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CHAIR'S MESSAGE

AS I'VE SAID MANY TIMES BEFORE, NYCHA residents are the Authority's most important partner.

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FAST FACTS

Queensbridge Houses in Queens are the largest public housing development in the country.

South Beach Houses on Staten Island were completed March 20th, 1950.

NYCHA Western Queens Residents Get First New Credit Union in 30 Years

It's been a long time coming! For the past five years the collective focus in Western Queens has been on giving public housing residents the opportunity and support to set and reach their financial goals. This vision finally materialized on Monday, April 26th, when under a shower of rain and well wishes the East River Development Alliance (ERDA) Founder and President Bishop Mitchell G. Taylor, joined by Mayor Michael Bloomberg and New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) Chairman, John B. Rhea, and a multitude of elected officials, community activists, local business owners and NYCHA residents from nearby developments, celebrated the opening and ribbon cutting of the ERDA Federal Credit Union (ERDA FCU).

The ERDA FCU is the first credit union to be chartered in New York City in a decade, and the first new credit union in Queens in 30 years. In a neighborhood where the majority of residents rely on check cashing establishments for most of their financial transactions, the ERDA FCU not only aims to institute a change in the way people do banking but also promote ownership and savings.

"This credit union will serve as an anchor in this community and will give people financial freedom so they can reach their dreams," said Bishop Taylor. "This was built by public housing



(l-r) Bishop Mitchell G. Taylor, resident Theresa Jackson and Chairman Rhea are the first shareholders in ERDA's Federal Credit Union.

residents in Queens who took responsibility for their financial well-being."

Mayor Bloomberg, who is a staunch supporter of public housing and who has introduced many citywide initiatives to help New Yorkers become financially self-sufficient, praised ERDA's efforts and proclaimed that "it is a great day for people of Western Queens. This is your credit union. You have worked hard for it and now it will work hard for you," the

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Federalization Finalized

NYCHA closes historic deal, explains plan particulars to residents

In the Rutgers Houses Community Center, on an early New York morning, residents, reporters, community advocates and city planners filed into the room, each readying for the news. The announcement, made the

morning of March 15th by NYCHA Chairman John B. Rhea, Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg, Governor David A. Paterson, HUD Secretary Shaun Donovan, U.S. Senator Charles Schumer, Congresswoman Nydia Velázquez, Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver and a delegation of New York City and State officials, was for "the single most important day for the preservation of public housing in New York's, and maybe even the nation's, history," said Secretary Donovan.

NYCHA's 21 previously unfunded State and City built developments and their more than 46,000 residents, were they a stand-alone entity, would rank third in size, behind NYCHA and Chicago. By securing on-going federal capital and operating subsidies for those developments, as well as laying the groundwork for additional funding down the road, the Authority stopped the siphoning of funds from NYCHA's other 313 developments and concluded the first phase of a major effort toward addressing its budget deficit and



(l-r) Chairman Rhea, HUD Secretary Shaun Donovan, HUD Director of the Office of Public Housing Mirza Negron Morales, and President of the Citywide Council of Presidents Reginald Bowman sign federalization agreement.

preserving all of New York City's public housing.

"Today we are finalizing an agreement that will dramatically improve the quality of life for more than 400,000 residents of public housing," Mayor Bloomberg told the assembled audience.

Since the intense effort to federalize the 21 developments through a Mixed-Finance Modernization Plan, the largest in American history, began six months ago, Chairman Rhea has stressed that the accomplishment is a testament to three principles: Preservation, Innovation, and Collaboration.

"Federalization tells a story of collaboration and innovation to ensure public housing endures for the families of New York," Chairman Rhea said in a recent address.

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Message from the Mayor The New Family Justice Center—Serving Your Needs

In a recent address, NYCHA Chairman John B. Rhea attributed the Housing Authority's latest successes—such as finding a creative way to attract more federal funds—to doing things the “old fashioned, New York way: by working together.” I couldn't agree more.

Throughout our City's history, we New Yorkers have defied the odds and accomplished great things by joining forces and doing together what would be impossible to do alone. That dedication to the power of teamwork has never been more alive than it is right now.

For instance, we are continuing to provide assistance and resources to victims of domestic violence. Over the past eight years, our efforts to combat domestic violence have helped cut family related homicides by 20 percent. But we're not stopping there.

Just last month, Commissioner Jimenez of the Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence and I opened the Bronx Family Justice Center. The Bronx center is part of our overall effort to reduce domestic violence and provide comprehensive services to victims. Created in partnership with Bronx District Attorney Robert Johnson, the new center brings together dedicated domestic violence prosecutors, civil attorneys, and social service providers under one roof to help victims of domestic violence and their families.

