

NORWOOD NEWS

Vol. 24, No. 24 ■ PUBLISHED BY MOSHOLU PRESERVATION CORPORATION ■ December 15–28, 2011

FORDHAM FESTIVITIES



Photo by Adi Talwar

KIDS DIVE into the holiday season at an arts and crafts station during the Fordham Road Business Improvement District's "Sparkle the Heart of Fordham" celebration earlier this month at Bryan Park. Find out where to focus your holiday shopping this year with our annual gift guide, starting on p. 10.

Diverse Crew Steps In to Support Toy Drive and Church

By EMILY PICCONE

With help from an eclectic group of local supporters that includes painters, students, a bike gang and Gothic tattoo artists, the Lutheran Church of the Epiphany is bringing the holiday spirit to families in need despite its own financial burdens.

Together, this motley crew is spending the next couple of weeks gathering toys for local kids whose families may not be able to afford gifts this holiday season.

The Ching-a-Ling Nomads, a Bronx-based bike gang with a storied rep (that includes spitting on their fallen members' tombstones out of respect), came on board following a conversation between one of its members and Pastor Bob Rainis, the vicar at Epiphany Lutheran.

"He was telling me about how the motorcycle club was trying to get into doing good things in the community," said Rainis. "It's a remarkable thing these men and woman are doing in the club to rally a large number of people."

At a private party this coming weekend, The Ching-a-Lings, a grizzled group of veteran Bronx bikers who were recently featured in the *New York Times* and have a headquarters in Tremont, will solicit gifts from guests and then transport them up to the church on East 206th Street in Norwood.

Rallying the community is something the Ching-A-Lings have in common with the McNally brothers, a well-respected pair that

owns a painting contracting business. They approached Rainis also looking to help contribute gifts.

Due to their good reputation in the neighborhood and community connections, Rainis said the McNallys' involvement generated "a real ground swelling" of support.

The Coven tattoo shop, owned and operated by a couple of local vampires on Bainbridge Avenue, just around the corner from Epiphany, is another backer of the church's mission. They are proudly displaying a drop box for gifts in the front window of their shop.

Other supporters include Fordham Univer-

(continued on p. 3)



Photo by Emily Piccone

THE COVEN, a tattoo shop on Bainbridge Avenue, set up drop box for Epiphany Lutheran's toy drive.

Rebuffed by Supreme Court, Church Finds Hope in Legislation

By ALEX KRATZ

When the Supreme Court declined this month to review a court case pitting Bronx Household of Faith, a tiny evangelical Christian congregation based in University Heights, against the Department of Education, dozens of New York City churches that use public schools for worship services suddenly stood on the brink of homelessness.

But out of the depths of despair came hope in the form of legislative recourse and a white knight in Bronx Councilman Fernando Cabrera, a deeply devout Christian politician and a pastor himself. If the courts couldn't change the law, Cabrera said on the steps of City Hall during a rally last week, he would do everything in his power to reverse it legislatively.

"Churches all across the city who contribute to their communities and pay rent like every other community organization deserve the same treatment as other groups that do the same," said Cabrera, referring to the thousands of groups that pay monthly fees to use school buildings. "Discriminating against a particular group because of their religious viewpoint is unacceptable, and my bill calls for a change in the law that won't allow it."

(continued on p. 6)

A Year After Split, Klein's Independence Holds Weight

By JEANMARIE EVELLY

Last year, State Senator Jeff Klein, representing the Bronx and Westchester, announced that he and three other Democrats would be breaking off from the party to form their own group. It caused a schism in the Senate chambers, for sure, but with less malfeasance and dramatics than the notorious 2009 coup.

The move was met with criticism from some Democrats who deemed it political pandering, a way for Klein and his breakaway colleagues to

"I fought harder than anybody to take the majority [in 2009], but unfortunately, it was a complete letdown." —State Sen. Jeff Klein

win favor with the Republicans, who had just regained a slim 32-30 majority in the Senate.

"What's the difference between what they're doing and what the amigos did?" said Bronx Sen. Ruben Diaz, Sr., referring to the 2009 Senate coup, when former Bronx State Sen. Pedro Espada, Jr. (Diaz's pal) and Queens Democrat Hiram Monserrate defected to the Republican party

(continued on p. 6)

NORWOOD NEWS

Vol. 24, No. 24

Norwood News is published bi-weekly on Thursdays by Mosholu Preservation Corporation
3400 Reservoir Oval East
Bronx, New York 10467

Phone: 718 324 4998

Fax: 718 324 2917

E-mail: norwoodnews@norwoodnews.org

Web: www.norwoodnews.org

Publisher Mosholu Preservation Corporation
CEO, Mosholu Preservation Corporation Roberto S. Garcia

Editor-in-Chief Alex Kratz

Staff Writer Jeanmarie Evely

Classified Advertising Dawn McEvoy

Accounts Receivable Dawn McEvoy

Proofreader Judy Noy

Production Neil deMause

Regular Contributors David Greene, Adi Talwar, Jasmeet Sidhu, Francesca Andre, Lindsay Armstrong

Interns Ronald Chavez, Emily Piccone

For display advertising, call (718) 324-4998.

Support Your Community Newspaper!

The *Norwood News* is a not-for-profit publication and relies upon the support of its advertisers and readers to produce a quality community newspaper. To support your paper, become a member and receive a subscription for one year (25 issues) and benefits like the Bronx Cultural Card.

Simply mail check or money order for \$40 to: Norwood News, 3400 Reservoir Oval East, Bronx, NY 10467.

Norwood News is not responsible for typographical errors. Opinions expressed in signed letters and bylined columns represent the sole opinion of the author and are not necessarily those of Mosholu Preservation Corporations or Montefiore Medical Center. Editorials represent the views of the editor and/or publisher only. The newspaper reserves the right to limit or refuse advertising it deems objectionable. Advertisements appearing in this paper cannot be used without the written permission of *Norwood News*. Letters to the editor are subject to condensation and editing. Writers should include their affiliation or special interest if any. Anonymous letters are not published but your name can be withheld if requested.

Mosholu Preservation Corporation is a not-profit support corporation of Montefiore Medical Center.



In The Public Interest

Neighborhood Rallies To Save Its Post Office

Bedford Park and Norwood residents are fighting the possible closure of a local post office, saying it would leave the neighborhood with a lack of access to most mail services.

The so-called Botanical Station on Webster Avenue is one of 17 post offices in the Bronx alone that could be closed as the struggling United States Postal Service looks to cut \$20 million from its budget over the next three years.

The roughly 40, mostly older, residents who gathered at a discontinuance hearing Monday night at the Bedford Park Senior Center, said other locations listed by the USPS were too far away or in dangerous neighborhoods. Most residents would have to travel to the station at East 188th Street station, nearly a mile away from the Botanical location. Others said it would be too hard for them to traverse the hilly neighborhood.

State Senator Gustavo Rivera threw his weight behind the community's effort to save the station.

"This is a station that we cannot afford to close," he said at the hearing. "There is, unfortunately, a national conversation that attacks the post office as something that is not necessary."

Members of the USPS at the hearing said plans to close any post offices have not been finalized. But the Bronx is taking the brunt of the post office losses. The 17 at risk in the Bronx is half of a total of 34 in the city.

Connie Chirichello, a spokesperson for the Postal Service, said there was no borough bias when determining which post offices to close. "Our headquarters did an evaluation and determined, not by location, but they looked at other criteria," she said. "They didn't look at jurisdiction at all. They looked at numbers."

—RONALD CHAVEZ

5 Bronx Schools on DOE Chopping Block

The Department of Education announced last week that it plans to close five poor-performing Bronx schools, part of a larger list of 19 schools citywide that the department wants to phase out starting this year.

The Bronx locations slated for closure are the Gateway School for Environmental Research and Technology, Jane Addams High School for Academic Careers, Samuel Gompers Career and Technical Education High School, Grace Dodge Career and Technical High School and Aspire Preparatory Middle School.

All five schools have been deemed "failing" by the DOE, which for the last several years under Mayor Bloomberg has closed dozens of schools across the city, many of them larger high schools, citing poor test scores and low graduation rates.

"These are never easy decisions, but when a school has failed to serve its students well year after year — even after receiving additional supports — we have a responsibility to provide students with better options. We are already hard at

work creating the great new schools that these communities deserve," Schools Chancellor Dennis Walcott said in a statement.

Marvin Shelton, the president of the Community Education for District 10, which includes Grace Dodge, said the DOE didn't give the technical school a real chance to improve after putting it on a watch list last year and replacing its principal this fall. Now, just three months into the school year, Shelton says the DOE pulled the plug on Grace Dodge too early to see any improvement.

The city will hold public hearings on the proposed closures this winter, and the final decision will be made Feb. 9 by the Panel for Education Policy, a board of members appointed by the mayor and each of the borough presidents. The panel has, historically, voted in approval of the DOE's recommendations.

Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz, Jr., sent out a press release following the DOE's announcement.

"These closings have a considerable effect on parents, educators and students," he said. "The factors that have led to these proposed closings did not occur overnight. The DOE has not provided these schools and others with the appropriate resources to succeed, and that must change." —JEANMARIE EVELLY

Cuomo's Tax Reform Will Increase Rates for Wealthy, Cut Taxes for Middle Class

Gov. Andrew Cuomo announced earlier this month that he and legislators in Albany had agreed on a plan to overhaul the state's existing tax code, one that would increase the tax rate for the highest income earners while providing a cut for middle-class residents.

The move came just a month before the state's so-called Millionaire's tax, a temporary surcharge for New Yorkers earning more than \$200,000 a year, was set to expire. Activists and many Democratic lawmakers had been pushing for Cuomo to renew the surcharge, which

More coverage on norwoodnews.org

- **LGBT Group Moves into Enemy Territory**
- **Cat Colonies Replace Shelters**
- **The Bronx Stars of Tomorrow**
- **The Bronx Breakdown (Fridays)**
- **Weekly Sports Updates**

brought in about \$4 million for the state each year, though the governor had refused to do so.

Local elected officials hailed Cuomo's new tax deal as a successful compromise—while the surcharge will expire at the end of this year, the new plan will net the state an additional \$1.9 billion in revenue.

"I applaud Governor Cuomo for his leadership in taking on tax reform and for acknowledging that New York State can address economic development at the same time that we address economic inequality," State Sen. Gustavo Rivera said in a statement.

"After being asked to continuously sacrifice during tough economic times, middle class and working families in the 33rd Senate District in the Bronx will be receiving a tax cut to help them get back on track." —JEANMARIE EVELLY

Public and Community Meetings

- **THE 52 PRECINCT COMMUNITY COUNCIL** will meet this Thursday, Dec. 15 from 7 to 9 p.m. at the New York Botanical Garden, 2900 Southern Blvd. opposite Fordham University. For more information, call (718) 220-5824.
- **COMMUNITY BOARD 7** committee meetings will be held at the office on 229A E. 204th St., beginning at 6:30 p.m.: Public Safety, Dec. 14.; Long Term Planning, Dec. 20; Health and Hospitals, Dec. 21; Land Use and Zoning, Dec. 22.
- **COMMUNITY BOARD 7's Tree Lighting Ceremony** will be held on Thursday, Dec. 15 at 6 p.m. at Bainbridge Avenue and Mosholu Parkway.
- **COMMUNITY BOARD 7's general board meeting** will be held on Monday, Dec. 19 from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at the Bronx Library Center, 310 E. Kingsbridge Rd. For more information about CB7 meetings and events, call (718) 933-5650.



Follow the *Norwood News* on Facebook and @norwoodnews on Twitter



Diverse Crew Supports Toy Drive and Church

(continued from p. 1)

sity, which runs a tutoring program at the church, and a local DJ who will be mixing at the holiday party where the presents will be distributed.

Rainis asked that the time and date be left undisclosed due to the popularity of the event and out of fears that there will not be enough gifts to go around. That's what happened last year when more than 75 children and their parents showed up to the annual party.

"We just barely had enough food," Rainis said.

Epiphany can empathize with needy families' financial woes. For the first time in 25 years, the church wasn't able to provide a free Thanksgiving dinner for locals and its three-day-a-week hot meal program has been suspended due to a lack of funding. The traditional hot meal the church provides the day after Christmas, to everyone and anyone "in all stages of sobriety," Rainis says, has also been cancelled.

