Ratifying the Raise

Aprobado el aumento

Raise the Age
Got It Done
They walked as one.

More than 200 community members took to the streets on April 5, as 31 different religious institutions held an interfaith rally and march to promote racial justice and religious tolerance.

Dr. Debbie Almontaser of the Muslim Community Network said people—regardless of specific creed or faith—are currently feeling vulnerable because of their religious beliefs.

“They want to be spiritual and also be citizens, but we’ve seen a rise in hate,” stated Almontaser, who argued that an increase in hate crimes and President Donald Trump’s immigration policies have driven people to action.

“The opportunity that has been presented here is the awakening of millions of Americans who have previously sat on the sidelines, saying ‘Oh, the activists will take care of it, the elected officials will take care of it,” remarked Almontaser. “Now you see people saying, ‘I have to be a part of the solution.’”

Muslim, Jewish and Christian leaders spearheaded a gathering that began at the Jewish Theological Seminary (JTS), then marched on Broadway, Riverside Drive and across 125th Street to end at the National Black Theater.

Imam Al-Hajj Talib Abdur-Rashid of the Mosque of Islamic Brotherhood, which descended from the Muslim Mosque founded by Malcolm X, said that participants had gathered not because of their religion, but because of their “moral center.”

“Today we come together to affirm our belief as a diverse community of faith, that God is talking and we are listening,” he said. “He declares the oneness of humanity and we are listening. He uplifts and establishes justice and denounces intolerance and bigotry, and we are listening and acting to demonstrate our commitment to build a beloved community based upon those principles.”

Arnold M. Eisen is the seventh Chancellor of JTS, pointed out the number of young people in the crowd.

“It’s really heartening to see all the students here,” Eisen said. “The next generation are the ones that need to see this through.”

Avanzando con fe

Caminaron como uno.

Más de 200 miembros de la comunidad salieron a las calles el 5 de abril, cuando 31 diferentes instituciones religiosas organizaron un mitin y una marcha interreligiosas para promover la justicia racial y la tolerancia religiosa.

La Dra. Debbie Almontaser, de la Red de la Comunidad Musulmana, dijo que las personas—independientemente de sus creencias religiosas—se sienten vulnerables debido a sus creencias religiosas. “Quieren ser espirituales y también ser ciudadanos, pero hemos visto un aumento en el odio”, dijo Almontaser, quien argumentó que un aumento en los crímenes de odio y las políticas de inmigración del presidente Donald Trump han llevado a la gente a la acción.

“La oportunidad que se ha presentado aquí es el despertar de millones de estadounidenses que anteriormente se han sentado al margen, Vea FE p13
Hunt in the Heights

Story by Megan Wrappe
Photos by Cris Vivar

No little bunny hop here – this was a mad dash.

Hundreds of families and children turned out this past Sat., Apr. 8th for a ceremonial egg hunt in Highbridge Park at 172nd Street and Amsterdam Avenue.

Sponsored by State Senator Marisol Alcántara, together with local elected officials, Wellcare and Walgreens Pharmacy, the hunt featured face-painting, music and prizes.

The park’s field was dotted with brightly colored and golden eggs, which were quickly scooped up by children on a mission.

The first four judged to have found the greatest number of special golden eggs were awarded large baskets filled with candy and stuffed animals.

“This was the first annual egg hunt [here],” explained Bernada Tejada, a representative from Walgreens.

Gazing out over the crowd that had flocked to the park, she said the response had proven overwhelming.

“I think we could do this again,” she added.

Alcántara, who had arrived from state budget negotiations in Albany for only a few hours to take part in the community celebration, said she was glad for the opportunity to cut loose.

“Previously, we held events focused on policy and politics. This [is a more] lighthearted celebration,” said Alcántara between bouts of silly dancing and posing for photos with toddlers.

See HUNT p23

Caras y Canastas

Historia por Megan Wrappe
Fotos por Cris Vivar

Ningún conejito pequeño salta aquí, esta era una loca carrera.

Cientos de familias y niños acudieron el sábado 8 de abril para una cacería de huevos ceremonial en Highbridge Park, en la calle 172 y la Avenida Ámsterdam.

Patrocinada por la senadora estatal Marisol Alcántara, junto con funcionarios electos locales, Wellcare y la Farmacia Walgreens, la caza incluyó pintura de caras, música y premios.

El campo del parque estuvo salpicado de huevos de colores brillantes y dorados, que fueron rápidamente recogidos por los niños en una misión.

Los primeros cuatro expertos que encontraron el mayor número de huevos de oro especiales fueron premiados con grandes cestas llenas de caramelos y animales de peluche.

“Esta fue la primera cacería anual de huevos [aquí],” explico Bernada Tejada, representante de Walgreens.

Mirando por encima de la multitud que había acudido al parque, dijo que la respuesta había resultado abrumadora.

“Creo que podríamos hacer esto de nuevo”, agregó.

Alcántara, quien llegó de las negociaciones del presupuesto estatal en Albany por sólo unas horas para participar en la celebración de la comunidad, dijo que estaba contenta por la oportunidad de relajarse.

“Previamente, celebramos eventos

Vea CAZA p23
It’s a head start for health.

The city has launched an East Harlem facility to provide health and wellness services, as well as community space, for local residents.

Located at 158 East 115th Street, the East Harlem Neighborhood Health Action Center will feature a primary care clinic, to be opened later this year and operated by Harlem United.

The site will also provide mental health services, wellness classes and referrals to neighborhood services, as well as community space for groups to coordinate strategies that advance neighborhood health.

Health Commissioner Dr. Mary T. Bassett, Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services Dr. Herminia Palacio and City Council Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito gathered to officially open the center on April 4.

“The work of the East Harlem Neighborhood Action Center is as important as ever in this community that unfortunately still suffers from disproportionate rates of asthma, obesity, diabetes, and other health indicators,” said Mark-Viverito, who helped establish an additional $600,000 investment for the center from the City Council. “Under the current national political uncertainty, expanding this type of access is extremely important.”

“The Action Center model provides a rare opportunity to co-locate services that will comprehensively and collaboratively address wellness and create an opportunity to learn what effective care can look like,” added Dr. Jonathan Keith Joseph, Chief Medical Officer for Harlem United.

Also announced were the partial opening of Action Centers in the Brownsville neighborhood of Brooklyn and Tremont section of the Bronx.

“Decades ago, the neighborhood health center movement dramatically improved the health of communities in New York City. With the launch of the Neighborhood Health Action Centers, we are bringing this incertidumbre política nacional, expandir este tipo de acceso es extremadamente importante”, dijo la presidenta del Concejo Municipal, Melissa Mark-Viverito.

