



NORWOOD NEWS

Vol 31, No 9 • PUBLISHED BY MOSHOLU PRESERVATION CORPORATION • APRIL 26-MAY 9, 2018

**INQUIRING PHOTOGRAPHER:
PROBLEMS AT NYCHA | PG. 4**



**SEE PICTURES: CB7 HONORS
BRONX VETERANS | PG. 9**

SPECIAL ELECTION RESULTS

Nathalia Fernandez Wins Assembly Race, Must Run Again in September



Photo by Adi Talwar

NATHALIA FERNANDEZ (AT PODIUM) wins the special election race for the 80th Assembly District, covering Norwood.

By DAVID CRUZ

Nathalia Fernandez was used to working behind the scenes. Now she's front and center.

Fernandez secured her victory at the April 24 special election for the 80th Assembly District seat, allowing her to soundly de-

feat Republican challenger Gene DeFrancis, founder of the Allerton International Merchants Association. Fernandez, winning by more than 1500 to DeFrancis's 300 (official numbers by the Board of Elections won't be available for a few weeks) now succeeds her

former boss, former Assemblyman Mark Gjonaj.

Her win automatically makes her the district legislator serving Norwood, parts of Bedford Park, Allerton, Pelham Parkway, Morris Park, and Van Nest. Fernandez' position as Gjonaj's chief of staff

exposed her to those communities.

"I am so honored and so humbled," said Fernandez, reading from prepared remarks in a soft spoken tone. She spoke to supporters at an election night party held at Maestro's Caterers.

(continued on page 15)



**CB7 Chair Steps
Down, Remains
Member | pg 4**



**Fire Takes Out 7 Stores
In Fordham
pg 5**



**The Bronx Food Fight
pg 10**



**Out & About
pg 14**

NORWOOD NEWS

Vol. 31, No. 9

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

Director of MPC

Jennifer Tausig

Editor-in-Chief, Norwood News

David Cruz, dcruz@norwoodnews.org

Accounts Receivable

Dawn McEvoy

Proofreader

Judy Noy

Interns

Mary Mellon, Niall Ridgley, Martika Ornella

Regular Contributors

David Greene, Adi Talwar

Contributors

Miriam Quinones, Julia Rist, Jose A. Giralt

**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.



IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST

State Strong-arming Park Reservoir Houses Into Loan, Tenants

By DAVID CRUZ

Rosa Perez, 61, a retired social worker, has called Park Reservoir Houses (PRH) home for the last 30 years calling it a “hidden gem of the city.” Like all cooperators, she pays her monthly maintenance fees for the state-funded Mitchell-Lama complex in Van Cortlandt Village.

But those fees could skyrocket by 100 percent if the state Department of Housing and Community Renewal (DHCR), which regulates Mitchell-Lama buildings, gets its way.

“Many have spoken to me indicating that they will need financial support from their family and friends to make up the difference of the proposed increases because of DHCR delays,” said Perez, in an email to the *Norwood News*. “Many have spoken about having to move and/or request transfers to smaller apartments.”

The increase stems from a \$15 million loan the cooperative's board of directors approved to secure and earmark for a massive top-down renovation of the near 60-year residence. As part of the state-backed Mitchell-Lama program, PRH offers affordably priced rentals and co-ops to middle-income New Yorkers. As a board, the body can dictate how it finances its projects.

But just what type of loan both sides want is where the wrench has been thrown.

Interest Rates

Andrew Kimerling, the board's president, ran the numbers. As an accountant, Kimerling suggested that a so-called 10/30 loan at a 30-year amortization rate of four percent would be the best cost-saving measure for cooperators. That loan would set up a balloon payment to be satisfied 10 years from the time the loan is secured, meaning



Photo by David Cruz

PARK RESERVOIR HOUSES (pictured) was built in 1957, and is one of the oldest Mitchell-Lama residences still in the program.

cooperators will pay a small upfront charge, which Kimerling calculated at \$20 per room. The current rate is \$15 per room. The board approved for the loan application, despite DHCR believing it's too risky.

Still, the board took their proposal and was met with resistance by DHCR Commissioner RuthAnne Visnaskas, suggesting a 30/30 loan with a \$1 million subsidy loan attached instead.

The catch? The board would have to give up its right to determine whether to stay in the Mitchell-Lama program. Boards of directors usually reserve that right should they want to privatize.

“The board determined that it alone should not make a decision that would have such a substantial and long-term effect on future generations of Park Reservoir cooperators,” wrote Kimerling in a letter to cooperators.

As the months go on, so does the increase in the four percent interest rate. “Unfortunately, until the state has its conference with the cooperators and

then approves the loan, we cannot lock in our rate,” wrote Kimerling in his letter.

It's unclear what prompted Visnaskas to attach these conditions. State-operated Mitchell-Lama cooperatives have steadily exited the program, with not a single Mitchell-Lama residence built in the last few years. This has caused waiting lists for a Mitchell-Lama apartment to jump, leaving it harder for middle class earners to easily secure an apartment.

By opting out of the program, cooperators in Mitchell-Lama residences can sell their apartments at a market rate price should they have satisfied the mortgage. Gary Axelbank, vice president of the board, emphasized that the board's decision to opt out has nothing to do with the option of selling at market rate.

Politics at Play?

Kimerling suspects political forces at play. Visnaskas is an appointee of

(continued on page 8)

Public and Community Meetings

COMMUNITY BOARD 7 committee meetings are held at their office, 229A E. 204th St., unless otherwise noted: Health & Hospitals Committee meets on May 1 at 7:30 p.m.; Environment & Sanitation Committee meets on May 2 at 6:30 p.m.; Education, Youth & Libraries Committee meets May 2 at 7:30 p.m.; Traffic & Transportation and Public Safety & QOL will hold a joint committee meeting on May 3 at 6:30 p.m.; Veterans Committee will meet May 3 at 7:30 p.m.; Housing, Land Use & Zoning Committee will meet May 8 at 6:30 p.m.; Senior Services Committee will meet on May 9 at 6:30 p.m.; and Parks & Recreation Committee will meet May 9 at 7:30 p.m. For more information, call the board office at (718) 933-5650.

BEDFORD MOSHOLU COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION meets May 2 at 8 p.m. at 400 E. Mosholu Pkwy., So., #B1 (lobby floor). For more information, email bedfordmosholu@verizon.net.

Demian Bichir Ana de Armas

Montefiore PRESENTS

CORAZÓN

DIRECTED BY **JOHN HILLCOAT** WRITTEN BY **KELLEY SANE**
PREMIERED DURING THE **TRIBECA FILM FESTIVAL®** 2018
WATCH AT **CORAZONFILM.COM**

A SERIAL PICTURES AND JOHNXHANNES NY PRODUCTION



By DAVID GREENE

INQUIRING PHOTOGRAPHER

With the naming of Stan Brezenoff as interim chairman of the New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA), we asked residents at local housing complexes the specific problems in their buildings and solutions to the bureaucracy of living in a city-run housing complex.



