

September 2007



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AFTER SCHOOL

Now that kids are headed back to school, it's time to check out all that Parks has to offer. Every school day until 6:00 p.m., thousands of New York City kids, ages 6 to 13, attend one of the Parks Department's 35 Afterschool programs citywide. Parks Afterschool offers quality educational, recreational and cultural programs that promote the social, physical, intellectual, and emotional development of children and youth.

The department partners with such organizations as New York Cares, the YMCA, NYC Global Partners and the Museum of Arts & Design to bring new experiences to kids all over the City.

This past year, kids made comic books using computer graphics, choreographed dance routines, learned martial arts techniques, visited

art museums, played musical instruments, learned chess through our 'Chess-in-the-Schools' programs, wrote poetry, planned their financial futures and participated in the Afterschool Spelling Bee.

There is so much after school this fall in Parks! Sign up for After-school programs, check out a Computer Resource Center, sign up for our free 'Swim to Safety' program, or check out RECYouth—a free program based in Parks' Recreation Centers that provides youngsters with the skills they need to become digital filmmakers, musicians, and storytellers.

For more information, or to register for the Parks Department's Afterschool Program, visit www.nyc.gov/parks or call (212) 360-3300.

COMMISSIONER'S CORNER

Now that September is here, it's time for New York City's children to go back to school—which means it's time for them to go Back to Afterschool!

Three thousand children are served by the Parks Afterschool Program between 3:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. at 35 separate locations. In addition to receiving homework help, Parks Afterschool youth also work with specialized consultants with expertise in visual arts, drama, fitness, literacy, music and creative writing. Under their guidance, children write poetry and newsletters, explore drama and music, and en-

hance their athletic skills. The Afterschool program runs from September through June, Monday to Friday. A more than 50-year-old tradition, Parks Afterschool adds continuity to children's lives and strengthens their sense of belonging in the neighborhoods where they live.

Registration for Afterschool is ongoing from September through June, and is based on space availability. Visit www.nyc.gov/parks or call (212) 360-3300 for more information

Adrian Benepe

About New York City Department of Parks and Recreation

Owner of 14 percent of NYC — including more than 4,000 individual properties ranging from Yankee Stadium and Central Park to community gardens and Greenstreets. The Parks department is NYC's principal provider of athletic facilities and home to free concerts, world-class sports events, and cultural festivals.



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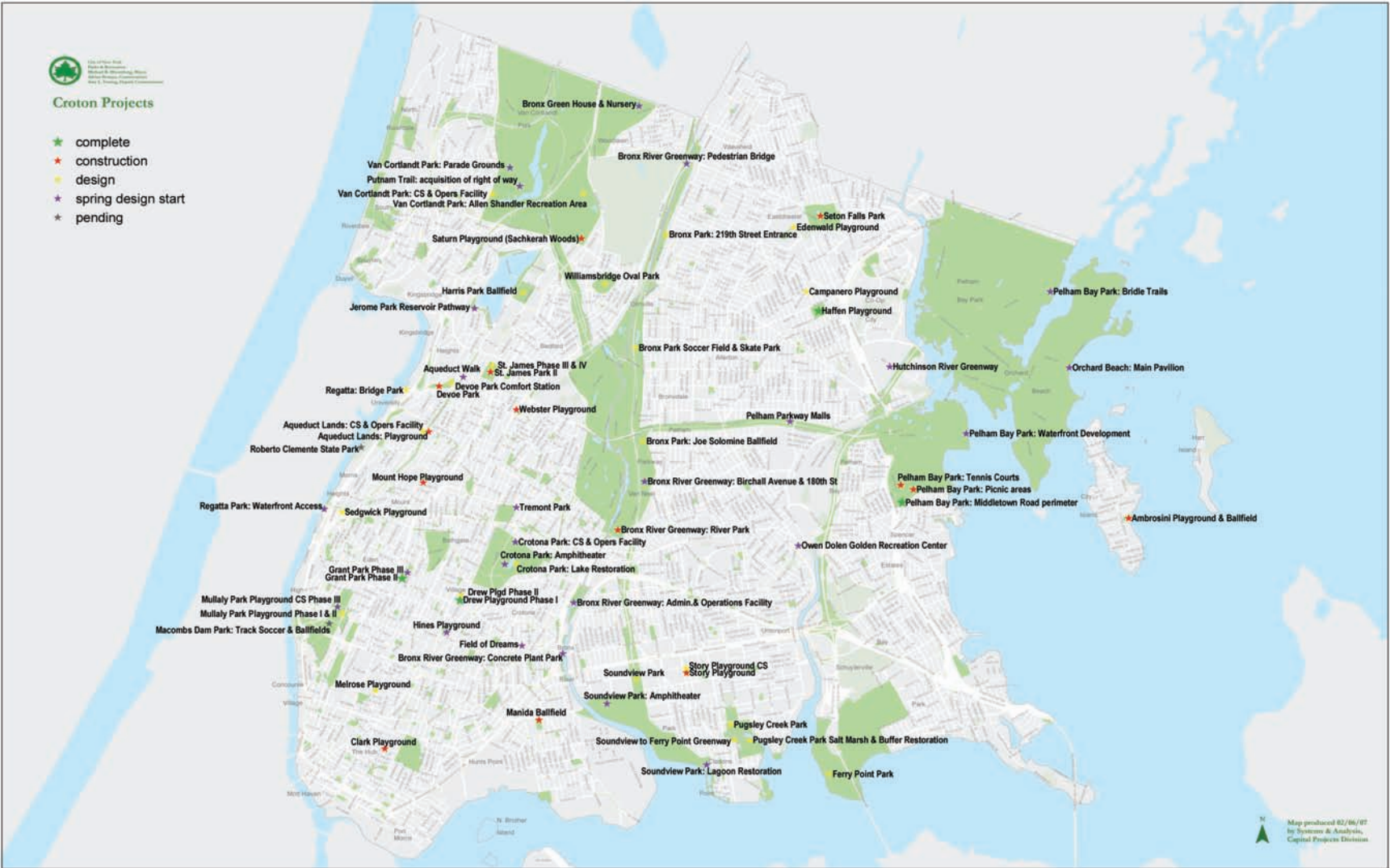
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BRONX



WATER PLANT MAKING PARKS GREENER

In September 2004, the City Council approved a memorandum of understanding with New York State allowing the City to move forward with construction of a water filtration plant for the Croton Water Supply. The new plant would be built in the Bronx, under the Mosholu Golf Course in Van Cortlandt Park. As part of the agreement, more than \$200 million generated from water and sewer revenue will be spent on improvements to more than 70 Bronx Parks

over the next five years. Croton-funded projects fall into five categories and include improving neighborhood parks, renovating regional recreation facilities, developing the Bronx Greenway, improving and expanding access to the Bronx waterfront, and “greening” the borough. Funding from the filtration plant agreement represents an opportunity to invest more than three times what would normally be spent on Bronx parks over

the next five years. The Croton-funded projects — including renovation of old parks and construction of new parks and recreational facilities — were picked after years of input from community groups, elected officials and Bronx residents. To bring them to fruition, Parks design and construction teams are committed to using Bronx-based subcontractors, vendors, suppliers, and individuals.

To date, we have completed ten Croton projects, representing approximately \$12 million. Nine projects totaling \$19 million are in construction, and 33 projects totaling \$85 million are in the design stage. The remaining projects, scheduled to start design in the next two months, represent \$74 million. Other current major capital projects include Concrete Plant Park, Ferry Point Park, Bronx Terminal Waterfront Park, and Story Playground.

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D O W N T O W N

WHAT'S NEXT ... YOUR LIFESTYLE, EVOLVED.

A \$40M BENSONHURST PLAN

Mayor Bloomberg recently unveiled the design for the restoration of Brooklyn’s Calvert Vaux Park also known as Dreier-Offerman Park. The \$40 million project (right) is a part of the Mayor’s PlaNYC initiative, under which eight parks in all five boroughs will be transformed into attractive regional destinations. The restoration will be completed by 2011 as part of more than \$1.2 billion in capital improvements to the City’s parks and open spaces that are part of PlaNYC.

On the drawing board for Calvert Vaux Park: three new baseball fields, six new soccer fields, kayak launches, picnic areas, a central lawn, new restrooms, a bicycle path, new nature trails, an amphitheater, a playground, a recreation center, and a pavilion. The park will be a center for competitive soccer and baseball on the Brooklyn waterfront.

“As we prepare to meet the challenges of adding nearly 1 million residents by the year 2030, we have committed to ensuring that every New Yorker lives within a ten-minute walk of a park or open space,” says Mayor Bloomberg. “Completing these regional destination parks in all five boroughs will make them the jewels of our park system and increase usability and access for thousands of New Yorkers. Combined with our efforts to open playgrounds in schoolyards and to reclaim brownfields for open space, we are com-

mitted to significantly improving and expanding our park system.”

Calvert Vaux Park in Bensonhurst is the end result of three land acquisitions by the Parks Department stretching back more than seven decades. The first parcel fell into place in 1933, when the Calvert Vaux Home for Unwed Mothers closed and donated a small parcel to the City, creating the original park. That park was expanded in 1944, and in 1962 the City acquired an additional 72-acre tract of land. That acquisition, financed by a 1960 New York State bond act, makes up the bulk of today’s 77-acre park, which is bounded by Gravesend Bay, Bay 44th St., Bay 49th St., and Shore Parkway. Due to a lack of coordinated plans and adequate funding, however, the park’s potential was never fully realized — until now!

In addition to the restoration of Calvert Vaux Park and a \$50 million restoration of Brooklyn’s McCarren Park Pool, regional parks slated for redevelopment under PlaNYC include: the High Bridge in Manhattan and the Bronx, Soundview Park in the Bronx, Fort Washington Park in Manhattan, Highland Park Reservoir and Rockaway Beach in Queens, and Ocean Breeze Park in Staten Island. PlaNYC also includes planting of

one million trees throughout the City, the opening of 290 schoolyards as playgrounds, and the creation of 800 new Greenstreets.



THE TREES FALL IN BROOKLYN

On the morning of Aug. 8, the first tornado to hit the borough since 1889 touched down in Brooklyn.

The tornado, with winds between 115 m.p.h. and 135 m.p.h., first hit Bay Ridge Ave. between Third and Fourth Aves. just after 6:30 a.m. It then took a northeast path across 68th St. and continued east through Leif Ericson Park, destroying more than a third of the park’s trees. It then hit an automobile dealership at 66th St. and Fifth Ave. and continued northeast along Sixth Ave., devastating trees and homes up to 58th St.

In total, Brooklyn lost 256 trees, and 336 trees lost major limbs. The most severely affected areas were northern Bay Ridge, Sunset Park, Midwood and parts of Shore Parkway.

As a precaution, the area was treated as if it were in an Asian Longhorned Beetle quarantine zone, even though Bay Ridge is not technically part of a zone. Residents were asked to call 311 to have wood removed, and not to do it themselves. All the wood was then chipped and incinerated to protect against the spread of ALB. Calvert Vaux Park served as a temporary site for these activities.

Non-emergency forestry personnel from across the City joined in to assist with the removal efforts, and thanks to the joint efforts of Parks and Sanitation workers, all of the tree debris was removed quickly.

We applaud all of the personnel who responded to this unique (for New York City) emergency.



WATER, WATER, EVERYWHERE!



Joined on the last leg of their voyage by Parks Commissioner Adrian Benepe, about 30 arm-weary kayakers recently completed the 11-day Great Hudson River Paddle, traveling 145 miles of the 156-mile New York State Hudson River Greenway Water Trail from Albany to New York City's Pier 96.

The Great Hudson River Paddle celebrated the improvement of public access along the Hudson River. As a result of Parks' efforts, the state water trail has added the first NYC park sites—Inwood Hill Park's Dyckman Marina and the 72nd St. and 79th St. Boat Basin in Riverside Park, along with Piers 66, 84 and 96 in Hudson River Park.

Parks is also working on creating a NYC Water Trail that will connect paddlers to waterways throughout the city. Also in the works: a NYC Water Trail guide, which will provide information on safe and legal access to the waters surrounding all five boroughs of New York City. The project will identify park launch sites, as well as connecting them to non-park launch sites. The guide will also provide recreational, educational and scenic opportunities along the waterfront.

LEARNING THE ROPES AT 79TH ST.

Marking National Marina Day and the 70th anniversary of the 79th St. Boat Basin in Riverside Park, Parks & Recreation opened the doors of its flagship marina on August 11 and invited the public in to learn about boating and meet our expert dockmasters.