A Ching-A-Lings member named Willie said his reasons for supporting the drive were two-fold. "One being that it's about the kids," he said. "And two is that it's a shame to see such a beautiful building fall to such hardships."

Rainis speaks with confidence when he says the church's fiscal shortcomings will be ameliorated because, he says, when there is a community behind you, either lending its support or relying on your services, burdens become lifted.

"We had people that came to the church last year on Christmas Eve that said if it hadn't been for the one or two gifts donated, they wouldn't have had anything under the tree," he said. "We will continue to be here."

Editor's Note: *New, unwrapped toys for infants to teenagers can be dropped off at Epiphany Lutheran at 302 E. 206th St. on Fridays and Saturdays, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Sundays before 11 a.m., or at The Coven Tattoo Shop, 3154 Bainbridge Ave., from 1 to 9 p.m., Monday to Saturday.*

www.norwoodnews.org

Give Her Everything She Wants for Christmas!

All for Only \$99

The Legendary Christmas Rose

SWAROVSKI® Crystal earrings

The Perfect Gift Set!
A real rose lacquered & trimmed in Pure 24k Gold that lasts forever - like the "Legend of the Christmas Rose". Coupled with a pair of beautiful SWAROVSKI® Crystal sterling earrings, it's the perfect Christmas gift.

Our gift to you. The Signature Russell Stover Holiday Chocolates.

Freilich Jewelers
ESTABLISHED IN 1939
312 East 204th Street • Bronx, NY 10467 • 718-798-1063
Shop Online @ www.freilichjewelers.com

DDA Lic# 1057738

HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM THE VALERIO-MCNEIL TEAM!!

NEW TO MARKET: COOPS/CONDOS IN NORWOOD, BEDFORD PARK, FORDHAM AND PELHAM

Just Listed:

Renovated 2-bedroom coop with dining room, 1 1/2 baths on Morris Ave near Fordham Rd is the deal of the month at \$129,000

The Surrey coop is an immaculately kept complex in the heart of Williamsbridge, an oasis in the middle of the city, located just a couple blocks from subway and buses. This 1BR apt features wood floors, great layout, and is offered at the low price of \$69,000

Pre-War Art Deco bldg near Jerome Park and Monroe College has a gem! A one-bedroom apt with dining room, over 1000 sq. ft.! Sunken living room, foyer big enough for a home office, spacious bedroom and lots of closets. Close to shopping, transportation and parks. Offered at \$135,000

Pelham Pkwy, close to parks and near #2/#5 line, pre-War bldg, full 2BR apt, wood floors, spacious kitchen, new elevator and parking. Offered at \$164,900

For more information on these or any other properties, please call or email Martha at the information below.



KELLER WILLIAMS
REALTY

Keller Williams NY Realty
Direct 646-286-3496

E-Mail: homesbymvalerio@gmail.com

Please visit my web site:
<http://www.homesbymvalerio.com>

Web search a home, go to:
<http://marthavalerio.listingbook.com>

Martha Valerio, ABR, CBR, e-PRO, GRI, Associate Broker

Be Healthy!

\$375b

Nationwide, the estimated value of the services provided by family caregivers for “free” each year, according to the National Alliance for Caregiving

Vital Stats

For Family Caregivers, Lessons on Avoiding Burnout

On a recent weekday morning, dozens of people sat on folding chairs in the recreation room of the Andrew Jackson Senior Center in Melrose, listening to Minerva Velazquez-Munoz, a registered nurse, give tips on getting a reluctant patient to take their medication. You can cut the pills in half, she said; you can mix some of them with orange juice.

Next was a lesson in properly changing the dressings on a wound, and how to lift a patient from a bed without straining your back. Afterwards, those in attendance chatted over free coffee and bagels.

This wasn't a medical conference, however, and none of the attendees were healthcare professionals. They were regular people with regular jobs, who, for any number of reasons and circumstances, have taken on the role of primary caregiver for an ill or disabled loved one. They've been charged with cooking meals, drawing baths, doling out medication and dealing with health insurance claims.

“Many people don't even think of themselves as caregivers,” said Judy Santamaria, director of the caregiver support program at VNSNY CHOICE, a health plan affiliate of the nonprofit Visiting Nurse Service of New York. “They say, ‘Oh, that's my mother,’ or ‘That's my husband, I'm just taking care of him.’”

VNSNY CHOICE and Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz, Jr., organized the event, a workshop on preventing caregiver “burnout.” According to Santamaria, about a million residents in New York City take care of an ill or disabled person at home. Many of them simultaneously hold full-time jobs, and few have any official medical training. The stress can make caregivers more



Photo by Janet Charles

HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS from VNSNY CHOICE and Presbyterian Senior Services with Deputy Bronx Borough President Aurelia Greene at a health workshop last week on preventing caregiver burnout.

vulnerable to health conditions like obesity, stroke, depression or fatigue.

“It's just as important to take care of your own health as it is to take care of your family member,” Santamaria said.

Denise Fredericks has been taking care of her 79-year-old mother for over a decade, after she developed early onset Alzheimer's in her early 60s. For years, the two women lived in the same apartment building, so Fredericks took on the role of caregiver almost entirely on her own, searching for the right home aide to

help out and battling Medicaid over coverage. Over the last few months, the disease has escalated to the point where her mother has lost even her ability to speak.

“It's rough,” Fredericks said. “My thing is, I'm just tired. Sixteen years is a long time.”

One key to avoiding caregiver burnout, Velazquez-Munoz said, is finding others who can help soften the load and take on some of the responsibilities. “Caregivers have to learn to delegate,” she said.

For those who don't have an outside circle to rely on, joining a support group — many senior centers and hospitals offer them — can help a caregiver feel less isolated.

“Very often, we feel lost, and like we have no help,” said City Councilwoman Aurelia Greene, who attended the health workshop and told the crowd about her own experiences caring for her 96-year-old mother. “It's really about learning ways to cope.”

Caregivers should make sure they take care of their own health, Santamaria said — get enough sleep, eat right, exercise, and keep their own doctor's appointments. They should not hesitate to ask questions and communicate with their loved one's physicians, particularly if they're feeling overwhelmed or confused about any aspects of the care they're providing.

Most importantly, Santamaria said, caregivers should make sure to set aside time for themselves, even if it's in small and seemingly insignificant ways. “You don't need to climb Mount Everest,” she said. “But if you can just find the time to take a bath, that might be all you need.”

The Women's Center

at **A O** “A Ladies Boutique”

Post Mastectomy Forms and Bras, Sports Bras & Surgical Bras, Proper Bra Fitting to size “K”, Bathing Suits, Wigs, Turbans, Caps, Lymphedema Sleeves, and more!



Private Fitting Rooms
Featuring Dorca Soto, certified fitter, formerly of Frishmans.

Come to be pampered in a warm, friendly and supportive atmosphere.

Coupon

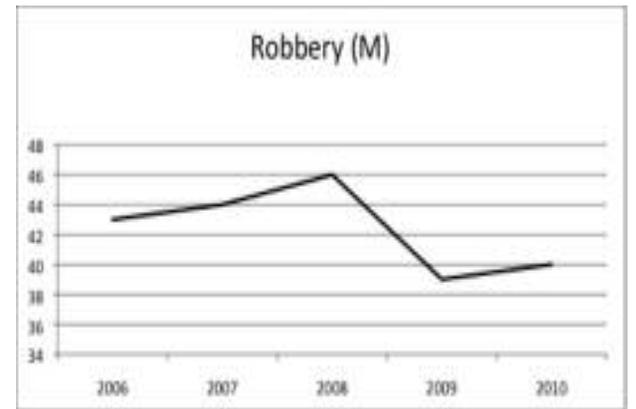
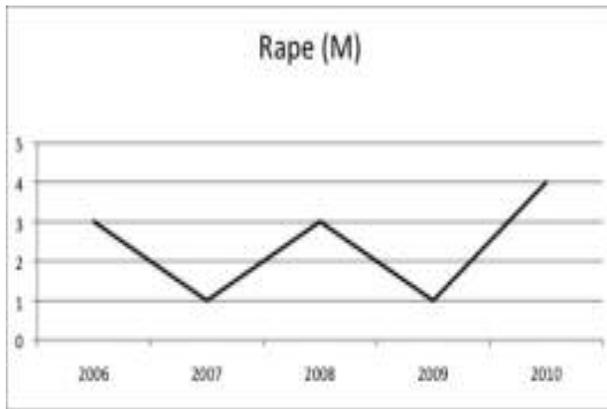
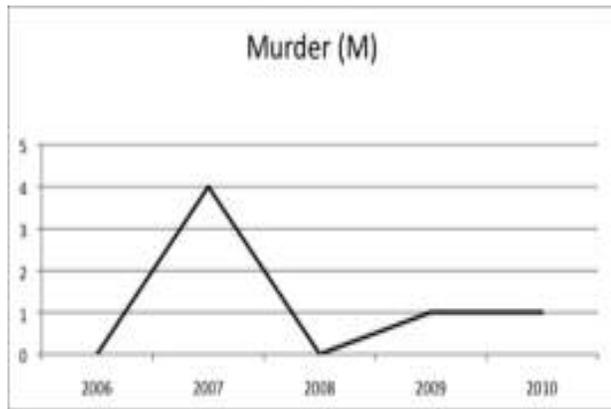
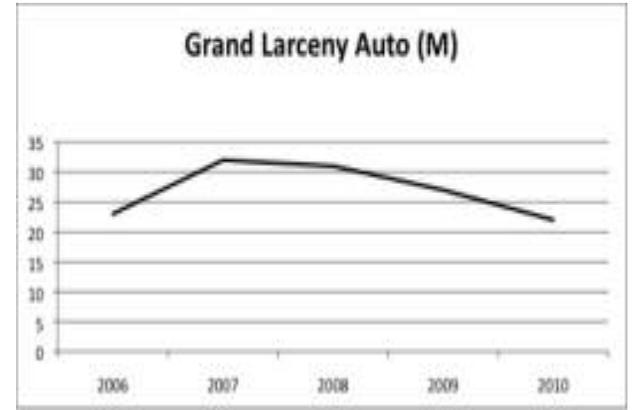
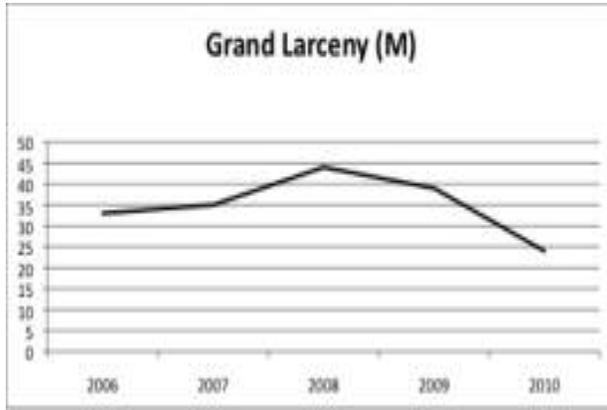
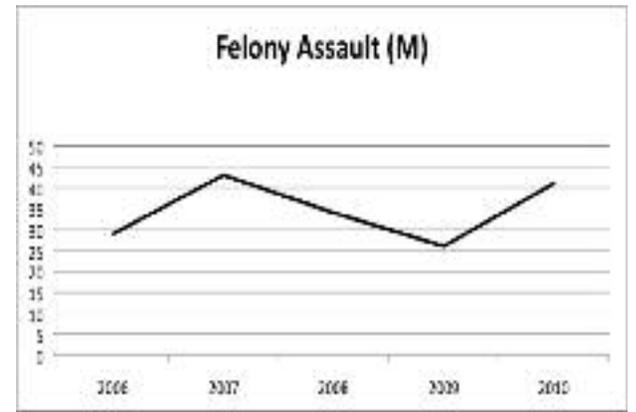
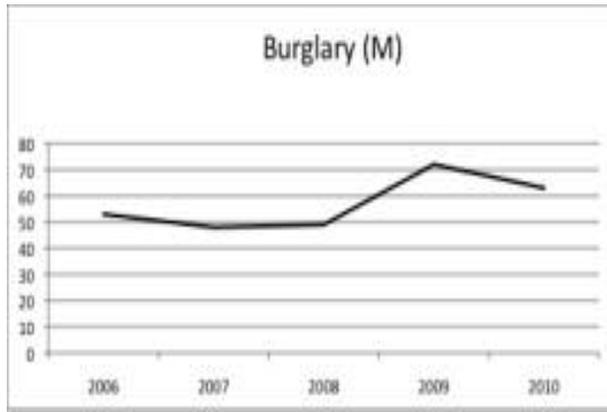
**20% Off
All Swim
Wear**

264 EAST GUN HILL ROAD BRONX, NY (3 Blocks East of Montefiore Medical Center)
718-654-1882 • TOLL FREE 1-800-648-4466 OPEN MON - FRI 10PM-6PM

Crime Trends in Sector M (2006-2010)

In an attempt to give a broader picture of local crime trends in specific neighborhoods over the past five years (2006-2010), we have compiled crime statistics from each of the 52nd Precinct's 15 individual sectors (obtained through a Freedom of Information Law request to the NYPD). In past issues, we've highlighted Sectors A, B, C, D and F, which are all areas in the southern end of the district.

