



NORWOOD NEWS

Vol 29, No 22 • PUBLISHED BY MOSHOLU PRESERVATION CORPORATION • NOVEMBER 10-23, 2016



**INQUIRING PHOTOGRAPHER:
COMMUNITY BD. ROLE | PG. 4**



**SEE PICTURES:
HALLOWEEN IN NORWOOD | PG. 8**

SHAPING LOOK OF BEDFORD PARK

CB7 seeks input in determining community character



Photo by Adi Talwar

PRESERVING THIS SECTION of Bedford Park is the subject of an independent study by Community Board 7. Here, an apartment building at East 205th Street and Steuben Avenue is feet from a private home.

By DAVID CRUZ

Two neighborhoods falling within Community Board 7 will be the subject of an independent rezoning study by the board, in a move that revisits a request community stakeholders made years ago when rezoning efforts were happening in other parts of the district.

But the New York City Department of City Planning

(DCP), the agency tasked to devise the overall makeup of neighborhoods, will likely reject any plans to down-zone, a request community stakeholders have long sought.

The board has now scheduled a brainstorming forum for Nov. 16 to gauge residents on how sections of Kingsbridge Heights and Bedford Park, home to a sliver of private homes settled among the

droves of high-rise apartment buildings that largely circle the landscape, can remain that way. With a push to resolve the affordable housing crisis, the de Blasio administration is pressing for more development, a move many believe will further congest the already narrow neighborhoods, according to residents.

“The mayor’s office has a mandate to build as much

affordable housing as possible,” Sally Dunford, executive director of West Bronx Housing, a nonprofit housing resource group and Norwood resident, said. “They believe - and rightly so - that the largest cause of homelessness is the lack of affordable housing. I basically agree with the mayor’s office on this. But there has to be some common

(continued on page 15)



**Norwood Gets Out
To Vote | pg 2**



**Campaign to Restore
Parking Spaces | pg 5**



**Crime File
pg 7**



**Out & About
pg 14**

Vol. 29, No. 22

Norwood News is published bi-weekly on Thursdays by Mosholu Preservation Corporation (MPC)
3400 Reservoir Oval East
Bronx, New York 10467
Phone: 718 324 4998
Fax: 718 324 2917
E-mail: norwoodnews@norwoodnews.org
Web.: www.norwoodnews.org

Publisher
Mosholu Preservation Corporation
Executive Director of MPC
Melissa Cebollero

Editor-in-Chief, Norwood News
David Cruz

Accounts Receivable
Dawn McEvoy

Proofreader
Judy Noy

Regular Contributors
David Greene, Adi Talwar

Contributors
Daniela Beasley, Jaleesa Baulkman,
Wendy Joan Biddlecombe,
Miriam Quinones

**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 Corporation or Montefiore Medical Center. Editorials represent the views of the editor 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 the 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 upon request.

Mosholu Preservation Corporation is a non-profit support corporation of Montefiore Medical Center.

Montefiore
THE UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL FOR
ALBERT EINSTEIN COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST

Bronx Residents Head to the Polls to Cast Ballot, Voting Blue

By WENDY JOAN BIDDLECOMBE
and DANIELA BEASLEY

Donald Trump defied expectations winning the U.S. presidency in one of the more decidedly nasty election cycles in recent memory, changing the political landscape for the next four years.

In the lead-up to the polls closing at 9 p.m. on Election Day, where Bronx residents overwhelmingly voted for Mrs. Clinton, the *Norwood News* visited several sites in the neighborhood, observing voters casting their vote without much of a wait.

Outside PS 86 on Reservoir Avenue and 195th Street in Kingsbridge Heights, a steady stream of voters congregated under the scaffolding after casting their ballot.

Arturo Sealy, 53, hadn't planned to be one of them. But Sealy's niece changed that after calling to convince him to hit the voting booth. "At first I wasn't going to vote, but then I said, 'Let me go out and let my voice be heard.' I decided I had to cast my ballot because every vote matters," said Sealy, a window installer who wore a baseball cap that read "CIA: Christians in Action." "I don't want to vote for somebody who doesn't know about politics, somebody that cares about the people. No offense on Trump, but I haven't heard no good things from him, I haven't heard his point on the military or the economy. All I heard is a childish approach ... I don't want him in office."

Around 8 p.m., Wanda and Louis Corpan easily cast their votes at Glad Tidings Assembly of God on Van Cortlandt and Jerome avenues in Norwood. They said they felt more comfortable coming after work since the lines can be long and unpredictable when polls first open. They estimated Election Day 2016 went "90 percent smoother" than when they last voted two years ago.

Wanda, 45, a health and education advocate, said the most important reason for her coming out to vote was to represent Latino families in the community and make it known that "our voice can make a difference." She said she spent the past two years preparing for the election by fa-



Photo by Wendy Joan Biddlecombe

LOW VOTER TURNOUT made voting at PS 280 in Norwood a breeze.

miliarizing herself with the process and the candidates.

Shortly after sunrise on Tuesday, the election spirit was palpable, with excitement spreading down Jerome Avenue before many of the shops opened, with neighbors and shop workers calling out to each other, asking if the other had voted yet.

Voters who showed up at PS 280 on East Mosholu Parkway between Rochambeau and Steuben avenues early Tuesday were rewarded with sunny skies, crisp fall air and no wait times.

"We were trying to go as early as possible to beat" the lines, said Stefan Betters, 26, who works as a manager at Starbucks. "We were expecting to wait."

Betters and Christa Price crossed Mosholu Parkway wearing their "I Voted Stickers" around 7:30 a.m. Price, a 29-year-old social worker, said "defeating the Trump" was the reason they were out so early in the day to vote. As for the other candidates, Betters and Price said they read up on the candidates in races other than the election last night.

"We did a little bit of research and decided not to go with [U.S. Senator from New York] Chuck Schumer but [Green Party candidate] Robin Laverne Wilson," Price said. "But that was a last minute decision—we hadn't heard anything about her until last night and didn't know what was going to be on the ballot."

To their dismay, Schumer easily won.

As for how orderly they were, Gwen McSwain, voting at a polling site on Olmville Avenue, saw it was "much more crowded than the last" election cycle.

Dorothy Kaalund voting at the same location had a different outlook on her voting experience this time around. "Last time I came in and I walked in and walked out instantly, I did my thing and was gone, but not this time."

Seryi Betancourt, 30, said that the only candidate who knocked on her door this election season was running for a volunteer board position. Betancourt said she started reviewing the sample ballot about a week and a half ago.

"I'm not the kind of person who just votes for my party. It's the issues I care about," said Betancourt, a project manager at an ad agency. "I think I told my friends to view the sample ballot yesterday, though."

But sample balloting was not on the agenda of Kofi Busia, 58, who drove up in his off-duty yellow taxi to vote, and said that he's a loyal member of the Democratic Party. "I know who I have to vote for," said Busia, a registered Democrat originally from Ghana who said he voted in the last two presidential elections. "This campaign was tough. Thank God it's ended now."