More than 300 people received guided tours of the popular boating site and learned about some of the challenges—like large floating ice floes—involved in operating and maintaining a marina on the Hudson River. Visitors were able to examine the many components that go into construction of a floating dock while receiving a first-hand description of the process from a Parks dockbuilder. Poster-sized photographs dating back to 1937, when Robert Moses established the boat basin as “the recreational boating gateway to New York City,” gave guests a visual tour of the site's history, capturing many of the changes Parks continues to introduce to the location.

More hands-on activities included clinics on how to tie different boating knots as well as the proper procedure to secure a vessel to the dock. Urban Park Rangers were on site with games and puzzles offering a wealth of facts and information on the Hudson River and the organisms that live in it. Visitors also learned about the many adventures in our parks and other free programs for kids, and received a copy of *Outdoors in NYC*, the Rangers' quarterly newspaper and calendar.

Other highlights of the day included an FDNY fireboat water display just off of A-dock. After a blast of the vessel's horn drew all eyes waterside, the fireboat powered up its six hoses and sprayed arcs of river water high in the air. In addition to each visitor receiving maps and brochures of Parks boating resources and marinas, as well as their very own Parks & Recreation squeaking “rubber-ducky” tugboat, several guests had their name selected from a free raffle to win their very own 79th St. Boat Basin plastic street sign.

But a day at the marina isn't complete without time on the open water, so every hour, a 42-foot sailing sloop departed from the marina for a free 40-minute excursion up to the George Washington Bridge and back.

After the day's events, it was clear that many of our first-time visitors would be making a return voyage to the Boat Basin or perhaps stopping by some of our other water-based sites.





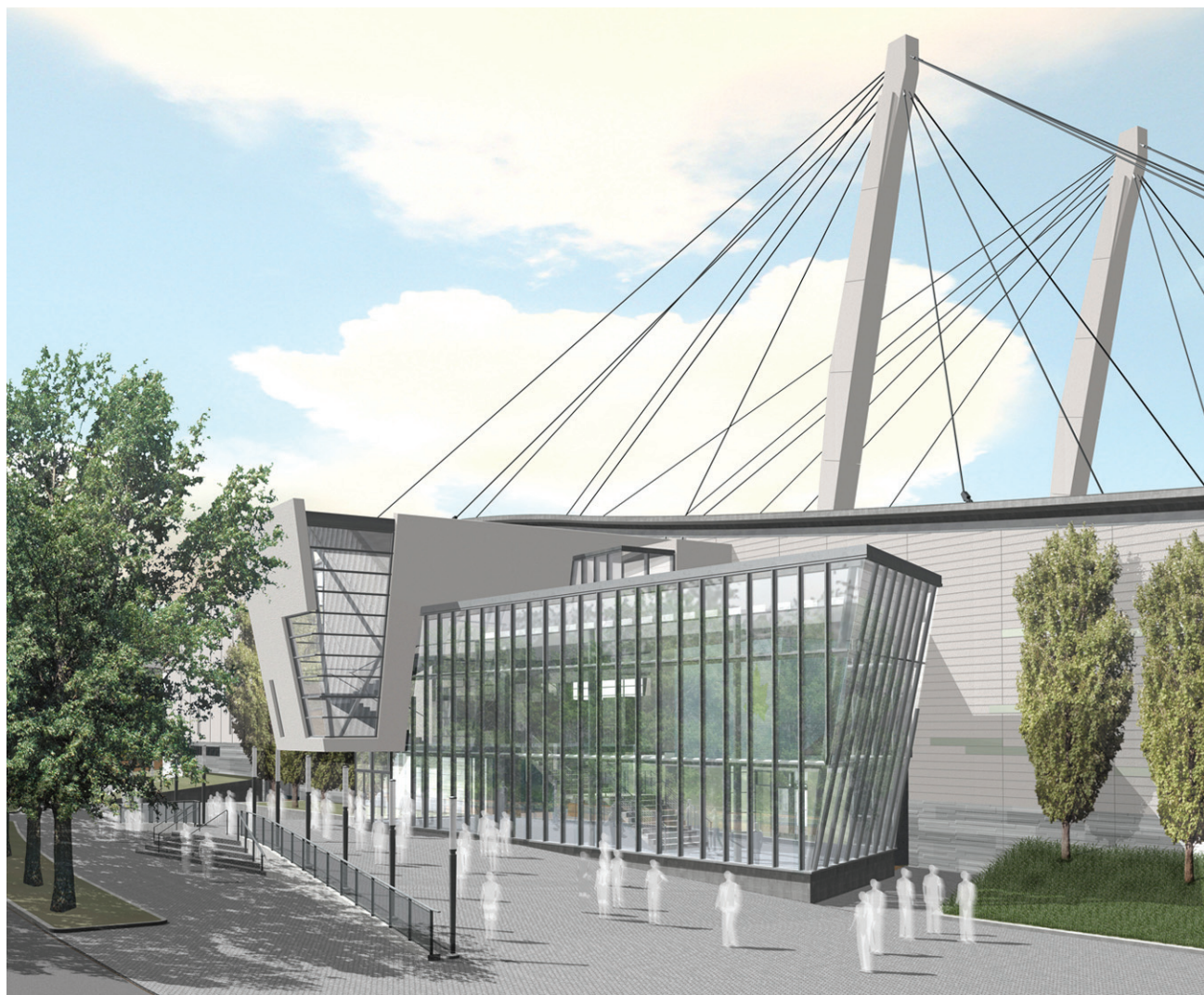
BIGGER—AND WETTER!

Later this fall, you will be able to splish, splash or skate in the largest recreation facility ever built in a New York City park. The new \$64 million Flushing Meadows Corona Park recreation complex, open year-round for competitive and recreational use, will house an indoor Olympic-size pool and a NHL-standard ice rink.

The unique building has a cable-supported roof system that makes it possible to expand it to a larger venue. Inside is a dramatic three-story lobby with the ice rink on the ground floor and the pool and a diving tank on the second floor — with striking views of the park. The movable floor makes the pool a flexible space so that recreational and competitive swimming can co-exist simultaneously. There's also an outdoor terrace off the pool deck.

The project was funded by Mayor Bloomberg and Queens Borough President Helen Marshall and envisioned by former Queens Borough President Claire Schulman.

Combined with numerous cultural events and institutions—the Hall of Science, Queens Museum of Art, Queens Theatre in the Park, Queens Botanical Garden and World's Fair sites—and sports facilities such as the New York Mets' new CitiField and the USTA Tennis Center, the new pool and rink will make Flushing Meadows Corona Park even more of a sports and cultural destination for New Yorkers and visitors alike.



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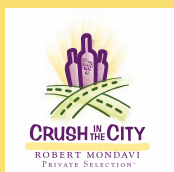


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THE NEW SCHOOL



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FROM LANDFILL TO RE-FRESH KILLS

Most people remember Fresh Kills as Staten Island's landfill. Next fall, however, recreation seekers will have new memories after the construction of recreation fields, walking paths and lawns on the site.

Fresh Kills Park officials and developers plan to break ground this year at Owl Hollow, the first project set for completion by the spring of 2008. Owl Hollow will include four synthetic soccer fields with lighting for evening games. The 21-acre park, next to the Arden Woods along Arthur Kills Road, will also incorporate a comfort station and a loop walkway around the sports grounds.

Architects from New York-based Sage & Coombe designed the comfort stations at Owl Hollow to meet Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification by using "green" roofing and geothermal heating and cooling.

Owl Hollow, which is expected to cost around \$6 million, is funded by Mayor Bloomberg, the City Council and federal grants.

Meanwhile, progress on Fresh Kills Park continues to gain momentum as planners complete the design phase and turn their focus to further construction.

City officials, planners and consultants are working on the Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS), a report that analyzes 27 areas related to the potential environmental impact of future construction at the park. The GEIS considers effects on both the natural environment and surrounding developed land. It will help Fresh Kills decision-makers weigh possible outcomes of their decisions in such areas as zoning, infrastructure, public health, and reviving waterfronts. Fresh Kills developers and officials anticipate issuing the final GEIS by the fall of 2008.

But environmental considerations do not end with the GEIS. Right now, officials at Staten Island's Greenbelt Native Plant Center are working to determine which plantings would best fit at Fresh Kills Park. Over the last two years, staffers from the Plant Center harvested seeds from locations around Staten Island. Officials hope to seal off mounds around Fresh Kills with native plants to prevent erosion and keep the park's landscaping vibrant and local.

TAKE THE TOUR!

Want to learn more about Fresh Kills' makeover from landfill to park? Urban Park Rangers guide visitors through free public tours of the site on select Saturdays through December. Guests can learn more about Fresh Kills' history, observe its rich wildlife, including its diverse bird population and native turtles, and find out how environmentalists determine the design and development of the area.

You can sign up for a free site tour at www.nyc.gov/parks. Each guided visit lasts approximately 1.5 hours.



PAST



PRESENT



FUTURE

SAVING FOR THE FUTURE

Parks Commissioner Adrian Benepe and Scott Medbury, President of Brooklyn Botanic Garden, have announced that the Greenbelt Native Plant Center (GNPC) on Staten Island (a branch of the Department of Parks & Recreation) and the Botanic Garden have joined England's Royal Botanic Gardens in Kew as local partners in RBG Kew's Millennium Seed Bank Project (MSBP), a global effort to provide a "Noah's Ark" for endangered and threatened plant species.

The Millennium Seed Bank Project seeks to collect and store seed of one tenth of the world's plant species by the year 2010 to ensure long-term survival of local genetic stock, including the rarest, most threatened, and most useful species. RBG Kew recently collected its billionth seed from an African bamboo (*Oxytenanthera abyssinica*) in Mali.

The New York City effort, overseen by the federal Bureau of Land Management's Seeds of Success program, which aims to secure vital native seed resources for federal lands, is

unique in that it is the only urban partnership of the Millennium Seed Bank. The Seeds of Success program has collected approximately 3,000 species to date about one sixth of the approximately 18,000 species in the U.S.

"The Greenbelt Native Plant Center has been collecting native seeds locally for over a decade as part of the Parks Department's efforts to grow and provide plants and seed to restore natural areas across the city," Commissioner Benepe said. "This historic partnership with Brooklyn Botanic Garden and Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, allows us to not only participate in a unique and important international conservation effort but also to expand and enhance our efforts to preserve local biodiversity by seedbanking and propagating rare and declining plants here in New York at our newly renovated facilities funded by the MSBP."

The Greenbelt Native Plant Center and Brooklyn Botanic Garden will collect seeds of 100 species of locally important and declining species from the greater New York City region.

These seeds will be placed in long-term storage in Millennium Seed Bank Project facilities in England under conditions that will maintain viability for decades, centuries, or in some instances even millennia. In exchange, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, is providing conservation staff training and technical guidance for Parks and BBG, as well as \$12,000 in funding to upgrade the Greenbelt Native Plant Center's seed-drying facility. The recently completed upgrade allows the facility to be used as a local seed repository for conservation projects in the New York City region.

"We are pleased to be a part of the only urban seed banking initiative within the Millennium Seed Bank," said Dr. Steven Clemants, vice president of science at Brooklyn Botanic Garden. "Through the efforts of BBG's New York Metropolitan Flora project we know which species are declining in the region and which are stable. Seed banking is one of the many important tools for conserving this natural heritage of New York City."

"The global community is becoming increasingly aware of the threat to our natural environment and the urgent need to act aggressively and strategically to safeguard our future and the well-being of this planet," said Michael Way, Americas Coordinator for the MSBP.

The first 15 of the 100 proposed local species have been collected and deposited in MSBP facilities in England. Species collected from the greater New York City region include spotted wintergreen (*Chimaphila maculata*) and sundew (*Drosera intermedia*), Wild oat grass (*Danthonia compressa*) from Central Park, and Black birch (*Betula lenta*) from Staten Island. In 2007 to date, five species collections have been made.

"We are proud to be a major contributor to the RBG Kew Millennium Seed Bank Project," said Seeds of Success Coordinator Peggy Olwell. "We are working to ensure the safekeeping of plants—and therefore, human life—well into the future."

ON YOUR MARK!

KIDS COMPETE IN THE FIVE BOROUGH SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIP

On Saturday, August 11, the 8th annual Five Borough Swimming Championship was held at Hamilton Fish Pool at Pitt and Houston Sts. in Manhattan.

