



# Journal

## ASPIRE GRADUATION



**WINNERS** NYCHA's Dept. of Community Operations' Ukah Busgith (far left) and Chairman Tino Hernandez (far right), join Essay Contest winners (left to right) Tiffany McFarlane of Claremont Consolidated in the Bronx, Ivena Adams of Markham Gardens in Staten Island, David Bazile of Berry Houses in Staten Island, Olivia Simms of Jacob Riis Houses in Manhattan and Jessica Frazier of Polo Grounds in the Bronx.

By Eileen Elliott

Another 900 New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) youth between the ages of 9 and 18 have completed the 12-week After School Program for Interaction, Recreation, and Education, more commonly known as A.S.P.I.R.E. They graduated in a ceremony led by the Community Affairs' Youth Services Division of the NYPD at York College in Jamaica, Queens, on the evening of June 13. Five Essay Contest winners who read their work at the ceremony expressed similar aspirations — to lead by example, to make the right decisions, and to live lives that are free from drugs and violence.

The event began with a video narrated by James Earl Jones honoring the everyday heroes who "weld together the fabric of our City" — the officers of the NYPD.

A.S.P.I.R.E. workshops were held at 43 community centers around the City this year, each one led by a NYPD police officer and a Housing Bureau police officer. The workshops focused on leadership, communication, conflict resolution, decision-making, diversity, and the importance of avoiding drugs and violence.

In his opening remarks, NYCHA's Department of Community Operations Deputy General Manager Hugh B. Spence told the youth in the audience that they are our future, and our best chance for

changing the sometimes negative perception of public housing held by the public at large.

And in a performance worthy of Whitney Houston, Police Officer Ruby Williams sang an inspirational song to the youth, emphasizing the lyric and the message, "You are loved."

NYCHA Chairman Tino Hernandez, Mr. Spence and Housing Bureau Assistant Chief Charles Kammerdener presented the Essay Contest winners with trophies and Sony Playstations. "The children here today have learned lessons that will carry them through their lives," Mr. Spence said. A.S.P.I.R.E. will begin its fifth year in September.

## NYCHA Residents To Receive Survey On Their Developments

For the third year in a row, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) will be conducting a survey of public housing residents' satisfaction with their developments. It's called the Resident Service and Satisfaction Survey, or RASS for short, and 1,400 residents living in the Housing Authority's federally funded developments received it last year. This year's survey, scheduled to be sent out on August 12, will go to even more residents.

The RASS, which is administered through HUD's Real Estate Assessment Center (REAC), is three pages long and covers five topics: maintenance and repair, communication, safety, resident services (including things like heat and hot water) and neighborhood appearance.

Residents who receive the survey are asked to fill it out completely and send it in by September 16 (postmark deadline). The results will be analyzed by a private company and will give HUD a sense of how residents feel about their developments.

Everything is confidential. Participants are chosen randomly by computer and will remain completely anonymous. Surveys will be addressed by apartment numbers, not by residents' names, to further ensure anonymity. **Any questions about the survey can be directed to REAC at their toll-free number, 1-888-245-4860.**

Last year, NYCHA received an overall score of 69% on the RASS. Improvements were indicated in the areas of communication, safety, and neighborhood appearance. NYCHA has since put together a team to strategize ways of increasing resident satisfaction in these areas.

RASS is one component of HUD's Public Housing Assessment System, or PHAS. Another part of PHAS, the Physical Inspection Assessment Subsystem, or PASS, is expected to take place in the fall. As the name implies, PASS encompasses the inspection of NYCHA's apartments, buildings and grounds. Look for more in future issues of the *Journal*.

## Glass and Plastic Recycling Suspended!

The City has suspended plastic and glass recycling, which means that NYCHA residents must change the way they dispose of their refuse. The change is simple:



*Just throw your glass and plastic items in with your regular household garbage. That's it! This includes bottles, jugs, milk and juice cartons and boxes.* (You'll still want to return your deposit beverage bottles and cans for the nickel refund.) The blue recycling dumpsters you've been used to seeing in your development will soon be replaced with 32-gallon cans.

There will be no change in paper recycling. All paper materials — such as newspapers, magazines, paperbacks, phone books, mail and flattened cardboard boxes — still go into the white containers. In addition, metal items should be set aside, as always, for separate collection. These include pots and pans, clean aluminum foil wraps and trays, wire hangers and cans.

Your cooperation makes all the difference in the appearance of your development. To encourage that cooperation, NYCHA's Recycling Unit will gladly send a representative to meet with your development's Superintendent or address residents at Resident Association meetings, on request. Please let your Superintendent or Management Office know if you are interested.

Anthony Solomita — Recycling Coordinator

## Luncheon Honoring NYCHA's Senior Volunteer Floor Captains



**LADIES (AND MEN) WHO LUNCH** NYCHA honors its Senior Volunteer Floor Captains at El Caribe Country Club in Brooklyn.

By Allan Leicht

NYCHA Chairman Tino Hernandez told 700 Senior Volunteers at the annual luncheon in their honor that he was moved by the work they do. "The number of people just helping each other," said Mr. Hernandez, "gives us all such a good feeling." And that number, topping all previous years, filled the ballroom of the El Caribe Country Club in Brooklyn on June 6, with music, affection and the joy of giving. Mr. Hernandez was not alone in his emotional response.

The Senior Volunteers were honored for their participation in four NYCHA programs that help to improve the quality of life, monitor independent living, and meet the special needs of the elderly and non-elderly disabled residents of the Housing Authority.

The Senior Resident Advisor/Service Coordinator Program, the Elderly Safe at Home/Claremont Village Anti-Crime Program, the Senior Network Program and the Saratoga Square Congregate Housing Services Program all provide a framework for residents

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**Message From The Mayor**

**How New Yorkers Can Protect Themselves and Help Control the West Nile Virus**



Since the West Nile Virus was first discovered in New York City in 1999, the City has implemented one of the most sophisticated monitoring and control programs in the world. The combined efforts of the Department of Health (DOH), and other city, state and federal agencies, along with the public's participation in prevention, has put New York City at the forefront of West Nile Virus control efforts.