This issue shows Sector M, which makes up the eastern half of the Norwood community. It's bordered by Bainbridge Avenue and East 204th Street to the south, Williamsbridge Oval Park to the west, Webster Avenue to the east and Woodlawn Cemetery to the north. As you'll see in the graphs, many crime statistics hit high points in 2007 and 2008 before easing down over the last couple of years, although felony assaults and rapes have both been on the rise over the past two years.



Boricua College

MASTER DEGREE PROGRAMS
BACHELOR of SCIENCE DEGREE PROGRAMS
BACHELOR of ARTS DEGREE PROGRAMS

Proudly introducing our brand new campus in the heart of the Bronx

ADMISSIONS OFFICE
BRONX CAMPUS
 890 Washington Avenue
 between 161 & 163 Street
 Bronx, New York 10451
347 964-8600





Boricua College
 A TRADITION OF LEARNING

ADMISSIONS OPEN REGISTER NOW!

www.boricuacollege.edu

Bedford Café Restaurant

1 East Bedford Park Blvd.
For Delivery Call (718) 365-3416 or (718) 365-3446

BREAKFAST

Eggs & Omelettes
Gourmet Combination Omelettes

WAFFLES
PANCAKES
FRENCH TOAST
IRISH BREAKFAST
BAGEL CREAM
CHEESE N' LOX

LUNCH SPECIALS

11:00 AM - 4:00 PM

FRESH FISH DAILY

STEAKS
PASTA
VEAL
ARROZ CON POLLO
BBQ SPARE RIBS
PENNE ALA VODKA
SPICY CHICKEN
OR SHRIMP
LINGUINI PRIMAVERA



PASTA FIESTA
 \$7.95

EARLY BIRD DINNER
 FROM 4 PM-7 PM
 \$12.75

OPEN 24 HOURS
10% off for senior citizens and students with I.D.

Rebuffed by Court, Church Finds Hope in Legislation

(continued from p. 1)

For 17 years, Bronx Household and its lawyers with the Alliance Defense Fund fought a Department of Education policy that precludes churches and other religious organizations from holding worship services in public school buildings. They enjoyed several successful rulings, which allowed them to worship inside PS/MS 15 on Andrews Avenue in University Heights for the past decade.

But in June, an appeals court ruled, 2-1, to uphold the city's policy. City attorneys lauded the decision. "The Department [of Education] is quite properly concerned about having any school in this diverse city identified with one particular religious belief or practice," said Jane Gordon, who argued the city's case. "The decision is a victory for the city's schoolchildren and their families."

Bronx Household appealed the decision, taking the case to the country's highest court.

If the Supreme Court heard the case, it could have set a policy precedent that reverberated throughout the

United States. But after mulling the case, the court decided against officially reviewing it, which, essentially, upheld the lower court's decision.

Originally, the city wanted churches out by the first of the year, but it granted an extension and they now have until Feb. 12 to find new homes.

In the meantime, Cabrera is pushing for passage of legislation on the state level, which is the only place the city's education laws, including the policy preventing religious worship, can be amended. That legislation, bill A8800, was recently introduced by Assemblyman Nelson Castro who also represents Bronx Household and University Heights. At the beginning of the year, it will be reviewed at the committee level and Cabrera says he will encourage legislators to swiftly pass the bill before Feb. 12.

"Shame on any legislator that doesn't support this because they will be responsible for allowing these religious institutions to become homeless," Cabrera said.

Bob Hall, the head pastor at Bronx Household who

spoke at the rally at City Hall last week, called Cabrera's support and leadership, "totally unexpected and wonderfully appreciated."

Hall and Cabrera said the state's policy disallowing worship in public schools is rare and needs to be changed. "I sat down to worship in a public school in Massachusetts," Hall said, adding that only a few districts in the entire country have similarly exclusive policies. "That's not exactly a Bible Belt state."

Unlike many of the 60 or so churches meeting regularly in city school buildings, Bronx Household, which has about 50 members, is poised to open its own building this summer, across the street from PS/MS 15, if the Buildings Department cooperates.

If legislation doesn't allow them to continue worshipping at PS/MS 15, Hall says they will find a way to make do, possibly even using tents in his own backyard on Andrews Avenue.

"We're not wringing our hands, we're not despondent," he said. "We're disappointed, but we're not foaming at the mouth."

A Year After Split, Klein's Independence Holds Weight

(continued from p. 1)

in exchange for leadership roles. "There's nothing different. They are a copycat."

But as the one-year anniversary of Klein's Independent Democratic Conference approaches in January, the senator defends his caucus with pride, calling it a productive division from the Democrats' dysfunctional leadership, and from the partisan gridlock that characterized the tumultuous two years the party was in power after spending more than 40 years in the minority.

"I fought harder than anybody to take the majority [in 2009], but unfortunately, it was a complete letdown," Klein said in a recent interview. "All the things that we wanted to do, like ethics reform, we never seemed to be able to get the votes for."

To be sure, the IDC had a productive year. The four-person caucus—its other members are Rockland County Senator David Carlucci, David Valesky of Syracuse, and Klein's girlfriend, Diane Savino, of Staten Island—managed to, collectively, pass 68 bills during the 2010 session. The 26-member Senate Democrats passed 103.

IDC members introduced and passed legislation dealing with crackdowns on car insurance fraud, efforts to boost the state's organ donor pool and banning caffeinated malt liquors like Four Loko from stores. The group also advocated for the



STATE SEN. JEFF KLEIN

successful passage of a number of high-profile bills, like marriage equality and the long-awaited ethics reform.

"I have a very simple rule: I wanted to accomplish things," Klein said. "In election time, I want to elect Democrats, but when the dust settles, we want to get things done."

Klein, a moderate Democrat, sits in the center of the political spectrum when compared to many of his more liberal Bronx colleagues. A lawyer by trade, he served in the State Assembly for 10 years, in the seat currently held by Assemblywoman Naomi Rivera, before being elected to the Senate

in 2004. Born and raised in the northeast Bronx, Klein lives in Morris Park, a traditionally wealthier Bronx neighborhood, and large parts of his district include the more suburban Westchester.

His political stance often reflects the interest of these areas, but not other parts of the Bronx. He's a vocal supporter of increased protections for homeowners, for example, and made passing a statewide property tax cap one of his biggest priorities last session, despite concerns by some of his Bronx colleagues that such a cap would devastate schools in low-income areas, which rely on the taxes for funding revenues.

Last year, Klein and his IDC colleagues supported a controversial bill that would allow check cashers to issue short-term loans at an interest rate higher than New York State currently allows, legislation

his predecessor, Pedro Espada, primarily because of his disgust over the 2009 coup, said he was disappointed by Klein's break from the party. "It weakens our hand," he said. "We should stand as Democrats, not as individuals all over the place."

IDC members did vote with Republicans on a few issues last year: Klein and Valesky were the only two Democrats to vote in favor of a bill that ended the practice of seniority-based layoffs for New York City teachers, the so-called "last in, first out" policy; all four voted with Republicans last spring to reform Senate rules stripping Lt. Gov. Robert Duffy of his role of tie-breaker should the vote in the chamber be deadlocked.

"They demonstrated the power of a small minority to effect a closely divided house," said Douglas Muzzio, a political analyst and professor at CUNY Baruch.

**"It weakens our hand. We should stand as Democrats, not as individuals all over the place."
—State Sen. Gustavo Rivera**

consumer advocates criticized as taking advantage of residents in poor neighborhoods, who are less likely to have good credit or use traditional banks.

Tenant advocates have also long-criticized Klein for his inaction on pro-renter legislation, specifically efforts to protect rent-regulated apartment buildings, of which he has 24,600 in his district. (Michael McKee, of the Tenants Political Action Committee, has called Klein "an operative of the real estate lobby.") The senator ultimately voted in favor of a rent reform bill, but one that was significantly watered-down and dubbed a disappointment by advocates and other Democrats.

Klein insists that he and his IDC colleagues remain Democrats by principle, even if they no longer caucus with the party. "I'm a Democrat, and I think I've proved my Democratic worth time and time again," he said.

Bronx State Senator Gustavo Rivera, who says he was prompted to run against

"It allowed them to leverage stuff they wouldn't be able to leverage otherwise."

All four IDC members were given committee chair positions by Senate Majority Leader Dean Skelos, the only Democrats to get the posts, which come with a \$12,500 pay bonus attached to them.

More importantly, Muzzio said, is the position of power that Klein is now in as leader of the IDC, holding more clout than he did when he was still with the Democrats—though he held the number two position in the party since 2009, he was consistently passed over for the leadership spot.

Now, he's won the favor of Republicans and still seems to have the ear of fellow Democrats: a study released this summer by the New York Public Interest Group found that Democratic senators voted with Klein more often than they did with John Sampson, the current party leader.

"Power is the currency of the realm," Muzzio said. "We tend to focus on cash, but cachet, that's worth a lot more."



PWB Management Corp.
3092 Hull Avenue • Bronx, New York 10467
Tel: (718) 519-6900 • Fax: (718) 519-6904

**PWB Management Corp.,
in business for over 25 years.**

Specializing in:

Bringing back distressed property • Management of Tax Credit properties • Marketing and Lease-up of Tax Credit properties

Happy Holidays to All!

For Sale...Cottage Landings Condominium

Estimated Sales Price for One Bedroom - \$150,000
Estimated Sales Price One Bedroom w/Den - \$165,000
 (All prices subject to change)

Energy Star appliances, hard wood flooring, laundry hook-ups, convenient to shopping and transportation



Westchester County
A Fair and Affordable Residential Condominium - Rye, New York
 Near the intersection of Cottage Street and Edger Place

Maximum Income Limits as of June 2011
 (Income limits are subject to change)

No. of Persons	Income Limit
1	\$59,600
2	\$68,200
3	\$76,700

For Information/ Application Contact: 914-332-4144
hac@affordablehomes.org or www.housingactioncouncil.org

APPLICATION DEADLINE: December 29, 2011

This advertisement is not an offering. No offering can be made until an offering plan is filed with the Department of Law of the State of New York. This advertisement is made pursuant to Cooperative Policy Statement No. 1 issued by the New York State Attorney General. File #CP 11-0039. Sponsor: Cottage Landings LLC, 8 Hilltop Drive, Port Chester, NY 10573. Project: Cottage Landings Condominium - Edger Place & Cottage Street, Rye, New York.



Cottage Landings LLC

BELIN CHALLENGE FITNESS BOOT CAMP
STARTING JANUARY 9, 2012



“LOSING WEIGHT IS CONTAGIOUS -CATCH IT!”

CALL NOW!!!

BELIN CHALLENGE FITNESS BOOT CAMP

646.801.3153

“WE CAN ONLY TAKE ON 10 NEW CLIENTS THIS MONTH”

MEET YOUR FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD MORTGAGE CONSULTANT!



Barbara Mongiello



No one knows mortgages better than Barbara Mongiello. It's Barbara's passion to help you find the right financing to make your dream of owning a home come true.