The staircases look like crap. I've been here 14 years and they were messed up since I got here. We have rats and mice running around. Maintenance is not doing their job and the residents don't really care as long as they make it through another day. It's terrible here.

Joseph Liborsi
Fort Independence Houses (Kingsbridge)



They don't fix anything. First of all, they all say that they're coming, but they never come. Every Friday, Saturday and Sunday there's no water. They turn off the water. I don't know what's going on, but they say it's some problem. They don't know anything, they just want the money. They don't do anything. You take a day off from work and they don't come and then they say that they were there and you weren't home. That's not true. That's a lie; we're always home. The elevator is a mess and people leave the garbage in the hall and the bedbugs come into your house. There's a lot of problems. When they don't fix the elevator, I have to walk up 19 floors because there's no elevator.

Patricia Herrera
Castle Hill Houses (Castle Hill)



First and foremost, I believe the administration isn't doing a good job as far as maintaining the infrastructure. We have a lot of problems as far as gas leaks. We don't know when the water is going to be turned off. Most of the time the doors are unlocked, so we don't know who's inside of our building, so we don't feel too protected. We don't have any cameras here. A friend of mine was killed in another building, on the 14th floor. Another issue is we don't have enough of a police presence. They need to come out more in the community, so we know who the police are, so we can communicate with them. One other thing I would say is they need to actually bring in more people with a stable financial background, as far as working and not just collecting a check. They need to bring more people in that have money, just to keep the community's economy running. I think there are more issues than there are solutions.

Edwin Williamson
Monroe Houses (Soundview)



Oh, there's plenty of issues here. The first is they don't respond in time to make repairs. I've been waiting for five years for them to paint my apartment. I had holes in my ceilings, holes in my walls—it took them about five years to fix that, they finally fixed it—but they never painted and they refuse to paint. And the holes are already opening again. The building is never cleaned, it's always dirty. There's no garbage cans around. Right over there they dug a hole in the dirt and my apartment is right above this hole and it's brought a bunch of different insects. It's backup from the sewer. They just started it and I don't see anyone working on it and it's been this way for about three months now. Management does nothing, they don't listen to the tenants. I would tell them they need to make repairs in a timely manner. I had no heat in the winter, from November to March. I didn't get heat until March 20, just in time for spring.

Taisha Thaler
Throgs Neck Houses (Throgs Neck)



We often have no heat and no hot water. When we try and talk to the manager, they give us the assistant manager and she just says it's not her problem and we have to wait for the manager. We had no heat for the entire winter and now that it's spring, the heat just stays on during the springtime. We also have no ventilation in our bathroom. For two years we've been complaining, and it still hasn't been fixed. We have some loud neighbors. The police come, but they don't even turn the music down. The music stays on. The heads of NYCHA visit all the other complexes, why not Pelham? We haven't seen any changes here.

Joselyn Martinez
Pelham Parkway Houses (Pelham Parkway)

CB7 Chair Steps Down From Role, Pledges to Remain Member

By DAVID CRUZ

Adaline Walker-Santiago, the chair of Community Board 7 who brought a cheerleading style to her leadership, unexpectedly resigned on April 17. In her announcement to members and the general public at the latest community board meeting, Walker-Santiago pledged to remain a member of the north Bronx board. Her resignation as chair is effective April 30.

But sources tell the *Norwood News* Walker-Santiago was forced out over years of forging poor relationships with the board's string of district managers.

Shortly after her announcement, Walker-Santiago told the *Norwood News* that her decision to step down stemmed largely from freeing up her time. She said she plans to travel abroad, spend more time with family, and focus more on her professional background as a life coach.

For the last five years, Walker-Santiago served as chair of

the board covering Norwood, Bedford Park, Kingsbridge, Fordham, and University Heights. She succeeded Paul Foster, a former board member. In her time, Walker-Santiago has hosted numerous public events, including a summit on synthetic marijuana, a women's empowerment event, and an honorary brunch for military veterans, while praising her members for their volunteer servitude to community.

But a source familiar with Walker-Santiago's reasons for resigning said her decision was also prompted by political pressure from Councilman Ritchie Torres, who told her to step down following her relationships with the last previous district managers. Walker-Santiago is a Torres appointee.

Torres, through a spokesperson, denied the charge. "I applaud the public service of Adaline Walker-Santiago, whose resignation was ulti-



Photo by Jose A. Giralto

ADALINE WALKER-SANTIAGO (R) with former CB7 chair Nora Feury shortly after Walker-Santiago announced her resignation.

mately a personal decision. As to your question, I am in charge of overseeing investigations in New York City government. I am a busy man, as you might imagine, and I have neither the time nor the inclination to micromanage the affairs of local community boards," Torres wrote in his statement.

Walker-Santiago said the

same, deferring to her prepared remarks she made at the general board meeting.

Sources told the *Norwood News* that Walker-Santiago made unreasonable demands of her district managers and was unwilling to give them credit on accomplishments they made.

Community board chairs

are not, though they direct the actions of the district manager, a salaried administrator who serves at the pleasure of the board. Walker-Santiago's powers extend beyond the board. As the sitting chair of a board where the Kingsbridge Armory is located, Walker-Santiago was allowed to choose members of the Kingsbridge National Ice Center's Community Advisory Committee.

Barbara Stroncz, the board's first vice chair, will assume the role of chair until the board votes in a new chair.

As for Walker-Santiago's successor, a decision will likely be made in June after members nominate interested candidates at the May general board meeting. Among those considering to run is Jean Hill, a member who serves as chair of the Land Use, Housing & Zoning Committee.

Additional reporting by Jose A. Giralto

E. 204th St. Bldg. Partially Comes Down

By DAVID GREENE

A developer making interior renovations to a section of property that could become a state-of-the-art mini-mall, may have gotten assistance from Mother Nature as a wind and rain-storm brought down a section of the building's facade and roof.

No injuries were reported in the April 16 collapse. The affected shops, which include the now closed Miramar Grocery and Botanica along Hull Avenue have been closed for more than a year.

The property was recently purchased by Brooklyn developer Transition Acquisitions, which was looking for several chain stores to sign leases, before turning the dilapidated 75-year-old building into a two-story mini-mall.

According to Department of Building's (DOB) records, "DOB inspectors observed that the building suffered a partial roof and exterior wall collapse to the adjacent sidewalk. The owners of the building have permits for the interior renovation of the building-and the project was already under way at the time of the collapse."

According to the DOB, the owner received a violation for failing to maintain the building and was ordered to install a construction barrier around the property and hire a structural engineer to perform emergency work to stabilize the building.

DOB also issued a full vacate order of the entire property, forcing the lone tenant, MetroPCS, out of the building.



Photo by David Greene

WOODEN BOARDS ARE now up surrounding the site where the roof to a building under renovations partially collapsed.

