



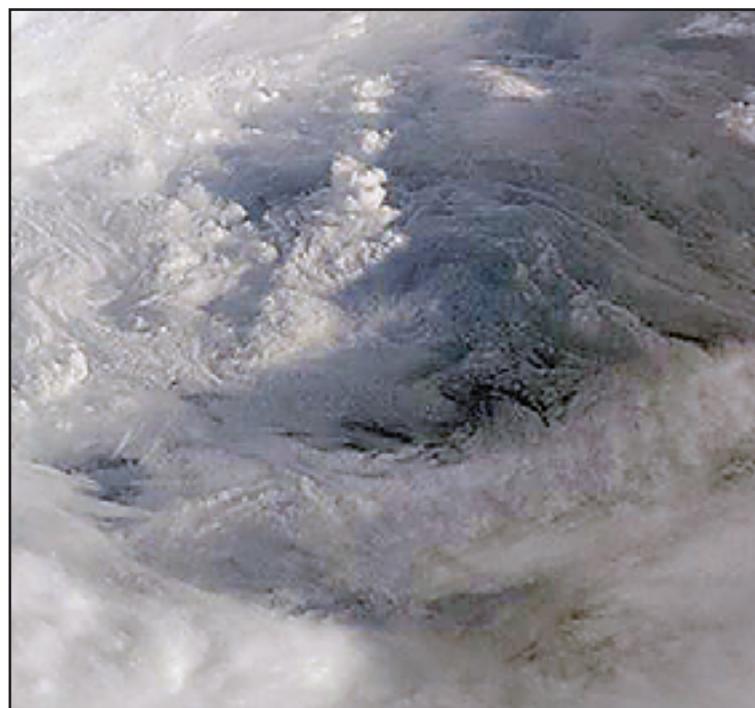
A HEALTHY START Approximately 1600 young NYCHA residents from 36 Community Centers around the City participated in the Fifth Annual Kids Walk at Clove Lakes Park in Staten Island on August 16th. The purpose of the walk was to promote exercise and educate participants about fighting obesity. Many of the Community Centers sported colorful banners at the start of the 2.5 mile walk, like Williamsburg's shown above.

IT'S STILL HURRICANE SEASON! *Helpful Information If A Hurricane Hits*

HURRICANE SEASON BEGAN ON JUNE 1ST AND WON'T BE OVER UNTIL NOVEMBER 30TH. ACCORDING TO NEW YORK CITY'S OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (OEM), THE CITY'S DENSELY POPULATED AND HIGHLY DEVELOPED COASTLINE MAKES IT AMONG THE AREAS MOST VULNERABLE TO HURRICANE DAMAGE. OEM predicts that in a major hurricane, storm surge could put some parts of New York City under more than 30 feet of water!

Although no major disturbances are predicted for the remainder of the 2006 Hurricane Season, the New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) is working with OEM to make sure that NYCHA staff and residents know what to do if a hurricane hits.

(Continued on page 4)



EYE OF THE STORM (Photo Courtesy of New York City's Office of Emergency Management)

UNIVERSAL PICTURES FILMS 'AMERICAN GANGSTER' AT MARLBORO HOUSES

By Eileen Elliott

IT WAS ANYTHING BUT BUSINESS AS USUAL AT NYCHA'S MARLBORO HOUSES IN THE GRAVESEND SECTION OF BROOKLYN ON THE WEEK OF AUGUST 14TH. AFTER UNDERGOING SOME SIGNIFICANT MODIFICATIONS, A FEW OF THE MOSTLY UNOCCUPIED HIGH-RISES IN THE DEVELOPMENT SERVED AS THE SET FOR A NEW FEATURE FILM BY UNIVERSAL PICTURES, "AMERICAN GANGSTER." Based on the life of the infamous 1970s kingpin, Frank Lucas, who sold drugs from his beat up old Chevrolet on 116th Street in Harlem, the film features Denzel Washington as Lucas and Russell Crowe as Richie Roberts, the courageous undercover Newark detective who brought him down.



MAKING THE SCENE A crowd gathers at the entrance of a Newark housing development in one of the scenes of "American Gangster," which was filmed at Marlboro Houses in Brooklyn.

As reported in the *Journal* earlier this year, there's nothing new about filming on NYCHA property. The "Law and Order" television series frequently uses NYCHA locations, and last year Manhattan's Fulton Houses served as a setting for the film "The Interpreter," starring Sean Penn and Nicole Kidman. But according to NYCHA's Media Services Technician Andy Nagy, who together with Maryetta Johnson serve as the liaisons between the movie studios and the Housing Authority, "There's never been anything on a scale like this."