- Fixed-Rate Mortgages
- Bi-Weekly Mortgages
- Adjustable Rate Mortgages
- Co-op & Condo Loans
- SONYMA & Other Affordable Housing Programs
- Loan Amounts up to \$3.5 million Available

To make an appointment or meet Barbara at one of our Bronx branches, call 347-527-3696

RIDGEWOOD SAVINGS BANK

www.ridgewoodbank.com

BRONX:

711 Allerton Avenue • 1745 Crosby Avenue • 1770 Gun Hill Road
 3445 Jerome Avenue • 1134 Morris Park Avenue • 3899 Sedgwick Avenue
 1626 Bruckner Boulevard • 3824 White Plains Road

Member FDIC



Opinion.

We love, welcome and encourage letters to the editor and opinion articles from readers. Write to: Editor, Norwood News, 3400 Reservoir Oval East, Bronx, NY 10467. Fax: (718) 324-2917; or e-mail: norwoodnews@norwoodnews.org.

Editorial

Protecting Our Kids From What?

Let's not overthink this. The Department of Education's policy precluding churches and other religious organizations from worshipping in city schools is discriminatory and impractical.

Like tens of thousands of groups, from Alcoholics Anonymous to the Boy Scouts, churches like Bronx Household of Faith in University Heights pay rent and use school facilities for a few hours every week during off-hours when no students are present.

The city's main argument in arguing to keep the policy in place (despite vigorous opposition from Bronx Household's lawyers with the Alliance Defense Fund, which took up the case in the name of religious freedom), is that students who attend schools where there is religious worship during off-hours will get confused. They might feel the government, which controls the schools, favors a certain religion.

Even if this notion didn't appear condescending to students, who see religion everywhere in our society, we would argue that the premise is faulty to begin with.

We went to PS/MS 15 back in June to find out how Bronx Household used the school and to see if it, in fact, "transformed" the

school into a state-sponsored church (as an appeals court judge argued in upholding the city's policy).

What we found is that on a Sunday morning, there was no sign of church or anything else going on inside the building.

When you do manage to find your way into the building, you'll find a security guard or custodian, not a preacher or an evangelist. Nobody will tell you you're going to hell if you don't accept Jesus Christ as your savior. They will give you directions to the auditorium where you'll find a few dozen people listening to a man talk about God or the Bible. People will sing songs. After an hour or so, they will invite you to drink coffee and eat cookies with them. But remember, you didn't have to be there in the first place, unless, of course, you are a reporter or extremely curious about the inner workings of a school.

But we didn't stop there. We went to PS/MS 15 on a school day to ask parents what they thought about churches worshipping in the buildings where their children received their education. Not one parent we spoke with knew that a church used the building on Sundays. And when they learned that was indeed the case, we found no objections.

In fact, some parents thought it was a great idea.

Op-Ed

A Re-Invigorated Merchants Association

The new leaders of the 204th Street and Bainbridge Avenue Merchants Association would like to share with you some exciting developments for the East 204th Street and Bainbridge Avenue business community.

Since 1958, the Merchants Association of 204th Street and Bainbridge Avenue has provided leadership and support for all businesses along 204th Street and Bainbridge Avenue, from Van Cortlandt Avenue East south to Webster Avenue.

Allan Freilich of Freilich Jewelers located at 312 E. 204th St. and William Curran of the McKeon Funeral Home located at 3129 Perry Ave. have provided leadership of the association over the recent years as president and vice president respectively.

During a meeting of the association that took place on Thursday, Nov. 17 at 6 p.m. at the Beso Lounge, located at 320 E. 204th St., elections were held and some changes were made in the leadership of the association. We would like to announce that Eli Garcia of the Beso Lounge has been elected as the new president of the East

204th Street and Bainbridge Avenue Merchants Association, Freilich as the vice president, Curran as treasurer, and Hamlet Aquino, from Metro PCS, located at 326 E. 204th St., as secretary.

As a first project, the leadership worked hard to obtain holiday lighting for as many parts of the shopping district as possible to promote holiday shopping. You'll find that lighting on display throughout the rest of this holiday season. We hope you enjoy it and your experience shopping at our many and diverse businesses.

We want to make the shopping experience along East 204th Street and Bainbridge Avenue the best it can be. Thank you for your support and all the best for the holiday season.

- Eli Garcia**, *Beso Lounge, President*
- Allan Freilich**, *Freilich Jewelers, Vice President*
- William Curran**, *McKeon and Son Funeral Home, Treasurer*
- Hamlet Aquino**, *Metro PCS, Secretary*

FINE FARE
Supermarkets

320 East Gun Hill Road • Bronx, NY • 718-654-2842

Holiday Savings throughout December

Check out our **Parade** of Savings!
High Quality, Low Prices!

We Gladly accept Credit Cards, EBT Program, WIC Checks & Food Stamps

M-Sat: 7am - 9pm
Sunday: 7am - 7:30pm

www.finefaresupermarkets.com

FREE VAN DELIVERY

Lesell Pharmacy is the longest running family owned and operated pharmacy in the area having made 206th Street and Bainbridge Avenue our home for 25 years.

Personal service, professionalism, and your satisfaction are the most important things to us.

LESELL PHARMACY

Our business is your health and well being.

3161 Bainbridge Ave • Bronx, NY
(corner of East 206th Street)
Tel: 718-547-8888

Lenny Zimmerman, R.Ph
Lynne Zimmerman
Robert Ryan, R.Ph

FREE DELIVERY
(within area)

Medicaid and Most Union Plans Accepted
We Welcome RX Transfers • Hablamos Español

We Wish Everyone A Wondrous Holiday Season & A Happy, Healthy 2012!

Inquiring Photographer

By DAVID GREENE

This week we asked readers their thoughts on the U.S. Postal Service's plans to cut services and close 17 Bronx post office locations.



I don't think it would be a very good idea. I have a grandmother, and it's tough for people who don't have transportation, especially the elderly. I think they should keep it open, honestly. Maybe the government has some extra funds we don't know about.

Rolando Cruz



I'm very upset already because my mail—sometimes it comes to me and sometime it don't. With this economic crisis and the budget cuts and stuff, personally I can't comprehend it, why we don't have enough money and why are we closing post offices. It's a bunch of crap.

Sakiner Britton



It makes me angry because old and disabled people, they can't go great distances to get their mail. It's wrong, it's freaking wrong.

Phyllis Buher



I use the post office all the time to get stamps and mail letters and send packages. The other one is all the way up on Gun Hill Road, so I think it's a very bad thing, especially for seniors who really can't travel that far. I don't think it's mismanagement, I guess it's people not sending letters. I'm old fashioned, I don't have a computer.

Andrew Lamb



I write letters to my cousin every other week in Georgia. Forty-four cents a letter, the money is obviously not going to the post office. I think something should be done quickly. It's not fair that everyone has to travel when there's a post office right here.

Eileen DeLeon

Neighborhood Notes

Homeowner Resource Fair

University Neighborhood Housing Program and the Mary Mitchell Family and Youth Center will host a Homeowner Resource Fair on Dec. 19, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., at the Mary Mitchell Center, 2007 Mapes Ave. (corner of East 178th Street). Meet with a certified foreclosure prevention counselor and talk to a weatherization specialist, to ultimately reduce cost and stay in your home if you're struggling to pay mortgage or energy bills. Support and tools for the new and current small business owner will also be available. For more information or to RSVP, call (718) 933-2539. Se habla español.

Computer, GED Programs

SUNY North Bronx Career Counseling and Outreach Center, 2901 White Plains Rd., is accepting applications for all of its programs, including free Computer Literacy and GED classes, which begin on Feb. 6. Seats are limited. For more information, call (718) 547-1001.

City Hiring Snow Laborers

The NYC Department of Sanitation is registering emergency snow laborers to remove snow at bus stops and crosswalks in the event of a heavy snowfall. Applicants must be 18 years of age, eligible to work in the US and capable of performing heavy physical labor. Interested candidates can register Monday to Friday at the following garages: District 12 (310 W. 215th St.); District 10 (110 E. 131st St.); or District 9 (125 E. 149th St.); between 7 a.m. and 3

p.m. The hourly rate begins at \$12 and increases to \$18 after completing the first 40 hours. For more information, call 311.

Young Adult Internships

The Northern Manhattan Improvement Corporation, 76 Wadsworth Ave. (between 176th and 177th streets), 2nd floor, classroom C, is offering informational sessions for its internship program for young adults between the ages of 16 and 24, weekdays at 2 p.m. Eligible candidates must be unemployed, not currently enrolled in school and have not received an Associate's or Bachelor's degree. The program includes job readiness training, counseling, and assistance in finding employment after completion. For more information, call (212) 453-5394 or visit nmic.org.

Free Business Workshop

The Bronx Women's Business Resource Center will hold two free entrepreneurship workshops at the Bronx Library Center, 310 E. Kingsbridge Rd., on Saturday, Jan. 7, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Tuesday, Jan. 10, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Find out how to make your business ideas into a reality. Workshop is a prerequisite for an expanded Entrepreneurship Assistance Program, which starts Tuesday, Jan. 17. For more information or to RSVP, call (718) 933-7469.

For more Neighborhood Notes online, go to www.norwoodnews.org and click on "Neighborhood Notes" in the right-hand column.

This Holiday, Buy the Eye Glasses that Truly Define You!

Looking Your Best Has Never Been So Easy.

We carry a large selection of eyewear.

From bold and trendy to sophisticated and professional, our styles are your styles.

Perfect Gift
Eye-Deal!

We accept most union and major insurance plans including HealthFirst, Fidelity, and Affinity Healthcare.
EYE EXAM WALK-IN WELCOME



Eye Glasses That Fit your Style!

MOSHOLU OPTICAL

Complete Optical Services Since 1968

718-654-5860

3490 Jerome Ave. Bronx, NY 10467

(near corner of Gun Hill Road)

Eyeglasses in One Hour



NORWOOD NEWS Holiday Gift Guide



Photo by Adi Talwar

THE FORDHAM ROAD Business Improvement District kicked off the holiday shopping season with a tree lighting ceremony at Bryan Park.

Dear *Norwood News* Readers,
 'Tis getting a little late in the holiday gift buying season, which is why we pounded the trails of the local shopping districts in the *Norwood News*' coverage area — from Fordham to Kingsbridge to Gun Hill Road, from Bainbridge to Jerome Avenue and East 204th Street to Southern Boulevard — to find the best deals, merchandise and innovative ideas for presents in 2011. We do this every year

for two reasons: (1) We know you could use the help, and (2) We believe in supporting our local merchants right here in the Bronx. So take this newspaper (it may even help you get a better deal at some places), hit the local shopping circuit, contribute to your neighborhood economy and reap the benefits of a job well done. Your welcome.

Sincerely,
 The *Norwood News* Elves

Original Stocking Stuffers

If you're not one that sneezes or gets quick headaches from too many fragrances at once, make a visit to Original Products, an incense and spiritual candle megastore on Webster Avenue which has aisles of small (and magical) goods that would be a welcome addition to any stocking. Looking for a gift to say 'I like you'? Try the Attraction oil, the Compelling oil, or the Come to Me oil (all available in three sizes). Or, help your most unfortunate of friends with the 'Fast Lucky' fragrance, or the New Year Incense - to bring health, money, and love (for \$2.95). Many of the products are made in-house, and at affordable prices. It is an emporium to satisfy your spiritual (or kitschy) needs.

Original Products is located at 2486 Webster Ave., and is open 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday to Saturday. Call (718) 367-9589.

Buy Honey, Be Healthy

To aid circulation, to curb a cigarette addiction, to clear your sinuses — all can be aided with a spoonful of honey. The medicinal and culinary uses of this sweet and ancient nectar are endless, but one thing is for certain — it has loads more health benefits than sugar cane or, heaven forbid, high fructose corn syrup. In the winter months when blood circulation is lower and hot beverages consumed on the daily, the gift of honey is an especially warm gesture and you can find it at Forever Young.

Forever Young is located at 12 W. Kings-

bridge Rd., and is open 10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Monday to Saturday. Call (718) 367-8161.

Smoked to Perfection

You might be asking yourself if the hype of Korean BBQ is really merited, or if it's just a lot of smoke. Walk into KBBQ on Kingsbridge Road and your nose will do the deciding. The family-owned restaurant and bar uses oak wood to fire up the grills, making the slow roasted pork juicy and tender to perfection. If you go for lunch, order the Bulgogi sandwich, served on a hero with thinly sliced spicy beef, with sweet chili oil and sautéed onions and peppers. KBBQ offers gift certificates, and makes for a dining experience that would impress any date.

