interns with the police department while they continued their education. It paid them a salary and offered tuition assistance, and perhaps most importantly, it contributed to the creation of a police force that has become more representative of the people it serves.

The program was called the New York City Housing Police Department Cadet Program, and Housing Police Sergeant Harold Leamon was chosen as its Community Liaison. Ten years and some 500 Cadets later, the Housing Bureau Cadet Program, as it is now called, is just as popular as ever, but its Community Liaison is moving on.

Sergeant Leamon will retire on August 30, after 20 years with the Department. During that time he has touched the lives of countless NYCHA residents.

“The best thing about working in the community,” Sergeant Leamon said, “is seeing young minority men and women take hold of an opportunity and run with it. A great number of Cadets become police officers; some go on to become sergeants, which makes me very proud.”

Sergeant Leamon estimates that nearly 75% of the Cadets who complete the program and acquire their degrees become police officers. (It takes 64 college credits to become a Sergeant, a Bachelor’s Degree to become a Captain, and 96 college credits to become a Lieutenant.)

“We’re trying to bridge the communication gap between the residents and the police,” Sergeant Leamon said. “After

two years working with the community, Cadets come to view folks differently. Then when they become police officers we try to return them to the same Police Service Areas where they were Cadets.”

Cadets work full-time in the summer, and on a flexible, part-time schedule during the school year, with some of the best police officers in the Housing Bureau. They help solve real life problems, teach crime prevention strategies, assist senior citizens and organize youth-related activities.

Sergeant Leamon’s work with the Housing Bureau Cadet Program isn’t all that he has to be proud of. In 1993 he implemented the America’s Youth Passport program in New York City. The program was developed as a memorial to two children who were abducted from the playgrounds of King Towers in Manhattan in 1989. The passports, which are kept by the children’s parents, identify children by their fingerprints, photographs and a host of other information. It is the belief of the Police Department that this program has helped reduce the risk of victimization of children.

Working with the Cadet Corps, under the direct supervision of Sergeant Leamon, over



Housing Bureau Police
Chief Douglas Zeigler

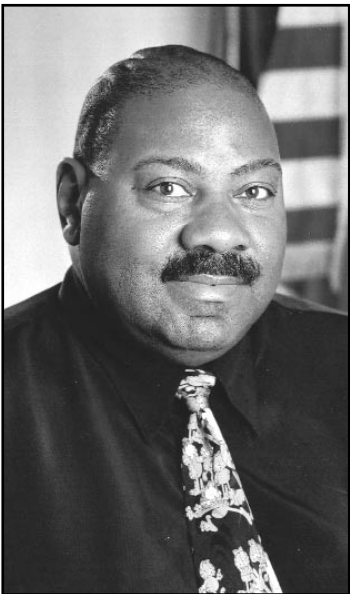
50,000 children have had passports created for them. And 15,000 NYCHA seniors have participated in a spin-off program, the Senior Citizen Emergency Notification Program, initiated by Sergeant Leamon in 1997.

Sergeant Leamon said he has no big plans for his retirement, though he has been thinking about starting his own security business. He is grateful for the opportunity he has had to work with NYCHA’s youth and regrets that leaving NYCHA inevitably means leaving some friendships behind. He thanks his wife Pearleen for the patience she has shown over the years during the sometimes long hours demanded by his job, as well as his son Adam, 14, and his daughter Edna, 11.

Though Sergeant Leamon may be leaving the Housing Bureau, the legacy of his good works will live on in NYCHA communities all over the city.

If you are a NYCHA resident and are interested in learning more about the Housing Bureau Cadet Program or the Cadet Trainee Program, please call (212) 477-7639. Qualifications are listed below.

Is The Housing Bureau Cadet Corps For You?



Sergeant Harold Leamon

To qualify for the NYPD Housing Bureau Cadet Corps, you must:

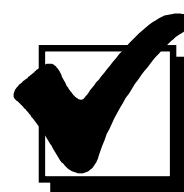
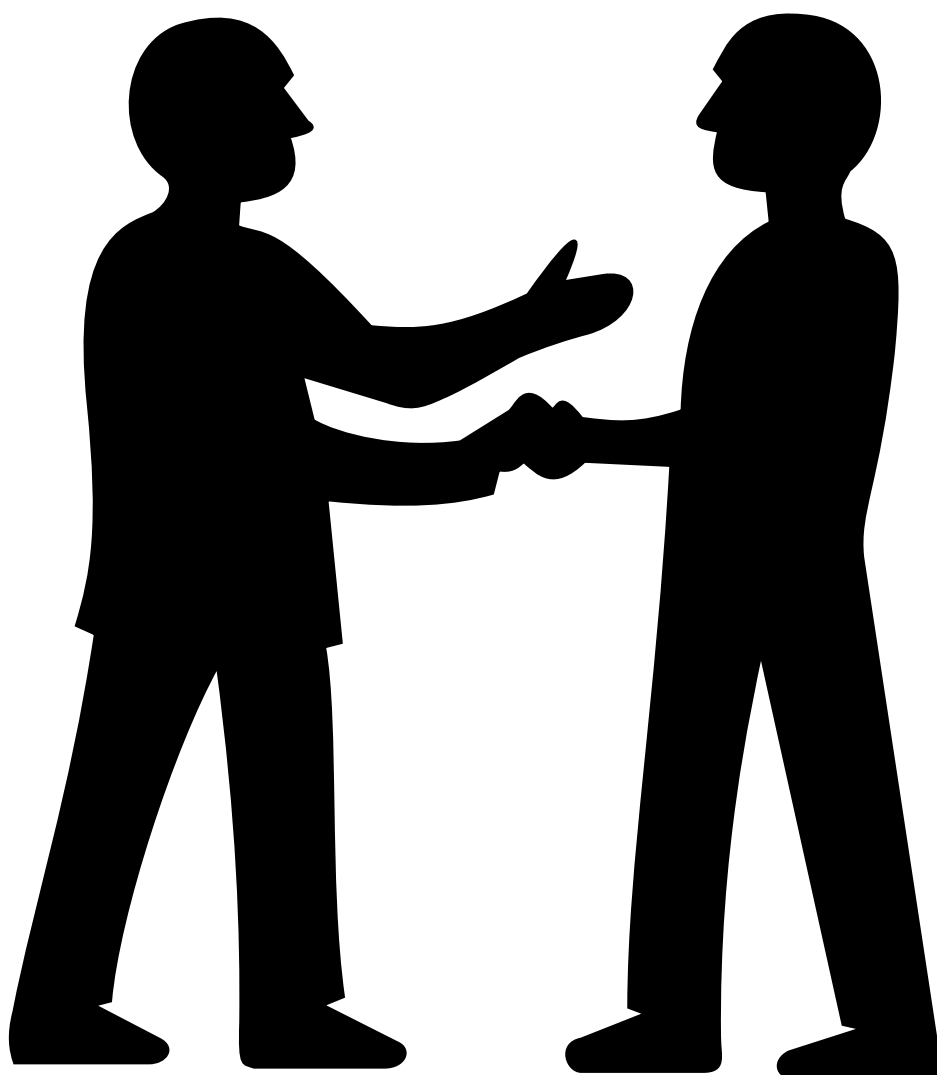
- Be a NYCHA resident or former NYCHA resident;
- Be enrolled in an accredited college within New York City, Nassau or Westchester Counties and carry a minimum of 12 credits a semester;
- Expect to have between 45 and 60 credits by the time of appointment;
- Be a U.S. Citizen or a permanent resident who will become a citizen within two years of being appointed;
- Be a resident of New York City at the time of the appointment.

To qualify for the NYPD Housing Bureau Cadet Trainee Program, you must:

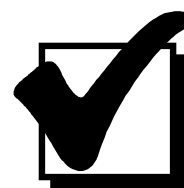
- Meet the same U.S. and local citizenship requirements and NYCHA residential requirements for the Cadet Program;
- Be a high school senior with a letter of acceptance from an accredited college in New York City, or a student in an accredited New York City college with less than 45 credits at the time of appointment;
- Carry a minimum of nine credits per semester.

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Did you know...

Did you know that the observance of Labor Day as a national holiday began over 100 years ago? The disastrous Pullman Strike of 1893, which began in the company town of Pullman, Illinois, served as the real impetus for the creation of the holiday. Caught in a nationwide depression, the Pullman Company, which produced railway sleeping cars, was forced to lay off hundreds of employees and lower the wages of remaining workers while it maintained the same rents. Workers in the town went on strike, and with the help of The American Railway Union, the strike and a boycott spread across the country. President Grover Cleveland deployed 12,000 troops to break it up and two strikers were killed. When the strike was declared over in 1894, Pullman employees were forced to sign a pledge saying they would never unionize, and with the exception of the American Federation of Labor and various railway unions, industrial workers' unions were stamped out. Legislation sanctioning the holiday was shepherded through Congress by President Cleveland as a political move to appease workers and win re-election, and on June 28, 1894 a bill passed Congress making the first Monday of September a legal holiday.



CATCH OF THE DAY Young NYCHA residents from all over the borough were rockin' and reelin' at the Manhattan Fishing Contest that was held in Central Park on August 1.

Modernization Training for Residents

By Allan Leicht

Two hundred and fifty NYCHA resident leaders joined 75 NYCHA executives and staff for a daylong training course on the Authority's modernization process on July 28. Explanations for questions like, "Why do we have to wait so long for our new kitchens?" and "Who decides which developments get the work first?" were given in a morning session that gave a general overview of the modernization and renovation process and in an afternoon discussion that got down to specific issues.

