

# NORWOOD NEWS

## VOTE!

Tues., Nov. 5

Guide, p. 2

Vol. 26, No. 21 ■ PUBLISHED BY MOSHOLU PRESERVATION CORPORATION ■ October 31–November 13, 2013

## HALLOWEEN HOOTENANNY



Photo by Adi Talwar

**LOCAL KIDS** get their groove on at Whalen Park in Norwood on Oct. 26 during a Halloween festival organized by local park advocates and sponsored by local organizations and merchants. For more photos and details, see p. 8.

## Teenager Murdered on Jerome Avenue

By DAVID GREENE and MICHAEL BROWN JR.

Michael Beltre, a popular 17-year-old student who attended school on the Walton High School campus, was shot and killed last week near St. James Park.

Last Wednesday evening, Oct. 23, just after 7 p.m., police say Michael was speaking to two individuals just steps away from a McDonald's on Jerome Avenue, just a half block away from St. James Park, when one of the two men pulled out a gun and shot him.

Michael, who lived on Washington Avenue, was shot one time in the face and was pronounced dead on arrival at St. Barnabas Hospital.

Friends say Michael, a junior in high school, had arrived in the Bronx just two short years ago from the Dominican Republic.

The following day, a large crowd of Michael's friends were busy setting up a memorial for the young man, when police asked the teens to move it so a store owner could open her nail salon. The store had recently been closed after part of the

*(continued on page 6)*

## New Principal Re-Making Clinton One High Five at a Time

By ALEX KRATZ

Every morning and every afternoon, Santiago Taveras stands outside DeWitt Clinton High School, the famous and struggling institution on Mosholu Parkway where he is now the principal, and mingles with his charges.

"What's up, Mister T," kids say as they pass by. He might offer a cool handshake, high five or a reminder to sign up for a program. As he walks around, looking like a former NFL offensive lineman turned politician, Taveras might politely invade a huddle of teenagers and make a point or a quick joke. They'll laugh and nod.

Though school only started two months ago, Taveras is quickly making his presence felt in tangible, visible ways. It's that very presence that forms the basis of his strategy for turning around a school headed for closure as recently as 10 months ago.

"Things are going well," Taveras said on a recent Monday afternoon. "I think kids are starting to understand my goals and what I expect."

Taveras knows Clinton, a once-proud school with a rich history that now graduates only half of its students on time, has a long way to go. He's looking at everything with a fresh perspective. But his rehabilitation plan is rooted in something less tangible than a handshake, but maybe just as sim-

ple — boosting morale.

Clinton's recent struggles were well documented last winter and spring. The Department of Education, citing low graduation rates and poor performance on state exams, initially proposed phasing out the 115-year-old school and eventually replace it entirely with smaller schools.

But vocal opposition from students, staff, alumni and local politicians, led to a scaled back plan of shrinking Clin-

*(continued on page 12)*



Photo Alex Kratz

**NEW CLINTON PRINCIPAL** Santiago Taveras is working hard to connect with students.

## Giving Voice to The Voiceless Celebrating 25 Years of the Norwood News

By ALEX KRATZ

This October marks the 25th anniversary of the birth of the *Norwood News*. Today, the *Norwood News* distributes 15,000 copies throughout the Bronx every two weeks, operates a website, Facebook page and Twitter feed and runs a youth journalism program. But it comes from humble stock and a simple question: How can we make the Bronx better?

That is the question Dart Westphal began asking after taking over as vice president of the non-profit Mosholu Preservation Corporation in November of 1987.

"MPC" was created by Montefiore Medical Center in 1981 to save the housing stock in the area surrounding the hospital's main campus, an area now known as Norwood. Throughout the 1970s, the borough suffered through the "Bronx is Burning" years

*(continued on page 4)*

## NORWOOD NEWS

Vol. 26, No. 21

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

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# General Election Voter's Guide

## Local City Council Races

The Bronx is known for being a strongly Democratic borough. In the 2012 presidential election, Barack Obama received 91 percent of the borough's votes. It seems like the other parties don't stand a chance against the Democratic nominees in the borough, but with the general election coming on Tuesday, Nov. 5, we thought it would only be democratic to introduce you to all of the options in local races.

Ironically, many of the candidates running under other parties (ex. Republican, Green, Independent) for this election are also Democrats. —**KIMBERLY JACOBS**

### District 11

#### Andrew Cohen (D, WF)

Cohen, the Democratic nominee, is an attorney standing on a platform of working families. He has several issues that he wants to be proactive about, such as education. He wants to give parents more of a voice in the arena and expand the city's pre-k program. Along with education, he plans to improve senior citizens involvement, and city council reform (including the elimination of "lulus" or stipends).

#### Patricia Brink (R)

Brink, the Republican nominee, was uncontested in the primary race, and there isn't any information on the platform she's running on.

#### Rev. William Kalaidjian (C)

Kalaidjian was nominated as a write-in Conservative candidate, but has no desire to be in public office. He has been an ordained minister for over 60 years.

#### John H. Reynolds (G)

Reynolds, the Green Party nominee, is a freelance IT consultant who's been in the Green Party for over 12 years and wants to bring to light social, economic, and environmental justice for the district he will potentially serve.

#### Cheryl "Shelley" Keeling (SC)

Keeling's platform is "Running 4 Change." She's promoting herself as a woman athlete who teaches high school track and tennis, a business owner for 34 years, and a Riverdale resident for the past 25 years. She feels strongly about education and quality of life issues. She wants to push for more after-school programs in the arts, music, and competitive athletics so students can be well-rounded and competitive. She also wants to fight for small business owners, senior protection, affordable housing, and higher minimum wages.

### District 14

#### Fernando Cabrera (D)

Cabrera is the current councilman for the district looking to be reelected. If reelected, he wants to continue to work on crime, youth and senior citizen issues, tenant rights, and schools. During his current term, he endorsed a plan to turn the Kingsbridge Armory into a massive ice skating center and says it will help youth and provide job opportunities. He passed a bill this year to make detailed crime statistics available to the public via an interactive map, an idea he took from the *Norwood News* and improved on. He

## A Quick Look at Ballot Proposals

*On the ballot this year are six initiatives that voters can approve of or reject. Here's a quick look at each.*

### Proposal 1: Authorizing Casino Gambling:

This proposal seeks to allow the creation of up to seven casinos in New York State, three of which will be in New York City after seven years.