KBBQ is located at 119 W. Kingsbridge Rd., and is open Monday to Sunday, 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Call (718) 601-5510.

Malcolm, Martin and Obama Mementos

Have an urge to wrap yourself in our President's face? Have you been searching for natural clay soap, raw organic shea butter, or maybe just a warm wool scarf for \$12? All of these can be yours at Sunkofa on Southern Boulevard. The store is a mecca of African products, ranging from hard to find books, to masks, beaded jewelry and blown up prints of historical figures such as Martin Luther King, Jr. and Malcolm X. Also

(continued on p. 12)

FREE DELIVERY
to Hospital, Doctor's Office or Home

It's the Season Sale

LeRoy Pharmacy
Your Family Doctor

OPEN EVERY DAY!
For all your prescriptions and daily needs!
FULL SERVICE PHARMACY!

FREE HOLIDAY Raffle!
Come to store for details.

ATM **VISA** **MasterCard**

LeMed Pharmacy
159 E. Gun Hill Rd.
(Access from Montefiore Hospital)
Bronx, New York 10467
Phone: (718) 231-0040

314 E. 204th St.
(Bet. Park and Hill Avenue)
Bronx, New York 10467
Phone: (718) 882-5614

392 Bedford Park Blvd.
(Off Webster Avenue)
Bronx, New York 10458
Phone: (718) 933-1154

245 East 198th St.
(bet. Briggs & Valerius)
Bronx, New York 10458
Phone: (718) 220-7600

For Men or Women
ANTONIO BANDERAS
GIFT SET **11⁹⁹**

For Women
BEYONCE
HEAT RUSH **17⁹⁹**

For Men
CALVIN KLEIN
ONE SET **17⁹⁹**

For Men
CALVIN KLEIN
5 PIECE SET **24⁹⁹**

Save On!
MARIAH CAREY
3 PIECE SET **34⁹⁹**

Selected 4-6 ft.
CHRISTMAS TREES **7⁹⁹ - 10⁹⁹**

Selected
CHRISTMAS WREATH **2⁹⁹ - 4⁹⁹**

Save On!
MUSICAL
ACTIVITY KEYS **8⁹⁹**

Save On!
DORA
BALLET STAR **14⁹⁹**

Save On!
CHOO-CHOO
SET **8⁹⁹**

Save On!
HANNA MONTANA
GIRL'S SET **8⁹⁹**

Save On!
THOMAS
PULL BACK ENGINE **5⁴⁹**

Save On!
RADIO CONTROL
SPEED RACER **6⁹⁹**

Selected Types and Sizes
CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS OR DECORATIONS **89¢ - 2⁹⁹**

SEVENTH ANNUAL **SPARKLING THE HEART OF FORDHAM**

SHOP FORDHAM GET 10% OFF



**FROM DECEMBER 2-DECEMBER 18, 2011
AT THESE PARTICIPATING BID STORES**



BRING THIS AD OR SHOW YOUR METROCARD TO GET DISCOUNTS.
CERTAIN RESTRICTIONS MAY APPLY.

**SUBWAY: B (WEEKDAYS ONLY) D 4 TO FORDHAM ROAD;
METRO-NORTH RAILROAD TO FORDHAM**

FOR CUSTOMIZED TRAVEL DIRECTIONS BY NYC TRANSIT SUBWAYS & BUSES OR METRO-NORTH RAILROAD, VISIT MTA.INFO AND USE TRIP PLANNER.*
PARKING ON CRESTON, JEROME, PARK, THIRD, TIEBOUT & VALENTINE AVES
VISIT FORDHAMROADBID.ORG FOR INFORMATION

24 HOUR FITNESS
400 East Fordham Road
www.24hourfitness.com

3 FLOOR DEPARTMENT STORE
350 East Fordham Road
10% ON JACKETS ONLY

ANGEL'S CHILDREN'S WEAR AND SHOES
1 West Fordham Road

APPLEBEE'S NEIGHBORHOOD GRILL & BAR
4750-4758 Third Ave. (Fordham Pl)
RECEIVE A FREE \$10 BONUS CARD WHEN YOU BUY \$50 IN GIFT CARDS. PIC-N-PAY LUNCH COMBOS STARTING AT \$7.29 (MONDAY-FRIDAY)
www.applebeesny.com

AT&T MOBILITY
381 East Fordham Road
www.att.com/wireless

BEST ITALIAN PIZZA
700-707 East Fordham Road

BEST PERFUME PLUS
129 East Fordham Road
10% OFF MARKED PRICES ONLY
www.perfumewave.com
www.quickperfumes.com

BH JEWELRY
2496 Grand Concourse

BIG JAKE'S JEWELRY
386 East Fordham Road

BIX JEWELRY
132 East Fordham Road

BOOST MOBILE
384 East Fordham Road

BRONX LADIES CLOTHING OUTLET
256 East Fordham Road

COHEN'S GENTLE DENTAL
1 East Fordham Road, 2Fl
www.cohensgentledental.com

CONWAY
223 East Fordham Road

CUNY ON THE CONCOURSE / LEHMAN COLLEGE CONTINUING EDUCATION
2501 Grand Concourse, 3Fl
www.lehman.edu/ce

D FINE SHOES
3 East Fordham Road

DIAMOND DAZZLERS
377 East Fordham Road
www.favwatch.com

DR. JAYS
11 215 East Fordham Road
21 368 East Fordham Road
www.drjays.com

DR. JAYS LADIES
237 East Fordham Road
www.drjays.com

E-STYLE
114 East Fordham Road

EASY PICKINS
1) 15 East Fordham Road
2) 360 East Fordham Road
www.easypickins.com

ELECTRONIC OUTLET STORES
330 East Fordham Road

EXCLUSIVE CELLULAR
261A East Fordham Road

THE GAP
271-285 East Fordham Road
www.gap.com

GEM PAWNBROKERS
367 East Fordham Road
www.gempawnbrokers.com

GEORGE JEWELRY CREATIONS
334 East Fordham Road

GG EXPRESS PARKING
421 East 189th Street
www.mpsparking.com

GNC
52 East Fordham Road

GOLD PALACE JEWELRY
214 East Fordham Road
20% OFF PURCHASES

HOT POINT
340 East Fordham Road
www.hotpointny.com

KIDS WORLD
39 East Fordham Road

LEGACY HOME FASHION
2510 Grand Concourse

LENS LAB EXPRESS
125 East Fordham Road

LUCILLE ROBERTS
2449 Morris Avenue, 2Fl
www.lucilleroberts.com

MARION TATTOOS
1) 387 East Fordham Road, 2Fl
2) 305 East Kingsbridge Road

MIRAGE 2000 JEWELRY
336 East Fordham Road
ALL DIAMOND JEWELRY 50% OFF TAG PRICES & 10% OFF TO PUBLIC

MISTER SPORTS
135 East Fordham Road

MODELL'S SPORTING GOODS
31 East Fordham Road

NATIONAL LIQUIDATION
141 East Fordham Road

NINE WEST OUTLET
305 East Kingsbridge Road
www.ninewest.com

NISSAN KIDS
2483 Grand Concourse

NORTH END WINE & LIQUOR
2509 Webster Avenue
10% CASES OF WINE ONLY

NYC BRONX CLOTHING
2490 Grand Concourse

ORIGINAL PRODUCTS (BOTANICA)
2486 Webster Avenue
www.originalprodcorp.com

ORO-UNO JEWELRY / PLANET MARS COMMUNICATIONS
335 East Fordham Road

PAY GO WIRELESS
300 East Fordham Road

PC RICHARD & SON
2501 Grand Concourse
www.pcrichard.com

PEARLE
29 East Fordham Road

PERFUMANIA
27 East Fordham Road
\$10 OFF PURCHASES OF \$75 OR MORE (LIMIT ONE PER PERSON, PER TRANSACTION, PER DAY, IN-STORE ONLY)
www.perfumania.com

PLANET EARTH COMMUNICATIONS
389 East Fordham Road

PRIME AID PHARMACY
373 East Fordham Road

RED DRAGON TATTOOS
390 East Fordham Road, 2Fl
www.reddragonatal.com

RIGHT ON
124 East Fordham Road

SAVE-A-THON STORES
9 East Fordham Road

SLEEPY'S
301 East Fordham Road, 2Fl
www.sleepys.com

SPORTS MAX
319 East Fordham Road

THE SPOT FORDHAM
338 East Fordham Road
www.thespotfordham.com

SPRINT
305 East Fordham Road
10% OFF TWO OR MORE ACCESSORIES
www.sprint.com

T-MOBILE
7 East Fordham Road
www.t-mobile.com

TOP CONCOURSE ELECTRONICS & COMPUTERS
2486 Grand Concourse
www.topconcourse.com

UNLIMITED WIRELESS
2498 Grand Concourse

URBAN EYES OPTICAL
390 East Fordham Road

VERIZON WIRELESS
153 East Fordham Road
10% ON ACCESSORIES ONLY
www.verizonwireless.com

THE VITAMIN SHOPPE
311 East Fordham Road
www.vitaminshoppe.com

ZALES JEWELERS
254 East Fordham Road
www.zales.com



BROUGHT TO YOU BY



FORDHAM ROAD
BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
FORDHAMROADBID.ORG
(718)562-2104



OUR SPONSORS INCLUDE: American Real Solutions, Bronx Cafe, K... Bronx Times, Health Plus, NORWOOD NEWS
NYC COUNCILMAN JOEL RIVERA - NYC COUNCILMAN FERNANDO CABRERA - FORDHAM UNIVERSITY GOSPEL CHOIR - GOOD SHEPHERD SERVICES - JONAS BRONCK ACADEMY - MARISOL DIAZ PHOTOGRAPHY - PHIPPS CDC

MTA SOURCE: METROCARD TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY. USED WITH PERMISSION.

Norwood News Holiday Gift Guide



A Girl's Best Friend

Diamonds are a girl's best friend, and they might make her want to be *your* best friend this holiday season if you do her the honor of stopping in Freilich Jewelers, which has a beautiful selection of diamond earrings, ranging from the ghastly (at \$8,100) to the bearable (\$169.95). Or, gift her with the Swarovski Crystal sterling earrings and 24K gold encrusted Christmas rose, a package deal that can be yours (or hers) for \$99.

Freilich Jewelers is located at 312 E. 204th St. and is open Tuesday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Call (718) 798-1063.

(continued from p. 10)

for sale are large throw rugs sporting President Obama's smiling face.

Sunkofa is located at 1789 Southern Blvd., and is open Monday to Saturday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Tattoos for Everyone

Tattoos were once only acceptable on

the arm of a sailor or the neck of a prisoner, but nowadays shop owner Willie at The Coven has inked pretty much every type of person, he says, even a mother and daughter who came in to get matching tattoos. The Coven is a friendly and clean local tattoo shop, that is offering 20 percent off any tattoo over \$50, if you bring in a new gift for a child in support of a local gift drive.

The Coven is located at 3154 Bainbridge Ave. and is open Monday to Saturday, 1 to 9 p.m. Call (718) 231-0111.

Toys and Deals

The selection of traditional children's toys like train sets or baby dolls makes Kids Outlet on Jerome Avenue a reliable source of classic Christmas morning cheer at reasonable prices. That train set is a bargain at \$19.99. Even better, owner Sam Khalil is throwing in 20 percent off toys to anyone who brings in this holiday gift guide.

Kids Outlet is located at 3485 Jerome Ave. Call (646) 204-4639 for store hours.

Sneaks for the Sneakerhead

Bronx Sneakerheads, if you don't already have your Nike Shox R4s or Grifey Air Max II's, Sneakerbox on Fordham Road has them for less than the retail price, at \$130. And for those anticipating the release of the Jordan 11s, sales representative Jose Valette says he expects 30 to 40 people to line up outside the store for their release on Christmas Eve. Valette says the store may only get up to 50 pairs, so if you want to honor number 23 on your feet, you'll have to be one of the first at the store.

Sneakerbox is located at 136 E. Fordham Rd. Call (718) 220-0007 for store hours.

