



Journal

MELROSE COMMUNITY CENTER OPENS IN THE BRONX

By Eileen Elliott

More than 7,000 residents of Melrose, Jackson and Morrisania Air Rights Houses in the South Bronx have a brand new, state-of-the-art facility in which to enjoy educational, cultural and recreational activities. It's called the Melrose Community Center, and it opened officially, with much pomp and circumstance, on the afternoon of February 14, Valentine's Day.

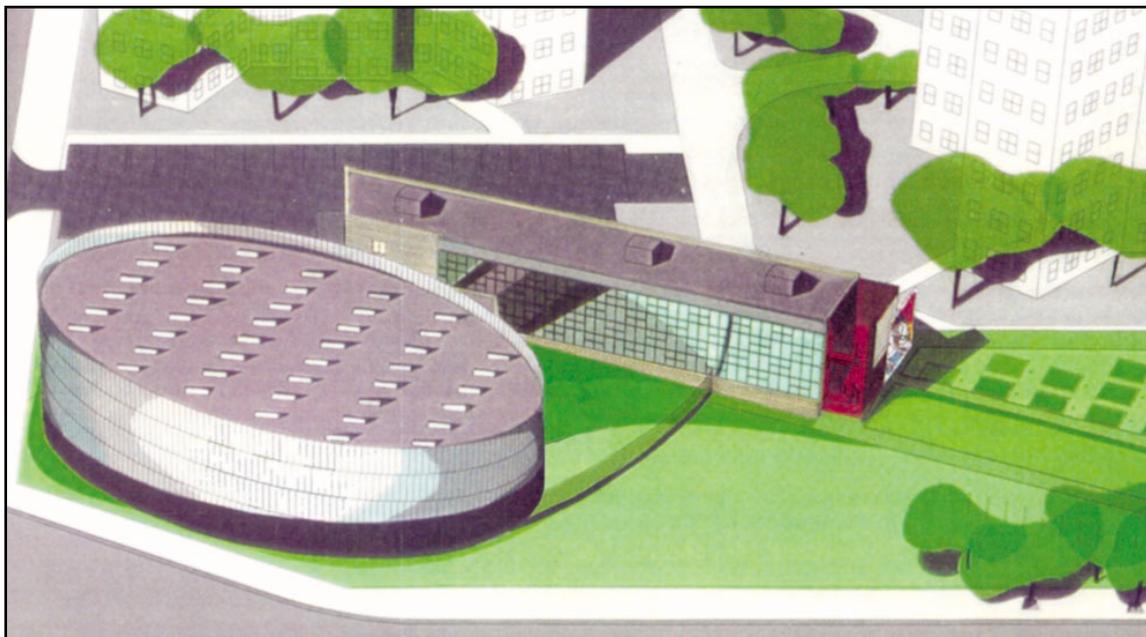
The \$5.8 million, 20,000-square-foot center, located at 286 East 156th Street, is an imposing structure. There is the gigantic, windowless, oval gymnasium with its sloping roof and metal-paneled exterior, and the more conventional, two-story building connected to it, made spectacular by a single wall composed almost entirely of glass.

"If ever there was a flagship, a model of what should be done, this is it," New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) Chairman John G. Martinez, told the audience. "This center is going to make a tremendous difference in the life of the community."

Everyone turned out to celebrate the ribbon-cutting that was the culmination of six years of hard work. Joining Mr. Martinez on the dais were NYCHA Vice

Chairman Earl Andrews, Jr., Member Kalman Finkel, Department of Community Operations Deputy General Manager Hugh Spence, Deputy General Manager for Capital Projects Michael Meyer, Borough Administrator for the Bronx Borough Department of Community Operations John Hall, and Bronx Borough Community Operations Director Ernesto Lozano.

All gave credit where it was due, citing NYCHA residents and resident association presidents, employees and departments, including the Department of Design and Capital Improvement with Director David Burney, the Department of Construction with Director Robert Yauch and General Services for their telecommunications support, with Director Kenneth Martin.



A rendering of the 20,000-square-foot Melrose Community Center from NYCHA's Design Department.

"I get chills down my spine when I walk through this facility," said an exuberant Hugh Spence as he recalled late-night planning meetings between staff and residents that took place years ago. "This center is the result of big government working with resident leadership. We're going to

use it to learn as we go forth with some of our larger facilities that will be opening."

Chairman Martinez presented plaques to the Resident Association Presidents of Melrose, Jackson, and Morrisania Air Rights Houses — Denise Roberts, Helen Harris and Bernice King, respec-

tively, with Jackson Houses Resident Association Treasurer Zaphlin Brown accepting for Ms. Harris.

The plaques were inscribed, "In appreciation of your hard work and dedication on behalf of the children and youth of the South Bronx community. This

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EIGHTEEN AMENY GRADS NOW IN BUSINESS

By Allan Leicht

Eighteen more NYCHA residents are now in business. They are the newest entrepreneurs, graduates of the Resident Employment Training Program's 12-session course

given by the Association of Minority Enterprises of New York (AMENY) in partnership with NYCHA.

And the new business men and women will not have to look

far for prospective customers. As was made clear at their graduation ceremonies at the Edgemere Community Center on January 31, they are in an excellent position to compete for profitable contracts connected to the renewal of their very own community.

The Arverne/Edgemere developments in Far Rockaway are on the brink of a far-reaching transformation under the HOPE VI Revitalization Project, and it is no mere coincidence that this upcoming renewal project and the AMENY training program happened at the same time.

The diplomas awarded to the graduates are the necessary credentials that will allow them to run their own construction-related

businesses as sub-contractors to the primary contractors engaged by the Housing Authority.

But as State Senator Malcolm Smith said at the conclusion of the graduation ceremony, the diploma is not the end, it's the beginning. "You have to deliver," said Senator Smith. "Remember the same discipline you used for the class and use it in your business." He also encouraged the graduates to "team up" with each other.

James Heyliger, President of AMENY, was master of ceremonies for what he described as "a momentous event." In a succession of brief remarks, each speaker noted the successful collaboration of AMENY and NYCHA's Department of Asset

Management and Private Market Operations.

Naomi Lara, Deputy General Manager for that department, had only to introduce the executives in attendance to underscore the significance of the evening. NYCHA Vice Chairman Earl Andrews, Jr. and Board Member Kalman Finkel flanked Chairman John G. Martinez on the dais — and it was duly noted that when this program got its start five years ago, Mr. Martinez was in Ms. Lara's position and was instrumental in setting it in motion.