### Proposal 2: Additional Civil Service Credit for Veterans With Disabilities

This proposal states that any veteran who has taken the civil service exam and afterwards becomes disabled should be awarded additional credit on top of the credit they already received for the exam because they are veterans.

### Proposal 3: Exclusion of Indebtedness Contracted for Sewage Facilities

This proposal suggests that the ability of counties, towns, villages, and cities to exclude from their constitutional debt limit any debt acquired from the construction or reconstruction of sewage facilities should be extended by 10 years to Jan. 1, 2024.

### Proposal 4: Settling Disputed Title in the Forest Preserve

This amendment is an effort to cease disputations of the ownership of land parcels in the forest preserve at Long Lake, Hamilton County between the state and private parties, that the state give up claims to the land parcels and in return, the state will receive other land for the forest preserve.

### Proposal 5: A Land Exchange in the State Forest Preserve with NYCO Minerals, Inc.

This proposed amendment to section 1 of article 14 would allow the state to give NYCO Minerals 200 acres of land from the state forest preserve, which they would use for mining. In exchange for this, NYCO would give the state *at least* the same amount of land of *at least* the same value for the state to add to the forest preserve. When NYCO Minerals is done mining, they would return the land they used restored to its original condition to the state for the forest preserve.

### Proposal 6: Increasing Age Limits for Judges

This proposal would allow certain state judges to serve until the age of 80.

—**MICHAEL BROWN JR.**

also helped turn the Armory into a make-shift command center for helping victims of last year's hurricane.

#### Denise Butler (R)

Butler is the Republican nominee for this election. She was uncontested in the primary race and there is no further information about her campaign.

#### Alan H. Reed (C)

Reed, the Conservative nominee, has no further information about his campaign.

### District 15

#### Ritchie Torres (D, WF)

Torres, the Democratic nominee, is 25 years old, but comes with more than seven years of experience in politics working with Councilman James Vacca, mostly on housing issues. The issues he's standing on are affordable housing, employment with decent wages, and making sure schools have enough of the resources for students to succeed.

#### Joel Ray Rivera (R)

Rivera, is the Republican nominee, but says he is a Democrat "at heart" with con-

servative view issues like same-sex marriage. He might be mistaken for term-limited Joel Rivera (the current councilman), but he's completely different. His major issue is affordable housing like his Democratic counterpart Torres, and he wants to improve on affordable healthcare, youth services, education, and opportunities in employment and education. Rivera doesn't live or have his campaign headquarters in the district.

#### Joel Bauza (C)

Bauza is the Conservative nominee and senior pastor at Calvary Church. He has a long list of issues he wants to address as a potential councilmember such as immigration reform, anti-gun programs, affordable housing and eviction protection, and minimum wages. He's pro-charter schools, after-school and weekend programs, helping the homeless with food and shelter, saving senior centers, and crime safety. Listening to the people is important to him and will make his office a place to seek refuge, find information and help if elected.

—**KIMBERLY JACOBS**

## Public and Community Meetings

- **BEDFORD MOSHOLU COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION will meet at 8 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 6 at 400 E. Mosholu Pkwy. So., Apt. #B1 (lobby floor). All are welcome.**
- **COMMUNITY BOARD 7 committee meetings are held on the following dates at the board office, 229A E. 204th St., at 6:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted: Executive Committee on Monday, Nov. 4; Parks & Recreation and Public Safety & Quality of Life on Thursday, Nov. 7 (Public Safety & QOL will begin at 7:30 p.m.); Environment & Sanitation and Health & Hospitals on Tuesday, Nov. 12 (Health & Hospitals will begin at 7:30 p.m.); Economic Development and Community Relations/LTP on Wednesday, Nov. 13 (Community Relations/LTP will begin at 7:30 p.m.); Traffic & Transportation on Thursday, Nov. 14; Land Use & Zoning and Housing on Wednesday, Nov. 20 (Housing will begin at 7:30 p.m.); Education & Libraries and Youth Services on Thursday, Nov. 21 (Youth Services will begin at 7:30 p.m.). For more information, call (718) 933-5650 or visit [bronxcb7.info/calendar](http://bronxcb7.info/calendar).**
- **COMMUNITY BOARD 7 is scheduled to hold its general board meeting at the Kit-tay House, 2550 Webb Ave., on Tuesday, Nov. 19 at 6:30 p.m. For more information, call (718) 933-5650 or visit [bronxcb7.info/calendar](http://bronxcb7.info/calendar).**



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# Opinion

## Editorial

### Growing Up at the Norwood News (How it All Started)

On a Monday in the middle of May, I made my first trip to the Bronx and the *Norwood News*. It was pouring down rain. The kind of New York City rain an umbrella fails to protect you from no matter how hard it tries. No problem, I remember thinking, I'm from the Pacific Northwest where rain is a way of life. I got this.

The bigger problem, of course, was finding my way to the *Norwood News*' office. And this was back in 2006. Before Hop Stop. Before iPhones (yes, it's true, there was such a time). The *News*' headquarters isn't an easy find to begin with. Located on a one-way, oval-shaped street, even local pizza delivery guys and old school cabbies routinely call us, befuddled with their destination.

But wait, I'm already getting ahead of myself. I needed a job. At the time, I was a broke student living in Washington, DC, working on a masters degree in journalism. While chasing down senators on Capitol Hill, I kept one eye on jobs opening up in New York, where my then girlfriend, now wife, was finishing her own masters at Columbia University. Because she planned on staying in the city to work after graduation, Tessa highly encouraged me to join her (or else, I thought).

While in town for her graduation ceremony, which fell on that fateful Monday, I found an online advertisement for a job opening as deputy editor of the *Norwood News*. It looked perfect for a hungry, young reporter looking to gain experience in the Big Apple. Only problem was it expired the day of Tessa's graduation. I needed to act fast.

Fortunately, I'd packed my resume, all my best clips and my best (and only) suit. Based solely on a rough look at a subway map and the *News*' proximity to Gun Hill Road, I decided (wrongly) to take the 2 train up to the Boogie Down. (I had yet to discover my grungy, beloved D train or its more scenic sister, the 4 train.)

From the 2, I tucked my precious appli-



Photo by Adi Talwar

**THE WEARY SHEPHERDS** of the *Norwood News*, editor Alex Kratz and proofreader extraordinaire Judy Noy after a long night producing the paper. Not pictured: Ace designer Neil deMause.

cation papers under my suit, propped up my overmatched umbrella, trudged across the Bronx River and up to the Oval.