This Suits Your Man

Porta Bella has now been providing menswear in the neighborhood for a decade, according to manager Marcos Jiddou. The store has an expansive selection of suits, sweaters and shoes for relatively inexpensive prices. They carry two-piece suits for \$48.50 and jackets that start at \$19.99.

Porta Bella has several Bronx loca-

Cool Glasses at Cool Prices

Who doesn't need a new pair of glasses from a trusted and affordable local optometrist? Mosholu Optical has been serving the community's eye-wear needs since 1968. From bold and trendy, to smart and sophisticated, Mosholu Optical has the style that will fit your special someone. Plus you can walk in off the street and pick up your new glasses in an hour.

Mosholu Optical is located at 3490 Jerome Ave., near the corner of Gun Hill Road. Call (718) 654-5860 for store hours.

tions, including 3449 Jerome Ave. Call (718) 231-4736 for store hours.

The Gift of Fitness

Think your loved one might be turning into a holiday cookie this holiday season? Gift them with a Planet Fitness pass for 2012 — the gift that will give back to you! As the clock turns on the New Year, gym memberships across the country spike for a reason. Planet Fitness has two locations close to each other, one on Fordham Road and another a few blocks away on the Concourse. Monday through Friday PF offers 5-person fitness training classes that are free with a membership. Membership passes start at \$10/month after \$20 down, not including a \$20 annual fee, and each location is open seven days a week/24 hours a day (perfect for accommodating any work schedule). Planet Fitness locations: 2480 Grand Concourse (718) 637-6485; and 309 E. Fordham Rd. (718) 933-0900.

(continued on p. 14)

We're Proud to Provide Safe and Affordable Housing Throughout The Northwest Bronx.

Studios and 1 Bedroom Apartments Available

Pick up application at:
Fordham Bedford Housing Corporation
 2751 Grand Concourse, The Bronx
 718-367-3200



Toy Deals and Givebacks at Leroy

After moving into an old Blockbuster on East 204th Street, Leroy Pharmacy has had the space to stretch out and add a few programs to benefit its customers. Now in a 4,500-square-foot store, they were one of a handful of Bronx pharmacies picked to participate in a pilot program by Medicaid called Medication Therapeutic Management, or MTM, that seeks to build better communication among patients, providers and pharmacies.

This holiday season, Leroy donated over 65 turkeys to families in need and is also working in conjunction with Assemblywoman Naomi Rivera's annual Holiday Toy Event, sponsored by both Montefiore Medical Center and Leroy Pharmacy. On Saturday, Dec. 17, over 500 children will be receiving toys in Leroy, and in addition, a huge selection of their toys and holiday gift items are on sale up to 15 percent off regular prices.

Leroy Pharmacy is located at 314 E. 204th St., between Hull and Perry avenues.

HILLSIDE MEAT & DELI MARKET

Your Neighborhood Butcher
Serving You for Over 25 Years.

Customized Meat Plans

Holiday Special

Chicken Wings
5lbs for
\$9.99



Enjoy
Hillside's Homemade
Chicken Burgers

Only \$3.49 /lb.

FREE DELIVERY

Hillside Market

3117 Bainbridge Ave; Bronx, NY • 718-519-1580
Fresh Meat & Poultry/ Deli/ Produce/ Dairy
Open 7 Days Mon-Sat 8am-6:30pm • Sundays 8:30am-4pm
We Accept EBT/Debit/Credit Cards

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| PLAN 1 | 2 lbs. BEEF STEW
2 lbs. THIN SIRLOIN STEAK
1 ½ lbs. GROUND BEEF
1 DOZEN EGGS
1 WHOLE CHICKEN | FREE
2 LITER SODA
\$24.99 |
| PLAN 2 | 2 lbs. BEEF STEW
2 lbs. GROUND BEEF
2 lbs. SHOULDER STEAK
1 WHOLE CHICKEN
3 lbs. CHICKEN LEGS - 1 DOZEN EGGS | FREE
2 LITER SODA
\$27.99 |
| PLAN 3 | 3 lbs. CHICKEN LEGS
2 lbs. GROUND BEEF
1 ½ lbs. CHICKEN CULLETETS
4 SHOULDER PORK CHOPS
1 WHOLE CHICKEN | FREE
DOZEN EGGS
\$22.99 |
| PLAN 7 | 2 lbs. SHOULDER STEAK
2 lbs. PORK CHOPS
3 lbs. CHICKEN LEGS
3 lbs. CHICKEN WINGS
2 lbs. GROUND BEEF - 2 lbs. BEEF STEW | FREE
DOZEN EGGS
\$39.99 |
| PLAN 8 | 2 lbs. CHUCK STEAK - 2 lbs. BEEF STEW
2 lbs. PEPPER STEAK
2 lbs. GROUND BEEF
2 lbs. ITALIAN SAUSAGE
8 HAMBURGER PATTIES - 1 WHOLE CHICKEN | FREE
5 lbs. POTATOES
\$39.99 |
| PLAN 9 | 2 lbs. SHOULDER STEAK - 5 lbs. CHICKEN LEGS
2 lbs. GROUND BEEF - 3 lbs. CHICKEN WINGS
2 lbs. BEEF STEW
1 pkg. ALL BEEF FRANKS - 1 DOZEN EGGS
1 PACKAGE O/C BACON - 2 lbs. SHOULDER PORK CHOPS | FREE
2 LITER SODA
\$45.99 |
| PLAN 13
POULTRY PLAN | 5 lbs. CHICKEN LEGS - 3 lbs. CHICKEN WINGS
1 WHOLE CHICKEN - 1 pkg. GROUND TURKEY
2 lbs. CHICKEN CULLETETS - 3 lbs. CHICKEN BREASTS
3 lbs. TURKEY WINGS/DRUMSTICKS | FREE
DOZEN EGGS
\$39.99 |

Norwood News Holiday Gift Guide



Give the Gift of Meat

The Hillside Meat Market is a one stop shop for all of your Christmas roasting needs. Hillside has a large selection of pork cuts, including pork shoulders and pork thighs that, if pre-ordered, Hillside will debone and season for you. An 8- to 10-pound shoulder (which feeds about a dozen people) will cost between \$15 and \$20. Hillside can also help with your specialty meats orders, such as a rack of lamb or duck.

Hillside Meat Market is located at 3117 Bainbridge Ave. and is open Monday to Saturday, 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. and Sunday, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

(continued from p. 12)

When All Else Fails, Buy Booze

Whether your Christmas dinner is on the day itself, or on *Noche Buena* (Christmas Eve), you're going to need holiday drinks. K & S Liquor's Shelly Ali recommends Black Cork, a sweet red dessert wine for some post-dinner holiday sipping. The store also carries traditional holiday gift boxes. A Grey Goose gift box costs \$35.99, and there's also a Remy Martin Cognac gift box for \$49.99.

K&S Liquor is located at 3394 Jerome Ave. Call (718)

The Perfect Post-op Gifts

The Women's Center is the first stop many women make after mastectomy surgery. Why? It has everything covered for all surgical and breast care needs, including selection and privacy. The relaxed, friendly showroom has a wide selection of attractive and comfortable recovery items offering custom-fitted post-mastectomy bras and forms to fit any body type, skin color and surgery. If the Women's Center doesn't have what you want, don't worry. They will order it. Custom forms and bras aren't all that's on display at the Center. They also offer wigs, scarves, designer hats, bathing suits and other accessories.

Located at 262 E. Gun Hill Rd., the Women's Center is open Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. For more information, call (718) 654-1882 or (800) 648-4466.

405-5775 for store hours.

Get Your Games On

There's no better Christmas morning feeling than opening up a new game console. This year at DVD Video on East Gun Hill Road, you can get a Nintendo 3DS for \$169.99. Other popular releases include "Gears of War 3" and "Batman: Arkham City," the sequel to the critically-acclaimed Arkham Asylum, and is now garnering Game of the Year buzz. The store also boasts a robust collection of DVDs and Blu-ray discs, along with pre-paid Boost Mobile phones.

DVD Video is located on East Gun Hill Road.

Pets Make for Gift Paradise

Upon entering Pet Paradise on Gun Hill Road, owner Augie Santana jumps at the chance to tell you about his animals' powers of therapy. Santana brings tropical birds and fish to nursing homes or schools for disabled children. Santana says a parrot will run you into the

Give the Gift of Wound Care

Dr. Jian Zhang who heads the Bronx Foot Surgeons is a board certified foot surgeon, and has been practicing for over a decade. Besides all spectrums of podiatric and surgical services, he also specializes in wound care, diabetic foot infection and limb salvage. Zhang treats those diabetic patients who have chronic open wounds that never heal at the hyperbaric oxygen chamber center located at the Montefiore North Division. The hyperbaric oxygen will stimulate the body to generate more arterial blood flow to the area where the circulation is lacking. As a result, those patients with chronic diabetic foot ulcers can heal without risking more infection or even amputations.

There are several offices associated with the Bronx Foot Surgeons Corporation. Visit Dr. Zhang at their new location at 3112 Webster Ave. or the other doctors at 1619 Pelham Pkwy. No. Please feel free to check the website at www.bronxfootsurgeons.com, and call (718) 655-3410 for an appointment.

hundreds, but that he has fish and other birds at more affordable prices, like parakeets at about \$15.

Pet Paradise is located at 289 E. Gun Hill Rd. Call (718) 881-2870 for store hours.

Cigars, Rolled to Unwind

A neighborhood stalwart, Rosario's Cigars is famous for its top-notch Dominican hand-rolled cigars. We recently profiled the store and found people were drawn to its ability to suspend the city's torrid pace, instead opting for slow appreciation. Like having a cigar. Or lounging on an island in the Caribbean.

Rosario's Cigars is located at 325 E. Gun Hill Rd. Call (718) 798-6769 for store hours.

—Compiled by RONALD CHAVEZ and EMILY PICCONE

718-6558-7764/65
3236 BAINBRIDGE AVE.
BRONX, NY 10467

Hall Available for Rent for All Occasions

PLACE YOUR ORDER IN TIME FOR THE HOLIDAY

BAKED CHICKEN

TURKEY
10-12 Pounds

ROASTED PORK

HOLIDAY FAMILY COMBO

1- 2 POLLOS LGE RICE & PEAS.....\$50.00
Potato Salad & 2 Lt Soda

2- 1 ROASTED PORK RICE & PEAS, POTATO SALAD.....50.00

3- 1 WHOLE TURKEY RICE & PEAS POTATO SALAD, SODA...\$50.00

Wed Karaoke Night 8p-2a

Happy Hour M-F 6-8:30pm

ARE YOU IN NEED OF DAY CARE?

AT TENDER TOTS DAY CARE, WE PROVIDE A WARM AND LOVING ENVIRONMENT WHILE TEACHING CHILDREN TO LEARN.

INFANT PROGRAMS ~ TODDLER PROGRAMS
(INFANTS AS YOUNG AS 3 WEEKS OLD)

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN! REFERRAL BONUS ASK FOR DETAILS

PRESCHOOL ~ KINDERGARTEN

AFTERSCHOOL ~ SPECIAL ED SERVICES

Open House Dec. 28 11am-5pm

FOR REGISTRATION:

INFO@TENDERTOTSNY.COM
T: (718) 324-1052 • F: (732) 987-5253
CAREERS: HR@TENDERTOTSNY.COM
www.TenderTotsNY.com
Follow us on
Twitter.com/TenderTotsBronx

NEW FACILITY

3322 Decatur Ave.
Bronx, NY 10467
7am - 6pm

Licensed Educational Staff
 Over 10 Classrooms

Classifieds

Professional Directory

Beautician Services

Come to Madame P's Beauty World

The last old-fashioned hairdresser in the Bronx.

We specialize in haircutting, hair care, and provide consultations on hair care and weaving to stimulate hair growth. We do tinting and use all manners of relaxers, including Mizani, Affirm, Fiberguard, and Vitale. We use Wave Nouveau Coiffure. We are still doing carefree curls and press and curl. 20% off for seniors Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays.

617 E. Fordham Road (between Arthur and Hughes), Bronx, NY

10458. (Fordham University Section). Call today for your appointment: (347) 284-3834.

