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Have A Great 2002-03 School Year!
Join The Anti-Graffiti Effort and Improve The Quality of Life For All New Yorkers

New York City is in the midst of a multi-agency graffiti cleanup, led by the City’s Anti-Graffiti Task Force. This strategic effort, which began last month, enlists the coordinated efforts of community groups and City agencies to remove graffiti as soon as it appears, and punish those who are responsible. The Task Force has already cleaned over 638 locations throughout the City this year.

Graffiti is not just an eyesore, it is an invitation to criminals and a message to citizens that we don’t care. Coordinated by the City’s Community Assistance Unit (CAU), the Task Force will continue to show that we do care by attacking graffiti throughout the five boroughs, focusing on the Grand Concourse in the Bronx; Borough Park, Bay Ridge, Williamsburg, Greenpoint, and Bushwick in Brooklyn; Inwood, Turtle Bay, and Harlem in Manhattan; Astoria, Sunnyside, and Woodside in Queens; and New Dorp, Port Richmond, and West Brighton in Staten Island.

As an active member of the Mayor’s Anti-Graffiti Task Force, the New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) relies on strong partnerships to reduce the occurrence of graffiti in its developments. This year, NYCHA’s Citywide Anti-Graffiti Program has expanded to include 300 buildings in 67 developments. Quarterly Borough Anti-Graffiti Meetings are held with NYCHA managers, police and resident leaders to discuss education, prevention, and alternatives to graffiti.

The Housing Authority’s 2002 Anti-Graffiti Mural Project provides youth with a constructive alternative to graffiti in the form of mural painting. Entitled, “Tomorrow’s Vision Through Youthful Eyes” the initiative includes an educational component which stresses that there is a place in the world for art but not for defacing property. This project is taking place in 20 community centers around the City. Twelve murals will be selected for a 2003 calendar.

From January to June of this year, 1,500 community service workers have been assigned to remove graffiti in NYCHA developments, through the Alternative Sentencing Program. This collaboration between NYCHA and the District Attorneys’ offices in each borough allows first-time quality-of-life offenders to clean up graffiti as a form of community service, instead of serving time in jail.

The NYFD will continue to provide the resources for extensive investigations into graffiti crimes and serve as the enforcement arm of the Citywide Task Force which includes representatives from the Department of Buildings, the Department of Business Services, the Department of Consumer Affairs, the Department of Cultural Affairs, the Department of Citywide Administrative Services, the Fire Department, the Department of Housing Preservation and Development, the Human Resources Administration, the Landmarks Preservation Commission, the Department of Probation, the Department of Transportation, and the Department of Youth and Community Development.

The Department of Sanitation will operate two power washers and two paint trucks. The Department of Parks and Recreation will operate power washers, paint and spray rigs to remove graffiti, and expand its inspections to look for graffiti in the City’s large parks and small playgrounds. The Economic Development Corporation will operate a fleet of ten trucks to eliminate graffiti in the City’s industrial, commercial and maritime areas.

In addition to regular patrols that target this form of vandalism, the Police Department will continue to use tips to find and arrest individuals who commit graffiti crimes. To report graffiti vandalism, citizens can call the NYPD’s 24-hour quality of life hotline at (888) 677-LIFE (5433).

Michael R. Bloomberg

East Side House Settlement Reopens At Mitchel Houses In The South Bronx

East Side House Settlement, operating at the New York City Housing Authority’s (NYCHA’s) John P. Mitchel Houses in the South Bronx, celebrated the official opening of its newly renovated community center on a hot and sunny July 16. NYCHA and East Side House staff and officials, local politicians and community residents sat on folding chairs beneath a blue tarpaulin, while the parties involved each gave the new facility their blessings. The $2.1 million renovation includes new computer and game rooms, as well as a “college library” stocked full of catalogues from colleges all around the country, its walls decorated with brightly colored banners.

In addition to an enormous gymnasium (pre-existing, except for the new hardwood floor, as attested to by NYCHA’s Department of Community Operations), there is a large lobby, which can be entered through the relocated main entrance, now on 137th Street. (It used to be around the corner on Alexander Avenue.)