The year the virus was first discovered in New York City, 45 cases were reported, four of which resulted in death. In the following year, 2000, 14 cases were reported, with one fatality, and in 2001 seven cases were reported, with no fatalities. That's the way we want to keep it.

To control the virus, the DOH is again relying mainly on larval control to reduce breeding, and eliminating areas of standing water. Larvicide has been applied to parks, ponds, lakes, unused swimming pools, and wastewater treatment plants as well as to 135,000 catch basins citywide. The larvicide will be reapplied throughout the breeding season. In addition, the City will be conducting a public education campaign this summer that will include posters, brochures, and radio spots.

West Nile Virus is a mosquito-borne virus that—at its worst—can cause encephalitis (inflammation of the brain) or meningitis (inflammation of the lining of the brain and spinal cord). However, most West Nile Virus infections are less serious, causing mild symptoms such as fever, headache and body aches before a full recovery. It is spread to humans by the bite of an infected mosquito, which has become infected by biting a bird that was carrying the virus. There is no evidence that the virus can be spread any other way.

New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) staff receive special West Nile Virus training by the Authority's Employee Health and Safety Compliance Officer, to ensure their safety as well as the safety of residents living in NYCHA developments. NYCHA residents, like all New Yorkers, can help too, by reporting dead birds and significant areas of standing water to the Department of Health at the telephone number listed below, and by taking personal measures to avoid mosquito bites.

Mosquitoes are most prevalent from April to October. During these months, please take the following precautions:

- If you are outside from dusk to dawn, when mosquitoes are most active, or during the day in an area where there are weeds, tall grass or bushes, wear protective clothing, such as long pants, loose-fitting, long-sleeved shirts, and socks, and consider using an insect repellent containing DEET. (Pregnant women should avoid exposure to DEET whenever practical. Also, children should not be allowed to handle mosquito repellent directly.)
- Make sure that your windows have tight-fitting screens.
- If you see a dead bird, especially a dead crow or blue jay, report it to the DOH. This helps the agency monitor possible West Nile Virus activity. Never pick up a dead bird with your bare hands, as it can carry other diseases.

While the chance of anyone becoming infected with the West Nile Virus is very low, most cases in New York City have occurred in people older than 50. People in this age group, especially the elderly, are also more likely to develop severe diseases, such as encephalitis and meningitis, if they become infected. Symptoms of encephalitis include the rapid onset of a severe headache, high fever, stiff neck, confusion, loss of consciousness or muscle weakness. If you develop any of the symptoms of encephalitis, seek medical care immediately.

For more on the West Nile virus, call the toll-free Information Line at 1-877-WNV-4NYC (1-877-968-4692) or log on to [www.nyc.gov/health](http://www.nyc.gov/health).

*Michael R. Bloomberg*

**NOTICE**

**New York City Housing Authority Agency Plan 2003**

In accordance with Section 5A of the Housing Act of 1937 as amended, the New York City Housing Authority ("NYCHA") has developed a draft agency plan for the year 2003. The draft plan was developed following weeks of meetings and discussions with the 54 members of the citywide Resident Advisory Board.

**Availability of Plan for Public Inspection**

The public is advised that the proposed plan will be available for public inspection at NYCHA's principal office, located at 250 Broadway, 12th Floor, Reception Area, New York, New York, starting on June 28, 2002 through August 15, 2002 between the hours of 9:30 AM to 4:30 PM. The Plan will also be available at the following locations:

- On NYCHA's webpage, which can be located at [www.nyc.gov/nyccha](http://www.nyc.gov/nyccha)
- At the Management Office of each NYCHA public housing development during regular business hours.
- At the Community Centers listed below during the hours of 9:00 AM to 7:30 PM:

Campos Plaza Community Center 611 East 13 <sup>th</sup> Street New York, New York	Moore Community Center 515 Jackson Avenue Bronx, New York	Atlantic Terminal Community Center 501 Carlton Avenue Brooklyn, New York
King Towers Community Center 2 West 115 <sup>th</sup> Street New York, New York	Bland Community Center 133-36 Roosevelt Avenue Flushing, New York	Breukelen Community Center 715 East 105 <sup>th</sup> Street Brooklyn, New York
Gun Hill Road Community Center 744 East Gun Hill Road Bronx, New York	Arverne/Edgemere Community Center 57-10 Beach Channel Drive Far Rockaway, New York	Todt Hill Community Center 255 Westwood Avenue Staten Island, New York

**Public Comment**

NYCHA will hold five Town Hall meetings at which the public is invited to raise questions regarding the draft plan to senior NYCHA officials. These meetings will be held between 6:30 PM- 8:00 PM at the dates and locations shown below:

<b>Thursday, July 11, 2002</b>		<b>Tuesday, July 16, 2002</b>	
<b>Brooklyn</b> New York Technical College Klitgord Auditorium 285 Jay Street at Tillary Street Brooklyn, New York		<b>Manhattan</b> Pace University Schimmel Theater Spruce Street Bet. Park Row and Gold Street New York, New York	
<b>Tuesday, July 23, 2002</b>	<b>Tuesday, July 30, 2002</b>	<b>Monday, August 5, 2002</b>	
<b>Queens</b> Elechester Industrial Center 67-35 Parsons Blvd at Jewel Ave Flushing, New York	<b>Staten Island</b> I S 49 Dreyfus Intermediate School 101 Warren Street at Gordon St Staten Island, New York	<b>Bronx</b> Melrose Community Center 286 E. 156 <sup>th</sup> Sreet at Morris Ave Bronx, New York	

NYCHA also invites public comment on the proposed plan at a public hearing to be held on Thursday, August 15, 2002, from 5:30 PM to 8:00 PM at

**The Hilton New York**  
1335 Sixth Avenue  
(Use Entrance on 54<sup>th</sup> Street)  
New York, New York

Each location listed above is both handicapped accessible and can be reached using public transportation.