Nagy said that, according to the production crew, the film's

(Continued on page 6)

REGISTER TO VOTE!

Election Day is November 7th and the New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) encourages all residents to play a role in the democratic process by exercising your right to vote. However, in order to vote, you must register by October 13th if you aren't registered already.

To qualify to vote in New York City, you must:

- Be a citizen of the United States (Includes those persons born in Puerto Rico, Guam and the U.S. Virgin Islands)
- Be a New York City resident for at least 30 days
- Be 18 years of age before the next election
- Not be serving a jail sentence or be on parole for a felony conviction
- Not be adjudged mentally incompetent by a court
- Not claim the right to vote elsewhere (outside the City of New York)

Although you can register any time during the year, your form must be delivered or mailed at least 25 days before the next election for it to be effective for that election.

Registration forms are available in English, Spanish, Chinese and Korean at www.nyc.gov/html/vac/html/register/register_to_vote.shtml You can also call the Board of Elections at (866) VOTE-NYC (866-868-3692) to receive a registration form in the mail.

Call 311 to find out about Voter Awareness Month events.

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ATTEND A DOMESTIC
VIOLENCE CONFERENCE

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

The Fight Against Illegal Guns Continues



PUBLIC SAFETY IS AN ISSUE THAT IS A TOP PRIORITY IN EVERY CITY IN AMERICA. TO HIGHLIGHT THAT ISSUE, ON SEPTEMBER 7TH I TOOK THE FIGHT AGAINST ILLEGAL GUNS TO THE CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS IN WASHINGTON, D.C. I'D LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE SOME EXCERPTS OF MY REMARKS THERE WITH YOU.

Last year, 322 people were killed by guns in New York City and 3,951 guns were seized during arrests. Still, New York is the safest big city in the nation. Today, crime is at a 40-year low.

If the laws of our nation were vigorously enforced, illegal guns would not flow freely onto our streets and innocent people would not die as a result. This is not just the case in New York. Across the country, illegal guns are the common denominator of urban crime. It's a national problem that requires a national response, but Congress has been mostly silent.

And so if Congress will not lead the charge against illegal guns, then the mayors of America's cities must — and we are. In New York, we have developed a three-pronged strategy for fighting illegal guns: tougher enforcement, new legislation, and innovative litigation. Let me briefly touch on each.

Through Operation Impact — a program that identifies areas of the city with the highest incidences of shootings, we've been able to reduce crime by flooding the area with teams of veteran and rookie police officers. The program has been an enormous success, but it is only part of our strategy to take illegal guns off the street.

Four years ago, many of those arrested for illegal possession of a loaded firearm were getting off with probation, even though the law called for a minimum jail sentence of one year. To change this, we created specialized Gun Courts, with prosecutors and judges specially trained to handle gun cases. The Gun Courts have been an enormous success — increasing sentences and, together with Operation Impact, leading to a significant reduction in crime.

The second part of our strategy has been to push for new legislation that further increases the risk of possessing an illegal weapon, and that will strengthen our ability to keep guns out of the hands of criminals. This year, we won passage of a state law that increases the mandatory minimum for illegal possession of a loaded gun to 3½ years. Now, the message couldn't be clearer: if you commit a serious crime, you're going to do serious time.

We also adopted a new local law this year — the first of its kind in the nation — that creates a registry for gun offenders. Gun offenders are four times more likely than other felons to be arrested for a homicide. So now, in New York City, they will be subject to similar requirements as sex offenders who must register with local authorities. This will send a clear signal that the police are watching, and that any false moves will land them back in prison.

The third part of our strategy is innovative litigation that holds gun dealers accountable for following the law. This spring, we identified 15 dealers in five states whose guns ended up at crime scenes on New York City streets far more frequently than guns purchased at other shops, which is a good indication that those dealers were selling illegally. We conducted undercover buys with hidden cameras at these dealers. We found that some dealers were scrupulous in following the law, while others made sales that were blatantly illegal. We sued 15 that sold illegally. Their guns had been tied to more than 500 crimes in our city, including murder. But we didn't sue to put the dealers out of business; we sued to force them to comply with the law.

Finally, let me say that an important part of our success in reducing crime has been enlisting local communities as our partners. If the police do not have the confidence and support of a community, they cannot do their jobs well. By improving police-community relations, we have also been able to improve the diversity of the NYPD. The most diverse city in the world deserves the most diverse police department, and the most effective police force needs to fully represent the communities it serves.