Jimmy Walker, Second Vice President of AMENY, recalled that there was a lot of doubt at the outset but because the participants "put their whole hearts into the

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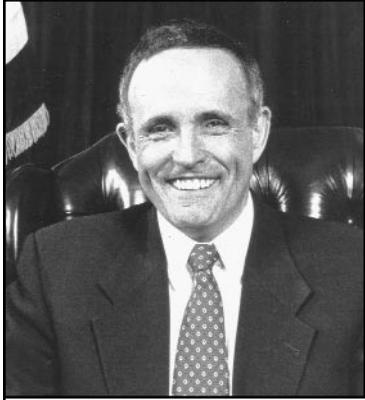
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March Is Women's History Month!

Message From The Mayor

Reforming Bilingual Education

New York City is the gateway for thousands of immigrants each year, and immigration has long been a source of our City's greatest strength. Immigrants come here with a dream of freedom and success, and their best chance of being successful in this country is by becoming as proficient as possible in English. Education is the ladder of success for immigrants; it is the fast-track to the American dream.



It is essential that we do everything possible to give the children of immigrants every chance to succeed. Recently, the Board of Education took a step in the right direction by adopting reforms that create an English immersion program and empower parents to choose between traditional bilingual instruction and English immersion. This should be of particu-

lar interest to New York's public housing population, since nearly 39% of the Housing Authority's 535,000 residents are Hispanic, and most send their children to public schools.

The sad reality is that more than half of our non-English speaking students do not learn enough English in three years of bilingual education to move into mainstream classes. City schools have historically offered two bilingual models: a traditional program where students are taught in the language they speak, and a limited immersion program where students receive up to three hours of English instruction each day. The Board of Education reports that English immersion works best for young students. According to their data, 84% of those enrolled in kindergarten exit within three years. In contrast, traditional bilingual programs have a far lower success rate.

Therefore, if parents of non-English-speaking children want them to enter mainstream classes as quickly as possible, they should choose English immersion. But until now, they have not had that choice. Instead, such children were automatically enrolled in bilingual programs, from which parents had to take affirmative steps to remove them. Even more incredible was the absence in our system of a true English immersion model where students learn to speak English as quickly as possible.

The Board of Education has adopted the following reforms, based on a report by the Mayor's Task Force on Bilingual Education: In addition to the traditional bilingual instruction, an intensive English acquisition program will be created. Parents will be empowered to make informed choices about which program is best for their child. They will be able to choose whether to place their children in bilingual or English immersion programs. Students mired in bilingual education will get special instruction to speed them into mainstream classes. The City has budgeted \$9 million for Project English, high-intensity English classes after school and on every weekend during the school year. Children will be expected to meet and beat the State standard of exiting bilingual programs within three years; and more resources will be devoted to recruiting and training bilingual teachers.

I would also like to advise our City's immigrants that the Legal Immigration and Family Equity Act (the LIFE Act) — a change in federal immigration law that went into effect December 2000 — is *not* a general amnesty for illegal immigrants. The LIFE Act temporarily allows immigrants who are unlawfully present in the U.S., but would otherwise qualify for an immigrant visa, to adjust their status without leaving the U.S. The cut-off is April 30, 2001. In order to become a Legal Permanent Resident (green card holder), immigrants need to be sponsored by either an immediate family member who is a Legal Permanent Resident or a U.S. citizen, or an employer. Immigrants should be aware that many people who call themselves immigration consultants are taking advantage of the confusion. Immigration practitioners making promises of green cards to immigrants who have no immediate family or employment sponsorship are violating the law. The City publishes a brochure, *Beware of Immigration Services Fraud*, to help immigrants be aware of the deceptive practices of dishonest immigration practitioners. To obtain a copy, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to the New York City Department of Consumer Affairs, 42 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10004 (Attn: Beware of Immigration Services Fraud), or log on to www.nyc.gov/html/dca/html/dcapubl.html.

Rudy Giuliani

Jacob Lawrence Inspires Young Artists At Melrose Houses During Black History Month

By Allan Leicht

Keith Duncan's young artists at the new Melrose Community Center in the Bronx are getting to know artist Jacob Lawrence by painting what he painted in an after-school program run by NYCHA's Department of Community Operations. And this is most fitting, especially during February which is Black History Month, because getting to know the art of Jacob Lawrence is getting to know African-American history.

Lawrence's paintings tell the story of the African-American experience. His sweeping, accessible yet powerful portrayals made him one of the great artists of the 20th Century. And so Keith Duncan, or "Mr. Keith," as his class calls him, has combined painting and heritage as his after-schoolers put brush to paper throughout the month of February, in honor of the renowned American master who died last June at the age of 82.

"I do the outlines for them and they fill them in," said Mr. Duncan as he moved from one painter to the next on the afternoon of February 8.

The 11 students, aged 6 to 12, were working on Lawrence's epic series of 60 paintings entitled, "The Migration." The sequence depicts the flight of millions of African-Americans from the rural South to the urban North during and after the First World War. It was a migration that Lawrence's own parents were a part of. The artist completed the series in 1941 at the age of 24.

The children attending the class followed in the footsteps—or the brush strokes—of Lawrence in much more than style and content; for when Lawrence was in his teens, he also attended an after-school art program in New York City.

Lawrence was born in Atlantic City and lived in rural Pennsylvania and Philadelphia before coming to New York when he was 13. By the mid-1930's, he was participating in community art programs, and in 1937 won a two-year scholarship to the American Artists School.

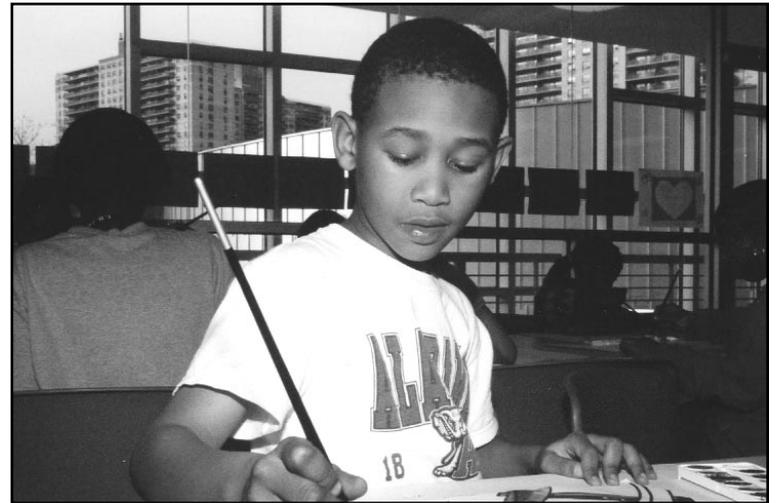
And who knows? Maybe one or more of these NYCHA children is on the brink of a career like Lawrence's, during which he created more than 1,000 works of art over the course of 60 years.

If so, they will surely remember "Mr. Keith," who is himself an accomplished artist. Mr. Duncan is a graduate of Louisiana State University in his native New Orleans, and holds a Master's of Fine Arts from Hunter College. His steadfast smile and sweet support were in perfect harmony with the sparkling art studio at the new center.