Written comments regarding the draft plan are encouraged. To be considered **submissions must be received not later than August 15, 2002**. Comments may be sent either through the internet address set out above or via ordinary mail (fax submissions will not be accepted) to the address set forth below:

**New York City Housing Authority**  
**Public Housing Agency Plan Comments**  
Church Street Station  
P.O. Box 3422  
New York, New York 10008-3422

**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 212-306-3355 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 Housing Authority  
**Journal**

**68**  
years  
of Public Housing  
in New York City

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### Message From The Chairman

## Take A Look At the Draft FY2003 Annual Plan and Tell Us What You Think



The New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) is required to submit an Annual Plan to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) each year. This plan focuses on 17 areas that directly affect the quality of life in your developments. As NYCHA residents, your voice, expressed through your representatives on the Resident Advisory Board (RAB), has been critical to the creation of a plan that addresses your needs.

To better represent NYCHA's conventional public housing and Section 8 residents, this year's RAB, which exists solely for the purpose of working with NYCHA's administration in the creation of the Annual Plan, was expanded from 41 to 54 members. This change was based on a recommendation by the Citywide Council of Presidents (COP). The process by which RAB members developed their recommendations changed this year also, as members formed committees focusing on issues such as rent, community service, and crime and safety, to name a few.

After weeks of meetings among RAB members, with NYCHA staff available to provide information and assistance, the comments and suggestions made by the RAB have been taken into account in the creation of the Draft FY2003 Annual Plan. However, the Draft Annual Plan will not be completed until members of the public have had a chance to review it and express their concerns at one of five town hall-style meetings and at a public hearing. **Please see the facing page for a complete list of the times and locations of the meetings.**

One town hall meeting will be held in each borough throughout the months of July and August, culminating in a public hearing to be held at the New York Hilton Hotel on August 15. After the public hearing, NYCHA's administration will again meet with the RAB for final comments before the final Agency Plan is submitted to HUD in October. To address resident inquiries unrelated to the Annual Plan, booths will be set up at these meetings.

*I urge all NYCHA residents to become familiar with the content of the Draft Annual Plan and let your views be known at any of the meetings mentioned above.* Copies of the Draft Annual Plan are now available at every NYCHA development's Management Office, and from Resident Association presidents. A copy is also available on the Housing Authority's Web site at [www.nyc.gov/nycha](http://www.nyc.gov/nycha).

A brief summary of some of the major topics discussed in the Draft Annual Plan follows.

### Some Major Topics

**Admissions:** NYCHA will continue to promote a mix of working and non-working families. Working families moving into public housing will be encouraged to take apartments in the 23 developments with the highest concentration of households below average family income levels. **Crime:** In 2001 serious crimes in NYCHA developments dropped by a dramatic 11.6%. NYCHA will continue to review the impact of the CCTV program and other security measures, with the New York City Police Department to provide the highest level of safety and security to our residents. **Employment Opportunities:** NYCHA will continue to look for ways to improve its performance under the Section 3 program and through the newly implemented Resident Employment Program, both of which require resident hiring on contracts. **Rents:** There will be no change in the way that a family's rent is determined. It will continue to be based on 30% of a family's gross income with ceiling rents remaining unchanged. For families that have reached the end of their five-year lifetime public assistance benefits, NYCHA will use its limited rent policy.

Remember, you *can* help shape the future of your public housing developments. Read a copy of the Draft FY2003 Annual Plan and express your views at one of our meetings.

*Tino Hernandez*

## NYCHA Senior Volunteer Luncheon

(Continued from page 1)

to look after one another, but only the framework. People make the programs work.

NYCHA Department for Social Services Director Nora Reissig-Lazzaro, who served as mistress of ceremonies, emphasized the very personal nature of the companionship Senior Volunteers provide. "They make sure the seniors are looked after every hour of the day or night," she said, "and they help them live with dignity in their own homes." Ms. Reissig-Lazzaro was referring to the preferred arrangement of many seniors to remain in their homes as long as possible, rather than move to other facilities.

For the first time, this year's luncheon was attended by Citywide Council of Presidents (COP) leaders Gerri Lamb, Connie Taylor, Carol LaDieu and Richard Davis. Ms. Lamb, Citywide Chairperson, paid prayerful tribute to the seniors, who she said carried "the wisdom of the ages," and to NYCHA as "the very best housing authority in the world."

In addition to Chairman Hernandez, the attendance of NYCHA's Executive Staff from General Manager Douglas Apple through Borough Directors Mary Starks, Elliot Levine, Gloria Finkelman and William Russo, spoke clearly of NYCHA's high regard for the Senior Volunteers. Deputy General Manager for Community Operations Hugh B. Spence characterized the seniors as the embodiment of the "true spirit of volunteerism," and Community Operations Senior Director Michelle Pinnock-Clerk expressed the gratitude of the Department for the irreplaceable role they play.

The presentation of certificates of appreciation to residents from 46 developments preceded the now traditional roof-raising concert by the NYCHA Senior Choir under the direction of Andre LeClech with soloists Carrie Nation, Mary Cherry, Clarice Brown, Caridad Amero, Eerma Berkley, Minnie Mathews, Dorothy Wilson and Guillermo Guerrero.

From "Joy, Joy, Joy Down in My Heart," which inspired luncheoners to rise from their chairs and dance around the tables, to the haunting farewell, "En Mi Viejo San Juan," the Senior Choir embraced most of the Western Hemisphere in song with the same warmth and vitality they bring to caring for each other.