Michael R. Bloomberg

BRONX RESIDENT ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT HOSTS 'DISASTER DAY' Tenant Participation Activity Funds Used For Emergency Preparedness

— By Deborah Williams —

IN THE CASE OF AN EMERGENCY, WOULD YOU KNOW HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF AND YOUR FAMILY? AND WHAT ABOUT YOUR NEIGHBORS WHO MAY HAVE COME TO DEPEND ON YOU? These were the types of questions that weighed heavily on the mind of Clay Avenue Resident Association President Maria Forbes of Claremont Consolidated, in the Morrisania section of the Bronx.

With the horrific events of September 11th, the Hurricane Katrina disaster, and the constant threat of terrorist attacks on New York City, compounded by what she described as her community's "lack of preparedness" during the 2003 Blackout, Ms. Forbes said she became "obsessed" with the idea of emergency preparedness.

That obsession manifested itself on August 17, 2006, when Ms. Forbes hosted Clay Avenue Houses' Emergency Disaster Awareness Day, at Clay Avenue and 169th Street, in lieu of the traditional summer Family Day Celebration. Representatives were available to distribute information and answer questions about emergency preparedness from the Community Emergency Response Teams (CERTs), the American Red Cross, New York City's Office of Emergency Management (OEM), the FDNY, NYPD, NYCHA's Emergency Services Department, the Alzheimer's Association, Neighborhood Health Providers, and World Vision, an international relief organization.

How It Began

It all began in May 2005, when Bronx Borough President Adolfo Carrion introduced the issue of emergency preparedness, and the Empowerment Institute's "All Together Now" (ATN) training program at a Community Board #4 planning meeting. The Empowerment Institute is a 25-year-old nonprofit that specializes in community behavior. Its ATN program teaches people how to create "disaster resilient" communities. "That led me on the path to emergency preparedness awareness," Ms. Forbes said.

That path led Ms. Forbes to participate in a three-day ATN training program in June 2006, along with two other Claremont Consolidated Resident Association Presidents, Audrey Henry of Findlay Avenue and Lutrell Simmons of 1150-56 College Avenue. At the end of the training the three were each equipped with a certificate from the City's Office of Emergency Management (OEM), the Empowerment Institute and the American Red Cross, authorizing them to conduct presentations from OEM's "Ready New York Guide" on emergency preparedness.

Ms. Forbes's 17 years as the Clay Avenue Resident Association

President were a great benefit, as she had many "Resident Association connections" in the community that helped her spread the word about emergency preparedness.

"I called a resident meeting that included the other three Resident Association Presidents who represent Claremont Consolidated," said Ms. Forbes. Those Resident Association Presidents — Elsie Deans of 110 Teller Avenue, Marcella Brown of 1162 Washington Avenue and Fraennie Pollock of the 1020 College Avenue Senior Building — were all more than eager to join Ms. Forbes in the task of preparing for emergencies.

Funding And Supplies

The six resident leaders decided to pool their federally allocated Tenant Participation Activity (TPA) funds, giving them a total of \$34,000 to purchase emergency equipment. That equipment included six generators, 150 cots, 150 blankets, 50 emergency "Go Bags" from the American Red Cross and office equipment. (See page 4 for more on Go Bags.)

Knowing that the supplies they purchased weren't nearly enough for the entire community, Ms. Forbes reached out to the Director for Civic Participation of the non-profit Citizens for New York,



NYCHA Emergency Services Department Deputy Director Barry Jennings with Clay Avenue Resident Association President Maria Forbes on "Disaster Day."

which had collaborated on the ATN training, Richard Brouillette. Mr. Brouillette was able to obtain another \$3,000 in funding through a NYC 1 grant to be used for additional supplies for the Claremont Consolidated resident leaders. He presented each Resident Association President with a check for \$500 in a ceremony on June 19, 2006.

CERT Training

Shortly thereafter, at another Community Board planning meeting, Ms. Forbes discovered a flyer that Mr. Brouillette left announcing

(Continued on page 6)

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CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

First Houses Celebrates Its 70th Anniversary!



TWO YEARS AGO THE NEW YORK CITY HOUSING AUTHORITY CELEBRATED THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DATE IT WAS FOUNDED IN 1934. However, it was on December 3, 1935, that the idea of public housing became a reality. On that day, Mayor Fiorello H. LaGuardia, New York State Governor Herbert H. Lehman and First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt dedicated the opening of NYCHA's First Houses in a ceremony on the Lower East Side of Manhattan.