Mayor Fiorello H. La Guardia’s administration expanded the East Harlem model and created 30 District Health Buildings in high-need neighborhoods across the city.

With the launch of the Action Centers, the city is aiming for a new approach by integrating primary care with connections to local services, community action and neighborhood planning.

See HEALTH p20

ACTION PLAN

The Neighborhood Health Action Centers are rooted in a movement that started almost 100 years ago. The Health Department, in partnership with the American Red Cross, established a pilot program in East Harlem in 1921 which co-located health, welfare agencies and community-based organizations to improve the health of the community. Over a 10-year period, East Harlem saw a decrease in infant deaths and an increase in life expectancy.

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The Met Council on Housing’s Inwood Village Clinic will meet at Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Church, located at 91 Arden Street in Manhattan, between Broadway and Seaman Avenue, on these Wednesday nights: April 19th, May 3rd, May 17th, and May 31st – beginning at 6:30 p.m.

This Clinic is fully bilingual in English and Spanish.

Note: You must arrive by 6:30 to be served. If you arrive later, you may be turned away.

Nearest subway stations:
• A to Dyckman St;
• 1 to Dyckman St; or
• Buses - Bx7, BxM1, or M100

Before you come to the walk-in clinic, please note:

Please first seek answers to your questions at the Help and Answers link online at http://bit.ly/2o2lgFd, or by calling the Tenants’ Rights Telephone Hotline at 212.979.0611. Most questions can be answered on the group hotline, and the clinic has very limited capacity. The clinic is staffed by one trained volunteer per evening, and often there are a dozen or more tenants seeking help.

Active members of Met Council on Housing will be seen first. After that, the clinic is first come, first served. However, anyone coming for a follow-up question or who is a repeat visitor to the clinic will be asked to wait until the end.

You must arrive by 6:30 p.m. to be helped, and if you arrive late, you will be turned away.

This is an open environment. Participants sit around a large table, so your housing matter will be discussed in front of other people. If certain facts about your case are sensitive (such as the exact amount of rent you pay) you can find a way to discreetly share this information with the clinic leader. That will be respected, but participants are asked to realize that your issue as a whole will be heard by others. Cooperation and collaboration are encouraged, and all are welcome to stay to lend support to others or simply to learn.

The Met Council is not a service organization that takes on clients. The group is comprised of tenant volunteers who are helping other tenants and are trained on the laws and regulations relating to tenants’ rights in New York City.

The group only helps tenants, and only on issues related to their apartment. The clinic is not open to landlords, and it does not advise tenants on how to pursue evictions (including against roommates or family members.) The group can only help on issues related to housing - not other matters.

What services does Met Council provide tenants who visit the Tenants’ Rights Walk-In Clinic?

The group can give brief answers to your rights as a tenant, and explain your options for dealing with a housing situation.

Common questions relate to:
• getting repairs from negligent landlords
• getting adequate heat in the winter months
• dealing with the threat of eviction
• questions about leases and lease renewals
• legal rent increases for rent-regulated apartments

It can also provide referrals to agencies, community organizing groups, and tenant lawyers - either free legal services or private-practice lawyers, depending on your situation.

What the Met Council doesn't do:

It cannot give legal advice – they are trained volunteers, not lawyers. They can explain your rights and options under the law, but cannot advise you on how to proceed in a legal case. If you know that you need the services of a lawyer, please read the group’s page on finding a lawyer at http://bit.ly/2oViHGY.

It doesn’t give rental assistance or provide help with back rent. The Council is a grassroots membership organization. If financial assistance is what you need, you are encouraged to read the online fact sheet if you just can’t afford the rent. The fact sheet can be found at http://bit.ly/2oqgq8j.

It cannot advocate on your behalf, and it does not have any extra pull with city or state agencies. The group can give you pointers on how to be an effective advocate for yourself. It cannot help you locate new housing or place you in housing - for that, check the group’s website at http://bit.ly/2oixaxn.

Legal advice is not offered at the Tenants’ Rights Walk-In Clinic.

The tenants’ rights telephone counselors are trained volunteers, not lawyers. They can tell you about your rights as a tenant, your options for solving a problem with your housing situation, and strategies for how to assert your rights. They can educate you about the laws that exist to protect you. However, the group cannot advise you about how to proceed on legal matters. Only lawyers are legally permitted - and qualified - to do that.

What languages can you answer questions in?

The Inwood Clinic is done fully bilingual in English and Spanish.

For more information, please visit metcouncilonhousing.org or call 212.979.0611.
As the tax deadline of April 18th fast approaches, the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) reminds residents that assistance is available.

New Yorkers who earned $64,000 or less in 2016 can file for free using NYC Free Tax Prep online or at one of the in-person sites citywide. Additional hours and appointments continue to be added to accommodate last-minute filers. New Yorkers can call 311 or visit nyc.gov/taxprep to find the most convenient location and its hours.

“File for free today with our trusted and professional free tax prep services,” said DCA Commissioner Lorelei Salas. “New Yorkers deserve to receive every penny of their hard-earned refund.”

New Yorkers earning less than $64,000 can avoid the last minute rush to tax sites by filing online for free at nyc.gov/taxprep. Experts are available by phone to answer questions. Step-by-step instructions also help filers claim deductions and credits like the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and NYC Child Care Tax Credit (NYC CCTC). Free tax preparation services are made possible by more than a dozen providers through the IRS Volunteer Income Tax Assistance/Tax Counseling for the Elderly (VITA/TCE) and AARP Tax Aide programs. In general, New Yorkers with an annual income of $54,000 or less with children or $30,000 or less without children, can visit free tax sites in the five boroughs where returns are prepared by IRS-certified VITA/TCE volunteer preparers. DCA also reminds filers to be cautious of last minute tax scams and to be wary of IRS impersonation email and phone scams that request personal banking information and request payments.

New Yorkers can call 311 or visit nyc.gov/taxprep and use DCA’s interactive map to search for the most convenient free tax site, and now text “Taxes” to 42033 (message and data rates may apply) to find the nearest location and receive tax season updates and reminders.

What you need to file
Identification
• Government-issued photo ID (includes IDNYC)
• Social Security or Individual Taxpayer Identification Numbers and birth dates for you, your spouse, and your dependents

See TAX p17

DCA also reminds residents that assistance is available.

Horas adicionales y citas se siguen agregando para acomodar a los contribuyentes de última hora. Los neoyorquinos pueden llamar al 311 o visitar nyc.gov/taxprep Para encontrar la ubicación más conveniente y sus horarios.