More than 300 young swimmers between the ages of 6 and 18 turned out from all across the city. The young participants had trained throughout the summer at 33 outdoor pools. Their first hurdle in tryouts: prove their ability

to swim 25 yards with reasonably good form. Their hard work paid off when they represented their home boroughs in freestyle, backstroke, butterfly and breaststroke at the championship meet.

The competition was fast and furious, with Brooklyn's team emerging as the winner. Queens took second place, followed by Manhattan, Staten Island and the Bronx.

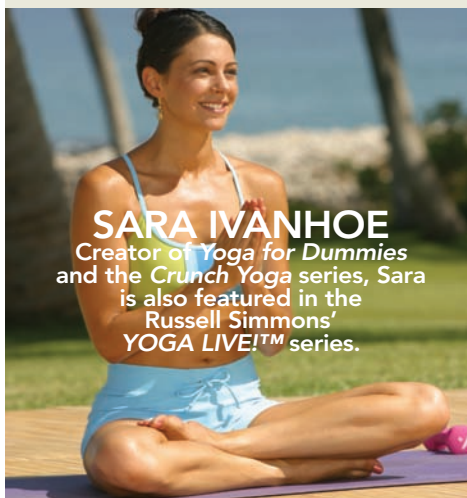
The day's events kicked off with a ceremony befitting the event's celebratory significance. Assistant Commissioner for Recreation Nancy Barthold addressed the swimmers and their parents at the opening ceremony, and First Deputy Commissioner Liam Kavanagh presided over the closing ceremony and presented the trophies to the victorious Brooklyn team.

Win or lose, however, everyone enjoyed meeting their peers from the other boroughs and getting an opportunity for tremendous exercise.

If you're a young swimmer who wants to participate in next year's meet, stay tuned for information on the Parks website: www.nyc.gov/parks.



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BRONX

GENERAL

Sept. 3
Pelham Bay Park
Outdoor Movie Night: Citizen Kane
Bartow-Pell Mansion Museum
Monday, 8:00 p.m.
Pack a picnic, bring a friend and settle in for a night at the movies.

Sept. 7
First Fridays and the Botanicals: Bloom and Blossom Exhibit Opening
Bartow-Pell Mansion Museum
Friday, 5:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Hop on the free City Island's Bronx Seaside Trolley with its first stop — Bartow-Pell. Enjoy the free Exhibit Opening Reception with Live Jazz from Stefynie Rosenfield & All Age Art Workshop. The members of Pelham Art Center's botanical illustration class, led by instructor Janet Shearn, exhibit their graphite drawings and watercolors inspired by the summer gardens at the Mansion.

Sept. 15
"Murder Most Foul! A Peek at the Underside of American Victorian History"
Bartow-Pell Mansion Museum
Saturday, 1:00 p.m.
Join Dr. Harriet Davis-Kram, Assistant Professor at Queens College, for a look at the life of New York City residents during the American Victorian Era. Crime was an everyday affair and neighborhood residents often relied on gangsters and corrupt political organizations for aid. Registration requested. (718) 885-1461 or info@bpmm.org.

Sept. 16
Canoe and Bird Club Exclusive! Hutchinson River Canoeing and Birding
Pelham Bay Park
Sunday, 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. Join us for this canoe expedition up the Hutchinson River. Advanced skill level. To register, call (718) 885.3466 on Sept. 10.

Sept. 22
Introduction to Ethnobotany
Van Cortlandt Park
Saturday, 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.
For generations, humans have used Nature's bounty for a variety of medicinal, cultural, and other purposes. Join us this afternoon for an exploration of the park's nat-

ural resources and how they have been traditionally used. No plants may be removed from the park.

Sept. 23
Classic Car Show
Orchard Beach
Sunday, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Travel back in time to the days of drive-in movies and sock hops with food, special guest appearances and lots of entertainment.

Sept. 29
Bronx River Festival
Bronx Zoo Riverwalk
Saturday, 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Join the Bronx River Alliance for the Bronx River Festival featuring the procession of the Golden Ball. The Festival will include food, prizes, and live entertainment for adults and children on the banks of the beautiful Bronx River. Admission to the Festival is free! For more information, visit www.bronxriver.org.

Golden Ball Procession
Along the Bronx River, Various Locations
Saturday, 9:00 a.m.
Join us for an all day celebration along the Bronx River. Starting in the morning with a canoe procession, the event continues with nature walks and river improvement projects.

Sept. 30
Life in the Colonies
Van Cortlandt House Museum
Sunday, 11:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.
Colonial reenactments and craftspeople in period dress offer a peek into the 18th century.

SPORTS

Sept. 8
Tidal Paddle
Hunts Points Riverside Park
Saturday, 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Explore the tidal flats of the Bronx River.

Nature Scavenger Hunt
Van Cortlandt Park
Nature Center
Saturday, 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Kids of all ages, come hunt for nature's treasures! Prizes!

Sept. 9
Split Rock Hike
Pelham Bay Park
Sunday, 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Join the Urban Park Rangers for a nature and cultural history hike through the Thomas Pell Wildlife Sanctuary to famous Split Rock. From ceremonial site for the Siwanoy people, to hiding place for colonist Anne Hutchinson, to peace site for Thomas Pell, to battleground in the Revolution, this rock has seen it all.

Second Sunday Cycling
Bronx Park
French Charley Playground
Join us for a 5-mile bicycle tour, at a gentle pace, along the Bronx River Greenway. Fun for the entire family.

Sept. 15
Upper River Run
Olinville Parkhouse
Saturday, 9:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Canoe through the Bronx River Forest and the New York Botanical Garden

BROOKLYN

GENERAL

It's Pedal Boat Season!
Lakeside, near Wollman Rink
Thursdays - Sundays and public school holidays
12:00 noon - 6:00 p.m.
Cruise around Brooklyn's only freshwater lake in a pedal boat. It's so much fun, you won't even notice you're exercising! Pedal boats seat up to four people. \$15 for a one-hour rental, plus a \$10 refundable deposit. Kids (or the young at heart) can also have a fabulous pedal boat birthday, with food included – just call (718) 287-5252 to book your party.

Sewing Club
Lefferts Historic House
Fridays, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.
Learn basic sewing techniques by starting a patchwork quilt at this intergenerational drop-in program. All skill levels welcome.

Introduction to Birdwatching
Prospect Park Audubon Center
Saturdays, 12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. Discover more about the natural wonders and fascinating feathered inhabitants of Brooklyn's flagship park. Tours are fun, friendly, and informative, led by Audubon teacher/ naturalists. Call (718) 287-3400, extension 101, to register; drop-ins welcome.

Lullwater Exploration
Prospect Park Audubon Center
Saturdays and Sundays 12:00 noon - 12:45 p.m.
Take an enchanting guided tour aboard the whisper-quiet electric boat Independence. Tour the Lullwater, one of Prospect Park's most scenic habitats for flora and fauna — and Brooklyn's only freshwater lake. Informative, friendly Audubon boat captains lead the cruises, making them a great time for seasoned birders and budding boaters alike. Just \$10 for adults, \$6 for kids. Binoculars provided.

Birdwatching Cruise
Prospect Park Audubon Center
Saturdays and Sundays,

1:15 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Glide through time on the Birdwatching Cruise. Learn about the history of Prospect Park, from prehistoric times to the present day, while touring one of Prospect Park's most scenic habitats for turtles and water birds. Friendly, seasoned Audubon boat captains make these trips fun and informative for all ages. Just \$10 for adults, \$6 for kids.

Discover Tours
Prospect Park Audubon Center
Saturdays and Sundays, 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Explore the secrets of nature with teacher/ naturalists from the Prospect Park Audubon Center. Learn how to look for and identify birds as you explore Prospect Park's most scenic landscapes. Discover tours are a great way to learn about all facets of life within this beautiful park.

Sept. 9
Farmers Market & Garden Workshop: Food Preservation
Wyckoff Farmhouse Museum
Sunday, 1:00 p.m. - 3 :00 p.m
Fresh, local, healthy foods for sale in M. Fidler Wyckoff Park. Plus, learn the secrets of canning and pickling with a hands-on demonstration.

Sept. 15
International Coastal Clean-Up
Saturday, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Join nature lovers all over the planet in cleaning up our shorelines! Volunteers help clear the shoreline of Brooklyn's only freshwater lake, preserving a crucial wildlife habitat for hundreds of aquatic species. Meet at the Rustic Shelter near the Wollman Rink at Prospect Park Lake. Call (718) 965-8960 for more information.

Sept. 15 & 16
Harvest Days: Apple Picking
Prospect Park - Lefferts Historic House
Saturday and Sunday, 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Help harvest the apples from our very own apple tree and make apple cider, apple pudding, applesauce, and apple butter. Learn how to preserve apples for the winter months.

Sept. 16
Farmers Market & Garden Workshop: Cooking Fresh
Wyckoff Farmhouse Museum
Sunday, 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Fresh, local, healthy foods for sale in the M. Fidler Wyckoff Park, with rotating workshops and demonstrations on gardening topics. Join us for a demonstration of cooking with fresh seasonal vegeta-

bles.

Sept. 22 & 23
Harvest Days: Hot Potatoes
Prospect Park - Lefferts Historic House
Saturday and Sunday, 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Bring in the crops! Harvest and cook potatoes, churn butter, run potato sack races, watch a spinster — a woman who spins for a living — turning flax into linen thread; participate in a gourd instrument-making workshop.

Hawk Weekend
Prospect Park Audubon Center
Saturdays and Sundays, 12:00 noon - 5:00 p.m.
Get up-close and personal with live birds of prey and learn about the resident raptors of Prospect Park. Discover how these creatures raise their young, catch their prey, and build their homes. Hand puppets, hawk costumes, interactive games, and crafts.

Sept. 23
Farmers Market & Garden Workshop: Medicinal Herbs
Wyckoff Farmhouse Museum
Sunday, 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Fresh, local, healthy foods for sale in M. Fidler Wyckoff Park, with rotating workshops and demonstrations on gardening topics. Learn about different plants used for medicinal medicine and basic preparation.

Sept. 30
Farmers Market & Garden Workshop: Extending Your Growing Season
Wyckoff Farmhouse Museum
Sunday, 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Fresh, local, healthy foods for sale in M. Fidler Wyckoff Park, with rotating workshops and demonstrations on gardening topics. Plus, join us to learn about planting for Fall Harvest, Season Extension, Cold-frames/ Hoop-house (construction) and Cover-cropping.

KIDS

Prospect Park Green Team
Prospect Park Audubon Center
Wednesdays, 3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Make friends, discover nature, and become a part of the Park! Join the Green Team – a drop-in, after-school program for 9- to 13-year-olds who help to conserve Prospect Park through fun and engaging activities. Audubon Center.

Ride the Prospect Park Carousel!
Prospect Park Children's Corner
Thursdays - Sundays and public school holidays

12:00 noon - 5:00 p.m.
Prospect Park's historic 1912 Carousel is spectacular. At just \$1.50 per ride, kids can take a spin on hand-carved horses and listen to great carousel music from a classic Wurlitzer organ. Books of 6 tickets are available for \$8. \$100 buys a year's worth of unlimited rides for a family of four.

Nature Crafts
Prospect Park Audubon Center
Saturdays and Sundays, 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Looking for something to do with the kids? Teacher/ naturalists at the Audubon Center are available each weekend, leading structured, fun, and engaging arts activities for children. Kids create toys and puppets.

Early American Crafts
Prospect Park - Lefferts Historic House
Saturdays and Sundays, 2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Make arts and crafts the old-fashioned way.

Sept. 20
Puppets in the Park
Fort Greene Park
Thursday, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00p.m.
"Cinderella Samba," presented by Puppeteers from the Swedish Cottage Marionette Theatre, is set in the lush landscape of Brazil. This retelling of the timeless fairy tale finds Cinderella and her Prince in a Samba contest at the Carnival Ball.

ARTS & CULTURE

Sept. 8
Fort Greene Fest
Saturday, 12 noon-11:00 p.m.
Fort Greene Park comes to life with food, music and movies. Local restaurants offer their fine fare as local bands play selections from their (hopefully) soon-to-be classic repertoire. The day will be capped by headliner Talib Kweli and movies by Rosie Perez and others.

Sept. 15
The Downtown Brooklyn Partnership presents: Tulivu-Donna Cumberbatch & The Magnificent Trio
Fort Green Park
Saturday, 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Enjoy the classic vocal stylings of Tulivu-Donna Cumberbatch with Donald Smith on piano, Rachiim Ausar-Sahu on bass and Mark Johnson on drums.