Soon after, in 1936, the first families moved into First Houses – 122 families, to be exact. NYCHA will celebrate that his-

toric event and the birth of public housing in America in the courtyard of First Houses on October 21, 2006, with music, food and festivity.

It is worth noting that First Houses was not brand new construction. Rather, the buildings were an adaptation, a reconstruction of the original tenements they replaced, transforming those tenements from unsafe, unhealthy, airless, overcrowded structures into secure, clean, decent, well-ventilated apartments. This was achieved by demolishing every third building to reduce housing density and increase light and air, and rebuilding the remaining structures. The architect Frederick Ackerman gave the buildings new exteriors of industrial-style brick and placed the entrances to the eight buildings not in front off the street, but in the rear courtyard with benches and plants.

Between 1934 and 1935, NYCHA received 3,800 original applications for the three- and four-room apartments, which rented for \$6.05 per room, about two-thirds of what similar apartments cost in New York City at that time. Interviewers carefully screened families, and of the 122 new families, 81 moved from dwellings with no private bathrooms and 20 from apartments that had some rooms with no windows. The first residents of First Houses were barbers, taxi drivers, garment workers and the like. At the end of the first year, there were no rent delinquencies and no family was on what was then called "relief."

At the dedication ceremony in 1935, Mayor LaGuardia exclaimed, "There is sunshine in every window!" That remains true, as First Houses has changed little over its 70 years. In 1974, First Houses was declared a New York City Landmark.

In some ways, we're back to doing it as it was done in 1934.

NYCHA is committed to preserving the legacy of First Houses, keeping public housing alive and well for generations to come.

Tino Hernandez



New York State Governor Herbert H. Lehman, First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt and Mayor Fiorello H. LaGuardia cutting the ribbon on First Houses in a ceremony on the Lower East Side of Manhattan in 1935.

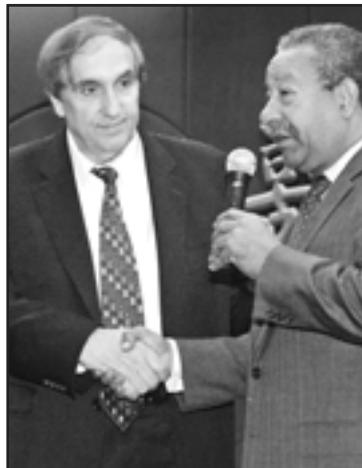
BOROUGH DIGEST

The Bronx:

Pelham Parkway Houses hosted a Youth Day/Health Fair on September 9th for more than 600 youth from the neighborhood and their parents. Funding for refreshments, a magician and inflatables for the children to play on came from Assembly Member Naomi Rivera and State Senator Ruben Diaz, Sr. The New York Road Runners Club was there to sign residents up, and representatives from Jacobi Medical Center and NYCHA's Social Services Department provided residents with information on various low-cost health plans.

Brooklyn:

Jing Fong Restaurant on Elizabeth Street in Chinatown was the setting for the Fourth Annual Public Housing Leadership Luncheon, sponsored by Assembly Member Vito Lopez. The August 30th luncheon was held to honor NYCHA Resident Association Presidents and Tenant Patrol Leaders in the 53rd Assembly District. Residents from Borinquen Plaza, Bushwick, Cooper Park, Glenmore, Hope Gardens, Hylan, Independence Towers, Marcy, Sumner, Tompkins and Williamsburgh Houses attended. The luncheon was co-sponsored by the Bushwick-Hylan Senior Citizens Council.



Assembly Member Vito Lopez with NYCHA Vice-Chairman Earl Andrews, Jr. in Chinatown.

Manhattan:

The Plaza in front of the Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. State Office Building was packed on the evening of September 7th for the last of the popular Harlem SummerStage Concert series. Nearly 3,000 came out to hear Seleno Clark, Chops The Band, the Sugar Hill Jazz Quartet, and five-time Apollo Amateur Night Winner Kyle Rifkin. The concerts are co-sponsored by NYCHA, the Apollo Theater and the New York State Office of General Services.

(Continued on page 5)

DEBORAH'S DIARY

By Deborah Williams



He's the man!— When Erby Mitchell graduated from James Madison High School and left his familiar surroundings at Marlboro Houses in Brooklyn, he had no idea that one day the phrase, "He's the man!" would be used to describe him. In his new position as Associate Dean of Admissions at Bowdoin College, in

Brunswick, Maine, Erby is definitely the man students turn to for guidance and parents turn to for support. Erby said he "makes a point of letting parents know that if ever their child has an issue on campus, they can get me on the phone and find a listening ear."