The City's first two Family Justice Centers, in Downtown Brooklyn and Kew Gardens, Queens, have had more than 80,000 visits to date—that's more than 130 visits a day. These centers provide, among other things, legal services

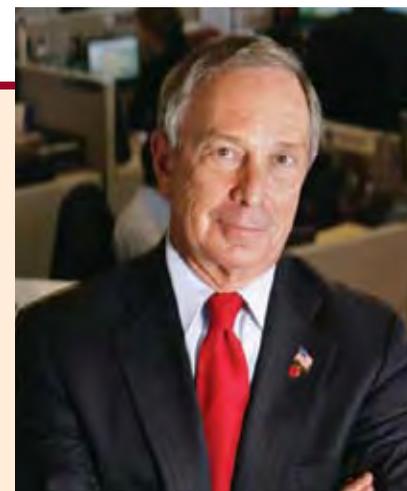
by immigration attorneys who can help victims apply for federal remedies under the Violence Against Women Act. The attorneys have already assisted more than 2,500 victims with immigration concerns and applications for visas and permanent legal status. Clients also have the opportunity to meet with Family Court attorneys who can assist them with child support and custody proceedings.

At the centers, clients can participate in programs that include English as a Second Language, job readiness, résumé preparation, and financial literacy workshops. The centers also offer: counseling for victims; children's counseling for those who witness violence; safety planning; assistance with filing police and probation reports; services for the elderly and the disabled, and help with affordable housing and public benefits assistance. The Bronx center's staff offers services in 15 languages while interpretation services are also available in over 150 other languages.

In New York every day we renew our commitment to making ours the safest, strongest city anywhere in the world. By working together, we can create a brighter future for our children and our children's children.



Michael R. Bloomberg



NYCHA Western Queens Residents ◀ continued from page 1

Mayor added before ending his congratulatory remarks by saying that just like rain at a wedding means good luck, “I guarantee it means a good credit union.”

The Mayor also vowed to continue fighting in Albany to secure \$25 million to invest in credit unions for other New York City neighborhoods.

NYCHA Chairman Rhea, who considers enhancing economic prospects for residents by creating opportunities for jobs,

training and financial literacy one of the Authority's major focuses, proudly smiled and said while looking at the crowd and the modest store front in front of him that now holds the key to a lot of residents' future that “this exemplifies all that ERDA stands for: giving resources to families to take control of their lives.”

Dozens of attendees lined up to open their own accounts at the ERDA FCU including Chairman Rhea and Ravenswood

Houses resident Theresa Jackson who was the very first.

In addition to offering residents basic financial services to save and borrow, the ERDA Federal Credit Union, a cooperative financial institution, will give its members ownership stake. “This is a door opener for me,” said Ms. Jackson. “I'm looking to open a new salon and this may work to my advantage.”

The ERDA Federal Credit Union will primarily serve NYCHA residents from Western Queens, including residents of Astoria, Queensbridge, Ravenswood and Woodside Houses. Queensbridge Houses alone is the largest public housing development in the country with 3,147 apartments serving a total population of 6,731.

The credit union is located across from Queensbridge Houses at 13-03B 40th Avenue in Long Island City, and will serve approximately 323,000 low-income residents in the area of Western Queens.

ERDA is a non-profit organization whose mission is to transform and improve New York City public housing neighborhoods by providing residents with the tools and opportunities necessary for self-sufficiency and economic mobility.

United States Census 2010 UPDATE

By now all NYCHA residents have received the Census form. If you did not complete your Census form and mail it back by April 19th, Census takers will come to your door beginning in May, 2010. They may return up to six times to the same household in an attempt to talk with someone in the apartment. They will never ask to enter your home, and they will have an Official Census Bureau I.D. They will ask basic information about each person living in the apartment such as: name, date of birth, sex, how many people live with you, each person's ethnicity and race. Census takers will not ask your income or Social Security number, or immigration status. When you answer the census form questions for your entire household, the census taker can record the results for submission to the Census Bureau.

It is important to inform the Census takers of ALL people who are living with you, whether or not they are on the lease. Any information you provide on your Census form will in no way affect your lease. Remember, all information that is gathered is confidential.

NYCHA residents received a letter from Chairman John B. Rhea assuring them that the form is strictly confidential and the information in it is NOT shared with any other government entity, including the New York City Housing Authority. Census information remains confidential for up to 72 years. All Census Bureau staff take a lifetime oath that they will not share any information they receive with any other entity. If they break this oath, they can be fined up to \$250,000 and face a five-year prison sentence.

The information you provide on the Census form will determine the amount of funding New York City will receive from the federal government for affordable housing, education, health-care, job training, transportation and a host of other critical programs within our community. The Census will also determine how many elected representatives New York City will have in Congress and in the New York State legislature, as well as the number and size of City Council districts.



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Message from the Chairman A One-Year Anniversary

Over the past year, I have spoken from these pages about my hopes for the New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA), the charges I received from Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg when I assumed the role of Chairman, and the value I place—throughout my career, but especially now—on partnerships and the

breakthroughs that can occur when people work together. As I've said many times before, NYCHA residents are the Authority's most important partner. And true to the vital role you play in helping me, the Board and the 12,000 men and women who work hard at serving the more than 600,000 people who count on NYCHA, you have stayed engaged, involved and invested in the achievements we've made together.

I didn't expect any less. That's why soon after joining NYCHA I hosted several town hall meetings, as well as a series of conversations with employees, with resident leaders, and with you. I knew that before we could begin to tackle the challenges NYCHA faced, I had to understand the concerns and hear the stories of the men and women at every level who are committed to public housing. Our charge is not to simply see that public housing in New York City survives—but to see that it thrives. That means that our plans for NYCHA, by definition, will be ambitious. But it also means that we have the tools to achieve our goals because we will be able to count on everyone at the table to do their part to ensure NYCHA succeeds.