Public and Community Meetings

COMMUNITY BOARD 7 will hold its general board meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 15 at 6:30 p.m. at North Central Bronx Hospital, 3424 Kossuth Ave. (17th floor). CB7 committees are held on the following dates at the Board office, 229A E. 204th St., at 6:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted: Traffic & Transportation Committee on Nov. 10; Veterans Committee on Nov. 10 at 7:30 p.m.; Housing, Land Use/Zoning Committee on Nov. 16; Environment & Sanitation Committee on Nov. 22; Health & Hospitals Committee on Nov. 22 at 7:30 p.m.; Economic Development Committee on Nov. 29; and Community/Long Term Planning Committee on Nov. 29 at 7:30 p.m. For more information, call the Board office at (718) 933-5650.

52ND PRECINCT COMMUNITY COUNCIL meets Nov. 17 from 7 to 9 p.m. at Williamsbridge Oval Recreation Center, 3225 Reservoir East. For more information, call (718) 220-5824.

Lessons in an Exhaustive Presidential Race

This presidential election will undoubtedly be pored over in history books for decades, examined by political scientists for its penchant for division over unity. It saw one of the unlikeliest of Republican presidential candidates, Donald Trump, square off against Hillary Clinton, an entrenched politician whose road to the White House was indeed bumpy. Their common denominator? They were pretty unpopular outside their base.

The race, bombarded into American minds to the point of exhaustion, also led to a civil war among Americans, turning political graciousness into a dysfunctional affair among the polls. It stands to reason that partisanship, fraught and apoplectic, will continue to be the order of the day.

And in looking back at the last 18 months, where developments along the campaign trail were akin to a soap opera, lessons were certainly picked up. These are lessons politicians of all kinds should heed.

The lesson here is the dangers of extremes. Never have we seen a presidential race where level-headed behavior was muted in favor of the loudest voices in a room. It was evidently clear in the unabashed support of Mrs. Clinton and Mr. Trump, inspiring social media hashtags such as “Never Trump” or “Trump Train,” further driving the wedge. It’s the extremes that produced the attention-grabbing headlines, leaving the more moderate tone in a lurch. For politicians to restore the trust, they must put moderate Americans at the forefront.

Another lesson is the growing crowd of Americans actively taking part in the process, redefining po-



Photo by Daniela Beasley

THE LONG LINE of voters at this co-located school in Norwood illustrates a passion to cast a ballot. If only there was this same fervor for the primary.

litical parties, shifting progressive policies to the mainstream, and demonstrating that Super PACs are not the be-all-end-all to winning an election. Critics of Bernie Sanders and Mr. Trump be damned—it was the unlikely voters who guided the race along. It’s too early to tell how many voters went to the polls, but the consensus was very clear: more Americans became involved. Their voice grew louder, as indicated by the ratings for televised presidential debates. Say what one will, the more active participation the better.

Their only flaw: They should listen to the other side. It became a popular sentiment that anyone who supported Mr. Trump was indeed crazy or out of touch. But perhaps Clinton supporters should pause in thinking why that’s the case. Trump supporters saw a

system that’s entirely broken, forcing them to consider a candidate with no political strings attached. Clinton supporters called it unhinged thinking, while Trump supporters saw it as an unfiltered look at reality.

There’s a belief that compromise is a form of weakness, where one’s values are in jeopardy by the mere hint of concessions. By arriving at the middle, can both sides be stronger. The constant fighting over the direction of this country this election season came with hardly an ounce of resolve. We are better together. As the saying goes, “A house divided against itself cannot stand.”

Passion can surely galvanize the masses, light a fire to take action. It was clear in this general election where many who’ve never cared about politics have taken an interest. But

some jumped the gun too quickly, sticking with a candidate well before they were truly vetted. Their only vetting is their unrelenting dislike for the candidate, a poor excuse. If you’re buying a car you typically do as much research as you can. The same principle can apply to deciding who will be your leader for the next four years.

Perhaps the most important lesson here is the public’s willingness to vote, despite the long lines and confusion that abounds a polling site. If only this fervor were to extend to the primary, particularly in the Bronx, where voter turnout is so low it hardly leaves politicians trembling. With the Bronx overwhelmingly voting Democrat, the Democratic incumbents always feel they are safe when the primary rolls around.

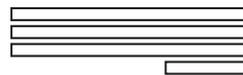
But should the same number of Bronx voters of the General Election come out for the Bronx primary, a contest arguably more aligned with their daily lives, it would produce the kind of accountability that would see the unqualified and downright corrupt leave office. More voters coming out in droves would signify less of a guarantee that the same perennial politicians will be voted into office. You want an electorate that can bring politicians to their knees.

Unfortunately, the Bronx has not caught up to that. We are still seeing dismal voter turnout numbers in a borough desperate to receive the kind of attention that can bring in resources to combat societal ills. Perhaps the fire that ignited this election will return in 2020. Only then will we realize if the lessons have truly been learned.

Have an Opinion On What You’ve Read In Our Paper?



The *Norwood News* loves,
welcomes and encourages
letters to the editor.



Write to:
David Cruz, Editor-in-Chief
Norwood News
3400 Reservoir Oval East



INQUIRING PHOTOGRAPHER

By DAVID GREENE



This week we asked readers their thoughts on the performance of local community boards and the service they perform for the community.



As a member of the community board, I canvass the neighborhood associations to find out their needs and I work with the members of my committee, which is the parks committee, to find out how we can improve the area. I also work with the sanitation committee as well and we do the same thing, especially with snow removal and street cleaning. I also try and get residents to come out to the meetings and if they can't come to the meetings, to petition and write to their elected officials and that has been successful in the way that we handle problems.

Arlene Drayton
Allerton (Parks Chair, CB #11)



I think the community board in general is a good thing. It's a stepping-stone for us to reach the politicians and it's also a bridge with the local police precinct and they echo our voices and concerns. Actually I do think they have enough power, because they do have a voice that is heard. But I do think the community should be more involved. We have to promote that and be a part of it.

Guillermo Zepeda
Bedford Park



No, I haven't had a lot of dealings with the community board, but now with what's going on in society, I'm definitely going to get involved. I see more problems and the neighborhood changed so drastically, it's heartbreaking to see this. But I do like that they will hopefully do something about it. But I hope I don't open my mouth and voice my opinion and nobody does anything about it, because everyone is afraid nowadays. The crime here is ridiculous, the mom and pop stores are all gone and the bars were like a sanctuary for people that live here and come home at night, because if you were getting mugged you could run into a bar. So I just feel a lot of the old neighborhood is gone.

Margaret Mancusi
Norwood



I had a neighbor who was very active in the local community board, and she wanted to get speed bumps along Williamsbridge Oval Park and it took awhile, but she persisted and with other members of the community they got the speed bumps and it's made a difference. It's safer.

Judith Quinonez
Norwood



Right now is a struggle and I'm trying to get some help with the roof of my building at the Parkchester Condominiums. As a result, I'm getting this backlash and it's not good because they raised our maintenance fees, despite their neglect. I went to the community board and they shushed me and they didn't want to hear it, because I was getting to the core of the problem. Senator [Ruben] Diaz was there, but he was no help with the red tape. Because of their neglect, why should our maintenance cost go up?