“Presente su declaración gratis hoy con nuestros servicios de preparación de impuestos gratuitos y confiables”, dijo Lorelei Salas, comisionada del DCA. “Los neoyorquinos reciben cada centavo de su reembolso durante ganado”. Los neoyorquinos que ganan menos de $64,000 pueden evitar el ajetreo de últimos del 18 de abril, el Departamento de Asuntos del Consumidor (DCA, por sus siglas en inglés) recuerda a los residentes que hay apoyos disponibles.

Los neoyorquinos que ganaron $64,000 o menos en 2016 pueden solicitar asistencia de forma gratuita usando Preparación Gratuita de Impuestos de NYC en línea, o en persona en uno de los sitios en toda la ciudad. Horas adicionales y citas se siguen agregando para acomodar a los contribuyentes de última hora. Los neoyorquinos pueden llamar al 311 o visitar nyc.gov/taxprep Para encontrar la ubicación más conveniente y sus horarios.

Los neoyorquinos que ganan menos de $64,000 pueden evitar el ajetreo de última hora en los sitios de impuestos haciendo la presentación en línea de forma gratuita en nyc.gov/taxprep. Hay expertos disponibles vía telefónica para responder preguntas.

Las instrucciones paso a paso también ayudan a los solicitantes a reclamar deducciones y créditos, como el Crédito al Impuesto sobre la Renta (EITC, por sus siglas en inglés) y el Crédito Tributario por el Cuidado Infantil de NYC (NYC CCTC, por sus siglas en inglés). Los servicios gratuitos de preparación de impuestos son posibles gracias a más de una docena de proveedores. Para encontrar la Renta del IRS/Aseguradora Tributaria para Adultos Mayores (VITA/TCE, por sus siglas en inglés) y AARP. En general, los neoyorquinos con un ingreso anual de $54,000 o menos con niños; o $ 30,000 o menos sin hijos, pueden visitar sitios gratuitos de impuestos en los cinco condados donde las devoluciones son realizadas por preparadores voluntarios certificados por el IRS VITA/TCE.

DCA también recuerda a los contribuyentes que deben ser cautelosos con las estafas de correo electrónico y telefónicas de suplantación del IRS que solicitan información bancaria personal y pagos.

Lo que debe presentar
Identificación
• Identificación con foto emitida por el gobierno (incluye IDNYC).
• Números de Seguro Social o Números Individuales de Identificación de Contribuyente y fechas de nacimiento de usted, su cónyuge y sus dependientes.

Vea IMPUESTOS p17
Ratifying the Raise

New York had previously been one of only two U.S. states, the other being North Carolina, that processed 16- and 17-year-olds through the criminal justice system, regardless of offense.

The new legislation, part of the 2018 state budget, will ensure that non-violent young offenders will avoid being placed on Rikers Island and receive better intervention services.

Under the new law, 16- and 17-year-olds facing misdemeanor charges will be tried in Family Court.

Cuomo conducted the signing in East Harlem during an event at the NYC Mission Society, where he was joined by Rev. Al Sharpton and Akeem Browder, brother of Kalief Browder. The event was witnessed by numerous elected officials and criminal justice advocates.

“This was a hard one. This was tough,” remarked Cuomo of efforts to pass Raise the Age legislation, noting that the proposal was first put forth 12 years ago.

The new measures will be phased in over time, raising the age of juvenile delinquency from age 16- to 17-years-old beginning on in October 2018, and subsequently raising the age of criminal responsibility to 18 in October 2019.

Young people will no longer be permitted to be housed in adult facilities or jails.

Cuomo remarked that the story of Kalief Browder, the 22-year-old Bronx man who committed suicide after spending three years on Rikers, often in solitary confinement, served as the catalyst for getting the legislation through.

“This bill says that Kalief Browder did not die in vain,” Cuomo stated.

“Finally, we say today, when I sign that piece of paper — no more,” he added. “We’re going to break the cycle.”

“It is my family’s hope that stories like Kalief’s are made into a command for reform of the criminal justice system,” said Akeem Browder.

Cuomo vowed that young people under the age of 18 will stop being held at Rikers no later than October 2018.

Instead, offenders would be placed in specialized juvenile detention facility certified by the Administration for Children’s Services.

They turned the page on age.

Advocates and lawmakers on a mission to make the “Raise the Age” plan the official law of New York State saw their efforts come to fruition on April 10, as Governor Andrew Cuomo signed legislation to raise the age of criminal consent to 18.

New York had previously been one of only two U.S. states, the other being North Carolina, that processed 16- and 17-year-olds through the criminal justice system, regardless of offense.

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Science on Dyckman

Head to Fort Tryon Park on Thurs., Apr. 13th from 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. where “Dr. A” will identify different trees and insects. Participants will test and play with various science tools and interactive games. This event is intended for children aged 4 – 12 years. The class will meet at the Anne Loftus Playground located at Dyckman Street and Broadway.

For more information, please call 212.975.1388 or visit www.nycgovparks.org.

Metro Mashup

Get a little taste of Cuba at El Museo del Barrio on Fri., Apr. 28th from 8:00 p.m. – 12:00 a.m. Discover how Cuba’s love of music and dance has mixed and melded with Puerto-Rican and Afro-Caribbean rhythms to create a sizzling cultural fusion unique to New York City. Registration is required at http://bit.ly/2nMueXe. The museum is located at 1220 Fifth Avenue.

For more information, please call 212.831.7272 or visit www.elmuseo.org.

Cleaning Clutter

Do your part for your neighborhood this spring at Marcus Garvey Park on Sat., Apr. 22nd from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. The Mount Morris Park Community Improvements Association is hosting a spring cleaning event. Clean up decomposing plants and litter, and beautify the park by eliminating weeds and planting fresh flowers. The group will meet at the Children’s Play Area located on Mount Morris Park West and West 124th Street.

For more information, please call 917.674.3313 or visit www.nycgovparks.org.

Beautify the park.

Come to Cuba in El Barrio.

Metro Mashup

Pruebe un poco de sabor de Cuba en El Museo del Barrio el viernes 28 de abril de 8:00 p.m. -12:00 a.m. Descubra cómo el amor de Cuba por la música y la danza se ha mezclado y fusionado con ritmos puertorriqueños y afrocanarios para crear una fusión cultural provocativa y única para la ciudad de Nueva York. Se requiere inscripción en http://bit.ly/2nMueXe. El museo se encuentra en el No. 1220 de la Quinta Avenida.

Para obtener más información, por favor llame al 212.831.7272 o visite www.elmuseo.org.