WWW.
NORWOODNEWS.
ORG

Fordham Fire Guts Seven Stores

By DAVID GREENE

It took four hours and nearly 200 firefighters to knock out a massive blaze that destroyed seven businesses in Fordham.

Fire officials say the blaze broke out at 5:28 a.m., on April 24, inside JaveMTS Income Tax, at 316 E. 194th St., between Marion and Bainbridge avenues. The blaze then spread to stores on either side of the income tax business, gutting the Spin City Laundromat, 3 Sisters Pizza, Marion



Photo by David Greene

A LARGE PLUME of smoke can be seen hovering over the seven businesses that went up in flames.



Photo by David Greene

CREWS WORK TO extinguish the blaze that impacted a row of stores along East 194th Street near Marion Avenue.

Pharmacy, the Unisex Barber-shop, the Hnos Perez Beauty Salon, and the Fu Wang Chinese Restaurant. Plumes of smoke spread across the neighborhood, permeating neighboring Kingsbridge Heights. A short time later the roof of the Marion Pharmacy and Laundromat collapsed.

In the final hour of the blaze, firefighters had evacuated the supermarket and were attempting to defend the structure from the roaring flames. The fire was eventually brought under control at 9:22 a.m.

One witness, who declined to use her name for this article, recalled, "We woke up around 5:30 a.m. We live right there, so we saw everything." The witness showed a video on her cellphone, adding she thought the fire started in the pizza shop.

The property was built in 1958 and is owned by Marion Avenue Management, a limited liability corporation.

Fire officials reported using 198 firefighters from 44 different units from across the borough. There were no reported injuries.

Bailey Has Plan to Fix SHSAT Entrance

Low-income students with dreams of attending one of New York City's specialized high schools will finally have an equal shot at admittance if new legislation is passed.

State senators Jamaal T. Bailey, representing Norwood, and his colleague Toby Ann Stavisky introduced a legislative package geared at widening diversity in specialized high schools by making the admission process more equitable.

Black and Latino students accounted for only 11 percent of those admitted to specialized high schools in 2016, despite making up 68 percent of the city's entire student body.

According to Department of Education (DOE) admissions data, black and Latino students account for just eight

percent the Bronx High School of Science's 2016 student body, down from 19 percent in 2003.

According to Bailey and Stavisky, low-income middle schoolers can't afford expensive prep courses for the Specialized High School Admissions Test (SHSAT), putting them at a disadvantage compared to wealthier students. The bill would also target the disproportionate levels of pre-test tutoring between black and Latino students, and Asian-American students, who have the highest rate of admittance to specialized schools.

The lack of economic and racial diversity in specialized high schools has personal implications for Bailey and Stavisky, who both attended Bronx Science High School. "Attending Bronx

Science opened many doors that led to my success. Income status and ethnic background should not be factors of whether a student has the opportunity to attend these schools," said Bailey.

The proposed bill would create a pre-SHSAT exam to prepare students for the real test, along with expanding test prep initiatives like the DREAM-SHSI (Specialized High Schools Institute) and the Discovery Program, which are geared toward low-income students yet are not widely available or publicized throughout the public school system.

The bill would also establish a diversity commission to monitor the fairness of admissions policies and programs.

BMCA Bats Around Ideas for Preservation

Bedford Park residents are trying another tactic to ward off overdevelopment in the neighborhood: preservation.

Kelly Carroll, who works for the Historic Districts Council (HDC), a landmarks advocacy group, met with neighborhood residents at the April 4 Bedford Moshulu Community Association (BMCA) meeting to discuss the prospect of landmarking certain sections of the neighborhood. Apart from making sure “the landmarks preservation commission behaves itself,” HDC educates the public, and meets with communities to address their concerns about preservation.

“So what we can help with is getting to know the neighborhood. If there’s an active interest in preservation here it would be great for this association to determine which buildings you would want for landmarking,” said Carroll. “And then we can offer support such as writing letters, meeting with your councilperson, getting in touch with other electeds, and using our email lists to put pressure on those various entities including the landmark’s preservation commission.”

Bedford Park began to develop in 1869 and was intended to be built as a suburb in the city. Overdevelopment has been a key concern for the neighborhood in recent years. Developers have been attracted to Bedford Park’s proximity to public transportation and relatively low crime.

Carroll said one of the biggest challenges facing landmark preservation is fear. The idea that the cost of landscaping will have personal repercussions, or that people will lose the ability to make changes to their homes, are often concerns. Carroll explains that this is counterintuitive.

“[T]he landmark’s law is actually supposed to stabilize neighborhoods, not to gentrify them. If anything, communities are desiring landmarking more than anything because it takes the incentive away from developers to tear things down and then build them taller,” Carroll said.

Right now Bedford Park is just considering their options. Community members in the neighborhood showed some interest in specific possibilities, such as creating walking tours of the area.

—Mary Mellon

Norwood News Wins Four Prizes at Statewide Contest



Photo by Adi Talwar

NORWOOD NEWS EDITOR-IN-CHIEF David Cruz (l) with third place photographer of the year winner Adi Talwar pose with their prizes at the paper’s office.

By the NORWOOD NEWS

The *Norwood News* took home four prizes this year at the New York Press Association (NYPA), the best number in recent memory.

David Cruz, editor-in-chief of the paper, took home a First Place prize in the News Story category at the Better Newspaper Contest, for his piece on rent histories questioned by a nonprofit housing advocacy group. The story was written in March. Judges called the story “fundamental reporting at its best.”

Though the prize put him at the top, it was Adi Talwar’s Third Place award for Photographer of the Year that stood out. Talwar beat out 17 other photographers across the state to make it to the top three. He also won Third Place for Photographer of the Year in 2016.

“We are so proud of Adi for going above and beyond the duties of a photographer, and treating every picture as a work of art,” said Cruz.

The judges at NYPA said Talwar “did a great job of turning everyday events into images you wanted [to] dive deeper into.” Among Talwar’s photos submitted for this event included portraits of a well-known homeless man in Norwood, the new



Photo by David Cruz

ADI TALWAR (L) IN October 2017 taking a shot that will eventually win him third place photographer of the year by the New York Press Association.

principal of St. Philip Neri School, and a landscape shot of East 194th Street, an area for opioid use.

He was also awarded a Third Place prize for Best Feature Photo, which captured moments that happened during Community Board 7’s annual Holiday Lighting event. The submitted entry included a child gazing at the colorful lights of the holiday tree.

The fourth award the *Norwood News* won included an Honorable Mention prize in the Spot News category for its coverage of the Bronx Lebanon Hospital shooting rampage that happened on July 2.

NYPA is the largest trade organization for newspapers across the state. Organizers said 156 newspapers submitted 2,783 entries.

Cohen Visits Norwood Pantry Amid Rising Demand

By NIAL RIDGLEY

Luis Diaz, a Bronx resident, is overjoyed as he shakes Councilman Andrew Cohen's hand. He asks for a picture, saying, "I want to show people that, you know, I know big people."