Like many people visiting the *NN* for the first time, I was struck by the pleasant, homey beauty of the gray stone Keeper's House, which the paper's publisher, Mosholu Preservation Corporation, restored in the early 2000s.

Inside, I made my way upstairs to the now familiar offices of the *Norwood News*. It was early, maybe 9 a.m., and Jordan Moss, the paper's longtime editor, looked harried and almost dumbstruck when he saw me there standing in my nice black suit and tie, shoes soaking, holding onto a manila folder, hoping I wasn't too late.

"Thanks," Jordan said dismissively, taking the folder, "I'll be in touch." That was it. Hope faded slightly on my rainy trip back to Manhattan. But at least I tried.

Later that day, Jordan called and asked if I could come in for an interview. A week later, as a sort of test run, I reported and wrote my first story for the *Norwood News*. Not surprisingly, it was about the Kingsbridge Armory. I took the job and a couple of weeks later moved into a house in Bedford

Park with a lovely woman named Colleen Kelly and her three precocious kids.

That was almost seven and a half years ago.

This Halloween will be my last day as a full-time employee of the *Norwood News*. It's a bittersweet ending to the most thrilling, challenging, impactful and rewarding experiences in my life, professional or otherwise.

## Letters

### Happy Anniversary

Congratulations to the *Norwood News* for having completed 25 years of publication, having started in October of 1988.

An announcement in their first issue advertised for a variety of volunteers, to which I responded, and was accepted as a proofreader starting with the second issue in December of 1988 (a bi-monthly back then). As such, I, too, will be celebrating my own 25th anniversary in December of this year.

In addition to proofreading, I also periodically contributed articles, op-eds, and letters to the editor.

I love telling the story of how I, a preacher's mischievous kid from Seattle, ended up running a newspaper in the Bronx. It illustrates the random luck and twists of fate that define people's lives and make them who they are.

It would be impossible for me to thank everyone who helped, supported and guided me through this long, strange, maddening and fulfilling journey. But there are two people who I need to mention: Jordan Moss and Dart Westphal. They've been my dual mentor/uncle/friend throughout this experience. I can't ever thank them enough for taking a chance on me and filling me with the confidence I needed to produce the very best *Norwood News* possible every two weeks.

You could say I grew up in Norwood. I came here a single, confused 27-year-old graduate school dropout and emerged a 34-year-old professional journalist, husband and father. I'm extremely proud of the fact that I was able to shepherd this vital community resource through its 25th birthday, which coincides with this edition of the paper.

Here's to the next 25 years of the *Norwood News* giving voice to the voiceless and a grand purpose to another editor looking for a job.

Peace,  
**Alex Kratz**

Twenty five years, a quarter of a century. All in all, quite an achievement and a source of pride for having reached this milestone.

Here's to many more years of success and that I continue to be part of your future celebrations.

**Judy Noy**

**Editor's note:** *Judy is the backbone of the Norwood News. She is thankfully and maddeningly meticulous and the reason we don't make many mistakes. I love her and will miss her dearly, but she will be a great asset to the next editor.*

# Voice to the Voiceless: 25 Years of the Norwood News

(continued from page 1)

and become synonymous with landlord neglect and arson. The housing stock, especially in the South Bronx, was in shambles. The northwest Bronx managed to stave off much of these problems, thanks to staunch organizing efforts by grassroots groups like the Northwest Bronx Community and Clergy Coalition. Still, there were some problem buildings and MPC aimed to shore them up.

But by 1987, Mayor Ed Koch's multi-billion-dollar investment in Bronx housing was taking hold. MPC had done its part and was moving on to other projects. As far as buildings were concerned, MPC began focusing on neglected commercial spaces.

Charged with not only housing preservation but also community development goals, MPC started looking at other ways to make the neighborhood around Montefiore better. "We started to ask, 'What kind of assets are there that make neighborhoods better?'" says Westphal, who

spent two decades at MPC, first as vice president and then as executive director.

Westphal lived in Kingsbridge Heights and loved the *Riverdale Press*, a weekly, family-run newspaper that focused solely on hyper-local stories and information concerning Riverdale and Kingsbridge. It was a neighborhood asset MPC would use as a model for the *Norwood News*. (Coincidentally, there was a previous incarnation of the *Norwood News* back in the 1960s that a local guy printed on a mimeograph, but it never took off.)

"The *Press* really showed us how important a newspaper could be to a community," Westphal said. (The *Press* also launched a competitor of the *Norwood News*, but killed it because of low advertising revenue.)

Westphal hired a young social worker named Betty Chen, who also happened to have experience working for a local paper in Queens. She would become the *Nor-*

*wood News*' first editor.

"Betty was really good," says longtime proofreader and Out & About editor Judy Noy, who joined the paper after its first issue. "Just really sharp and she knew what she was doing."

Chen worked on MPC's other community programming and she and Westphal began laying the foundations for a new newspaper — feeling out advertisers and community leaders, seeing if they would support it.

Computers were still in their infancy and MPC employed one of the first personal Apple models to produce the first paper. "We pretty much learned everything from scratch," Westphal says. He thinks they used Pagemaker.

The first issue, all of four pages, was mostly a neighborhood directory of community organizations, programs and events (the early incarnation of our Neighborhood Notes and Out & About features)

and included one in-depth story about a massive and unpopular sewer reconstruction project, which called on the removal of dozens of trees on Mosholu Parkway.

The story resonated with the community, Westphal said. "People in the community cared about this [sewer project]," he said. "But no one was listening to them."

Several people responded to a call for volunteers after that first issue and it's brought the community together on numerous issues since its inception. The paper has grown over the years to cover more neighborhoods and more issues on different media platforms, but its goal remains the same: to give voice to the voiceless.

There is poster on the wall outside of the *Norwood News* office with suggestions for "How to Build Community." The last sums up the goal of the *Norwood News*, Westphal says. It reads: "Know that no one is silent, but not everyone is heard. Work to change this."

# Inquiring Photographer

By DAVID GREENE

In honor of the *Norwood News*' 25th anniversary, we decided to paraphrase the late Ed Koch and ask, "How're we doin'?"