Nowhere was this commitment more evident than in the successful Federalization

of the 21 State and City built developments. It required daring, creativity, dedication, hard work, a lot of faith and a little luck. With a short window of opportunity and the necessary coordination of many departments within NYCHA—as well as with our partners in City, State and Federal government—we not only obligated the full \$423 million we received from the 2009 American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (Stimulus), but we also met HUD's requirements to bring the 21 newly federalized developments on-going operating support and capital funding for desperately needed modernization work.

Federalization was possible because we laid a strong foundation by opening the lines of communication and strengthening existing relationships with our partners and other key stakeholders, as well as forging new coalitions. But Federalization was just the beginning. It will serve as a model for the large-scale collaborative innovations NYCHA will spearhead as we move forward. That's why I created the Office of Public-Private Partnerships and recruited a City Hall veteran, Dawn Walker, to head our effort. Dawn and her team have been working on several exciting initiatives to benefit residents that you'll be hearing about soon.

You've already heard about a few of the Authority's new initiatives. We're launching a Charter School at the St. Nicholas Houses in a partnership with the Harlem Children's Zone (HCZ). HCZ's President and CEO Geoffrey Canada has been hailed by everyone from the New York Times to President Barack Obama who called him an education "pioneer."

We've joined forces with Habitat NYC and Habitat International to help the

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Speaking Green

LECTURE SERIES

NYCHA began year two of its Speaking Green Lecture Series with a lively panel discussion on "Preserving Public Housing through Low-Carbon Living," attended by public housing residents, employees and community members at the Hudson Guild near Chelsea Houses on April 22nd, the 40th Anniversary of Earth Day.

The quarterly forums are designed to enlist resident and community support for NYCHA's concerted efforts to cut spiraling utility costs that deplete public housing funds, and reduce greenhouse gas

emissions that threaten the health of neighborhoods and the sustainability of the planet.

In opening remarks, Chairman John B. Rhea acknowledged a "debt of gratitude" to Commissioner Margarita López, NYCHA's Environmental Coordinator who, at the behest of Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg, developed the Authority's Green Agenda, placing the agency at the forefront of the city's ambitious goal to reduce greenhouse gases by 30 percent by year 2030.

Chairman Rhea also recognized the important work

of NYCHA's eight VISTA volunteers who have organized Green Committees at 32 developments, where residents encourage their neighbors to save energy by modifying small daily habits that can have profound environmental consequences.

Affirming the collective effect that NYCHA's 400,000 residents can have by "changing the way we live our lives," Commissioner López unveiled a residents' "green guide" to saving energy, entitled *The Power is in Your Hands*. The publica-

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Castle Hill residents plant flowers on Green Garden Day.

Castle Hill Green Committee

GREEN GARDEN DAY

Twenty children, teenagers and adults and senior Castle Hill residents came out to volunteer at the Castle Hill Green Committee Day on April 17. The volunteers planted petunias, begonias, and dusty millers and other flowers. Throughout the day, the children in attendance started seeds with plastic cups and soil. They took the cups home with them and will put the plants in the garden once they sprout.



Chairman John B. Rhea (right) welcomes residents and members of the community to panel discussion moderated by Commissioner Margarita López, seated center, with (from left) YRG Sustainability Principal Lauren Yarmuth and Environmental Defense Fund Director Mary Barber.

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 December 30th, 2009 and January 6th and 13th, 2010.

Prohibited as of December 30, 2009

Pedro Whitehead Case 8530/09 formerly associated with the 5th fl., 1105 Teller Avenue, Claremont Consolidation Houses, Brooklyn.

John Smith Case 8625/09 formerly associated with the 6th fl, 2925 West 27th Street, Surfside Gardens, Brooklyn.

Alton Stanley Case 8605/09 formerly associated with the 4th fl. 151 Jersey Street, Richmond Terrace Houses Staten Island.

Leo Hall Case 8185/09 formerly associated with the 5th fl, 456 Richmond Terrace, Richmond Terrace Houses, Staten Island.

Sidney Wright Case 8288/09 formerly associated with the 2nd fl. 713 E. 108th Street, Breukelen Houses, Brooklyn.

Deborah Jordon Case 186/09 formerly associated with the 5th fl. 456 Richmond Terrace, Richmond Terrace Houses, Staten Island.

Tony Brown Case 186/09 formerly associated with the 5th fl. 456 Richmond Terrace, Richmond Terrace Houses, Staten Island.

Antonio Reyes Case 5021/09 formerly associated with the 9th fl., 230 E 102nd Street, Washington Lexington Houses, Manhattan.

Wasir Gardner Case 8660/09 formerly associated with the 2nd fl. 30 Bush Street, Red Hook West Houses, Brooklyn.

Zephaniah Brown Case 8570/09 formerly associated with the 11th fl., 890 E. 6th Street, Wald Houses, Manhattan.