“The lobby serves as the heart of the center,” said Moses Ros, the NYCHA architect who designed the renovation under Project Administrator Glenn Brown. The polished cinder block walls, brushed steel reception area and natural light falling from skylights high in the ceiling, all add warmth and style to the facility.

Two elected officials attended—Assemblywoman Carmen Arroyo, the first Hispanic woman to be elected to the New York State Assembly, and City Councilman Jose Serrano, Jr. “It’s a great pleasure to be here in the heart of my district,” Ms. Arroyo told the audience. “This is proof that taxpayers’ money is being used the proper way.” NYCHA Chairman Tino Hernandez characterized the reopening as “cause for celebration” and urged residents, especially young people to make good use of the facility. Mr. Hernandez, was joined by Vice-Chairman Earl Andrews, Jr., Board Member JoAnna Aniello, General Manager Douglas Apple, Department of Community Operations Deputy General Manager Hugh B. Spence, Capital Projects Deputy General Manager Joseph Faro, Department of Design and Capital Improvement Director David Burney, and Department of Construction Director Robert Yaches.

East Side House Settlement Executive Director John Sanchez served as moderator.

“It’s a great place,” said Mitchell Houses Resident Association Vice President Isabella Johnson, addressing the dais. “We thank you from the bottom of our hearts.”

(Continued on page 5)
HAUSING CONFERENCE
(Continued from page 1)

I t's hard to believe that sum-
mer is nearly over! Mine was
a busy summer, filled with
Family Days, tours and visits
with residents and staff in all five
boroughs. Since becoming Chair-
man I have visited over 100
developments and I look forward
to visiting many more. It is truly
one of the most enjoyable aspects
of the job. I'm happy to find that
community spirit is so strong in
NYCHA developments, and I
hope that each of you shares that
spirit with your neighbors.

For many families the end of summer means a return to school, if not
for you then for your children. To those 70 college students who
worked at NYCHA through the Summer Lottery Program, I wish
you every success as you continue your education and I trust that your
experience with us was meaningful. I also wish success to all young
NYCHA residents who will begin their college careers next month.

But perhaps circumstances prevented you from completing high
school. It may not be too late to pick up the ball again! This past June,
65 NYCHA residents did just that—they completed their high school
educations by obtaining equivalency diplomas through the Alternative
High School Program. The Alternative High School Program is a joint
program of NYCHA and the Board of Education that provides an op-
portunity for individuals between 17 and 20 years of age to pursue a
General Equivalency Diploma (GED) in a non-traditional setting.
In other words, if you don’t go back to regular high school, you can take
special classes in which you will get individual attention from Board
of Education certified teachers who will work with you to find out
how to use your best academic strengths, work to improve them and get
up to speed on other subjects where you may need special help. It is really
worth looking into.

The Alternative High School Program begins on Thursday,
September 5th and will be offered at 20 NYCHA locations in all five
boroughs. There is bound to be one not far from you. The classes take
place in community centers and other facilities in and around NY-
CHA developments. They run from 9 AM to 12:50 PM Monday
through Friday and offer instruction in Writing, Social Studies,
Science, Interpreting Literature and the Arts, and Mathematics.
Enrollment is open all year round, which means that you can enroll
at any time, but of course the sooner you begin the closer you will be
to your GED. For a listing of Alternative High School sites or
more information, please call NYCHA’s Department of
Economic and Business Initiatives (DEBI) Education Unit at
(718) 246-6519, or call the DEBI hotline at (212) 306-3800.

And there is another program worth investigating. The Urban Tech-
ology Center (UTC) will be offering after-school computer training
in three 18-week cycles at 25 NYCHA community centers, beginning
on September 23. Journal readers know how successful UTC com-
puter courses have been in the past, and how they have helped many
residents get into the world of technology and even find employment.
Teachers from the UTC gave two 75-minute classes each week
on computer fundamentals, word processing, Web publishing,
spreadsheets, PowerPoint and the Internet (where available). For more
on this program, contact Ubashig at (212) 427-6648.