Congratulations. I think it's a good newspaper for the neighborhood. There's a lot of advertisements and current events around the neighborhood and I think it's an asset.  
**Agnes Fitzpatrick**



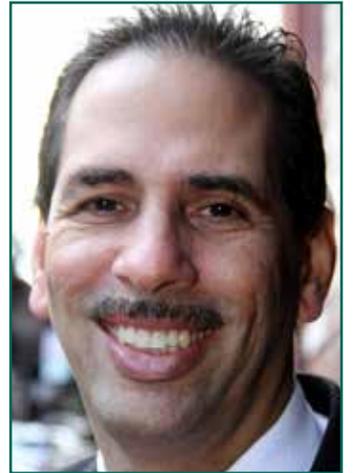
I've read the paper for many, many years and I think it's great and I look forward to seeing every issue. What I like most is the 'Out & About' column and the upcoming events section.  
**Mary Barron**



The *Norwood News* is a wonderful neighborhood newspaper that keeps us informed on all of the current events that's going on like the crime, parades, and everything. It's a wonderful, free, local paper and I look forward to reading every edition.  
**Mary Leon**



Congratulations on your anniversary. The *Norwood News* gives a lot of information and helps keep us informed about all of the crimes that's going on and makes us aware of what's going on in the neighborhood.  
**Juanita Pacheco**



The *Norwood News* does fantastic and fabulous work. They have been able to keep us informed in a concentrated area of our district, where a lot of time we don't get news coverage. They're able to keep us updated on what's really happening in our community. They're fair in their assessments.  
**Councilman Fernando Cabrera**

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## Blaze Destroys Homes in Fordham-Bedford

By DAVID GREENE

More than a dozen people were injured when a wind-whipped fire ripped through three homes along Valentine Avenue in the Fordham-Bedford neighborhood. According to officials, 13 firefighters and three civilians were injured after a four-alarm blaze erupted inside an abandoned wood-frame home at 2860 Valentine Ave., at just after 4:30 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 27.

After flames spread to adjacent three-story homes at 2862 and 2866 Valentine Ave., nearly 200 firefighters were needed during the two hours it took to bring the blaze under control.

FDNY Assistant Chief Ronald Spadafora said they pulled firefighters away from the homes for safety reasons. "We pulled them out because of the magnitude of the fire and the structural soundness of the building," he said.

Longtime Bedford Park resident Hector Miolan watched the scene unfold. "The flames were coming out the window and this guy broke the window and just jumped," he said. "He went out the window and then ran into the street."

Officials could not immediately say how many people were displaced, but those residents were put up in temporary housing by the Red Cross.

Fire officials could also not immediately say if the fire spread to the back of several stores on East 198th Street.

The telephone to Rite Aid had a steady busy-signal on Monday morning.

According to officials, 15 of the injuries were said to be minor in nature, but one victim was reported to be in critical condition.

Fire marshals have deemed the fire suspicious and are continuing to investigate its origin.



Photo by David Greene

**A FIREFIGHTER** is removed from the scene of a fire that engulfed three homes on Valentine Avenue.

## Teen Murdered on Jerome Avenue

(continued from page 1)

building's facade collapsed. On this day, the owner would first have to scrub down the dried blood left on the sidewalk.

At the new memorial across the street from St. James Park, where Michael could often be found playing basketball, young mourners milled about. "He was a sweetheart," one of them said. "He had no enemies, no problems and he loved McDonald's."

No one could explain what happened or who did it.

Coincidentally, the morning after Michael's brutal death, the annual breakfast of the 52nd Precinct Community Council was held just two short blocks from where the teen was shot. Outgoing Deputy Inspector Joseph Dowling said the case was "under investigation," but couldn't give any details. "It's an ongoing investigation," he said.

Residents around the neighborhood

were both shocked and unsurprised by the turn of events the night Michael was killed.

"I was scared; I didn't know this neighborhood was like this," said Makuta Kamara, who lives near Fordham Road and Sedgwick Avenue. Kamara said she regularly visits her sister who lives across the street from St. James Park and sends her daughter to the recreation center's programs.

Iginio Valentine Jr. who regularly uses the St. James recreation center, said, "There's a lot of gang activity in the area."

Liam Riviera, a longtime resident, says the neighborhood safety has improved "compared to when I was a kid growing up. Back then you couldn't walk around unless you were part of a clique or crew." Though he was saddened by the shooting death of Michael, he said it's not surprising. "Every day someone's dying," he said. "Someone's trying to prove themselves."

# Be Healthy

# 174,000

Number of people who have applied for insurance through New York's new online marketplace.

Vital Stats

## New York's Obamacare Plans Avoid Website Glitches

By **KIMBERLY JACOBS**

The implementation of the Affordable Care Act, also known as Obamacare, has received a lot of criticism since its launch on Oct. 1 for the glitches and problems with its official website, [www.healthcare.gov](http://www.healthcare.gov). Recently, President Obama was forced to admit the problems were unacceptable and vowed to fix them by Nov. 1.

But New York state's issues have been minimal because it has its own website. There were issues in the beginning because of the overwhelming number of people who used it, but users shouldn't have a problem anymore, officials say. Through the New York State of Health website, 37,000 have enrolled in insurance and 174,000 have applied.

"Our marketplace is operating very smoothly, and we are pleased to see that tens of thousands of individuals and small-business owners across the state are turning to [nystateofhealth.ny.gov](http://nystateofhealth.ny.gov) to access low-cost health insurance," Donna Frescatore, executive director of New York State of Health, said in a statement.

Healthcare reform was put in place to provide more Americans with options for private insurance, but it's been reported that two-thirds of those who have applied in New York were found eligible for the free- or low-cost federal and state-funded medical insurance, known as Medicaid. Along with the reform came the expansion of Medicaid for low-income adults between the ages of 19 and 65.

The other third of applicants were able to pick private insurance. And many of those who enroll with insurance

companies based on their income qualify for a tax credit. New York has 16 healthcare providers for enrollees to choose from in its marketplace, which is one of the most diverse of any state in the country.

Using the website to sign up and register is the first step. If you need assistance, there are navigators designated to help you.

"If you are computer savvy, then I would recommend doing it yourself. If you are not, then contact a navigator or call the State Health exchange directly to ask for assistance," said Bronx State Sen. Gustavo Rivera. "My office can also help put residents in touch with the right people. But Bronxites should know that the health exchange in New York is one of the most efficient and well thought out ones in the country."

After registering on the website and verifying your identity, the process leading up to choosing a plan is fairly easy. All you're required to provide is general information about your household.

Then, it gets more complicated as you wade through the various insurance plans. Be sure you're prepared to sit and read through the marketplace options. The things to consider, as broken down on the site, are the company, monthly payments, the metals (the levels of plans that determine whether you will pay more upfront or as a copay: bronze, gold, silver, platinum, catastrophic), and deductible. The ability to view and compare plans is available also.