Circus Amok
Fort Greene Park
Saturday, 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Circus Amok reinvents the traditional circus form, borrowing drag fabulousness from Charles Ludlam's The

ater of the Ridiculous, large-scale transformation using whole-body masks from Bread and Puppet Theater, and the outdoor setting and verbal rhythm and repertoire from the sideshows.

Dance for Peace
Fort Greene Park
Saturday, 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
A live original dance event on themes of peace, with performances by Sokolow Theater Dance Ensemble, Taranco Dance, independent NYC choreographers and the New York City Radical Cheerleaders.

MANHATTAN

GENERAL

Sept. 1, 8, 15 & 22

Mike Feller's Inwood Nature Walks
Inwood Hill Park
Saturday, 8:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m.
Mike Feller, Chief Naturalist for Parks & Recreation, leads nature walks in Inwood Hill Park. Mike's morning walks offer a great opportunity to see migrating songbirds and to learn how the ecosystems of Inwood Hill Park influence which plants and animals can thrive there.

Sept. 2

Heather Garden Walking Tours
Inwood Hill Park
Sunday, 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Our expert horticulturists will share garden secrets and explain how this landmarked garden came to be. Come once or come every week and see how the garden evolves throughout the seasons

Sept. 15

Little Red Lighthouse Festival
Fort Washington Park
Saturday, 12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Celebrate Manhattan's most beloved lighthouse with a reading of the "The Little Red Lighthouse and the Great Gray Bridge." Enjoy live music and lighthouse tours.

Sept. 16

Summer on the Hudson: 5th Annual West Side County Fair
Riverside Park South, Park-wide
Sunday, 1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Enjoy a little country right here in Manhattan at our Annual County Fair with carnival rides and games, music, square dancing, sideshow performances, pony rides, and more!

Sept. 23

Wilderness Survival
Inwood Hill Park

Sunday, 12:00 noon- 1:00 p.m.
Could you survive if lost in the wilderness? Join our Urban Park Ranger survival experts for a workshop on expecting the unexpected, and being ready when it happens.

Sept. 24

Bryant Park Knits
Bryant Park
Monday, 2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Knit New York provides free instruction, to beginners and experts. Yarn and needles are provided.

Sept. 29

Health magazine's "Here Comes the Sun"
Rumsey Playfield, Central Park
Saturday, 11:00 am - 4:00 pm
A Celebration of Yoga and Well-Being .

Sept. 29 & 30

Signature Parks Citywide Event - Annual Citywide Bocce Tournament
Locations Citywide
Saturday & Sunday, 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Join New Yorkers young and old as you test your skills on bocce courts around the city.

Sept. 30

Falconry Extravaganza with the Urban Park Rangers
Central Park
Sunday, 12:00 noon - 3:00p.m.
The Urban Park Rangers are on hand to show off falcons, hawks and eagles as the birds display their spectacular aerial feats.

SPORTS

Sept. 1

Weekday Fitness Walking Program
Fort Tryon Park
Tuesdays & Thursdays
7:30 a.m.- 8:30 a.m.
Our fitness walks are conducted by a certified fitness instructor who leads you through the park for one fun hour of walking, stretching, strengthening and body toning. The program is free, but advance registration is required.

Sunday Fitness Walking Program
Fort Tryon Park
Sundays, 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. (see listing above).
Summer on the Hudson: Kayaking on the Hudson
Hudson River Park South
Saturday, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00p.m.
Join the Downtown Boat-house for 20-minute instructional paddles, and explore the Hudson River first-hand. Please wear a bathing suit or shorts and a T-shirt, and know how to swim.

Sept. 5, 12 & 19

Summer on the Hudson: Yoga - Evening Salute to the

Sun
Hudson River Park South
Wednesdays,
6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.
End your day with relaxing Hatha yoga in a beautiful sunset setting. Suitable for all fitness levels. Wear loose, comfortable clothing and bring your own mat.

Sept. 29

Fort Tryon Nature Walks with Mike Feller
Fort Tryon Park
Saturday, 8:00 a.m.-10:00a.m.
(See listing above).

ARTS & CULTURE

Hands-On History: Family Trees
King Manor Museum
Saturdays, 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Rufus King's descendants know about their ancestors; do you? Get in the spirit this month by starting a family tree. There are two design options to choose from — perfect for youth and families. \$1 materials fee.

Sept. 6

Presentation in the Parlor
Merchant's House Museum
Thursday, 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Join the Museum staff every Thursday for an in-depth tour and thematic presentation. Topics include Food & Cooking, Servants, Mid-19th Century Fashion, Classical Architecture & Design, True Ghost Stories, and more. Visit www.merchantshouse.com for details. Free with regular admission.

Evening Stars: Palladium Nights
The Battery
Thursday, 7:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m.
Ballet Hispanico and the Afro-Latin Jazz Orchestra with Arturo O'Farrill in Palladium Nights celebrate the music and dance of the Golden Age of Latin Jazz when mambo was king, Tito led the band and dancing was sensational! The evening will sizzle with the passion and drama that define Latin social dancing at its very best!

Sept. 7

Summer on the Hudson: GlobeSonic Sound System Dance Party
Riverside Park South
Friday, 7:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.
Join hundreds of others to dance the night away at our open-air summer dance parties with the GlobeSonic Sound System DJ's accompanied by the Body Temple Drummers.

Evening Stars: American Dance Masterpieces
The Battery
Friday, 7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
This evening features dance companies that have re-

ceived reconstruction grants through the NEA's American Masterpieces initiative that celebrates the extraordinary evolution of dance and choreography in the United States.

Sept. 8

Evening Stars: Paul Taylor Dance Company
The Battery
Saturday, 7:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m.
The third night of Evening Stars at the Battery will include a New York premiere from the Paul Taylor Dance Company.

Sept. 9

Summer on the Hudson: Let's Dance!
Riverside Park South
Sunday, 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Learn to dance like a pro at these salsa, swing, and hustle lessons and group dances led by top instructors from Soho Dance Studio.

Evening Stars: Celebration of Tap
The Battery
7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Evening Stars 2007 concludes with a performance featuring different tap groups and a live music trio (electric piano, drums, string bass) on stage. Co-produced by Tony Waag at American Tap Dance Foundation.

Sept. 15

Little Red Lighthouse Festival sponsored by Con Edison
Fort Washington Park
Saturday, 12:00 noon - 5:00 p.m.
Celebrate Manhattan's most beloved lighthouse with celebrity readings of "The Little Red Lighthouse and the Great Gray Bridge," live music, hayrides, lighthouse tours, and activities for children and much, much more!

Sept. 20

12th Annual Harvest in the Square
Union Square Park
Thursday, 7:30 p.m.- 9:30 p.m.
(General Admission tickets) 6:00 p.m. (Friends of Union Square Park VIP tickets)
Harvest in the Square is a celebration of New York's Best Tasting Neighborhood, featuring some of the hottest culinary masters from the Union Square district preparing their signature dishes with fresh farm produce from our friends at the Greenmarket Farmers Market, accompanied by wines from New York State and around the globe. Presented by the Union Square Partnership. To purchase Friends of Union Square Park VIP tickets for early admission, or to discuss sponsorship opportunities, call the Event Hotline at (212) 460-1208 or email info@harvestinthesquare.org. General

admission tickets can be purchased through Telecharge at (212) 239-6200 or www.telecharge.com.

Sept. 23

Summer on the Hudson: Let's Dance!
Riverside Park South
Sunday, 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Learn to dance like a pro at these salsa, swing, and hustle lessons and group dances led by top instructors from Soho Dance Studio.

Central Park
Sunday, 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Jazz Dancing at the Dana Discovery Center
Presented by the Central Park Conservancy and Museum for African Art. Learn basic jazz dance steps and understand the relevance of individuality and improvisation at this free workshop.

Sept. 30

Medieval Festival
Fort Tryon Park
Sunday, 12:00 noon - 6:00 p.m.
Fort Tryon Park is transformed into a medieval market town decorated with bright banners and processional flags. Performers, guests and festival-goers dress in medieval costume. Authentic medieval music, dance, magic, and minstrelsy, as well as jugglers and jesters greet visitors. The afternoon is concluded with a thrilling joust by four knights on horseback. Costumed vendors will be on hand to demonstrate and sell a wide variety of medieval crafts as well as food and drink.

KIDS

Sept. 15

Little Red Lighthouse Festival
Little Red Lighthouse, Fort Washington Park
Saturday, 12:00 noon
Visitors can enjoy hayrides, face painting, the antics of a stiltwalker, live music and celebrity readings of Hildegard Swift's classic story, "The Little Red Lighthouse and the Great Gray Bridge," which made the lighthouse famous.

Sept. 22

Summer on the Hudson: Kid Acts! Tap Happens!
Riverside Park South
Saturday, 2:00 p.m. - 4:00p.m.
Come learn from master choreographers and dancers at this afternoon of new tap dance, featuring young and old hoofers, live music, and improvisation. See what your feet can do at the free-for-all tap jam. Fun for all ages.

QUEENS

GENERAL

Sept. 6

Movies Under the Bridge: The Last Mimzy
Little Bay Park
Thursday, 8:00 p.m.
Free Outdoor Movie over-looking beautiful Long Island Sound. Please bring chairs or a blanket.

Sept. 9

26th Annual Antique Motorcycle Show
Queens County Farm Museum
Sunday, 11:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.
Rare makes and models of motorcycles will be on display. Hogs of a different kind can be found at the petting zoo, along with hayrides and farmhouse tours. Call (718) 347-3276 for more information.

Sept. 15 & 16

24th Annual Queens County Fair
Queens County Farm Museum
Saturday & Sunday, 11:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
A traditional County Fair with blue ribbon competitions in livestock, produce, home crafts, arts and crafts and more. Enjoy the Amazing Maize Maze, pie-eating and corn-husking contests, pig racing, make-your-own-scarecrow, hayrides, petting zoo, carnival rides and mid-way. Visit our Bavarian Garden, Irish and German bands, craft and food vendors. Fun for the entire family! Admission: Adults \$6.00, Children (12 and under) \$3.00.

Sept. 23

Junta Hispana
Sunday, 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Flushing Meadows Corona Park
This event serves to educate the Hispanic community on the health issues and unique beauty of over 20 Spanish-speaking countries.

Sept. 29

It's My Bark Day
Rockaway Beach
Saturday, 11:30 a.m.- 2:30 p.m.
This event has it all with activities and contests for adults, kids and their dogs! Activities include pet adoptions, doggie costume contests and giveaways.

KIDS

Sept. 8

Back to School Festival
Little Bay Park
Saturday, 12 noon - 4:00 p.m.
Beat the stress of returning to school with an afternoon of fun activities including games, rides, arts & crafts and free school giveaways.

Sept. 29

Little Bay Festival celebrates National Estuaries Day
Alley Pond
Environmental Center
Saturday, 11:00a.m.- 4:00p.m.
Celebrate our Bay and estuaries and learn how to protect them. Free fun activities including craft projects, walks, canoe rides (must be 8 years or older), music, and more.

STATEN ISLAND

GENERAL

Sept. 8

Old Fashion Yard Sale
Greenbelt Nature Center
Saturday, 9:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.
Twenty-one tables of treasures, unusual items and collectibles at bargain basement prices something - for everyone. Refreshments and restrooms available.

Sept. 8 & 9

Richmond County Fair
Historic Richmond Town
Saturday, 11:00 a.m.- 7:00p.m.
(rides close 10:00 p.m.)
Sunday, 11:00 a.m. - 7:00p.m.
(rides close 8:00 p.m.)

Amusement rides, music entertainment, arts & crafts competitions, contests. Come visit Dondi the Performing Elephant, and say hello to the Backyardigans. Come cheer for your favorite racing pigs! \$15 per person, including amusement rides, competitions, music and contests. Children under 5 free.

Sept. 15

231st Anniversary September Celebration
Saturday, 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
Conference House Park
This event commemorates the Sept. 11, 1776 Peace Conference with historic house and garden tours, reenactments and 18th century crafts, music and cooking.

Sept. 23

SI Council for Animal Welfare Dog Walk
Clove Lakes Park
Sunday, 7:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
If you're a dog-lover, this event is for you. Bring your furry friend (or friends) for a day of fun both people and pets can enjoy.

Hike

Greenbelt Nature Center

Saturday, 10:00 a.m.

Pack your backpack and join the National Park Service and the Greenbelt staff for an extended 3-hour-plus hike from the woods of the Greenbelt to the sands of Gateway National Park. Dress appropriately for hiking. Recommended for children ages 8 and up.

