

# NORWOOD NEWS

Monroe Students  
Go on Dominican  
Health Mission

page 8

Vol. 25, No. 10 ■ PUBLISHED BY MOSHOLU PRESERVATION CORPORATION ■ May 17-30, 2012



Photo by Alex Kratz

**AT THE CORNER** of Fulton Avenue and East 167th Street, Richie Powers holds up a replica of the street sign dedicated in his wife's name. Megan Charlop, a Norwood resident who dedicated her life to improving the lives of Bronxites, died in a bicycling accident two years ago.

## Living Life Meg Charlop's Way

By ALEX KRATZ

Everyone who knew Megan Charlop has a "Megan story." Or a dozen. The longtime Norwood resident, who died in a tragic bicycling accident two years ago, touched hundreds, if not thousands, of lives as a community organizer, activist and health educator.

Last week, Megan stories overwhelmed the corner of Fulton Avenue and East 167th Street, which was re-named "Meg Charlop Way" by the city in honor of her life's work.

Charlop's good friend, Margaret Rogers, said she hoped the signage would encourage people to "live Meg Charlop's way."

Any number of people can relate this particular tale about her early years in the Bronx. It was Charlop's way.

It begins amid the rubble, fire and abandonment that defined much of Morrisania, a south Bronx neighborhood so destitute and neglected that Hollywood turned it into a major studio film called "Fort Apache, the Bronx," starring Paul Newman.

The name "Fort Apache" referred to the local 41st Precinct and gave the impression that the area was under siege. Though many residents protested against the film's over-the-top depiction of crime and violence in the area, including Charlop, it was certainly one of the toughest, most dangerous parts of the Bronx during the 1970s. During that decade, the 41st Precinct averaged between 120 and 130 murders

each year. (Five people were murdered in the 41st Precinct last year.)

By 1980, two-thirds of the area's population had moved out. In 1976, Charlop, an energetic young college grad from Long Island, moved in. Working as a community organizer for The People's Development Corporation, Charlop made a lasting impression.

Two years before she died, Charlop and her oldest daughter, Sarah, walked through the neighborhood to drum up support for a greenway project Sarah was working on. Residents they spoke with still remembered Charlop, Sarah said, three decades after she left.

Charlop, who lived on Fulton Avenue with her husband Richie Powers during the filming of the movie, had helped come up with a nine-block rebuilding plan for the neglected neighborhood on behalf of PDC and emerged as a community leader.

(A quick side "Megan story": During this same time, ambulance response times lagged terribly. Even grievously injured people often waited more than a half hour for medical attention. A group of people working for a nonprofit called Plenty arrived on Fulton Avenue in a huge bus colored in psychedelic colors. They were there to set up an ambulance service and medical response team. But when the people got off the bus, looking like a rag-tag bunch of hippies who got lost on the way to a Grateful Dead concert, the locals went nuts. "Megan!" they shouted. "Who

(continued on p. 4)

## Ex-Sen. Espada Guilty of Theft

By JEANMARIE EVELLY

Ex-State Senator Pedro Espada, Jr., who represented much of the northwest Bronx before he was defeated at the polls amidst a flurry of political scandal and legal troubles in 2010, was found guilty Monday of stealing money from the nonprofit health clinic he helped found.

A federal jury found Espada guilty on four counts of theft. He could face up to 10 years in prison for each count. The jury failed to come to a decision against Espada's son, Pedro Gautier Espada, who faces the same charges as his father — embezzling more than \$500,000 from the nonprofit Soundview Healthcare Network, which the elder Espada founded in the 1970s and still oversees.

"It's sad for the Espadas, and it's an extremely sad day for the

(continued on p. 3)

## New Program Sparks Creativity With Seniors

By DESTINY DEJESUS

After quitting her insurance job to follow her passion for the arts, Gail Sharbaan has been dedicating her time and talents to a program that allows seniors to freely express themselves through arts and crafts.

"It was labor of love," said Sharbaan.

For the past five years, Sharbaan volunteered her free time with the Bronx Council on the Arts creating art workshops at libraries and community centers. Now, as a recipient of the Seniors Partnering with Artists Citywide (SPARC) grant, she

(continued on p. 7)



Photo by Adi Talwar

**DALE KINNEY** holds up two masks she created through the SPARC program at the Sister Annunciata Bethel Senior Center in Bedford Park.

## NORWOOD NEWS

Vol. 25, No. 10

*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](mailto:norwoodnews@norwoodnews.org)Web: [www.norwoodnews.org](http://www.norwoodnews.org)

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

**Editor-in-Chief** Alex Kratz

**Staff Writer** Jeanmarie Evelly

**Classified Advertising** Dawn McEvoy

**Accounts Receivable** Dawn McEvoy

**Proofreader** Judy Noy

**Production** Neil deMause

**Regular Contributors** David Greene, Adi Talwar, Ronald Chavez, Lindsay Armstrong, Emily Piccone

**Interns** Marcos Sierra, Destiny DeJesus, Catherine Pagano

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.

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.

**Montefiore**  
THE UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL FOR  
ALBERT EINSTEIN COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

# In The Public Interest

## Cabrera Skeptical of Ice Center Plan as Alternative Emerges

When the group calling itself the Kingsbridge National Ice Center — with its ties to famous partners like ex-Rangers star Mark Messier, deep pockets and grand vision to create the greatest ice hockey complex in the history of frozen water — Bronx Councilman Fernando Cabrera seemed to be receptive to the idea.

In fact, he said the center, which would include nine hockey rinks, could be the “Yankee Stadium of the ice world.”

But now, according to two reliable sources who weren’t authorized to speak on the record, Cabrera isn’t sure the ice center plan would be the best idea for the community.

KNIC says it will not need public subsidies, which would hamper efforts to get community benefits out of the project. That’s exactly what Cabrera is afraid of: that the project won’t benefit the community.

KNIC has said it wants to build a school and have low-cost youth after-school programs, but Cabrera is said to be skeptical about their ability to pull those kinds of community benefits off.

The school plan would be contingent on the National Guard moving out of the Armory’s annex buildings, which has proved extremely difficult despite widespread support for it to happen. And the youth program would require a steady stream of funding that the developers may or may not be willing or able to provide.

Cabrera would not address the ice center plan specifically, but he also didn’t deny his skepticism.

A spokesperson for Cabrera said, “The councilman is looking to support the project with the greatest benefit to the community.”

Meanwhile, a KNIC competitor has emerged as an alternative that would offer a more diverse array of programming at the Armory. Young Woo, a West Village firm that built the Chelsea Arts Tower, submitted a proposal that would turn the Armory into a mixed-use facility that would include a movie theater, some retail options, sports and recreational facilities, a business incubator and a market to showcase local artisans.

“Young Woo & Associates was extremely proud to submit a proposal...for a Kingsbridge Armory redevelopment initiative that we believe will respect and build on the history, culture and diversity of the Bronx,” Young Woo’s Margaret Lee told the *Daily News*.

—ALEX KRATZ

## BP Endorses Rangel as Bronx Pols Pick Sides

Last week, Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz, Jr. released a Bronx Week kickoff video. In it there was a not-so-subtle foreshadowing to Diaz’s press conference last Friday morning announcing his endorsement of Charles Rangel in the race for the newly created 13th Congress-

sional District, which stretches from Harlem, through Upper Manhattan and into the northwest Bronx neighborhoods of Kingsbridge, Norwood and Bedford Park.

At the 1:22 mark, a still photo of Diaz and Rangel lingers on the screen for about two seconds.

On Friday, Diaz praised Rangel for his extended service in Congress, which stretches more than four decades.

“People have said this is about the future, not the past,” said Diaz, as he made comments in both English and Spanish. “But the past has to count for something.”

Diaz appears to be joined in his support for Rangel by his dad, State Senator Ruben Diaz Sr., who used one of his “What You Should Know” e-mail blasts to blast the efforts of the MirRam Group, the political consulting firm headed by former Democratic Party chairman Roberto Ramirez and political operator Luis Miranda, for “convincing” Rangel-rival Adriano Espaillat to hire them to work his campaign. He added that more and more Hispanic lawmakers are siding with Rangel.

In the Bronx, however, many elected officials remain on the sidelines. State Senator Gustavo Rivera came out in strong support of Espaillat weeks before Diaz’s endorsement. And ex-Bronx Borough President Freddy Ferrer also announced his support for Espaillat.

—ALEX KRATZ

## At House Party, Espaillat Reaches Out to Bronx Voters

On the campaign trail, certain props become redundant. Microphones, podiums, and teleprompters. But at a house party to meet State Assemblyman Adriano Espaillat, who is running for a congressional seat against longtime incumbent Charlie Rangel in Congress, traditional campaign decorum was traded for hummus, crackers and cheese.

Espaillat, who would be the first

Dominican elected to Congress, stood in a Kingsbridge Heights living room with about 10 northwest Bronx residents as they munched on frosted pretzels and other snacks while asking how he would represent the northwest Bronx.

Espaillat, who has said it was time for areas like Washington Heights to get better representation, said at the house party he would fight to ensure all the neighborhoods he represents get equal funding. He also said he would look into methods to increase voter turnout in the Bronx.

Espaillat’s main opponent, the 81-year-old Rangel, is still hugely popular in his congressional district. But his reputation in Congress was marred after being convicted of ethics violations over his use of rent stabilized apartments in Manhattan.

And now redrawn district lines have changed voter demographics. The district was moved into the northwest Bronx and pulled out somewhat of the upper west side of Manhattan, Rangel’s home base. Hispanics now make up 55 percent of a district that used to be anchored by a predominantly African-American Harlem area.

But Espaillat is banking on policy, and not demographics, to push him into office.

“If your rent is too high, it doesn’t matter if you’re black or white, the rent is high,” he said. He added that his grandmother had rented a five-bedroom, two-and-a-half-bathroom apartment in Washington Heights.