Prohibited as of January 6, 2010

Hollis Hosear Case 941/07 formerly associated with the 16th Floor, 525 Jackson Avenue, Moore Houses, Bronx.

Edward McRae Case 8667/09 formerly associated with the 3rd Floor, 1111 229th Street, Edenwald Houses, Bronx.

Edward Street Case 8736/09 formerly associated with the 7th Floor, 116-40 Guy R. Brewer, Baisley Park Houses.

Isreal Guerrido Case 8713/09 formerly associated with the 8th Floor, 383 E. 141st Street, Mott Haven Houses, Bronx.

Jamel Smith Case 8759/09 formerly associated with the 6th Floor, 791 Manor Rd., Berry/Todt Hill, Staten Island.

Toshawn Edwards Case 8787/09 formerly associated with the 3rd Floor, 553 Kingsborough 5th Walk, Kingsborough Houses, Brooklyn.

Hector Casanova Case 8681/09 formerly associated with the 3rd Floor, 36 W. 9th Street, Red Hook East Houses, Brooklyn.

Kelvin Alford Case 8683/09 formerly associated with the 2nd Floor, 465 Columbia Street, Red Hook East Houses, Brooklyn.

Steven Arce Case 7045/09 formerly associated with the 2nd Fl. 3-20 27th Avenue, Astoria Houses, Queens.

Dante Ramirez Case 6332/03 formerly associated with the 9th Fl. 153 Sumner Avenue, Roosevelt Houses, Brooklyn.

Prohibited as of January 13, 2010

Jessie Arriola Case 8753/09 formerly associated with the 3rd Fl. 1187 226th Drive, Edenwald Houses, Bronx.

Raul Acosta Case 4849/09 formerly associated with the 8th Fl. 300 E. 158th Street, Morrisania Air Rights, Bronx.

Robert Rhodes Case 8956/09 formerly associated with the 8th Fl. 151 Jersey Street, Richmond Terrace Houses, Bronx.

Brian Gillette Case 8948/09 formerly associated with the 2nd Fl. 654 Kingsborough 6th Walk, Kingsborough Houses, Brooklyn.

Davon Thomas Case 8910/09 formerly associated with the 1st Fl. 106 Kramer St., South Beach Houses, Staten Island.

Safety & Security Survey

NYCHA Wants to Hear From You

At the New York City Housing Authority, the security conversation continues and NYCHA is determined to keep residents at the table. As President of the Citywide Council of Presidents Reginald Bowman told the Journal, "Residents have to stay engaged to make sure our voices influence these very important discussions."

NYCHA Chairman John B. Rhea, who has been meeting with residents, resident leaders, New York Police Department (NYPD) leaders and, importantly, NYPD Commissioner Raymond W. Kelly since last September, now wants to get those

"Residents have to stay engaged to make sure our voices influence these very important discussions."

resident voices on paper.

The Authority mailed a four-page survey developed by the newly formed Safety and Security Task Force to 10,866 households from 12 developments in a pilot program to gauge resident concern regarding how safe they feel in the developments, in the larger community, and their relationship with the NYPD.

"This survey, and NYCHA residents' responses, will give

the Authority and the Task Force concrete information, which we will use to increase security in the developments, as well as work with members of the NYPD to improve the police officer-resident relationship," Chairman Rhea said.

The developments included in the pilot program are: Brooklyn's Van Dyke I, Van Dyke II, and Marcy Houses; Sedgwick, West Tremont Avenue Sedgwick Avenue Area, Morris I, Morris II, and Pelham Parkway, each of the Bronx; Manhattan's Chelsea Houses and King Towers; Astoria Houses of Queens; and State Island's Stapleton Houses.

The developments were

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Federalization Finalized

◀ *continued from page 1*

The landmark measure approved by HUD brings 20,000 units—11.3 percent of NYCHA's total housing stock—into the federal public housing fold. The one-time opportunity arose through a provision in the 2009 American Reinvestment and Recovery Act, better known as the Stimulus Act, to qualify and preserve the units as public housing through a mixed-finance transaction that deeds them to a public-private partnership co-owned and managed by NYCHA.

Federalization of 11,743 units immediately qualifies them for \$65 to \$75 million in operating and capital subsidies annually from HUD. NYCHA will work with HUD to secure a permanent subsidy for the remaining 6,160 units in the developments within the next two years.

Additionally, NYCHA will receive more than \$400 million in public and private funding to upgrade the physical structure of all the buildings in the 21 newly federalized developments to meet federal standards. These buildings also contain more than 2,000 units that had been previously voluntarily transferred to Section 8 status.

A significant part of the capital funding was secured through the required sale of the 21 developments and the lease of their land to a mixed-finance partnership between NYCHA, the controlling partner; Citi Community Capital, the financial institution; and the Housing Partnership Development Corporation, as the non-profit partner.

The capital work, which NYCHA prioritized and obligated in record time, will begin immediately and last up to two years, generating almost 400 construction jobs throughout the city.

The Chairman, along with Vice Chairman Earl Andrews, Jr., Commissioner Margarita López, General Manager Michael Kelly and senior NYCHA staff, has launched a series of town hall meetings to explain the details of federalization to NYCHA families. Chairman Rhea launched the initiative at Pace University the evening of March 15th where he assured residents of the promises NYCHA kept while constructing and executing the federalization plan.