"Mr. Keith, mine got a little messed up..."

"Mr. Keith, look at hers..."

"Mr. Keith, does this color have a name?"



COPYING THE MASTERS Eight-year-old Robert Snipes (top) concentrates on his water colors, while ten-year-old Domonique Cannon works with art instructor Keith Duncan.

Working with young people seems to give Keith Duncan as much satisfaction as doing his own work. In addition to NYCHA workshops, Mr. Duncan teaches at Pathways for Youth, an after-school program at Castle Hill Houses in the Bronx, and at the Heritage School in East Harlem.

The world lost a cherished

artist with the passing of Jacob Lawrence last summer. He was the first African-American artist to be represented by a major commercial art gallery and the first to receive sustained mainstream recognition in the United States. As Keith Duncan's children dip and paint, one feels that a successor to the great Jacob Lawrence will not be long in coming.

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Message From The Chairman

NO ASSUMPTIONS PLEASE

Recently, I received a message from a resident who was upset about an action undertaken by the Authority and was venting toward me personally. In the course of this venting process, this resident, who has never met me, made an assumption about me based on my last name. This person proceeded to tell me that I was the dumbest Puerto Rican she has ever come across and that I should go back to Puerto Rico where I belong.



I found it very unfortunate that this person felt it was necessary to use derogatory racial and ethnic comments to make a point. Equally disturbing was the fact that this person was so willing to assume that because I have an Hispanic last name that I had to be of Puerto Rican descent. While I would be proud to be included as a part of that wonderful and rich culture, I am not of Puerto Rican descent and clearly not all persons in New York City with an Hispanic last name are Puerto Rican. I use this

example to underscore how important it is for each of us to remember that we should never make assumptions about one another based on race, gender, religious affiliation, last name or any number of other variables. Assumptions can be dangerous and often backfire.

As you know, March is Women's History month, and a time when we rightly reflect on the many contributions that women have made over the years. Unfortunately, history is replete with numerous examples of people (generally men) making assumptions about the ability or appropriateness of women to participate in various activities, thereby effectively limiting their opportunities to make significant contributions to art, education, medicine, politics, etc. But, we all know that talent, determination, drive and hard work can overcome many an obstacle. So in spite of efforts to keep women at home, in the kitchen and occupied with children, history is rich with numerous examples of outstanding women making significant contributions. Women of distinction like Harriet Beecher Stowe, Harriet Tubman, Mother Theresa, Eleanor Roosevelt, Bella Abzug, Florence Nightingale, Shirley Chisholm, Margaret Thatcher, Queen Latifah, Indira Gandhi.... The list goes on and on. If ever you wonder what might be and have access to a computer, I recommend going to the following web site for a list of possible resources to learn more about women of distinction from around the world and in as many different roles as one can imagine. That site is <http://www.DistinguishedWomen.com>.

Women of distinction are not easily categorized and certainly encompass many more women than those we become familiar with through books. As I look around the NYCHA family, I see many women of distinction. Some are engaged in professional jobs, others struggle to hold their families together, others have become community advocates and attempt to influence change in their community, while others pursue non-traditional job opportunities so that they can make a difference in their own life and serve as role models for young women who come after them. Whatever the direction and regardless of whether one's name becomes a household word, I encourage all women to take pride in their accomplishments and recognize something that I learned early on from my own mother: one person can make a difference. It doesn't matter whether that difference is limited to your own life or the lives of thousands. What matters is that you value your contribution and strive toward whatever goal you have in life. So the next time someone makes a comment about looking for the right man for the job, remind him that the right man may well be the WOMAN in front of him. Good luck, God Bless and Keep the Faith.

John G. Martinez

AMENY GRADS

(Continued from page 1)

classes," those doubts have been laid to rest. Mr. Walker thanked Sharon Ebert, NYCHA's Director of Housing Finance and Development, for spearheading the effort.

Ms. Ebert described the shape of things to come at Arverne/Edgemere. All 1,800 apartments are to be renovated, along with all of the elevators and lobbies. State-of-the art security cameras will be added. There will be a new recreation center and community facility, including improved day-care.

Ms. Ebert also outlined the off-site construction of three independent retail centers to provide for the needs of the entire community. "Plans are about to become action," she said, "and we are doing all this with our residents."

Perhaps even more fundamental, however, will be programs like AMENY's, which enhance people's lives, giving them the chance to run businesses. Ms. Ebert described a Housing Youth Training Program, which provides training in office and technological information systems and hospitality. "These changes are not just physical," she emphasized, "make HOPE VI a part of your life."

For NYCHA Chairman Martinez the AMENY graduation seemed personally fulfilling. He praised the graduates as "real trailblazers" and worthy of the nearly \$200 million dollar investment being made in the neighborhood. "We are going to change the Rockaway community," he told the capacity audience of family, friends and government officials that included Heywood Davenport, Regional Director for Minority Businesses of the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Two of the graduates spoke for the group. Yvette Hickman, whose new company is named Construction Beyond 2000, told of the dedication required to hold down a job, care for a family, and complete the course, all at the same time. Ms. Hickman emotionally thanked her mother, AMENY, NYCHA and "the people who had faith in me. This fulfills a dream that I would be able to work for myself and make this community that I grew up in better." And with true entrepreneurial style, she closed with a commercial for her company.

Randy Mills, another graduate, introduced himself as "a blessed man" and paid tribute to his classmates, many of whom did not hesitate to pass out business cards during the reception that followed. The graduates' confidence was contagious. They have

(Continued on following page)

Deborah's Diary



By Deborah Williams

A Partners In Reading Success Story — When seven-year-old Jerome Wilson, a resident of Woodrow Wilson Houses in Manhattan, entered into the Wilson Community Center's Partners In Reading (PIR) program, he read below his second grade level. With the assistance of Angela Shaver, PIR teacher, and his mom, Melba Hurley, who purchased dozens of books to spark Jerome's reading interests, his reading ability began to pick up immensely and now he reads books well over 100 pages. Jerome now understands that reading is power, and when you open a book, you enter a whole new world. Inspired by the month's occasion, Jerome wrote and read his own poem at PIR's Black History Month Celebration in February. According to Ms. Lorraine Hall, Community Coordinator, "It was amazing to see the improvement Jerome has made. I watched him read over 65 words off the blackboard and was so proud of him." **Well Jerome, I want you to know that through reading you can begin to see and learn about things that can truly amaze you. You have made your family and your PIR teacher proud. I want you to be proud of yourself—you did great! So, keep on reading!**