On his high school graduation day Erby had a run-in with the law, an experience which deeply affected him and indirectly led him to his academic life in Maine. Erby made it to the graduation ceremony in time to receive his diploma but he said the experience made him want to get, "as far away from New York City as possible."

Within a few days the mailbox held the ticket to his getaway—a letter of acceptance from St. Joseph's College in Standish, Maine. The accompanying \$30,000 tuition fee was an obstacle until the St. Joseph's basketball coach explained Erby's financial aid options to him, and offered him a spot on the college basketball team, the Polar Bears. So Erby packed up everything he had and went to Maine.

Feeling homesick and out of place at St. Joseph's, Erby said he remembers his advisor, Lynn Davey, helped him through a rough period and as Erby put it, "challenged me to do more than play the role of the exploited athlete." Davey helped Erby fill in some of the gaps in his education and Erby graduated at the top of his class.

After graduation Erby was offered a position as Admissions Counselor at St. Joseph's College, which he accepted, and it wasn't long after that that he became Director of Multicultural Recruitment at Bowdoin College. The inspiration he received there from "being surrounded by black intellectuals" led him to the Harvard Graduate School of Education. Now, a Harvard graduate with a master's degree in education, Erby has returned to Bowdoin College as Associate Dean of Admissions. "It doesn't matter where you come from. If you want success, success will come," said Erby.

Congratulations, Erby! You are truly, "the man!" Your mother tells me you visit her on a regular basis because you don't want to forget where you came from and that says a lot about your character. You are a role model for all public housing youth. I hear your brother is now in Maine too and enrolled in Bowdoin. I think that's great and I applaud you both!

ATTENTION SENIORS

The New York City Housing Authority
Community Operations
Resident Support Services Department
In Cooperation with Riverbank State Park &
The North River Community Environmental Review Board Inc.

Is pleased to announce the 2nd annual

Senior Benefit & Entitlement Fair

"Getting Healthy & Staying Healthy"

Date: October 5, 2006 (Thursday)

Time: 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Location: Riverbank State Park
(679 Riverside Drive at 145th Street, Manhattan)

Learn about and apply for programs and services that can benefit you!!!

Call (212) 306-8443 for more information

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. The purpose of publishing this list is to keep residents informed of the Housing Authority's ongoing effort 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 September 7, 14, 21 and 28, 2005. **Please note: These exclusions are based on NYCHA's Administrative Hearing Process and should not be confused with the Trespass Notice Program under Mayor Bloomberg's Operation Safe Housing Initiative.**

**REMEMBER,
IF YOU SEE ANY OF THESE INDIVIDUALS ON
HOUSING AUTHORITY PROPERTY, PLEASE CALL
YOUR MANAGEMENT OFFICE OR NYCHA'S
SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS UNIT AT (212) 306-8595.**

Prohibited as of September 7, 2005

Jerome Bailey	Case 3441/02 formerly associated with the third floor of 1102 Longfellow Avenue, Longfellow Avenue Rehab, the Bronx.
Tyrone Ruddock	
Moises Valentin	Case 6234/05 formerly associated with the third floor of 1195 East 225th Street, Edenwald Houses, the Bronx.
Moses Valentin	
Christopher Torres	Case 6248/05 formerly associated with the fourth floor of 1734 Madison Avenue, Taft Houses, Manhattan.
Chris Torres	
Shawn Mazyck	Case 6328/05 formerly associated with the tenth floor of 175 Alexander Avenue, Mitchel Houses, the Bronx.
Clinton McCullum	
Steven Mann-McCullum	
Tyrone McCullum	

Prohibited as of September 14, 2005

Jose Cruz	Case 6293/05 formerly associated with the eighth floor of 205-207 Alexander Avenue, Mitchel Houses, the Bronx.
Cordell Johnson	Case 6294/05 formerly associated with the fifth floor of 312 Osborn Street, Brownsville Houses, Brooklyn.
George Santiago	Case 6843/04 formerly associated with the twelfth floor of 370 Bushwick Avenue, Bushwick/Hylan Houses, Brooklyn.
Terreal McClean	Case 6363/05 formerly associated with the first floor of 708 Kingsborough 7th Walk, Kingsborough Houses, Brooklyn.
Leonard Best	Case 9662/04 formerly associated with the third floor of 5705 Avenue H., Glenwood Houses, Brooklyn.
Wilfredo Alicea	Case 6434/05 formerly associated with the second floor of 1100 East 165th Street, Bryant Avenue Houses, the Bronx.
Joseph Hamm	Case 6435/05 formerly associated with the fourteenth floor of 140 West 104th Street, Douglass Houses, Manhattan.