The tenants of the 21 newly federalized developments have the same rights, protections, and privileges; they will utilize the same rent schedules, programs and policies; there will be no relocations or displacement during renovations; development staff will remain NYCHA employees; federalization preserves these units as public housing; and NYCHA serves as the managing partner and management agent to ensure seamless continuity of operation.

Several officials, highlighting Chairman Rhea's theme of collaboration, have stressed that federalization was a unique opportunity under the terms of the 2009 Stimulus Act thanks, in large part, to the efforts of Senator Schumer, Congresswoman Velázquez and Congressman Jerrold Nadler, who advocated for the inclusion of public housing in the Stimulus Act.



(Center l-r) Queens-Staten Island Borough Director Carolyn Jasper, Vice Chairman Earl Andrews, Jr., South Beach Houses Manager Leonard Danquah, and South Beach Houses President Scherisce Lewis celebrate the development's 60th anniversary with resident leaders.

SOUTH BEACH COMES TOGETHER

If there's one lesson to take from the South Beach Houses Community Center, it's the persistent gift of teamwork. Teamwork gives and gives again.

"Whatever comes our way, we want to bring it to South Beach for the kids and our seniors," said Tenant Association President Scherisce Lewis. "We work together as a team."

By "we," Ms. Lewis means Borough Director for Queens and Staten Island Anthony Richburg; Borough Administrator for Queens and Staten Island Michael Cox; Program Manager Raymond Diaz; and South Beach Houses Community Center Director Derrick Simpson.

"You couldn't ask for a better administrator than Michael Cox," Ms. Lewis said. "Anthony Richburg and Ray Diaz are always there when we need them. Always."

And her right arm at the Community Center:

"Me and Mr. D are a team," she said. "I back him and I back my center, and he does the same."

Their dynamic partnership has produced one of NYCHA's most successful, resident focused community centers.

The South Beach Community Center hosts, among other programs, Partners in Reading for children ages 6 to 8; an after school program for children ages 6 to 12; a music program; chess; flag football; the Cops

and Kids initiative with the 122nd Precinct; karate lessons and full-body workout classes for teens and adults; and Build, Research, Invent, Design, Grow and Explore (BRIDGES), an after school science and mathematics program. And this summer, South Beach will host a 22-week, all-women's soccer league and a 32-week flag football league.

South Beach is the two-time borough Chess Champions and the defending Flag Football borough Champions and runners-up for the citywide football title. Resident Jomar Archer is the citywide Sixth Grade Spelling Bee Champion.

"One reason it works so well is that the TA president and Board and my staff have a mutual respect for each other and a good line

of communication," Mr. Richburg said. "(Ms. Lewis) is very hands-on. When she has recommendations, she makes those recommendations and we work with her on any program she'd like to see in the Center."

Ms. Lewis doesn't limit her recommendations to NYCHA team members. With the help of Assemblywoman Janele Hyer-Spencer, the South Beach Community Center is home to a \$2 million Advanced Technology Training and Information Networking (ATTAIN) Lab, which provides computer literacy and employment skills training, as well as a GED prep course. The ATTAIN Lab is also a symbol of a second message that can be taken from South Beach's success: the power of determination.

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Arthur Newcombe, Sr. Dedication

The New York City Housing Authority joined relatives and friends of the late Arthur F. Newcombe, Sr. on April 16th to rededicate the corner of Henderson Avenue and Broadway in West Brighton in memory of the longtime community activist and World War II veteran.

Mr. Newcombe formed the West Brighton Boys Club, now known as the West Brighton Youth Club. He was the former director of the West Brighton Community Center; a past vice president of the Port Richmond High School Father's Club; vice commander of the Corporal Lawrence Thompson VFW post; and committee member of the Richmond County Democratic Party.

Mr. Newcombe, who served with the Seabees construction battalion in the second World War, worked as a bus driver on Staten Island with the New York City Transit Authority for 30 years.

"Arthur F. Newcombe was an exceptional veteran and community activist and contributor to the West Brighton community," said City Councilwoman Debi Rose (D-North Shore), in a statement released prior to the street renaming. "It will be a great honor for me to unveil Arthur F. Newcombe, Sr. Way."

Mr. Newcombe, Sr. died on March 18, 2009.



(Center) City Councilwoman Debi Rose joins Mrs. Rosetta Newcombe, Borough Director for Staten Island and Queens Carolyn Jasper, West Brighton Houses Manager Jacqueline Gathers, Tenant Association President Beatrice Everett and family and friends of the late Mr. Arthur F. Newcombe, Sr. Arthur Newcombe, Jr. appears at the far left.

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Rutgers Houses Tenant Patrol Awards

As with any New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) initiative, residents are integral to a program's success; and keeping NYCHA families safe is no different. On Thursday, April 29th, NYCHA honored residents' contribution to keeping their homes safe at the Rutgers Houses Tenant Patrol Awards Dinner. The event featured Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver who, along with Assemblyman Vito Lopez, allocated \$1.9 million to expand the program.

