PROFESSOR NICHOLAS DAEN BLOOM, CHAIR OF INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES AT THE NEW YORK INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, HAS PUBLISHED THE FIRST COMPREHENSIVE STUDY OF NEW YORK CITY’S PUBLIC HOUSING, ENTITLED, “PUBLIC HOUSING THAT WORKED: NEW YORK IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY,” COPYRIGHT 2008, UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA PRESS. The book documents the New York City Housing Authority’s (NYCHA’s) pioneering of public housing as a municipal service in the New Deal era of the 1930s, chronicles its changes in policy and perspective through the Welfare State mentality of the 1960s, and charts its present course as a vital part of New York’s affordable housing plan. Throughout this fascinating journey, this central theme is explored: unlike public housing in other major American cities, the Authority has survived, thrived, and continues to meet its challenges.

Dr. Bloom’s grandfather had been Chairman of the St. Louis Housing Authority prior to the demolition of its public housing. As a college student, YOU MAY HAVE NOTICED SOMETHING BIG TAKING ROOT IN YOUR PUBLIC HOUSING DEVELOPMENT. Thanks to a collaboration spearheaded by the New York City Housing Authority’s (NYCHA’s) Energy Management and Environmental Sustainability Committee, as of August, MillionTreesNYC had planted 2,600 trees on NYCHA property. This fall, more trees are on the way, and MillionTreesNYC is looking for NYCHA resident volunteers to help plant and care for them. MillionTreesNYC is an initiative to plant one million new trees throughout New York City’s five boroughs by 2017. It is jointly led by the New York City Parks Department and the New York Restoration Project (NYRP). Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg and Bette Midler, founder of NYRP, officially launched MillionTreesNYC on October 9, 2007, and the initiative has since successfully planted more than 98,000 trees citywide. Along with public housing developments, MillionTreesNYC has also planted along New York City streets, at

APPRECIATION
(Back row, left to right) NYCHA Chairman Tino Hernandez with Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver and Assembly Member Vito Lopez at the Rutgers Community Center join resident Tenant Patrol Volunteers for an Awards Ceremony.

ELECTED OFFICIALS RECOGNIZE RUTGERS HOUSES TENANT PATROL

By Eileen Elliott

THE NUMBER OF NEW YORK CITY HOUSING AUTHORITY (NYCHA) RESIDENTS WHO "SIT" TENANT PATROL AT RUTGERS HOUSES ON MANHATTAN’S LOWER EAST SIDE HAS DOUBLED SINCE LAST YEAR, THANKS TO A $1.2 MILLION STATE ALLOCATION THAT ALLOWS NYCHA TO PAY MONTHLY STIPENDS TO RESIDENTS WHO PARTICIPATE IN THE TENANT PATROL PROGRAM OR VOLUNTEER AT COMMUNITY AND SENIOR CENTERS IN NYCHA’S 15 STATE- BUILT DEVELOPMENTS. State Assembly Speaker

(Continued on page 3)

MillionTreesNYC Seeking Resident Volunteers

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(Continued on page 5)

It’s Heating Season!
October 1st – May 31st
Minimum Indoor Temperature
From 6AM to 10PM
68 degrees Fahrenheit
whenever the outdoor temperature
is below 55 degrees.
Minimum Indoor Temperature
From 10PM to 6AM
55 degrees Fahrenheit
whenever the outdoor temperature
falls below 40 degrees.

Call the Centralized Call Center at
(718) 707-7771 if you have any problems
with heat or hot water. If you live in a
privately managed development, call
your Management Office.

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(Continued on page 5)

NYCHA is the Focus of New Book About Public Housing

PROFESSOR NICHOLAS DAEN BLOOM, CHAIR OF INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES AT THE NEW YORK INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, HAS PUBLISHED THE FIRST COMPREHENSIVE STUDY OF NEW YORK CITY’S PUBLIC HOUSING, ENTITLED, “PUBLIC HOUSING THAT WORKED: NEW YORK IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY,” COPYRIGHT 2008, UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA PRESS. The book documents the New York City Housing Authority’s (NYCHA’s) pioneering of public housing as a municipal service in the New Deal era of the 1930s, chronicles its changes in policy and perspective through the Welfare State mentality of the 1960s, and charts its present course as a vital part of New York’s affordable housing plan. Throughout this fascinating journey, this central theme is explored: unlike public housing in other major American cities, the Authority has survived, thrived, and continues to meet its challenges.