Cleaning Clutter

Haga su parte por su vecindario esta primavera en el Marcus Garvey Park el sábado 22 de abril de 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. La Asociación de Mejoras Comunitarias de Mount Morris Park organiza un evento de limpieza de primavera. Limpie las plantas en descomposición y la basura, y embellezca el parque eliminando malas hierbas y plantando flores frescas. El grupo se reunirá en el área de juegos infantiles, ubicada en Mount Morris Park Oeste y la Calle 124 Oeste.

Para obtener más información, por favor llame al 917.674.3313 o visite www.nycgovparks.org.

See COMMUNITY p17
One size does not fit all.

Community-based factors such as lack of access to healthy food are causing a high number of Hispanics to suffer from heart disease, explained health professionals recently at the American Heart Association’s sixth annual Latino Summit.

But in seeking to solve the issues, there is no one single standard.

Clinical Nutritionist Meriterese Racanelli, who serves as a consultant with Goya Foods, said it is important to consider cultural factors, for example, when attempting to get communities to eat better.

“We forget when we talk about food and nutrition,” said Racanelli. “You have to consider gender difference, cultural differences, lifestyle,” Racanelli said. “You can’t feed people the same.”

Policymakers and stakeholders from fields including medicine, culinary arts and media gather at the annual day-long conference, which focuses on issues of cardiovascular health among the Latino population in the U.S.

Heart disease and stroke are the leading killers of Latinos in New York City and nationwide.

Compared with non-Hispanic whites, Latinos are more likely to be overweight and obese and to have diabetes—both risk factors for heart disease.

The Summit, in collaboration with Affinity Health Plan, Bristol-Myers Squibb, and Mount Sinai Heart, was held April 5 in Manhattan, and featured various panel discussions and presentations.

Among the speakers was Amanda DeJesus, a heart transplant survivor of Puerto Rican descent.

Born with a hole in her heart, DeJesus at 12 was diagnosed with dilated cardiomyopathy, meaning her heart was too large for her body, and was given a pacemaker.

After suffering heart failure, she was placed on a transplant waitlist.

“Everyone was planning homecoming,” recalled DeJesus. “And I was waiting for a heart.”

Since her transplant at 15, she has focused on culinary pursuits, creating low-sodium diet for pre- and post-heart transplant patients and has written a heart healthy cookbook called Chef with a Heart. She also mentors pre- and post-transplant patients on how to modify their diets.

“I decided to become a chef because I really wanted to help people like myself,” explained DeJesus. “I didn’t want anybody else to struggle. I knew at the end of the day, my passion was going to be to help other people learn the heart-healthy lifestyle.”

Dr. Nicholas Freudenberg, Distinguished Professor of Public Health at Hunter College, said that city lawmakers should play a role in ensuring that high-risk areas have access to healthy food options.

“All solutions are local,” said Dr. Lenny López. "There should be policy that there is healthy and affordable food available to every community, but we don’t have that,” he said.

According to the American Medical Association (AMA), about half of deaths from heart disease are diet-related.

Freudenberg said the city’s institutions need to become “models for healthy living,” and called on schools to eliminate sugary beverages and snacks.

He also suggested that New York City could benefit from a tax on sugary beverages, noting that Mexico has done the same with positive results.

At the local level, CUNY’S Food Policy

Muscle and Might

Summit focuses on Latino heart health

Story by Gregg McQueen and Debralee Santos
Photos by Gregg McQueen

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At the local level, CUNY’S Food Policy

See MIGHT p21

La Cumbre Latina se llevó a cabo por sexto año.

Músculo y Poder

La Cumbre Latina se llevó a cabo por sexto año.

Cumbre se centra en la salud del corazón latino

Historia por Gregg McQueen y Debralee Santos
Fotos por Gregg McQueen

Una talla no sirve para todos.

Factores comunitarios como la falta de acceso a alimentos saludables están causando que un alto número de hispanos sufran de enfermedades del corazón, explicaron...
Nearly three dozen nonprofit small businesses are getting a boost this month, thanks to a grant program from the city’s Department of Small Business Services (SBS).

Designed to bolster commercial districts and increase access to goods and services within underserved neighborhoods, Avenue NYC grants are awarded by SBS each year to community-based development organizations.

This year, 34 organizations have received grants of up to $30,000 for projects such as client retention, façade improvements, merchant organizing and business development.

The group of grant-winners includes two Northern Manhattan organizations, Harlem Park to Park and the Washington Heights Business Improvement District (BID).

“They’re good to grant.”

“It’s not easy when you’re small,” said Nikoa Evans-Hendricks.
The New York State budget now allows low-income mothers to get donor breast milk for premature babies through Medicaid. Low-weight, premature infants are at high risk of dying from necrotizing enterocolitis, or NEC.

The best food to help them ward off the disease is human breast milk, but some mothers don’t produce enough.

According to Julie Bouchet-Horwitz, Executive Director of The New York Milk Bank, it costs about $3,200 to supply enough donor milk for each premature infant while he or she is in the hospital.

But treating NEC can cost $350,000.

“For every six babies that you treat with donor milk, you save one incidence of NEC, so it’s definitely cost effective for them to prevent this disease,” she said.

Pasteurized donor human milk costs $4.50 an ounce.

The nonprofit New York Milk Bank is the only donor milk bank operating in the state. About 3,300 premature infants are born in New York each year, and the availability of Medicaid coverage could increase the demand for donor milk. Although the New York Milk Bank just opened last September, Bouchet-Horwitz says they’re ready.

“We knew that about 200,000 ounces would be needed to feed these babies,” she added. “We planned to meet that need and have everything in place for when this happened so that’s what we prepared for.”

Private insurance doesn’t pay for donor breast milk, but some infants are being covered on a case-by-case basis.

Bouchet-Horwitz thinks the availability of Medicaid coverage may spur insurance companies to consider offering coverage for donor milk.

About 3,300 premature infants are born in New York each year.

Felices Pascuas

Nuevo plus para bebés prematuros

Por New York News Connection

La mejor comida para ayudarlos a evitar la enfermedad es la leche materna, pero algunas madres no producen la suficiente.

De acuerdo con Julie Bouchet-Horwitz, directora ejecutiva del Banco de Leche de Nueva York, cuesta alrededor de $3,200 dólares el suministrar suficiente leche de donante para cada bebé prematuro mientras está en el hospital.
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diciendo: “Oh, los activistas se encargarán de ello, los funcionarios electos se ocuparán de ello”, señaló Almontaser. “Ahora ves a la gente diciendo: Tengo que ser parte de la solución”.

Los líderes musulmanes, judíos y cristianos encabezaron una reunión que comenzó en el Seminario Teológico Judío (JTS, por sus siglas en inglés), luego marcharon sobre Broadway, Riverside Drive y a través de la calle 125 para terminar en el Teatro Nacional Negro.

