Please keep program funded

Dear editor,

This year, the BronxWorks Senior Homelessness Prevention Project helped avoid eviction, but it is unfortunately at risk of shutting down in June unless the city steps in to continue the program.

I am 50 years old and I have been living in my apartment in the Bronx for eight years. I was sent to Housing Court because my husband injured himself at work and lost his income. He was unable to assist me and I had other expenses I needed to cover. When I was brought to Housing Court, I was told to visit the Senior Homelessness Prevention Project.

The caseworker who assigned me to this is very helpful. Since receiving help, I feel like a load is lifted from my shoulders. Owning over $10,000 is a lot of money. In addition to helping me with my arrearage, my manager is helping me with my SCHC application. I tried to apply last year but I did not hear back from them. Once my arrearage is paid off, I know I will be able to maintain my apartment going forward.

I hope the City Council will see the importance of the Senior Homelessness Prevention Project and provide funding to keep it open.

Sandra Walker

Honorary those that serve

Dear editor,

In these difficult economic times, it is especially important to patronize your favorite restaurants and honor the employees who make them a success. Why not join me in celebrating National Waiter and Waitress Day on May 21st? There are several ways to say thank you. Let your server(s), cooks and owners know how much you appreciate the excellent service and tasty food.

On this day, don’t forget your cook and server. We try to tip 20 percent against the total bill including taxes. If it is an odd amount, round up to the next dollar. Why not leave a 25% tip on this day? When you leave a 25% tip, it leaves a dollar or two for the waiter or cook. Trust us, it is appreciated.

Remember the people who work at your favorite restaurant are our neighbors. They work long hours for little pay and count on tips, which make up a significant portion of their income. If we don’t patronize our local restaurants, they don’t eat either. Your purchases keep our neighbors employed and the local economy growing.

Why not drop off a box of candy, cookies or some other treat for your favorite waiters or restaurant staff on this day as well? Leave them a thank you card or note along with a larger than normal tip.

Larry Penner

What you should know

Dear editor,

It’s about time for senators Jeff Klein and Mike Gianaris to have a serious conversation. You should know that it is sad to see the way in which the leaders of the NYS Senate Democratic conferences are allowing their conferences to be the laughing stock of Albany.

It’s time for Senator Klein and Senator Gianaris to sit down and have a serious conversation before they destroy the regular and independent democratic conferences, taking everybody down with them.

I, for one, learned my lesson in 2009 when I was a part of the Four Amigos: former senators Pedro Espada, Carl Kruger, Hiram Monserrate, and myself. Our search for power and equality almost destroyed the Senate Democratic Conference.

Now, in 2017, we are starting to see how both Democratic conferences have become the target of the press and the topic of the day.

It is sad to see working- and dedicated public servants, like Senator Diane Savino and others, being thrown under the bus just because of other people’s ambition for power.

I have to say that Senator Savino never misses a committee meeting, and is present at every event she can possibly attend. She works hard and is dedicated to her duties and those others, deserves not only the stipend she receives, but more.

I am afraid that the power struggle and the personal dislike that Senator Klein and Senator Gianaris feel toward each other could be the destruction of both Senate Democratic conferences, tearing their members with them, even including some from the Republican Conference.

Ladies and gentlemen, the press is loving this. Since 2009, the press has been saying that Albany is full of corruption and that we are all corrupt. I am afraid that with these personal animosities, calling for investigations, and trying to destroy the reputations of others, we are going down the wrong path to achieve unity within the Democratic Conference and control of the Senate.

I would like to offer my two cents, and give my humble opinion to these two good Democrats and distinguished senators, Klein and Gianaris, who have always shown their dedication, love and commitment to their community and party.

They should sit down and put aside any personal animosities they may have for each other, and have a serious conversation about the future of the Senate Democratic Conferences. Otherwise we will go back to 2006, and I know what I’m talking about.

Senator Rev. Rubén Díaz

Sending love, well wishes

Dear editor,

As a former Bronx resident for 55 years, now living in Arizona, I just love receiving the Bronx Times and seeing all the good things going on. I lived in the east Bronx and was born there near the Yankee Stadium area. I’m still a Yankee fan. I’ve lived in Arizona for 25 years and have made many friends from NY and we just love talking about our time in the Bronx and NY. Please keep sending Bronx Times to me, I love it.

Eleanor Faso

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor: Readers are encouraged to send us their viewpoints. Name and address must be included, but will be withheld upon request. Letter writer should be as brief as possible, not exceeding 200 words.

BUR

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