



NORWOOD NEWS

Vol 31, No 10 • PUBLISHED BY MOSHOLU PRESERVATION CORPORATION • MAY 10-23, 2018

**INQUIRING PHOTOGRAPHER:
TOPSY-TURVY TEMPS | PG. 4**



**BRONX WEEK
HONORS THREE | PG. 7**

HOMICIDES IN NORWOOD

52nd Precinct Logs Two Homicides in Nine Days



Photo by David Greene

POLICE SEAL OFF Perry Avenue by East 209th Street following the fatal shooting of a Queens man in Norwood. (Inset) A bullet hole tied to the shooting shatters the windshield of this van parked on East 209th Street and Perry Avenue.

**By DAVID GREENE and
MARTIKA ORNELLA**

Deep remnants of dry blood stain the sun-drenched street corner where Dwayne Saunders drew his final breaths. His last moments were defined by a violent foot chase, a crying girlfriend, and a good Samaritan struggling to keep Saunders'

weakening pulse from slowing to an end. Police say Saunders suffered gunshot wounds to the stomach and groin when he was killed on May 1.

"I tried to help him out as much as I can," said the would-be savior, who only went by James, 31. He remembers using napkins from nearby Moronta's Deli to

absorb the streams of blood gushing out of Saunders.

"I tried to put pressure on it. And everyone was like, 'nah, leave it, leave it,' and so I went into the store, got some napkins and turned him on his side," James said. Minutes later, ambulances arrived to transport Saunders to Jacobi Hospital, where he

ultimately died.

It was the first summer-like morning of the year and before lunchtime, homicide detectives were pounding the pavement, knocking on doors, and questioning residents after the second killing in Norwood in the last nine days. Two people are now

(continued on page 15)



**Tracey Towers to
Hold Elections | pg 2**



**Traffic Tie-ups Worsen
At Bainbridge Ave.
pg 5**



**A Space to Connect
pg 10**



**Out&About
pg 14**

Vol. 31, No. 10

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, Jose A. Giralt,
Mariya Moseley

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

Elections for Tracey Towers Tenant Organization Seats Set for May 17

By **DAVID CRUZ**

Elections for the Tracey Towers Tenants Organization (TTTO) are slated for May 17, and at least one challenger has come forward.

What is known is that Jean Hill, the incumbent president of the TTTO, is not concerned over who's running. She's taking it very seriously having taped up fliers that show a photo of her slate while also running through the list of her board's accomplishments.

"I see the need to have a strong, exceptional board; people who go in and get the job done," said Hill, a resident of Tracey Towers for more than 40 years. "It's not an easy job."

Hill's civic resume includes active membership in Community Board 7, which covers Tracey Towers. General board meetings have been held at the complex. Her slate at TTTO includes vice president Leslie Harrison-Neal, corresponding secretary Dolores Edwards, recording secretary Evelyn McDonald, and treasurer Addai Kwarteng.

The TTTO handles tenant-related quality of life concerns at the largest Mitchell-Lama complex in the Bronx, which opened in 1974. Roughly 5,000 people live within the two towers with RY Management handling its day-to-day operations. Under the current board, tenants saw the removal of an unsightly scaffold, upgrades to a rooftop playground, and stronger relationships with city and state legislators.

It's unclear who else is running for the association position, even for Hill. "Whoever is running it's kind of being done quietly. I'll use that word to be circumspect. They're not putting themselves forward," said Hill. "If you're declaring yourself to run in a race, wouldn't you try to be telling people?"

At the lobby of Tracey Towers, a notice of an election can be spotted taped to the side of the mailboxes, but there is no literature showing who's running.



Photo by David Cruz

TRACEY TOWERS OPENED in 1974 and stands as one of the tallest buildings in the Bronx.

For now, the only challenger who made it public is Vicky Owens, whose background includes working for 1199SEIU union, which includes serving as vice president of the Retired Members Division.

In an interview with the *Norwood News*, Owens lambasted the current board, suggesting there to be a lack of accountability and promotion of favoritism at the board. She cited a turkey giveaway and a separate trip where some seniors, she claims, were left out.

"It's supposed to be divided the proper way, not who you think that you want to go, or your friends. It's not supposed to go like that," said Owens of the board.