Was A Star Born? That's the question that went through the minds of everyone when they heard that Bret Sturgis of Melrose Houses in the Bronx is going to appear in the Broadway Production of "Aida" in the lead role as "Head Center." Bret will be performing to music written by artists such as Elton John and Tim Rice. Rehearsals will begin the third or fourth week in April. Bret was the lead singer for The Temptations during a double-evening of the NYCHA Youth Chorus's Motown Magic Show at the Apollo Theater in December. And magic it must have been because it is rumored that Janet Jackson's video agents were in the audience and were so impressed by Bret's performance that they offered him a spot on one of Ms. Jackson's upcoming videos. **Wow! Bret, at a mere 18 years old you are beginning to make your way in the entertainment world. I was at the Apollo during one of your performances and I can say you were great! So break a leg! In other words, keep that voice strong and good luck with all your future endeavors!**

A Sports Exclusive — Residents of the Betances Houses had a lot to be proud of during the week of February 22 through March 2. That was the week that the Betances VI Boxing Club gave their opponents at the Golden Gloves competition some hard knocks. Betances resident Jojo Kamesi, 147-lb. Novice, gave it his best punch but lost after a close decision on February 22 at St. Patrick's in Bay Ridge, Brooklyn. Another Betances resident, Allen Conyers, 147-Open (more experienced than Novice), won on February 27 at Glen Cove, Long Island, and took the P.C. Richard Best Fighter Of the Night title. Allen advanced to the Quarterfinals on Thursday, March 8 at St. Patrick's. And a third Betances resident, Heavyweight Open Luis Reyes advanced to the Semifinals at Our Lady of Angels, Brooklyn on March 2, winning his bout by a decision. **Guys, you throw a mean one. So, keep on bobbing and weaving and your next opponents will become just so many notches on your belts. Good Luck!**

As always, I plan to tell you about those individuals who are the "talk of the town," but I need your help in getting that news. This column is for you, the residents of NYCHA, to share significant events in your lives with your neighbors. So remember the Diary! If you have news, share it with me and I will share it with my readers. Drop me a few lines or fax me at 212-577-1358. Or, hey, make it personal! Give me a call at 212-306-4752. I can't guarantee I'll use your item but I'll do my best to see that your good news makes it into this column.

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

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 December 29, 1999, January 19, 2000, February 2 and 23, 2000, and March 1 and 8, 2000. **REMEMBER, IF YOU SEE ANY OF THESE INDIVIDUALS ON HOUSING AUTHORITY PROPERTY, PLEASE CALL YOUR MANAGEMENT OFFICE OR THE POLICE! THIS LIST IS PROVIDED TO ALL POLICE SERVICE AREAS.**

Prohibited as of December 29, 1999

Bernard Steven Case 5068/99 formerly associated with the first floor of 830 Columbus Avenue, Douglass Houses, New York.

Robert Culpepper Case 5079/99 formerly associated with the second floor of 35-21 21st Street, Ravenswood Houses, Queens.

Kasheen Kirkland Case 5080/99 formerly associated with the eighth floor of 2430 7th Avenue, Drew Hamilton Houses, New York.

Fredrick Robinson/Freddy Robinson Case 5083/99 formerly associated with the first floor of 70 Lenox Avenue, King Towers, New York.

Thomas Patterson Case 5085/99 formerly associated with the fifth floor of 520 East 156th Street, Bronxchester Houses, the Bronx.

Diego Mateo Case 5089/99 formerly associated with the fourth floor of 61 Avenue W, Marlboro Houses, Brooklyn.

Dawnston Sundar Case 5095/99 formerly associated with the fifth floor of 125 Nostrand Avenue, Marcy Houses, Brooklyn.

Vincent Ortiz Case 5793/99 formerly associated with the first floor of 4020 Laconia Avenue, Edenwald Houses, New York.

Thomas Watson Case 5101/99 formerly associated with the second floor of 3050 Park Avenue, Jackson Houses, the Bronx.

Robert Williams Case 5131/99 formerly associated with the fifth floor of 159-64 Harlem River Drive, Rangel Houses, New York.

Keith Murray Case 5132/99 formerly associated with the first floor of 103 Nostrand Avenue, Marcy Houses, Brooklyn.

Jamal Britt Case 5170/99 formerly associated with the third floor of 3475-3485 Bivona Street, Boston Secur Houses, the Bronx.

Prohibited as of January 19, 2000

Derrick Jackson Case 5400/99 formerly associated with the seventh floor of 192 Sands Street, Farragut Houses, Brooklyn.

Edgar Maldonado Case 5410/99 formerly associated with the third floor of 210 Palmetto Street, Hope Garden Houses, Brooklyn.

Prohibited as of February 2, 2000

Brian Reyes Case 80/00 formerly associated with the fifth floor of 1694 Madison Avenue, Taft Houses, New York.

Delshon Mallory/Delshon Avitto Case 95/00 formerly associated with the fifth floor of 2676 Linden Blvd., Pink Houses, Brooklyn.

Prohibited as of February 23, 2000

Lonnie Kimbrough Case 333/00 formerly associated with the eighth floor of 220 Troop Avenue, Tompkins Houses, Brooklyn.

Neil Cooper Case 344/00 formerly associated with the eighth floor of 80 Osborn Street, Howard Houses, Brooklyn.

Prohibited of March 1, 2000

Nyron Small Case 104/00 formerly associated with the first floor of 187 Tapscott Street, Reid Houses, Brooklyn.

Prohibited as of March 8, 2000

Diego Acevedo Case 504/00 formerly associated with the fifth floor of 1726 Richmond Road, Berry Houses, Staten Island.

Monique Cochran Case 654/00 formerly associated with the fifth floor of 121 9th Avenue, Fulton Houses, New York.

Robert Canada Case 655/00 formerly associated with the third floor of 1750 Watson Avenue, Bronxdale Houses, the Bronx.

Kelvin Manon Case 656/00 formerly associated with the tenth floor of 285 East 156th Street, Jackson Houses, the Bronx.

APOLOGIES TO DWAYNE STEWARD OF BUSHWICK HOUSES IN BROOKLYN. MR. STEWARD WAS MISTAKENLY IDENTIFIED IN LAST MONTH'S "NOT WANTED" COLUMN.

Happy St. Patrick's Day!
March 17, 2001



AMENY GRADUATION

(Continued from previous page)

learned how to create a business plan, hire workers, finance and market their business, bid on contracts, and shop for insurance. They have changed and now they are prepared to help change their part of the world.

Ed Williams, representing Congressman Gregory Meeks and a former resident of Edgemere Houses, paid tribute to Chairman Martinez and his staff and said he wished that the rest of the country could come to Rockaway to see what HOPE VI can do. Connie Taylor, esteemed Chairperson of the Council of Presidents for Queens, also expressed admiration for the Chairman. "You couldn't find a better leader," Ms. Taylor said, and promised that she

would be on the phone to Mr. Martinez whenever the need arose.

In the spacious entrance hall of the Edgemere Community Center there is a scale model of the Arverne/Edgemere development and the surrounding community. It is here that these 18 new business people will launch their enterprises. It is here that the entire community will have a rebirth of commercial and social life. It is here in the not-too-distant future that this very detailed model will have to be transformed to keep up to date with the realities that will be brought to life by NYCHA, HOPE VI, AMENY and the residents of Arverne/Edgemere.