Prohibited as of September 21, 2005

Carl Moore	Case 6418/05 formerly associated with the third floor of 471 Swinton Avenue, Throggs Neck Houses, the Bronx.
Justin Dent	Case 6524/05 formerly associated with the sixth floor of 427 West 26th Street, Elliott-Chelsea Houses, Manhattan.
Shanaya Nelson	Case 3547/05 formerly associated with the second floor of 740 Gates Avenue, Stuyvesant Gardens, Brooklyn.

Prohibited as of September 28, 2005

Cornell Sullivan	Case 6533/05 formerly associated with the eleventh floor of 595 Trinity Avenue, Saint Mary's Park, the Bronx.
Jonathan Arias	Case 6748/05 formerly associated with the eleventh floor of 510 East 156th Street, Bronxchester Houses, the Bronx.
Bishawn Turner	Case 9812/05 formerly associated with the first floor of Garvey Houses (Group A), Brooklyn.

THE CHIEF'S CORNER



HALLOWEEN SAFETY TIPS

Hello. Halloween is fast approaching and the New York City Police Department hopes all Housing Authority residents along with your family and friends will fully enjoy the upcoming festivities. Keeping you and your loved ones protected is of paramount importance to us. To help achieve this we have prepared the following tips to keep your family safe and secure. Please take the time to include these safety checks on your to-do list. Have fun and be safe.

Joanne Jaffe
Chief of Housing

Hurricane

(Continued from page 1)

What can you do to make sure that you are prepared?

Please follow these simple tips from OEM. First: Determine if you live in an evacuation zone. NYCHA developments that are most vulnerable are those located in the Rockaways or Coney Island. You can call 311 (TTY: 212-504-4115) or log onto nyc.gov/oem and check the Hurricane Evacuation Zone Finder.

If you do live in an evacuation zone:

— Prepare a disaster plan with other members of your household that outlines what to do, how to find each other, and how to communicate if a hurricane strikes. Plan to stay with friends or family who live outside evacuation zone boundaries. If this is not an option, know where the nearest evacuation center is and go there. Again, you can find out by calling 311 or logging onto nyc.gov/oem.

— Keep a "Go Bag" ready. A Go Bag is a collection of items you may need to grab in a hurry in case you have to evacuate. The bag should be easily accessible and packed in an easy-to-carry container such as a backpack. See the sidebar to the right for items which should be included.

— Assemble an Emergency Supply Kit in case you are asked to shelter in place (stay at home). See the sidebar for contents of an Emergency Supply Kit.

If you are asked to evacuate, do so immediately! If you are going to an evacuation center, pack lightly, and bring your Go Bag, a sleeping bag or bedding, medical supplies and equipment, and let friends or relatives know where you are going.

A Word About Pets: Make sure your disaster plan addresses what you will do with your pet if you have to evacuate. Plan to shelter your pet at a kennel or with friends or relatives outside the evacuation area. Pets are allowed in evacuation centers, however dogs must be wearing a leash and muzzle and small dogs or cats must be in a cage or carrier. You must also have proof of shots.

Stay informed: If a hurricane is expected to hit, stay tuned to TV and radio broadcasts, access NYC.gov or call 311 (TTY: 212-504-4115).

GO TRICK OR TREATING WITH YOUR FRIENDS, STAY OUT OF BUILDINGS, HOMES AND ELEVATORS WHEN ALONE.

STAY OUT OF STRANGERS HOMES OR CARS, EVEN IF THEY OFFER YOU CANDY.

LET YOUR PARENTS LOOK AT ALL CANDY AND TREATS BEFORE YOU EAT ANY.

IF YOU GO OUT AT NIGHT WEAR BRIGHT COLORED CLOTHING OR CARRY A FLASHLIGHT.

ONLY GO TRICK OR TREATING IN YOUR OWN NEIGHBORHOOD, STAY CLOSE TO HOME

IF YOUR MASK BLOCKS YOUR VISION TAKE IT OFF BEFORE YOU CROSS ANY STREETS.

WALK ON THE SIDEWALKS, STAY OUT OF THE STREETS!

IF YOU ARE OUT TRICK OR TREATING WITH YOUR YOUNGER BROTHERS OR SISTERS, STAY WITH THEM. HELP THEM CROSS THE STREET, AND REMEMBER, ALWAYS CROSS AT THE CORNER AND WAIT FOR THE LIGHT.