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(Continued on page 7)
Unbridled Enthusiasm for the NY Therapeutic Riding Center’s Program for Disabled Residents

By Eileen Elliott

When the historic, 115-year-old Claremont Riding Academy on Manhattan’s Upper West Side closed in April 2007, things looked bleak for Richard Brodie, founder of the New York Therapeutic Riding Center (NYTRC), and the young NYCHA residents the program served. Since 1998, the NYTRC had been providing therapeutic horseback riding lessons to disabled children at Claremont, and in 2000 the New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) began offering scholarships so young residents could participate in the program for free.

Ideal for children with cerebal palsy, muscular dystrophy, multiple sclerosis, mental retardation and developmental disabilities, therapeutic horseback riding promises the benefits of improved balance, posture, coordination and mobility, stronger muscles, increased attention span and communications skills, and improved confidence and self-esteem. Not to mention that it’s fun!

Luckily, for Manhattan residents, six-year-old Gevalia Torres of East River Houses and five-year-old Frank Vacca of Elliott Houses, and Brooklyn residents 12-year-old Daniel McGill of Hope Gardens, eight-year-old Korley Islar of Boulevard Houses, and eight-year-old Noble Joyette of Brevoort Houses, just a few short months after the Claremont Riding Academy closed, the NYTRC had a new home, at the Chateau Stables in the Clinton neighborhood, on West 48th Street, also in Manhattan.

These five young residents were chosen for the latest round of classes which began in June and ended in August. Together with their eight classmates, who are sponsored by New York University Medical Center’s Rusk Institute, the NYCHA residents showed up each Saturday at Chateau for one of the three consecutive 40 minute classes.

“NYCHA is pleased to be able to collaborate with the NYTRC to bring this opportunity to young residents with disabilities,” said Department of Community Operations Deputy General Manager Hugh Spence. NYCHA sent out 5,000 letters to families with children who might be eligible.

“The real advantage of this program is that it is here in the City,” said Mr. Brodie, one Saturday this past August. “Almost all programs like this are out in the suburbs and rural areas.”

The stable, which is tucked into what would be a quiet block between 11th and 12th Avenues, were it not for the massive construction all around it, has been in the McGill family since 1967. It is run by the mother- daughter team, Gloria and Anita McGill, respectively, who donate the space.

Anita, who is 30, suffered a stroke ten years ago and underwent rehabilitation at the Rusk Institute. “I see how animals help people with disabilities,” she said with a youthful enthusiasm that betrayed none of the ordeal she had gone through. “I’ve come a long way. We’re very happy about this program. We wanted to give back.”

On this particular Saturday, National American Riding for the Handicapped Association (NARHA)-certified Therapeutic Riding Instructor Stefanie Pleschinger stood in the middle of the 150-square-foot ring, calling out instructions, while a lead walker and two side walkers accompanied three students per class as they circled around her.

Ms. Pleschinger maintained a steady stream of commands and encouragement as the riders performed a variety of exercises including two-point riding, arm.
CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Residents Are Invited to Attend Domestic Violence Conferences in October

Once again the New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) turns its focus to domestic violence by bringing a series of conferences to NYCHA residents during National Domestic Violence Awareness Month. The theme for this year’s conferences is “Survivors’ Stories.”

During the week of October 20th, NYCHA’s Department of Social Services will host one conference in each borough centered around stories from domestic violence survivors. Serving as possible role models for others, the survivors will share their personal experience of breaking away from the abuse and starting new lives free from violence.

In addition, each conference will have a resource fair, with a wide range of materials on domestic violence and available social services. City agencies such as the Department of Health, Department for the Aging, and Adult Protective Services will all be represented as well as the Mayor’s Office to Combat Domestic Violence, and local community based organizations.

Domestic Violence Intervention, Education, and Prevention Program

Representatives from Safe Horizon, the nation’s leading nonprofit victim assistance, advocacy, and violence prevention organization, will also be at the conferences. NYCHA has a long and successful relationship with Safe Horizon, which provides services to victims of domestic violence through NYCHA’s Domestic Violence Intervention, Education and Prevention Program (DVIEP). The DVIEP Program uses case managers from Safe Horizon, and the NYPD Housing Bureau’s Domestic Violence Officers to conduct outreach and assistance for victims of domestic violence who reside in NYCHA developments citywide. DVIEP case managers work with clients to identify their most urgent needs and provide information and services, safety planning, and referrals to other agencies for a broad range of comprehensive and supportive services.

