# Poor MTA planning

Dear editor.

As I look out my window overseeing Westchester Avenue and the LRT 6 subway line, I see the MTA parking a out-of-service train in the middle track north of the Buhre Avenue train station. This train should not be there! Not when they are forecasting very heavy snow later.

Heaven forbid the MTA finds itself in a situation around Parkchester where it needs to reroute passenger trains on the middle track and this train is parked on the track.

Joseph Wall

# Rededication helped by many

Dear editor.

I would like to start by thanking you and everyone from the Bronx Times for attending our breakfast on February 27, that commemorated the 30th anniversary of police officer Edward R. Byrne's demise at our school, MS101 which was renamed in his honor April 27, 1989.

We, the PTA and M.S. 101 would like to thank the following people who helped make this possible by donating their time and energy to our fallen hero: John Marano, who went out of his way to solicit items from local merchants to help make this event memorable; Billy Tsibidia, Crosstown Diner, for its abundant and delicious spread of hot food and pastries; Jay D'Angelo from Empire Bagels; and Raymond and Robert Carotenuto from Crown Monuments, who without hesitation, cleaned, polished and made a base for the plaque/monument/tombstone on the front lawn of the school located in front of the pine tree which was planted when the school was renamed in '89.

Maria Leonard co- president, M.S. 101 PTA

## Diversity lost in medicine cuts

Dear editor.

I'm an African-American Nigerian immigrant who was raised in the Bronx, and am now a current student at the Associated Medical Schools of

New York's post-baccalaureate program at the University at Buffalo. This state-funded diversity in medicine pipeline program has opened doors for

This program has helped me by allowing me the time, opportunity, and necessary funding to pursue my goal of becoming a doctor. The information provided in the courses I am taking will give me the advantage I need to be successful in medical school. Because of this program, I will be attending SUNY Upstate Medical University in the fall, and I am closer to achieving

my goal of becoming a physician.

Ljust turned 29, and as a nontraditional applicant to medical school, there are a number of challenges and difficulties that come with that, especially when combined with the challenges associated with being a minority male. This program has helped me meet these challenges by providing necessary support and the tools I need to be successful.

AMSNY's programs, supported by the state legislature, have helped hundreds of students like myself go on to become doctors who have done

great things in their communities. These programs are important because they help increase diversity in medicine by increasing the number of underrepresented students in medical school.

But despite the persistent lack of diversity in medicine, programs like this one which address the issue are once again being scaled back, facing a 20% budget cut. This means one in five future students from underrepresented backgrounds won't get the opportunity to become doctors and improve NY's healthcare.

Moje Omoruan



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