El imán Al-Hajj Talib Abdur-Rashid de la Mezquita de la Hermandad Islámica, que descendió de la mezquita musulmana fundada por Malcolm X, dijo que los participantes se habían reunido no por su religión sino por su “centro moral”.

“Hoy nos reúnomos para afirmar nuestra creencia como una comunidad diversa de fe, que Dios está hablando y estamos escuchando”, dijo. “El declara la unidad de la humanidad y nosotros estamos escuchando. Él eleva y establece la justicia y denuncia la intolerancia y el fanatismo, y estamos escuchando y actuando para demostrar nuestro compromiso de construir una comunidad amada con base en esos principios”.

Arnold M. Eisen, canciller del JTS, destacó el número de jóvenes en la multitud.

“Es realmente alentador ver a todos los estudiantes aquí”, dijo Eisen. “La próxima generación son los que necesitan ver a través de esto”.

El llamado ahora tiene que ser para la siguiente generación para que reconozca estamos en un momento en el que esta administración quiere retroceder décadas y décadas de progreso”, señaló el contralor de la Ciudad, Scott Stringer, sobre las políticas de Trump. “No nos equivoquemos, nuestra forma de contratacar es asegurarnos de construir una coalición”.

La presidenta del condado de Manhattan, Gale Brewer, invocó el espíritu de las ciudades santuario, señalando que los funcionarios electos deben defender a las poblaciones vulnerables.

“Necesitamos que cada líder en el gobierno de la ciudad y del estado proteja a los de su comunidad”, dijo Brewer. “En medio del suelo americano, hay demasiada gente experimentando la pesadilla estadounidense.”

La reverenda Amy Butler de la iglesia Riverside recordó el famoso discurso que Martin Luther King, Jr. entregó en esa iglesia hace 50 años, cuando instó a los estadounidenses a volver a rededicarse “a la larga y amarga, pero hermosa, lucha por un mundo nuevo”.

“We march together in unity, because diversity and fuentes cuando estamos con y para el otro”, dijo Butler. “Marchamos juntos en unidad, porque la justicia todavía está oculta y la justicia sigue reprimida, pero triunfaremos”, dijo la reverenda Lisa D. Jenkins de la Iglesia Bautista de St. Matthew en Harlem.

“Marchamos porque la xenofobia y la intolerancia religiosa están siempre presentes en esta tierra de la libertad y hogar de los valientes, pero triunfaremos”.

Muchos manifestantes blandían carteles con mensajes de tolerancia e inclusión.

“Creo que es una cosa hermosa”, dijo Gloria, miembro de la congregación de St. Matthew, de la marcha. “Es la ciudad de Nueva York representando al mundo. Espero que los de Washington se den cuenta.”

“Dios está hablando y estamos escuchando”, dijo el imán Al-Hajj Talib Abdur-Rashid.
A Long Last
As markets start to stock up on more fresh produce for shoppers to fill their bags, the New York League of Conservation Voters (NYLCV) offers the following tips.

Storing Tips
• Tomatoes: Air enters tomatoes through their stems, so blocking as much contact with the stem as possible will slow their decay. Storing them upside down reduces the surface area through which air can enter the stem.
• Cucumbers last longer when stored at room temperature. Do not refrigerate.
• Avocados are kept green by contact with oil, which comes from their pits. Leaving pits in avocados keeps them fresh longer. Or, you can spray an avocado product like guacamole with cooking spray before putting it in the fridge.
• Carrots are kept crisp by contact with water. Store them standing in water after cutting off the leafy green top.
• Ginger and green onions last longer when frozen. Keep green onions in a little plastic bottle, though, because contact with moisture will cause freezer burn.
• Blueberries, blackberries, and strawberries always seem to spoil the quickest. Washing them in vinegar, then storing inside a paper-towel lining, will make these berries last one or two weeks. Empty the container, pad it with a paper towel, then just put the berries back in.
• Potatoes can be kept from sprouting by storing them with apples.
• Herbs and leafy greens will last longer when stored in water, just like a bouquet.

Blocking Decomposition Triggers
• Produce bags absorb the gas that accelerates ripening decomposition, ethylene.
• Or, you can place ethylene gas absorbers to put in your fridge.
• Just wrapping or covering your fruits and vegetables with a paper towel will absorb moisture and preserve freshness.
• Bananas produce a lot of ethylene. Store them away from other produce, or cover their brown stems with a little piece of plastic to keep their ethylene out of the air.
• Limit chopping produce. When you cut a piece of produce, you increase the rate of airflow inside, which accelerates decomposition.
• Keep countertop foods out of sunlight. Sunlight accelerates decomposition.
• Freeze whatever you know you won’t use in time. Freezing slows decomposition.

For more information on NYLCV, please visit nylcv.org.

De larga duración
A medida que los mercados empiezan a abastecerse de más productos frescos para que los compradores llenen sus bolsas, la Liga de Conservación de Volantes de Nueva York (NYLCV, por sus siglas en inglés) ofrece los siguientes consejos.

Consejos de almacenamiento
• Tomates: El aire entra en los tomates a través de sus tallos, por lo que bloquear tanto contacto con el tallo como sea posible retrasará su descomposición. Almacénelos al revés reduce el área superficial a través de la cual el aire puede entrar en el tallo.
• Los pepinos Duran más tiempo cuando se almacenan a temperatura ambiente. No los refrigeré.
• Los aguacates Se mantienen verdes por el contacto con el aceite, que viene de sus semillas. Dejar la semilla en el aguacate los mantiene frescos por más tiempo. O, usted puede rociar un producto del aguacate como guacamole con aceite para cocinar antes de ponerlo en el refrigerador.
• Las zanahorias se mantienen crujientes en contacto con agua. Almacénelas de forma vertical en agua después de cortar la parte superior de hojas verdes.
• El jengibre y cebollín duran más tiempo al ser congelados. Mantenga los cebollines en una pequeña botella de plástico, pues el contacto con la humedad causará quemaduras por congelación.
• Arándanos, moras y fresas siempre parecen echarse a perder más rápido. Lávelas con vinagre, luego almacénelas en toallas de papel, lo que hará que estas bayas duren una o dos semanas. Vacíe el recipiente, rellénelo con una toalla de papel, luego coloque las bayas.
• Las papas se pueden almacenar con manzanas para evitar su descomposición.
• Las hierbas y hojas verdes durarán más tiempo almacenadas en agua, como un ramo.

Bloquear los desencadenantes de descomposición
• Las bolsas de los productos absorben el gas que acelera la descomposición de maduración, el etileno.