Emergency Transfers

NYCHA residents who believe that they are victims of domestic violence can request an Emergency Transfer through their development’s Management Office. Residents who are too fearful to do this, or who prefer to, may also initiate an Emergency Transfer by going to Safe Horizon. To find the nearest Safe Horizon location, do this, or who prefer to, may also initiate an Emergency Transfer by going to Safe Horizon.

The Domestic Violence Aftercare Program

The Domestic Violence Aftercare Program is a valuable source of support for victims and witnesses of domestic violence and their families, assisting them with the transition to a new community. Victims of domestic violence who are relocated under NYCHA’s emergency transfer program and newly relocated families who have just moved into public housing to escape domestic violence receive the support of NYCHA’s trained social workers, who provide psychosocial assistance and concrete services to help victims break free from the cycle of violence and adjust to life in a new community. Services include counseling, case-management, safety planning, and assistance with day care and after-school programs. In addition, NYCHA can advocate on behalf of victims to get other services from the Human Resources Administration, the Department of Education, and City hospitals and refer victims to other community service providers.

I encourage all interested residents to attend. Even if you aren’t experiencing domestic violence in your own life you can learn how you can help others who are victims of domestic violence. If you are a victim of domestic violence this conference just might help you gather the strength as well as the resources you need to make a change. To find the details for your borough, please refer to the advertisement on page 6.

Tino Hernandez

(Continued on page 5)

TENANT PATROL

(Continued from page 1)

Sheldon Silver and Assembly Housing Committee Chair Vito Lopez, who are responsible for obtaining funding for the program, hosted an Awards Ceremony at the Rutgers Community Center on September 4th to thank the volunteers for their commitment.

“Our focus is on the safety of public housing residents,” the Speaker said to the volunteers from Rutgers who filled the brightly painted multi-purpose room. “While law enforcement has done a remarkable job reducing crime, police officers cannot be all places at all times. New York City is blessed with many civic-minded citizens but more are needed, so we offered a small incentive to encourage participation in the Tenant Patrol.”

“Without him,” Assembly Member Lopez said of the Speaker, “this program would not have happened.”

“What a wonderful program this is,” added State Senator Martin Connor, who was also in attendance.

“When these people make a commitment it is a commitment of honor,” remarked NYCHA Chairman Tino Hernandez of the elected officials present. The Chairman’s most emphatic thank-you, however, was reserved for the resident volunteers. “Through your commitment, participation in the Tenant Patrol program has doubled at Rutgers,” the Chairman said.

Richard Fox, a 67-year-old resident of Rutgers, who recently joined the Tenant Patrol, said he has noticed less crime and vandalism at the development. The presence of Tenant Patrol members “helps keep some of the young people better behaved,” said the 18-year Rutgers resident, who was in attendance.

By Deborah Williams

College Bound — Manhattan Community Operations’ new College Bound program held a graduation send-off event on August 21, 2008, for the 19 participants, seven of whom were high school seniors when they started and now have all been accepted into college. The program’s goal is to ensure high school graduation and the successful matriculation of high school seniors into accredited colleges or universities. “We achieved our goal 100 percent,” said an emphatic Manhattan Community Operations Director Jenelle Mitchell at the ceremony, which was held at NYCHA’s 90 Church Street location.

The College Bound Program began in September 2007 and all participants were either high school students or recent graduates. The program was held at various NYCHA community centers throughout Manhattan. As part of the program, twice a week, for eight weeks, all participants received intensive tutoring at the Sylvan Learning Center in preparation for the SAT exam.

Michael Roman, a senior at Chelsea High School and a resident of Jacob Riis Houses, received the “Highest SAT Score” award for his 1500 SAT score. Lorraine Bolton, who does not live in public housing, was a close second. Lorraine, who had already graduated when she entered the program said, “After joining the Manhattan College Bound Program and receiving SAT prep at Sylvan I jumped from 900 to 1333.” Lorraine will be attending the Borough of Manhattan Community College, as will Deryll Alleyne, also a public housing resident.

The participants got an “up close” look at college and campus life by attending an overnight college tour that included colleges and universities in North Carolina and Virginia. Each was also assigned a mentor to assist with the final stages of picking a college and applying for financial aid, grants and scholarships.

(Left to Right) Davon Smith, Evelynda Santos, Lorraine Bolton, Deryll Alleyne, and Irma Scott with their special awards.