Owens also pointed to an escrow fund earmarked for legal representation in a lawsuit filed in 2012 demanding fixes at the 38- and 41-story towers. "Where is that money? Where did it go?" said Owens. "And a lot of them want answers."

Hill criticized Owens' lack of involvement in TTTO. "She never came

to tenant meetings. If she comes, she comes very sporadically. She has not worked on any of the boards, and has not been a board member," said Hill of Owens. "There's no such thing as favoritism. We have to work for every tenant in the building, which is what we do."

Owens' position is supported by a letter from Sheila E. Reinhardt Ballard, a former president of TTTO. In a letter to cooperators, Ballard appeared to imply dissatisfaction with the board, given her list of wants from it. Among the needs cooperators deserve, according to Ballard, is an "honest tenant organization" (the word "honest" was bolded in the letter) that maintains accurate records, and be an advocate.

"It is dangerous to allow a building this large to flap around blowing in the wind without good leadership!" wrote Ballard. "This is your home!"

The city Housing Preservation and Development agency, which oversees Tracey Towers, has hired Honest Ballot, an outside agency, to organize and supervise the election.

Public and Community Meetings

COMMUNITY BOARD 7 will hold its general board meeting at Mosholu Montefiore Community Center, 3450 DeKalb Ave., on May 22 at 6:30 p.m. CB7 committee meetings are held on the following dates at the board office, 229 E. 204th St., at 6:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted: Executive Committee meets on May 17. For more information, call the board office at (718) 933-5650.

Parking Pains

The aggravation of finding Parking as told by residents

By MARTIKA ORNELLA

Yajaira Adorno recalls sleeping in her car with her children on one of the many nights she couldn't find parking in Norwood.

"I've circled for hours on a regular basis. I would say I did it for a good five years. Every day I would get home and I'd spend an hour, every single day after work, looking for parking," Adorno said.

Adorno is one of 11 respondents to a *Norwood News* survey asking local residents to share their experiences with parking in the neighborhood. Some cited illegally reserved spaces, double-parking, and abandoned cars taking up otherwise free spaces as some of the parking issues they've observed.

"The parking situation has been an issue since I was a little kid. I remember my uncle struggling to find parking and he lived in the same building as me. I remember as a little kid, he'd be like, 'Hold this spot for me,' and I'd have to stand in a spot for him," said Adorno.

Car ownership in the Bronx has only increased in the years since Adorno was a kid, with nearly 30,000 more registered vehicles in the borough since 2007. With more cars on the street, the availability of public parking has decreased, and city officials have openly admitted to having no plans on helping drivers ease the search for parking.

Norwood residents have found parking spots to be few and far between. With sparse on-street parking, some residents depend on municipal and private garages, residential parking and commercial garages to secure their cars. Not finding nearby parking at night can be particularly burdensome to some residents who've parking blocks from where they live.

Residential parking has been a central topic for city lawmakers in recent weeks, with two bills introduced last month that propose implementing residential parking permits. One bill suggests a citywide permit system while the other focuses residential parking permits north of 60th Street in Manhattan.

Not all city officials are convinced that residential parking permits are necessary, including City Council

Speaker Corey Johnson, who says the ultimate plan is to "disincentivize cars in New York City." Regarding the two bills, which were introduced to the City Council on April 25, Johnson said that he sees "pluses and minuses" to implementing a residential parking permit system.



Photo by Martika Ornela

YAJAIRA ADORNO (PICTURED) does not miss parking around Norwood. "The parking situation has been an issue since I was a little kid," she says.

Plans to decrease car use in the city progressed recently with the banning of vehicles in Central Park drives, which will begin next month.

In March 2017, Mayor Bill de Blasio signed into law a bill that would require the city Department of Transportation (DOT) to develop a pilot program to reserve some off-street and municipal parking for car-sharing programs, like ZipCar or Car2Go. The effort makes car-sharing vehicles more widely available, though it knocks out parking spots for regular cars.

De Blasio has made it known his intention to put drivers second to public transit commuters. At a May 2017 news conference, de Blasio said building parking garages is "not the solution to the problem."

"We're going to gain about half a million people in this city. We could be building parking garages all day long," said de Blasio. "The solution to the problem is to make more mass transit available."

Yelena Raffoul, 28, says relying on public transportation is not a viable option for her, since her job as a face-painter often brings her to the outskirts of the city, areas where public transit is less than dependable.