"Tonight, we're honoring neighbors looking out for neighbors," Speaker Silver said.

Organized in July 1968, the Tenant Patrols provide an opportunity for residents to work together to discourage conditions that allow crime and related problems to flourish. In addition, the Patrols serve to advance the development of good safety habits, elevate the levels of communication, increase involvement in community activities and promote positive relations between neighbors and visitors.

"The Tenant Patrols are a vital part of our overall strategy for making NYCHA communities safer," Vice Chairman Earl Andrews, Jr. said. "Tonight's celebration allows the Authority to say how much we appreciate the Rutgers Houses Patrol volunteers' service."

With the new funding from Speaker Silver and Assemblyman Lopez, the Tenant Patrol will provide \$540 per year in stipends for tenant participants with participants receiving \$45 a month to provide supportive services in their communities. Rutgers Houses averages 95 residents that have applied for the program and are actively sitting in patrol each month.

Tenant Patrol Captain Miguel Morales was also honored, but was not present for the group photograph.

"Tonight, we're honoring neighbors looking out for neighbors," Speaker Silver said.



Chairman Rhea proudly displays NYCHA's award from the New York State Association for Affordable Housing.

The New York City Housing Authority Receives Award for Excellence and Innovation

The New York City Housing Authority was presented with the New York State Association for Affordable Housing (NYSFAFH) Award for Excellence and Innovation during the 11th Annual New York State Affordable Housing Conference on April 29.

The NYSFAFH presents the award each year to individuals, City agencies, and other organizations that employ innovative ideas to build, fund or preserve affordable housing.

One recent example of NYCHA's pioneering thinking was the announcement of its historic Mixed-Finance Modernization Plan that secures ongoing federal funding for its 21 City and State built developments, allowing for the preservation of more than 20,000 units of affordable housing.

The New York State Association for Affordable Housing, formed in 1998, is a trade association for private sector organizations throughout New York State that are involved in affordable housing.



(l-r) Tenant Patrol Captain Lourdes Leung, DGM for Operations Gloria Finkelman, Tenant Patrol Captain Aida Rivera, Stanley Isaacs Houses resident leader Rose Bergin, Secretary Vilma Huertas, GM Michael Kelly, Resident Association President Michael Steele, Vice Chairman Earl Andrews, Jr., Tenant Patrol Captain Sarah Situ, Manhattan Borough Director Robert Knapp, Manhattan Community Operations Director Ukah Busgith, and Deputy Director Hector L. Ramos.

Message from the Chairman ◀ continued from page 3

long-term rebuilding efforts for Haiti. We're in the midst of the "Greening of NYCHA," mobilized by Commissioner López, to reduce the Authority's carbon footprint, upgrade our systems and lower energy costs. We've also continued our work with stalwart partners like Union Settlement to provide Head Start and Day Care services, enrichment opportunities for children and teens, mental health services and programs for seniors.

And we opened a dialogue with residents and with the NYPD about how we can better protect NYCHA families, while simultaneously improving the resident-police officer

relationship. After hearing your concerns, I formed the Safety and Security Taskforce and staffed it with leaders at NYCHA, resident leaders and NYPD leadership charged to design and implement measures that make residents safer and everyone more accountable.

While community enrichment and services to residents are important, NYCHA realizes that the most tangible factor in improving families' quality of life is helping residents receive workforce training and jobs with livable wages. That's why I formed the Office of Resident Economic Empowerment and Sustainability (REES) to lead this effort and assembled a

team with proven expertise in community renewal through economic growth, including experience working with the East River Development Alliance that recently chartered a federal credit union for public housing residents of western Queens (front page).

Summer is just around the corner. Traditionally, it is a season of community celebration. As we commemorate a year of working together, let us keep focused on our goal—making public housing a force for real and lasting good in the lives of NYCHA families. I look forward to working with you over the next year to ensure that we live up to that mission together.



Union Settlement honored Chairman John Rhea and NYCHA on April 28 for our work with the organization in assisting families in East Harlem. Celebrating this award (l-r): Hugh Spence, Dawn Walker, Chairman Rhea, Jenna Lawrence, Lynn Godfrey, Helen Morillo, Madeline Small, Constance Robotham and Earl Andrews, Jr.

South Beach Comes Together

◀ continued from page 5

"Ms. Lewis is very, very involved in the community, as well as in the community center," Mr. Richburg said.

Ms. Lewis became association president in 2001 when then president Edmond Barry handed her the reins after Mr. Barry lost his wife on September 11.

"I organized a memorial for him and we hosted 450 people," Ms. Lewis said. "After that, he saw I could handle the job and he turned things over to me."

Now in her third term as president, her work for the South Beach Community Center is only a part of her service.

Ms. Lewis, who works as a direct care provider and is completing college, is the leader of the Staten Island Girl Scouts troop; the founder of a mentoring program; developer, with Assemblywoman Hyer-Spencer, of an on-going clothing drive that collects clothes for donation to women who live in shelter, particularly clothing that the women can wear on job interviews; she serves on the Police-Citizens' Council; and she and daughter Shanee Lewis lead the Community Center's dance programs.