DO HAVE FUN! ENJOY! AND RESPECT OTHER PEOPLE'S PROPERTY!

WHAT IS A GO BAG?

A collection of items you may need packed in an easy-to-carry container such as a backpack. The bag should be easily accessible in case you need to leave your home in a hurry.

A GO BAG SHOULD INCLUDE:

Copies of important documents, an extra set of keys, Credit/ATM cards, \$50 to \$100 in cash in small denominations, bottled water and nonperishable food, a flashlight, a battery-operated AM/FM radio and extra batteries, medical information and medications, a first-aid kit, contact and meeting place information for your household and a small regional map, childcare supplies or other special items.

AN EMERGENCY SUPPLY KIT SHOULD INCLUDE:

Enough food and water for at least three days. You should have one gallon of water per person per day, ready to eat non-perishable canned foods and a manual can opener, a First Aid Kit, a flashlight, a whistle, a cell phone, and personal hygiene items.

Heating Season Is Here!

What To Do If You Have Problems with Heat or Hot Water

THE CITY'S OFFICIAL HEATING SEASON BEGAN OCTOBER 1ST AND WILL LAST UNTIL MAY 31ST. During this time the New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) will maintain a temperature of 68 degrees Fahrenheit in each apartment between the hours of 6:00 AM and 10:00 PM when the outside temperature falls below 55 degrees Fahrenheit. If the outside temperature is 20 degrees Fahrenheit or lower, NYCHA will extend the heating hours until 11:00 PM.

Between the hours of 10:00 PM and 6:00 AM, a minimum of 55 degrees Fahrenheit shall be maintained whenever the outdoor temperature falls below 40 degrees Fahrenheit.

Maintaining the temperature in your apartment does not always mean the entire radiator will be hot. The radiator will heat up in sections sufficient enough to raise the air temperature to the desired range. Hot water will be given 24 hours a day, 365 days a year at a temperature of 130 degrees Fahrenheit.

If you should experience any problems with heat or hot water and you live in Manhattan, Queens or Staten Island, call the Centralized Call Center (CCC) at (718) 707-7771 at anytime. If you live in the Bronx or Brooklyn and experience a problem between 8:00 AM and 4:30 PM, call your Management Office. Call NYCHA's Emergency Services Division at (718) 707-7777 if your problem arises between 4:30 PM and 8:00 AM, or on weekends and holidays.

Heating Tips

Here are a few tips to help with the supply of heat in your apartment:

- 1) Keep all radiators clean and free of dust. You can do this by either vacuuming or brushing them.
- 2) Keep all radiators exposed by not putting any furniture or drapes in front of them.
- 3) Use heavier drapes over your windows to keep cold air out; Keep them open during the day to allow sunlight in, and close them at night to keep the heat in.
- 4) Keep your top window slightly open to allow some air flow. This will help avoid condensation build up since water is harder to heat than air.
- 5) Dress for the season, keeping plenty of nice warm sweaters around.

Warning! NEVER USE YOUR STOVE FOR HEAT. This very dangerous practice creates a build up of deadly carbon monoxide gas which is odorless.

BOROUGH DIGEST

(Continued from page 3)



Patience Higgins of the Sugar Hill Jazz Quartet.

Queens:

On September 21, 2006, NYCHA's Department of Resident Employment Services (RES) joined the United States Postal Service to host eBay Day at the Queens Mail Facility on 20th Avenue in Flushing. The three 90 minute sessions held throughout the day covered the basics for potential eBay auctioners, including: selling items around the house, photographing the merchandise and uploading the photos, writing effective product description, and setting attractive bid prices. For information on more eBay Days, possibly one in your borough, contact RES at (718) 250-5904.

Staten Island:

NYCHA held its annual Fishing Contest on August 11th at Clove Lakes Park. More than 200 children from five Staten Island Community Center participated. Awards were given for the longest fish caught and the most fish caught, in four age groups ranging from 6 to 13.



Health Matters...

October Is Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Breast cancer kills about 1,260 in New York City every year and still 23% of women 40 and older have not had a recent mammogram.

The NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH) recommends that women ages 40 and older get a mammogram every 1-2 years. Women with a family history of breast cancer should seek expert medical advice about whether to begin screening before 40 years of age and how often to get screened. Screening mammography is an important way to identify potential cancers at an earlier stage and has been shown to reduce deaths from breast cancer.

GET A MAMMOGRAM!