A photo was snapped at Unique People Services (UPS), located at 3510 Bainbridge Ave. Diaz has been getting assistance there since 2014. He's since moved into a role as a pantry volunteer.

Diaz put the need for pantries in clear terms, saying, "It's more than just food, it's being aware."

The Bainbridge UPS pantry was founded in 2009 and operates via discretionary funds from the New York City Council and donations from the Food Bank of New York and United Way.

Cohen's visit served to demonstrate the importance of the UPS program as well as to introduce himself to residents, like Diaz, who comprise its backbone.

"I try to support people who are helping themselves and helping the community," said Cohen. "That's really been my charge and I am going to keep doing it."



Photo by Niall Ridgley

(L-R) UPS PANTRY VOLUNTEER Luis Diaz, Councilman Andrew Cohen, UPS Executive Director Yvette Brissette-André, UPS Director of Mental Health Services Michael Ealy.

Cohen recently allocated funds for Mosholu Montefiore Community Center's first-ever food pantry. His visit and donation to MMCC comes as the Bronx remains the hungriest borough, according to a 2017 report by New York City-based Hunger Free America.

Funding, not demand has been the challenge for local pantries. The UPS pantry has seen its number of re-

cipients steadily rise. "We [now] feed around 1500 people annually from our food pantry – and we are relatively small," said Yvette Brissette-André, UPS executive director.

Putting the growth in perspective, distribution has grown from 20 to 200 bags per month since the pantry's opening, according to Michael Ealy, UPS director of mental health services. Originally, the

UPS program's goal was to improve recipients' diets, but now they serve to address the broader issue of hunger in the Bronx. They recognize that, for some, the pantry is a matter of survival.

Diaz is acutely aware of this necessity, being both a recipient and a volunteer. Without the pantries, he says, "a lot of people would go starving. They probably will do bad things to get money, to meet their needs."

"You got a lot of kids out there that are really starving," added Diaz. "They go to school hungry. Please come and donate. We need all the help we can get for people everywhere."

Brissette-André and Ealy emphasized that donations of either food or money are more than welcome. Any size donation helps. The pantry is also looking to move to a larger space where more food could be stored, meeting the increasing demand. UPS is hoping a local church would like to partner with UPS and host a larger version of the pantry.

Editor's Note: Interested donors can reach UPS at www.uniquepeopleservices.org or at (718) 231-7711 and ask for Brissette-André or Ealy. The pantry is open from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Wednesday.

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



Bag It!

Dog Waste Bag Stations Placed Along Mosholu Parkway

By DAVID CRUZ

There won't be many excuses not to pick up after your dog on Mosholu Parkway going forward.

The Parks Department says 16 dog waste bag stations have been installed across the 1.2-mile walkable greenway by the New York City Parks Department. The stations contain clean plastic bags intended for dog owners to pick up after their pooches. A Parks Department spokesperson said the installation project was finalized two weeks ago costing roughly \$1400.

"This will be a perfect opportunity now for us to educate the public even further," wrote Elizabeth Quaranta, president of Friends of Mosholu Parkland, a volunteer advocacy group for the park side of the parkway, in a letter to the Parks



Photo by Martika Ornella

SIXTEEN DOG WASTE bag stations can be found throughout Mosholu Parkway, courtesy of the city Parks Department.

Department outlining her thanks.

But as grateful as Quaranta is about the newest addition aimed at keeping a cleaner parkway, she worries that just the installation of the bags, and not a container to place the poop, will not completely resolve the issue, although public wastebaskets can be found along the parkway.

"We are concerned that the purpose of having the dog waste [bag stations] is not completed unless it has a bin attached to it so people can throw the used baggie near the pole," Quaranta told the *Norwood*

News. "We still have the issue of people leaving the used doggie bag on the sidewalk or thrown in the parkland."

According to Quaranta, the Parks Department told her there's simply not enough manpower to have any containers picked up on a weekly basis.

Through a Parks Department spokesperson, the agency's First Deputy Commissioner Liam Kavanagh said in a statement to the *Norwood News*, "These dispensers will encourage dog owners to be responsible and keep their neighborhood parks clean for other park goers."

Mitchell-Lama Squabbles

(continued from page 2)

Governor Andrew Cuomo, who is in the middle of running for re-election. With the preservation of affordable housing championed by New Yorkers given the state of affordable housing across the city, preserving the stock of Mitchell-Lama housing is politically tactful, whether PRH likes it or not.

"Governor Cuomo is trying to lock in all Mitchell-Lamas into staying under state supervision so he can claim just how much he has done to maintain affordable housing throughout New York State. Until his new DHCR commissioner came aboard last fall, DHCR had no problem approving 10/30 loans. The playing field has now been artificially changed. And the state is offering subsidy loans as the hook to keep Mitchell-Lamas in the system for another 20 to 30 years," Kimerling told the *Norwood News*.

Sally Dunford, executive director of West Bronx Housing, which advocates for fair housing, said DHCR's headstrong position is politically motivated, but doesn't "mean that it's not a good policy." "Mitchell-Lama has proven itself to be a really good program and a great place where middle class and working class people can live and develop communities," said Dunford. "The communities we've seen in the Bronx—where you look at Park Reservoir, for example, or look at Concourse Village—and you can see it's fairly decent housing at a decent price and [that's] something that the Bronx increasingly needs."

Cuomo has favored Mitchell-Lama preservation, setting aside \$30 million in 2017 for the program. Monies were earmarked for loans to Mitchell-Lama residences.

Even if the board accepted the terms, the upfront fees would be too much for cooperators. Instead of the \$20 fee per room, cooperators would be expected to pay \$30 per room, according to Kimerling's estimates.

"While I understand why the folks at Park Reservoir are uneasy about this, I do think it's part of something that is part of the greater good of the community," said Dunford. "So I understand why the state's doing it."

A DHCR spokesperson said in a statement that the agency's "mission is to ensure the long-term financial viability and affordability of Mitchell-Lama developments. That hasn't changed and will not change."

Housing Advocates Alert Tenants of Right to Counsel

By MARTIKA ORNELLA

The citywide effort to spread word on the city's Right to Counsel (RTC) law continued at Monroe College on April 12 by a coalition pushing for greater awareness of the law.

The Right to Counsel NYC Coalition (RTCNYC) brought a cadre of lawyers and activists under one roof for the town hall, warning residents of the unscrupulous methods some landlords employ to evict tenants. The Right to Counsel law was enacted last year, offering low-income New Yorkers legal representation in the ever chaotic housing court.

Tenants attending housing court because of a nonpayment notice or those being sued by landlords must show up to court, where non-profit legal aid attorneys hired by the city are available for legal counsel.