RESIDENTS IN BUSINESS Seated, left to right, are AMENY graduates Marcia Fells, Gloria Jenkins, Myra Howell, Jovan Carl, Yvette Hickman, Valerie Peterson, Yvette Novell, Jeanine Latimer and Sabrina Francis. Standing are Sharon Ebert, Director of NYCHA's Department of Housing Finance and Development, Monet Pierre, Antionette Bailey, Naomi Lara, Deputy General Manager of NYCHA's Department of Asset Management and Private Market Operations, Edward Williams, Phyllis Sloane, Randy Mills, David Joseph, NYCHA Board Member Kalman Finkel, NYCHA Chairman John G. Martinez, Anthony Walker, Joseph Pinkard, Lewis Bailey, NYCHA Vice Chairman Earl Andrews, Jr., Yvonne Rodriguez, AMENY President James Heyliger and AMENY First Vice President Lloyd Douglas.

Staten Island Chess Championship Tournament *Stapleton Houses Comes Out Ahead*

By Eileen Elliott

You could have heard a pin drop at Staten Island's Stapleton Community Center on February 7. Beginning late in the afternoon and moving on into the evening, the borough's best chess players matched their wits at the second annual Chess Championship Tournament.

And all was quiet — for 15 minutes at a time — when cheers disrupted the stillness, as each round ended, the winners were rematched, and everyone else retired to the sidelines to root silently for their teams.

For the 50 players, representing each of Staten Island's eight community centers, the tournament was the culmination of three months of preparation. There was the first month, when consultants Jamal Stafford and Arnold Porter visited each of the borough's community centers to teach the game. Then there was the second month which consisted of *practice, practice, practice*, and finally, a month of 14 play-off games leading up to the tournament.

Teams were easily identifiable by the colors of their t-shirts, all decorated with the emblem of a twinkly-eyed knight (the horse) and the inscription, "Striving for excellence while exercising my mind."

And the first-place team winner was Stapleton — not surprising



THE CHAMPIONS Kamal Saleem (center, back) with consultant Jamal Stafford and the Stapleton After-School Team Winners. Imani Barnes (center, front) came in second for the 6 to 8-Year Old division, and Brandon Lindo (far right) won first-place in the 9 to 12 division.

since nearly all of the individual winners were also from the Stapleton Community Center. The two exceptions were Shareil Anderson, who won in the 6 to 8-Year-Old division, and is from Markham Gardens, and Wilfredo Rodriguez, Adult division champion from West Brighton Houses.

"This is a dream of mine," said Stapleton Community Center Coordinator Kamal Saleem, who initiated the pilot program two years ago. "At first the kids think it's too much for them but once they get the basics down, it's

pretty easy. Now they play chess with the same enthusiasm as they would play a video game."

At the start of the tournament, Staten Island Borough Administrator Lionel Salaam thanked Community Operations' Director of Citywide Programs Deidre Gilliard, who was in attendance, along with Borough Director Denise Falco-Lara, and Borough Administrator Andrew Miller.

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 also is 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!

Winners

6 to 8 Years Old

Champion

Shareil Anderson, Markham Gardens

Runner-up

Imani Barnes, Stapleton Houses

9 to 12 Years Old

Champion

Brandon Lindo, Stapleton Houses

Runner-up

Jaquan Morton, Stapleton Houses

13 to 17 Years Old

Champion

Yolanda Hinkson, Stapleton Houses

Runner-up

Malika Weston, Stapleton Houses

18-year-old Adult Division

Champion

Wilfredo Rodriguez, West Brighton Houses

Runner-up

Delphin Williams, Stapleton Houses

Team Champions

First Place

Stapleton Houses

Second Place

Markham Gardens

Third Place

West Brighton Houses

Fourth Place

South Beach Houses

Fifth Place

Todt Hill Houses



State Exams Open Continuously

20-486

**Developmental Aide Trainee
(Spanish Language)
\$21,482**

20-156

**Examiner of Municipal Affairs Trainee I/
State Accounts Auditor Trainee I
\$30, 488**

20-563

**Recreation Therapist (Dance)
\$28,738**

20-554

**Insurance Examiner Trainee I
\$30,488, \$32,733**

20-564

**Recreation Therapist (Music)
\$28,738**

20-281

**Senior Sanitary Engineer
\$49,250**

Questions and Answers Regarding Community Service

Starting in 2001, over a period of several months, the New York City Housing Authority ("NYCHA") will phase in a new program. It will require certain public housing residents — not all — to provide voluntary service to their communities or participate in self-sufficiency training. The first of a two-part article serving as an advance explanation, and set out in a question-and-answer format, follows below. The article will continue in the April edition. PLEASE NOTE THE "SUMMARY OF EXEMPTIONS FROM COMMUNITY SERVICE" ON PAGE 7.

Q. Explain "community service" and "economic self-sufficiency". What is it and who will be affected?

A. This is a new federal law that was approved by the Congress and enacted by President Clinton in 1998. HUD has issued guidelines and, as the agency responsible for administering the public housing in New York City, NYCHA must put the program into effect. **Community service** is giving something back to your community. It is voluntary service to your development or to local community-based organizations. For many residents this is nothing new; they have provided service to their communities for years. Prime examples are the thousands of residents who volunteer for tenant patrol at public housing throughout the City or parents who provide assistance at their local school.

Economic self-sufficiency refers to programs that NYCHA and others offer to help residents gain employment, to help them become self-sufficient. For example, it includes training on how to maintain a household budget, how to fill out a job application, how to prepare a resume, etc. For simplicity, throughout this article, whenever we use the words "community service," we mean *both* community service and economic self-sufficiency. Under the law, every adult public housing resident who is *not* found to be exempt (*See box on page 7*) will be required to provide eight hours of monthly community service or to participate in self-sufficiency activities for a similar period. The eight hours can also be split, with some hours spent in community service and some in self-sufficiency training. But it is important to remember that if you are not exempt, community service is a condition of your tenancy.

Q. What about the families assisted through the Section 8 program? Will they be required to provide community service?

A. No. This law only applies to residents of public housing. Families assisted under the Section 8 program are not affected.

Q. Will community service apply to families living in state or city financed public housing?

A. It will apply to *all* of NYCHA's developments. Because we use federal assistance to support these properties, federal law governs their operations. However, we expect that most persons will be excluded because they qualify for one or more exemptions.

Q. So, just who is required to provide community service or take part in self-sufficiency training?

A. Every adult over the age of 18 or under the age of 62 and not eligible for an exemption must provide community service. Whether any person between the ages of 18 to 62 is actually affected comes down to a simple question. Are they, or are they not, eligible for an exemption?