Evelyn Estrada
Parkchester

BAINBRIDGE NURSING AND REHABILITATION CENTER
IS PLEASED TO OFFER THE FOLLOWING SERVICES:

- Tracheostomy Care
- Short-Term Rehabilitation PT/OT/Speech 6 days
- Joint Replacement/Trauma Injury Recovery Program
- Specialized Stroke Rehabilitation Program
- IV Therapy
- Hospice and Palliative Care
- Specialized Wound Care Program
- Alzheimer's and Memory Care
- Therapeutic Activity Program
- Social Work Services
- Long-Term Skilled Care Services
- Psychological Services
- Sub-Acute Skilled Services

ADMISSIONS 7 DAYS A WEEK

BAINBRIDGE
NURSING & REHABILITATION CENTER

3518 Bainbridge Avenue Bronx, NY 10467
718-655-1991
www.BainbridgeCares.com

Campaign to Restore Parking Spaces on Fordham-Bedford Strip Mounts

By **DAVID CRUZ**

For neighbors living in one section of Fordham/Bedford Park, scouring for an overnight spot means traveling outside the neighborhood to look for one. In an ironic twist, spots are indeed available overnight in the neighborhood; residents just can't utilize them.

The roughly 80 street spots can be found at East 194th Street, between Valentine and Marion avenues. But a near 15-year parking rule restricts cars from parking there between 10 p.m. and 5 a.m., a stipulation instituted after crime spiked so much in the neighborhood it warranted the provision. It was intended to last for one year, but has since stretched for 14 years.

But crime's softened since those unruly days, and residents want to reclaim those spots, easing the hassle of searching for a spot that could be blocks from someone's home.

"You're punishing a community that's already growing," Aldo Perez, a community activist, said at a joint Community Board 7 Public Safety and Traffic and Transportation Committee meeting, which

focused on the issue. "You're also denying the progress of someone's growth in the community."

The committee ruled in favor of lifting the parking restriction. It now goes to the Traffic and Transportation Committee, which will likely issue a ruling in favor of the lift. It will later go to the full board, which will vote on the motion on Nov. 18. Should it pass, a request will be made to the New York City Department of Transportation, which handles parking change requests.

But lifting the ban poses a conundrum to those on the fence. If the parking ban is lifted, will this result in a crime spike? After all, it was in the late 90s and early 2000s that prostitution and drug use ran rampant inside the cars occupying the overnight spots. For the handful of residents who have seen those dark days, crime will just keep happening despite the current ban.

"That's not going to change anything," Alex Soto, a resident of East 194th Street, said of the lift.

A look at the New York City digital Crime Map shows there



Photo by David Cruz

OVERNIGHT PARKING COULD make a comeback on East 194th Street between Valentine and Marion avenues following a lengthy ban.

were a total of nine reported major crimes along the strip, including one report of a homicide between the months of June and September this year. In August, the Five-Two arrested more than 40 members of a crew that terrorized the neighborhood.

Soto, a resident living the neighborhood for 30 years, came to the meeting with his longtime

girlfriend, Angel Seymour, who called the ban "unnecessary" and a boon to the city reaping from fines and tows. "That's the only reason I see that happening," Seymour said.

In the streets, the consensus was clear: bring back the spots. Chavella Millian, a three-year resident on East 194th Street, said the lift would be a relief for her husband, who comes home during the overnight hours after driving a cab. DaMaris Cruz, an 8-year resident, said the neighborhood is safer these days thanks to the constant stream of cops patrolling the area.

The 52nd Precinct, which handles enforcement, supports the lift, though Detective June Cortez, with the precinct's Community Affairs unit, cautioned not to blame the police if "crime goes through the roof."

"We don't want to hear anyone saying, 'What's going on? Crime is going through the roof.' Because this is what the community wanted." Cortez warned. "You can't have both."

Northwest Bronx
30 University Neighborhood
Housing Program
Resource Center

TENANT HOUSING RESOURCE FAIR

For current tenants and apartment seekers in the Bronx

Wednesday, November 30th
5:30-8:30pm

Concourse House
2751 Grand Concourse, Entrance on E 196th

Informational Workshops and
On the Spot Assistance,
Eviction Prevention

Speak to legal
representatives about Tenant
Legal Assistance, Housing Court

NYC Rent Freeze program
applications & NYC
Housing Connect accounts

Free copy of your
Credit Report

**FREE Getting Ahead Financial
Education Workshop**
Begins Nov. 22nd—sign up today!
Covers credit, garnishment, budgeting &
more. Participants receive free copy of
their credit report along with an analysis.

RSVP: 718-933-2539 www.UNHP.org

Call UNHP for the Tenant Resource Fair or Getting Ahead. Servicios disponibles en Español.

THE FINANCIAL CLINIC
West Bronx Housing &
Neighborhood Resource
Center

POTS Part of the Solution
Empowering the Neighbors, Resolving the Confusion

NYC
Bill de Blasio
Mayor

Mayor's Community
Affairs Unit

citi

NORTH
WEST
BRONX

NYC TENANT
Support
Protecting your rights. Protecting your home.

NEW YORK STATE SENATOR
Gustavo Rivera

Students Examine Bronx River From Norwood's Edge

By JALEESA BAULKMAN

A pop-up museum on the Bronx River saw an exhibit that took a different tact: students opening it directly at the water source.

It was the kind of exercise that made for an interesting day at Bronx Community Charter School (BCCS) in Norwood, where students set up interactive exhibits at the Bronx River Forest, learning about the 24-mile waterway's history and restoration efforts.

"It's pretty incredible to go from our very urban environment and then walk behind our school building and be in the middle of a forest," Sasha Wilson, one of BCCS' founders leading the exhibit, said. "I think too often kids don't get to be out in the woods, don't get to explore nature. And I think that's particularly true of kids of color in the Bronx. So it feels really important for us all to have this experience together and to really own the river."

The one-day Bronx River Museum is a result of a six-week, all-school study. Each grade was assigned to study a different aspect of the Bronx River Forest, later presenting their findings along the Bronx River. Among the ecological subjects sixth graders learned was the existence of macroinvertebrates, tiny organisms that live in the Bronx River.

Their exhibit was near an opening of the forest near East 205th Street, with a trail leading to the body of water. Instructors handed nets to classmates and visitors looking to catch macroinvertebrates in the river. The first graders focused on plants and trees and they asked visitors to participate in an "observational drawing activity," by drawing a leaf.



Photo courtesy Bronx Community Charter School

STUDENTS HUDDLE AROUND a table set up inside Bronx River Forest learning about the variety of macroinvertebrates found along the river.

Sixth-grader Arlenis Nuñez said her favorite part of the all-school study was not just being able to catch organisms that live in the water, but also "helping other people learn about macroinvertebrates and showing them how to catch them."

It was Nuñez's enthusiasm of the river and forest that motivated BCCS staffers to organize the study and pop-up museum.

"So much of doing this study is about kids really feeling ownership over the river and the forest which is

right here in their backyard," Wilson said. "This[museum] was a chance for them to actually be at the river and share experiences at the river with their families and other visitors."