"What am I going to do if I have a party in Park Place? Take public transportation to Wakefield? I don't think that plan is even beneficial because the MTA is struggling. A lot of people are already unhappy with it, and to force more people to use it without actually fixing the issues we see now is insane," Raffoul said.

A 2017 transit audit released by State Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli found

\$20 to \$30 for every single gig. That cuts into my salary," Raffoul said.

New York City has over 1,100 parking facilities, and real estate trends forecast less parking garages and more residential and commercial development.

Cynthia Tuohy, 59, pays \$325 every three months for her parking spot at Norwood's only municipal parking garage. The Jerome-Gun Hill Municipal Parking Garage is one of five city parking facilities in the Bronx, with 204 permitted parking spaces.

Although Tuohy has managed to secure a local parking space, she admits to "living in fear" of the Jerome-Gun Hill garage closing. She laments, "There literally is no place to park off-street, and it's not a matter of money. All the money in the world will not buy a parking spot that doesn't exist."

Danilo Rodriguez, 38, lives around the Reservoir Oval in Norwood and says finding a parking spot can take him upwards of an hour daily. Rodriguez says that since moving to Norwood from Manhattan last year, he and his wife have had to structure their day around moving and parking their car for street cleaning.

"It definitely feels as though my life revolves around parking in this neighborhood," Rodriguez said. "It drains you mentally and physically driving around in circles, cursing every lucky soul that finds a spot seconds before you do."

Meantime, Adorno of Norwood says the neighborhood's parking problem drove her to give up ownership of a car, relying instead on public transportation. "I'm not going to spend an hour to two hours a day looking for parking," Adorno said.

On the weekends, Adorno rents a car for \$40 a day, which affords her all the benefits of driving, without the hassle of parking. Adorno says, "It's crazy. We spend so many hours of our time looking for parking."

**6th Annual
Sholem-Aleichem Yiddish Klezfest
Sunday, June 3, 2018
1:30 - 4:30pm - all ages welcome!**

-Joanne Borts - Broadway actor and singer
-Jordan Hirsch & The New York Klezmer Ensemble
-Tsibele - New Traditional Klezmer from Brooklyn
-Steven Weintraub - Jewish Dance Master

**Sholem-Aleichem Cultural Center
3301 Bainbridge Avenue, Bronx NY**

One block from Montefiore Hospital
D train to 205th Street
4 train to Moshulu Parkway

**Open Klezmer jam & dance -
bring your instrument & dancing shoes!**

Info: 917-930-0295 - \$10 admission

Presented in partnership with the Center for Traditional Music and Dance.
We are grateful for the support of the National Endowment for the Arts.



INQUIRING PHOTOGRAPHER

By DAVID GREENE



This week we asked readers their thoughts on the dramatic changes to the weather as well as plans for the unofficial start of summer.



I don't know, you just have to dress for this crazy weather, that's the best way to deal with it. I think we're going to get a very hot summer. I'm a music artist, so I'll be working on my music a lot over the summer and I'll make a record. Other than that, the summer is all about the family.

Eli Staxx
Norwood



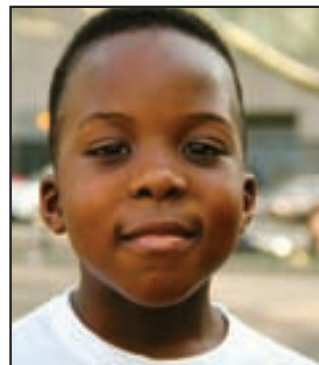
I don't even want to talk about it. Yesterday it was mad hot, but Friday it's supposed to rain and the rest of the weekend it's going to be hot and muggy. Yes, we're done with the winter. What I plan to do this summer is go out and have fun, cruise with my dog and take him outside for a bit, and ride my motorcycle; that's it. I'll go to City Island or Orchard Beach and maybe have some lobster and some fruit and vegetables, something good.

Joseph Pagan Sanchez
Woodlawn



I never trusted the weatherman, but my mistrust has grown deeper and more pervasive. It's climate change, climate change, climate change. Human cause by fossil fuels. I would not be surprised if it snowed again this year. Me? I will be sitting in an air-conditioned room, that's about it.