Real Estate

2-Family House for Sale – Fully renovated. Includes 3 BR over 3 BR & master bedroom. Wood floors and tile. Full 1-bedroom basement. This property has 7 bedrooms and 4 full baths. Parking and back yard. New kitchen. Wheelchair ramp. Great investment, it will pay for itself. You will live for free!
Location: Wakefield - Barnes, between 228th and 229th streets. Minutes away from Montefiore Hospital.
Please call owner: (917) 622-5810 – PRICE: \$475,000 (neg.)

Pediatric Services

Tiga Pediatrics

3510 Bainbridge Ave., Suite 5, Bronx, NY 10467
Ages 0 to 21 years
General Practice, Obesity, Asthma, ADHD
Same-Day Appointment Every Day!
(718) 319-8999

Lawyers

James M. Visser, Esq.
General Practice; Accidents, Commercial; Wills & Estates; Offices Bronx and Manhattan
(646) 260-6326

Non-Denominational Services

Good News Christian Church
3061 Bainbridge Ave.
(basement of the Church of the Holy Nativity)
Bronx, NY 10467
(347) 329-0023
Pastors James and Andrea Miller
Sunday service at 2 p.m.
Home fellowship bible studies on Wednesdays at 7 p.m.
Friday night prayer service at 7 p.m.

Visit us at
www.goodnewsc.org

POSITION WANTED

Nurse's Aide with 25 years' experience in hospitals, nursing homes and private residences seeks employment. Will live in or out. Call (718) 364-7771.

SERVICES AVAILABLE

Custom Picture Framing:
Art Restoration: Paintings cleaned,

repaired, relined, inpainted prints cleaned and repaired.

Photo Restoration: Photographs restored and enlarged without negatives!!

Discount Custom Framing - Pick-up and Delivery Service: Over 40 years' experience. Est. 1968

Artists' Oasis Studios, 2121 Haight Ave., Bronx, NY (914) 620-5665. J.D. Abrams

FAST DELIVERY - 1 FRAME TO 1000

Tutor: K-9 teacher NYS certified, ESL certified, former *NY Times* cartographer/staff editor. (718) 644-1083.

Yoga: Stretching, meditation, drumming or dancing on Fridays and Sundays. \$10 per session. RSVP (718) 644-1083 or email jnorQ@aol.com.

(718) 367-4040. Prayer Wednesdays at 11 a.m. and 7:30 p.m., Sunday Service at 11 a.m.

MISCELLANEOUS

THANK YOU ST. JUDE.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

Glad Tidings Assembly of God: 2 Van Cortlandt Ave. E. and Jerome Avenue.

Siberian Husky Puppies (AKC reg. male and female): Free to good home. E-mail: lnbest1@gmail.com for more info.

How to Advertise

1. Classifieds: All classified ads (like those on this page) are \$9 for the first 20 words and 25 cents for each additional word. The phone number counts as one word.

2. Professional Directory: Our professional directory is designed to be an inexpensive way to tell our more than 40,000 readers about your professional services on a regular basis. (See above.) **Rates are:** \$144 for six months; \$260 for one year.

3. Business Cards: Share your business card with more than 40,000 readers! **Rates are as low as:** \$360 for six months (12 issues); \$625 for one year (25 issues).

Deadlines: Deadlines for classified ads are one week prior to publication.

To place an ad, call the *Norwood News* at (718) 324-4998 between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday thru Friday.

Shop Fordham Road
"THE OUTDOOR MALL EXPERIENCE"

OVER 300 SPECIALTY SHOPS AND CHAINS!

FURNITURE/CLOTHING/JEWELRY/SHOES/ELECTRONICS
DISCOUNT OUTLETS/CELL PHONES/GAMES, ACCESSORIES
OFFICE SUPPLIES & MANY FAST FOOD RESTAURANTS



ACCESSIBLE BY ALL NYC
MASS TRANSPORTATION.
PARKING FACILITIES AVAILABLE.
FOR MORE INFORMATION,
CALL (718) 562-1249 OR VISIT
WWW.FORDHAMROADBD.ORG



CO-OPS FOR SALE

**BRONX LOCATIONS: KINGSBRIDGE/NORWOOD
GRAND CONCOURSE/WOODLAWN**

3520 TRYON AVENUE

Perfectly located co-op. Walk to Montefiore and Subway.

"Handyman Special"

1 BR \$97,000

Maint: \$548.45

4380 VIREO AVENUE

2 BR-JR \$169,000.00

Maint: \$543.69

Studios for rent @ \$900, No Fee

TO VIEW AND FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL:

Sherry and Sons, Inc.

(914) 793-1793 ext.16

www.sherryandsons.com

Why are these hospitals putting patients at risk?

Bringing in “replacement” nurses is bad medicine for patients, families

As you read this, the management of Montefiore Medical Center, Mt. Sinai Medical Center and St. Luke’s-Roosevelt Hospital Center are planning to bring in thousands of inexperienced “replacement” nurses to work long hours and multiple shifts on a ward where you, a friend or a family member might be staying.

This terrible management decision can make that hospital stay more dangerous.

A recent study * shows that “hospitals functioning during nurses’ strikes are doing so at a lower quality of care.” During strikes, they report that in-hospital deaths increased 19.4 percent and 30-day readmissions increased by 6.5 percent.

The nurses at these hospitals do not want to go on strike — but their million-dollar executives and six-figure salaried managers have been denying them the basic rights we all hope for on the job — safe staffing, affordable healthcare and a decent raise to keep up in this expensive city.

Tell the hospital their decision to bring in thousands of inexperienced “replacement” nurses is bad medicine for the patients you care about.

* The 2010 study is by the non-partisan National Bureau of Economic Research, and is named “Do Strikes Kill?” Its website is www.nber.org

**Please call Montefiore CEO Steven Safyer
at 718-920-2001.**

**Please call Mt. Sinai President & CEO
Dr. Kenneth L. Davis
at 212-659-8888.**

**Please call Frank Cracolici, CEO,
administration, Continuum Health Partners,
St. Luke’s-Roosevelt Hospital Center
at 212-523-5700.**

**Thank you –
The Nurses of the
New York State Nurses Association**

New York State
NURSES
ASSOCIATION
Advocating for patients. Advancing the profession.

Business Beat

New Building Home to Tender Child Care

By EMILY PICCONE

A new nursery school and daycare provider in Norwood will be open by the New Year, and the space is already set up and ready for the children to stream in.

Occupying the first floor of a new apartment building on Decatur Avenue just north of East Gun Hill Road, Tender Tots Childcare Center is available to children from 6-weeks to 5-years-old. The children are divided into four age groups and in class sizes of 10, with two teachers each. School officials say the ratio for the infant room is slightly smaller at 4:1.

The colorful new carpets displaying the alphabet, painter's easels, mini-kitchens, puppet theaters and arts and crafts stations all stand ready for the children's use starting in January.

The center's Educational Director Michelle D'Avanzo says she is using a creative curriculum, which leaves a lot of the lesson planning up to the teachers, but wants the focus of Tender Tots to be around play, and there's ample space to grant it. One large empty classroom with bay windows is being left empty for exercise and games, D'Avanzo says. Plus, they have placed soft playground flooring on the outside courtyard for safety during



Photo by Emily Piccone

playtime.

The center is open for both full day and part day, and rates start at \$200 a week for full day (7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.), for children ages 3 to 6.

Included in the price is both breakfast and lunch, which will be catered in daily, including pancakes, bagels and waffles for breakfast, and pasta, chicken, fish sticks and pizza for lunch.

Ed. Note: For more information or to register, visit tendertotsny.com or call (718) 324-1052.

Invite You To The
Northwest Bronx Small Business Network & Holiday Event

Meet & Mingle with Your Neighbors!
Bring Your Business Cards

@ **besolounge**
320 E. 204TH STREET • 646.807.4522

Non-member donations will help support the rebuilding of the 204th Street & Bainbridge Avenue Merchants Association.

Treat Your Staff to a Holiday Party They Will Remember!
A great, fun way to show your appreciation to the staff that supports your business all year round!
Family & Friends are Welcome! The More the Merrier this Holiday 2011!

WEDNESDAY 12/21/11
Time: 6p-10p
\$40 pp Suggested Non-Member Contribution

CASH BAR MIXED DRINKS, BUFFET & MUSIC

For more information call Tanya at 347.369.9128 or Eli at 917.612.9006.

Marketing & Advertising Solutions Inc. • 3602 E. Tremont Avenue, Suite 206
Phone: 718.676.1628, email: info@masmarketingny.com, website: www.masmarketingny.com

MAS MONSIEUR PRESERVATION CORPORATION NYC Avenue NYC

NEW BIGGER LOCATION!

Walk Pain Free with
BRONX FOOT REHABILITATION ASSOCIATES

FOR THE CORRECTION OF:
Bunions • Hammertoes
Ingrown Toenails

FOR THE TREATMENT OF:
Heel pain • Arch pain
Callouses • Flat Feet
Ankle Sprains/Sports Injuries
Diabetic Foot Infections
Chronic Non-Healing Wounds
Effective Foot Reconstruction
Foot Trauma Management

For your convenience we offer:
IN OFFICE & HOSPITAL SURGERY
Please call for an appointment, walk-ins welcome

JIAN ZHANG D.P.M, FACFAS • DENNIS NACHMANN, D.P.M.
Dr. Zhang is certified in both American Board of Foot Surgery and Hyperbaric Oxygen Wound Care!

TWO LOCATIONS

326 EAST 204TH STREET 1619 PELHAM PARKWAY N.
BRONX NY 10467 BRONX, NY 10461

Both Locations Call
718-655-3410

BRONXITES VOTED US #1
FOR PAYING THE HIGHEST PRICE
FOR YOUR GOLD JEWELRY AND DIAMONDS!

10K • 14K • 18K PLATINUM • SILVER • DIAMOND JEWELRY • ANY CONDITION

Gold Prices UP 3X Since 2001!

WANTED:
Any and all of your precious metal regardless of condition

- Chains
- Class Rings
- Charms
- Watches
- Bracelets
- Cuffs
- Medals
- Earrings
- Dental

Freilich Jewelers
Established in 1939
312 East 204th Street
Bronx, NY 10467 • 718-798-1063
Shop Online: www.freilichjewelers.com

New at Freilich's
Reflection Beads

Out & About

Compiled by JUDY NOY

Holiday Events

■ Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz, Jr. invites the public to a free **Bronx Annual Chanukah Celebration**, Dec. 22 at noon at the Bronx County Building Veterans Memorial Hall, 851 Grand Concourse. Included will be a musical performance and refreshments. For more information and to RSVP, call (718) 590-3989 or email smalave@bronxbp.nyc.gov.

■ The Bronx Library Center, at 310 E. Kingsbridge Rd. off Fordham Road, presents

Holiday Strings Concert, performed by members of the Bronx Symphony Orchestra, Dec. 17 at 2:30 p.m. For more information, call (718) 579-4244/46/57 or visit www.nypl.org.

■ The Lehman Center for the Performing Arts, 250 Bedford Pk. Blvd. W., presents a Christmas celebration with **Parranda Navideña** featuring jibaro music from the mountains of Puerto Rico, Dec. 17 at 8 p.m. (tickets are \$25 to \$45; \$10 for ages 12 and under). For more information, call (718) 960-8833.

■ Lehman College, 250 Bedford Pk. Blvd. W., presents a broadcast of the ballet, **The Nutcracker**, Dec. 18 at 2 p.m. in the Speech and Theatre Building's Studio Theatre and Dec. 20 at 1 p.m. in the Lovinger Theatre. Tickets are \$12. For more information, call (718) 960-7963 or visit www.lehmanstages.org/ballet-in-cinema.

■ The Bronx River Art Center, 305 E. 140th St., #1A, presents its **Holiday Party**, Dec. 16 from 6 to 9 p.m., including a holiday dance-off and food and drink. BRAC students are invited to a **Student Potluck Holiday Party**, Dec. 17 from 1 to 5 p.m. at Burke Plaza, 871 E. 179th St. For more information and to RSVP, call (718) 589-5819 or visit info@bronxriverart.org and include name, email address, number of people attending, and what dish you are bringing.