Q. Okay, lets get to the exemptions. Specifically, how does a resident qualify for an exemption?

A. It is important to remember that this program will be phased in slowly over a period of several months. This series of questions and answers is intended to provide the reader with advance guidance regarding the program. Therefore, we emphasize again that there is no need to visit the management office at this time to discuss your eligibility. To make it easier to understand who is eligible for an exemption, we have summarized the basic standards in the chart appearing on page 7.

Residents should keep in mind that the referenced chart is a summary of the Authority's exemption standards. It is not the actual text. The chart was prepared to give residents a fair understanding of the basic types of conditions that will allow the Authority to consider granting an exemption. In some instances, additional requirements or details of the formal standards do not appear. **Residents should examine a copy of the actual NYCHA procedure which will be issued once the program gets underway before reaching any conclusion regarding whether an exemption is, or is not, available.**

Q. Does NYCHA already have the information that it needs to determine who qualifies for an exemption and who does not?

A. In many instances, NYCHA's records should reflect the individuals who are entitled to an exemption. For example, our records clearly show which residents are 62 years or older and those who are below the age of 18. We also know, to a large extent, who is employed and who is not. But there is the chance that our records might not reflect

current information. There is also the possibility that our data may be incorrect. As the program is phased in during 2001, some residents will receive letters advising them that NYCHA *believes* that they *may* be subject to community service. These letters will also include a list of acceptable proofs that can provide the basis for NYCHA to conclude that the resident qualifies for an exemption. The letter will ask the resident to provide their local management office with documents demonstrating their qualification for an exemption. Of course, some residents may elect not to seek an exemption. Those who decide not to seek an exemption will be sent guidance regarding NYCHA's community service and economic self-sufficiency programs plus instructions as to how they comply with the requirement.

Q. What if the resident ignores the letter sent by NYCHA? What if they fail to respond?

A. If no response is received, after a reasonable time, a second letter will be sent, again inviting the resident to offer documentary proof that they are eligible for an exemption. If, after a reasonable period, there is still no response, the Authority will conclude that the resident has no basis for claiming an exemption. A final letter will be sent advising the resident that they are obliged to provide eight hours of monthly community service, along with details regarding the program and the penalties for noncompliance.

Q. When a person is determined to be exempt, are they permanently excluded from providing community service?

A. No. It is only good for the period during which they would have otherwise had to provide service. The only persons NYCHA can *permanently* exempt are those 62 years of age or older or where a physician certifies that an individual's blindness or disability is permanent.

Q. The chart indicates that if you are employed for 30 hours per week, (20 hours for a single parent) you get an exemption because you are working. Not all of us have steady employment. What if there are weeks when a resident works for less than 30 hours, or weeks where they work more than 30 hours?

A. If the resident can show proof of an *average* of 30 hours of work per week, they will be accorded an exemption. Note as well that the 30-hour employment rule does not apply to employed *single* parents. The time element drops to 20 hours for single parents with a child in the apartment under age 13. NYCHA will also combine hours from different jobs to reach the required total. It is important to understand that NYCHA's staff will work with the resident and each situation will be judged on its own merits.

Q. How does community service affect persons who are in school or job training?

A. Most forms of schooling, especially those related to employment, will entitle a resident to an exemption.

Look for Part II of this article in the April *Journal*, to learn more about Community Service.



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Summary of Exemptions From Community Service

<u>Categories</u>	<u>Exemptions</u>
Age	Individuals below the age of 18. Individuals above the age of 62.
Disability	Persons who are either blind or disabled and unable to perform community service or self-sufficiency activities. The primary caretaker of an individual exempt due to blindness or disability.
Welfare Work Programs	Participants in the New York City Work Experience Program (WEP). Welfare recipients determined by HRA as exempt from performing work activities.
Welfare Assistance	Members of a family receiving welfare and determined by HRA to be in compliance with federal or state welfare programs.
Employment	An individual employed at least 30 hours per week. A single adult, residing with a child below the age of 13, employed for at least 20 hours per week. Two adults, residing with a child below the age of 13, with a combined employment of 35 hours per week. The 35-hour figure is a total that may be divided between both adults. Individuals engaged in job search, but for no more than six weeks during the community service period. Unemployment benefits qualify as job search. Adult homemakers residing with a second adult and a child below the age of 13, where the second adult is either employed or providing community services.
Education	Individuals enrolled in vocational training, but not exceeding a maximum of 12 months. Individuals receiving job readiness assistance (training preparing the individual for employment). Includes job-seeking skills, such as preparation of resumes or job applications, interviewing skills, job clubs and other activities that help an individual to secure competitive employment. Job skills training directly related to employment. Education directly related to employment, where the individual has not received a high school diploma or certificate of high school equivalency. Full time attendance at a secondary school. Full time attendance in a course of study leading to a certificate of general equivalency, if the individual has not completed secondary school or received such a certificate. Attendance at a junior or community college, at a senior college or university for the minimum period required by the school.

Are you interested in **Employment Opportunities** working with individuals with disabilities? If so, contact NYCHA's Department of Economic and Business Initiatives at (212) 306-8715 for possible referrals.

You must be a legal NYCHA resident and have a high school diploma or GED.

Both entry level and positions requiring experience are available. A clean driver's license and/or a willingness to do shift work may be required for some positions.

Did You Know...

Did you know that March is Social Worker Recognition month? Social workers provide a broad range of services, coordinating counseling with community and environmental resources. They can be found in schools, hospitals, mental health centers and correctional facilities. NYCHA's 44 social workers can be found in community centers and field offices throughout the five boroughs. They will be honored in a ceremony at the Campos Plaza Community Center in Manhattan on March 29th.

Did you know that Lillian D. Wald was a nurse, social worker, public health official, teacher, author, women's rights activist, and the founder of American community nursing who lived from 1867 to 1940? After receiving her nursing degree in 1922, Wald volunteered her services to the immigrants and poor living on the Lower East Side, visiting the sick and elderly in their homes. She is most famous for organizing the Henry Street Settlement, also known as the Visiting Nurse Society of New York. Established in 1893, the VNS is still thriving today, with 3,000 employees. Wald was named by *The New York Times* in 1922 as one of the 12 greatest living American women. Lillian Wald Houses, also located on Manhattan's Lower East Side, is a tribute to this remarkable woman. Over 4,500 NYCHA residents live in its 16 buildings.

MELROSE COMMUNITY CENTER (Continued from page 1)

beautiful new facility is a testament to your efforts."

Harborview Arts Coordinator Josie Gonzalez and Harborview artists were commended for the display of award-winning artwork that decorated the halls. The colorful pictures were selected from over 1,000 submissions to the Housing Authority's Year 2000 Resident Art Show.