State Senator Gustavo Rivera, who attended the house party after previously endorsing Espaillat, said a strong progressive voice is needed to back up President Barack Obama on his agendas in Congress.

Espaillat also said his campaign was not in direct contact with an anti-incumbent Super Political Action Committee (PAC) that announced its support for Espaillat last week. (Direct contact with Super PACs is a violation of campaign finance regulations.) But when it came to their support, “I’m not going to say no,” he said.

—RONALD CHAVEZ

## Public and Community Meetings

- **THE 52ND PRECINCT COMMUNITY COUNCIL will meet at 7 p.m. on Thursday, May 24 at St. James Episcopal Church, 2500 Jerome Ave. (opposite Monroe College). For more information, call (718) 220-5811.**
- **COMMUNITY BOARD 7 committee meetings will be held at 6:30 p.m. at the board offices, 229A E. 204th St. on the following dates (unless otherwise noted): Traffic & Transportation, May 17; Community Relations/Long-Term Planning, May 17; Land Use & Zoning, May 24; Education & Libraries, May 29. For more information, call (718) 933-5650.**
- **THE BEDFORD MOSHOLU COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION will meet on Wednesday, June 6 at 8 p.m. at 400 E. Mosholu Pkwy., So., Apt. B1 (lobby floor). All are welcome.**

[www.norwoodnews.org](http://www.norwoodnews.org)



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



# Ex-Sen. Pedro Espada Found Guilty of Theft

(continued from p. 1)

Soundview community," Susan Necheles, Espada's attorney, told the *Wall Street Journal*. "It was apparent to every observer in the courtroom that some of the jurors were extremely upset by this. It appears to have been a compromised verdict."

Both Espadas were indicted in December of 2010, accused of charging lavish personal expenses to the nonprofit Soundview, which is primarily funded with state and federal Medicaid dollars. Prosecutors say Espada bilked the health clinics to pay for things like vacations, family birthday parties, sushi dinners, and a luxury car.

For years, Espada has blamed his legal troubles on political enemies with a vendetta, particularly Gov. Andrew Cuomo, who first raised accusations against the former senator in a civil lawsuit in 2010, when Cuomo was attorney general. The Cuomo administration has sought to cut off Medicaid funding to Soundview, another battle Espada spent the year fighting in court.

The governor released a statement on Monday in response to the jury's guilty verdict.

"Mr. Espada has made many accusations and comments about me since my actions began. Today the jury spoke loud and clear making Mr. Espada a convicted felon," Cuomo said.

Espada has been a contentious Bronx figure for years, his tenure as State Senator for the 33rd District defined by conflict and drama. During his time in office, it

was widely believed that he lived in wealthy Mamaroneck, a suburb in Westchester County, and not his Bronx district, despite election law requirements.

He became notorious in the state political sphere for his role in the 2009 New York Senate coup, when he and another Democrat, Hiram Monserrate, changed ranks to join the Republican Party, sending the state legislature into a month-long stalemate. Espada finally rejoined the Democrats in exchange for the prestigious title of Senate Majority Leader.

He was defeated in a primary election in the fall of 2010 by political newcomer Gustavo Rivera, who is concluding his first term in office this fall.

"He was a blight on the Bronx and his antics contributed to unfair stereotypes of the people of this great borough," said Jack Marth, a Kingsbridge Heights resident who worked on Rivera's campaign to defeat Espada. "By convicting him today, the jurors continued the process of bringing this man to justice, a process which the voters of the 33rd District began in September 2010 when we ousted him from office."

Rivera and other Senate Democrats have blamed Espada for the party's failure to push a more progressive agenda, especially on housing and ethics reform issues, after Democrats won a slim majority in the senate in 2008. Republicans retook the senate majority in 2010.

Espada still faces 10 counts relating to alleged tax fraud in federal court in Manhattan.

## At Freilich's You'll Find The Perfect Gift

**Diamond Pendant**

**Diamond Earrings**

**Super Special**

**Rose, Yellow & White Bracelet**

**Special Buy 2 Beads and Get 1 Free**

**Reflection Beads**  
What's Your Story?

*Freilich Jewelers*  
Established in 1939

312 East 204th Street • Bronx, NY 10467 • 718-798-1063

Shop Online @ [www.freilichjewelers.com](http://www.freilichjewelers.com) Find us on Facebook

DCA Lic.# 1E87136

## WE'RE STILL FREE!

- ✓ Open a FREE Checking Account
- ✓ Get a FREE Debit MasterCard® with Ridgewood Rewards\*
- ✓ Get FREE Online Banking with Bill Payment
- ✓ No Monthly Service Fees†

### 8 CONVENIENT BRONX LOCATIONS:

- 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



[www.ridgewoodbank.com](http://www.ridgewoodbank.com)



Member FDIC



\* Ridgewood Savings Bank will not charge you for using a non-Ridgewood Saving Bank ATM, however, the ATM operator may charge a non-refundable fee.

† Direct Deposit, Online Banking or a total deposit relationship balance of \$2,500 or more required to waive monthly service fee. See branch for details.

# MS 80 Renamed as Union Fights Staff Turnover

By ALEX KRATZ

Beginning the next school year, MS 80, the Norwood-area middle school that is closing at the end of this school year as part of a controversial new improvement program, will be known as the Norwood Academy for Communal Excellence at the Isobel Rooney Campus.

It remains to be seen, however, what the replacement school's staff will look like as the United Federation of Teachers, the city's largest union, has filed a lawsuit arguing that the improvement program being used by the Department of Education violates its contract with the union.

As part of the city's "turnaround" program, MS 80 and 23 other city schools (10 in the Bronx) needed to be re-named and 50 percent of its staff replaced. The DOE said they would come up with the name based on input from school leadership teams.

During an April hearing at MS 80, officially known as "Junior High School 80, The Mosholu Parkway School," several community members asked the DOE to retain the number 80 and to continue to use the name Isobel Rooney, which is written above the entrance to the school.

Toward the end of the hearing, Deputy Chancellor Dorita Gibson said the DOE heard their wishes "loud and clear." That appears to be the case as Isobel Rooney, a former school board member who took a special interest in MS 80, is included in the new name.

Now, whether people actually use the new names is another story. Unofficially, JHS 80, The Mosholu Parkway School, has been known as "MS 80, The Isobel Rooney School," for years.

Many of the other re-named "new"

schools also incorporated pieces of the schools' current names. (See list in the sidebar.)

Aside from re-naming the turnaround schools, the DOE is planning to lay off all of each school's teachers and replace them with new ones. Teachers at each school can re-apply to the schools, but turnaround guidelines require that only 50 percent of those teachers can be re-hired at the new schools. (The DOE says it will re-hire more than 50 percent of a school's teachers if they are deemed qualified.)

Hiring teams, consisting of a school's principal, two DOE representatives and two teachers union representatives, were supposed to start the hiring/re-hiring process in the near future.

But the UFT filed a lawsuit claiming the DOE is circumventing stipulations in its contract with the UFT. The DOE says their contract grants them permission to lay off staff at schools that they have closed. But the UFT says the schools aren't really closing. They're just being re-opened under new names and the schools will be in the same location with the same kids.

In court, the DOE agreed to hold off on the hiring process until a judge makes a decision on the lawsuit, which isn't expected until June.

In the meantime, MS 80's Parents Association, led by President Cecilia Donovan, is holding a workshop with parents to let them know their options with regard to next year. Parents of students who don't graduate at the end of the year are guaranteed a spot at the school that will replace MS 80. Parents can also transfer their student to another middle school. The workshop is being held at MS 80 on Thursday, May 17 at 6:30 p.m.



Photo by Adi Talwar

**MS 80** math teacher Dayana Nunez, shown testifying at a DOE hearing in April with the help of her son, was supposed to re-apply for her job this spring, but by forcing her to do so, a lawsuit says the DOE is violating its contract with the union.

## Bronx turnaround schools and their new names:

- Alfred E. Smith Career and Technical Education High School — Bronx Institute for Automotive Technology
- Herbert H. Lehman High School — Throggs Neck High School at the Lehman Campus
- Banana Kelly High School — Collegiate Preparatory Academy at Longwood
- Junior High School 22 Jordan L. Mott — The College Avenue Academy
- Intermediate School 339 — Bronx Middle School of Academic and Career Technology
- Bronx High School of Business — Business Enterprise High School
- Junior High School 80 Mosholu Parkway — Norwood Academy of Communal Excellence at the Isobel Rooney Campus
- Middle School 391 Angelo Patri — Innovative School of Excellence at the Angelo Patri Campus
- Fordham Leadership Academy for Business and Technology — East Fordham College and Career Preparatory High School
- Middle School 142 John Philip Sousa — North Bronx Academy

## Living Life Meg Charlop's Way

(continued from p. 1)

are these dirty people?" Charlop mediated, organizing a pow-wow between Plenty and residents. Eventually, the Plenty folks were accepted, saved hundreds of lives and shamed the city into devoting more resources to emergency response in the area.)

The "Fort Apache" filmmakers shot much of the movie in Morrisania, riling up residents who got hold of the script. At one point, they were attempting to film a scene in an abandoned lot where a building had been demolished, near what is now Meg Charlop Way. Charlop and other community leaders found out about the filming and forced their way onto the set. Leading the way, the short, red-headed Charlop convinced the movie's producers that they were illegally filming on community-owned property, which, in fact, wasn't true at the time.

But the producers relented and ended up writing a \$15,000 check to the fledgling Rock Greening Association, a community land trust Charlop had helped establish. The association used the check as seed money to keep the abandoned lot, and others like it, in the hands of the community. Last year, that same lot became a lovely little piece of community space known as Estella Diggs Park. It's named after the New York state Assembly's first African-American legislator. Meg Charlop Way now watches over the park.