Those eligible for RTC in the Bronx must:

- Live within Bronx zip codes 10457, 10467, and 10468
- Earn under \$24,000 annually for individuals, and under \$50,000 for four-person families
- Have received an eviction notice or are being sued by their landlord

The median individual annual income in Norwood is under \$22,000, mak-

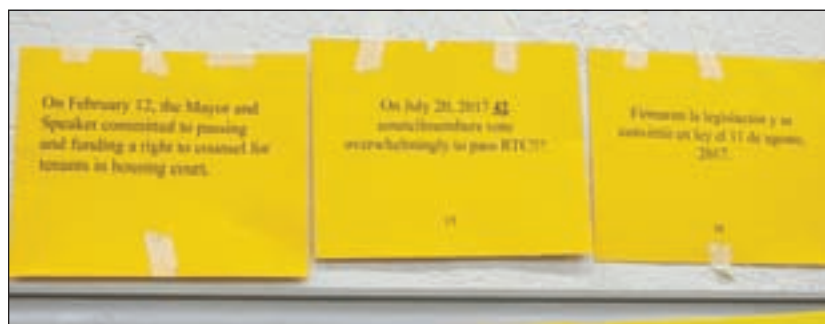


Photo by Miriam Quinones

A TIMELINE OF how Right to Counsel became law.

ing most local residents eligible for legal counsel under RTC.

The passage of RTC was a major win for housing rights advocates and low-income tenants. At the town hall, RTCNYC stressed how important it is for low-income tenants to seek legal counsel, especially when up against landlords who can afford to have seasoned lawyers backing them.

Among the tips advocates also gave tenants is holding off on signing any document they're presented with in court without legal representation.

Being without legal representation could increase one's chances of getting a judgment filed against them in housing court, which can negatively impact

credit reports, making it difficult to apply for a loan or get an apartment.

New York City is the first in the country to offer right to counsel to low-income tenants in housing court. While currently only available to select zip codes within the five boroughs, RTC is set to be implemented citywide by 2020.

The RTCNYC Coalition also offers consultation to tenants being harassed by landlords, or those with home repair issues.

Editor's Note: *Bronx residents can call (929) 252-7681 to find out if they're eligible for counsel. They can also visit www.evictionfreenyc.org for more information.*

CB7 Veterans Brunch

FIVE MILITARY VETERANS were recognized for their accomplishments at Community Board 7's Veterans Brunch Awards, held at Herbert H. Lehman College on April 20. Honored this year were Nestor Cabrera, US Army and Navy; Petty Officer Doug Condit, US Navy; Claude Copeland, US Army; Marisa Estrella, US Army; and NYPD officer Crystal Reveron, US Army. Honorees were presented with an American eagle-designed award. Supporters of the event included Golden Crust and Applebee's as well as several local elected officials. Photos are by David Greene.



NYPD OFFICER CRYSTAL Reveron, a veteran of the US Army, with her son outside Herbert H. Lehman College shortly after the event.



MARISA ESTRELLA, US ARMY veteran serving as a specialist and Chaplin Assistant, holds up her honor.

**GRAB YOUR
SEAT AT NYC'S
\$16 BILLION TABLE**

GET YOUR BUSINESS NYC M/WBE CERTIFIED TODAY!

CELESTE RAMIREZ
President & CEO
CARA Construction Management, Inc.
M/WBE Certified 2006

Visit nyc.gov/mwbe

YOU'VE BUILT YOUR BUSINESS IN NYC, AND NOW NYC WANTS TO INVEST IN YOU.

The Mayor's Office of Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises (M/WBE) provides minority and women entrepreneurs with opportunities to more easily do business with the City. Get M/WBE certified and get your business access to low-interest loans, one-on-one assistance, corporate mentorships, and more.



EXTRA! EXTRA! EXTRA!

Our readers can be
your customers

ADVERTISE in the...

NORWOOD NEWS

- Reach nearly 40,000 readers in the Bronx
- Take advantage of LOW rates
- One price has your ad in paper for two weeks
- Rates NEGOTIABLE

CALL (718) 324-4998

Or email dcruz@norwoodnews.org

The Bronx Food Fight

Part 5 of 5

A Bronx Salad is Tossed in Battle to Reverse Health Outcomes

The Norwood News, WFUV, BronxNet TV complete their five-part series profiling food insecurity across the Bronx.

By JULIA RIST of  **WFUV**.org

Johlany Tejada is a first grader at an afterschool program operated by BronxWorks, a social services non-profit. Johlany has attended the program for two years and says that one of her favorite parts of the day is sitting down to eat. But her favorite snack isn't what one would consider typical elementary school fare. It's the Bronx Salad. "When I tried it, it tasted like it came straight from the trees and they just put water on it and it tasted very healthy," Johlany said.

The Bronx is known as a food desert, which means residents have limited access to healthy foods. The Bronx Salad was first developed in an effort to combat this. Bronx Health Reach and SoBro, both Bronx-based non-profit groups, are responsible for the conception of this salad. While the salad is available to everyone, it's primarily targeted at kids. One of the main goals of the Bronx Salad is to change local perceptions around healthy eating.

The culinary mind behind the Bronx Salad is Chef King Phojanakong. Phojanakong is the owner of the Kuma Inn in Manhattan and also created the Bronx Greenmarket Hot Sauce. Phojanakong said that when Bronx Health Reach and SoBro reached out to him about creating a salad, he wanted to make sure he was representing the diversity of the Bronx with the ingredients. "I wanted to use ingredients that were familiar to the community and accessible in restaurants," Phojanakong said. "With Latino ingredients like beans, corn, mango, avocado, plantains, cilantro, peppers and onions, and Italian flavors with olives, olive oil and tomatoes."

Bronx Health Reach created a Bronx Salad tool kit, so that anyone can replicate Phojanakong's recipe.



Image still by BronxNet

ITZEL PREPARES TO TAKE her first bite of the Bronx Salad. The salad is aimed at promoting healthy eating for young kids and teens.

"I have high hopes for the Bronx Salad," Phojanakong said. He added that the most important aspect of the Bronx Salad isn't how many salads are sold, but the prospect of changing the community's overall health.

The Bronx Salad is part of the #Not62 initiative, a response to the Robert Wood Foundation's 2016 study that ranked the Bronx the unhealthiest county in New York.

A Growing Food Desert

Dr. Sean Lucan, an associate professor at Albert Einstein College of Medicine, has conducted several research projects about the food environment in the Bronx. Lucan said there is a stark contrast in the availability of healthy foods in the Bronx compared to other boroughs like Manhattan.

"You can find calories in the forms of things to eat and drink almost anywhere you go, but the percentage of those items that are healthful or good choices vary," Lucan said. "These are oftentimes the only things that are available."

Lucan said that food options often have a direct effect on health outcomes. During his 15 years practicing medicine in the Bronx, Lucan observed extremely high levels of obesity lead to illnesses like diabetes. "Obesity rates are going up, and the rates of diet-related diseases that are linked to obesity are also on the increase," Lucan said.