Plans are rated with stars as it pertains to quality, but none garner four out of four stars. I was pleased to find that the quality had no effect on the prices. The low-

est deductible rates were \$0 and \$600, but were higher in monthly payments, but with that said, monthly payments weren't less than \$300 even with a \$3,000 per person/\$6,000 per family deductible.

**Editor's Note:** You can apply for healthcare at [www.nystateofhealth.ny.gov](http://www.nystateofhealth.ny.gov) or call 1-855-355-5777 for assistance with a Navigator.



Photo courtesy Montefiore Medical Center

**SCHOOLS CHANCELLOR** Dennis Walcott gets his blood pressure taken at the city's newest school-based health clinic on the Morris High School campus, which opened last week. One of 21 clinics operated by Montefiore Medical Center inside Bronx schools, the new clinic offers comprehensive medical, mental, dental and community health services.

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## PUBLIC PARKING

**RESIDENTS TOOK TO** their local parks over the past two weekends to take advantage of and enhance the community spaces that act as veritable backyards for many families. On Oct. 19, at one of dozens of It's My Park Day events throughout the city, members of the Bedford Mosholu Community Association worked with young people from Christodora, the 52nd Precinct Explorers, and the Auxiliary Police to beautify Mosholu Parkway. Last Saturday, Oct. 26, families gathered at Whalen Park on Perry Avenue in Norwood next to the Mosholu Library, for a Halloween festival featuring a children's DJ, Halloween story time, and goodie bags. The event was organized by Friends of Williamsbridge Oval, Friends of Kossuth Park and Friends of Mosholu Park-land, and sponsored by several local organizations and businesses.

Whalen Park photos by Adi Talwar

Mosholu Parkway photo courtesy BMCA



## Council Member Fernando Cabrera

invites you to attend

# FREE Citizenship Application Assistance

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  - School/employment history for the last five or three years\*
  - Marital history/criminal history\*
- \* (If applicable)

Applicants pay a \$680 filing fee to USCIS.

Please do **not** bring the fee to this event. To apply for a fee waiver, bring as many of these items as applicable:

- Copy of award letter from the state or federal agency granting the benefit, e.g., SSI award letter and/or budget letter
- Copies of benefit cards
- Copy of IRS tax return for the most recent tax year

**DIRECTIONS:** [hopstop.com](http://hopstop.com) or call (718) 330-1234  
[cuny.edu/citizenshipnow](http://cuny.edu/citizenshipnow)



November is  CUNY Month

teach a class  
beautify a park  
mentor a child  
visit a homebound senior  
stock a food pantry  
read with a student

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# Classifieds

## Professional Directory

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### SPECIAL EVENT

**The Bedford Park Congregational Church**, located at 201st Street and Bainbridge Avenue, is celebrating its 124th anniversary of service to our community. We will host a concert and dinner (catered by Silvio's) on Sunday, November 17, 2013, beginning at 2:30 p.m. Tickets are \$35. For tickets and further information, please contact Reverend Dr. Christopher Ponnuraj at (718) 367-8996.

### REAL ESTATE

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**2-Family Property, Decatur Avenue, \$519k:** 2340 sq ft. Private parking. Private outdoor space. Charming and unique old style property complete with beautiful wrap-around porch. Priced to sell. Please call Aileen at Jane Mosello Real Estate (914) 320-9690.

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324-4332.

**Cleaning Service:** Houses, apartments, and offices cleaned. Free estimates. Reasonable rates. Contact Mark at (718) 882-0598.

**Child Care Services:** Patty Cakes Family Daycare: Quality, affordable childcare, 2700 Grand Concourse (between Kingsbridge Road and 196th Street). Specials are available, vouchers accepted (HRA/ACS). Contact Claudette at (917) 331-8974 or via e-mail at [Pattycakesfamilydaycare@gmail.com](mailto:Pattycakesfamilydaycare@gmail.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.

### MISCELLANEOUS

**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).

**Classifieds:** \$12 for the first 20 words and 25 cents for each additional word. **Professional Directory:** \$144 for six months; \$260 for one year. To place an ad, call (718) 324-4998 between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday thru Friday.



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# Principal Re-Making Clinton One High Five at a Time



Photo by Alex Kratz

**NEW DEWITT CLINTON** High School Principal Santiago Taveras makes it a point to be visible and interact with students before, during and after school.

(continued from page 1)

ton's population and installing two new small schools to share Clinton's building. This plan was also adamantly opposed by the entire Clinton community, but it was approved anyway.

Later that spring, with Principal Geraldine Ambrosio retiring, Taveras was tapped to take over what many considered a sinking ship. (Many thought the plan to scale back Clinton would eventually lead to its demise, but with a new mayor coming in January, the school's future, in either direction, is unclear.)

Taveras comes with an impressive resume. A product of large, single-parent Bronx household and a graduate of John F. Kennedy High School in Marble Hill (another school being phased out), Taveras started out as a public school teacher.

He eventually became principal of a South Bronx high school that was being phased out and rose to the title of deputy chancellor under Joel Klein and then under Klein's widely unpopular successor, Cathie Black. Before Black left the position under heavy criticism in 2011, Taveras left the DOE to work for Cambridge Education, a private consulting firm that handled the DOE's first quality reviews. While in the private sector, Taveras says he realized his passion was working with kids.

Taveras spent the summer hammering out a plan with his leadership team, which remained largely intact from the previous year. While he couldn't immediately change the school's poor performance results, he could go about changing the school's environment, which received an "F" grade on the latest quality review and is based on feedback from students, parents and staff.

Students complained about the poor technology at

the school, so Taveras used a grant to buy new computers and smart boards. They lamented the long lines just to get into school because of scanning, so he's working to streamline the process by making sure all the machines work properly and better prepping kids before they get to the metal detectors. And he's hoping to have the air conditioning fixed by the time summer rolls around in 2014.

Forced to make cuts this year because of the drop in enrollment (there are about 2,800 students at Clinton now), Taveras said he cut the number of teachers and counselors, but kept all of the Advanced Placement classes and nearly all of the extracurricular activities. Taveras said, for many students, the extracurricular activities keep them coming back.

"We kept all the extras," he said.

When students walk into Clinton now, they are greeted by four new TV screens, which tell kids about upcoming events and programs and show photos of students having fun — playing sports and participating in other extracurricular activities.

"The other day, we had 500 kids outside doing extracurricular activities at the same time," Taveras said. "It was beautiful."