That story and others like it filled the air last week during the dedication ceremony, which was attended by around 100 people, including her family. Powers, Char-

lop's husband who still lives in the Norwood home where they eventually moved after their time in Morrisania, said the street naming felt like "closing the circle" on Charlop's life in the Bronx.

For all the good work Charlop did — from her early years as a community organizer to her later years working as a health educator with Montefiore Medical Center's School Health Program — Powers said she never wanted acclaim or the spotlight.

"She would have been totally embarrassed" by the street naming, he said. "She would say, 'It's not about me, it's about the people in the neighborhood.'"



# Police Report



Photo courtesy NYPD

**THE .25 CALIBER** gun police say the suspect used to fire into St. James Park and at pursuing off-duty cops.

## Cops Shoot Armed Gunman Near St. James Park

On Friday night, May 4, two off-duty police officers from the 46th Precinct were riding home from work when they saw a young man firing a gun into St. James Park, according to a report released by the NYPD.

When they confronted the armed man and identified themselves as police officers, the suspect fled north on Creston Avenue toward Fordham and fired at the officers who were in pursuit in their vehicle. A bullet struck the driver's side mirror of Police Officer Eugene Donnelly's car.

Donnelly fired back and hit the sus-

pect in the torso. The wounded suspect was taken into custody and sent to St. Barnabas Hospital for treatment.

The suspect, identified as Javon Julien, 19, a Queens resident, is listed in stable condition. Police say no one was injured by the shots fired into St. James Park, which has seen its share of violence over the years.

Julien is being charged with attempted aggravated murder and assault of a police officer and criminal possession of a weapon. Police recovered a .25 caliber gun that they say was used by the suspect and found on the ground near where he fired the shots. —ALEX KRATZ

## Public Advocate Calls for Curb of Stop and Frisk

With the numbers of unwarranted and unproductive stop and frisks by police rising across New York City, some elected officials are beginning to call for change.

In the first three months of 2012, more than 203,500 New Yorkers were stopped by the police and 89 percent of them were cleared of any wrongdoing.

In response, Public Advocate Bill de Blasio called for Mayor Bloomberg to reform the broken policy.

De Blasio wants Bloomberg to issue an Executive Order to curtail the number of stop and frisks by police. He requested the NYPD use CompStat, an organizational tool for monitoring crime

statistics, to track stop and frisk numbers. He believes that tracking unwarranted stops will make it easier to hold officers accountable for their performance and reduce the number as a whole.

The benefits of the tactic, which Bloomberg and Police Commissioner Ray Kelly say has been a huge part in the city-wide drop in violent crime over the past two decades, are outweighed by the mistrust it causes, de Blasio said.

"Every unwarranted stop widens the gap between police and the communities they protect — making us all less safe," de Blasio said.

Bloomberg is taking heat after sup-

porting the unwarranted stop and frisks and deciding to cut after-school programs that keep youth off the streets (see page 6).

"The mayor needs to exercise leadership and direct the NYPD to reduce unwarranted stops," de Blasio said. "If he doesn't, we will show him the way."

On Thursday night, May 17, at 6:30 p.m., at his office at 2432 Grand Concourse, 4th floor, room 419, local State Senator Gustavo Rivera is holding a "community conversation" about stop and frisk practices. For more information, call Katrina Asante, (718) 933-2034 or e-mail [asante@nysenate.gov](mailto:asante@nysenate.gov).

—DESTINY DEJESUS

## 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™**

**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, DHA/Assurant, Rayant, SIDS, DDS, Protective, Aflac, 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 6/30/12

**Dr. Jay Fensterstock DDS PC**  
55 East Mosholu Pkwy. North, Bronx, New York 10467  
**718-652-7370**  
[www.ConcernedDentalCare.com](http://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 6/30/12

# 'Vital' After-School Programs on the Chopping Block

By ALEX KRATZ

Parents at PS 94 in Norwood have grown accustomed to having a safe, constructive place for their children to spend after-school hours and it hasn't cost them a dime. But Mayor Bloomberg is proposing to slash the after-school program, which would leave parents, 90 percent of whom are living in poverty, scrambling to find alternatives.

"This program is vital," said PS 94 Principal Diane Daprocida of a program known as Out-of-School Time (OST). "Parents are able to work and know that their kids are safe and being productive. It would be a huge loss to the community."

The after-school budget cuts, totaling \$22.1 million, would slice into 172 programs citywide and reduce the number of subsidized slots available for child care centers. Locally, the programs at PS 94 and PS 8 in Bedford Park would be cut completely and programs at PS 20 and PS 95 would be shrunk.

But the PS 94 community is fighting back, sending letters from parents and students to Bloomberg and enlisting the help of local Councilman Oliver Koppell who has vowed to oppose the cuts.

"It is imperative that funds be restored to the Department of Youth and Community Development's OST program," Koppell said in a statement. "Without this



STUDENTS AT PS 94 participate in an after-school program that may be cut by the mayor's new budget.

restoration, thousands of children in my district and throughout the city, will be deprived of the positive academic and recreational activities these programs offer, putting them at risk of engaging in negative behavior during these unsupervised hours."

Koppell pointed to studies by the Department of Education showing that crimes involving youth usually occur between 3 and 6 p.m., the hours OST

operates.

"The risk our community will see an increase in violence, vandalism, gang activity and drug use and alcohol abuse, as well as an upsurge in the number of latchkey children, is virtually inevitable with the closing of these after-school programs," Koppell said.

Daprocida said the programs allow parents to focus on vital responsibilities like keeping food on the table and a roof

above their child's head.

It also offers parents flexibility in their jobs, Daprocida said, which is crucial in the Bronx, a borough that suffers from a 13.6 percent unemployment rate, the worst in the state. "This community is struggling so much with employment opportunities," Daprocida added.

Yanire Montanez, who runs the after-school program at PS 94, knows firsthand the benefits of the program. As a parent of students at PS 20, where the program is threatened as well, Montanez said she doesn't know how her family would have survived without it.

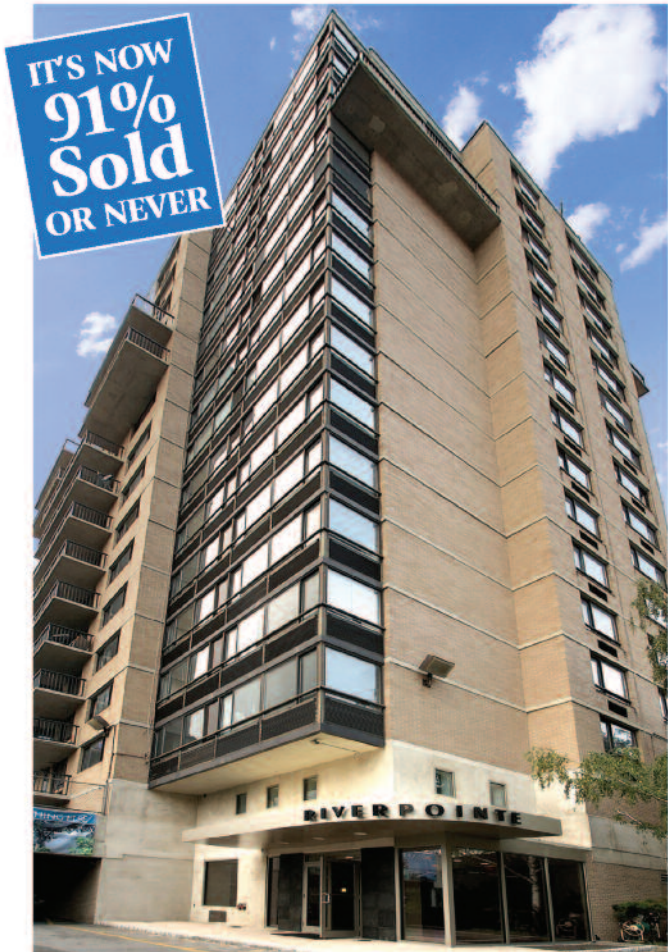
Montanez said they align their program with the curriculum taught during the day at PS 94, but with a creative twist. On a recent Thursday afternoon, second grade students were doing an art project in the lunchroom. They were making posters depicting a "recipe" for friendship: 1 gallon of nice, 2 gallons of love, plus some hugging, sharing and patience. Kids also spend time engaged in physical activity, a huge bonus in a borough known for its high rates of childhood obesity.

Montanez said she was in tears when she first heard the program was on the chopping block. It wasn't just her job that was at stake, she said. "This is my baby," she said. "I live here (in the area). This is our family. We're basically second parents to these kids."

Photo by Alex Kratz

[www.norwoodnews.org](http://www.norwoodnews.org)

## ANNOUNCING SPECIAL CARE FOR MONTEFIORE AND OTHER HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS



Getting to work shouldn't be a job. Which is a major reason why RiverPointe is the ideal residence for Montefiore employees and executives. (We're less than 2 miles apart.)

Starting here and now, we're adding another one: Savings. To reward you for keeping Riverdale healthy, we'll give you a healthy discount when you buy at RiverPointe. How healthy? This healthy: \$7,500 on a customized corner 2 bedroom; \$10,000 on a corner 3 bedroom.

While you won't be paying the full price, you'll get the full pleasures of RiverPointe. And they're plentiful.

HEALTHY DISCOUNTS	
Corner 2 BR <i>(From \$499,000)</i>	<b>\$7,500</b>
Corner 3 BR <i>(From \$699,000)</i>	<b>\$10,000</b>

They include: Riverviews/Choice corner condominiums with new kitchens, new bathrooms, new flooring, private balconies/5-star services highlighted by 24/7 concierge,

Fitness Center/New lobby/Gated entry/Private parking/Exceptional privacy, as few as 3 residences per



2287 Johnson Avenue, Riverdale, NY 10463 (1-1/2 blocks from Spuyten Duyvil Station)

Website: [www.riverpointecondo.com](http://www.riverpointecondo.com) • Phone: 718-543-6705

Open: 11PM-4PM weekends Other times, by app't.

floor/Commuter-friendly location; you're a 1-1/2 block walk from the MetroNorth station, just 24 minutes from midtown/ Best of all, prices you can live with comfortably. Because

we're the lowest price new condo in Riverdale, you can own here for less than rent.