John Bitondo
Norwood



Yes, it's been cold but I didn't really wear a winter jacket. I just went to school with a sweater. Yes, this weather is crazy, because it's spring. I plan to go to California and I'm going to see my cousins and visit SeaWorld, because it's my birthday.

Jahvier Cunningham
Bedford Park



Yes, it's definitely been crazy; the temperature going up and down and it makes me feel sick, the extreme changes like that. I also heard that this was going to be the mildest heat we're going to have because apparently it's supposed to get way hotter in the summertime. We're done with the snow, I'm sure of that. The weather forecasters do a pretty good job. Yes, I'm actually getting my exoteric license. Basically, it's like a skin nurse, so I'm going to be in school this whole summer. On the weekends I'll go to parties and try and have as good a time as I can. Definitely, I'll be going to the beach.

Mercy Atiemo
Kingsbridge

How Teen Program Strengthens Police Ties One Bounce at a Time

By MARIYA MOSELEY

Amidst the fraught race relations between communities of color and law enforcement, one organization is working to improve that bond and the lives of teenagers of color.

The United Chaplains State of New York Athletic League (UCSNY) is a community group geared towards empowering youth. The organization is not only comprised of chaplains, but also members from the NYPD, FDNY and EMT. Within UCSNY, more than 200 students from around the city take part in a comprehensive sports program, mentorship and interactive workshops.

Lesly Roscha, 16, a student coming from Staten Island, said her two-hour commute to the UCSNY's gym at In-Tech Academy in Kingsbridge is driven by her passion for volleyball, the friendships she's built, and support system she's gained.

Victor Matos, an NYPD police officer and the group's volunteer athletic director, has worked in law enforcement for 15 years. After being raised by a single mother "with a sixth grade reading level," the NYPD veteran recalls his inspiration to join the force from his



Photo by Mariya Moseley

STUDENTS AND STAFFERS at UCSNY at In-Tech Academy in Kingsbridge on April 14.

cousin who was a police officer. One of his objectives within the program is for students "to see cops in a different light."

For Natalie Vargas, a UCSNY member for more than a year, exposure to the other side of police has shifted her perspective of law enforcement.

"To know a lot more [police officers]

personally brings a whole 'nother viewpoint [and] not just the generic idea that all cops have this ill-intention against minorities," Vargas said.

Matos works alongside his wife Rosaly, who provides administrative assistance for the program. Rosaly, a native of the Dominican Republic, expressed how imperative it is that students have mentors that look like them. Especially considering statistics showing more than half of the Bronx population is Black or of Hispanic/Latino descent.

As she reflected on her childhood in the Caribbean, she said "the way the children are raised here is completely different" and in some ways sets them up for failure.

"We just want to be that extra help for them because we know they don't [all] have that," Rosaly said.

Axel Vasquez, a 16-year-old high school sophomore who's been involved in the program for more than a year, has aspirations to become an actor or a model. He said that being part of the program has been a huge push for him to "follow his dreams."

Councilman Fernando Cabrera of the 14th Council District representing



Photo by Mariya Moseley

VICTOR MATOS WITH wife Rosaly during UCSNY's meetup on April 14.

Morris Heights, University Heights, Fordham and Kingsbridge, said he's proud to show his support to this program because of "the lessons attached" and how it's ultimately "building local leadership."

Cabrera also said that he is working to help provide UCSNY with additional funding. If awarded the \$5,000 to 10,000 grant, organizers say the funding will go towards uniforms for the students.

Some future goals within the program include creating additional sports teams around softball and tennis while continuing to expose them to leaders across industries and provide scholarships for college.

Residents: More Frisch Field Use

Though there's some use at Frank Frisch Field in Bedford Park, there could be more, according to community groups. It's enough that an effort to get the word out about the field has been bouncing around.

"[S]omeone's gonna get a bright idea that they can put up another high-rise," Barbara Stronczer, president of Bedford Mosholu Community Association said at the latest BMCA meeting on May 2. "People say, 'Oh they'll never do that. That's parkland.' I've seen it done in Harlem. I've seen it done in other places in Manhattan."

It's one reason why community groups, including Mosholu Preservation Corporation (publishers of the *Norwood News*) have organized a wellness fair on May 19 at the greenspace. The field falls within Bronx Park. (See Editor's Pick in Out & About on page 14 for details.)