Sept. 29

Leukemia Foundation's "Lite the Night"
Midland Beach
Saturday, 6:00 p.m.-10:00p.m.
Help light the night and ignite the hopes of people afflicted with leukemia.

Sept. 30

Neighborhood Concert Series 2007
Greenbelt Nature Center
Sunday, 3:00 p.m.
Come enjoy Nylon Wound and classical guitar duo Gregory Askins and Joseph Parise amid the serene beauty of the Greenbelt Nature Center.

KIDS

Sept. 15

Teach your Child to

Ride a Bike

Wolfe Pond Park
An easy, hands-free, crash-free and low-stress way for parents to get their children rolling on two wheels. This class teaches the basics of balancing, starting, stopping, and steering a bike. Pre-registration required at <http://www.BikeNewYork.org> or by calling (212) 932 2453, extension 159.

Gone Fishin

Willowbrook Park
Saturday, 12:00 noon -3:00p.m.
Fishing event for children with prizes awarded for biggest, longest, fattest and first fish caught, and a special prize for the best "one that got away" story

Sept. 28

Movie Night in the Greenbelt
Greenbelt Nature Center
Friday, 7:00 p.m.
Join the Nature Center staff for Over the Hedge, a movie about a raccoon that fools a mismatched family of forest creatures into helping him repay a debt. Refreshments for purchase. Reservations required.

Sometimes problems can be too much.



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Receive Help for:

- Depression
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- Debts
- Family Problems

Call toll Free 24Hr. Help line 1888-332-4141 Free Spiritual Evaluation



PERFORMING A MONUMENTAL TASK

Working through the summer's heat—and dodging the occasional thunderstorm—the Citywide Monuments Conservation Program had a successful 11th field season. The privately funded Parks program was founded in 1997 with two primary objectives: to preserve Parks' permanent collection of art and monuments, and to train college and graduate-level interns entering the profession. Since its inception, more than 60 interns have been trained. They have helped conserve 47 major monuments and performed maintenance (often annually) on more than 85 additional monuments.

This year the program was joined by two new conservation managers, John Saunders and Christine Djuric. Saunders has years of experience in sculpting and casting bronze statuary, as well as providing conservation services in the private sector. Djuric holds a master's degree in historic preservation and has a decade of experience working with historic houses and monuments.

The two conservators lead a team of four interns who have studied or are enrolled in advanced programs in restoration and historic preservation. The apprentices include Sara Casten, an

MS candidate at the University of Vermont, Jacqueline Gulick, an MFA candidate at the Savannah College of Art and Design, Sara Strohmeier, an art history graduate of the University of Texas, and Akimbo Akinnuoye, who is enrolled in the antiques restoration program at the Fashion Institute of Technology.

Conservations vary from year to year, and with each new project, interns are given the opportunity to learn and experience the neighborhoods that erected the monuments.

Jonathan Kuhn, Director of Art & Antiquities, sees the Citywide Monuments Conservation Program and its staff and apprentices as equal opportunity restorers. "Artworks and monuments are important to the communities in which they reside and should be accorded the care and respect they deserve," he says.

This summer, while conserving the marble Christopher Columbus bust by Bronx stone-carver Attilio Piccirilli, the apprentices helped to preserve an important part of the borough's Italian-American cultural legacy—and enjoyed delicious Italian lunches on Arthur Avenue!



TEACH YOUR CHILD TO RIDE A BIKE

The Parks Department has teamed up with Bike New York to present "Teach Your Child to Ride a Bike." It's free and it's fun, and it's a great way to get your child interested in a healthy, exciting and environmentally friendly mode of transportation.

On Saturday, Sept. 15, Parks staff and volunteers will be on hand at a two city parks to help your child learn how to ride. All

you have to do is bring your child, a bike — and a helmet.

The program will be offered at the following locations:

- Tompkins Square Park, Manhattan
- Midland Beach, Staten Island

"Teach Your Child to Ride a Bike" is sponsored by Parks & Recreation, the Department of Health, the Department of Trans-

portation, Bike New York, and Transportation Alternatives.

Pre-registration is required. Download the application from the Bike New York website (www.bikenewyork.org) or call (212) 932-2453, extension 159.

And get ready to saddle up!

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"I first heard about Episcopal Social Services through a friend of mine who was a foster parent. I was her back-up/ babysitter and decided to become a foster/adoptive parent full time in 1998. I have adopted 2 of the children placed with me, and hope to adopt more someday. I have 4 grown children, so becoming a foster parent to young children has made me more active! I get out more and feel younger than I have in many years. There are no words to express how I feel when I get to play with them, or watch them sleep peacefully at night. Knowing that I have made a difference in their lives fills me up inside. Whenever I need anything, I know I can call my caseworker at the agency. They are always supportive and provide fun trips for the kids and me to go on. Having these children in my life motivates me to be a better parent and a better person! Become a foster parent, you won't regret it."

- Francis

HELP REBUILD A FAMILY IN YOUR COMMUNITY!

If you or someone you know is interested in becoming a foster parent, don't hesitate to call us! The children of our communities are in desperate need of help.
Be a part of the solution.

1-888-611-KIDS

LOCATIONS

BRONX

HUNTS POINT

765 Manida St. bet. Spofford & Lafayette Aves.
718.860.5544

OWEN DOLEN, Westchester Square
1400 East Tremont at Westchester Square
718.822.4282

ST. JAMES, Fordham
2530 Jerome Ave. at 192nd St.
718.822.4271

ST. MARY'S, Mott Haven
450 East 145th St. at St. Ann's Ave.
718.402.5155

WILLIAMSBRIDGE OVAL, Norwood
3225 Reservoir Oval at East 208th St. & Bainbridge Ave.
718.994.6785

BROOKLYN

BROWNSVILLE

1555 Linden Blvd. at Christopher St.
718.345.2706

HERBERT VON KING, Bedford Stuyvesant
670 Lafayette Ave. bet. Tompkins & Marcy Aves.
718.622.2082

METROPOLITAN POOL, Williamsburg
261 Bedford Ave. at Metropolitan Ave.
718.599.5707

RED HOOK

155 Bay St. at Henry St.
718.722.3211

ST. JOHN'S, Crown Heights
1251 Prospect Place bet. Troy & Schenectady Aves.
718.771.2787

SUNSET PARK

43rd St. at 7th Ave.
718.965.6533

MANHATTAN

ALFRED E. SMITH, Lower East Side
80 Catherine St. at Cherry St.
212.285.0300

ASSER LEVY, Kips Bay
501 Asser Levy Place at East 23rd St.
212.447.2020

CHELSEA

430 West 25th St.
212.255.3705

EAST 54TH STREET, Turtle Bay
348 East 54th St. bet. 1st & 2nd Aves.
212.754.5411

HAMILTON FISH, Lower East Side
128 Pitt St. at Houston St.
212.387.7687

HANSBOROUGH, Harlem
35 West 134th St. bet. Lenox & Fifth Aves.
212.234.9603

LOCATIONS

HIGHBRIDGE, Washington Heights
2301 Amsterdam Ave. at 173rd Street
(212) 927-2012

J. HOOD WRIGHT, Washington Heights
351 Fort Washington Ave. at 174th St.
212.927.1563

JACKIE ROBINSON, Hamilton Heights
85 Bradhurst Ave. bet. 146th & 147th St.
212.234.9607

MORNINGSIDE PARK, Morningside Heights
West 123rd St. & Morningside Drive
212.280.0209

PELHAM FRITZ, Harlem
18 Mount Morris Park West at East 122nd St.
212.860.1380

RECREATION CENTER 59, Upper West Side
West 59th St. bet. 10th & 11th Aves.
212.397.3159

THOMAS JEFFERSON, East Harlem
2180 1st Ave. at East 112th St.
212.860.1383

TONY DAPOLITO, West Village
1 Clarkson St. at 7th Ave. South
212.242.5228

QUEENS

ARROW

Astoria
(718) 349-3408
35-30 35th Street
(718) 349-3408

CUNNINGHAM PARK, Hollis
(718) 349-3408
193rd Street & Union Turnpike
(718) 740-1999

DETECTIVE KEITH WILLIAMS, South Jamaica
(718) 349-3408
106-16 173rd Place bet. 106th & 107th Aves.
(718) 523-6912

LOST BATTALION HALL, Rego Park
93-29 Queens Blvd. at 62nd Ave.
718.263.1163

ROY WILKINS, St. Albans
177th St. at Baisley Blvd.
718.276.8686

SORRENTINO, Far Rockaway
1848 Cornaga Ave. at Beach 19th St.
718.471.4818

VIC HANSON, Rochdale
(718) 349-3408
133rd Street & Guy R. Brewer Boulevard
(718) 978-1536

STATEN ISLAND

CROMWELL, Stapleton
Pier 6 at Murray Hulbert Ave.
718.816.6172

City of New York
Parks & Recreation
Michael R. Bloomberg, Mayor
Adrian Benepe, Commissioner
www.nyc.gov/parks



The Parks Afterschool Program seeks to enhance communities and enrich the lives of children in the City of New York by providing safe, supportive, and structured environments that support overall health and well-being. Parks Afterschool offers quality educational, recreational, and cultural programs that promote the social, physical, intellectual, and emotional development of children and youth.

PARKS AFTERSCHOOL

FREE FOR CHILDREN AGES 6-13



City of New York
Parks & Recreation



ACADEMICS



ARTS



ATHLETICS



ACADEMICS



ARTS

On any afternoon of the week, visit one of the 34 Parks Afterschool locations and you will see children ages 6-13 years old participating in a wide variety of recreational, cultural, and educational programs. Three thousand children in the City of New York are served by the Parks Afterschool Program between 3:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, the time when school-aged children are most in need of being in safe, supportive environments. Parks Afterschool youth receive homework help, participate in fitness activities, and explore arts & culture opportunities. Parks Afterschool programs complement what children are learning in schools and strengthen their sense of belonging in the communities in which they live.

At Parks Afterschool, young athletes participate in a range of physical fitness activities. Youth are encouraged to develop their abilities in various team sports and learn new skills, such as swimming.



Parks Afterschool youth receive academic support from staff to complete homework and reinforce classroom learning. In addition, Parks Afterschool youth can utilize Computer Resource Centers to improve their literacy and computer skills.



Parks Afterschool youth develop their creative minds and bodies in various arts and culture programs, led by trained professionals. Among the arts courses offered are creative writing, dance, drama, music and visual art.



Registration is available from September through June. For more information about the Parks Afterschool Program, call 311. To register your child, contact your nearest Recreation Center.

ATHLETICS



ACADEMICS



ARTS



ATHLETICS



ACADEMICS



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Falconry Extravaganza

FALCONRY EXTRAVAGANZA

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 12PM - 4PM

Get WILD with the Urban Park Rangers!
Bring the whole family
See birds of prey up close and personal, then watch their aerobatics as they soar and dive before your eyes!

bp
The Urban Park Rangers thank BP for its continued support of our Wildlife Reintroduction Program. Visit the Ranger tent and find out how BP and the Urban Park Rangers brought the American bald eagle to New York City.

East Meadow, Central Park
(Enter park at 99th Street and 5th Avenue)

Look, up in the air! It's a bird! It's a plane! It's definitely a bird! In fact, it's one of the raptors in the 10th annual Falconry Extravaganza in Central Park's East Meadow on Sunday, Sept. 30. Join New York City's Urban Park Rangers and wildlife experts at this free educational event and watch as nine different species of birds of prey from all over the world—including the Bald Eagle, the Eurasian Kestrel, the Red-tailed Hawk and the Asian Brown Wood Owl—soar through the sky looking for smaller creatures to devour. Enter the park at East 99th St. and Fifth Ave.—and keep your eye on the sky!

LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION!

On Aug. 23, the City's young filmmakers showed off their talents at the 4th annual RECYouth Multi-Media Festival: Made in NY. The festival, a celebration of the video and audio work of youngsters ages 6 to 19, was held at the Directors Guild of America Theatre and featured digital video and audio projects selected by a jury of RECYouth participants. Everything from the screenings to the awards ceremony was organized by the program's young participants.

As always, the festival boasted the year's best youth-produced films from all five boroughs, selected by the distinguished 2007 Summer Youth Board. This year's theme, Film Noir, added a sense of cinematic drama and an air of sophistication.

In addition to this free screening, photo projects from the RECYouth Hometown He-

roes Sony Spiderman project and the Sunset Park Girl's Tech Club were on display. The event also featured musical performances by Crown Heights Live.