Education is one of the most important keys to a better life. Learning
should never stop. Take advantage of the educational programs that
are available to you now so that you and your children will have even more opportunities in the future.

Tino Hernandez

SPEAK OUT AGAINST FRAUD AND CORRUPTION!
If you or anyone in your family is aware of any fraud or corruption committed against the
New York City Housing Authority (“NYCHA”) by any NYCHA employee, contractor, vendor, or
resident, we urge you to call the NYCHA Inspector General (“IG”) at 212-306-3555 or the
Department of Investigation (“DOI”) at 212-3-NYC-DOI or 212-825-5959. The IG and DOI rely
on NYCHA employees, residents, and people who do business with NYCHA and the public at
large to report fraudulent and corrupt activity they see or hear.
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 April 4, 2001. Remember, if you see any of these persons on Housing Authority property, please call your Management Office or the Police! This list is provided to all Police Service Areas.

Prohibited as of April 4, 2001

Michael Negron
Case 1075/01 formerly associated with the third floor of 2181 Pitkin Avenue, Fiorentino Plaza, Brooklyn.

Luis Perez
Case 1076/01 formerly associated with the second floor of 480 East 143rd Street, Betances Houses, the Bronx.

Ira Grier
Case 1077/01 formerly associated with the second floor of 333 Georgia Avenue, Unity Plaza, Brooklyn.

Jose Pagan
Case 1079/01 formerly associated with the ninth floor of 1505 Park Avenue, Clinton Houses, New York.

Ronald Calderon
Case 1109/01 formerly associated with the fifth floor of 1839 Lexington Avenue, Johnson Houses, New York.

Anthony Johnson
Case 1112/01 formerly associated with the fourth floor of 3112/01 Bayview Avenue, Gravesend Houses, Brooklyn.

Marche Pattiasina
Case 1113/01 formerly associated with the fourth floor of 635 East 12th Street, Campos Plaza Houses, New York.

Keith Huff
Case 1115/01 formerly associated with the fifth floor of 290 East Fourth Street, Bracetti Plaza Houses, New York.

Jason Bradshaw
Case 1122/01 formerly associated with the third floor of 605 Park Avenue, Marcy Houses, Brooklyn.

Pierre Holmes
Case 1125/01 formerly associated with the thirteenth floor of 1270 Webster Avenue, Webster Houses, Bronx.

Dontrell Clark
Case 1126/01 formerly associated with the third floor of 9910 Seaview Avenue, Bayview Houses, Brooklyn.

Edwin Ortiz
Case 1147/01 formerly associated with the eighth floor of 1420 Bronx River Avenue, Bronx River Houses, the Bronx.

Daisy Betances
Case 1148/01 formerly associated with the fourteenth floor of 875 Columbus Avenue, Douglass Houses, New York.

Nashon Jowers
Case 1149/01 formerly associated with the third floor of 30 Bush Street, Red Hook West Houses, Brooklyn.

Jonathan Shaw
Case 1176/01 formerly associated with the second floor of 40 Glenmore Avenue, Howard Houses, Brooklyn.

What’s Happening In... Brooklyn?

In an effort to keep NYCHA’s residents informed about improvements in their developments, the Journal now includes a monthly column on recently awarded modernization contracts, focusing on a different borough each month.

Williams Plaza Houses Slated For Renovation

The exterior brickwork of Williams Plaza Houses in Williamsburg, Brooklyn, will be repaired under a recently awarded $2.3 million contract awarded to Summar Restoration Corp. of Bellerose, N.Y. The work is expected to take about a year to complete once it begins.

“This is major renovation work that not only includes the replacement of brickwork, but also horizontal expansion joints, rebuilding the existing vertical expansion joints and cleaning the facades of the buildings,” said NYCHA Chairman Tino Hernandez.