• O puede colocar absorbentes de gas etileno en su refrigerador.
• El envolver o cubrir sus frutas y verduras con una toalla de papel absorberá la humedad y preservará la frescura.
• Los plátanos producen mucho etileno.

Para obtener más información sobre NYLCV, por favor visite nylcv.org.
Try one of these eateries for your next meal or party.

**El Conde Restaurant**
Dominican Steakhouse
4139 Broadway at W. 175th St.
212-781-3231
The grill is front and center at El Conde so you know you will get your steak cooked to perfection. Families also flock here for seafood, specialty pastas and salads. Ask about drink specials from the fully stocked bar.

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and the state’s Office of Children and Family Services, and in conjunction with the state’s Commission of Correction and the New York City Department of Corrections.

“Kalief, we didn’t just memorialize — we did something about it,” said Sharpton. “He’s a symbol who turned into legislation.”

Cuomo insisted that state lawmakers had wanted to drop the contentious Raise the Age plan from the budget in order to get a new budget passed.

“Raise the Age was so hard to do, and it was in the budget, and we had to get the budget done so the legislative leaders basically gave up on it,” said Cuomo. He remarked that Raise the Age was so hard to do, and it was in the budget, and we had to get the budget done so the legislative leaders basically gave up on it,” said Cuomo. He remarked that Raise the Age would not have passed if left out of the budget, because “the budget is something you have to pass — you don’t have to pass anything else.”

He said that in addition to raise the age, the new state budget contained “a lot of smart things,” including legal defense services for immigrants and free tuition at CUNY and SUNY for families with annual incomes below $125,000, measures he said other states would try to duplicate.

“You watch the other states start to copy what we do, because it’s smart, it’s common sense,” he commented.

Cuomo explained that non-violent offenders who do not commit a crime for 10 years will be eligible to have their records sealed, a move he said would remove a “scarlet letter” on young people’s records which often served as a barrier to getting employment.

Some supporters were more measured in their support for the final bill, which ran over 25,000 words.

“I think this is a victory,” she added.

“This is a victory,” said Iesha Sekou.

“We have not done everything that I would have liked to have done, to have seen,” said State Senator Velmanette Montgomery, who has sponsored the legislation since 2012. “But at least, we have changed the direction. We just have to continue looking at children as children.”

Advocates insisted that the new legislation would change the lives of many youths who were unnecessarily tried as adults.

“There’s a sense of hopelessness among young people, especially black and brown young people in urban communities,” said Iesha Sekou, who runs Harlem-based anti-violence group Street Corner Resources. “Most things were set up to put them in jail. And we see them as adults, and they’re just so damaged.”

“I think this is a victory,” she added.

“This is a big, big deal,” said Mission Society Executive Director Elsie McCabe Thompson. “And long overdue.”

“Too many of our young people never have a second chance at a life,” said City Councilmember Vanessa Gibson. “They make one mistake and that determines their future.”

She said that while it was important to keep young people off Rikers, the city needs to also bolster its court system.

“We want to make sure we build up our family courts, in terms of support and moving them through the system,” she said. “I don’t want them languishing in Family Court, either.”
TAX from p6

Proof of Income
• Forms W-2,1099s, or income and expense records if you are self-employed (Go to nyc.gov/taxprep for a list.)

Other
• 2015 tax return (if available)
To file online: You need your 2015 Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) or Self-Select PIN Number: If you cannot find this information on the return, visit IRS.Gov/GetReady or call 1-800-829-1040.
• Proof of health insurance coverage or Health Insurance Exemption Certificate for you, your spouse, and your dependents
• Payment records for child care, including the provider’s name, address, and Employer Identification Number, Taxpayer Identification Number, or Social Security number
• Records of cash and non-cash charitable contributions
Account and routing numbers for direct deposit of your refund

If you are filing a joint return, both spouses must be present.

For more information about DCA and its work, call 311 or visit DCA at nyc.gov/dca.

IMPUESTOS de p6

Pruebas de Ingresos
• Formas W-2,1099s, o registros de ingresos y gastos si usted trabaja por cuenta propia (vaya a nyc.gov/taxprep para encontrar una lista).

Otros
• Declaración de impuestos 2015 (si está disponible)
Para presentar en línea: necesita su Número de Ingreso Bruto Ajustado (AGI, por sus siglas en inglés) del 2015 o PIN auto seleccionado.
Si no puede encontrar esta información en la devolución, visite IRS.Gov/GetReady o llame al 1-800-829-1040.
• Prueba de cobertura de seguro de salud o Certificado de Exención del Seguro de Salud para usted, su cónyuge y sus dependientes.
• Registros de pago de cuidado infantil, incluyendo el nombre del proveedor, dirección, número de identificación del empleador, número de identificación del contribuyente o número de Seguro Social.
• Registros de contribuciones de caridad en efectivo y no monetarias
• Cuenta y números de ruta para el depósito directo de su reembolso

Si está presentando una declaración conjunta, ambos cónyuges deben estar presentes.

Para más información sobre el DCA y su labor, llame al 311 o visite el sitio web del DCA en nyc.gov/dca.
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Fighting Fraud

Say no to fraudulent “notarios.”

The City Council has passed legislation to help protect immigrants against fraud.

A new bill imposes stricter guidelines on providers of non-legal immigration services such as translating forms and obtaining passport photos.

Sometimes referred to as “notarios” as they offer notarization services, providers would be banned from offering services that should only be provided by an attorney, and prevents them from making misleading statements that could cause a client to think they are authorized to give legal assistance.

Providers will be required to post signs and issue contracts that outline the customer’s rights in the language in which services are offered.

The legislation also requires the city’s Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) to produce a Consumer Bill of Rights and report of efforts to combat fraudulent providers.

“Now more than ever it is important to protect our immigrant communities and my legislation does just that,” said Councilmember Daniel Dromm, the lead sponsor of the bill. “It clarifies prohibited conduct for service providers and strengthens posting requirements, which now must direct individuals to the Office of New Americans’ hotline for complaints and legal help. Furthermore, it doubles penalties for those who would still take advantage of immigrants, with fines ranging from $500 to $10,000.”

Councilmembers noted that there are often long wait lists to meet with authorized attorneys and Department of Justice-accredited representatives regarding immigration matters, leading clients to seek help from unscrupulous providers.

“The current political climate has made it clear that our vulnerable immigrant communities must be protected,” stated Council Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito. “Unfortunately, those same fears have been capitalized upon by dishonest actors in search of a profit at any cost. Imposing stricter standards for providers, when coupled with strong enforcement by DCA, ensures that customers do not fall victim to fraud and the unauthorized practice of immigration law.”