## Deborah's Diary

By Deborah Williams

**A Very Special Congratulations** Marie Quintana Paz, of Bushwick/Hylan Houses in Brooklyn, never thought about attending college and wasn't sure of her future plans. She was a student just entering Harry Van Arsdale High School in Brooklyn when her outlook on her future started to change. During the four years she attended Harry Van Arsdale she studied the building trades, including construction and electrical engineering, and discovered how much she enjoyed it. Being one of just a few women who took up this major in high school didn't dissuade her. It had become clear to Marie that studying the building trades was her path to success. With direction from her teachers, Marie learned about different unions and the benefits of a union affiliation. Through a program called "Project Pathways" she discovered that some unions would even pay her college tuition. With recommendations from her teachers in hand, Marie applied for an electrician's apprenticeship with the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Union, and in 1998 she became an apprentice with Local Union No. 3. Marie took college courses two nights a week at the State University of New York's Empire State College in Manhattan during her tenure as an apprentice and on June 5, she received her associate's degree in labor science. She will continue on for her bachelor's degree. Marie has been a member of Local Union No. 3 for the past five years and is now a mechanic. "I have a successful career and I am so thankful to all who have supported my decisions throughout the years," Marie said. *Marie, I take great pride in wishing you well in all your future endeavors. You are indeed a remarkable young lady and I commend you on all your achievements!*

**Scholastic Honors and Achievements** Jennifer Banner, of the Jackie Robinson Houses in Manhattan, graduated cum laude from Harvard University on June 6, with a bachelor's degree in government/political science. She also received a citation in the Spanish language. Jennifer was chosen to address her fellow classmates by giving the farewell message at the presentation of diplomas ceremony. According to her mom, Sadie L. Banner, "Jennifer has accomplished so much and won so many honors, medals, awards, citations and scholarships in her life that it would be impossible to list them all in this article." Ms. Banner remembers how as a child Jennifer had been an achiever. She could read any word by the age of two. When Ms. Banner told Jennifer that the job of United States President is not only the highest position in the land, but also one that touches the lives of many people — here and abroad — Jennifer adopted "First Black Female President of the United States" as her title. Her little friends and classmates used to write to her and address the envelope "Jennifer M. Banner – The First Black Female President of the United States." While attending the Bronx High School of Science, Jennifer was elected Class Senator and was president of the ARISTA Honor Society. She also organized a "Save the Children" campaign at the school. Having always excelled in scholastics, leadership, service and character she was able to become a recipient of the Ron Brown Scholarship, The Eagle Foundation, The National Honor Society of Secondary Schools and New York Urban League's Whitney M. Young Jr. Memorial Scholarship. Jennifer completed a summer internship in law and the following summer she did an internship as a lawyer's assistant, focusing on community work. While in college, her community services included helping indigent families with legal problems and tutoring students at a public school in Boston. She started and headed a program called "Get Ready" in which she assisted high school and college freshman learn about college life and how to improve in all areas of their lives. Jennifer plans on entering Law School in August. Well, Jennifer I must say you deserve a round of applause. Your mom is so proud of you that she sent me a letter detailing your achievements and I would like to include a portion of the last paragraph describing her joy. "I have been sneaking and writing this piece about Jennifer when she is out of the house. She is very modest and does not like to dwell on herself or have me do so. 'Now, Mom – Please!' I have told her over and over that it is simply impossible to suppress my pride in her. I would like to climb on the highest mountain and shout her achievements and what a wonderful person she is to the world."

## 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 for the peaceful and safe use of our facilities. Here follows a list of the people excluded after hearings were held on March 14, 21, and 28 and 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 March 14, 2001

- |                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Carlos Hall                 | Case 772/01 formerly associated with the thirteenth floor of 157 Belmont Avenue, Seth Low Houses, Brooklyn.         |
| Gilbert Evans               | Case 811/01 formerly associated with the fourteenth floor of 1451 Washington Avenue, Morris Houses, the Bronx.      |
| Francisco Castro            | Case 4542/01 formerly associated with the fourth floor of 1175 East 229th Street, Edenwald Houses, the Bronx.       |
| James Edmond                | Case 758/01 formerly associated with the eighth floor of 3204 Park Avenue, Morrisania Air Rights Houses, the Bronx. |
| Jay Boone<br>Jayellis Boone | Case 759/01 formerly associated with the fifth floor of 2369 West 11th Street, Marlboro Houses, Brooklyn.           |
| Fernando Rios               | Case 812/01 formerly associated with the first floor of 1851 Third Avenue, Washington/Lexington Houses, New York.   |
| Marvin Strand               | Case 3901/01 formerly associated with the first floor of 335 East 166th Street, Claremont Consolidated, the Bronx.  |

### Prohibited as of March 21, 2001

- |                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| Jorge Rosa      | Case 852/01 formerly associated with the fifth floor of 476 Richmond Terrace, Richmond Terrace Houses, Staten Island. |
| Antar Gales     | Case 954/01 formerly associated with the first floor of 106-14 160th Street, South Jamaica Houses, Queens.            |
| Kareem Kirkland | Case 956/01 formerly associated with the third floor of 433 Dumont Avenue, Van Dyke Houses, Brooklyn.                 |
| Arturo Alicea   | Case 962/01 formerly associated with the fifth floor of 1230 Webster Avenue, Morrisania Houses, the Bronx.            |

### Prohibited as of March 28, 2001

- |               |   |
|---------------|---|
| David Griffin | Case 1050/01 formerly associated with the second floor of 265 West 114th Street, Randolph Houses, New York. |
| John Taylor   | Case 1060/01 formerly associated with the third floor of 2215 Pitkin Avenue, Unity Plaza Houses, Brooklyn.  |

### Prohibited as of April 4, 2001

- |                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| Lamont Banks     | Case 1456/01 formerly associated with the sixth floor of 2805 Schley Avenue, Throggs Neck Houses, the Bronx.   |
| James Thompson   | Case 4791/01 formerly associated with the thirteenth floor of 860 Columbus Avenue, Douglass Houses, New York.  |
| Bernard Moultrie | Case 1143/01 formerly associated with the twelfth floor of 21 West 112th Street, King Towers Houses, New York. |
| Raheem Whitted   | Case 4868/01 formerly associated with the seventh floor of 51 Hill Street, Stapleton Houses, Staten Island.    |

## What’s Happening In ... Manhattan?

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.