This is the third year the school has conducted an all-school study of the Bronx River, but this was the first time they had set up a culminating exhibit at the Bronx River Forest. Previously, the students' models and exhibits were presented in the classrooms. This year, the school decided to take the exhibits to the Bronx River For-

est, located right behind the school.

In the weeks leading up to the event, students visited the Bronx River weekly to experience the natural setting and conduct field research.

Wilson added that BCCS is an institution that believes in activism, a root cause for the Bronx River's revival that began decades ago. Once considered one of the top most polluted waterways in the United States — at one point it was used as a natural sewer to dispose of industrial wastes, the Bronx River eventually made a comeback that began in the 1970s. That effort was led by Bronx police Commander Anthony Bouza, who noticed a correlation between areas adversely affected by the Bronx River's pollution and higher crime rates, and began rallying for the reclamation of the Bronx. In the mid-'90s, their efforts gained more traction when more than 60 community organizations, public agencies, and businesses restored the river.

"We feel like we're a part of that team, a part of that effort," Wilson said about the charter school's Bronx River Museum.

Saint Gabriel School

PRE KINDERGARTEN 3 THROUGH GRADE 8

Free Universal Pre Kindergarten for children 4 years of age

718.548.0444

www.SaintGabrielSchoolBronx.org

Join us for Touring Tuesday, Nov. 15, from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.



CRIME FILE

By David Cruz



Unidentified Body Found

It was quite the scene at Bedford Park Café, after cops were called in for a body found inside the bathroom of the popular 24-hour diner during the pre-dawn hours of Nov. 8. The body of the 32-year-old woman was found unconscious and unresponsive, according to police, and was pronounced dead at the scene.

Police have yet to ID the woman. A call to the restaurant yielded no comment.

iPhone Thief on the Loose

NYPD needs the public's help in identifying a man suspected of snatching an iPhone 6 Plus from a 51-year-old victim on Oct. 9 at 20 E. 190th St. at around 3 p.m.

The suspect pictured below, is described as a dark-skinned Hispanic around 18 years old, standing at 5' 8" and weighing 150 pounds. He was last seen wearing a red hooded sweatshirt and long beaded necklace, dark blue jeans, and white sneakers.



Suspect in Shooting Death

Police are hunting for a man wanted in the shooting death of a 46-year-old victim killed in front of a deli at 2345 Jerome Ave. in the Fordham section of the 52nd Precinct on Oct. 25.

The victim was shot in the torso, and later rushed to St. Barnabas Hospital where he was pronounced dead.

Police, obtaining images, are now looking for a Hispanic man, pictured below, six feet tall in his 20s, was last seen wearing a light colored hoodie, a windbreaker, blue jeans, black sneakers, and a cap.



Thieves Rob 13-Year-Old

Three teens are wanted for a daytime robbery that happened on Sept. 27 inside an apartment building at East 191st Street. Police say the thieves followed a 13-year-old victim inside the apartment building and took his wallet and cell phone. The trio of

thieves quickly fled the building, running along East 191st Street.

The suspects are described as three male black teens, two wearing white hats, with one of them toting a black backpack. The third was wearing a black hat.

Deliveryman Robbed in Norwood

A deliveryman was robbed in the Norwood section of the 52nd Precinct on Sept. 23 at around 4 p.m. The victim, 68, had parked his car in front of 3129 Perry Ave. to make a delivery when a thief brazenly climbed into the driver side window and snatched money from the victim. He quickly ran off.

The suspect below, is a male Hispanic, said to be around 20 years old, standing at 5'8", and weighing 170 pounds. He has a light complexion and was last seen wearing a white T-shirt and long chain necklace, dark sweatpants, black slippers, and toting a dark backpack.



Robbers Pummel Victim

The NYPD hopes surveillance images can help track two people wanted for a vicious attack and robbery on Sept. 11. Police say the two suspects approached a 40-year-old man that morning at the corner of East 197th Street and Webster Avenue in Bedford Park where they attacked him, robbing him of cash and a Samsung smartphone, then fleeing.

The victim was taken to St. Barnabas Hospital and treated for lacerations to his face and head trauma. The suspects fled on foot and are described as follows:

Suspect #1 (top right) is described as a male black, last seen wearing a red T-shirt, black and white jogging pants, red sneakers, and has an afro.

Suspect #2 (bottom right) is described as a male black, last seen wearing a light colored T-shirt, black jeans, black sneakers and appears to be holding a black firearm in his left hand.

Anyone with any information on any of the above incidents is asked to call Crime Stoppers at (800) 577-TIPS (8477) or for Spanish, 1-888-57-PISTA (74782). All calls are kept confidential.



Photo courtesy 52nd Precinct

HOLDING UP DISTINCTIONS at an Oct. 27 presentation at Monroe College, for their work in a massive gang takedown in August are Police Officer Desiree Lia, Detective Michal Delgado, Police Officer Thomas Wolf, and Detective Anthony Karounis. They stand with (l-r) Jerry Landon, coordinator with the 52nd Precinct Explorers program; NYPD Chief Jesus Pinto; former 52nd Precinct Commanding Officer Joseph Dowling; President of the 52nd Precinct Community Council Brenda Caldwell-Parris; 52nd Precinct Commanding Officer Peter Fiorillo; and 52nd Precinct Executive Officer Captain Kevin Coleman.

52nd Precinct Honors Its Cops at Breakfast

As is the case every October since 2003, the 52nd Precinct paused to honor some of its officers during the annual Fellowship Breakfast hosted by the precinct's Community Council. Along with 17 officers honored, the Council also awarded recognitions to clergy, elected officials, and the *Norwood News*' editor-in-chief, David Cruz, for their contributions to the precinct covering Norwood, Bedford Park, Kingsbridge Heights, Fordham, and University Heights.

Among the categories was the

Take Down Award, presented to officers for making a big arrest. This year, the award went to Detectives Patrick Nicholas, Michal Delgado, and Anthony Karounis, and Police Officers Desiree Lia and Thomas Wolf for their involvement in a massive gang and weapon arrest along East 194th Street in Bedford Park in August.

"Their work will benefit this community for years to come," Deputy Inspector Peter Fiorillo, said at the presentation on Oct. 27 at Monroe College.

Halloween in Norwood

Norwood stood affright with ghosts, goblins and superheroes on Halloween, with separate events taking place in the community and surrounding neighborhoods.

Photos 1, 3, 4 and 6 by Miriam Quinones.



THESE KIDS GET SPOOKED by the scary dressings in Williamsbridge Oval Park's haunted house.



Photo courtesy Jerome-Gun Hill Business Improvement District
THE DARK KNIGHT (front center) leads a pack of trick-or-treaters during the Jerome-Gun Hill Business Improvement District's Halloween Parade along the commercial district.



FAMILIES WAIT TO ENTER the Williamsbridge Oval Recreation Center, which saw the neighborhood hangout spot turn into a haunted house. The haunted house event was sponsored by the New York City Department of Parks and the Friends of the Williamsbridge Oval.