For more information, go to bit.ly/immigrantNYC.

Salvaguarda contra el fraude de inmigración

Diga ‘no’ a los notarios fraudulentos.

El Concejo de la ciudad de Nueva York ha aprobado una legislación para ayudar a proteger a los inmigrantes contra el fraude.

Una nueva ley impone directrices más estrictas para los proveedores de servicios de inmigración no legales tales como traduciendo formas y obtener fotos para pasaportes.

Le prohíbe a los proveedores ofrecer servicios que solo deberían ser provistos por un abogado, y les impide hacer declaraciones engañosas que pudieran causar que un cliente pensara están autorizados para brindar asistencia legal.

Se le requerirá a los proveedores el colocar letreros y hacer contratos que definen los derechos del cliente en el idioma en el cual se ofrecen los servicios.

La legislación también requiere que el Departamento de Asuntos al Consumidor produzca una Carta de Derechos del Consumidor y reporte sus esfuerzos para combatir a proveedores fraudulentos.

“Ahora más que nunca es importante proteger a nuestras comunidades de inmigrantes y la ley que acabamos de aprobar hace justo eso”, dijo el Concejal Daniel Dromm, el principal patrocinador de la ley. “Clarifica conductas prohibidas para los proveedores de servicios y fortalece los requisitos, que ahora deben dirigir a los individuos a la línea caliente de la Oficina de Nuevos Americanos para quejas y ayuda legal. Además, dobla las penalidades para aquellos que todavía se aprovechen de los inmigrantes, con multas fluctuando entre $500 a $10,000.

Miembros del Concejo observaron que a menudo hay largas listas de espera para reunirse con abogados autorizados y representantes acreditados por el Departamento de Justicia referente a asuntos de inmigración, llevando a los clientes a buscar ayuda de proveedores inescrupulosos.

“El clima político actual ha hecho claro que nuestras vulnerables comunidades de inmigrantes deben de ser protegidas”, señaló la Portavoz del Concejo Melissa Mark-Viverito.

“Desafortunadamente, esos mismos temores han sido aprovechados por actores deshonestos en búsqueda de una ganancia a cualquier costo. La imposición de normas más estrictas a los proveedores, cuando se combina con una fuerte aplicación de la ley por el Departamento de Asuntos al Consumidor, asegura que los clientes no sean víctimas del fraude y la práctica no autorizada de las leyes de inmigración. Para más información visite bit.ly/immigrantNYC.

El Concejo de la Ciudad recientemente aprobó la legislación.
Los Centros Action de Salud del Vecindario están arraigados en un movimiento que comenzó hace casi 100 años. El Departamento de Salud, en asociación con la Cruz Roja Americana, estableció un programa piloto en East Harlem en 1921 que ubicó de forma conjunta a las agencias de salud, bienestar y organizaciones comunitarias para mejorar la salud de la comunidad. Durante un período de 10 años, East Harlem vio una disminución de las muertes infantiles y un aumento en la esperanza de vida.

La administración del alcalde Fiorello H. La Guardia expandió el modelo de East Harlem y creó 30 edificios de Salud del Distrito en vecindarios de alta necesidad en toda la ciudad.

Con el lanzamiento de los Centros Action, la ciudad apunta a un nuevo enfoque integrando la atención primaria con conexiones a los servicios locales, la acción comunitaria y la planificación del vecindario.

**ACTION PLAN**

Los Centros Action de Salud del Vecindario están arreglados en un movimiento que comenzó hace casi 100 años. El Departamento de Salud, en asociación con la Cruz Roja Americana, estableció un programa piloto en East Harlem en 1921 que ubicó de forma conjunta a las agencias de salud, bienestar y organizaciones comunitarias para mejorar la salud de la comunidad. Durante un periodo de 10 años, East Harlem vio una disminución de las muertes infantiles y un aumento en la esperanza de vida.

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El centro ofrece espacio comunitario.

**HEALTH from p4**

“The centers are part of Mayor de Blasio’s commitment to reduce health inequities and expand access to health care across the city,” said Bassett. “By investing in health and social services in communities, for communities, the city renews its commitment to tackle inequality and help New Yorkers live their healthiest lives.”

The trio of centers are part of the Center for Health Equity’s mission to help eliminate health inequities and were made possible by Mayor Bill de Blasio’s commitment of $3 million in city funds.

East Harlem, Brownsville and Tremont have the highest rates of premature death and chronic disease in New York City.

Los Centros Action de Salud del Vecindario forman parte del compromiso del alcalde de Blasio de reducir las desigualdades en salud y fue posible gracias al compromiso del alcalde. Bill de Blasio de $3 millones de dólares en fondos de la ciudad.

East Harlem, Brownsville y Tremont tienen las tasas más altas de muerte prematura y enfermedad crónica en la ciudad de Nueva York.

“Los Centros Action de Salud del Vecindario forman parte del compromiso del alcalde de Blasio de reducir las desigualdades en salud y ampliar el acceso a la atención médica en toda la ciudad”, dijo Palacio.

“Al invertir en salud y servicios sociales en las comunidades, para las comunidades, la ciudad renueva su compromiso de enfrentar la desigualdad y ayudar a los neoyorquinos a llevar vidas más saludables”.

El centro ofrece espacio comunitario.

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El centro ofrece espacio comunitario.

**SALUD de p4**

un cuidado eficaz”, dijo el Dr. Jonathan Keith Joseph, director médico de Harlem United.

También se anunció la apertura parcial de los Centros Action en los barrios Brownsville, de Brooklyn, y la sección Tremont del Bronx.

Hace décadas, el movimiento de los centros de salud de los vecindarios mejoró dramáticamente la salud de las comunidades en la ciudad de Nueva York. Con el lanzamiento de los Centros Action de Salud del Vecindario, estamos llevando este modelo completamente al siglo XXI, agregando nuevos servicios y nuevas tecnologías”, dijo Bassett. “Los centros proporcionan un espacio importante para la planificación comunitaria de la salud pública y destinan los recursos a los barrios con altos índices de enfermedades crónicas y muerte prematura”.

El tributo de centros forma parte de la misión del Centro para la Equidad de la Salud de ayudar a eliminar las desigualdades en salud y fue posible gracias al compromiso del alcalde Bill de Blasio de $3 millones de dólares en fondos de la ciudad.

East Harlem, Brownsville y Tremont tienen las tasas más altas de muerte prematura y enfermedad crónica en la ciudad de Nueva York.

Los Centros Action de Salud del Vecindario forman parte del compromiso del alcalde de Blasio de reducir las desigualdades en salud y ampliar el acceso a la atención médica en toda la ciudad”, dijo Palacio.