An organ transplant survivor, she also serves as an advocate to the National Kidney Foundation. Ms. Lewis has undergone two kidney transplant operations and is currently awaiting a third donation that she says will hopefully come from a relative who is a match. She lost her first donated kidney after being

prescribed a medication that damaged the organ; her second had to be removed following injuries she sustained in a car accident. "It doesn't stop me," Ms. Lewis said.

Now, in addition to working to bring back the South Beach Houses childcare center and developing a new program aimed at educating young women and preventing teen pregnancy, Ms. Lewis is focusing her efforts on her newest project, the S. Lewis Save a Life and Donate an Organ Foundation.

And she's developing new programs for South Beach's seniors. First up is Friday Movie Nights.

"We will be hosting movie nights for our seniors," said Ms. Lewis, who has donated a big screen television to the center.

"We're like one big happy family here," she said. "Everyone comes together. Our manager, Leonard Danquah, I think he's the best manager there is."

Ms. Lewis began her career in service to her fellow NYCHA residents when she worked with the late Mrs. Elizabeth Stanton, former president of the Richmond Terrace Houses Tenant Association.

"I was her secretary on the Council of Presidents and she took me around and she taught me how to be a president, how to be a leader," Ms. Lewis said. "There's no 'I' in team. For me it's about my community, it's about my kids."

West Nile Virus Mosquito Treatment

The New York City Housing Authority will be treating all of the catch basins located on Housing Authority developments to reduce the mosquito population in an effort to minimize the transmission of the West Nile Virus. These applications will take place between May and September of 2010.

One or more of the following pesticides will be used:

- Vectolex CG, EPA Reg. No. 73049-20, Toxicity Category – "Caution"**
- Summit B.t.i. Briquets, EPA Reg. No. 6218-47, Toxicity Category – "Caution"**
- Altosid XR, EPA Reg. No. 2724-421, Toxicity Category – "Caution"**

Contact names and numbers for this application are;

NYC Housing Authority:

- Cal Bruno, Deputy Director, 718-707-5281 available from 9 am—5 pm
- Jamal Rashid, Technical Resource Advisor, 718-707-5808 available from 8:00 am—4:00 pm
- NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation, Region 2, Bureau of Pesticide Management—718-482-4994
- National Pesticide Telecommunications Network—1-800-858-PEST

Inquiries concerning symptoms of pesticide poisoning should be directed to the Poison Control Center 1-800-222-1222

NOTICE

New York City Housing Authority Draft Agency Annual Plan for FY 2011

Availability of the Draft Agency Annual Plan for Public Inspection

The public is advised that the *Draft Agency Annual Plan for FY 2011* will be available for public inspection at NYCHA's principal office, located at 250 Broadway, New York, NY, from May 7, 2010 through June 30, 2010, between the hours of 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Please call (212) 306-8202 to make an appointment to review the *Draft Agency Annual Plan for FY 2011* and supporting documents.

The *Draft Agency Annual Plan for FY 2011* will also be available at the following locations:

- **On NYCHA's webpage, which is located on <http://www.nyc.gov/nycha>**
- At the Management Office of each NYCHA public housing development during regular business hours. At the Community Centers/Borough Offices listed below during the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.:

Campos Plaza Community Center 611 East 13 th Street New York, New York	Bronxdale Community Center 1000 Rosedale Avenue Bronx, New York	Bronxdale Community Center 1000 Rosedale Avenue Bronx, New York
King Towers Community Center 2 West 115 th Street New York, New York	Hammel Community Center 81-14 Rockaway Beach Blvd Rockaway, New York	Hammel Community Center 81-14 Rockaway Beach Blvd Rockaway, New York
St. Mary's Park Community Center 595 Trinity Ave Bronx, New York	Queens Community Operations Borough Office 70-30 Parsons Blvd Flushing, New York	Queens Community Operations Borough Office 70-30 Parsons Blvd Flushing, New York

Public Comment

The public is invited to attend any of the five scheduled Town Hall meetings at which the public may raise questions regarding the *Draft Annual Plan for FY 2011*. These meetings will be held from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on the dates and locations shown below:

THURSDAY, MAY 13, 2010	MONDAY MAY 17, 2010	THURSDAY, JUNE 3, 2010
BROOKLYN New York City College of Technology Klitgord Auditorium 285 Jay Street at Tillary Street Brooklyn, New York	STATEN ISLAND St. George Theater 35 Hyatt Street Staten Island, New York	MANHATTAN Fashion Institute of Technology Haft Auditorium 7th Avenue & 27th Street New York, New York
QUEENS TUESDAY, JUNE 8, 2010 Electrical Industry Center 67-35 Parsons Blvd at Jewel Ave Flushing, New York	BRONX TUESDAY, JUNE 15, 2010 Classic Center at Melrose 286 E. 156th Street at Morris Avenue Bronx, New York	

The public is also invited to comment on the *Draft Annual Agency Plan for FY 2011* at a public hearing to be held on **Wednesday, June 30, 2010** from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at:

FASHION INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Haft Auditorium
7th Avenue & 27th Street
New York, New York

Each location listed above is both handicapped accessible and can be reached using public transportation. For transportation information go to <http://tripplanner.mta.info> or call the MTA/NYC Transit Travel Information Line (718) 330-1234.