A 2014 study conducted by the Food Bank of New York City found that 250,000 residents in the Bronx are food insecure, meaning they don't have reliable access to enough affordable, nutritious food.

BronxWorks is working to change that. It partners with three community centers to bring healthy choices to elementary and middle school students in afterschool programs. Rachel Gill, a kitchen manager at BronxWorks, said a big part of creating initiatives like the Bronx Salad is to improve the community's overall health by offering "a recognizable healthy choice that also [represents] the flavor of the community."

Healthy Food Exposure

Gill said exposing kids to healthy food at a young age will increase the chances of them making healthy food choices as adults. She said kids are more impressionable than adults, so it's easier to change bad eating habits early.

Right now, the Bronx Salad is sold in a dozen bodegas and eateries. The salad is also served at a number of community centers with the help of non-profit organizations like BronxWorks. Gill said another challenge is ensuring that healthy foods like the Bronx Salad are more readily available to the community. "This stuff isn't available everywhere," she said, "so part of what BronxWorks does is advocate and put on lots of programming to increase access to healthy choices like the Bronx Salad."

Gill said getting adults to choose to buy the Bronx Salad is another issue. For some people, it's about not having enough time or money to eat better. The Bronx Salad is offered for free at several community centers and dozens of school cafeterias. The Mott Haven Bar and Grill sells the Bronx Salad for \$13.95.

Gill said the best hope for the Bronx to change their rank on the Robert Wood Foundation's study is to invest community efforts in developing initiatives focused on the next generation.

Kehlani Muhammad, a fifth grade student, is enrolled in one of BronxWorks afterschool programs. She said that she eats the Bronx Salad almost every day. Kehlani said that after learning all about the salad and making it herself, she would gladly choose the Bronx Salad over a bag of chips. "It's very healthy for you, and it's also that it could help you grow stronger," Kehlani said.



HEALTH CHECK

Donate An Organ And Save a Life

By **TINA BLOCK**

In 2018 there are almost 10,000 New Yorkers on the list waiting for an organ donor. Living donation of a liver or kidney from family, friends and even anonymous individuals offers the best chance for patients to reduce waiting time and improve success of transplants.

What is Living Donation?

Everyone should register to be an organ donor in the event of death, but becoming a live donor is actually an opportunity to save a life while you are still living. To be considered, potential donors must be adults over 18 and in good

health. Medical conditions that may prevent safe donation include uncontrolled high blood pressure, diabetes, cancer, HIV, hepatitis, acute infections, or mental illness.

Living donation is not covered by your donor registration card and must be considered personally and discussed directly with a transplant center. Living organ donation surgery was developed as a way to address the critical shortage of deceased donors.

Of those awaiting a donor organ, 82 percent of patients waiting are in need of a kidney and 13 percent of patients waiting are in need of a

liver. Living donation offers an alternative for individuals awaiting transplantation from a deceased donor and increases the existing organ supply, saving more lives.

If you are considering being a living donor, it is critical to gather as much information as you can from various sources.

Directed Donation

In a directed donation, the donor names the specific person to receive the organ. This is the most common type of living donation. The donor may be a biological relative, a biologically unrelated person who has a personal or social connection with the transplant candidate, such as a spouse or significant other, a friend or a coworker, or a biologically unrelated person who has heard about the transplant candidate's need.

Non-Directed Donation

In non-directed donation, the donor does not know the recipient in advance and does not name the specific person to receive the organ they are donating. The match is arranged based on medical compatibility with a patient in need.

Some non-directed donors choose never to meet their recipient. In other cases, the donor and recipient may meet at some time, if they both agree, and if the transplant center policy permits it.

Paired Donation

Paired donation involves two pairs of living kidney donors and transplant candidates who do not have matching blood types. The two candidates "trade" donors so that each candidate receives a kidney from a donor with a compatible blood type.

To help someone through living donation, talk to him or her and the transplant program where the person is listed. To be a non-directed living donor, contact a transplant center to find out if they have this type of donation program.

Editor's Note: Tina Block, RN, BSN, is director of transplant services for Montefiore-Einstein Center for Transplantation. For more information, contact *Donate Life* at www.donatelife.net and/or the *United Network for Organ Sharing* at www.unos.org.

**"IT'S JUST
A JOKE."**

SEXUAL HARASSMENT

YOU REPORT IT. WE GET IT. LET'S END IT.

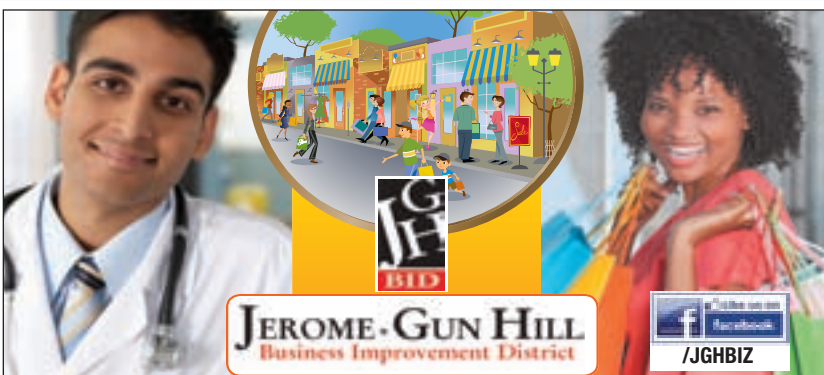
At the NYC Commission on Human Rights, we investigate claims of sexual harassment in the workplace and are ready to fight for you.

Call **718-722-3131** today.

NYC

**Commission on
Human Rights**

Bill de Blasio, Mayor
Carmelyn P. Malalis, Commissioner/Chair
NYC.gov/HumanRights



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



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

Classifieds

Professional Directory

PEDIATRIC SERVICES

Tiga Pediatrics

3510 Bainbridge Ave., Suite 5, Bronx, NY 10467. Ages 0-26 years. General Practice, Obesity, Asthma, ADHD. Open Monday-Friday 9 a.m. - 8 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. (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 Web Site: 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

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

A business of our own. Frendzhelppfrendz.com. Steve Dunckley, (347) 376-3116, #BC02646



Kancellas Travel & Tours

Book Your Vacation With Us!!!