“Al invertir en salud y servicios sociales en las comunidades, para las comunidades, la ciudad renueva su compromiso de enfrentar la desigualdad y ayudar a los neoyorquinos a llevar vidas más saludables”.

El centro ofrece espacio comunitario.

Los Centros Action de Salud del Vecindario están arreglados en un movimiento que comenzó hace casi 100 años. El Departamento de Salud, en asociación con la Cruz Roja Americana, estableció un programa piloto en East Harlem en 1921 que ubicó de forma conjunta a las agencias de salud, bienestar y organizaciones comunitarias para mejorar la salud de la comunidad. Durante un periodo de 10 años, East Harlem vio una disminución de las muertes infantiles y un aumento en la esperanza de vida.

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Participants also voiced concern that the policies of the Trump administration could make it more difficult for at-risk populations to access nutritious meals. Torres said that federal cuts to the Meals on Wheels program would be devastating to local seniors.

“We have 1,600 people who will be impacted. They’re going to be admitted to the hospital,” he said. “There are implications here, and we’re scared.”

Dr. Lenny López, Associate Professor of Medicine at the San Francisco VA Medical Center, offered the keynote address. He argued that a Republican repeal of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) would have a negative effect on Latinos, many of whom were able to obtain health insurance for the first time under Obamacare.

“Insurance is really, really important. What’s going on in D.C. will be incredibly detrimental for our efforts in improving Latino health,” he said.

However, López refused to label the Latino population as “vulnerable,” stating that they had the power to fight back against issues impacting their health.

“We’re resilient — we’re not vulnerable or disadvantaged,” he said. “It’s important to emphasize empowerment.”

López suggested that health inequity issues will not be resolved at the national level.

“All solutions to health disparity issues are local,” he said. “We want to talk about the power we have in our communities.”

For a heart-healthy recipe from Amanda DeJesus, please visit www.manhattantimesnews.com.

For more information, please visit www.heart.org or call 800.AHA.USA1.
companies to add breast milk to their policies and lead to an overall increase in breastfeeding.

“We’re hoping that this will infiltrate down to the public in general the importance of human milk and how species-specific it is, what a specialized food it is and first food for all babies,” she explained.

Several other states already provide Medicaid coverage for donor breast milk.

For more information, please visit www.nymilkbank.org or call 212.956.6455.

Pero el tratamiento para NEC puede costar $350,000 dólares. “Por cada seis bebés que usted trata con leche de donante, se ahorrará una incidencia de NEC, por lo que es definitivamente rentable para ellos prevenir esta enfermedad”, dijo.

La organización sin fines de lucro Banco de Leche de Nueva York es el único banco de donantes de leche que opera en el estado. Cerca de 3,300 bebés prematuros nacen en Nueva York cada año y la disponibilidad de la cobertura de Medicaid podría aumentar la demanda de leche de los donantes. Aunque el Banco de Leche de Nueva York acaba de abrirse en septiembre, Bouchet-Horwitz dice que están listos.

El seguro privado no paga por la leche materna de donantes, pero algunos bebés están siendo cubiertos caso por caso. Bouchet-Horwitz cree que la disponibilidad de la cobertura de Medicaid puede estimular a las compañías de seguros a agregar leche materna a sus políticas y conducir a un aumento general de la lactancia materna. “Esperamos que esto infiltré en el público la importancia de la leche humana y cómo es específica de la especie, que es un alimento especializado y el primer alimento para todos los bebés”, explicó.

Varios otros estados ya proporcionan cobertura de Medicaid para leche materna de donantes.

Para obtener más información, por favor visite www.nymilkbank.org o llame al 212.956.MILK (6455).
“Interacting with the children in the neighborhood reminded me of the importance of the work I do,” she remarked, adding that she was especially touched by some of the comments from the young women who sought her out. “I had several say that I was a role model for them and that they had seen me on TV. It is rare that Latina youth have the opportunity to see people who look like them in prominent positions in government and media.”

Organizers said the strong community response would lead them to consider making the event an annual tradition.

“Next time we would probably have to space them out more and hide them in different places, and we would also have to have more space for the kids to move,” Tejada, in fact, was already planning on a few strategic changes.

“The eggs were scattered all over the place this year,” she noted. “[Next time] we would have to have more space for the kids to move.”

For more information, please visit on.nyc.gov/2oqig9f.

SBS from p10

“The Avenue NYC initiative is investing in local, community-based organizations to help strengthen and preserve small business corridors across our city,” said SBS Commissioner Gregg Bishop.

“Small businesses are an essential part of building vibrant neighborhoods, and the grants we are awarding will help meet tailored, local needs.”

The Washington Heights BID will use the grant to promote fashion and beauty businesses along 181st Street, Broadway and St. Nicholas Avenue.

Harlem Park to Park Executive Director Nikoa Evans-Hendricks said her organization will use the award as a place-making grant to help with marketing for two events it sponsors, the Shop Harlem Live Harlem and Harlem Harvest Festival.

Formed in 2009, Harlem Park to Park provides technical assistance and mentoring to Harlem’s growing vendor community.

The group has partnered with Whole Foods, which is opening a Harlem store this summer year on the corner of West 125th and Malcolm X Boulevard, which led to 22 local vendors being selected to sell their products within Whole Foods.

“The days of getting a storefront are over,” Evans-Hendricks said. “Commercial rents are too high. They’ve had to figure out new distribution channels, but it’s not easy when you’re small. These grants help us help the small businesses.”

For more information, please visit on.nyc.gov/2oqig9f.

CAZA de p3

centros en leyes y política. Esta es una celebración [más] alegre”, dijo Alcántara entre sesiones de baile infantil y posando para fotos con niños pequeños.

“La interacción con los niños del vecindario me recordó la importancia del trabajo que hago”, comentó, agregando que estaba especialmente emocionada por algunos de los comentarios de las jóvenes que la buscaron. “Varias me dijeron que yo era un modelo para ellas y que me habían visto en la televisión. Es raro que las jóvenes latinas tengan la oportunidad de ver a personas que se parecen a ellas en posiciones prominentes en el gobierno y los medios de comunicación”.

Los organizadores dijeron que la fuerte respuesta de la comunidad les llevaría a considerar hacer del evento una tradición anual.

Tejada, de hecho, ya estaba planeando algunos cambios estratégicos.

“Los huevos estaban dispersos por todo el lugar este año”, señaló. “[La próxima vez] probablemente tendríamos que separarlos más y ocultarlos en diferentes lugares y también tendríamos que tener más espacio para que los niños se muevan”.

Para obtener más información, por favor visite on.nyc.gov/2oqig9f.
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