Williams Plaza Houses has five buildings, 14 and 21-stories tall with 577 apartments housing approximately 1,674 people. Completed in April 1964, the 5.38-acre site is bordered by Roebling Street, Broadway, Division and Marcy Avenues.

Albany Houses To Get New Closet Doors

All 1,220 apartments at Albany Houses I and II in Brooklyn will get new plastic laminated closet doors under a $1.6 million contract. The contract was awarded to Fulton Building Contact, Inc. and should take about one year to complete once work starts.

“This is part of our continuing effort to improve the quality of life for our residents by periodically making improvements and other renovations to their apartments,” said NYCHA Chairman Tino Hernandez.

The contract calls for replacing 5,521 closet doors of various sizes with 3,628 new swing doors and 652 new sliding doors. Albany Houses I, completed in 1950, has 824 apartments in six buildings bounded by Albany, St. Marks and Troy Place. The adjacent Albany II Houses, completed in 1957, has 396 apartments in three buildings.

New Electrical Supply System For Wyckoff Gardens

Wyckoff Gardens Houses in Brooklyn will be getting a new electrical supply system running from the power lines in the street to each of its 528 apartments under a $1.2 million contract. The contract was awarded to Inter-Connection Electric, Inc., and is expected to take one year to complete once work begins.

New underground cables to all three 21-story buildings will be installed leading to meter rooms in each building. In addition, new wiring will be installed going to each apartment where fuse boxes will be replaced with circuit breakers. Each apartment will also get new lighting fixtures, smoke detectors and additional outlets.

“An electrical upgrade of this sort not only provides additional convenience, but also offers additional safety,” NYCHA Chairman Tino Hernandez said.

The 5.81-acre complex, completed December 31, 1966, houses some 1,226 people. It is bordered by Third Avenue, Nevins, Wyckoff and Baltic Streets.

$1 Million Roof Drainage Upgrade At Red Hook Houses

Red Hook Houses, the largest public housing development in Brooklyn, will be getting new roof drains installed in all 30 buildings under a $1.1 million contract. The contract was awarded to Skountzos Plumbing & Heating Corp. and is expected to take a year to complete, once work begins.

The contract calls for installing 224 new roof drains with leaders that will funnel rainwater and melted snow into basement drains. The same contract will include replacing 88 existing drains in the 30 buildings at the 39-acre development.

“This is vital modernization that will ultimately prevent major structural damage that too often results from water seeping into brickwork, roof structures and foundations,” NYCHA Chairman Tino Hernandez said. “This is a classic case of using an ounce of prevention to eliminate the later need for a pound of cure.”

Red Hook Houses consists of 2,873 apartments housing an estimated 6,518 residents. It has two, three, six and 14-story buildings. Twenty-seven buildings were completed on November 20, 1939, and the remaining three were completed May 31, 1955. Dwight, Clinton, West Ninth, Lorraine, Richards, and Walcott Streets, and Red Hook Park border the complex.

KID’S WALK 2002
Walking The Walk in Prospect Park

A bright green Volkswagen Beetle set the pace for over 1,200 New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) youth between the ages of 6 and 12 as they walked their way towards fitness at the Housing Authority’s very first children’s walk-a-thon, Kid’s Walk 2002. But before they began they got a pep talk and some warm-up exercises from NYCHA Chairman Tino Hernandez.

Fueled by sensible, low-calorie breakfasts of fruit, juice and water, the children carried colorful banners with the names of their community centers as they began their three-mile hike in Brooklyn’s Prospect Park on July 25.

“Good health should never be taken for granted,” Chairman Hernandez told the crowd who gathered around a stage set up at the southwest end of the park. “NYCHA is committed to the health and well being of our residents.”

Mr. Hernandez thanked the Department of Community Operations, including Citywide Programs Director Denise Lara and Brooklyn Senior Program Manager Lisa Davis, who came up with the idea for the walk, before introducing Brooklyn Borough President Marty Markowitz.

Mr. Markowitz, who recently completed his own borough-wide get-in-shape program, gave the kids another boost before the walk began. “Start exercising now,” he said. “Eat fattening foods in moderate amounts and exercise all of your life. You’ll look better, and you’ll feel better about yourself. I want all of you to live happy and healthy lives for many years to come.”