Saturday, May 26, 2018: Resort Casino, Atlantic City \$46 pp includes Bonus!
Sunday, June 2, 2018: Medieval Times & Tournament: Lyndhurst, NJ \$109 pp includes lunch & shopping at the mall!
Saturday, July 7, 2018: Live on Stage "Jesus" at Sight & Sound Theatre in Lancaster, Pa. \$179 pp includes admission, lunch and tour!
Friday, July 20, 2018: Weekend Tour to Niagara Falls & Toronto Canada. \$429 pp includes Hotel: Days Inn & Suite; breakfast & tour. Near all attractions! (All depart from 940 Southern Blvd & 163rd St., Bronx NY)

FOR RESERVATIONS, TICKETS & BROCHURES CALL:

KANCELLA TOURS (347) 405-2017
 EDDIE ROSA (718) 757-5485 OR
 EMAIL Kancellatours191@yahoo.com

FOLLOW US ONLINE
WWW.NORWOODNEWS.ORG

NEIGHBORHOOD NOTES

Free Graffiti Cleanup

"Guerinos Against Graffiti" is offering one military veteran free graffiti removal in honor of Memorial Day. Those eligible be a US military veteran who was honorably discharged and wounded in combat. Applicants must submit their photo standing next to their property. Send submissions to ssg.nag@gmail.com. For more information, call (718) 600-2570.

Free Immigration Service

West Bronx Housing, 220 E. 204th St., provides free basic immigration services. They offer application assistance for citizenship, permanent residence Green Card applications, renewals, and other basic services. Clients can bring an interpreter, if necessary. For more information, call (718) 798-0929 to make an appointment and to answer your immigration questions.

Excelsior Scholarship

Applications for the Excelsior Scholarship are now open for new applicants pursuing a college degree at city- or state-funded colleges/universities for the 2018-19 academic year. Eligible candidates must be New York State residents, take 30 credits per year (including summer and winter sessions), a family whose annual household income is below \$110,000, and be on track to graduate on time with an associate's

degree in two years or a bachelor's degree in four years. Applications will be accepted through July 23. For more information, and to apply, go to <https://www.hesc.ny.gov/excelsior/>.

Owning a Home Workshop

University Neighborhood Housing Program offers a free workshop for Bronx residents interested in buying a home for the first time. Review your credit, savings, and income with bank staff and financial advisors, obtain a mortgage pre-approval, create a homeownership plan, and learn about special lending and grant programs for first-time homebuyers, May 1 from 6 to 8 p.m. at Concourse House, 2751 Grand Concourse (196th Street). For more information and to RSVP, call (718) 933-2539/3101.

S.A.F.E. Disposal

Bronx residents can safely dispose potentially harmful household items marked DANGER, WARNING, POISON, or CAUTION at the 2018 SAFE Disposal event on May 5 at the Orchard Beach Parking Lot from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., rain or shine. The city Sanitation Department will accept automotive products, personal care items, thermometers, and electronics such as computers, televisions and printers. For more information, call 311 or visit www.nyc.gov/safedisposal.

BronxNet Nosotros Program Profiles Bronx Judge

By MARTIKA ORNELLA

Judge Llinet Rosado sat down with Yeila Llubes of BronxNet's *Nosotros* on April 25 at 9:30 p.m. The pair discussed Rosado's journey from having grown up in housing projects on the Lower East Side to her election as a Bronx County Civil Court judge.

Rosado was born in the Dominican Republic and immigrated to the United States as a young child. She worked at the Bronx Legal Aid Society and as a family law attorney.

Nosotros is a Spanish language pro-

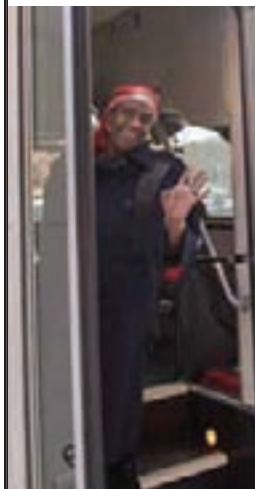
gram that profiles prominent members of the Bronx community, with in-depth discussions meant to inspire and connect. Rosado's *Nosotros* episode aired during BronxNet programming on Channel 67 for Optimum viewers and on Channel 33 for Verizon Fios.

BronxNet is an independent non-profit public access television program that aims to encourage community growth through media literacy.

Editor's Note: For more on *Nosotros* and its schedule of reruns, visit www.bronxnet.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



BAINBRIDGE
ADULT DAY HEALTH CARE CENTER

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



Follow the Norwood News
on Facebook and
@norwoodnews on Twitter



Out & About

Compiled by JUDY NOY

EDITOR'S PICK

Free Concert at NYPL

The Bronx Library Center, 310 E. Kingsbridge Rd., presents **Sonida Costeño Trio in Concert**, featuring Latin music, April 28 at 2:30 p.m. 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 the following concerts: **Bobby Valentin**, performing Latin music, with his orchestra, April 28 at 8 p.m. (tickets: \$50 to \$75; \$125/VIP includes orchestra seats, pre-concert drinks and hors d'oeuvres at 6:30 p.m.); **Texture Man**, presented by Festival of Praise, featuring a variety of performers, April 29 at 6 p.m. in the Concert Hall (tickets: \$35 to \$100); and **Hip-Hop Fever**, featuring a variety of performers, May 5 at 8 p.m. (tickets: \$45 to \$60). For more information, call (718) 960-8533.

Lehman College, 250 Bedford Pk. Blvd., W., presents a **variety of free events** including music and dance, from May 2 to 20. For details of dates and performances, call the Music Department at (718) 960-8247.

The Bronx Zoo presents **Boogie Down**, featuring a variety of performers and artists; hip-hop, doo wop and salsa music; art, dance, food, and more, weekends May 5 through June 3 including Memorial Day. For more information, tickets, or a full schedule of performances, call (718) 367-1010.

Riverdale Choral Society presents **American Made From Brooklyn to Riverdale**, featuring music of American composers, May 6 at 3

p.m. at Christ Church Riverdale, 5030 Henry Hudson Pkwy. (West 252nd Street). Tickets: \$25. For more information, call (718) 543-2219.

Hostos Community College, 450 Grand Concourse, presents **free concert**, The Dream Unfinished: An Activist Orchestra, April 28, in the Repertory Theatre at the Hostos Center for the Arts & Culture at 11:30 a.m., preceded by a pre-performance arts workshop at 10:30 a.m. (tickets are required). Also scheduled are **Gender of Attraction**, romantic comedy performed by the Hostos Repertory Company, April 26 to May 4, in the Black Box (\$10; students free); and **New Cuban Express** and **Steve Kroon Latin Jazz Sextet**, May 5 at 7:30 p.m., in the Repertory Theatre. For more information, call (718) 518-4455.

Events

The Bronx Library Center, 310 E. Kingsbridge Rd., presents free **Bronx Book Fair**, May 5 from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Guests include a variety of authors. For more information, call (718) 579-4244/46/57 or visit www.nypl.org.

Church of the Holy Nativity, 3061 Bainbridge Ave. (204th Street), holds **flea market**, April 28 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information, call (718) 652-5853.

Williamsbridge Oval presents **Opioid**



File Photo

RUN FOR THE WILD promises to be a lot of fun for the whole family and for a worthy cause (see Events for more information).

Awareness Workshop, April 28 from 1 to 4 p.m. For more information and to RSVP by April 27, call (718) 547-8854.