This fall, Taveras asked every student in the school to participate in re-imagining a vision for the school. Many have responded with lengthy, detailed ideas. He's still wading through them all and hoping to put together a more comprehensive document this winter.

In any case, Taveras is convinced Clinton is on its way to once again becoming "the school of choice in the Bronx."

His optimism and seemingly ubiquitous presence is already having an effect, Taveras says. When they see him hanging out after school, Taveras says "kids just light up and give me that high five."

## Neighborhood Notes

### Free Writing Workshop

The Bronx Council on the Arts' Bronx Writers Center, 2700 E. Tremont Ave., offers a free writing workshop on Nov. 4 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. For more information, call (718) 931-9500 ext. 21 or visit [www.bronxarts.org](http://www.bronxarts.org).

### Children's Speech & Language Program

The Mount St. Ursula Speech Center, 2885 Marion Ave., offers winter and spring programs for children from 18 months to 16 years who have difficulty with speech, language, or reading. For more information, call (718) 584-7679.

### Martial Arts Class at MMCC

Mosholu Montefiore Community Center, 3450 DeKalb Ave., offers one-hour martial arts classes for children on Saturdays between 9 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., and for teens and adults, from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Classes also take place Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 5:30 p.m. For more information, call (718) 882-4000 ext. 0.

### Engineering Awareness Day

Manhattan College, located at West 242nd Street near Broadway in Riverdale, invites high school juniors and seniors to attend its free annual Engineering Awareness Day on Nov. 11 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Smith Auditorium and Leo Hall, and in-

cludes a panel presentation, lab tours, and a luncheon. Registration is required. Students are encouraged to bring a parent. For more information, call Sheila Halpin at (718) 862-7281.

### BCA Seeks Bronx Artists

Bronx Council on the Arts seeks Bronx artists to apply for the BRIO (Bronx Recognizes Its Own) awards. Applications and guidelines will be available online starting Nov. 1 and ending Jan. 31 at 11:59 p.m. Application assistance and help with presenting work is offered at a free BRIO "How to Apply" workshop on Nov. 22 from 5 to 7 p.m. at Hostos Community College's Longwood Art Gallery, 450 Grand Concourse (149th Street). For more information or to RSVP, call (718) 931-9500 ext. 35 or email [BRIO@bronx-arts.org](mailto:BRIO@bronx-arts.org).

### Free Mammograms and Breast Exams

Free mammograms and breast exams will be given out of a mobile van outside Bronx House Community Center at 990 Pelham Pkwy. on Nov. 3 from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. for women 40+, who have a NYC mailing address, and have not had a mammogram in the past 12 months. For more information or to schedule a required appointment, call (212) 628-9090.

### Access to Capital

Lehman College's Music Building's East Dining Room, 250 Bedford Pk. Blvd. W., will host an "Access to Capital" work-

shop, Nov. 14 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., geared to small businesses and non-profits that are in need of financing, to teach participants how to access the financing that they need. For more information and to register, call (718) 960-8806.

### Teen Writing Workshops

The Bronx Council on the Arts holds free Saturday writing workshops for Bronx teenagers, Nov. 2 and 9, from 2 to 4 p.m., in the lobby of 240 E. 175th St., between Monroe and Topping avenues. Snacks will be served and rewards will be given for participation. For more information, call (718) 931-9500 or RSVP to [storytelling10122013.eventbrite.com](mailto:storytelling10122013.eventbrite.com).

### Free Health Workshop

Montefiore Care Management is offering a free asthma workshop for patients and their family members and caregivers on Nov. 12, from 10 to 11 a.m. at the MMG Bronx East, 2300 Westchester Ave. For more information, call (800) 636-6683.

### Buy a Poe Paver

The Bronx County Historical Society is offering the public the chance to purchase a tax-deductible Poe paver, a fundraising project based on the sale of inscribed commemorative pavers that are to be laid near the Edgar Allan Poe Cottage in Poe Park. Each paver costs \$250, and will have your name and/or the date etched on it (two lines, 16 letters including spaces, per line). For more information, call (718) 881-8900.

### Help for Troubled Adolescents

Berkshire Farm Center's "Power Project," 3464 Webster Ave. (off Gun Hill Road), is a free MICA support program that helps emotionally disturbed Bronx adolescents between the ages of 12 to 18 who use and abuse substances. The program runs group and individual sessions Mondays through Thursdays from 4 to 6:15 p.m. For more information, call (718) 5515-7970 ext. 3010.

### Free Job & Career 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.

### LGBTQ Coming Out Group

This group offers youth ages 13 to 18 years of age a safe place to talk about gender and sexuality. The meetings take place every Saturday from 7 to 10 p.m. at the Mosholu Montefiore Community Center, 3450 DeKalb Ave. For more information, call (718) 882-4000 ext. 204.

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

# ‘Slow Zone’ Designed to Keep Norwood Safer

By RACHEL FORSHEE

A new neighborhood Slow Zone will decrease speed limits in the Williamsbridge Oval area.

Two weeks ago, local assemblymen Jeffrey Dinowitz and Mark Gjonaj announced a new “Slow Zone” coming to the area surrounding Williamsbridge Oval Park.

A “Slow Zone” is an area inside of which speed limits are reduced and more safety measures are put in place — usually due to the presence of schools and other areas that might be affected by high

pedestrian traffic. In this case, the area around Oval Park includes two schools, St. Brendan’s and PS 56, as well as a handful of churches, medical offices, and a library.

The zone would place signs along its borders decreasing the speed limit from 30 miles per hour to 20 miles per hour and could potentially bring in speed bumps. The announcement marks the beginning of a DOT study that could bring about these changes as early as this winter.

Community activists and Community Board 7 have been part of the fight to improve pedestrian standards in this area for the past several years, bringing in a series of pedestrian upgrades such as more crosswalks and traffic lights and putting up signs notifying motorists of the presence of children and other at-needs residents. In this most recent effort, however, it was the assemblymen who brought it to the board.

“We started this about a year ago,” said Dinowitz. “There had always been a lot of complaints about motorists driving too fast, or not paying attention. This was a necessary step for the safety of the community.”

Dinowitz said he found out about a pilot program offered by the DOT when he worked on getting a similar slow zone into his own neighborhood of Riverdale last year. To start the process in Norwood, he still needed community support, and that’s where the community board really stepped in.

Local residents Dileta Pina and Lis

von Uhl were part of the public outreach necessary — collecting signatures, writing letters and holding community meetings as part of the formal application process.