Board Member JoAnna Aniello, General Manager Douglas Apple, and Community Operations Deputy General Manager Hugh B. Spence were all on hand to provide their support and whip up enthusiasm.

The event was sponsored by Brooklyn Hospital Medical Center, Con-Edison, Coca-Cola, J.P Morgan Chase Bank, the New York Knicks, and Verizon, among others.

Walking The Walk in Prospect Park

The event was sponsored by Morgan Chase Bank, the New York Knicks, and Verizon, among others.

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Case 1176/01 formerly associated with the second floor of 40 Glenmore Avenue, Howard Houses, Brooklyn.
After the ribbon was snipped, guests retired to the multi-purpose room decorated with blue and white streamers, for a luncheon. Established in 1891, the East Side House Settlement is one of the oldest settlement houses in New York. It was originally located on East 76th Street (hence its name), before moving to Alexander Avenue and 137th Street in 1963. Today, East Side House serves approximately 9,000 people a year from 15 different locations, offering computer technology, educational, youth leadership and recreational programs. It is one of NYCHA’s 48 sponsored community centers.

John P. Mitchel Houses is named after John Purroy Mitchel (1879–1918), the youngest man ever to be elected Mayor of New York City. (He was 35.) The development was completed in February 1966. It provides homes for approximately 3,800 residents.

SONG AND DANCE: These children from the community center provided the morning’s entertainment.

Visit NYCHA’s Website at: www.nyc.gov/nych
HALF-A-CENTURY New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) Chairman Tino Hernandez (right) joined Pomonok Houses Manager Brenda Wells (left) and Resident Association President Theresa Alleva for the development’s 50th Anniversary Celebration on Saturday, July 13. Located in the heart of Queens between Fresh Meadows and Kew Gardens Hills, the development provides homes for over 4,200 residents.

Chairman Hernandez presented an anniversary plaque to the development and a proclamation from Mayor Bloomberg naming July 13 Pomonok Houses Day in New York City. The 52 acres on which Pomonok Houses was built began as farmland during the 1700s. In the early 1800s it became a horse ranch and in the early 1930s it became the Pomonok Country Club, where the Professional Golfers Association (PGA) Championship was played in 1939. Pomonok Houses opened officially on June 30, 1952. The highlight of the 50th Anniversary celebration was the presentation of a quilt depicting life at the development, made by the Pomonok Quilting Guild, led by Thadine Wormly-Herndon and Stacey Becco. Many NYCHA residents and staff joined the celebration, including Queens Borough Director of Community Operations Anthony Richburg and Queens Borough Management Director Thomas O’Brien. State Senator Toby Ann Stavisky and City Council Member James F. Gennaro also attended, along with representatives for State Assembly Members Nettie Mayersohn and Brian M. McLaughlin.

A DAY IN THE PARK (Top photo) NYCHA staff joined Brooklyn Assemblyman Vito Lopez (center) at Sunken Meadow Park in Kings Park, Long Island for the 30th Annual Ridgewood-Bushwick Senior Citizens’ Council picnic on July 18. Seniors from all over the city came for the free steak lunch, including over 1,000 seniors from New York City Housing Authority developments, like those pictured above (bottom photo). Mr. Lopez, who Chairs the New York State Assembly Housing Committee, hosted the picnic.

GED Classes for Residents 17 – 20 Years Old at NYCHA’s Alternative High School (AHS), a collaboration with the New York City Board of Education

• Open Enrollment • Classes Monday — Friday, 9AM – 12:30PM • 20 Locations

For more information, call the Department of Economic and Business Initiatives at (718) 246-6517 or (718) 246-6519.

August is Men’s Health Month at Betances!

Visit Betances for your MEN’S HEALTH CHECK-UP. Bring this ad before August 30 and get a “Men’s Health Gift Bag” while supplies last.

BETANCES HEALTH CENTER

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