### King Towers Slated For Major Brick Repairs

The exterior brickwork of Martin Luther King, Jr. Towers in Harlem is slated for repair under a recently awarded \$2.4 million contract.

“This is a major renovation work that will add to the structural integrity of the buildings, making the development viable for many years to come,” said NYCHA Chairman Tino Hernandez. “This is in keeping with our ongoing efforts to maintain and preserve our housing stock throughout the City.”

The contract was awarded to the lowest bidder, Sumrart Restoration Corp., and is estimated to take about one year to complete once work starts. King Towers has 10 buildings, 13- and 14-stories high. There are 1,373 apartments housing an estimated 3,325 residents. The 13.75-acre site was completed in October 1954 and is located between West 112th and West 115th Streets, Lenox and Fifth Avenues.



### Plans For Beautifying Grounds At St. Nicholas

The grounds at St. Nicholas Houses in Manhattan are slated for a major renovation under a \$2.2 million contract recently awarded by NYCHA’s Board.

Various pavements, benches, fencing and plants will be torn out and replaced with new pavement, benches, fencing, handrails, tables, lighting, recycling containers and lawns and plants.

“This is an improvement that will benefit the entire neighborhood by upgrading its appearance and making the grounds a place where the residents can better enjoy their leisure time,” NYCHA Chairman Tino Hernandez said.

Constructamax Inc. was awarded the contract that is expected to take about nine months to complete, once work begins. St. Nicholas Houses consists of thirteen 14-story buildings with 1,523 apartments housing an estimated 3,521 residents. The 15.63-acre complex was completed September 30, 1954 and is between West 127th and West 131st Streets, Douglass and Powell Boulevards.

### New Security Entrances For Fulton Houses

All 11 buildings at Fulton Houses in Manhattan will get new stainless steel security entrances under a recently awarded \$1.5 million contract.

“This is in keeping with NYCHA’s overall goal of making our 2,702 residential buildings in 345 developments as safe as possible by installing high-tech security entrances to prevent unauthorized persons from entering our buildings,” said NYCHA Chairman Tino Hernandez.

The new entrances include stainless steel frames, sidelights, doors with electromagnetic locks and an intercom system. The contract also calls for the replacement of rear exit doors in all buildings, including the community center. In addition, a new lighting system will be installed in the vestibules and exterior entrances. The contract was awarded to Franciscan Construction Corp. and is expected to take about nine months to complete. Fulton Houses, completed in 1965, has 944 apartments in 11 buildings. It is located between West 16th and 19th Streets, and Ninth and Tenth Avenues.



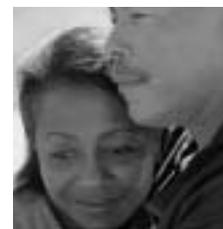
Physicians Affiliated with  
Beth Israel Medical Center and  
St. Luke’s-Roosevelt Hospital Center

## Health Care for Your Entire Family



Family Medicine • Internal Medicine  
Pediatrics • OB/Gyn

Ear, Nose and Throat • Urology  
Nutrition Counseling • Social Services



Radiology • Ophthalmology  
HIV Counseling & Testing

### Your Continuum Health Center

provides high-quality medical care during the day and in the evening,  
Monday through Saturday, by appointment and on a walk-in basis.

**MOST INSURANCES ACCEPTED**

For more information, please call the center nearest you:

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <b>West 68th Street Center</b><br>172 Amsterdam Ave.<br>(212) 496-4600 | <b>West 152nd Street Center</b><br>1865 Amsterdam Ave.<br>(212) 491-2400 | <b>West 185th Street Center</b><br>4337 Broadway<br>(212) 568-6300 |
| <b>Grand Street Center</b><br>570 Grand St.<br>(212) 674-8210          | <b>East 23rd Street Center</b><br>324 E. 23rd St.<br>(212) 460-7800      | <b>Penn South Center</b><br>305 W. 28th St.<br>(212) 645-1087      |



# Ask Mr. Maintenance...

## Window Guards Save Lives!

As the weather gets warmer and people leave their windows open more often, the chances of children falling out of them and being injured or killed increases. Screens are only good for keeping bugs out; they won't prevent your children from falling out of windows. However, window guards *can* prevent these tragic accidents.

The New York City Health Code requires all residential property owners to install window guards without charge in every apartment where children who are 10-years-old or younger reside, or at the request of a tenant, regardless of whether or not a child lives in the apartment. *This applies even to ground floor apartments.* Please keep in mind that it is illegal to obstruct or interfere with the installation of window guards, and it is also illegal to remove them once they are installed.

There is one exception to the window guard requirement. Windows that open onto fire escapes should not have window guards so that residents may access the fire escape unimpeded, if necessary.

The New York City Housing Authority's window guards are designed in accordance with Health Department regulations to keep your children safe. Each window guard allows for an opening of only four and one half (4 1/2) inches. After a window guard is installed, you will still be able to raise the window enough to allow a flow of fresh air into your apartment.