No NYCHA ribbon-cutting would be complete without the Youth Chorus, whose voices filled the gymnasium as they sang the National Anthem at the start of the ceremony, and later, "Stand Up And Be A Witness," in honor of Black History Month.

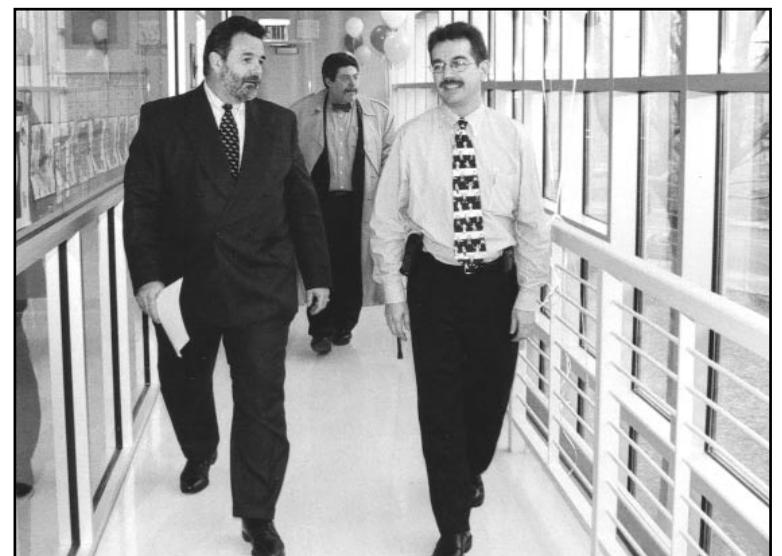
In addition to the full-sized

basketball court, and the weight-lifting and gymnastic equipment, the center has a sparkling kitchen with an industrial-sized stove, a computer room and a photography darkroom. There are also brightly painted classrooms for Partners In Reading and the I Have A Dream Program.

There are 3,400 residents under the age of 21 who live in the three developments, but they and their families are not the only ones who can enjoy the facility. As with all of the Housing Authority's community centers, Melrose is open to everyone in the community, including the students from the many nearby schools.

NYCHA residents and staff joined each other at the community center's entrance for the actual ribbon-cutting that concluded the day's official events. With that conclusion, the real life of the center began, as the young residents of the South Bronx trickled in to enjoy the many afternoon activities.

In the past seven years, NYCHA has completed 42 new community centers. Twenty-two are currently under construction and an additional 15 are in the design stage.



NYCHA Chairman John G. Martinez (left) tours the new center with Bronx Borough Community Operations Director Ernesto Lozano. NYCHA's Public Information Officer Howard Marder follows behind.



NYCHA's Sutton Gymnasts: *Music in Movement*

By Allan Leicht

Sixty-two NYCHA youngsters, ages 5 to 16, flock from all over the city to a soft, graceful landing on the spongy carpets of the spacious Sutton Gymnastics and Fitness Center at Cooper Square in Manhattan. From three to five days a week they flip, roll, tumble and fly through the air, learning to discipline their bodies, to give athletic and artistic shape to their natural gymnastic ability.

But, says JoAnn Sotres, Vice President of Sutton Gymnastics, "Athletic ability is not the first thing we look for. They must be physically fit, they must have an excellent attention span, and they must have parents or an adult who will make the commitment to have them come to practice."

It is no small commitment. As much fun and as rewarding as gymnastics is, there is no kidding around at Sutton. These NYCHA youngsters, all on scholarships, are very serious about "flipping."

"We get a lot of 'flippers,'" Ms. Sotres continued. "Before they get here they do things that are outrageous, like tumbling on cement in the street. They come in saying, 'I can flip, I can flip!' and they can. But we teach them how to take it slowly, learn to do a forward roll, learn how one skill builds on another."

And flippers become gymnasts.

Gymnastics is pure athletics. There is no ball. Competitors do not clash, they perform, strive for perfection, keeping the ideal in mind, yet knowing no one ever achieves it completely. As Sutton President Bill Hladik put it, "They must perform as individuals, solo,

but they are also part of a team and must help each other."

Sutton provides gymnastic instruction to 1,400 youngsters who come every week, some as young as 18 months old. As they grow, learn and mature, the recreational program leads into the team program. Just this season, Sutton gymnasts earned 13 first-place finishes in all-round competitions and another 32 first-place awards on vault, bars, balance beam and floor exercise.

Although the emphasis is not on competition but on mental and physical development, some NYCHA youngsters seem to be destined to compete.

Denzel Walker, a fifth-grader who lives at Marcus Garvey Houses in Brooklyn, has been taking the subway three days a week for two-and-a-half years. Denzel loves the training and is one of the budding stars of Sutton. His self-assurance as a gymnast gives him a very grown-up aura. So after Denzel's breathtaking exercise on the *mushroom*, a cassock-like prelude to the *Pommel Horse*, it is a mild shock to meet and realize he is a soft-spoken young boy only nine years old.

At 16, Tiffany Rivera is the oldest of NYCHA's gymnastics contingent. She and her brother, Brandon, have a shorter trip from Two Bridges Houses in Lower Manhattan, but the dedication Tiffany has invested in the nine years she has been a Sutton gymnast has made her a competition-class athlete. She also excels in the classroom at Brooklyn Tech. In fact, diligence in the gym goes hand in hand with excellence in school.

Except for the thump and thud of landings on the mats, the gym is very quiet. There is no chatter, no whoops or cheering, only hearty applause for a well executed vault, spin or combination of intricate turns. It is the sound of concentration, the silence of the harmony of mind and body.

And there is music. "Each girl and boy selects her or his own music," explained Bill Hladik, himself a gymnast from Czechoslovakia. The floor exercise, as it is called, is not dance, actually, but very like ballet in beauty and control. And yet, from floor to balance beam, parallels to uneven bars, there is music in the movement even when there is no music.

Upwards Of 2000 NYCHA Kids At Fourth Annual J.P. Morgan Chase Sports & Arts Festival



SCALING NEW HEIGHTS This young resident was climbing the walls courtesy of the ExtraVertical Climbing Center in Manhattan.

By Allan Leicht

NYCHA kids were climbing the walls over the midwinter school break during Presidents' Week. That usually means having nothing to do, but in this case, it's just the opposite, as thousands of youngsters from all over the city took part in more than 35 different sports and arts from African drumming, painting, ballet and baseball to volleyball, video arts, weightlifting and wall-climbing.

The Fourth Annual J.P. Morgan Chase Sports and Arts in Schools Festival is dedicated to the future achievements of New York City's 750,000 young people ages 6 to 14. Nearly 2,000 NYCHA children from all five boroughs participated at Chelsea Piers, Manhattan Plaza Racquet Club/Theater District and Lincoln Center, and at Riverbank State Park. They were provided with free lunches courtesy of the Board of Education and coached by trained, experienced instructors. Over the course of three days from February 20 to 22, they sang, danced, created sculptures, played every sport imaginable and learned first-hand that business and civic leaders of New York foresee a bright future for each and every one of them.