For Davon Smith, of Smith Houses, the program was an eye-opener. Davon never planned to go to college, but at the College Bound graduation he was proud to say that he will be attending New York City Tech this fall. “I couldn’t believe it when I received a phone call from Manhattan Community Operations informing me of my acceptance into the program,” said Davon. That day changed my life.” According to his mom, Davon is the first in his family to attend college.

Maryan Escarfullet, a resident of Chelsea Houses, will be attending the College of New Jersey with an annual scholarship of $15,000! Wow! Maryan was also the recipient of the program’s “Most Collegiate Award.” Asia Caesar, of Rutgers Houses, couldn’t be at the graduation ceremony to accept her “Magna Cum Laude” award because she had already begun her classes at SUNY Buffalo, but her mom, Shurnetta Thompson, graciously accepted on Asia’s behalf and read Asia’s touching farewell address to the audience.

Evelynda Santos, of Baruch Houses, will be attending St. Joseph’s College, the “college of her dreams.” She was voted “Most Promising Star” and has aspirations of becoming a math teacher.

Irma Scott, of Rutgers Houses, will be making the journey to Medgar Evers College and was the proud recipient of the “Most Improved” award.

The graduation ceremony was full of tears and laughter. The ceremony ended with lots of food and beverages but Davon Smith summed up it up best when he said, “In life one must do what they have to do in order to do what they want to do.” If you are interested in additional information on the Borough of Manhattan Community Operations College Bound Program, please contact Leroy Williams or Katwy Heru at 212-306-3324.

(Continued on page 5)
THE HOUSING AUTHORITY JOURNAL

OCTOBER 2008

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 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 June 6, 13, 20, and 27, 2007. 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 YOUR MANAGEMENT OFFICE OR NYCHA’S SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS UNIT AT (212) 306-8595.

Prohibited as of June 6, 2007

Serafin Rodriguez, Jr. Case 3841/07 formerly associated with the sixteenth floor of 100 Pitt Street, Gompers Houses, Manhattan.

David Keith Case 3964/07 formerly associated with the seventh floor of 1535 University Avenue, Sedgwick Houses, Bronx.

Antonio Washington Case 3990/07 formerly associated with the fifteenth floor of 2971 Eighth Avenue, Polo Grounds Tovers, Manhattan.

Avery Bullock Case 4037/07 formerly associated with the third floor of 198 Bond Street, Govanus Houses, Brooklyn.

Orlando Alvarez Case 4047/07 formerly associated with the seventh floor of 360 Park Avenue, Jackson Houses, Bronx.

Prohibited as of June 13, 2007

Crystal Vega Case 4009/07 formerly associated with the eleventh floor of 20 Catherine Slip, Smith Houses, Manhattan.

Ernesto Carmona Case 4121/07 formerly associated with the eighteenth floor of 1458-1460 Webster Houses, Bronx.

Victor Carmona Case 4161/07 formerly associated with the fourteenth floor of 1373 Washington Avenue, Morris Houses, Manhattan.

Samuel Rosario Case 4162/07 formerly associated with the seventh floor of 2971 Eighth Avenue, Polo Grounds Towers, Manhattan.

Jasmine Morton Case 4230/07 formerly associated with the twentieth floor of 40-20 Beach Channel Drive, Beach 41st Street Houses, Far Rockaway.

Anthony Williams Case 3400/07 formerly associated with the fifteenth floor of 330 Dumont Avenue, Tilden Houses, Brooklyn.

Anthony Irons Case 3429/07 formerly associated with the fifth floor of 734 Gates Avenue, Stuyvesant Gardens, Brooklyn.

Lavasia King Case 4393/07 formerly associated with the seventh floor of 2834 West 22nd Street, Carey Gardens, Brooklyn.

Prohibited as of June 20, 2007

Terrance Cleckley Case 4403/07 formerly associated with the twentieth floor of 635 Castle Hill Avenue, Castle Hill Houses, Bronx.

Reginald Taylor Case 4248/07 formerly associated with the sixth floor of 1961 Scherffelin Avenue, Edenwald Houses, Bronx.

Dennis Ferguson Case 3249/07 formerly associated with the first floor of 734 Gates Avenue, Stuyvesant Gardens, Brooklyn.

Prohibited as of June 27, 2007

Dana West Case 4455/07 formerly associated with the sixth floor of 1609 East 174th Street, Bronx River Houses, Bronx.