Bronx Museum of the Arts, 1040 Grand Concourse, presents **free talks**, Telling the Art Deco Story of the Southern Grand Concourse, April 28, part 1 from 11 to 11:45 a.m. and part 2 from noon to 1:30 p.m. For more information and to register, call (718) 681-6000.

Five Boro Bike Tour takes place on May 7. Money raised will support children's programs at shelters for homeless families. For more information, call (646) 393-4002.

A **street naming ceremony** to honor the life and work of the late Bronx lifelong public servant, Andrew Sandler, will take place at the northwest corner of 238th Street and Waldo Avenue. The unveiling of Andrew Sandler Way is scheduled for April 28 from 11 a.m. to noon. For more information, call (718) 549-7300.

The Bronx Zoo presents **Run for the Wild**, annual 5K run and family fun run/walk, April 28 at 8 a.m. Registration (includes zoo entrance): \$50/adults; \$40/ages 3 to 15; \$40/seniors. Save \$10 courtesy of Montefiore (code: Montefiorerftw). Event activities include rock climbing, music and dancing, face painting, and more. Prizes are awarded to those who meet various fundraising goals. For more information, call (718) 367-1010.

Wave Hill, a Bronx oasis at 675 W. 252nd St. in Riverdale, offers **Family Art Projects**: Barking Up a Wave Hill Tree, to create designs from a variety of materials, April 28 and 29; and Confetti Nests for Bluebirds, to sculpt bluebirds from paper pulp and confetti, May 5 and 6; both in the WH House from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Grounds admission is free until noon Tuesdays and Saturdays all year. For more information and a schedule of events including tours and walks, call (718) 549-3200.

Exhibits

Bronx Museum of the Arts, 1040 Grand Concourse, presents **Oded Halahmy-Exile is Home** and **Moses Ros: Landing/Aterrizaje**, through July 1. For more information, call (718) 681-6000.

The Museum of Bronx History, 3266 Bainbridge Ave. (208th Street), presents **Bronx Expo - The Starlight Park Story**, through Sept. 30; and **Women's Suffrage and New York City: A Centennial Celebration**, through April 11, 2019. For more information, call (718) 881-8900.

The Bronx County Historical Society and the Woodlawn Cemetery offer **Bronx Brewery Legacy Trolley Tour**, May 5; and **History Comes Alive at Bronx Cemeteries Trolley Tour**, April 28. Tours are \$40, run from noon to 5 p.m. and begin at Woodlawn Cemetery's Jerome Avenue entrance. For more information, call (718) 881-8900.

Rafaela (Ella) Santos, 315 E. 201st St., presents her solo art exhibit **W/O [man] Hood**, April 27 from 1 to 3 p.m. and 6 to 9 p.m. through May 28.

Library Events

The Bronx Library Center, 310 E. Kingsbridge Rd., presents for children: **Bilingual Birdies Spanish Series**: Spanish teachers play guitar, percussion, and use puppets, ending in bubble dance party, April 28 at 2 p.m. For more information, call (718) 579-4244/46/57 or visit www.nypl.org.

The Mosholu Library, 285 E. 205th St., offers for children: **Crafty Fridays at 3 p.m.**: (ages 5 to 12), crafts, April 27 and May 4; **STEM: Kids Science at 3 p.m.**: (ages 5 to 12), air gravity, May 1 and 8; and **Toddler Storytime at 11 a.m.**: (18 to 36 months), interactive stories, action songs, fingerplays and crafts, May 3 and 10. Teens/young adults can enjoy: **films at 1:30 p.m.**: "Coco," April 28 and "Justice League," May 5. Adults can attend: **Knitting Circle**: Thursdays at 3 p.m. For more information, call (718) 882-8239.

NOTE: Items for consideration may be mailed to our office or sent to norwoodnews@norwoodnews.org, and should be received by April 30 for the next publication date of May 10.



Photo courtesy Lehman Center for the Performing Arts

BOBBY VALENTINE CELEBRATES a half century in the Latin music business at Lehman Center for the Performing Arts (see Onstage for details).

Special Election Results

(continued from page 1)

The gathering doubled as a victory party for Luis Sepulveda, who won his respective special election race in the southeast Bronx's 32nd Senate District. "I'm ready to start. I'll hit the ground running," said Fernandez, flanked by other legislators, which also included Mayor Bill de Blasio, who came supporting Sepulveda.

Her win makes her the first Latina to hold the seat since Naomi Rivera in 2012, lowering the ratio of women legislators to their male counterparts in office. But it also ranks her as an interim legislator, since she's finishing a term that Gjonaj secured in November 2016 after winning the general election.

She will have to once again run in September to be the Democratic nominee heading into the November general election.

But with the Bronx overwhelmingly Democratic, securing a two-year term will be easy for Fernandez. Still, Fernandez will have to run a total of three times.

Even so, her ascension will send her to Albany and give her the advantage over other challengers on the Democratic ticket. Some names batted around as possible contenders include Sheila Sanchez and Rosanna Delgado.

DeFrancis was unavailable to tell the *Norwood News* whether he intends to run again.

The special election, while a major priority for the Bronx-Democratic County Committee, came and went in Norwood.

Outside Mosholu Montefiore Community Center, resident Roy Diaz said voters came in and out of the center. The real action, he said, was at neighboring Tracey Towers, a major voting poll. "Most of the people from District 80 go to Tracey Towers," said Diaz.

For Generosa Diego, another resident, her focus was bigger picture.

"I'm a Democrat. I don't like Trump," said Diego. "I like Hillary. He is a liar, he is a deceiver."

Additional reporting by Martika Ornella and Niall Ridgley

The Van Cortlandt Jewish Center invites you:

Mother's and Father's Day Gift Pick-Your-Prize Raffle!

Sunday, May 6th from 1 to 4pm

3880 Sedgwick Ave.
(next to the Van Cortlandt Branch Public Library)

Free Admission! Bake Sale (free coffee or tea)!



A Pick-Your-Prize Raffle lets you decide which items you want to win.

Enter as many times for an item as you want.

There are over 90 items!

Raffle drawing will be held at 4pm

(You need not be present to win. Items can be picked up at the VCJC at 3880 Sedgwick Ave. Arrangements can be made to mail or deliver for a small fee).

Online raffle purchases are available at

<http://vcjewishcenter.org/mothers-fathers-day-raffle/>.

PayPal or credit card (nominal service fee will be applied.)

For more information call 718-884-6105.

St. Patrick's Home Rehabilitation & Health Care Center



"Where it all began"

- Short-Term Rehabilitation and
- Long-Term Care
- 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

Who Covers Norwood Better than the Norwood News?



Our award-winning newspaper can be found at nearly 300 locations across the northwest Bronx including:

- The Jerome Gun Hill BID
- Montefiore Moses Campus
- MMCC
- PS 94 Kings College School
- Community Board 7
- East 204th Street/Bainbridge Ave. Corridor

**Or subscribe
today by calling
(718) 324-4998**