Frisch Field stands out in the open despite talk of its underutilization. Found on Webster Avenue near West Mosholu Parkway South, the field is complete with a baseball diamond, backstop, dugouts, and stadium bleachers. It's named after professional baseball player Frank "The Fordham Flash" Frisch. Frisch was born in 1898 and played for the Giants, where he won four pennants.

A review of city records shows the field was lumped with the property belonging to the 52nd Precinct, designating the space an R6. This allows any residential developer to build as high as 11 feet for affordable housing residences and seven stories for market-rate apartment buildings.

The field is sporadically used by little league teams who need permits to use it. Its use is passable. Though general maintenance is done on Frisch Field, there hasn't been any major projects for the field in 20 years, with then Bronx Borough President Fernando Ferrer allocating \$234,000 for renovations.

--David Cruz

WWW.
NORWOODNEWS.
ORG

Is Parking Allowed at This Spot

By DAVID CRUZ

The local 52nd Precinct and city Transportation Department both say they're not responsible for vehicles inexplicably parking at a triangle just across from Tracey Towers.

It's a trend that confounded Sallie Caldwell, who's lived at the enormous towers for nearly 50 years. It's also a new trend as far as she's concerned.

The spot—found at a busy intersection of West Mosholu Parkway South edging Jerome Avenue—sits dozens of feet across the Norwood towers, where Caldwell's a resident. An ever-vigilant resident, Caldwell has noticed vehicles have brazenly parked there overnight, narrowing the space for other vehicles looking to turn either into the towers' parking facility or a quick left back to Jerome Avenue.

In some cases, Caldwell has noticed some close calls.

"Just last week I saw a car almost get hit because there were cars on both sides. He made that swing and he had to stop real quick because if you got someone parked here and someone parked here (at the facing island), it's very hard for you to come in there when you know that's supposed to be clear," said Caldwell, speaking to the *Norwood News* from the Twin Donut on Jerome Avenue.

Other residents at the massive Mitchell-Lama towers have noticed it too. Caldwell's longtime neighbor, Steven Spencer, has seen cars parked at the lone spot. "[C]ars have never parked there before," said



Photo by David Cruz

THIS VEHICLE PARKS at the triangle just in front of Tracey Towers. Sallie Caldwell, an active community member, believes the parking spot is illegal.

Spencer. "Either they have to get out of the way, or get hit by the car that's turning."

For Caldwell, the parking poses a safety issue. It also points to the larger problem of street parking, a premium in Norwood. With no signs indicating whether vehicles can't park there, drivers have seized on oversight.

Still, Caldwell has made her concerns known. She first started with the 52nd Precinct. But their hands are tied. Without a sign barring drivers from parking near the triangle, drivers are technically not doing anything wrong, exploiting a loophole.

She then took it to Community Board 7 in hopes the civic body would handle it. Usually, the city Department of Transportation, charged with maintaining the

streets, would dispatch a team. Caldwell hasn't heard back over whether that's happened. She expected a courtesy call, but hasn't gotten any.

"Normally, that's the procedure," said Caldwell of a courtesy call. "Reason why I know because I was on the Community Board and I know once you report it to [DOT] they do send a group out to check what the resident is talking about and they do report back to the Community Board that they've been there."

But a spokesperson for the DOT passed the buck to the New York Police Department, saying it's the agency's responsibility to enforce parking at the spot. The statement puts the responsibility at the Police Department, but offers a slight admission that the spot is indeed illegal.

Traffic Tie-Ups Worsen on Bainbridge Avenue

Drivers getting around the northwest Bronx will have to pack plenty of patience for the interim as the city partially closed off a key roadway in Norwood.

Crews working for the city Department of Environmental Protection have placed barricades on the northbound side of Bainbridge Avenue, between the tip of Jerome Avenue (at the intersection of Bainbridge Avenue) and East Gun Hill Road, in the first week of May. This compounds the already hectic morning and evening rush for drivers and buses, adding minutes to the commute. It also knocks out several dozen heavily used parking spots in a neighborhood already squeezed for parking.

The impacted area has caused major backups from all points of East Gun Hill Road and Bainbridge Av-



Photo by David Cruz

THE NORTHBOUND LANE of Bainbridge Avenue (left side) between Jerome Avenue and East 211th Street will stay closed until the middle of summer.

enue, with drivers on the southbound side of Bainbridge Avenue having to wait 15 minutes to drive from Jerome Avenue at Bainbridge Avenue to East 211th Street.