Our furnished models are open from noon to 4 on week-ends. If that's not convenient, just call 718-543-6705 and tell us what is. We'll wait for you.

By the way, when you come, be sure to bring proof of your hospital affiliation. We want to be sure you get your just rewards.

RIGHT AT LIVE! SALES Exclusive Sales & Marketing Agent

This is not an offering which can be made by Prospectus only



# Unemployment in the Bronx: After War, Finding a Job

By JEANMARIE EVELLY

**Editor's Note:** *This is the third story in a series exploring the issue of unemployment in the Bronx. For the rest in the series, visit [www.norwoodnews.org](http://www.norwoodnews.org).*

By the end of the summer, some 23,000 American troops will return home from Afghanistan as part of President Obama's plan to withdraw forces steadily over the next two years and end the war there by 2014.

These men and women will come home to parents, spouses and children. Some will come home to find jobs, and other won't. Those returning to the Bronx will come home to the highest unemployment rate in the state — 13.6 percent in March, according to the State Labor Department.

Veterans face a number of challenges when it comes to securing a job after returning home, experts say, and new veterans tend to have a higher unemployment rate than the general population. According to a U.S. Senate report published last spring, 15.2 percent of the population that served in the Iraq and Afghanistan wars were unemployed in 2010, compared to 8.6 percent of the general population that was unemployed at that same time.

"I think the barriers are very dependent on the type of veteran, but one common denominator is the transition part — being in the military, and then transitioning back into civilian employment," said Fredy Tello, a former marine who now directs a veterans employment program for the Jericho Project, a nonprofit that operates two supportive housing residences for former service members in the Bronx.

According to a report by New York

Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, approximately 39,855 veterans call the Bronx home. In 2009, 2,909 of those veterans — or just over 7 percent — were out of work.

For some veterans, the skills they learned in service do not translate easily into civilian jobs, according to Tim Hendrickson, director of veteran services at Fedcap, a nonprofit that provides voca-

**"Tank drivers and infantrymen, they're really at a disadvantage, because what they were paid to do in the military is take the fight to the enemy. There's no enemy when they're back in the civilian world, so what do they do now?" —Tim Hendrickson, Fedcap director of veteran services**

tional training and job placement services in the Bronx and across the city.

"Tank drivers and infantrymen, they're really at a disadvantage, because what they were paid to do in the military is take the fight to the enemy," Hendrickson said. "There's no enemy when they're back in the civilian world, so what do they do now?"

Other veterans who served in more translatable lines when deployed — soldiers who worked in communications, for example — sometimes just need a hand transitioning into the civilian job market.

"It takes kind of a middleman to take a look at these resumes, these qualifications, and say, 'This is how you would word this on the other side. This is how you would frame this in an interview,'"

Hendrickson said.

For some returning home, the problem can be larger than how they style their resume.

"There are the social issues," Tello said. "Some of them encounter obstacles in their lives."

A 2011 survey from the nonprofit RAND Corporation and the New York

State Health Foundation found that 22 percent of the state's veterans have a probable diagnosis of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and/or major depression, disorders that can disrupt a stable transition back to civilian life if left untreated.

Hendrickson, who served two deployments in Iraq and spent five years as an army captain, returned home to upstate New York and at first, thought navigating the job market would be easy, something he says a lot of new veterans think.

"You come out with this pride: 'I've served in Iraq, I've served in Afghanistan, I've accomplished things that most of my peers won't accomplish in their lifetimes,'" he said. "But then you spiral down into, why can't I find a job?"

Why is this so difficult? Why was I able to achieve so much in the military but I can't achieve it in the civilian world?"

When Hendrickson lost his first civilian job in the 2008 economic crash, it was the start of a "three year tailspin of unemployment, underemployment, working for wages that were half of what I was making before," he said. He was suffering from symptoms of PTSD, so he sought mental health counseling.

"Slowly but surely, things turned around for me," he said.

The key for many veterans, experts say, is knowing when to ask for help, and taking advantage of all the resources that are available to assist them.

"[Some] veterans do have post-traumatic stress, clinical depression, other mental health issues," said Jericho Project Director Tori Lyon. "The flip side of that is that those issues are, to a great extent, very treatable. It doesn't prevent a person from being gainfully employed or from being a great employee."

Lyon said part of the issue is dispelling some of the mental health stigmas associated with returning soldiers, and showing potential employers that the training and skills learned in the armed forces — diligence, punctuality, striving for excellence — make most service members exceptional workers.

"A lot of employers are really stepping up and saying, wow, I would be really lucky to hire a veteran," she said.

To learn more about the Jericho Project's Veterans Initiative, call (646) 624-2341 or visit [www.jerichoproject.org](http://www.jerichoproject.org). To learn more about Fedcap's veterans services, contact Tim Hendrickson at (212) 727-4227, or visit [www.fedcap.org](http://www.fedcap.org).

## New Program Sparks Creativity With Seniors

(continued from p. 1)

is currently working with a group of seniors at the Sister Annunciata Bethel Senior Center in the Bedford Park area, fostering their artistic abilities.

"I applied for the grant because I wanted to live my passion for a little while," said Sharbaan.

Every Thursday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., she and her assistant, Denise Shelley, who has helped Sharbaan with previous events, joyfully go to the center where they plan several arts and crafts activities for the seniors.

At first, Sharbaan and Shelley worked on handmade face masks with the seniors. They allowed seniors to personally decorate the masks and recorded the creative process. The film was made into an 18-minute-long documentary consisting of several conversations between the seniors while they are engaging in art projects. The documentary was screened at an art exhibit and open house that took place on April 26.

Sharbaan has put together many workshops for the seniors, including designing handmade jewelry, decorating floral vases and making handbags out of recycled magazines. The seniors sit next to each other, laughing, talking and even singing, while participating in the various activities.

"When people are creating, they become happier; they relive their life and become more social," Sharbaan says. "They talk, listen, look and pay attention to their neighbor."

SPARC is a community arts engagement program that allows seniors with a passion for the arts to participate in various arts and crafts activities. Senior centers across the five boroughs are currently participating in

the program. SPARC offers selected artists the chance to work in senior centers in any of the boroughs and the opportunity to receive a stipend for the creation and delivery of the arts programming. The Bronx Council on the Arts is the administrating organization for all eight Bronx locations.

SPARC is a collaboration between the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, the Department for the Aging and the city's five local arts boards, one from each borough. The program was developed as part of Age-Friendly NYC, a citywide effort to make the city enjoyable for seniors.

Artists were selected through a competitive application process last fall. The SPARC grant requires between 40 and 60 hours with seniors. Each senior center hosts individual programs and events where the participating seniors are involved with art projects and other cultural programs.

Ellen Pollan is the deputy director of the Bronx SPARC program, auditing the performances and ensuring that all the artists meet their standards.

"It's amazing to watch people work together in such a great environment," said Pollan. "It's reaffirming and nurturing for the seniors, artists and also the public."

Anna Tonna, an opera singer, travels to the Riverdale Senior Services Center every Friday to bring the art of music into the lives of her SPARC-participating seniors. They have discussions about old-time music and reminisce on the memories each song brings.

Tonna coordinates musical concerts for the seniors and takes their recommendations into consideration when programming. "I have never done anything like



Photo by Adi Talwar

**SPARC INSTRUCTOR** Gail Sharbaan, holding microphone, and her assistant, Denise Shelley, at an art exhibit and open house that showcased the work of seniors participating in the SPARC program.

this before," said Tonna. "More than anything, I'm listening and taking notes. I learn a lot from them."

As the first year of the program comes to an end, The Bronx Council on the Arts plans to continue with SPARC next year.

"The benefit of the artists is that they're doing what they love to do," Pollan says, "and the lives of the seniors are enriched."

**Editors Note:** For more information on SPARC, call the Bronx Council on the Arts, (718) 931-9500 ext. 24.

# Be Healthy!

# 276 tons

The record-breaking amount of unwanted or expired prescription medications turned in by people across the country on May 3, National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day.

Vital Stats

## Bronx Students Bring Healthcare to DR

By JEANMARIE EVELLY

A group of students from Bronx's Monroe College brought their skills to the Dominican Republic recently as part of a program to provide health care services to needy and poverty-stricken areas abroad.

The 13 students spent 10 days traveling by van through the villages of the Dominican Republic, and along with local physicians and two Monroe College professors, tended to over 750 residents in need. They screened villagers for diseases, gave out medications when necessary, and provided information on nutrition and preventing chronic illnesses.

"We definitely made a difference," said Dr. Jerry Kostroff, Dean of Monroe's School of Allied Health Professions who accompanied the students. "People really appreciated our visits and because we treated so many children, we were able to really bond with the communities."

The trip was part of the school's Healthcare Study Abroad Program, which provides Monroe students from the public health, medical assisting, and pharmacy technician programs with hands-on training, allowing them to work

with professional health and medical teams across the world. Students must complete Medical Spanish and Global Health Issues courses in order to qualify for the program, and are selected through a rigorous application process.

The Health Abroad program seeks to work with the overseas communities it serves and educate residents, in the hopes that the local leaders there can then institute programs to target health issues that affect poor neighborhoods.

"The poverty was as epidemic as any potential disease, and with no toilets or potable water, there is a strong possibility of the spread of parasites and cholera," Kostroff said. "While our students might not have been able to imagine such deplorable conditions beforehand, this was an important part of their real world education to do what they could to help address them."

The Healthcare Study Abroad Program is part of a contractual agreement between Monroe College and International Service Learning (ISL) a non-profit organization that serves many countries in Central and South America, Mexico, Africa and the Caribbean.