New York City Housing Authority residents receive a notice about window guards each year in their annual review packet. It includes a series of questions concerning children in the apartment and the condition of any pre-existing window guards. Residents may also request the installation of window guards with this form. **Please note that you are required by law to fill out this form and return it to your management office. If the form is not returned promptly an inspection of your apartment will follow.**

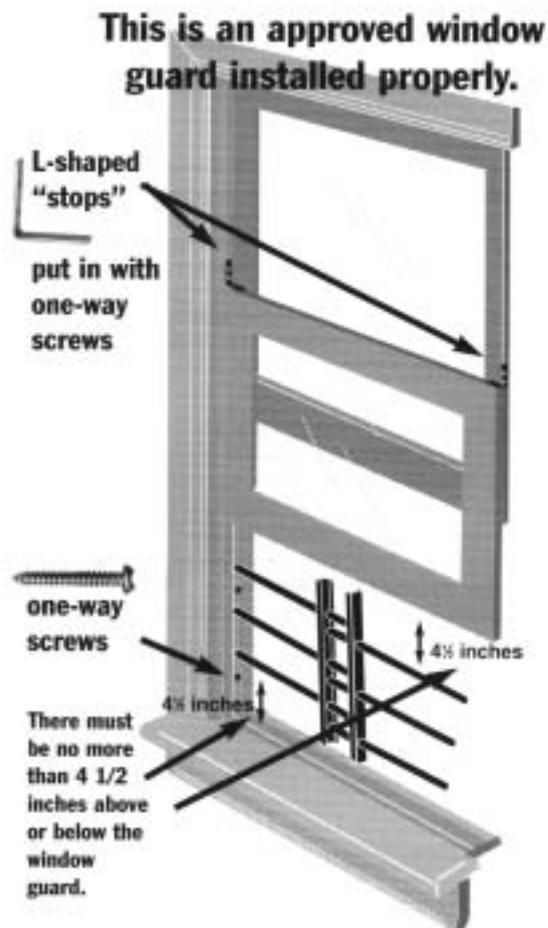
Once you request window guards a maintenance worker from your development will determine what size window guard needs to be installed for each window in your apartment. He or she will then properly secure a window guard to the outer window sash using tamper-proof screws.

If you decide that you want to install an air conditioner, you must first visit your management office, request to have your window guard removed and sign an air conditioner agreement form. In addition, special outlets must be installed for all air conditioners — usually two such outlets will be permitted in each apartment. There are fees associated for outlet installations and electricity usage.

**Have a great summer and prevent accidental injury or death by making sure that your window guards are safely in place. Remember, window guards save lives!**

**Do you have a maintenance question? Please send it to: Mr. Maintenance, c/o New York City Housing Authority Journal, New York City Housing Authority, 250 Broadway, 12th Floor, New York, New York 10007.**

**Editor's Note:** In response to earlier Mr. Maintenance articles, we have received a number of letters from residents about outstanding repairs in their apartments. *Please keep in mind that Mr. Maintenance is here to provide answers to general maintenance issues and procedures in your developments, not to address individual residents' specific problems obtaining repairs or services.* If you are having difficulty obtaining a needed repair or service, please contact your development's Management Office first; if you are not satisfied with the response you receive at the development, you should then contact your Borough Management Office. Thank you.



### NEW YORK CITY HOUSING AUTHORITY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY OPERATIONS Citywide Programs & Contract Management SUMMER LUNCH PROGRAM



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SNACKS & DINNERS**

FOR THE LOCATION NEAREST YOU  
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BEGINNING JULY 9, 2002

## *A Rose Is A Rose Is A Rose*



NYCHA photographer Peter Mikoleski was lucky enough to catch sight of these beautiful roses growing in front of one of the buildings at Murphy Consolidation in the Crotona Park Section of the Bronx.

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Tuesday, July 30 6pm - 8pm Melrose Community Center 286 East 156th St Bronx, NY	Thursday, August 15 6pm - 8pm Todt Hill Community Center 255 Westwood Ave. Staten Island, NY	Wednesday, August 28 6pm - 8pm International Towers 90-20 170th St. Jamaica, NY
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Seating is limited. Please RSVP to 1-800-636-6395.



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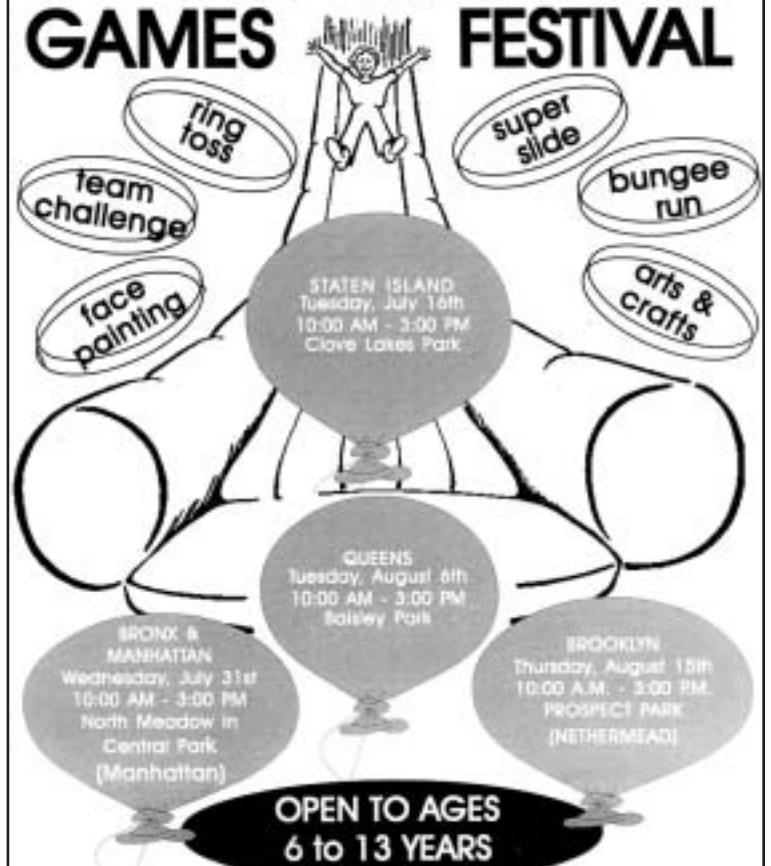