The first Sports & Arts Festival four years ago served about 8,000 young people. By last year that number had grown to 20,000 through the generosity of individuals, corporations, foundations, associations and public agencies. But equally important are the grown-ups who chaperone the children, seeing to their safety and

instruction. Police Officer Zaven Sava, of PSA #2 in Brooklyn, watched his young wall-climbers scale the heights of the Harmony Atrium near Lincoln Center and commented, "You think they're having fun? This is my fun day, too."

Diane Buchman, who coordinated events for Sports & Arts, proudly described the children's enthusiasm for their tour of Lincoln Center and the work they were doing at the Museum of American Folk Art. "And you should see the tap dancing," she said, "it's truly amazing what these kids are doing."

Derek Pinnock, Senior Program Officer of the Sports & Arts in Schools Foundation, summarized the festival's goal as "the power of positive influence."

And so once again this Presidents' Week the doors to some of New York's finest cultural and recreational institutions were opened to the children free of charge. And once again the generous contributors who make the Festival possible showed how children and the city equal joy and achievement.



New York City Housing Authority Chairman John G. Martinez joins twenty young NYCHA gymnasts at the Sutton Gymnasium for a quick photo.

NYCHA Recipe Contest

DEADLINE EXTENDED TO MAY 4, 2001



NYCHA is sponsoring its first-ever recipe contest. Send your favorite original recipe in any one of the following categories:

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Appetizer, soup, or salad | 6. Fish Main Dish |
| 2. Side dish | 7. Vegetarian main dish |
| 3. Pasta main dish | 8. Dessert |
| 4. Poultry main dish | 9. Baked goods |
| 5. Meat main dish | 10. Desserts by young adults |

All NYCHA employees, residents, retirees are eligible to enter the contest. Young residents and children of employees who are 13 to 18 years of age may enter a dessert recipe.

To enter a recipe, print or type at the top of an 8 1/2 X 11 inch paper your name, complete address (if you are a resident, please include your development) and phone number. Contestants submitting an entry in the "Desserts by young adults" category should indicate their age.

On the same page, print or type your recipe including its name, number of servings, list of ingredients with specific quantities in order of use, and complete directions including baking/cooking time and temperature. Recipes should serve 4 to 6 people. Please indicate if the recipe meets any dietary restrictions. If it is more than one page, make sure you put your name on every page.

Entries must be an original recipe and not previously published. (You may submit your own recipe if it was printed in the NYCHA Employee Bulletin). By submitting any recipe you warrant that, to the best of your knowledge, it is your original work or a variation of an existing recipe that features four or more significant changes.

Entries must be received by May 4, 2001. Mail entries to NYCHA Recipe Contest c/o Pat Gonzalez, Special Events Coordinator, Department of Public and Community Relations, 250 Broadway, 10th floor, New York, NY 10007. No household may submit more than three entries.

The judges will select up to 15 of the best recipes in each of the categories listed above. Winners will be notified in May 2001. Recipes will be judged on their simplicity in the following categories: number and type of ingredients (40%), ease of preparation (25%), preparation time (20%) and creativity (15%). All decisions of the judges will be final.

Contest winners will be recognized with gifts, honored at a ceremony and will have their recipes published in a NYCHA Cookbook. All entries become the property of NYCHA; no recipes will be returned. NYCHA will have the right to publish or advertise the recipe and the name of the contestant without added compensation unless prohibited by law.

DO YOU HAVE A COMPLAINT OR GRIEVANCE...

that has not been satisfactorily addressed by your Management, Borough Management, Leased Housing or Applications Office? The New York City Housing Authority has a program that can help! Six ombudspersons are now on staff to respond to issues concerning tenancy in NYCHA developments or in the Section 8 Leased Housing Program, or to issues related to applications and community center activities. The program is designed to make sure that you, our residents and applicants, get timely and appropriate responses to your concerns. So, give your ombudsperson a call at the number listed below. (If you have not already attempted to resolve the problem through the appropriate channels, you will be referred back to the respective office.) We guarantee a response within 48 hours. If we are unable to resolve the problem within 48 hours, we will provide you with an expected (and reasonable) resolution date.

Most offices are open Monday through Friday from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM, and closed on major holidays. The Staten Island office is open on Thursdays only, or by appointment, and the Queens office is closed on Thursdays. (Please call for an appointment.)

Bronx

Rollin Deas, Jr.
Butler Houses
Community Center
1368 Webster Avenue
Bronx, New York 10456
(718) 538-1391

Brooklyn

Mark Friedman
Sheepshead/Nostrand Houses
3571 Nostrand Avenue, Suite #1C
Brooklyn, New York 11229
(718) 332-4966

Manhattan

Leslie Peterson
LaGuardia Houses
230 Clinton Street, Suite #3F
New York, New York 10002
(212) 267-1837

Queens

(except Thursdays)
Saundra Roberson
International Tower
90-20 170th Street, Suite #2P
Jamaica, New York 11433
(718) 298-5944

Staten Island

(on Thursdays, or by appointment)
Saundra Roberson
140 Richmond Terrace
Staten Island, New York 10301
(718) 815-0140

Housing Applications

Esther Farmer
250 Broadway, 24th Floor
New York, New York 10007
(212) 306-2995 **NEW**

Leased Housing/Section 8

Barry A. Levine
250 Broadway, 24th Floor
New York, New York 10007
(212) 306-6601 **NEW**

Coca-Cola Enterprises Inc.

Coca-Cola Enterprises, Inc., the world's largest bottler of non-alcoholic beverages is sponsoring three job fairs with NYCHA. The following positions are available:

Account Manager* — meets sales targets, facilitates delivery and assures stock rotation standards are met for all Company products at each outlet. Knowledgeable and savvy about local marketplace conditions and needs in order to increase profitable sales activity. Excellent customer service skills are essential. Clean driver's license required. Ideal candidate has an Associate's or Bachelor's degree with one-year sales experience. Salary: \$33,000 plus bonus.

Driver Merchandiser* — delivers products to assigned retail outlets. High school or GED required; basic math skills; clean driving record; Class A or B license. Salary: \$14.77/hour.

Merchandiser* — works with Account Managers and Drivers rotating stock and resetting accounts to corporate standards. High School or GED required, must have a car and clean driver's license. Salary: \$9.83/hour. [*Ability to lift up to 50 pounds].

The job fairs will be held in the following boroughs in April and May:

Bronx	Thursday April 19th	10:00 a.m. – 1:00p.m.
Staten Island	Thursday April 26th	10:00 a.m. – 1:00p.m.
Queens	Thursday May 10th	10:00 a.m. – 1:00p.m.

To pre-register and for more information please call:
212-306-3800 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.
for NYCHA Residents ONLY