■ The Bronx Academy of Arts and Dance (BAAD), 841 Barretto St., presents **Los Nutcrackers: A Christmas Carajo**, a combination of The Nutcracker and A Christmas Carol, performed as a Latino queer comedic play, Dec. 15 (\$20) and Dec. 16 and 17 (\$25/each), all at 8 p.m., with discounts for seniors, groups and Bronx residents. For more information and to reserve, call (718) 842-5223 or visit www.BronxAcademyOf

ArtsAndDance.org.

■ The New York Botanical Garden presents **Holiday Train Show**, featuring replicas of NYC landmarks made of natural materials such as bark, twigs, fruits and seeds, and large-scale model trains running along nearly a quarter mile of track featuring bridges, tunnels and waterfalls, through Jan. 16. Included will be a glimpse at the making of the exhibition at the Artist's Studio. Adults can enjoy a sip of one complimentary cocktail, December 17 from 7 to 9 p.m. (advance tickets are recommended). For more information, tickets, and details of holiday events and rates, call (718) 817-8700.

Events

■ The Bronx County Historical Society presents a **Walking Tour**, Old village of Unionport, Dec. 17 at 11 a.m. (meet at the Chase bank at Hugh Grant Circle in Parkchester; \$10/members; \$15/non-members). For more information or to RSVP, call (718) 881-8900.

■ JASA Van Cortlandt Senior Center, 3880 Sedgwick Ave., presents **Entertainer Ari Leshans**, performing at the



EDITOR'S PICK

Norwood News Photographer Showcase

Adi Talwar, a local photographer whose work has graced the cover of this newspaper countless times over the past few years, is exhibiting a selection of his photos at Illuminated Metropolis Gallery in Chelsea, 547 W. 27th St., Suite 529 (between 10th and 11th avenues). Talwar's work will be on display, along with photos from other New York artists, until the end of December. The gallery is open on Fridays (1 to 5 p.m.) and Saturdays (noon to 6 p.m.), but if you would like to arrange a viewing at another time, e-mail Talwar at lens@rawlat.com.

FREE SALSA LESSONS
FRIDAYS at 8PM



You Can Never Get Enough Kisses



- **HAPPY HOUR**
WEDNESDAYS 2 for 1 mixed drinks, 6-9pm
THURSDAY - FRIDAY \$4 Mixed Drinks, 6-9pm
- **BIRTHDAY PACKAGES Available**
Text Your BDAY to Beso at 25827
FREE valet parking available.



beso lounge

320 East 204th Street • Bronx, NY
(646) 807-4522

[Twitter.com/BesoNYC](https://twitter.com/BesoNYC)

[Facebook.com/BesoLounge](https://facebook.com/BesoLounge)

Have your next event at Beso Lounge!



November/December birthday party, Dec. 15 at 1 p.m. (\$1) preceded by lunch (\$2); a **Gingerbread House Party**, Dec. 20 at 1 p.m. preceded by lunch at 12:15 p.m., sponsored by Hudson Pointe at Riverdale; **Klezmer violinist Yale Strom**, Dec. 22 at 1:15 p.m. preceded by a holiday meal at 12:15 p.m. (suggested contribution is \$2 for each); and a **trip to Rockefeller Center**, Dec. 21. For more information and to RSVP, call (718) 549-4700.

■ The Bronx Council on the Arts and the Huntington Free Library present **Holiday Bling With Ortiz**, a free craft workshop to create original and personalized jewelry (supplies will be provided, but bring beads to recycle), Dec. 17 from 12:30 to 3 p.m., at the library, 9 Westchester Square. For more information and to confirm time, call (718) 931-9500 ext. 33 or (718) 829-7770.

■ The Mosholu Montefiore Senior Center, 3450 DeKalb Ave., presents **"A Twisted Carol,"** an original holiday comedy performed by the Senior Center Players, Dec. 19 at 12:30 p.m.; **Shopping Trip to Bay Plaza**, Dec. 21 at 9 a.m. and return to Center for late lunch at 1:30 p.m. (\$1.50 in advance); **Latke Luncheon**, Dec. 22 at 11:30 a.m., to celebrate Chanukah, followed by a lesson in playing "dreidel;" and **Wii Bowling Tournament**, Dec. 29 at 12:30 p.m., for regular Wii bowlers only, or those who have participated in at least three prior sessions (spectators welcome). For more information, call (718) 798-6601.

Exhibits

■ The Pregones Theatre, 571-575 Walton Ave. (149th Street) presents **Breathing History**, through Feb. 4. For more information and a schedule, call (718) 585-1202.

■ The Bronx Museum of the Arts, 1040 Grand Concourse at 165th St., presents **Muntadas: Information, Space, Control**, through Jan. 16; and **Urban Archives: Emilio Sanchez in the Bronx**, through Jan. 2. Admission is free on Fridays. For more information, call (718) 681-6000.

■ Lehman College's Art Gallery, located at 250 Bedford Pk. Blvd. W., presents free **Sticks and Stones**; and **El Museo's Bienal: The (S) Files 2011**; both through Jan. 6, free, Tuesdays through Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; and **Family Focus**, a guided look at the exhibitions, and a hands-on studio activity, will be held Dec. 17 from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. For more information, call (718) 960-8731.

■ Bronx River Art Center, 305 E. 140th St., #1A, presents free: **Shifting Communities**, an exhibition highlighting dynamic initiatives in culture and the arts, through Jan. 6. For more information, call (718) 589-5819.

Library Events

■ The Bronx Library Center, at 310 E. Kingsbridge Rd. off Fordham Road, presents programs for kids including **Preschool Story Time**, Dec. 15, 22 and 29 at 11 a.m.; **Tales**

for the Teeny Tiny (ages 3 to 5), Dec. 17 at 11 a.m.; **A Christmas Carol** (ages 3 to 12), Dec. 17 at 2 p.m.; **Mad Science Workshops at 4 p.m.** (ages 3 to 12; registration required): on earthworks, Dec. 20; **Film Day** (ages 3 to 12), Dec. 21 and 28 at 4 p.m.; **Global Partners, Jr.** (ages 5 to 12), students connect worldwide via the Internet, Dec. 21 and 28 at 4 p.m.; **Tree Ornament Making**, (ages 5 to 12), Dec. 22 at 4 p.m.; and **Tacky the Penguin and Other Frosty Winter Tales** (ages 3 to 12), Dec. 29 at 2 p.m. Adults can attend **Released With Conviction** (through Dec. 17), exhibition on prison release. For more information, call (718) 579-4244/46/57 or visit www.nypl.org.

■ The Mosholu Library, at 285 E. 205th St., offers **Knitting Circle at 3 p.m.** (for

adults), Dec. 15, 22 and 29; **Holiday Arts & Crafts** (ages 5 to 12), Dec. 20 at 4 p.m.; **Holiday Cheer**, Dec. 22 at 4 p.m. and **Board Game Bonanza**, Dec. 29 at 3 p.m. (both for teens and young adults); and **Wii Program** (for seniors and adults), Tuesdays at 3 p.m. For more information, call (718) 882-8239.

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL OUR READERS AND A HAPPY AND HEALTHY CHANUKAH TO ALL OUR JEWISH READERS!

NOTE: Items for consideration may be mailed to our office or sent to norwood-news@norwoodnews.org, and should be received by Dec. 19 for the next publication date of Dec. 29. Find more events at www.bronxnewsnetwork.org.

Paddy's Certified Transmissions

3100 Webster Avenue, Bronx, NY 10467
Tel: 718-547-6971

REBUILT TRANSMISSIONS

12 months or 12,000 miles
GUARANTEED!

Call for Price!

FREE TOWING
(Within a 10 mile radius)



ARE YOU SEARCHING FOR A DENTAL MIRACLE?

- Do you feel hopeless and frustrated about your broken, missing and decayed teeth?
- Does the thought of your needed treatment cause you to hyperventilate?
- Are you looking for a dental home that restores your trust?

HOPE IS JUST A PHONE CALL AWAY!

YES, YOU CAN HAVE A BEAUTIFUL SMILE!



YOU CAN NOW TAKE CHARGE OF YOUR DENTAL HEALTH

- Our Fear Reduction Program Includes:** Big time TLC, relaxing nitrous oxide gas, emphasis on painless injections, comforting staff.
- Patient Friendly TOOTHACHE Relief:** Comfortable, calming treatments that get you out of pain fast.
- Daily Appointments Available for People in Pain.**
- Beautiful Smiles Created Using State-of-the-Art Dentistry Backed by 30 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE.**
- We Have Extensive Certification and Our Expertise Includes:** Orthodontics, Oral Surgery, Periodontics, Root Canals, Cosmetic Veneers, implants, Invisalign® Invisalign Braces, Partials & Dentures, so you can have virtually all phases of your dentistry done under one roof without seeing an outside specialist.



CONCERNED DENTAL CARE SM

Most Insurance Accepted
Including MetLife, Cigna, Delta Dental, Fortis, Aetna, Guardian & United Healthcare, Mutual of Omaha, NYC Carpenters Oxford PBA, Principal Financial Group, UFT CSEA Dentemax, DHV/Assurant, Rayent, SIDS, DDS, Protective, Allac, Discount Dental, Healthplex, Connection Dental, Dentall, L1199

100% Financing Available
For Those Who Qualify
Interest - Free For 24 Months
Extended Payment Plans Up To 5 Years



I like knowing Dr. Jay Fensterstock has offices near both my home and office. Not only can I choose the most convenient location for me, but I can also choose the appointment time that is easiest for me. It's a treat to know Dr. Jay Fensterstock helps me get quality dental care on my schedule and at a great price. — Elizabeth M.

"Gently eliminating years of failing, frustrating and unattractive dentistry, leaving our patients with smiles and confidence they never imagined possible, guaranteed!"

Coupon Special
Teeth Whitening
\$99.00 per Arch *(A \$275.00 Value)*
New Patients Only Offer Expires 12/31/11

Dr. Jay Fensterstock DDS PC
55 East Mosholu Pkwy. North, Bronx, New York 10467
718-652-7370
www.ConcernedDentalCare.com
Six Convenient locations throughout the New York Area

Coupon Special
Exam, X-ray, Smile Consultation and Simple Cleaning for
\$57.00 *(A \$150.00 Value)*
New Patients Only Offer Expires 12/31/11



JEROME-GUN HILL
Business Improvement District

HOLIDAY

HUGE DEALS

**Where Good Neighbors Deserve Great Shopping
Shop and Save.**

10% - 50% Off!

**Over 250 stores
with great deals including:**

A&O Surgical Supply
266 E. Gun Hill Rd. & Putnam Pl.

BX Sports
3476 Jerome Ave.

C&N Liquor and Wine
6 E. Gun Hill Rd.

Caribe
2 E. Gun Hill Rd.

ComQuest Computers
234 E. Gun Hill Rd.

Drug Rite Pharmacy
3432 Jerome Ave.

E & N Pet Paradise Shop
289 E. Gun Hill Rd.

El Presidente Restaurant
410 E. 208th St.

Fine Fare Supermarket
320 E. Gun Hill Rd.

GNC
3452 Jerome Ave.

GameStop
3455 Jerome Ave.

Gold Plus Jewelry
16A E. Gun Hill Rd.

Jerome Ave. Electronics
3496 Jerome Ave.

Key Food
3515 Jerome Ave.

LeMed Pharmacy
159 E. Gun Hill Rd.

Metro PCS
250 E. Gun Hill Rd.

Monti Diner
3489 Jerome Ave.

Mosholu Optical
3490 Jerome Ave.

Oak Furniture
3537 Jerome Ave.

Oasis Café
3441 Jerome Ave.

Parilla Criolla
323 E. Gun Hill Rd.

Payless Shoe Source
3457 Jerome Ave.

Porta Bella Menswear
3449 Jerome Ave.

Radio Shack
3430 Jerome Ave.

Rosario's Cigar
323 E. Gun Hill Rd.

Sprint
3533 Jerome Ave.

T-Mobile
3468 Jerome Ave.

Too Hot Fashion
3466 Jerome Ave.

West Mosholu Cards & Gifts
3417 Jerome Ave.

V.I.P.'s Café
131 E. Gun Hill Rd.

The Women's Center
264 E. Gun Hill Rd. & Putnam Pl.



**Take the 4 to Mosholu Parkway
Also Accessible by
NYC/Westchester Buses**

**Call for more information:
718-324-4946**