Senior Coordinator: Malik K. Bellamy  
Art. Coordinator: Carmen R. Rgman  
Adm. Coordinator: Peggy A. Morales

**WE WANT YOU!!!**  
You took the first step - Now take the next. We are waiting to hear from you!!!

NEW YORK CITY HOUSING AUTHORITY  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY OPERATIONS • CITYWIDE PROGRAMS

**PRESENTS**  
**2002 SUMMER GAMES FESTIVAL**



**OPEN TO AGES 6 to 13 YEARS**  
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Michelle Reeds • Marsha Hawkins  
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Approved for Printing  
*Melvin*  
Director, Community Relations



**To Report Dangerous Dogs,  
Call the Dog Hotline:  
1 (888) 895-3647**

**NYCHA Department of Community Operations  
SUMMER SCHEDULE 2002  
JULY**

**Monday, July 22nd**

**NY Inner City Games CampUs Begins @ St. John's University, Group B**  
Group B involves 400 participants from Brooklyn, Queens and Staten Island.

**Tuesday, July 23rd**

**Bronx Borough Track & Field**  
Location: Van Courtlandt Park, Bronx, 10:00am to 3:00pm.

**Thursday, July 25th**

**NYCHA Kid's Walk 2002**  
NYCHA is sponsoring the First Annual Walkathon to promote a healthy way of life and fight against obesity. It will involve approximately 1,200 youth ages 6 to 12. The youth are from all five boroughs. Lunch and goodie bags will be provided. Location: Prospect Park, Brooklyn, 10:00am to 3:00pm.  
**Harlem Jazz SummerStage 2002 Dance Series**  
Featuring NYCHA Youth Chorus, NYCHA Symphony Orchestra, Faison Firehouse Theatre, & Special Guest Appearances. 5:30pm to 7:30pm

**Wednesday, July 30th**

**Staten Island Borough Fishing**  
Location: Clove Lakes Park, Staten Island, 10:00am to 3:00pm

**Thursday, July 31st**

**Manhattan Borough and Bronx Borough Games Festival**  
Location: Harlem Meer Central Park, East 107th Street & 5th Avenue, NYC, 10:00am to 3:00pm.

**AUGUST**

**Thursday, August 1st**

**Manhattan Borough Track & Field**  
Location: Riverbank State Park, 145th Street & Riverside Drive, NYC, 10:00am to 3:00pm.  
**Harlem Jazz SummerStage 2002 Senior Series**  
Featuring NYCHA Senior Day Program & NYCHA Youth Chorus, 5:30pm to 7:30pm.

**August 5th through October 25th**  
**NYCHA - Basketball Referee Training and Sports Management Training Program**  
The New York City Housing Authority is sponsoring a free 12 weeks Referee Training and Sports Management Training program to NYCHA residents ages 16 to 25 years old. Specific locations and times to be announced.

**Monday, August 5th**

**NY Inner City Games CampUs Begins @ Kingsborough College, Group C**  
Group C involves 100 participants from Brooklyn Borough, 9:00am to 3:00pm.

**Tuesday, August 6th**

**Queens Borough Games Festival**  
Location: Baisley Park, Queens, 10:00am to 3:00pm.

**Wednesday, August 7th**

**Manhattan Borough Fishing Contest**  
Location: Harlem Meer Central Park, East 107th Street & 5th Avenue, NYC.

**Thursday, August 8th**

**Track & Field Citywide Olympics**  
Location: Riverbank State Park, 145th Street and Riverside Drive, NYC. 10:00am to 3:00pm.  
**Harlem Jazz SummerStage 2002 Big Band Series**  
Featuring Music In the Center, NYCHA Performing Arts Unit, Ray Chew & the Crew, 5:30 - 7:30pm.

**Tuesday, August 13th**

**Brooklyn East Fishing Contest**  
Location: Prospect Park Lake, Brooklyn, 10:00am to 3:00pm.

**Wednesday, August 14th**

**Bronx Borough Fishing Contest**  
Location: Crotona Park, Bronx, 10:00am to 3:00pm

**Thursday, August 15th**

**Brooklyn Borough Games Festival**  
Location: Prospect Park, Neithersmead, Brooklyn, 10:00am to 3:00pm.  
**Harlem Jazz SummerStage 2002 Music Series**  
Featuring NYCHA Symphony Orchestra, NYCHA Youth Chorus, Faison Firehouse Theatre, Special Guest Appearances. 5:30pm to 7:30pm.

**Tuesday, August 20th**

**Brooklyn West & South Fishing Contest**  
Location: Prospect Park Lake, Brooklyn. 10:00am to 3:00pm.

**Wednesday, August 21st**

**Queens Borough Fishing Contest**  
Location: Baisley Park, Queens. 10:00am to 3:00pm.

**Thursday, August 22nd**

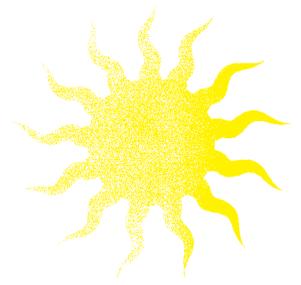
**Harlem Jazz SummerStage 2002 New Talent Series**  
Featuring NYCHA Youth Talent Show, NYCHA Open Mike, and Ray Chew and the Crew. 5:30pm to 7:30pm

**Thursday, August 29th**

**Harlem Jazz SummerStage 2002 Gospel Series**  
Featuring NYCHA Youth Chorus, NYCHA Senior Chorus and Ray Chew and the Crew, 5:30pm to 7:30pm.