## MONTE KIDS DANCE THE NIGHT AWAY

On May 5, the Children's Hospital at Montefiore hosted a spring prom for chronically ill teens, ages 12 and up. The theme was Beach Paradise and the goal was to provide local teenagers who often end up missing school and social events due to their illnesses, the opportunity to have a good time they would always remember.

Montefiore teamed up with a number of organizations that donated their goods and services toward the evening - everything from dresses and tuxes, to decorations and party planning services, to food and drink.

"It was a cool way for the kids in and out of the hospital to be themselves and just have fun," said Tyanna Legree, a prom participant.

Kids taught each other all the latest dance moves.

"It was fun teaching everyone how to Dougie," said Zuwena McCurdy. "I taught Meghan how to jerk. I loved my dress."

The goal was not only to allow the kids to have fun, but also to restore a sense of normalcy.

"We hope that this prom provides them with the chance to forget about their illnesses for a night and just have



Photo by Adi Talwar

**THE ROYAL COURT** (l-r) Robert Roman Jr. (Prince), Ashley Ruiz (Queen), Anderson Morillo (King), Stephanie Wettstein (Princess).

fun," said Lindsay Davis, a Certified Child Life Specialist at The Children's Hospital. "Normally when we see these teens they are in hospital pajamas and not feeling well, so it was great to see them all dressed up and on the dance floor. It's also a good opportunity to make friends with other kids who know what they are going through and can relate."

—ALEX KRATZ



**Martha Valerio,**  
ABR, CBR, e-PRO, GRI,  
Associate Broker  
Keller Williams NY Realty

Direct: **646-286-3496**

Email: [homesbymvalerio@gmail.com](mailto:homesbymvalerio@gmail.com) | Website: [www.homesbymvalerio.com](http://www.homesbymvalerio.com)



### CO-OPS:

#### Tremont Area

**VERY AFFORDABLE** Fully renovated 1-bedroom coop apt for sale in very well kept Pre-War bldg. Brand new stainless steel appliances, cherry wood cabinets and wood floors throughout. Conveniently located in the Tremont section, close to public transportation, parks and shops. A steal at **\$69,000**

#### Norwood Area

**LOVELY** 1-bedroom coop, just a few blocks away from Montefiore Medical Center; walk or take bus to 2/5, 4 or D train, or Express Bus into Westchester or Manhattan. Features large livingroom, kitchen master bedroom and bath, hardwood floors, lots of closets, bonus room for dining or den; pet-friendly bldg. Priced to sell quickly! Call today to schedule your appointment.

#### Allerton Area

**BACK ON THE MARKET!!** Very spacious 2-bedroom apt in Pre-War bldg with easy access to mass transit, highways, shops and local treasures such as library, NY Botanical Garden and Bronx Zoo as well as Fordham

University. Features large eat-in-kitchen, two bedrooms, livingroom and bathroom. Eastern exposure fills the apartment with sunlight and warmth. No financing allowed. Great Value at **\$115,000**

#### Grand Concourse

Move to the top of the Grand Concourse! Large apt in fabulous bldg on the fabulous Grand Concourse, close to local and express buses, subway (D and 4), and shops. Unit features beautifully updated kitchen, hardwood floors, freshly painted walls, lots of closets and spacious rooms for your comfort. Lovely garden views, resident super and laundry room. Easy access to Bronx Zoo and NY Botanical Garden. Just reduced for a quick sale. **\$124,900**

#### Pelham Parkway

Huge 2-bedroom apt in Pelham Pkwy with updated kitchen is a great value, close to #2/#5 train and Express bus to Manhattan. Solid complex features resident super, new elevator, laundry room and parking. Apt. features wood floors, spacious rooms, all in a pet-friendly bldg. Call to view today! **\$159,000**

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 —————

3112 WEBSTER AVENUE      1619 PELHAM PARKWAY N.  
BRONX, NY 10467              BRONX, NY 10461

Both Locations Call  
**718-655-3410**



*Salutes Bronx Week - May 10 - 20, 2012*



**BIG Savings**  
throughout the Jerome-Gun Hill Area!

**Come, Shop, & Save BIG All Year Round**

**Over 200 Stores on Jerome Avenue from Mosholu Parkway to Gun Hill Road and on Gun Hill Road to Webster Avenue**

**Discover the Stores, Quality Service and Savings at the Jerome-Gun Hill Business Improvement District.**

**Where Good Neighbors Deserve Great Shopping!  
All in a Safe, Clean & Friendly Environment**

**Call the BID Hotline at 718.324.4946 for more information.**

**Like us on Facebook  /JGHBID**

## Editorial

## Espada's Legacy: More of the Same

In 2008, when Pedro Espada defeated Efrain Gonzalez to take over as the state senator in the Bronx's 33rd District, the people of the northwest Bronx let out a collective groan.

Voter turnout was miniscule even for a Bronx electorate that struggles getting to the polls.

Really? That's the best we can do? Here we go again.

At the time, Gonzalez was facing a criminal trial on charges he embezzled hundreds of thousands of taxpayer dollars into his own pocket through a sham nonprofit organization. (He's now in prison.)

Espada came with baggage too, having been under investigation for his own alleged improprieties. But, on the plus side, he had never been indicted on criminal charges. Although three of his employees at the Soundview Healthcare Network he founded were convicted of using funds meant for poor AIDS patients on one of Espada's political campaigns. Espada was cleared of any wrongdoing, but eventually re-hired those employees after they served their sentences.

So, that was the choice: someone under indictment or someone who had somehow managed to avoid indictment while his employees went off to prison.

This isn't going to end well.

Espada, of course, beat Gonzalez (who replaced Israel Ruiz, who also left office under a cloud of criminality) and vowed to bring change to the district, even piggy-backing on future President Barack Obama's message of Hope. (Seriously: I still have the campaign poster and it gets a laugh every time someone sees it for the first time.)

Still, Espada came into office at a time when Democrats had taken control of the New York State Senate for the first time in four decades. In the blue-bleeding Bronx, there was hope that some of the party's progressive liberal agenda would be addressed.

Strengthened rent regulations, anyone? How about increased transparency and ethics reform?

During his first year in office, the former boxer succeeded in scuttling most of that agenda, eventually jumping ship to the Republican side and holding the senate hostage until Democrats caved and made him majority leader, not to mention a *New York Magazine* cover boy.

Espada crowed that he had become the highest ranking Hispanic official in the history of the New York Legislature. Meanwhile, he had accomplished nothing, while stealing money from his nonprofit healthcare network.

On Monday, Espada was convicted of embezzling half a million dollars from that network, which serves the Bronx's poorest residents.

He was exactly what we expected him to be: a crook. But hey, we're used to disappointment.

## Letter to the Editor

## Bloomberg - Still Dictating

Last I heard we were still living in a democracy where the majority should rule, but our mayor still continues to overlook that fact, especially when it comes to education. The issue of closing JHS 80 is the latest in a string of a NYC mayoral dictatorship under the leadership of Michael Bloomberg, a man who finagled the law to his advantage which allowed him to serve an extra term.

Since writing to the editor eight years ago almost to the day in your April 22-May 5, 2004 issue, about the power that our esteemed mayor wields on the subject of education, his modus operandi seems to have escalated for the worse. My letter concerned the mayor's decision not to promote 3rd graders to the 4th grade unless they passed their standardized math and reading tests, and anyone on the Education Panel at that time who disagreed with him was dismissed and replaced with members who sided with the mayor. I suggested that sometimes a child may not do well on a final exam due to nerves and that teachers should be consulted to give an opinion on the child's ability based on work done the entire school year rather than just on one exam. The *Norwood News* titled my letter "Bloomberg Mayor, Not Dictator," a fitting headline.

Eight years later, Bloomberg is still wielding his power over the school system in spite of public objections, this time on the subject of school closings. Instead of representing NYC residents who may have voted him into office, he marches to his own drummer. Despite

numerous demonstrations throughout the city by multitudes of parents, teachers, and students, a slew of NYC public schools is currently in danger of being closed on the mayor's say-so, this in addition to other schools previously having already been closed. Will he not be satisfied unless this domino effect continues and every school has been affected?

One year ago almost to the day, in your April 21-May 4, 2011 issue, you published my op-ed, again about the mayor, regarding his threat of laying off about 5,000 schoolteachers. I had mentioned that the loss of teachers would mean an increase in class size, which seemingly Bloomberg didn't appear to be overly concerned about in spite of the fact that teacher contracts put a limit on class sizes for every grade.

Bloomberg wants to be remembered as the education mayor after he leaves office. He may very well get his wish, although not in the way he meant. His legacy may be better described as the mayor who turned the city's educational system into chaos.

Bloomberg still has time before he completes his term in office to turn things around for the better in the field of education, especially in providing needed assistance to schools, either financially or academically, or better yet, both, instead of closing them.

Mr. Mayor: Please do the right thing and fulfill your legacy by following your own advice. Turn yourself around as you advise the schools to do.

**Judy Noy**  
Norwood Resident

## Inquiring Photographer

By DAVID GREENE

We asked readers how President Obama's decision to publicly support same-sex marriage would affect his chances for re-election.



I don't think it will hurt his chances of winning re-election because a lot of people do support it. I don't believe in it myself. I think it's God's choice, but I don't judge.

**James Chiominto**



It will definitely hurt his re-election. It's about time that this decision has been made, but it remains to be seen whether or not it will affect him negatively or positively. Hopefully positively, but definitely negatively. How much I don't know.

**Kirk Balay**



I'm glad that his thoughts have finally come around. He said they were evolving, and I think he is evolving personally. It's going to cost him a few votes, but it's going to gain him a lot of votes and I think the gains will offset the losses.

**Kevin Waldrip**



This is about equality, which is not a gay or straight issue. I think Obama has done a lot of things to hurt his own chances of re-election, but this is not one of them. Socially, this is quite possibly the best thing he could have done for all people.