ALONG THE JEROME-GUN HILL BID, this husky accompanies his master who is masked for Halloween.



Photo courtesy Montefiore Health System
AT MONTEFIORE HEALTH SYSTEM, Dylan Trochez, dressed as Deadpool, makes the ultimate sacrifice...giving up his candy. It was all for a good cause.



SUPERHEROES TAKE TO the streets...with their families on Halloween.

Want to Reach 40,000 Potential Customers???

Want to Increase Your Sales???

Advertise in the AWARD-WINNING NORWOOD NEWS



The ONLY newspaper covering your neighborhood

Affordable Rates Available!

Call (718) 324-4998 or email
norwoodnews@norwoodnews.org

*“Bainbridge is a wonderful place,
I have many friends and I get to socialize.
Why should I stay home alone
when I have a family here?”*

- Registrant since 1996



We would like to invite you to our

Open House!

This Monday & Thursday,
9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Find out how you or a loved one
can take part in our
Day Health Care Program in a
warm, caring, & nurturing environment.

SERVICES:

- Nursing, Medical Care and Health Monitoring
- Case Management and Coordination
- Therapy Services (physical, occupational, speech)
- Breakfast, Snacks, and Lunch provided daily
- Fun activities and trips
- Free Wi-Fi and access to computers



Free Door-to-door TRANSPORTATION!

Se habla español
Мы говорим по русски



**RSVP Contact
Adriana Garcia**

3518 Bainbridge Avenue • Bronx, New York 10467
Tel: (718) 653-2273 • Fax: (718) 882-6610
www.BainbridgeDayCares.com • info@BainbridgeDayCares.com

Open Enrollment Under Way in NYS

Open enrollment for health insurance under the Affordable Care Act has begun and will be in effect until Jan. 31, 2017.

Donna Frescatore, Executive Director of New York State of Health, shared that their main “focus is helping the remainder of New York’s uninsured find low-cost health insurance coverage.”

People seeking the most cost-effective and quality health insurance need to look at every health plan, found on New York’s official health plan so-called Marketplace website to make an informed decision on which plan is best for them. The site can be used to get an estimate of financial assistance and to see health plan options without inputting any private information. To use this tool, go to <https://nystateofhealth.ny.gov/individual>.

Consumers are eligible for tax breaks that can offset the increases in premiums and could potentially lower overall premiums for some people who get their insurance through the Marketplace.

Certain insurers will now be covering a specific number of sick visits with no deductible and some plans will offer additional services like adult dental and vision coverage. All Qualified Health Plans will remain the same as last year, offering the 10 essential benefits.

With the exception of Wellcare, an insurer that opted out of the Marketplace, all insurers will offer the same Qualified Health Plans now as they did in 2016. Wellcare will still accept Medicaid, Child Health Plus, and Essential Plan coverage.

Changes have also been made to offer coverage to more people by four health plans expanding the number of counties they serve and consumer materials now being translated into 27 different languages. Albanian, Greek and Tagalog have been added to the language list this year.

This enrollment period can also be used by New Yorkers eligible for the Essential Plan, Child Health Plus or Medicaid to sign up for the coming year. Enrollment is open year-round for employers with 100 or less employees to shop the Small Business Marketplace.

Although the enrollment period extends to January, applicants are encouraged to sign up by Dec. 15, 2016 to be sure that coverage is obtained by Jan. 1.

To use the anonymous shopping tool, go to <https://nystateofhealth.ny.gov/individual>

For more information on the Essential Plan, go to <http://info.nystateofhealth.ny.gov/EssentialPlan>

To learn more about NY State of Health, go to <https://nystateofhealth.ny.gov/>



OPEN ENROLLMENT FOR healthcare coverage can be found on the New York State Department of Health’s website (pictured). Open enrollment closes Jan. 31, 2017.

For Devil Dog USA Founder, Every Day is Veterans Day

By **DAVID CRUZ**

Back in 2003, Gonzalo Duran had wrapped up wrestling practice at DeWitt Clinton High School when a military recruiter passed him by. The recruiter asked him a question: do you want to join the United States Marine Corps. (USMC)?

"I said, 'okay,'" Duran says, recalling a critical point in his life that changed his trajectory.

Eight years later, after serving eight years in the USMC, rising to the rank of sergeant, and being one of the thousands of military troops deployed to fight in the Iraq War, Duran, now a military veteran, saw the need to do right by his fellow military veterans. But it's not under the banner of patriotism, Duran notes, but doing "what I think is the right thing to do."

So began Devil Dog USA, a nonprofit group Duran founded in 2011 to help with veteran-related causes by serving as a resource pipeline on benefits while also organizing monthly get-togethers that build upon military camaraderie. He's created a network of employees and volunteers as far as Hawaii to help spread his message, with a shoestring budget. Still, Duran claims the nonprofit, a nickname the Germans used to describe U.S. Marines during the infamous Battle of Belleau Wood in France, has helped 5,000 people.

"The ones that I help are people who fall between the cracks," Duran says. "The people that actually have gone to the [Veterans Administration], the Housing Department, the people that have gone to every resource and they have nothing left, then I come in and

say, 'I got you.'"

The group, one of the few active nonprofit groups for veterans in the Bronx, wasn't formalized until 2012, when Duran's endeavor became a full-time calling. Elevating his cause was learning a fellow veteran, Fordham University classmate, and group volunteer was homeless, just like Duran briefly was after leaving the service.

"My idea of becoming a doctor was thrown out the window," Duran says, "and I jumped full throttle on this."

Since then, he's organized events that included a talk at Fordham University by retired Marine Corps. Colonel Oliver North, day trips golfing at Turtle Cove, scuba lessons, and a forum on domestic violence last month. On Nov. 5, Duran organized an awards presentation, with Devil Dog USA supporters, Joseph Rhonda, Debbie Powers, and Alfredo Castillo receiving distinctions.

Duran relishes in the work he does, chronicling it through an active Facebook page where he's featured in photos at award recognition events, meeting with community stakeholders or just hugging folks he's come across (Duran estimates that a hug will lower the chances of a veteran committing suicide). He's still looking to attract Bronx legislators to his cause, hoping to set up satellite offices inside legislators' offices. If it doesn't work out, the father of two is perfectly fine with that.

"I've walked through the streets of the Bronx," Duran says, "and I've walked through Iraq. I'm still here living, fighting the good fight."



Photo by David Cruz

DEVIL DOG USA founder and Marine Sgt. Gonzalo Duran (center) chats with Angel Garcia (right), owner of Angel's, and Estrella Diaz, a local business owner.

YOUNG ADULT INTERNSHIP PROGRAM



We are currently recruiting motivated individuals with a desire to enter the workforce for our YAIP. Program begins November 14, 2016.

- 14 week FREE program featuring Job Readiness Training
- Paid internships
- Job Placements
- College placement assistance

To qualify, you **must** be a New York City resident ages 17-24, Unemployed and Out of school.

Slots are limited so don't wait! Call a YAIP representative at (718) 652-0282 for more information. Registration is every Friday at 12 pm.