The first RECYouth (Reel Education & Communication for Youth) Multimedia Festival took place four years ago at Harlem's Jackie Robinson Recreation Center. With support from the Mayor's Office of Film, Theatre and Broadcasting, the program has expanded, handling more and more submissions and adding musical performances and a photo gallery to the multimedia mix.

Teaching City kids the skills necessary to become digital storytellers, musicians and filmmakers through hands-on, pre-employment technology and arts instruction, RECYouth offers both after-school and teen programs



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URBAN PARK RANGERS CALENDAR

SATURDAY, SEPT. 1

Bronx

Bird Club / Van Cortlandt Park 9 a.m. / VCNC Once a month, every month, come bird with us! If you don't have binoculars, we'll provide!

Brooklyn

Early Birding / Marine Park 8 a.m. / SMNC

Prolific Ponds / Prospect Park 11a.m. / Meet at the Audubon Center

Revolutionary Fort Greene / Fort Greene Park 1 p.m. / FGVC

Manhattan

Across the River: Geology of the Palisades / Fort Washington Park 10 a.m. / Meet at Little Red Lighthouse The Hudson River is a geologic marvel. Join us for an exploration of the geologic history of the Palisades sill on the Jersey side, without leaving the park.

Fort to Fort Adventure / Battery Park 9 a.m. /Meet at Castle Clinton Join the Urban Park Rangers and the National Park Service Rangers for a full day exploring the historic forts of the Lower Hudson River. Tour Castle Clinton and historic Battery Park, then take the ferry to Governors Island. To register, call (212) 628-2345 on Aug. 27.

Queens

Wading Birds / Flushing Meadows Corona Park 9 a.m. / Meet at Mauro Playground (Park Drive East and 73rd Terrace.)

A Walk Back in Time / Fort Totten 2 p.m. / FTRS

Staten Island

Beginner Birding / Willowbrook Park 8 a.m. / Meet by comfort station

Canoe Adventure: The Pond That Time Forgot / Willowbrook Park 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. / Meet by comfort station Take a paddle back in time with the Urban Park Rangers to discover the origins of Willowbrook Pond. First come, first served. Attendance at previous basic canoeing program required. Bring your imagination.

Holistic Animal Seminar/ Blue Heron Park 1 p.m. / Blue Heron Nature Center Understand the deep meaning of what holistic pet care really is with our guest speaker Barbara Meyers. You'll discover a variety of natural and safe remedies for pet care. Please do not bring your pet!

SUNDAY, SEPT. 2

Bronx

Hiking Club exclusive! Siwanoy Trail Hike / Orchard Beach 11 a.m. / Meet at Orchard Beach bus depot

Join the Rangers for a comprehensive trail experience as we do the Siwanoy. Lush woodlands and salt marsh breezes await you. To register, call (718) 548-0912 on Aug. 27.

Brooklyn

Nature Photography / Marine Park 12 p.m. / SMNC

Who, who, who...Did I Eat? / Marine Park 1 p.m. / SMNC Learn about the web of life and what owls eat by dissecting owl pellets. Discover the varying diets of owls and how they hunt and capture their prey.

Woodland Survival / Fort Greene Park 1 p.m. / FGVC Learn the basic skills you would need to survive in the woods, from proper

planning to what to do if you get lost.

Manhattan

Central Park Tours: Unlocking the Sanctuary / Central Park 11 a.m. / Meet on Gapstow Bridge at the Pond (at 62nd St., west of East Drive) We're going to unlock the gates! Hallett Nature Sanctuary is a rocky four-acre woodland wildlife preserve in Central Park, filled with birds, plants, and natural mystery. The last special visitor was a wild coyote...

Trails of Inwood / Inwood Hill Park 11 a.m. / IHNC Join the Rangers as we hike through the cool woodlands of Inwood Hill Park on this late summer's day. You'll see parts of the park not usually seen by the casual visitor.

Queens

Beginner Birding / Fort Totten Park 9 a.m. / FTRS

Basic Canoeing / Kissena Park 11 a.m. & 1 p.m. / Rose & Oak Avenues entrance

Staten Island

Forensic Entomology / Blue Heron Park 1 p.m. / BHNC Can you solve the crime? Discover the science of forensics and use the facts provided by insects to find the culprit. We'll poke around some insect baits and discover a wide variety of insects that help us solve crimes. No weak stomachs, please!

SATURDAY, SEPT. 8

Bronx

Nature Scavenger Hunt / Van Cortlandt Park 1 p.m. / VCNC Kids of all ages, come hunt for nature's treasures! Prizes!

Brooklyn

Early Birding / Marine Park 8 a.m. / SMNC Revolutionary Fort Greene / Fort Greene Park 1 p.m. / FGVC

Manhattan

Beginner Birding/ Central Park 8 a.m. / Meet on Gapstow Bridge at the Pond (at 62nd St., west of East Drive).

Botanical Walk/ Inwood Hill Park 11 a.m. / IHNC Join us for an exploration of the park's plants & trees on this walk.

Queens

A Walk Back in Time / Fort Totten 2 p.m. / FTRS

Nature Photography / Forest Park 1 p.m. / FPNC

Staten Island

Sneak Park Preview: Fresh Kills Tour / Fresh Kills Landfill 10 a.m. & 1 p.m. / Meeting location to be announced. Sign up at www.nyc.gov/parks.

Haunted Hike / Blue Heron Park 8 p.m. / BHNC Discover how brave you are as you encounter the park's haunted inhabitants.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 9

Bronx

Split Rock Hike / Pelham Bay Park 2 p.m. / Meet at golf course parking lot Join the Urban Park Rangers for a natural and cultural history hike through the Thomas Pell Wildlife Sanctuary to the famous Split Rock. From ceremonial site for the Siwanoy, to hiding place for colonist Anne Hutchinson, to peace site for Thomas Pell, to battleground in the Revolution, this rock has seen it all.

Brooklyn

Journey Through Time: Fort Greene Neigh-

borhood Architecture Walk / Fort Greene Park 11 a.m. / FGVC Join the Urban Park Rangers for a walking tour of the historic Fort Greene neighborhood and discuss various architectural features on some of the local buildings, including the Pratt Institute. Bring water and comfortable walking shoes.

Revenge of the Herbs / Fort Greene Park 1 p.m. / FGVC Bring your kids to historic Fort Greene Park and let them plant their own window-sill herb garden. All materials provided. Children 12 and under.

Manhattan

Central Park Tours: North End History / Central Park 1 p.m. / Meet at DDC Today's walk covers the history of the north end of the park, from the Revolutionary War to the creation of the park and annexation of the last acreage.

Queens

A Walk Back in Time / Fort Totten 1 p.m. / FTRS

Nature Hike / Cunningham Park 2 p.m. / Meet in parking lot on Union Turnpike. Aside from the recreational areas of Cunningham, more than two thirds of this park is forest habitat that remains relatively unexplored – the Southern Forest is one of the most undisturbed natural areas in the entire city. With the Rangers, you'll walk softly and carry a big hiking stick to move along the hilly trails. Animals abound. Gentle pace.

Staten Island

Grandparents Hike / Blue Heron Park 1 p.m. / Blue Heron Nature Center Hey kids, bring grandma and grandpa to the park for a nice relaxing hike.

Nature Photography / Clove Lakes Park 10 a.m. / Meet at flagpole

MONDAY, SEPT. 10

Brooklyn

Monday Night Lecture Series: New York City Parks: Past, Present, and Future / Marine Park 7 p.m. / SMNC Learn the history of some of NYC's most important parks, how parks are used today, and plans for NYC's parks in the future.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 14

Bronx

Hiking Club Exclusive! Camping / Orchard Beach 6 p.m. / Meeting location to be announced The wetlands and woodlands of Orchard Beach provide an incredible hiking and camping experience. Join us for evening activities and sleep under the stars. To register, call (718) 548-0912 on Sept. 10.

Staten Island

Camping / High Rock Park 7 p.m. / HRRS Grab your sleeping bag and pillow because we're sleeping out under the stars. To register, call (718) 967.3542 on Sept. 10.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 15

Bronx

Forever Wild Hike! John Muir Trail / Van Cortlandt Park 11 a.m. / Meet at Van Cortlandt Park East and Oneida Ave. Enjoy Van Cortlandt Park's only east-west trail with the Urban Park Rangers. The trail traverses a mature forest and some fascinating historical features. Our expedition will end at Broadway and Mosholu Ave.

Brooklyn

Early Birding / Marine Park 8 a.m. / SMNC

Revolutionary Fort Greene / Fort Greene Park 1 p.m. / FGVC

Explore the Park: Sunset Park / Sunset Park 1 p.m. / Meet at park house entrance From its Art Deco pool house to its sweeping vistas of the city skyline, come discover the history of this neighborhood gem.

Manhattan

Little Red Light House Festival / Fort Washington Park

Queens

A Walk Back in Time / Fort Totten 2 p.m. / FTRS

Special Access – Canoe, Camp, & Hike / Alley Pond Park 2 p.m. / Meeting location to be announced It's survival of the fittest with this intense adventure. We'll explore Oakland Lake in search of the "Southeast Passage" to the rest of Alley Pond Park. From this point, we'll hike all the way to our campsite near the Urban Park Ranger Adventure Center. After setting up camp (and eating), we'll learn about what lurks in the night. Bring your sleeping bag and pillow, but leave your fear at home. Space is limited. To register, call (718) 846.2731 on Sept. 5 by 5 p.m.

Staten Island

Coastal Cleanup/ Conference House Park 10 a.m. / Meet by visitor's center One person's garbage is another person's treasure. Walk with us along our coastline and keep anything you discover. Wear boots. Gloves and bags provided.

Chocolate Covered Crickets and Other Edible Insects / Blue Heron Park 1 p.m. / BHNC Join Urban Park Ranger entomologist Bonnie McGuire and have fun learning about the "other" meat...insects! Find out what's edible, what's not, and where to find them. Samples will be provided.

Doggie Walk / Wolfe's Pond Park 3 p.m. / Meet by comfort station Dog Lovers Unite! Bring man or woman's best friend for a healthy hike through the park. Bring a leash—and water for you and your pooch.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 16

Bronx

Canoe and Bird Club Exclusive! Hutchinson River Canoeing and Birding / Pelham Bay Park 8 a.m. / Meeting location to be announced Join us for this canoe expedition up the Hutchinson River. Advanced skill level. To register, call (718) 885-3466 on Sept.10.

Brooklyn

Explore the Park: Owl's Head Park / Owl's Head Park 1 p.m. / Colonial Ave. entrance Join the Urban Park Rangers for a tour of beautiful Owl's Head Park. Enjoy gently sloping hills, legacy trees, and sweeping views of New York Harbor and the Statue of Liberty.

History Club: New York Chocolate / Marine Park 1 p.m. / SMNC Come celebrate International Chocolate Month with the History Club. This month's focus is our city's sweet chocolate history. Join us for a discussion of chocolate's local historic significance—and free samples.

Nuts about Squirrels / Fort Greene Park 1 p.m. / FGVC Learn everything you ever wanted to know about our furry-tailed friends who make their homes in our parks.

Manhattan

Central Park Tours: Unlocking the Sanctuary / Central Park 11 a.m. / Meet on Gapstow Bridge at the Pond (at 62nd St., west of East Drive) We’re going to unlock the gates! Hal-lett Nature Sanctuary is a rocky four-acre woodland wildlife preserve in Central Park, filled with birds, plants, and natural mystery. The last special visitor was a wild coyote...

Queens

Fall Migration / Rockaway Beach 11 a.m. / Meet at Beach 95 St. & Boardwalk Many birds fly south every autumn in preparation for winter. These birds like to follow the same flight paths year after year. With JFK right around the corner, the Rockaways are their very own avian airport. The Rangers will conduct a bird census, so we’re “counting” on you to come. Binoculars provided.

A Walk Back in Time / Fort Totten 1 p.m. / FTRS

Staten Island

Beginner Birding / High Rock Park 8 a.m. / HRRS

Orienteering / Willowbrook Park 1 p.m. / Meet by comfort station

Science of Hurricanes / Blue Heron Park 3 p.m. / Blue Heron Nature Center Have you ever wondered what causes a hurricane? What would happen if a hurricane hit New York City directly? Join the Rangers for answers to these questions and what you can do to be prepared.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 22

Bronx

Introduction to Ethnobotany / Van Cortlandt Park 1 p.m. / VCNC For generations, humans have used nature’s bounty for a variety of medicinal, cultural, and other purposes. Join us this afternoon for an exploration of the park’s natural resources and how they have been traditionally used. No plants may be removed from the park.