**Ernie Sierra**



I support same-sex marriage because you should be able to marry who you want, so I support the President's decision, but I think it could hurt his chances for re-election.

**Teionna Seymour**

# Business Beat

## Bedford Park Business to Close After 65 Years



Photo by Destiny DeJesus

**NOAH GARSON**, owner of Garson Plumbing Supplies, which has called Bedford Park home for the past 65 years, sold his building and will close up shop at the end of June.

By **DESTINY DEJESUS**

Fed up with the constant nagging from the city, Noah Garson, owner of Garson Plumbing Supplies on Webster Avenue in Bedford Park, is closing down his small,

family-owned shop this summer. Garson is selling his property to a developer who will be building an apartment building on the site.

"I'm doing it because I'm really tired of fighting with the city," said Garson. "DEP (Department of Environmental Protection), the parking tickets, taxes, all the problems with having a small business are just a headache."

Garson Plumbing Supplies has been open since 1947, making it one of, if not the oldest store in the neighborhood.

Murray and Irvin Garson, father and uncle of Noah, decided to open up the plumbing supply store in hopes to create a family business. It's fair to say they succeeded. With 65 years of business in the community, Garson's has been very popular and many are upset that it will be closing.

During the late 1990s, the supply store almost closed when the city threatened to take over its space to make way for the building of PS 54.

But Bronx Community Board 7 rallied to ensure that the property would not be taken. To thank the community for its support and beautify the neighborhood, Garson planted a 1,000-square-foot garden in front of the store's parking lot.

But even the garden proved a headache, Garson said. The DEP and Department of Sanitation claimed the

garden was causing rats to invade the area and fined him. If he didn't get rid of it, the fines would have increased.

"It was a nice gesture, and then was told to be taken away," Garson said.

He removed the garden, but with the help of this rainy spring season, many of the flowers and plants have returned, brightening up the garden. Garson doesn't have any plans to cut it back again.

Despite the problems with the city, Garson said his fellow employees and family members have been a constant help and that he has been proud to contribute to the local economy.

For years, Garson has been an active member of the Bedford Mosholu Community Association (BMCA). He always offered up his vans and employees to help with the association's annual flea market fund-raiser, which keeps BMCA running.

"It's been a great run and I've enjoyed many years with my neighbors," said Garson.

The property will be officially sold around July 1. In the meantime, Garson is having a "fire sale" to empty the store of as many products as he can before it leaves the neighborhood for good.

**Editor's Note:** *Garson Plumbing Supplies is located at 2987 Webster Ave. in Bedford Park. For hours and other information, call (718) 584-2075 or (718) 584-2033 or visit [garsonplumbingsupplies.com](http://garsonplumbingsupplies.com).*

## GREEN WALKING ON FORDHAM ROAD



Photo courtesy Fordham Road BID

**IN AN EFFORT** to promote "green," healthy initiatives and recycling programs, the Fordham Road Business Improvement District organized a walk from the corner of Fordham Road and Creston Avenue to Poe Park, where there was a health fair and festival. More than 1,000 people showed up and participated in the fifth annual Fordham Go Green Walk.



**Contracting Co.**

357 E. 201<sup>st</sup> Street, Suite 6K, Bronx, New York 10458

- WATERPROOFING • SIDINGS
- ALL KINDS OF ROOFING
- BRICK POINTING • FENCES
- STEAM CLEANING • GUTTERS
- BRICK WORK • BLOCK WORK
- STUCCO • WINDOW LINTELS
- MARBLE WORK • THOROCCOAT
- TILE WORK • PAINTING
- SHEETROCK • PARAPET WALLS
- STEP WORK • CHIMNEY WORK
- SIDEWALKS • CARPENTRY
- DRIVEWAYS • COPPING STONE
- GENERAL MAINTENANCE
- BATHROOM/KITCHEN
- FIRE ESCAPE PAINTED

**SPECIALIST**  
All Types of Roofing  
Waterproofing  
Rubber Roof  
Flat Roof  
Window Lintels

**SPECIAL OFFERS:**  
Management  
Real Estate  
Landlords

WE TAKE PRIDE IN PROVIDING QUALITY WORK AT AFFORDABLE PRICES!

ALL WORK COMES WITH A WRITTEN GUARANTEE!!

**FREE ESTIMATES**

**Tel: 718-355-9100 • Cell: 914-614-6600**

**Fax: 718-785-9463**

Website: [www.zkcontracting.com](http://www.zkcontracting.com)

FULLY INSURED \* LICENSED \* COMMERCIAL \* INDUSTRIAL \* RESIDENTIAL  
\*\*\* AN ACCREDITED CONTRACTOR FROM BETTER BUSINESS BUREAU \*\*\*

**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](http://www.freilichjewelers.com)

New at Freilich's  
Reflection Beads



# Neighborhood Notes

## Housing Resource Fair

Renters and homeowners experiencing financial hardship managing house or apartment can find solutions at the Community Resource Fair, Thursday, May 24, 7 to 8:30 p.m. at Our Lady of Angels Parish school cafeteria, 2860 Webb Ave. Speak to a personal financial coach about any credit, debt/liens and budgeting issues, learn how to lower your energy cost and receive a free weatherization kit for your home, find foreclosure prevention options, help with modification and legal assistance, and get information on tenants' rights. Call to RSVP: UNHP at (718) 933-2539 or KHNIA at (718) 618-7550. Se habla español.

## Health Fair

The Timothy Dwight School, PS 33, will hold its 20th annual Community Health Fair on May 19, from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the schoolyard at 2424 Jerome Ave. Learn about asthma, blood pressure, dental care, heart disease and more. There will be face painting, arts and crafts, information tables, library card registration, free giveaways and more. Tables and chairs will be provided for all agencies as well as a free lunch. For more information, call (718) 584-3926/7004 or email hsantia2@schools.nyc.gov.

## Community Forum and Fair

The Bronx Reentry Working Group invites all organizations to participate free

in its community forum and resource fair by hosting a resource table, contributing items for door prizes and/or bringing participants. The event will take place on Saturday, May 19 from noon to 5 p.m. at Lehman College's Music Building, room 330. For more information, call (718) 618-2465 or email mrestivo@courts.state.ny.us.

## Free Fitness for Seniors

City Parks Foundation invites New Yorkers, 60 and over to participate in City-Parks Senior Fitness, which offers free tennis lessons and yoga instruction. The hourly 8-week spring session will take place twice a week at several Bronx locations through June 22, including Pelham Bay, Soundview, and Van Cortlandt Park. Equipment and instruction is provided free of charge. Van Cortlandt Park, at Jerome Avenue and 233rd Street, will hold yoga on Mondays and Wednesdays, and walking on Tuesdays and Thursdays, both at 9 a.m. For more information, call (718) 760-6999.

## Free Food Program

The Child and Adult Care Food Program is sponsoring free meals to eligible children at no separate charge at the Tender Tots Child Care Center, 3322 Decatur Ave., from July 1 to June 30, 2013. For more information on eligibility, call (718) 324-1052.

## Bronx Mentors Sought

The Abbot House, a multi-faceted

agency that serves families and youth in the Bronx and NYC, is looking for mentors in the Bronx area. If you are looking to make a positive impact on a child's life, call mentoring coordinator at (718) 329-4968 ext. 3454.

## Free Mammogram Screenings

Women ages 40 and above who have not had a mammogram in the past year are eligible for free screenings on May 24 from 1:30 to 4 p.m. at Highbridge House, 1131 Odgen Ave. Space is limited. For more information and to make an appointment, call (800) 564-6868.

## Free English Classes

The New York Public Library will host free daytime, evening, and weekend English classes. Speaking and listening classes for speakers of other languages and reading and writing for people who speak English will be held. Attend a mandatory information session on June 5 at 2 and 6 p.m. at Bronx Library Center, 310 E. Kingsbridge Rd. (718) 579-4244, or on June 12 at 6 p.m. at Parkchester Library, 1985 Westchester Ave. (718) 829-7830. For more information on participating libraries, visit [www.nypl.org/events/classes](http://www.nypl.org/events/classes).

## Art Program for Students

"Bronxtopia" is a free program which allows middle school students to work with real artists and writers to create graf-

fiti, photographs, poems and more, and will take place Tuesdays through June 5, from 4 to 5:30 p.m. at the Grand Concourse Library, 155 E. 173rd St., concluding with a library exhibition of all works. For more information, e-mail [education@bronxmuseum.org](mailto:education@bronxmuseum.org) or call (718) 681-6000 ext. 132.

## Free Bronx Day

The public is invited to the free 22nd annual Bronx Day at the New York Botanical Garden with Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz, Jr. on Saturday, June 2 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Clay Family Picnic Pavilions. Activities include face painting, musical entertainment, and finance and health resources. To receive free tickets in advance which are required for admission, contact Elizabeth Figueroa de Rivera at (718) 817-8993 or e-mail [efigueroa@nybg.org](mailto:efigueroa@nybg.org).

## Tuition Free Services

SUNY North Bronx Career Counseling and Outreach Center offers daily tuition free services including career counseling, college, financial aid and resume and cover letter assistance, as well as job readiness training at 2901 White Plains Rd. Computer literacy and GED programs are available during the day and evening. Seats are limited. For more information, call (718) 547-1001.

For more Neighborhood Notes online, go to [www.norwoodnews.org](http://www.norwoodnews.org).



**Mosholu Montefiore Community Center | 3450 Dekalb Avenue Bronx, NY 10467**  
(718) 882-4000 • [www.mmcc.org](http://www.mmcc.org)

# Mosholu Day Camp at Harriman State Park

Beautiful Lake Cohasset: Boating & Canoeing • Indoor Theatre • Art Building • Indoor Group Bunks • Sports Fields  
Basketball • Specialties • New Elective Program • Beautiful Waterfront • Special Events  
Fun Activities & More!