MOSHOLU MONTEFIORE COMMUNITY CENTER

3512 DEKALB AVE BRONX NY 10467 | 718-405-0020 | WWW.MMCC.ORG

Shop Fordham Road

"THE OUTDOOR MALL EXPERIENCE"



**OVER 300
SPECIALTY SHOPS
AND CHAINS**



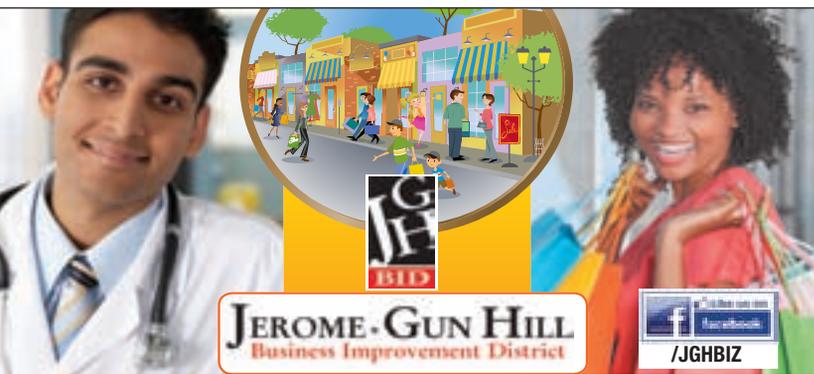
FORDHAM ROAD

BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

For more information contact (718) 562-2104

Furniture • Home Improvement
Clothing • Jewellery • Shoes
Electronics • Discount Outlets
Cell Phones • Games,
Accessories • Office Supplies
And Many Fast Food Restaurants

Accessible By All
NYC Mass Transportation
Parking Facilities Available



JEROME-GUN HILL
Business Improvement District



BIG SAVINGS

**THROUGHOUT THE JEROME-GUN HILL AREA!
COME SHOP & SAVE BIG ALL YEAR ROUND**

Over 200 Stores on Jerome Avenue from Mosholu 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 or visit us at www.jeromegunhillbid.org



Classifieds

Professional Directory

PEDIATRIC SERVICES

Tiga Pediatrics

3510 Bainbridge Avenue, Suite 5, Bronx, NY 10467. Ages 0 to 21 years. General Practice, Obesity, Asthma, ADHD Same-Day Appointment Every Day! (718) 881-8999

COMPUTER SERVICES

Computer Repair

Upgrade, troubleshooting, laptop overheats, cracked screen, broken power jack, virus removal, data recovery. Call James (646) 281-4475, (718) 324-4332.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

Epiphany Lutheran Church

A place of grace in Norwood. 3127 Decatur Ave., Bronx, NY Phone: (718) 652-6839 Website: www.epiphanybx.org WORSHIP Sundays at noon; BIBLE STUDY Wednesday nights at 7 p.m.; THRIFT SHOP Fridays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America - God's work -- our hands

TRIPS

Trip to SUGAR HOUSE CASINO in Philadelphia and **PREMIUM OUTLETS MALL**, Sunday, Nov. 20, 2016 at 8:30 a.m. from East 163rd Street and Hunts Point Avenue. For more information, please contact Eddie at (718) 757-5485.

HELP WANTED

The C.O.V.E. seeks a part-time maintenance worker. Must be 18 or over; \$15/hr for 3 hours bi-weekly. To schedule an interview, contact Ms. Prescott at (718) 405-1312 or (347) 449-3016.

Head Cook - Mosholu Montefiore Community Center is seeking a full time Head Cook for our Senior Center. The ideal candidate will have 2+ years' institutional food preparation experience, including supervising food production and kitchen staff, ordering food products, creating and following menus as per DFTA and DOH guidelines, maintaining kitchen sanitation and safety standards, assisting in safety training and procedures, complying w/ state, local and regulatory agencies. Experience developing nutrition programs for Senior Citizens a +. HS degree and Food Handler's certificate required. Culinary training a +. Competitive salary and benefits. Submit cover letter and resume to: jobs@mmcc.org.

DISCLAIMER NOTICE

Notice of Non-Discriminatory Policy. It is the policy of Citadel Care Centers, not to discriminate on the basis of race, creed, religion, color, national origin, sex, gender, handicap, disability, blindness, source of sponsorship, source of payment, marital status, age, sexual preference, genetic predisposition, or carrier status in employment or in the admission, retention and care of residents and patients. All persons and organizations that have occasion to either refer prospective residents or patients to the Citadel Care Centers (The Plaza Rehab & Nursing Center, Citadel at Kingsbridge Rehab & Nursing Center, Hudson Pointe at Riverdale Center for Nursing & Rehabilitation and St. Barnabas Rehabilitation and Continuing Care Center) are advised to follow this non-discriminatory policy.

SERVICES AVAILABLE

Piano teacher makes home visits. Learn to read music. \$35 per half hour. Call Mr. Brooks, BM (718) 916-6730.



APARTMENTS FOR RENT

LANGSAM PROPERTY SERVICES CORP., AMO®
A COMPREHENSIVE REAL ESTATE SERVICE ORGANIZATION

1601 Bronxdale Avenue • Bronx, NY 10462 • T 718 518 8000 • F 718 518 8585
www.langsampropertyservices.com

NEIGHBORHOOD NOTES

Free Legal Services

The Office of Councilman Andy King is hosting a free civil legal services mobile van for Bronx residents in front of his district office, 940 E. Gun Hill Rd., on Nov. 22 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Lawyers will be on hand to assist with family issues, immigration, and more. To set up a required appointment, call (718) 684-5509.

Housing Help and Finance Workshop

University Neighborhood Housing Program (UNHP) offers two programs at Concourse House, 2751 Grand Concourse (entrance on East 196th Street): Tenant Housing Resource Fair will be held on Nov. 30 from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. where apartment seekers and current tenants will have access to on-the-spot assistance and resources on eviction prevention, rent freeze, tenant legal assistance, housing lottery appli-

cations, making sure your credit is not a barrier, and more. A free five-week "Getting Ahead Workshop" will begin on Nov. 22 from 6 to 8 p.m. and will cover financial worries about debt, credit, garnishment, banking products, savings, and more. Participants receive a free copy of their credit report. For more information or to RSVP, call (718) 933-2539.

Bird Watching at VC Park

Van Cortlandt Park features free bird walks Saturdays from 8 to 9:30 a.m. through November. Meet at the Nature Center, 246th Street and Broadway. For more information, contact Joseph McManus at McManus638@aol.com.

Tenants Organization Meeting

A forum on tenants' rights and organizing will take place on Monday, Nov. 21, from 7 to 9 p.m., at Vladeck Hall, 74 Van Cor-

tlandt Park S. For more information, call Public Advocate Letitia James' office at (212) 669-4968.

State Gov't. Internships Available

Some 400 spring internships with New York State government offices are available for NYS residents who are undergraduate and graduate students at colleges and universities in NYS and elsewhere. To apply, log on to nysinternships.cs.ny.gov to view job descriptions, create profiles, upload resumes, writing samples, and letters of recommendation. Deadline is Dec. 23.