Brooklyn

Early Birding / Marine Park 8 a.m. / SMNC

Aliens Among Us / Marine Park 1 p.m. / SMNC Discussion of the impact and identification of invasive plants and animals.

Revolutionary Fort Greene / Fort Greene Park 1 p.m. / FGVC

Manhattan

Canoe Club Exclusive! Canoe the Meer / Central Park 11 a.m. / Meet at DDC at Boat Launch The tranquil Harlem Meer is a beautiful spot for canoeing. We’ll be on the lookout for the abundant bird population and other wildlife.

Jeffrey’s Hook Lighthouse / Fort Washington Park 1 p.m. – 3 p.m. / Meet at Little Red Lighthouse

Queens

A Walk Back in Time / Fort Totten 2 p.m. / FTRS

Rascally Raccoons / Alley Pond Park 6 p.m. / UPRAC These masked bandits are found throughout the city, and are particularly active around dusk and into darkness. Join us for a walk through the park in search of these often-misunderstood creatures.

Staten Island

Sneak Park Preview: Fresh Kills Tour / Fresh Kills Landfill 10 a.m. & 1 p.m. / Meeting location to be announced. Register at www.nyc.gov/parks.

Saltwater Fishing / Conference House Park 1 p.m. – 3 p.m. / Meet at pavilion Join the Rangers at the southernmost point of New York City for some serious angling action. Fishing equipment provided.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 23

Bronx

Orienteering: Hunter Island / Orchard Beach 11 a.m. / OBNC

Brooklyn

Raptor Watch / Prospect Park 12 p.m. / Meet at Wollman Rink Join the Urban Park Rangers as we go in hunt of Prospect Parks’s top predators along Wellhouse Road.

Healing Arts Lecture/ Marine Park 1 p.m. / SMNC Get in tune with nature by joining energy healer Richard Eisenberg for a lecture and demonstration on healing arts.

What’s the Deal with the Hat? : A History of Park Rangers / Fort Greene Park 1 p.m. / FGVC Join us as we explore the traditions and history of park rangers both locally and across the country.

Brooklyn Dancers / Marine Park 5 p.m. / SMNC Join the Brooklyn Dance Center dancers for an outdoor inspirational performance expressing the shades and colors of the harvest season.

Manhattan

Wilderness Survival / Inwood Hill Park 12 p.m. / IHNC Could you survive if lost in the wilderness? Join our Urban Park Ranger survival experts for a workshop on expecting the unexpected, and being ready when it happens.

Compost from Fall Harvest / Central Park 1 p.m. / Meet at E. 106th St. & Fifth Ave. As we enter autumn, join the Rangers and staff from the Central Park Conservancy for a composting workshop covering the basics of home composting, as well as large-scale composting as practiced in Central Park.

Queens

A Walk Back in Time / Fort Totten 1 p.m. / FTRS

Bird Club Exclusive! Fall Migration / Ridgewood Reservoir 10 a.m. / Meeting location to be announced The Ridgewood Reservoir has not been in use since 1989 and is usually closed to the public. It has become a secret haven for birds and other wildlife right in the middle of Queens and Brooklyn. On this very special occasion, the Rangers will lead a tour of the reservoir. Members only. To register, call (718) 846.2731 on Sept. 24. Binoculars provided.

Staten Island

Nature Knowledge Hike / High Rock Park 1 p.m. / HRRS The woodlands of High Rock Park are filled with wildlife. Join us as we explore the park, looking for critters, identifying trees and plants, and much more.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 28

Brooklyn

Lawn Chair Theater: Grease / Marine Park 7 p.m. / SMNC Summer’s over and it’s back to school. Grease is the word! Come enjoy a movie under the stars. Dress the part and take park in a dance contest—you may win a prize.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 29

Brooklyn

Early Birding / Marine Park 8 a.m. / SMNC

Creating with Nature: Scrapbooks / Marine Park 1 p.m. / SMNC

Revolutionary Fort Greene / Fort Greene Park 1 p.m. / FGVC

Saturday Night Live: Fall Harvest Country Hoe Down / Marine Park 7 p.m. / SMNC Swing your partner round and round. Come on down for a night of country dancing and country fun. Kiss summer good-bye and welcome the fall.

Manhattan

Raptor Watch / Inwood Hill Park 9 a.m. / IHNC Join Urban Park Ranger Rob Mastrianni for a guided bird walk through Inwood’s native forest in search of red-tailed hawks, great-horned owls... or maybe even an eagle. See what the raptors of Inwood are up to this time of year. Binoculars provided.

Camping / Central Park 5 p.m. / Meet at Great Hill Grab your sleeping bag and pillow because we’re sleeping out under the stars. Tents provided. To register, call (212) 628.2345 on Sept. 24.

Queens

Community Day / Forest Park / Jackson Pond Playground Come celebrate a day of local culture and crafts with the Urban Park Rangers and other participants. We’ll have lots of cool stuff to show and tell you about as well as nature crafts and prizes for kids. All ages welcome.

A Walk Back in Time / Fort Totten 2 p.m. / FTRS

Staten Island

Beginner Birding / Blue Heron Park 9 a.m. / Blue Heron Nature Center

Park to Park Hike / High Rock Park 1 a.m. / Meet in Nevada Ave. parking lot Join us for a 7-mile journey along the Blue Trail from High Rock Park to Clove Lakes Park. You’ll discover a variety of natural and historical landmarks. Wear your hiking shoes and bring water.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 30

Bronx

Life in the Colonies / Van Cortlandt Park 12 p.m. – 4 p.m. / Van Cortlandt House Join us for a celebration of 18th century life! Make toys, churn butter or pet a horse. Fun for the whole family! Free!

Brooklyn

Explore the Marsh Nature Hike / Marine Park 1 p.m. / SMNC The salt marsh is teeming with life! Join us for an exploration of one of the planet’s most productive ecosystems.

Leaf Printing / Fort Greene Park 1 p.m. / FGVC Children will learn to identify trees as they create beautiful leaf rubbings. All materials provided children 12 and under.

Manhattan

Beginner Birding / Fort Tryon Park 10 a.m. / Meet at Cabrini Circle (Fort Washington Ave., north of 190th St.)

Falconry Extravaganza* / Central Park, East Meadow 12 p.m. – 3 p.m. / Enter park at E. 99th St. and Fifth Ave. Join the Urban Park Rangers for our annual flight of fancy. Hawks, falcons, owls, and other birds of prey will be on hand for flight demonstrations and more!

*Special Access for Bird Club members ONLY:

Join us at 11 a.m. for a behind-the-scenes look at the raptors featured in this event.

Queens

Prolific Ponds / Forest Park 11 a.m. / FPNC

A Walk Back in Time / Fort Totten 1 p.m. / FTRS

Staten Island

Nature Photography / Willowbrook Park 10 a.m. / Meet by carousel

Canoe Adventure: Races! / Clove Lakes Park 1 p.m. / Meet by Martling Pond. Have you ever felt the sun on your face, the wind at your back, the thrill of victory? Now’s your chance! Join the Rangers for a thrilling day of races. Participation in a basic canoeing program required.



CELEBRATING THE LITTLE RED LIGHTHOUSE

For decades, Manhattan's Little Red Lighthouse, the star of Hildegard Swift's beloved children's book, *The Little Red Lighthouse and the Great Gray Bridge*, has held a special place in the hearts of children. On Saturday, Sept. 15, the 15th Annual Little Red Lighthouse Festival, hosted by the Historic House Trust and sponsored by Con Edison, will celebrate this "very, very proud" lighthouse from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. in Fort Washington Park. Visitors can enjoy a celebrity reading of the classic story and tours of Manhattan's only remaining lighthouse, as well as live music, hayrides, food and more.

The 40-foot lighthouse, officially named Jeffrey's Hook, was built in 1880 and moved to its current site along a treacherous section of the Hudson River in 1921. When the George Washington Bridge opened above the lighthouse in 1931, its lights made the lighthouse obsolete. But when the Coast Guard decommissioned it in 1948 with a plan to auction it off, the popular children's book prompted a public outcry that saved it.

On July 23, 1951, the Coast Guard gave the property to Parks, and on May 29, 1979, the Little Red Lighthouse was added to the National Register of Historic Places. In 1986, Parks hosted a party in honor of its 65th anniversary and to celebrate reconstruction of the concrete foundation and the installation of new steel doors. In 2000, the lighthouse received a fresh coat of paint that is true to its original, historic color, along with new interior lighting and electric lines. Now widely known as a children's literary landmark, the Little Red Lighthouse, is celebrated as a reminder of our city's history and of the lesson of the book—that even small things can be important.



THESE OLD HOUSES!

Parks & Recreation and the Historic House Trust are pleased to announce the release of a new free map and guide featuring the 22 sites of the Historic House Trust. The Historic House Touring Map & Guide provides visitor information regarding each individual house and places the houses in historical and geographic context, allowing visitors to plan trips based on location and common themes.

"Although New York City is often thought of as a trendsetter of the modern world, it also has a rich history full of people, places and events that shaped the city and the nation," said Commissioner Adrian Benepe. "The Historic House Trust's new Touring Map & Guide acts as a tool to transport visitors back to the days of America's birth, when New York was mostly farmland, and to the day-to-day lives of our city's founders. We encourage New Yorkers and visitors young and old to explore these treasures that reside within City parks."

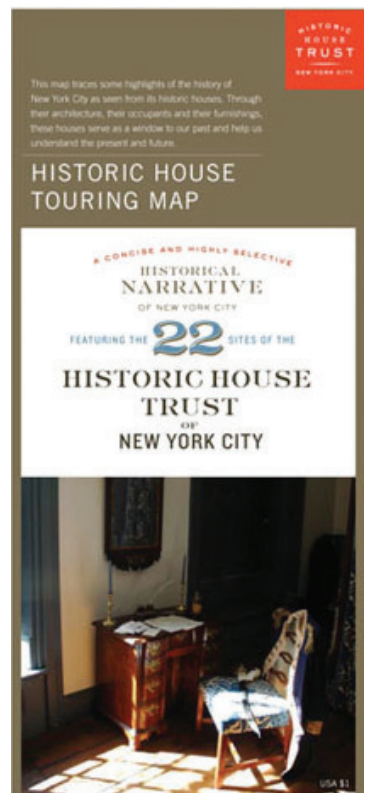
"This concise yet informative guide includes each of the houses' individual stories along with a timeline of events that illustrates their roles in the larger history of New York City and America from 1652 through today," said Historic House Trust Executive Director Therese Braddick. "Using the map and guide, you can create a journey into the past in a certain neighborhood or based on a common theme such as the Revolutionary War, the city's Dutch heritage, women in history, African-American history, the agricultural economy, or historic advances in technology. We thank the American Express Historic Preservation Fund for funding this map and guide, our first collection-wide publication since 2004."

The Historic House Trust houses show how people lived during early European settlement, the Revolutionary War, slavery and the rise of the middle class in the 19th century. And they reveal what life was like in New York before the

dramatic technological and social changes of urbanization in the 20th century.

Copies of the Touring Map & Guide are available at local museums, including 17 of the Historic House Trust sites, The History Channel kiosk in City Hall Park, NYC & Co. headquarters, City Store, and recreation and visitor centers in parks throughout the five boroughs.

The Historic House Trust of New York City is a not-for-profit organization operating in tandem with the New York City Department of Parks & Recreation. Its mission is to provide essential support for 22 houses of architectural and cultural significance, spanning 350 years of New York City life. Seventeen of the member houses are open to the public as museums and offer a wide range of school programs, guided tours, exhibitions, and community and special events that attract more than 700,000 visitors annually. For more information, visit www.historichousetrust.org.



RECREATION CENTERS

Since 1910, the New York City department of Parks & Recreation has provided the most affordable and extensive network of recreational services throughout New York City. Our Recreation Centers offer services such as indoor pools, weight rooms, basketball courts, dance studios, art studios, game rooms and libraries.

All of our Recreation Centers offer a wide variety of safe, fun and educational programs for people of all ages.