**Frosh • Kindergarten, Born 2007**  
No fee increase

**Norwood • Born in 2006 and 2005**  
No fee increase

**Young Blazers • Born in 2003 and 2004**  
2 Trips/Week • Late Nights  
Fantastic 3-Day Adventure Sleep Away Trip  
No fee increase

**Blazers • Born in 2001 and 2002**  
3 Trips/Week • Late Nights  
Fantastic 3-Day Adventure Sleep Away Trip  
No fee increase

**Trail Blazers • Born in 2001 and 2002**  
3 Trips Per Week • Late Nights  
Fantastic 3-Day Adventure Sleep Away Trip  
4 Day Trip to Washington, DC  
Modest fee increase

**Camp Sunshine • Special Needs, 5-12 yrs.**  
Close Supervision • Fully Mainstreamed  
Modest fee increase



**FREE Saturday and Sunday Family Park Usage**  
For All Camp Families  
Swimming • Boating • Sports • Canteen

**NEW! Sports Camp @ Harriman State Park**  
1 Week Programs for 8-13 yrs.  
Skills Development • Expert Training • Daily Swimming  
Individualized Instruction  
Soccer \$350 July 16 - July 20 or August 6 - August 10  
Basketball \$350 July 9 - July 13 or July 30 - August 3  
Baseball \$350 Week of July 23 or July 27

**NEW! Arts Specialty Camp @ Harriman State Park**  
Creativity • Performance & Presentation  
Daily Swimming • Unleash the Imagination  
Professional Training • Culminating Show  
Theatre & Drama 2-Week Program \$700 July 23 - August 3  
Dancing 2-Week Program \$700 July 9 - July 20  
Creative Arts 1-Week Program \$350 August 6 - August 10  
Includes Music, Drama, Dance and all aspects of Visual Arts

**Teen Trailways Day Camp • Born between 1997 and 2000**  
Camp on Wheels! Trips Everyday!  
Swimming • Late Nights • 3-Day Trips  
5-Day Excursions to exciting places like Virginia Beach, Toronto and Disney World!

**For More Information: Call (718) 882-4000 • E-mail [daycamp@mmcc.org](mailto:daycamp@mmcc.org) • Visit [www.mmcc.org](http://www.mmcc.org)**  
"Like" Mosholu Montefiore Day Camp on Facebook and Follow us on Twitter @Countrydaycamp



# 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.

### Architects

**Manhatta Architecture, P.C.**  
800 Grand Concourse, 1NN  
Bronx, New York 10451  
<http://www.manhatta.net>  
tel: 917-443-0501

### 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: \$445,000 (neg.) Lease with option to buy, \$1,800 per month.

### 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.goodnewscc.wordpress.com](http://www.goodnewscc.wordpress.com).

### 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

**Classifieds:** \$9 for the first 20 words and 25 cents for each additional word.  
**Professional Directory:** \$144 for six months; \$260 for one year. **Business Cards:** \$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.

### HELP WANTED

**Personal Assistant Needed:** We are looking for an office assistant. Duties include greeting clients, answering phones, and routing mail, data entry and retrieve, scheduling and calendar maintenance. Ideal candidates will have proven customer service skills in an administrative setting and experience with Microsoft Office applications. If interested, email resumes to [smith.williams885@gmail.com](mailto:smith.williams885@gmail.com).

**Experienced, Part-time Financial Manager & Bookkeeper:** Sought by NW Bronx, neighborhood-based media arts and school skills program for teens. 10-12 hours a month, BA and not-for-profit experience required, salary DOE. Fax resume (including phone number) to (718) 882-2454 or e-mail [baylalyn@earthlink.net](mailto:baylalyn@earthlink.net).

**Customer Service Position Available:** Customer Service position available, flexible 30-hour Monday thru Friday work week. Proficient in Quickbooks, Excel and Word. Duties include but not limited to: A/R, A/P, posting deposits, data entry, filing, creating spreadsheets. Please email resume with salary history and work references to: [billypiperconsultancy2@gmail.com](mailto:billypiperconsultancy2@gmail.com).

**Customer Service Representative Needed:** To work on behalf of our company. 18 yrs. or above needed and you must have computer skills. Accounting experience not needed. Any job experience needed. You will earn up to \$3,500 monthly. Contact us: [jamespaker45@gmail.com](mailto:jamespaker45@gmail.com).

### SERVICES AVAILABLE

**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](mailto:jnorQ@aol.com).

### RELIGIOUS SERVICES

**Glad Tidings Assembly of God:** 2 Van Cortlandt Ave. E. and Jerome Avenue. (718) 367-4040. Prayer Wednesdays at 11

a.m. and 7:30 p.m., Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. and Sunday Service at 11 a.m.

**Novena: Prayer to St. Jude:** O Holy St. Jude, Apostle and Martyr, great in virtue and rich in miracles, near kinsman of Jesus Christ, faithful intercessor of all who invoke your special patronage in time of need, to you I have recourse from the depth of my heart and humbly beg to you to whom God has given such great power, to come to my assistance. Help me in my present and urgent petition. In return I promise to make your name known and cause to be invoked. (Say three Our Fathers, three Hail Mary's and three Glory Be's, for nine consecutive days. Publication must be promised.) St. Jude, pray for us, and all of who invoke your aid. Amen. (This novena has never been known to fail.) L.T.

### REAL ESTATE

**2-Bedroom Apartment for Rent:** Working or Section 8 OK. Near East 187th Street. For more information, please contact Eddie at (718) 757-5485.

**Furnished Room for Rent:** Working women only. Bedford Park area. Near transportation. For more information, please contact Eddie (718) 757-5485.

**Newly Renovated One-Bedroom Apartment for Sale:** In pre-war building, Bedford Park section of the Bronx. Walking distance to the Botanical Garden, Fordham University, and the Bronx Zoo. Centrally located to shopping and transportation. Laundry room on premises. Asking price in mid 60s. Call (914) 237-1600, speak with Iliana to arrange a viewing.

### MISCELLANEOUS

**Worship Space Available:** At the Bedford Park Congregational Church, corner 201st Street and Bainbridge Avenue. Please call Reverend Dr. Christopher Ponnuraj at (718) 367-8996.

**Spring Flea Market:** On Saturday, May 19, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., with an Open House from noon to 2 p.m. at the Bedford Park Congregational Church, corner 201st

Street and Bainbridge Avenue. Information: Reverend Dr. Christopher Ponnuraj (718) 367-8996.

**Cash Paid:** For antiques, old items, collectibles, artwork, jewelry, books, records, coins, stamps, sports cards, bric-a-brac. Moving sales, estates, contents of homes. (718) 882-0598 (home), or (347) 734-9261 (cell).

**Penny the Clown:** Magic\*Balloon\*Face

Painting. Call (917) 679-9411.

**Free to Good Home:** Two AKC registered English Bulldog puppies, male and female. They have current shots and play along with children and other animals. Contact [ramondlenoir@yahoo.com](mailto:ramondlenoir@yahoo.com) for more information.

**Free to Good Home:** Two M / F Tea-cups Yorkshires. Contact me if interested: [randyb836@gmail.com](mailto:randyb836@gmail.com).

**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

# Out & About

Compiled by JUDY NOY

## ✓ EDITOR'S PICK

### Bronx Week Grand Finale

*Bronx Week culminates with a handful of special events from Friday, May 18 through Sunday May 20.*

#### Health Day Fair

Friday, May 18, 1 to 4 p.m. at the Bronx County Building Rotunda, 851 Grand Concourse. Over 75 exhibitors will provide information on health resources and conduct blood pressure and eye sight screenings at this free health fair.

#### Bronx Walk of Fame Induction Ceremony

Sunday, May 20 at 11 a.m. at the Bronx County Building, 851 Grand Concourse. Be there as the 2012 Bronx Walk of Fame inductees take their rightful place on the Grand Concourse when Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr. unveils street signs bearing their names. This year's honorees are rapper Fat Joe, jazz musician Valerie Capers, cinematographer Sol Negrin and super model Tyson Beckford.

#### 41st Annual Bronx Week Parade and Festival

Sunday, May 20, at noon, Mosholu Parkway East at Van Cortlandt Avenue. Bronx pride is on display as marching bands, community groups, schools, sports teams and civic groups march along Mosholu Parkway celebrating the best of the borough as this great community tradition celebrates its 41st anniversary. After the parade, residents will enjoy the Bronx Week Food, Arts & Music Festival, which features popular restaurants, live music, arts & crafts and games and activities for kids. The Bronx Health Pavilion will offer free health screenings and information on services, health insurance.

## Onstage

■ The public is invited to enjoy a **Nat King Cole Tribute Concert**, featuring Cody Childs, at the Mosholu Library, 285 E. 205th St., on May 19 at 2:30 p.m. For more information, call (718) 882-8239.

■ The Albert Einstein Symphony Orchestra will perform its **30th Anniversary Season Finale**, May 20 at 3 p.m., at Albert Einstein College of Medicine's Robbins Auditorium, Forchheimer Building, 1300 Morris Pk. Ave. Contributions are suggested. For more information, visit [einsteinorch.tripod.com](http://einsteinorch.tripod.com).

■ The Lehman Center for the Performing Arts, 250 Bedford Pk. Blvd. W., presents **Grupo Niche**, performing salsa, May 19 at 8 p.m. (tickets are \$45 to \$60). For more information, call (718) 960-8833.

■ Lehman Center, 250 Bedford Pk. Blvd. W., presents free: **Original Musical**, May 19 at 2 p.m., in the Music Building Recital Hall; and the **Lehman College Community Band**, featuring a variety of music, May 20 at 2 p.m., in the Lovinger Theatre. For more information, call (718) 960-8247.