The Health and Hospitals Corporation (HHC) offers mammograms at six of its facilities at little or no cost. Call 311 and ask for a "mammogram."

In addition, there are a number of sites in New York City that offer free mammograms to qualified uninsured persons all year round, through the New York State DOH Breast Cancer Program. Log onto: <http://www.health.state.ny.us/nysdoh/cancer/center/partnerships.htm#> content to find a location near you.

The information in this article is from DOHMH.



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'DISASTER DAY'

(Continued from page 2)

that his organization was partnering with OEM on the CERT program.

NYC CERT teams are groups of neighborhood and community-based volunteers that undergo an intensive, 11-week training program in disaster preparedness and basic response skills. After completing training, these teams act to support their local communities by assisting the various emergency agencies that prepare for and respond to disasters.

Ms. Forbes contacted Mr. Brouillette and in early June of

2006, she received a call from OEM, which runs the CERT program. On June 21, 2006, 55 NYCHA residents began the CERT training. On August 30, 2006, 35 NYCHA residents completed the training, an occasion commemorated by a graduation ceremony at 1195 Clay Avenue.

Ready For Anything

Now in each building of the Claremont Consolidated Resident Association district, you will find a Floor Captain and a CERT team fully trained and ready to be activated by OEM in case of an emergency.

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ble in case of an emergency, such as the physically disabled and people with language barriers, and are prepared to assist.

"Just because we are in New York doesn't mean we can't have a Hurricane Katrina here," said Lutrell Simmons.

Ms. Forbes said she is confident that with the new Mayoral initiative offering CERT training to all Community Planning Boards throughout the city, eventually the majority of New Yorkers will receive training.

If you are interested in taking ATN training, please call the Empowerment Institute at 845-657-7788, or visit the All Together Now website at www.empowermentinstitute.net. For information on the CERT training program, please call 718-422-8935 or visit the Office of Emergency Management website at www.nyc.gov/oem.



'AMERICAN GANGSTER'

(Continued from page 1)

director, Ridley Scott, spotted the development over the winter, and thought the colored panels on the breezeways evoked a sense of the 1970s, and the Newark "project" where the real action took place decades earlier.

Luckily Marlboro is in the middle of a substantial renovation, so the buildings needed for the shoot were mostly unoccupied. Among the renovations, a new lobby and fake basketball court were constructed. The cars that normally lined the street were temporarily relocated and replaced with cars from the period, and 300 "extras" were brought in to depict a crowd that gathered outside of the building when the police were trying to apprehend Lucas, inside.

The Screen Actors Guild requires that a certain percentage of extras belong to the actors' union, Actors' Equity, but

there was still room for some bell-bottomed, fringe-vested NYCHA residents to make their screen debuts.

"The coordination between the development's management and the Capital Projects Department came off seamlessly," said Capitol Projects Assistant Deputy General Manager Constantino Sagonas. Mr. Sagonas and his staff worked with Universal Pictures to make sure that the structural changes Universal had to make to create the set wouldn't cause any damage to the buildings or property.

The policy of charging film companies for shooting on NYCHA property is a relatively recent revenue generating initiative. In addition to the fees paid, Universal Pictures has also donated \$5,000 to the Marlboro Houses Resident Association.

Why did the filmmakers decide to shoot the film in New York City? Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg's "Made In New York" incentive program probably had something to do with it. Made In New York offers great tax incentives for film and television studios, through the City's Department of Television, Film and Broadcasting.

Oh, and did I mention that Denzel Washington plays Frank Lucas? Unfortunately, the scenes that would have been filmed at Marlboro were cut from the script, so no Denzel sightings. But you can see him on the big screen when "American Gangster" is released next year.

Dr. Jayesh Patel



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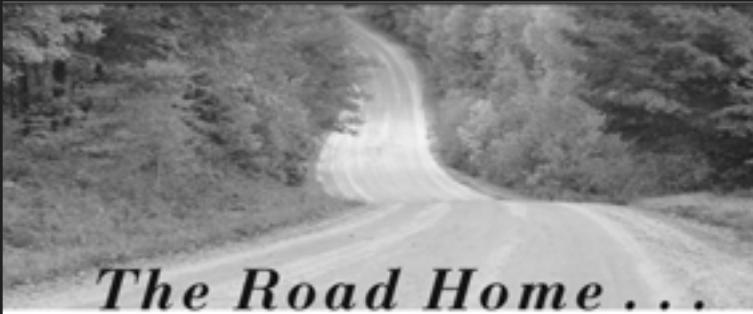
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