YOUTH

Afterschool • Drop-in Summer Programs
Learn to Play Clinics • Learn to Swim • Playschool
Saturday Programs • Summer Camps
Teen Programs

ADULTS

Aerobics • Aqua Exercise • Badminton
Basketball • Body Toning • Computers
Karate • Kick-boxing • Learn to Swim • Music
Tai Chi • Volleyball • Yoga

SENIORS

Bingo • Cards • Ceramics • Computers
Exercise • Senior Aerobics • Senior Body Toning
Senior Swim • Sing-A-Long • Social Dances
Tap Dancing • Trips



For additional recreation programs and information, please call 311 or visit www.nyc.gov/parks

Recreation Center Yearly Membership

	Seniors	Adults	Youth
Recreation Centers	\$10	\$50	FREE
Recreation Centers with Indoor Pools	\$10	\$75	FREE

Seniors - 55 and up
Adults - 18-54
Youth - Under 18

Gift memberships are now available!

Standard membership includes scheduled access to gym, pool and other facilities for one year. Instructor-led courses such as aerobics, aqua exercise, music or yoga may require additional session fees.



City of New York
Parks & Recreation
Michael R. Bloomberg, Mayor
Adrian Benepe, Commissioner



City of New York
Parks & Recreation

RECREATION CENTER MEMBERSHIP



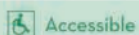
Get fit for pennies a day at your neighborhood Recreation Center! JOIN TODAY!

BRONX

- HUNTS POINT
765 Manida St. bet. Spofford & Lafayette Aves.
718.860.5544
- OWEN DOLEN, Westchester Square
1400 East Tremont at Westchester Square
718.822.4282
- ST. JAMES, Fordham
2530 Jerome Ave. at 192nd St.
718.822.4271
- ST. MARY'S, Mott Haven
450 East 145th St. at St. Ann's Ave.
718.402.5155
- WILLIAMSBRIDGE OVAL, Norwood
3225 Reservoir Oval at East 208th St. & Bainbridge Ave.
718.994.6785

BROOKLYN

- FORT HAMILTON SENIOR CENTER, Bay Ridge
9941 Fort Hamilton Parkway at 99th St.
718.439.4296
- HERBERT VON KING, Bedford Stuyvesant
670 Lafayette Ave. bet. Tompkins & Marcy Aves.
718.622.2082
- RED HOOK
155 Bay St. at Henry St.
718.722.3211
- SUNSET PARK
43rd St. at 7th Ave.
718.965.6533



- BROWNSVILLE
1555 Linden Blvd. at Christopher St.
718.485.4633
- METROPOLITAN POOL, Williamsburg
261 Bedford Ave. at Metropolitan Ave.
718.599.5707
- ST. JOHN'S, Crown Heights
1251 Prospect Place
bet. Troy & Schenectady Aves.
718.771.2787

MANHATTAN

- ALFRED E. SMITH, Lower East Side
80 Catherine St. at Cherry St.
212.285.0300
- ASSER LEVY, Kips Bay
392 Asser Levy Place at East 23rd St.
212.447.2020
- TONY DAPOLITO, West Village
1 Clarkson St. at 7th Ave. South
212.242.5228
- CHELSEA
430 West 25th Street
212.255.3705
- HAMILTON FISH, Lower East Side
128 Pitt St. at Houston St.
212.387.7687
- HANSBOROUGH, Harlem
35 West 134th St. bet. Lenox & Fifth Aves.
212.234.9603
- JACKIE ROBINSON, Hamilton Heights
89 Bradhurst Ave. bet. 146th & 147th St.
212.234.9606

- J. HOOD WRIGHT, Washington Heights
351 Fort Washington Ave. at 174th St.
212.927.1514
- PELHAM FRITZ, Harlem
18 Mount Morris Park West at East 122nd St.
212.860.1380
- RECREATION CENTER 54, Turtle Bay
348 East 54th St. bet. 1st & 2nd Aves.
212.754.5411
- RECREATION CENTER 59, Upper West Side
West 59th St. bet. 10th & 11th Aves.
212.397.3159
- THOMAS JEFFERSON, East Harlem
2180 1st Ave. at East 112th St.
212.860.1383

QUEENS

- LOST BATTALION HALL, Rego Park
93-29 Queens Blvd. at 62nd Ave.
718.263.1163
- ROY WILKINS, St. Albans
177th St. at Baisley Blvd.
718.276.8686
- SORRENTINO, Far Rockaway
1848 Cornaga Ave. at Beach 19th St.
718.471.4818

STATEN ISLAND

- CROMWELL, Stapleton
Pier 6 at Murray Hulbert Ave.
718.816.6172
- GREENBELT, Willowbrook
411 Brielle Avenue
718.667.3545

GROW AT PARKS

Did you know that Job Opportunities for Parks employees can be accessed by phone? Dial 1-888-292-5653 to hear current vacancies, application deadlines and how to apply. The Job Hotline is updated weekly.

Job opportunities are also posted on the Parks Department website: www.nyc.gov/parks.

Please remember to send a cover letter and resume with the Vacancy Number to grow@parks.nyc.gov

Parks is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Q & A WITH LINDA R. COX

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, BRONX RIVER ALLIANCE



Q. What is the Bronx River Alliance?

A. The Bronx River Alliance, working in partnership with more than 100 organizations, is dedicated to protecting, improving, and restoring the Bronx River so that it can be a resource for the communities through which the river flows. Concurrently, along with NYC Parks & Recreation, we are leading what may be the most significant open-space development project in New York City in our time—the creation of the Bronx River Greenway, a ribbon of parks through the heart of the Bronx.

Q. Where exactly is the Bronx River?

A. It's a 23-mile-long river that begins in upper Westchester County at the Kensico Dam and flows eight miles through the center of the Bronx into the East River. It's New York City's only freshwater river—and home to José, the first beaver to live in New York City for some 200 years!

Q. How can people use and access your programs?

A. Each year 4,000 people come to the river for Alliance-sponsored events, including 1,000 paddlers who make their way down the river by canoe. People come to the river on bikes, on foot, by boat, and via the many parks of the Greenway. You can check our website, www.bronxriver.org, for upcoming events or to download our Walking Guide to the Bronx River Greenway. We also help dozens of schools and youth groups to use the river as a living laboratory. Bronx River Classroom: The Inside Track for Educators, available on our website, is a great guide to the

possibilities. Keep in mind, too, that many of our partner groups sponsor wonderful activities on the river, from art classes to job training, and we provide links to their programs via our website.

Q. How can people support the Alliance?

A. On Sept. 17, you can join us at our annual benefit event—An Upstream Soirée. You can support our work and see the first new park of the Bronx River Greenway, the beautiful Hunts Point Riverside Park. To register for the event or to support the renaissance of the Bronx River, please log on to www.bronxriver.org. Volunteers and stewards are a vital part of our programs—they support our recreation, education and outreach efforts, and even do water quality monitoring. Please contact us via the website or at (718) 430-4665 to see how you can help.

Q. What are some of the highlights of your program this year?

A. We're excited about the Bronx River Festival, featuring the Procession of the Golden Ball, which will take place on Sept. 29 at the Mitsubishi River Walk at the Bronx Zoo. There will be live entertainment, food, family activities and guided walks, all in celebration of the river. Bikers will like our Pedal and Paddle day on Oct. 13—a bike ride along the Bronx River Greenway, followed by a canoe trip down the lower Bronx River. And there's Second Sunday Cycling on Sept. 9 and Oct. 14—a five-mile bike tour at a gentle pace. See the calendar on www.bronxriver.org for details.





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SERVING UP FUN IN THE SUN

Thousands made their way to Coney Island — the people’s playground — in August to enjoy some hard-hitting beach volleyball.

First up, on Aug. 18 and 19, was the annual Amateur Beach Volleyball Tournament, presented by Cushman & Wakefield. The two-day tournament brought out hundreds of players and thousands of spectators. There were separate divisions for men and women in novice, intermediate and advance levels. The schedule also featured a division for co-ed groups of four and a juniors division for players under 18 years of age.

The top winners of the Amateur Tournament earned the right to compete at the next week’s event: the AVP Brooklyn Open.

Queenborough Community College nursing student Cindie Valeriano and her partner Aleksandra (Ola) Wolak, a computer science major at NYU, beat out the competition to earn a chance to take on the pros.

Then, from Aug. 23 through Aug. 26, the professionals took over. For the second consecutive year, the Association of Volleyball Professionals, including world champions and Olympic gold medalists, came back to the Big Apple to play in a specially designed temporary 4,000-seat stadium on the beach — an event that was televised on NBC!

Top-seeded Phil Dalhausser and Todd Rogers won the Men’s Final, while gold medalists and defending champs Misty May-

Treanor and Kerri Walsh took home the trophy in the Women’s Final. The tournament was made possible thanks to Brooklyn Sports and Entertainment, in partnership with Atlantic Yards; Parks & Recreation; and the New York City Sports Commission.

Beach volleyball has been a big hit in New York City, and we look forward to next summer’s event – come check it out!



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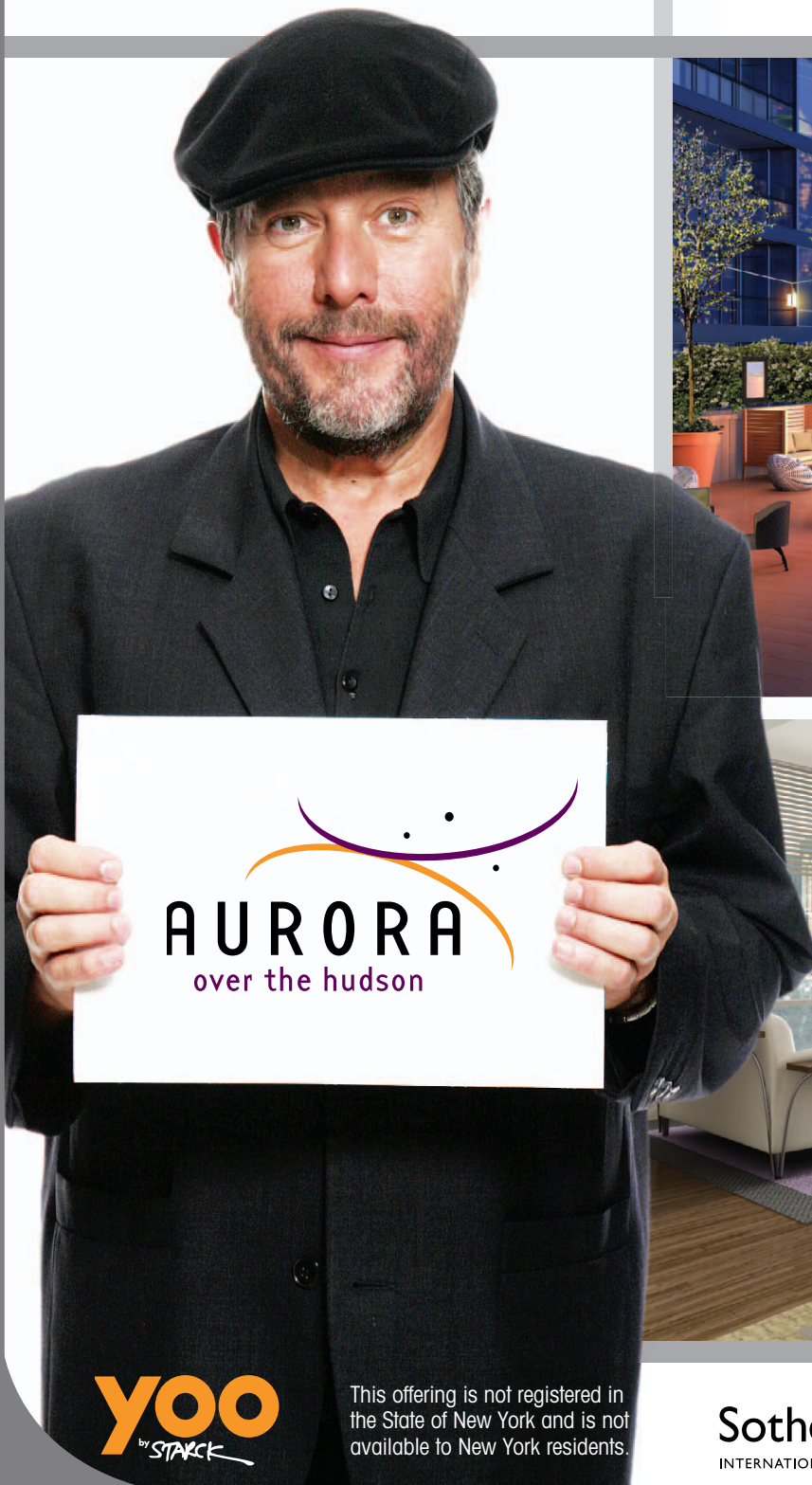


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