

AT A GLANCE

RIVERDALE — Manhattan College has a new dean — Bronx native Michael Carey.

A San Francisco State University-trained clinical psychologist from Woodlawn, Carney, 42, has served as director of counseling and health services at Manhattan College since 2006. He also taught classes at the Catholic institution as an adjunct professor.

In his new role, he will supervise residence life and student development. Carey attended Fordham Preparatory School and graduated from Vassar College with a degree in religious studies.

MORRIS HEIGHTS — The Davidson Community Center, in conjunction with the Parks Department and Equinox Fitness Clubs, is offering free Zumba classes this summer on Thursdays at 3 p.m. and Fridays at 8 a.m.

Zumba is a fusion of Latin, international and popular music dance themes. The classes involve fast and slow dance steps that help tone and sculpt the body.

The center is located at 2038 Davidson Ave. (at the corner of West Burnside Ave.). For more information, call (718) 731-6360.

JEROME PARK — The Lehman College Chorus and the Lehman College Community Chorus are accepting new members for the fall semester.

The Lehman College Chorus, which meets on Mondays and Wednesdays from 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m., will hold rehearsals on Monday, Aug. 30. The Lehman College Community Chorus will begin rehearsals on Tuesday, Aug. 31, and meets on Tuesday evenings from 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Community members may join either chorus. There is no course fee required to participate unless college credit is desired. Previous choral experience and note reading ability are recommended.

Both choruses rehearse in Room 330 of Lehman College's Music Building. For more information, call the choral director, Prof. Diana Mittler-Battipaglia at (718) 960-7795.

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PRIDE'S HIGH IN BX.

BY DAN GESSLEIN
DAILY NEWS WRITER

THE BRONX is holding a giant coming-out party for its gay community on Sunday that also signals the reemergence of its Bronx Community Pride Center.

When the city finally green-lighted a pride event — sans parade — two years ago, it was confined to Baretto Point Park in the industrial end of Hunts Point with the smells from a fertilizer plant wafting through the park.

But this year's event will be held at Crotona Park from noon to 7 p.m., with several elected officials, along with some 2,000 participants, expected to attend.

It will also be a celebration for

Gay parade set & nabe center reopens

the Bronx Community Pride Center as it relaunches with new leadership.

Executive Director Dirk McCall, a well known figure in the Bronx political community, is working to expand center programs to include gay senior citizens as well as reaching out to the Latino community.

Next month, staff members will be given classes in Spanish and McCall is making the center's website bilingual.

Outreach does not just include the Latino community, he said. Center officials will be reaching out to the clergy, high schools, col-

leges and police precinct community councils to inform them of social service programs offered as well as to educate people about the Bronx gay community.

"I want to take the chance to welcome Dirk McCall, who recently became the executive director of the Bronx Community Pride Center, and to offer him my office's assistance," said Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr. "He is an enthusiastic community leader who I am sure will do a great job directing this important organization."

McCall worked for real estate and political doyen Kathy Zamechansky and knows many of

the borough's politicians. He met Diaz and City Councilman Joel Rivera before they entered politics.

In his two months as executive director, McCall said he hasn't seen the cultural and political opposition to the gay community that's been a problem in the past.

"Every year the boundaries come down a little bit more," McCall said. "We serve the most vulnerable population in the most underserved borough. I'm not good at taking 'no' for an answer. I'll bang on doors until they open."

For more information on the services the Bronx Community Pride Center offers call (718) 292-4368 or click on www.bronxpride.org.



Bronx Community Pride Center Executive Director Dirk McCall (center) and his staff are increasing services for the gay community in the Bronx.

Cash-strapped Yonkers brings back laid-off workers

BY VISHAL PERSAUD
DAILY NEWS WRITER

BUDGET WOES caused coffers to go dry in Yonkers a few months ago.

But the city has now found a way to restore some essential public services — with extra taxpayer dollars.

Yonkers has reopened two fire companies and brought back 10 firefighters laid off during tumultuous budget negotiations.

"The people are as protected as they've been in the past," Mayor Phil Amicone proclaimed earlier this week.

The city managed to spare the fire services funding despite cuts in services across the city that saved \$4.5 million.

But residents will now have to pay extra to put some firefighters back to work.

To meet the cost, Amicone and the City Council had set aside a contingency fund that was created by voting an increase in the income tax surcharge, which rose from 10% to 15%.

Also, additional savings created by the city's fire commissioner helped bring back some laid off firefighters.

Other city services like twice-a-week garbage pickup and some police officer jobs were saved after Amicone managed to reach some cost-saving agreements with the sanitation and police unions.

But the fire unions did not make any con-

cessions, which still left 23 firefighters without jobs.

"We were hoping savings from the union would pay for it," said the mayor's spokesman, David Simpson.

The fire unions say they've been working to come up with a way to get all of their members back to work. But the mayor's office said they haven't had any contact with the unions in the last four weeks.

Despite failed negotiations, young firefighters like Brian Murphy, 24, are glad to be back at work at Station 14 on Central Park Ave. to protect city residents.

"I think they'll feel a hell of a lot safer," he said. "They'll feel more confident that we can fulfill our job."