**Friday, August 30th Summer Program Ends @ All Community Centers. For more information, call Ray Diaz, Program Manager, Citywide Programs at 212-306-4015**

**PERSONAL HEALTH  
AND SAFETY TIPS  
FOR PROTECTION  
FROM THE HEAT:**



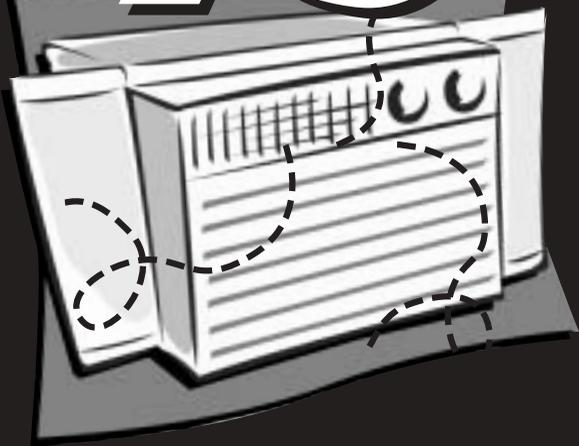
- Stay out of the sun; avoid extreme temperature changes.
- Wear lightweight, light-colored clothing. Light colors reflect some of the sun's energy.
- Drink fluids, particularly water, even if you do not feel thirsty. Your body needs water to keep cool. (Those on fluid-restricted diets or taking diuretics should first consult their physician.)
- Water is the safest liquid to drink during heat emergencies. Avoid beverages containing alcohol and/or caffeine.
- Eat small, frequent meals.
- Avoid using salt tablets unless directed to do so by a physician.
- Avoid strenuous activity, especially during the sun's peak hours, 11 A.M. to 4 P.M.
- If possible, go to an air-conditioned building for several hours during the hottest parts of the day. New York City operates Cooling Centers around the five boroughs. Many NYCHA Community Centers serve as Cooling Centers and are open until 9PM, possibly later. To find the one nearest you go to [www.nyc.gov/oem](http://www.nyc.gov/oem) or call (800) 426-6569 (4COOLNY).
- Although you can cool down with repeated cool baths or shower, never take a shower immediately after becoming overheated — you may cool down too quickly and become ill, nauseous or dizzy.
- Participate in activities that will keep you cool, such as going to the movies, shopping at a mall, or swimming in a pool or at the beach. The Department of Environmental Protection has authorized NYCHA to leave sprinklers on in play areas until 7PM during a heat emergency.
- Cover all exposed skin with a high SPF sun-screen (15 or above); wear a wide-brimmed hat to protect your face and head.
- Never leave your children or pets in the car.

Source: Office of Emergency Management

**Visit NYCHA's Website at:  
[www.nyc.gov/nycha](http://www.nyc.gov/nycha)**

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"Keep Cool" is an initiative under Governor Pataki's **New York Energy Smart™ Program**, a partnership between the New York State Public Service Commission (PSC) and the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) to help New Yorkers save energy and protect the environment.

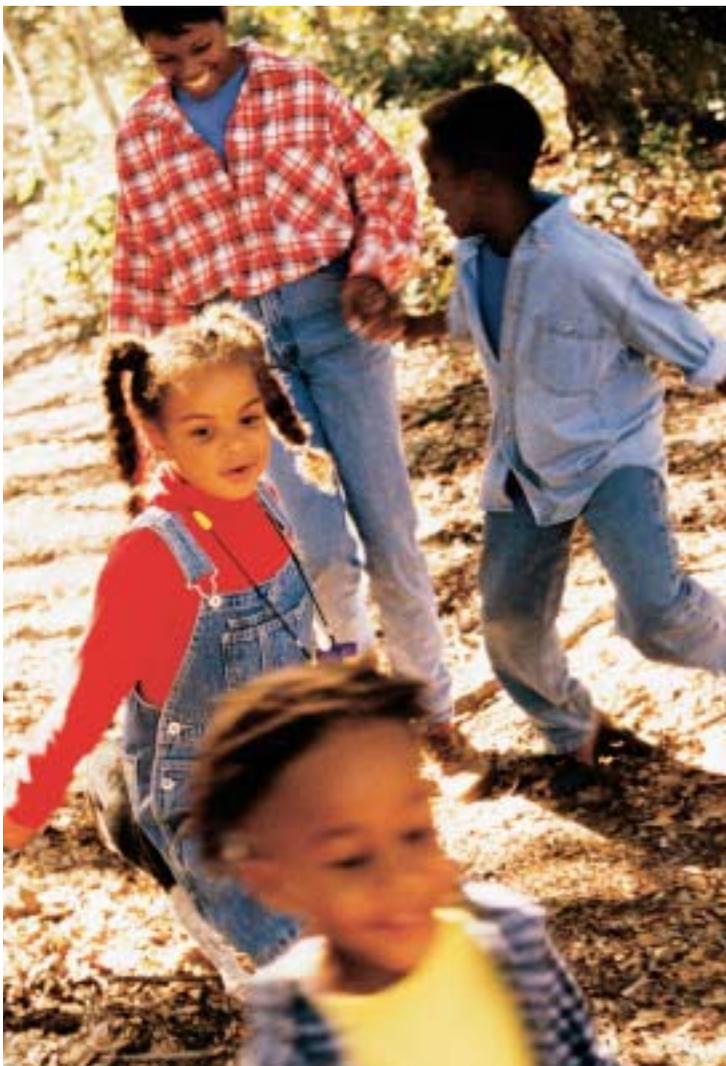
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STATE OF NEW YORK  
George E. Pataki, Governor



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Get your own personal doctor. Dental care. Vision exams and eyeglasses. A toll-free helpline you can call any time. And real help from real people who want to make health care easier for you.

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Participation in a Medicaid managed care health plan is voluntary until you receive an official notice from New York Medicaid Choice that you must enroll in a health plan. For more information, call New York Medicaid Choice at 1-800-505-5678. The AmeriChoice service area includes Brooklyn, Queens and the Bronx.

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