“This is really a vital piece of the puzzle,” said von Uhl, who was also part of the five-year struggle for the pedestrian upgrades.

Pina added of the effort: “A lot of us

felt that it was getting really bad. I’ve watched cars driving right in front of PS 56 and they weren’t even slowing down for seniors.”

Dinowitz sees it as the upside to re-districting last year. “A year ago, as they were re-drawing the districts, our effort was to bring Norwood together as one unit,” said Dinowitz. “This is a case where two is definitely better than one.”



Map courtesy DOT

**THE AREA WITHIN** the blue line will be designated a “Slow Zone” as early as this winter.

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

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## Onstage

■ The Bronx Arts Ensemble presents **Jack and the Beanstalk**, Nov. 10 at 1 and 2:30 p.m., just for kids, at International Caterers, 3243 Ampere Ave. at Research Ave. (\$6); program subject to change. For more information, call (718) 601-7399.

■ Lehman College's Center for the Performing Arts, 250 Bedford Pk. Blvd. W., presents **Impressionist Jeff Tracta**, featuring a journey through pop culture, Nov. 9 at 8 p.m. (tickets are \$25 to \$45). For more information, call (718) 960-8833.

■ The Hostos Center for the Arts & Culture, 450 Grand Concourse, presents **Bobby Sanabria and Multiverse Big Band**, featuring Latin jazz, as well as the **Bronx Arts Ensemble** and the **319th U.S. Army Band**, Nov. 1 at 7:30 p.m. (tickets are \$25 to \$35). For more information, call (718) 518-6700/4455.

■ Bronx Music Heritage Center, 1303 Louis Niñe Blvd., presents **Boogie Mics**, Nov. 1 at 7 p.m. Come early to sign up for this open mic night (free; \$5/suggested donation). For more information, email [info@bronxmusic.org](mailto:info@bronxmusic.org).

■ Mosholu Montefiore Community Center, 3450 DeKalb Ave., presents **"Lies My Father Told Me,"** an off-Broadway musical, Nov.

13. For more information, call the senior department at (718) 882-4000.

■ Pregones Theatre, 571-575 Walton Ave., presents **Aloha Boricua**, Nov. 2 at 8 p.m. and Nov. 3 at 3 p.m., featuring traditional Puerto Rican music and urban reggaeton. For more information, call (718) 585-1202.

■ Bronx Academy of Arts and Dance (BAAD), 2474 Westchester Ave. (new address), presents **Love Will Save the Day: A Dance Tribute to Whitney Houston**, Nov. 2 at 8 p.m. (\$20). This concert kicks off the BlakTina Performance Series. Also coming is **We Are Caligula**, Nov. 14 at 8 p.m. (\$15). For more information or to purchase tickets, call (718) 918-2110 (new phone number).

## Events

■ Manhattan College, West 242nd Street near Broadway in Riverdale, presents **poet/critic, Alicia Ostriker**, Nov. 14 at 5 p.m., in Hayden Hall, room 100. For more information, call (718) 862-7546/7921.

■ The Woodlawn Conservancy presents Woodlawn Cemetery guided tour, **Second Sunday**, Nov. 10 at 2 p.m., to explore history, design, and more (\$15/adults; discounts for members/seniors/students). Also coming is **NY Restoration Project Free Tree Giveaway**,

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## EDITOR'S PICK

## Freebies at NYPL

The Mosholu Library, 285 E. 205th St., presents **Jazz Guitar**, free, performed by Don Witter, Jr., Nov. 2 from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. For more information, call (718) 882-8239.

The Bronx Library Center, 310 E. Kingsbridge Rd., presents **A Musical Tribute to Soul Legends: Sam Cooke & Marvin Gaye**, Nov. 2 at 2:30 p.m.; and **La Traviata**, performed by the NY Opera Forum, Nov. 9 at 2:30 p.m. For more information, call (718) 579-4244/46/57 or visit [www.nypl.org](http://www.nypl.org).

Nov. 2 at 9:30 a.m. Enter at the Jerome Avenue entrance. For more information, call (718) 920-1469.

■ The NY Botanical Garden presents its **Greenmarket**, farmers market at the base of the Library Allee inside the Mosholu Gate entrance, Wednesdays through Nov. 27, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information, call (718) 817-8658.

■ Wave Hill, a Bronx oasis at 675 W. 252nd St. in Riverdale, offers **Family Arts Projects**: Armored Insects Parade, to make an insect mask followed by a parade at 12:30 p.m. (weather permitting), Nov. 2 and 3; and November Treasures, to gather nuts, acorns, and leaves, then glue them to a wooden or cardboard box, Nov. 9 and 10; both at the Wave Hill House from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Grounds admission is free Saturdays until noon all year, and free until noon Tuesdays in November. Glyndor Gallery **tours** take place Tuesdays and Saturdays at 2 p.m.; garden **walks** are held Tuesdays and Saturdays at 11 a.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m., from the Perkins Visitor Center. For more information and a schedule of events, call (718) 549-3200.

■ Bronx Museum of the Arts, 1040 Grand Concourse, between 161st and 164th streets, presents **First Fridays**, Nov. 1, featuring Matuto performing several genres of music, in the Lower Gallery, from 6 to 10 p.m. (included are free guided tours of the galleries and an art-making workshop); **Readings and Conversations**, Nov. 6 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., in the North Wing Lobby, featuring author Rev. Pura M. De Jesus-Coniglio (free guided tours of the galleries); and **1040 Lounge**, featuring live talks and performances, Nov. 8 from 6:30 to 9 p.m. in the 2nd floor North Wing. For more information, call (718) 681-6000 ext. 131.

■ The Bronx County Historical Society offers a tour, **"Belmont,"** Nov. 10 at 11 a.m., leaving from East Fordham Road and Arthur Avenue (\$10/members; \$15/non members). For more information and to RSVP, call (718) 881-8900.

■ The public is invited to ride the free **Bronx Culture Trolley**, which transports visitors on the first Wednesday of every month (except January and September), to free Bronx hot spots. Trolley night starts with a 5 p.m. reception at the Longwood Art Gallery at Hostos Community College, 450 Grand Concourse (at 149th St.). From there, the trolley departs at 5:30, 6:30 and 7:30 p.m. On Nov. 6, riders can visit exhibitions at the gallery, events at the Bronx Museum of the Arts, Bronx Documentary Center and BronxArt Space. Riders can get on and off at any scheduled stop and spend as much time as they wish at any or all of the featured

venues. For more information and a detailed schedule, call (718) 931-9500 ext. 33 or log on to [www.bronxarts.org](http://www.bronxarts.org).