■ The Bronx Arts Ensemble presents **classical**

**music**, May 20 at 3 p.m., in the home of George and Katrin Phocas, 5020 Goodridge Ave., Bronx. Entrance is \$25. For more information, call (718) 601-7399.

■ The Bronx Academy of Art & Dance (BAAD), 841 Barretto St., presents **The Boogie Down Dance Series**, performed by a variety of groups, through May 24. Most concerts cost \$20; some are free. For more information and a detailed schedule, call (718) 842-5223.

## Events

■ Bedford Park Congregational Church, 2988 Bainbridge Ave. (East 201st Street), holds a **flea market**, May 19 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and an **open house** from noon to 2 p.m. For more information, call (917) 743-1574 or (718) 367-8996.

■ Saint Philip Neri Church, 3025 Grand Concourse (202nd Street), holds a free outdoor **feast day festival** celebrating its patron saint, May 26 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Activities include a flea market, carnival games, raffles, cultural food festival, and live entertainment. Food and drinks will be sold. Rain location: school gym. For more information, call (718) 733-3200.

## OUR LADY OF REFUGE SCHOOL

2708 BRIGGS AVENUE, BRONX, NEW YORK 10458

PHONE: 718-367-3081 - FAX: 718-367-0741

E-mail: [school@ourladyofrefuge.com](mailto:school@ourladyofrefuge.com) | Website: [www.ourladyofrefuge.com](http://www.ourladyofrefuge.com)

Excellent instruction since 1923 by competent teachers in all subjects with emphasis on mathematics, reading and writing.

Registration: Mon.—Fri. 8 a.m.-3 p.m.

- Pre-Kindergarten
- Kindergarten
- Grades 1-8



### TUITION

- Pre-Kindergarten (full day) thru Eighth Grade: **\$2,950** [parishioner]
- Pre-Kindergarten (full day) thru Eighth Grade: **\$3,250** (non-parishioner)

### DAILY COST PER STUDENT

Parishioner **\$16.38** per day + optional **\$8.00** per day After School  
 Non-Parishioner **\$18.05** per day + optional **\$8.00** per day After-School

- Supervised After-School Child Care Available (snack included) 2:45 - 6:00 p.m. \$8.00 daily
- Supervised Free Breakfast Program  
Children may be dropped off at school at 7:15 a.m.
- Gym Classes weekly Pre-K—8th Grade
- Computers with Internet Access in every classroom
- Smart Boards in Grades 1-8

■ Indigenous Skateboards, along with other groups, presents **Battle for the Bronx**, a skateboard event featuring a jam format competition and other festivities, May 19 from noon to 6 p.m. at the 157th Street Skate Park. For more information, visit [battlefortheBronx.com](http://battlefortheBronx.com) or call (718) 600-7355.

■ Saint James Episcopal Church, 2500 Jerome Ave. (190th Street), a national landmark building, will hold an **Open House**, May 19 from noon to 5 p.m., including guide-led tours. For more information, call (718) 367-0655.

■ The Friends of Woodlawn Cemetery presents **Memorial Day Flagging Event**, to place flags on the graves of veterans, on May 20 at 10 a.m. (volunteers are welcome); and **The Great Women of Woodlawn**, featuring performers paying tribute, May 20 at 1 p.m. (\$15/adults; \$10/seniors/students/Friends members). Meet at the Jerome Avenue entrance for both events. For more information, call (718) 920-1470.

■ The Mosholu Montefiore Senior Center, 3450 DeKalb Ave., hosts a **chair yoga session**, May 17, to celebrate Bronx Week and Older Americans Month. This therapeutic activity is for those who have health problems that might make standing and floor sitting styles more difficult. For more information, call (718) 798-6601.

■ Wave Hill, a Bronx oasis at 675 W. 252nd St. in Riverdale, offers **tours**, Tuesdays at 11 a.m. from the Perkins Visitor Center (free all day) and Saturdays at 2 p.m. from the

Glyndor Gallery (free grounds admission until noon), all through Aug. 18. Additional garden history walk includes May 19, at noon, from the Perkins Visitor Center. For more information, call (718) 549-3200.

■ The Bronx County Historical Society, 3309 Bainbridge Ave., hosts **Marvelous Mott Haven**, a tour led by Bronx historian Lloyd Ultan, beginning at the southeast corner of East 138th Street and Third Avenue, May 19 at 1 p.m. (\$10/members; \$15/non members; tours run about 90 minutes; call to reserve); and **Orchard Beach: Past, Present, and Future**, free lecture at the Museum of Bronx History, 3266 Bainbridge Ave., May 30 at 6 p.m. For more information, call (718) 881-8900.

## Exhibits

■ The New York Botanical Garden presents **Claude Monet's Garden**, featuring his paintings, palette, and photographs, in the Rondina Gallery, May 19 through Oct. 21. Additional events include concerts, poetry, tours, film screenings, and family activities. For more information, call (718) 817-8658/8512.

■ The Bronx County Historical Society, 3309 Bainbridge Ave., presents **In Style, Bronx Architecture**, through Oct. 7, including Bronx landmarks. For more information and to reserve, call (718) 881-8900.

■ The Bronx Documentary Center, 614 Courtlandt Ave., presents **Bronx Gardens**, by photographer Nina Berman, through July 1,

Wednesdays to Sundays, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. For more information, call (347) 332-6962.

■ The Bronx Museum of the Arts, 1040 Grand Concourse (165th Street), features **Juan Downey: The Invisible Architect**, on view through May 20, in the South Wing Galleries. Admission is free on Fridays. For more information, call (718) 681-6000.

■ No Longer Empty presents **This Side of Paradise**, Thursdays to Sundays, 1 to 7 p.m. through June 5, at The Andrew Freedman Home, 1125 Grand Concourse (167th Street). A number of related events will take place throughout the exhibition. The public is welcome to propose a **Shifting Communities Roundtable Event** to take place during the exhibition which would combine the history of the Freedman Home with present day realities. Ideas must be submitted to the Bronx River Art Center at (718) 589-5819 ext. 14. For more information and a detailed schedule, call (718) 293-8100.

## Library Events

■ The Bronx Library Center, at 310 E. Kingsbridge Rd. off Fordham Road, presents programs for kids including **Tales for the Teeny Tiny at 11 a.m.** (ages 3 to 12): May 19; **Global Partners, Jr. at 4 p.m.** (ages 5 to 12): students connect worldwide via the Internet, May 23 and 30; and **Science Demonstrations at 4 p.m.** (ages 5 to 12; registration required): May 22: Slime Time, and May 29: Dry Ice Capades. For teens and young adults, there is **Hip-Hop Dance at 3:30**

**p.m.:** May 17, 24 and 31; and **World Beat and Percussion** (instruments are provided to participants): May 17 at 4 p.m. Adults can enjoy **films:** "A Bronx Tale," May 18 at 6 p.m., and "The Enigma of Kasper Hauser," May 19 at 2:30; **Keeping the Dream of Home Ownership:** May 22 at 10 a.m.; **Free Introductory Computer Class at 10 a.m.:** May 23; **MS Access in 2 Sessions** (online registration required): May 23 at 2 p.m.; and **Arts & Crafts Workshop:** Memorial Bouquets, May 25 at 2 p.m. For more information, call (718) 579-4244/46/57 or visit [www.nypl.org](http://www.nypl.org).

■ The Mosholu Library, at 285 E. 205th St., offers **Knitting Circle:** Thursdays at 3 p.m.; and **Wii Program:** Tuesdays at 3 p.m. (each for seniors and adults). Children can attend **Toddler Story Time at 10:30 a.m.:** May 17. For immigrants, there is **English Conversation:** intermediate level, for immigrants (ages 16+), free, Tuesdays 6:30 to 8 p.m., through June 5 (registration required). For more information, call (718) 882-8239.

■ The Jerome Park Library, at 118 Eames Place, offers **Cooking at 4 p.m.** (for teens and young adults): May 17, 24 and 31; **Computer Basics at noon:** May 17, 22 and 24, and **Classic Film Series:** May 19 at 1 p.m. (both for adults); and **Pajama Party** (for ages 5 to 12): May 21 at 6 p.m. For more information, call (718) 549-5200.

**NOTE:** Items for consideration may be mailed to our office or sent to [norwood-news@norwoodnews.org](mailto:norwood-news@norwoodnews.org), and should be received by May 21 for the next publication date of May 31.

# 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) 562-1269 OR VISIT [WWW.FORDHAMROADBID.ORG](http://WWW.FORDHAMROADBID.ORG)

### Affordable Flexible Co-Working Facility at the Bronx

Come join for as little as \$195 per person per month, state of the art office community designed to help support the needs of small businesses.

Tel: 212.624.5856 [www.sunshinesuites.com/Bronx](http://www.sunshinesuites.com/Bronx)

# 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.**



# BRONX BOROUGH PRESIDENT RUBEN DIAZ JR.



In conjunction with  
**Montefiore**  
THE UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL FOR  
ALBERT EINSTEIN COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

**INVITES YOU TO THE**

## Bronx Week Parade and Food, Art & Music Festival

**Sunday, May 20, 2012 On Mosholu Parkway**

**REVIEWING STAND AT VAN CORTLANDT AVENUE EAST  
STARTING AT 12 NOON**

- Thousands of participants, bands, floats, and community groups show off their Bronx pride
  - Over 80 schools participating
- Featuring the 2012 Bronx Walk of Fame Inductees

### PERFORMANCES BY



**DOUG E. FRESH**



**HERMANOS MORENOS**

### AND MORE!

- All-Day Concert
- Bronx Artists
- The Bronx Health Pavillion
- Lots of Vendors
- 28th Annual BronxBoro Arm Wrestling Championships
- Activities for Kids and Fun for the Whole Family



**FOR MORE BRONX WEEK EVENTS VISIT [WWW.ILOVETHEBRONX.COM](http://WWW.ILOVETHEBRONX.COM)**