Resident Association Presidents and their Executive Boards, Resident Patrol Supervisors and Resident Advisory Board Members spent a summer Saturday indoors at Pace University for the crash course in priorities, so that they and all residents can participate more fully in a complex process that affects their lives very directly. During breakfast and lunch residents and NYCHA personnel exchanged ideas informally. Resident leaders who could not attend the July 28 session should call the Office of Modernization at 212-306-4602 for details on attending a makeup session.

Amnesty Program *(Continued from Page 1)*

Once residents provide NYCHA with an accurate report of all previously inaccurately reported income and/or assets, and make full payment of all appropriate arrears, they will be offered amnesty in the form of: (1) immunity from criminal prosecution for such prior inaccurate reports and for underpayment of rental liabilities; (2) forgiveness of interest and legal fees associated with the collection of such underpayment; and (3) immunity from termination of tenancy or subsidy proceedings, unless otherwise ineligible, for such prior inaccurate reports and for underpayment of rental liabilities.

Almost everyone can take advantage of this program, with a few exceptions. They are: Anyone who is already under criminal investigation or has charges related to tenant fraud pending against them; anyone who does not fully comply with the rules of the Amnesty Program, or; anyone who is found to have helped other people commit fraud against NYCHA.

Any resident or participant whose household has underreported income or assets, including the income or assets of household members who have not been reported to, or are not currently recognized by NYCHA as authorized on the resident's lease, should file an application for Amnesty with NYCHA. Any resident who does not come forward and is found to have inaccurately reported his/her income and/or assets, and/or to have underpaid rent, may be subject to arrest, criminal prosecution, and/or civil proceedings, and may be required to pay interest on any underpaid rent that is owed as well as legal fees, fines, and/or other penalties imposed by a Court.

How to Apply

Written applications for participation in the Program will be accepted from September 1, 2001 through November 30, 2001. Amnesty is offered for rent liabilities incurred prior to September 1, 2001. Reasonable payment plans will be offered. For more information and an application:

1. Call the Amnesty Program hotline at 1-212-306-6600;
2. Visit NYCHA's main office at 90 Church Street, 5th Floor, New York, New York;
3. Visit your development's Management Office or your Borough Management Office;
4. Visit your Section 8 Borough Office;
5. Visit NYCHA's Web site at: www.nyc.gov/nycha; or
6. Write to: New York City Housing Authority, AMNESTY REQUEST, Church Street Station, P.O. Box 3766, New York, New York 10008.

Arverne and Boulevard Houses Celebrate 50th Anniversaries!



ARVERNE HOUSES at 434 Beach 54th Street in Far Rockaway, Queens, celebrated 50 years on July 21. Here, Education Chairperson for the Drug Elimination Program (DEP) Delores Sadler introduces resident Alphonso Heyward who received an award for attending DEP tutoring classes. In his remarks NYCHA Chairman Tino Hernandez called the event a rebirth as well as a celebration, saying that after the \$200 million investment in the Arverne/Edgemere area, it now served as a model for what can be done to bring a neighborhood back to life. The Chairman thanked everyone involved in the neighborhood's transformation, mentioning in particular the partnership between NYCHA's Resident Employment Program, run through the Department of Economic and Business Initiatives, and programs like the Association of Minority Enterprises of New York, Inc., also known as AMENY. Others who were thanked for their efforts in the creation of a beautiful family day as well as their participation in the revitalization project were Queens Borough Management Director Thomas O'Brien, Queens Borough Community Operations Director Anthony Richburg, Arverne Houses Resident Association President and Chair of the Queens Borough Council of Presidents Connie Taylor, Arverne Houses Manager Sandra Wagner and Superintendent Armando Acevedo. Ms. Taylor received a trophy in the form of a wooden apple as a token of appreciation on behalf of NYCHA for her tireless dedication to the residents.



BOULEVARD HOUSES at 812 Ashford Street in Brooklyn celebrated its Golden Anniversary on July 28. Here, NYCHA Chairman Tino Hernandez poses with Resident Association President Gloria Corley who is holding her trophy NYCHA apple, commemorating half-a-century. Ms. Corley, in turn, presented a plaque to her sister, City Councilwoman Priscilla Wooten. Brooklyn Borough Community Operations Administrator John Hall served as Master of Ceremonies for the event. In his remarks, Chairman Hernandez emphasized the qualities it takes to last 50 years—teamwork, cooperation, shared goals—in short, family values. He thanked Brooklyn Borough Management Director Gloria Finkelman, Brooklyn Borough Community Operations Director Mary Starks, Ms. Corley, Boulevard Houses Manager Verhonda Johnson and acting Superintendent Zeleke "Zeke" Seifu for all working together. Special thanks were also extended to the officers of Police Service Area #2, especially Captain Timothy Pearson and Lieutenant Steve Csakany, for always being there when they were needed. Congressman Edolphus Towns also attended. Approximately 1,400 NYCHA families live in Boulevard Houses' 18 residential buildings.

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