Leslie Davis Case 4520/07 formerly associated with the sixth floor of 444 Beach 54th Street, Ocean Bay Apartments, Queens.

Rasheen Stone Case 3343/07 formerly associated with the eighth floor of 2973/07 8th Avenue, Polo Grounds Towers, Manhattan.

Cynthia Michael Case 4599/07 formerly associated with the eighth floor of 1428 Webster Avenue, Butler Houses, Bronx.

Jason Deida Case 4601/07 formerly associated with the seventh floor of 415 West 25th Street, Elliott-Chelsea Houses, Manhattan.

Nydia Anthony Case 3743/07 formerly associated with the nineteenth floor of 1373 Washington Avenue, Morris Houses, Bronx.

Arion Grant Case 4655/07 formerly associated with the eleventh floor of 300 Cherry Street, LaGuardia/Two Bridges Houses, Manhattan.

RIDING PROGRAM

(Continued from page 2)

swings, scissors, hands on head, and hands on hip. Horses walk, trot or canter and in addition to the physical exercise, children also bond with the horses by grooming them.

“The riding helps co-ordination, muscle tone, posture, spatial orientation,” Ms. Pachelmenger said between classes. “Two-point riding is great exercise,” she continued, referring to the position riders take when they prepare for jumps, where they are not sitting but leaning forward. “It takes the weight off the rider’s back. They need to use arm muscles, leg muscles. It requires balance, confidence.”

When asked what his favorite part of the class was, Daniel Valentin, who has been attending for three consecutive years, responded, “two-point.” “It brings up his confidence level and helps his upper body strength.” Daniel’s mother, Carmen, added. “It’s fantastic. He loves it. He looks forward to it every summer.”

“Some children get nervous but once they’re on the horse, it’s all smiles,” said Kathy Islar, whose son Korley was taking the course for the first time this year. Noting that Korley is shy, Ms. Islar commented that she already sees improvement in her son’s “focusing, speaking a little more than usual.”

Approximately 20 volunteers help out with the therapeutic riding classes, each of which are also attended by either a physical or occupational therapist. Mr. Brodie hopes to add another therapeutic riding session for adults.

To find out more about the New York Therapeutic Riding Center call (212) 535-3917.

Get Your Flu Shot

Flu season is near and flu shots become available this month. Call your doctor or health care provider to get your flu shot. Call 311 for the nearest location. Don’t delay. Protect yourself.

THE CHIEF’S CORNER

Trick or Treat: Safety Tips for Halloween

The New York City Police Department wants to remind you that Halloween is one of the most enjoyable days of the year for children but parents should be aware of the potential risks that can affect children who are not supervised properly. Trick-or-treaters should always have adult supervision even if they are traveling in a group of friends, to ensure that the only scary experiences children have are those associated with the spirit of Halloween. The following recommendations are for parents and guardians.

An adult should always examine Halloween treats before children eat them. Never eat opened or unwrapped Halloween foods.

Costumes should be flame-retardant and should allow children to walk freely without tripping. Children’s ability to see, hear and move should not be impaired by unwieldy masks.

Make certain that any face paint or make-up used on skin or costumes is non-toxic.

Extra care should be taken on streets and at crossings, especially at dusk and after dark.

Emergency identification information should be placed discreetly inside costumes of small children, in case of accidental separation.

Avoid having children wear their names outwardly on clothing or jewelry, which may allow a stranger to call them by name and appear to know them.

As always, children should be cautioned to avoid strangers, as well as poorly lit areas and homes of people they do not know.

Halloween treats should be consumed only if they are packaged appropriately. Parents can help protect their children by making sure that treats are wrapped in their original, unbroken packages—no loose candy, open glasses or bottles, fresh fruit, or homemade goods.

If after eating a Halloween treat there is evidence that it may have been tampered with, or it has a strange taste, call the NYC Health Department’s Poison Control Center. The Poison Control Center is open 24 hours a day, 365 days of the year, for emergencies and advice at (212) POISONS (764-7667), (212) VENENOS (836-3667) for Spanish language speakers, or (212) 689-9014 for TDD users. The National toll-free number, 1-800-222-1222, connects to the nearest poison control center. In case of emergency, dial 911.

Korley Islar at the New York Therapeutic Riding Academy.
MillionTrees NYC Seeking Volunteers

(Continued from page 1)

schools, hospitals, faith-based institutions, and other areas in need of the environmental, health and economic benefits that come with new trees.