## Exhibits

■ Poe Park Visitor Center, 2640 Grand Concourse (192nd Street), presents free, **Greener Pastures: Celebrating 125 Years of Bronx Parks**, through Nov. 16. Exhibit features 30 vintage and contemporary photos from the NYC Parks Photo Archives and vintage postcards highlighting the Bronx Parks system's history.

■ The NY Botanical Garden presents **Close: A Journey in Scotland**, through March 16, featuring creations of 21 notable contemporary designers and artists working in the Scottish landscape. For more information, call (718) 817-8700 or visit [nybg.org](http://nybg.org).

■ Bronx Museum of the Arts, 1040 Grand Concourse, 2nd floor North Wing, between 161st and 164th streets, presents free: **Paulo Bruscky: Art is Our Last Hope**, through Feb. 9 (live performances are scheduled for Nov. 1 to 24 at 11 a.m.); and **Tony Feher**; and **Orchard Beach: The Bronx Riviera**, both through Feb. 16. For more information, call (718) 681-6000 ext. 131.

■ The Bronx County Historical Society's Museum of Bronx History at the Valentine-Varian House, 3266 Bainbridge Ave., presents **History Woven Into Cloth**, selections from the Society's textile collection, through April 6. For more information, call (718) 881-8900.

■ The Bronx Council on the Arts presents **Esther Pagan: My Colors of Cancer and In the Headlines: Latino New Yorkers 1980-2001**, as part of BCA's First Wednesdays Bronx Culture Trolley, at Hostos College's Longwood Art Gallery, 450 Grand Concourse (at 149th Street), through Dec. 20. For more information, call (718) 931-9500 ext. 33 or (718) 518-6728.

■ The Bronx Documentary Center, 614 Courtlandt Ave., presents **Refugee Hotel**, through Dec. 1, Thursdays to Sundays, 2 to 7 p.m. Exhibition chronicles refugees during their first night in the United States and their lives in resettlement. For more information, call (718) 993-3512.

■ Lehman College Art Gallery, 250 Bedford Pk. Blvd., W., presents **Morphology of the Print**, through Jan. 8, which includes works that push the boundaries of printmaking. Student workshops will be available including art and architecture. For more information and a detailed schedule, call (718) 960-8731/2.

## Halloween Events

■ The Jerome-Gun Hill BID presents **Halloween Fright Fest**, on Oct. 31. Kids are encouraged to come in costume and take photos with Spiderman from 3 to 6 p.m. For more information, call (718) 324-4461.

■ The Woodlawn Conservancy presents Woodlawn Cemetery guided tour, **"The Sacred Departed" Halloween Tour**, featuring a tour-meets-theatre experience, Oct. 31 from 7 to 9 p.m. (\$25; discounts for members/seniors/students). Meet at the Jerome Avenue entrance. For more information, call (718) 920-1469.

■ Bronx Academy of Arts and Dance (BAAD), 2474 Westchester Ave. (new address), presents **Trick or Treat? Halloween Party and Open Stage**, Oct. 31 from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. Come in costume to this fundraiser to help support the move to the new location. \$10/ includes food, music and an open mic/open stage at 10 p.m. For more information, call (718) 918-2110 (new phone number).

## Library Events

■ The Bronx Library Center, 310 E. Kingsbridge Rd., presents programs for adults including **Learn a Language With Mango**: Nov. 6 at 2 p.m. and Nov. 10 at 1 p.m.; **Computer Basics**: Nov. 7 at 2 p.m.; **Internet for Beginners**: Nov. 8 at 2 p.m.; and **Veterans Week Film Screening**: "Lioness," about females in combat, followed by Q&A (refreshments served before screening), Nov. 12 at 6:30 p.m. Children can enjoy **film**: Nov. 5 at 4 p.m.; **Preschool Story Time at 11 a.m.**: Nov. 7 and 14; **Toddler Playtime at noon**: Nov. 7 and 14; **Leaf Book Making**: Nov. 7 at 4 p.m.; **Family Time**: Nov. 8 at 11 a.m.; **Story Hour**: (to age 12), Nov. 8 at 2 p.m.; and **Reading Aloud**: Nov. 12 at 4 p.m. Teens/

young adults can attend **Films at 4 p.m.**: Oct. 31. For more information, call (718) 579-4244/46/57 or visit [www.nypl.org](http://www.nypl.org).

■ The Mosholu Library, 285 E. 205th St., offers for seniors and adults: **Knitting Circle**: Thursdays at 3 p.m.; **Wii Program**: Tuesdays at 3 p.m.; and **Microsoft Word for Beginners**: Oct. 31 at 12:30 p.m. Teens/young adults can join **Arts & Crafts**: Nov. 12 at 3:30 p.m. Children can enjoy **Toddler Story Time at 10:30 a.m.**: (ages 18 to 36 months), Oct. 31, Nov. 7 and 14; **Reading Aloud at 4 p.m.**: (ages 3 to 12), Nov. 4; and **Bilingual Birdies**: (to age 5), featuring live music, puppetry, and games, concluding with a bubble dance party, Nov. 12 at 11 a.m. Foreigners can join **Free Intermediate Level English Conversation Classes**: (ages 18+), Tuesdays 6:30 to 8 p.m., Nov. 5, 12, 19 and 26. For more information, call (718) 882-8239.

■ The Jerome Park Library, 118 Eames Place, offers for children: **Kids' Active Health**: (yoga and zumba), Nov. 1 and 8; **Cooking**: Nov. 4; (all at 4 p.m.; for ages 5 to 12); and **Toddler Story Time**: (ages 18 to 36 months), Nov. 12 at 11 a.m. For teens/young adults, there is: **Mad Science**: Nov. 7; and **Cooking**: Nov. 14 (both at 4 p.m.); and for adults: **Computer Basics at noon**: Oct. 31, Nov. 5, 7, 12 and 14. For more information, call (718) 549-5200.

## Public Service Announcement

■ **Daylight Savings Time** ends on Sunday, Nov. 3 at 2 a.m. Turn clocks back one hour.

**NOTE:** *Items for consideration may be mailed to our office or sent to [norwoodnews@norwoodnews.org](mailto:norwoodnews@norwoodnews.org), and should be received by Nov. 4 for the next publication date of Nov. 14.*

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