Free Turkey Raffle

The Office of Assemblyman Mark Gjonaj is holding a turkey raffle through Nov. 20. Applicants must live within the 80th Assembly District. To submit your name, address and phone number for the raffle, call (718) 409-0109.

Housing Assistance Night

NYS Assembly Speaker Carl E. Heastie and Councilman Andy King are hosting a free "Homeowners & Renters Service Night" at the Williamsbridge NAACP Early Childhood Education Center, 680 E. 219th St., Nov. 17, from 5 to 8 p.m., for landlords, tenants and homeowners who need assistance with housing issues. Attorneys will address all types of housing issues and programs for low-income seniors and the disabled. For more information, call (718) 684-5509.

College Financial Aid Help

A workshop for college bound students on understanding the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) will take place Nov. 19, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Fordham University, Fordham Road and Third Avenue on the first floor of the Hughes Building. For more information, visit collegegoalNY.org.

Concerned Dental Care, Bronx - 55 E. Mosholu Parkway North, Bronx, NY 10467 - Phone: (718) 652-7370



Looking for a Reason to Smile?

Concerned Dental Care are dental professionals whose mission is to provide patients with caring, gentle and quality dentistry at affordable prices.

We are people that care about people.

Choose Concerned Dental Care as your provider today

- Calming and comfortable treatments to relieve toothache pain fast
- Extensive certification and expertise backed by over 38+ years of expertise
- Our specialists include: Orthodontics, Oral Surgery, Periodontics, Root Canals, Cosmetic Veneers, Implants, Invisalign, Braces, Dentures and more
- Emergency appointments for people in pain



CONNECT WITH US



Book an appointment today by calling us at
718.652.7370



REFER A FRIEND,
EARN \$25
TOWARDS
TREATMENT

Only valid when referral attends an appointment.



FREE
ORTHODONTIC
CONSULTATIONS

Bronx and Westchester
locations only.



20% OFF
FIRST CEREC
SAME-DAY CROWN

Bronx and Westchester
locations only.

Out & About

Compiled by JUDY NOY

EDITOR'S PICK

Motown Music at NYPL

The public is invited to enjoy **A Musical Tribute to the Music of Motown**, performed by NYC pop/jazz vocalist Julia Childs and the Ladies of Soul, Nov. 19 at 2:30 p.m., at the Bronx Library Center, 310 E. Kingsbridge Rd. For more information, call (718) 579-4244/46/57 or visit www.nypl.org.

Onstage

Lehman College's Center for the performing Arts, 250 Bedford Pk. Blvd. W., presents **Dracula**, performed by Canada's Royal Winnipeg Ballet, Nov. 13 at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$25 to \$75. The \$75 VIP tickets include a pre-concert wine and hors d'oeuvres reception from 4 to 5:30 p.m. For more information and to RSVP, call (718) 960-8833.

The Bronx Arts Ensemble, 80 Van Cortlandt Pk. So., presents vibes virtuoso **Jay**

Hoggard Quartet/Harlem Hieroglyphs, Nov. 19 at 8 p.m. For more information, call (718) 601-7399.

Bronx Academy of Arts & Dance (BAAD), 2474 Westchester Ave., presents **My Brother Is a Keeper**, play about friends living their dreams, Nov. 12 at 3 and 8 p.m. (\$15); **Between Lines/Bronx Passport**, featuring dancers, Nov. 18 at 8 p.m. (\$20); and **Imelda, Iveth & Irene**, featuring solo performance concert, Nov. 19 at 8 p.m. (\$20). For more information, call (718) 918-2110.



Photo courtesy New York Botanical Garden

THE ANNUAL TRAIN SHOW at the New York Botanical Garden will open the weekend of Nov. 19. (See under "Events" for details)

Events

The New York Botanical Garden presents the **Holiday Train Show**, opening weekend, Nov. 19 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Nov. 20 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., in the Enid A. Haupt Conservatory. The exhibition features numerous NYC landmarks made from plant parts and large-scale model trains. New this year is the Coney Island roller coaster. On Nov. 19 from 7 to 10 p.m., there will be **Bar Car Night**, for adults 21+ which includes street performers, ice sculpting demonstrations, stilt walking and a dance theatre. The Pine Tree Cafe hosts musicians (\$25/members; \$35/non members; advance tickets recommended). Also scheduled is **Evergreen Express**, Nov. 19 from 10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. and Nov. 20 from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., in the Everett Children's Adventure Garden, for children to explore plant parts, make crafts, create a train puppet and join a musical marching parade. In addition, there are tours: **Notable Trees Tour**, Nov. 19 at 12:30 p.m. to view a variety of trees (meet at the Reflecting Pool at the Leon Levy Visitor Center); and **Fall Garden Highlights Tour**, Nov. 19 at 2:30 p.m. and Nov. 20 at 12:30 p.m., to view landscapes and architecture. Also, there is **Holiday Tree Lighting**, Nov. 20 from 4 to 5:15 p.m., in the Leon Levy Visitor Center, featuring a sing-along of carols with the Westchester Chordsmen. For more information, call (718) 817-8700.

The Bronx Country Historical Society presents **WWI Camp at Van Cortlandt Park**, a group-led walking tour around the VC Park Parade Ground, Nov. 19 at 11 a.m. (\$10/members; \$20/non members). Meet at Burger King, 6077 Bdv. near West 242nd Street. Wear comfortable shoes and bring water. Also scheduled is **Grand Concourse Reminiscence**, free lecture illustrated presentation to listen to history of buildings, monuments and architectural heritage on this famous roadway, Nov. 12 at 1 p.m., at the Bronx County Archives, 3313 Bainbridge Ave. For more information and to RSVP, call (718) 881-8900.

Wave Hill, a Bronx oasis at 675 W. 252nd St. in Riverdale, offers **Family Art Projects**: Dances With Leaves, to fashion leaves into a festive crown or artful arrangements, Nov. 12 and 13; and Cornhusk Dolls, to hear Native-American tales, then make a

cornhusk doll or doll family (storytelling at noon), Nov. 19 and 20; all in the WH House from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Grounds admission is free until noon Saturdays and Tuesdays all year. For more information and a schedule of events including tours and walks, call (718) 549-3200.

Library Events

The Bronx Library Center, 310 E. Kingsbridge Rd., presents the following for children: **Hands-On Projects**: (ages 7 to 12; preregistration required), Pumpkin Card Making, Nov. 10 at 4 p.m.; Thankful Hand Making, Nov. 17 at 4 p.m.; and Turkey Making, Nov. 20 at 3:30 p.m. Teens/young adults can attend **Mutt-i-grees**: to help a shelter animal find a forever home, Nov. 10 at 4 p.m. Adults can enjoy **Computer Basics**, Nov. 10 at 2 p.m.; **film**: "My All American," Nov. 12 at 2:30 p.m.; and **Chess for Adults**: Nov. 18 at 3 p.m. (chess set provided). For more information, call (718) 579-4244/46/57 or visit www.nypl.org.