NYCHA Developments Slated for Trees

On the Lower East Side, new trees will be planted at the Gompers, LaGuardia, Rutgers and Vladeck Houses. In East Harlem, new trees will take root at the Carver, East River, King Towers, Lexington, Metro North and Washington Houses.

NYCHA residents in Brooklyn can help plant and care for new trees at the Linden, Nostrand, Penn Wortman, Sheepshead Bay, Tilden and Van Dyke Houses.

Trees are also scheduled for the Pomonok Houses in Queens; Berry, Mariner’s Harbor and Stapleton Houses in Staten Island; and Beach 41st Street and Ocean Bay Houses in the Rockaways.

Be sure to visit www.milliontreesnyc.org to stay informed about the dates of all MillionTreesNYC NYCHA tree plantings.

MillionTreesNYC needs Your Help

MillionTreesNYC needs the help of NYCHA’s dedicated residents to ensure the success of our new city trees. If you would like to take a more active role in the MillionTreesNYC initiative this fall, you can sign up to become a NYCHA MillionTreesNYC Guardian. Guardians will be responsible for leading tree stewardship efforts in their respective NYCHA developments and ensuring that trees are watered on a regular basis.

MillionTreesNYC would like to find one or two Guardians in each housing community who can develop tree watering schedules to be posted in nearby Community Centers, Senior Centers, and various locations where volunteer gardeners are likely to volunteer.

Also, MillionTreesNYC is counting on NYCHA Guardians to report any sick or dying trees on their housing campus grounds. Finally, the Guardians will be invited to a group check-in meeting to offer feedback about MillionTreesNYC planting efforts and to share their stories with other NYCHA MillionTreesNYC Guardians.

For more information about the MillionTreesGuardian volunteer positions, please contact Angela Michie at New York Restoration Project at amichie@nyrp.org or 212-333-2552.

Ensuring that new trees are watered, cared for, and protected from vandalism will help keep New York City’s valuable NYCHA communities green. With your help, New York City will be well on its way to becoming a healthier and more beautiful place.

TENANT PATROL

(Continued from page 3)

I don’t care about the money...but if they want to give me money that makes me happy.”

NYCHA’s Tenant Patrol program utilizes resident volunteers who sit in the lobbies of their developments to decrease the incidents of loitering, vandalism and other criminal activity. Volunteers are encouraged to report any criminal activity they witness to their local Police Service Area.

Any interested resident of a State-built NYCHA development can call the program’s Central Office Liaison at (212) 306-2846.

IT’S NOT TOO LATE TO FILE FOR THE ECONOMIC STIMULUS PAYMENT

Don’t forget, the deadline for filing for the Economic Stimulus Payment (Tax Rebate) is October 15, 2008. Even if you are not otherwise required to file a tax return you may be eligible. For additional information on where and how to file, please contact your local IRS center or visit the IRS Website at: www.IRS.gov. NYCHA mailed letters out in April to all eligible residents.
FREE 14-week job training program for homeless & low-income women

First Step Program
Computer Training - Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook
Internet Research • Resume Writing • Interviewing Skills
Job Placement Assistance • Self-Esteem Building
2 Month Internship • Case Management • Typing
Literacy Building • Mentoring • Yoga & Meditation
Support Groups • Empowerment

GED not required • New class starting soon!

FREE Continental Breakfast & MetroCards Provided

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Pay-O-Matic also offers the following services:
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Pay-O-Matic now has the most 24 hour locations throughout the New York Metro Area!
Regular Hours: M-W 8:30-6, Thurs & Fri: 8:30-7, Sat: 8:30-6
Open Sunday - Call for hours

YOU CAN PAY YOUR RENT AT ANY OF THESE NYCHA APPROVED LOCATIONS:

BROOKLYN
6-16 GREENPOINT AVE
286 BRIGHTON BEACH
1256 FULTON STREET
1441 ST. JOHNS PLACE
1640 BROADWAY
2323 MERIDIAN AVE
240 LINCOLN BLVD
5210 FOURTH AVE
1813 KINGS HIGHWAY
254 LIVONIA AVE
1068 RASSEAU AVE
151 VANDERBILT AVE
187 BEDFORD AVE
2107 BATH AVE
388 CLARKSON AVE
531 EASTERN PKWY
642 NOstrand AVE
564 GRAND AVE
1075 BROADWAY
1528 FULTON STREET
190 ROCKAWAY AVE
590 MYRTLE AVE
254 KINGSTON AVE
451 BROADWAY
553 GRAND ST
687 STANLEY AVE
796 RALPH AVE
6804 FOURTH AVE
1630 Coney Island AVE
653 CLASSE AVE
832 WASHINGTON AVE
840 FRANKLIN AVE
1083 MANHATTAN AVE
BROOKLYN
11 EAST GUNNILL RD
159 E 70TH ST
2356 GRAND CONCOURSE
271 E 149TH ST
308 DEVOT RD
797 SOUTHERN BLVD
1068 CROSS BX E RPWY
2167 WHITE PLAINS RD
81 WEST FORDAH RD
609 REMED AVE
1349 SOUTHERN BLVD
1383 WESTCHESTER AVE
25 WEST 110TH ST
126 FEATHERBED LN
396 EAST 10TH STREET
664 EAST TREMONT AVE
697 EAST GUNNILL RD
931 EAST 147TH ST
977 PROSPECT AVE
1059 MORGAN AVE
1184 ELDER AVE
1784 WESTCHESTER AVE
2241 JEROME AVE
3212 THIRD AVE
4681 THIRD AVE
3725 E TREMONT AVE
3429 E TREMONT AVE
164 EAST 147TH STREET
289 EAST TREMONT AVE

890 EAST TREMONT AVE
1200 MORRISON AVE
2161 GRAND CONCOURSE
4211 THIRD AVE
MANHATTAN
54 EIGHTH AVE
530 EIGHTH AVE
763 NINTH AVE
925 COLUMBUS AVE
3368 BROADWAY
514 WEST 20TH ST
50 SPRING STREET
357 COLUMBUS AVE
4894 BROADWAY
2351 SECOND AVE
3453 BROADWAY
3657 BROADWAY
290 WEST 14TH STREET
224 EIGHTH AVE
295 CHURCH STREET
2168 SECOND AVE
QUEENS
56-54 MYRTLE AVE
37-74 10TH STREET
162-10 ROOSEVELT AVE
46-18 QUEENS BLVD
30-14 31ST ST
39-29 QUEENS BLVD
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New Book About Public Housing

(Continued from page 7)

Dr. Bloom would visit his parents in New York, where they had moved to a middle income condominium across the street from Harlem’s Grant Houses.

“I was impressed by how well managed [it] seemed [compared] to public housing elsewhere,” he writes, citing this as a reason for his later interest in public housing.

“Nationwide, the quality of public services is threatened and declining,” Dr. Bloom said. “I wanted to explore public sector competence and show that it can operate well in an urban society, especially in light of a negative press.”

Why write about NYCHA?

No one had written a comprehensive study of the largest, most successful public housing authority in the country, only the failed or troubled ones. NYCHA can be seen as an example of smart government.

The information was readily available from the Housing Authority’s detailed and well-organized records in the LaGuardia-Wagner Archives.

What surprises did you find?

The attention to management detail was something that I discovered. This showed in everything from the tenant selection policy, with low levels of welfare tenancy, to the large investment on renovation and landscapes (that evolved from large, empty spaces to welcoming and recreational ones), to adequate staffing and numbers of committed administrators.

Other surprises included the Housing Police.

You credit NYCHA’s success to many of these factors, along with its determination to keep its sound buildings clean, safe and well-maintained. Why didn’t other PHAs do this?

New York was committed to public housing because of the failure of earlier housing reform to provide decent homes for its working and middle class. NYCHA gained wide political support to maintain the much needed units because developments were built in every borough. In some other cities, public housing was seen as part of urban renewal, mostly as a means to clean out the slums.

While your book documents NYCHA’s success, it also includes some criticisms. What are some?

While the uniformity of buildings makes them cost-effective to build and maintain, they can be seen as bland or cold. Decisions made about slum clearance on such a vast scale sacrificed some distinct neighborhoods, and the early tenant selection policy is certainly paternalistic by today’s standards.

What do you hope your book achieves?

The public needs to know there is a role for good public services. The size of NYCHA’s budget to house over 400,000 people who can’t afford other housing options is not excessive. Certainly the large investment in New York’s public housing should be maintained for its usefulness.

Editor’s Note: This interview by NYCHA Bulletin Editor Howard Silver, was printed in the August 2008 edition of the Bulletin. It has been edited slightly.

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