According to the city Department of Design and Construction's (DDC)

online projects map, the project involves the installation of a trunk main on Bainbridge Avenue. It's part of a \$45 million project to replace century-old sewer pipes around the neighborhood. EIC Associates, a New Jersey-based contractor, was chosen for the contract that was executed in 2015. The firm has done prior work around the city including work at the new World Trade Center. Bainbridge Avenue's estimated completion date is projected at June of 2019. The traffic tie-ups will last until the end of July this year.

--David Cruz

Editor's Note: Residents with any complaints or concerns are asked to contact Yashabelle Desulme, the DDC's Community Construction Liaison, at bainbridgeprojectcl@gmail.com or call (718) 644-2065.

Experts Weigh in On Opioid Scourge In NW Bronx



Photo by Miriam Quinones

DR. TIFFANY LU, physician with Albert Einstein College of Medicine, speaks at the opioid awareness event.

With the northwest Bronx gravely impacted by the city's opioid crisis, experts from the law enforcement, legislative and medical fields convened at Williamsbridge Oval Park to dispense information on opioid's impact on communities.

The awareness workshop event was organized by state Senator Jamaal Bailey, whose district covers Norwood. The community is policed by the 52nd Precinct, one of the busier stationhouses dealing with the narcotic outbreak. The area of Fordham stands among the top five locations where use of the opioid drug is prevalent throughout the city. The issue has not gone unnoticed by the precinct, which has attempted to put away drug pushers who peddle the narcotic. So far, officers have made 130 arrests related to opioid distribution. Statistics logged by the city Health Department show 2800 people have died from a drug overdose between 2000 and 2016.

"Opioid abuse has plagued our community for a long time. I am glad to see measures being taken in order to address this crucial issue in the legislature. Ensuring that residents are informed on the different resources available is a priority in order to finally put an end to this epidemic," said Bailey in a statement.

Dr. Tiffany Lu, a physician at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine and Montefiore Health System, told an audience that opioid has made a major comeback. The narcotic is meant to treat pain, but can be habit forming. The gateway drug often leads users to try even more potent drugs such as fentanyl. Its popularity has risen over the last four years, thanks to its power in boosting the effect of a high.

These days, to prevent further deaths, the use of suboxone has been made widely available to reverse the effects of a drug overdose.

—David Cruz

Additional reporting by Miriam Quinones.

Espallat Touts Money-Saving Energy Program

By MARTIKA ORNELLA

Low-income residents can save some green by going green.

"Weatherization is not like a sexy subject. The fact of the matter is that it really helps families, and it helps the planet, and it helps neighborhoods, and it's a great addition to housing," said Congressman Adriano Espallat, representing Norwood's 13th Congressional District at a news conference announcing additional funding for the Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP).

The program increases the energy efficiency of low-income homes, which leads to lower utility bills. Some services WAP provides include repairing indoor heating systems, replacing windows and doors, sealing holes to reduce heat loss, installing energy efficient lighting and refrigeration, and removing other health and safety issues.

The program also sidesteps the option of Major Capital Improvements, which often lead to rent increases.

WAP's local partner, the Northwest Bronx Community and Clergy Coalition (NBWCCC) received \$2.3 million in funding to support local efforts in the Bronx. Nationwide, WAP received \$251 million from the U.S. Department of Energy, \$23 million more than it received last year.

The director of the weatherization program at NBWCCC, Fran Fuselli, also spoke at the conference about the work her organization does. "We're so much more than an energy conservation program. In our communities we maintain and improve affordable housing for our people who otherwise might be priced out of their homes and apartments," Fuselli said.

By providing necessary repairs to low-income households, WAP can



Photo courtesy NBWCCC

A CONTRACTOR REPLACES windows at a home as part of the energy-saving Weatherization Assistance Program.

help renters stay in their homes, instead of being forced out to allow expensive building-wide repairs. Under MCI guidelines, landlords can permanently increase rents in rent-controlled and rent-stabilized buildings following major repairs. But if

66 percent of a building's tenants are income-eligible (individuals earning less than \$27,816 annually, and families making less than \$53,484), tenants can apply for WAP without worrying about MCI rent increases.

The first step in the WAP process is an assessment of what's in need of repair, then contractors hired through WAP work on fixing and replacing problem areas, ultimately improving the overall health and safety quality of the home.