The Mosholu Library, 285 E. 205th St., offers for children: **Creating Art Through Geometry & Color**: (ages 6 to 12), Nov. 12 and 19 from 1 to 3 p.m., workshop to learn about different cultures that use geometry to create art throughout history, then create your own artwork design using drawing and collage. Parents and guardians are encouraged to participate. Teens/young adults can attend: **film**: "The Legend of Tarzan," Nov. 12 at 1:30 p.m. Adults can enjoy: **Free Computer Classes**: to learn email and basic computer information, Wednesdays, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.; and **Knitting Circle**: Thursdays at 3 p.m. For more information, call (718) 882-8239.

The Jerome Park Library, 118 Eames Place (near Kingsbridge Road), offers for children: **Kids Get Active Fridays**: (ages 5 to 12), dance moves on the Wii game console, Nov. 18 at 3 p.m.; and **Kids' Pajama Party**: featuring read-alouds and activities, Nov. 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 norwoodnews@norwoodnews.org, and should be received by Nov. 14 for the next publication date of Nov. 24.

Jazz
JAY HOGGARD QUARTET

Saturday
November 19, 2016
8:00 pm
Fieldston School
Student-Faculty Lounge
3901 Fieldston Road, Bronx

JAY HOGGARD QUARTET
performs BALLADS, BOP,
and BLUES, and music that
blends jazz and gospel roots
with AFRICAN MARIMBA
RHYTHMS

Jay Hoggard, vibraphone
James Weidman, piano, organ
Belden Bullock, bass
Pheeroan AkLaff, drums, percussion

\$32 in advance;
\$40 at the door
bronxartsensemble.org
718 601-7399

BronxArts
Ensemble

CB7 Launches Independent Study of Bedford Park Neighborhood, Wants Input

(continued from page 1)

sense along with it -- and these streets are just way too narrow to support tall buildings.”

Working on the independent study is Paula Luria Caplan, CEO of The Collective for Community Culture and Environment (CCCE), an urban planning firm. Caplan, hired by the board at a total cost of \$25,000, had worked as deputy director of planning and development for the Bronx borough president and was a registered lobbyist for Boyle Auto Wreckers in 2009.

“[W]e will be looking at how to suggest fine tuning the zoning map so that it reflects the desires of the community,” said Caplan, attending the Oct. 18 Community Board 7 meeting that confirmed her hiring. “The recommendation that we make will be what we think City Planning will do and then they do their own study, but our objective is to give you something that will be ‘good for you.’”

Studying Bedford Park

The Bedford Park area studied stretches from East 201st to East 204th streets, a section zoned as an R8, a distinction that allows apartment buildings 10 to 12 stories high. Longtime

neighbors have pressed upon the city to down-zone the neighborhood to an R5B, seeing it as impossible for high-rise buildings to re-occupy spaces given the narrow streets that would toughen the search for parking, pack the overly burdened schools and stretch public transportation.

The purchase of 267 E. 202nd St. in Bedford Park by a developer intending to build an apartment building maximizing the neighborhood’s current zoning laws became a jumping off point for community stakeholders to broach the subject of downzoning once again.

“The push from the mayor is build, build, build,” Barbara Stronczer, president of the Bedford Mosholu Community Association (BMCA) and Community Board 7 member, said at a recent BMCA meeting. “When you live in a community where you have certain character, you don’t want to lose that either.”

Sheila Sanchez, a community activist attending the BMCA meeting on Nov. 2, noted that the plan to build more housing doesn’t appear aligned with the need to increase demand for “more schools, more supermarkets, more everything.” For schools, the

prospect of more students will indeed pose a problem. Bedford Park and Kingsbridge Heights fall within School District 10, one of the more overcrowded school districts in the Bronx. A briefing compiled by the New York City Council in March 2016 showed the School Construction Authority would have to build a total 5,192 seats to fix the overcrowding issue, which may be years in the making. Within the Norwood, Bedford Park and Kingsbridge Heights neighborhoods, a total of 3,384 are currently needed.

An increased population in Bedford Park and Kingsbridge Heights can also strain the already crowded subway system. A report by the Straphangers Campaign, a rider advocacy group, pegged the 2, 4, and 5 trains, subway lines that are within walking distance of Bedford Park and Kingsbridge Heights, as some of the most crowded. Passengers riding the B and D, train lines that fall between both neighborhoods, have a higher chance of getting a seat, according to the report.

And should more development come to the neighborhoods, developers are not obligated to build in-house garages, a stipulation nixed follow-

ing the passage of new zoning amendments under the Mandatory Inclusionary Housing and Zoning for Quality and Affordability.

In a statement to the *Norwood News*, Joe Marzulli, a DCP spokesman, said while “community efforts inform our work,” downzoning is not an option for Bedford Park. “The agency has examined the Bedford Park area and found that the mixed development that already exists in the area would not support a planning rationale for a downzoning. This has been communicated to CB7 on multiple occasions, most recently in May 2016,” Marzulli wrote. Much of that decision is driven by the overwhelming number of apartment buildings matching the zoning distinction. “However, DCP is available to advise on issues that would be appropriately addressed through zoning changes and issues that would be better addressed through other means.”

Editor’s Note: *The brainstorming forum is scheduled for Nov. 16 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Sister Annunciate Bethell Senior Center, 243 E. 204th St. For more information, call (718) 933-5650.*

ADVERTISE TODAY

in the

NORWOOD NEWS

Nearly 40,000 readers means 40,000 customers.

SELL YOUR BRAND. MAKE MONEY.

Advertise in the Norwood News. **Call 718-324-4998.**

NORWOOD NEWS

3400 Reservoir Oval E. • Bronx, NY 10467
718.324.4998



St. Patrick's Home

Rehabilitation & Health Care Center



"Where it all began"

- Short-Term Rehabilitation
- Physical, Occupational & Speech Therapy
- Daily Mass in our Chapel
- Restorative Nursing
- Wound Care
- Therapeutic Recreation
- Memory Program
- Palliative Care
- Pastoral Care
- Psychological Services
- Gift Shop & Coffee Shop
- And many other services...



66 Van Cortlandt Park South, Bronx, NY 10463

Tel: 718-519-2800

Fax: 718-304-1817

www.stpatrickshome.org

Carmelite Sisters Serving the Aged Since 1929



FACEBOOK.COM/STPATRICKSHOME

<http://www.leroyrx.com>

"Your Family Drugstore"

Est. 1970



Services Include:

- **EBT** • **WIC CHECKS** • **OTC CARDS**
- **Specialty Pharmacy** • **We Do Compounding**



Ostomy, Surgical & Diabetic Supplies, Free Blood Pressure Testing, Vitamins, Nutritional, Health & Beauty Aids, Cosmetics, MetroCards, Housewares, Household Items, and much more...



10% Discount For Senior Citizens (excludes cigarettes and sales items)

WE ACCEPT

Medicaid, Medicare, Medicare Part D, CVS Caremark

Most Union Plans & Third-Party Insurances



NOTARY PUBLIC



Hours: Monday-Friday: 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Saturday: 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Sunday: 10 a.m.-6:30 p.m.

314 E. 204th Street ♦ Phone: (718) 882-5614 ♦ Fax: (718) 882-6365