Written comments regarding the Draft Annual Agency Plan for FY 2011 are encouraged.

To be considered, **submissions must be received via United States Postal mail or fax no later than June 23, 2010.** Faxed submissions will be accepted at (212) 306-7905.

Comments may be sent to the following address:

NEW YORK CITY HOUSING AUTHORITY
Public Housing Agency Plan Comments
Church Street Station
P.O. Box 3422
New York, New York 10008-3422

Michael R. Bloomberg, Mayor

John B. Rhea, Chairman

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Safety & Security Survey

NYCHA Wants to Hear From You

selected to provide an overall picture of NYCHA—buildings range from the very small to the very large; those that include elderly-only developments; developments serviced by Police Service Areas as compared to those served by the local precinct; developments equipped with closed-circuit television cameras and those without that technology; and developments with historically high crime rates to those with historically low levels of crime.

Chairman Rhea held a series of meetings with residents and resident leaders beginning in September following a listening campaign he conducted after taking the helm of NYCHA. It revealed deep concerns among residents about the role of the NYPD in protecting families, the relationship between residents and police officers, the usefulness of the Tenant Patrols, and making better use of modern

technology to combat crime not only in the developments, but also in the larger community. To that end, the Safety and Security Task Force brings residents, police officers, and NYCHA officials with broad expertise in all areas of housing together to create a comprehensive plan for making NYCHA homes safer.

The Chairman, working with Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg, has made resident safety a cornerstone of his plan for improving the quality of life for NYCHA families and he stressed the importance of getting feedback from residents before implementing any broad changes.

"We know that we can count on NYCHA residents to give us clear, honest feedback and to commit to working with us to make life at the developments safer for families," Chairman Rhea said. "But first, we have to get their responses to the survey. Then the real work begins."

◀ continued from page 3

SPEAKING GREEN Lecture Series

tion provides residents with information on simple, specific steps they can take for "low carbon living."

Commissioner López conducted a discussion with two distinguished panelists involved with energy policy and sustainability issues by illustrating her questions with charts and graphs. Most showed sharp increases in NYCHA's energy costs and consumption—with a small moderation after 2007 with the inception of the Green Agenda.

Environmental Defense Fund Campaign Director Mary Barber described the potential global consequences of unchecked greenhouse gases as "alarming," citing rising temperatures and sea levels, increased downpours, droughts, and declining food production.

"You can't see rising sea levels and other changes but things we do [or don't do] every day have an enormous impact," she said, such as turning off lights and TVs in empty rooms, closing doors and windows when the air conditioner is on, and running fewer and fuller washes in the dishwasher and washing machine.

Lauren Yarmuth, Co-Founder and Principal of YRG, a green development consultant, said that many corporations and government bodies "recognize their huge responsibility" to mitigate their impact on climate change, citing well-known corporations such as Walmart, Starbucks and others.

However, their measures are not sufficient unless their customers make wise decisions about what products they buy, and how they live at home, eat, and travel. It's hard to realize the impact of our actions on large things like glaciers, oceans, and weather.

"Without NYCHA's residents and employees being fully engaged at work and at home in conservation efforts, NYCHA's energy-efficient light bulbs, boilers and other technology will not be enough," said Ms. Yarmuth.

NYCHA's new resident's guide to saving energy "is a tremendously valuable tool," she noted. Recalling a meeting that morning with children visiting NYCHA on Earth Day, Commissioner López remarked, "the children told me what needs to be done and that the problem is the adults."



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NYCHA Talent Show Hits the TOP 40

The New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) has been discovering and developing talent – young and old – for 40 years, as a part of its annual Talent Search Competition and Talent Show. This year NYCHA hosted the Annual Talent Show at Harlem’s legendary Apollo Theater on April 10.

“I’ve been involved with the show for over 20 years,” said NYCHA’s Deputy General Manager of Community Operations, Hugh Spence. “I’ve seen it evolve to a professionally staged show for amateur talent.”



Third-place winner Nasiyah Wallace with NYCHA staffers (l-r) Dawn Walker, Jenna Lawrence, Hugh Spence, Deirdre Gilliard and Juan Santiago.

THE WINNERS WERE:

SENIORS

- First Place – Ronnie Marks
- Second Place – Jose Guevara
- Third Place – Shelia Wheeler

ADULTS

- First Place – Keziah Anderson
- Second Place – Christina Prindle
- Third Place – Venus Sharpe

TEENS

- First Place – The Professionals
- Second Place – New Legacy
- Third Place – Exclusive Entertainment

CHILDREN

- First Place – Uptown Green
- Second Place – Tytiana Brown
- Third Place – Nasiyah Wallace

SENIOR NEWS

Need Help in Paying for Prescription Drugs under Medicare?

If you are a single senior whose monthly income is below \$1,354.00 or a couple whose monthly income is below \$1,822.00, you may qualify for extra help in paying for prescription drugs. Call Social Security at **1-800-772-1213** and ask for information about "Extra Help". You may also apply online at www.socialsecurity.gov.

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