The goal is to offset energy costs for low-income residents, lessening the burden of their monthly energy bill. It could also mean lowering potential health risks related to substandard living conditions, like asthma and lead poisoning.

Editor's Note: *Anyone interested in having their home energy assessed, call the NBWCCC at (718) 584-0515, ext. 232.*



(L-R) WEATHERIZATION PARTNERS AT the April 30 news conference include Victoria Gordon, John Reilly, Dan Henkins, Curtis Archer, Congressman Adriano Espallat, Dan Reiber, Fran Fuselli, Francis Rodriguez, Sandra Lobo, and Tom Carey.

Bronx Week

Bronx BP Honors Three

By NIALL RIDGLEY

"This is the Bronx, if you hear something you like, yell out!" said Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr. to applause from the crowded room at the kickoff of the 47th Annual Bronx Week.

Bronx Week, funded by donations from local businesses, serves to celebrate the Best of the Borough, honoring local success stories, organizations, while also serving as a showcase of offerings across the borough.

The honorees at this year's celebra-



Photo by Niall Ridgley

BRONX BOROUGH PRESIDENT Ruben Diaz Jr. stands with UnitedHealthcare mascot Dr. Health E. Hound outside Mott Haven Bark & Grill.



Images courtesy Bronx Borough President's Office

THIS YEAR'S HONOREES are (l-r) actress Maggie Siff, hip hop pioneer Slick Rick and #MeToo movement leader Tarana Burke.

tion include Tarana Burke, leader in the #MeToo movement, actress Maggie Siff, known for "Billions" and "Mad Men"; rapper Slick Rick and the New York Botanical Gardens, honored this year with the tourism award by the Bronx Tourism Council. Bronx Week runs from May 10 until May 20 and features a slew of events including the Bronx Ball, and culminating in the Bronx Pride Parade.

The three honorees were unavailable to speak at the announcement Diaz made at Mott Haven Bar & Grill on May 7.

"Once again, we are proud to welcome back the sons and daughters of The Bronx to celebrate their accomplishments and induct them to the Bronx Walk of Fame. This year we have three amazing honorees, and I am thrilled

to join the people of The Bronx in congratulating them on this tremendous honor," said Diaz Jr. in a statement.

UnitedHealthcare is this year's Gold Sponsor for their generous donation in support of community and healthcare initiatives.

Editor's Note: More information and an event schedule can be found at www.ilovethebronx.com.

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



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
Bronx, NY 10467

*Letters should be 400 words max, and
include writer's name. Anonymous let-
ters will not be published, but names
will be withheld upon reasonable
request.*

Street Renaming Ceremony Honors Andrew Sandler

By JOSE A. GIRALT

The bright blue sky triggers a special memory for Stephanie Sandler. "This is the type of day my brother loved to walk around the neighborhood. He loved meeting the people of this community," says Sandler of her brother Andrew.

A street renaming ceremony in honor of Andrew Sandler happened at his home neighborhood of Riverdale on April 28. Sandler, who served as district manager of Community Board 7, died last August at the age of 31 from cancer. The event was attended by Sandler's family, friends and colleagues.

The street renaming, which can be found at the corner of West 238th Street

and Waldo Avenue, was brought about by Sandler's former boss and Councilman Andrew Cohen of the 13th Council District. Sandler also worked for Cohen's predecessor, City Council member Oliver Koppell. In both instances, Sandler served as director of constituent services.

At the street renaming ceremony, Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz pointed north on Waldo Avenue and said, "Andrew went to school there and stayed in this neighborhood to make it a better place."

Cohen echoed Dinowitz's praise. "Andrew's work will be remembered in this neighborhood," said Cohen after the new street sign was unveiled.



Photo by Jose A. Giralt

(L-R) ANDREW SANDLER'S sister, Stephanie, mother Sandra, and Community Board 7 member Gloria Bent show off the street sign bearing Sandler's name.



Photo by Jose A. Giralt

"ANDREW SANDLER WAY" was erected at the corner of West 238th Street and Waldo Avenue not far from the Riverdale neighborhood where Sandler grew up.



BIG SAVINGS

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

Over 200 Stores on Jerome Avenue from Mosholu Pky. 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



For Artists, a Space to Connect

By MARY MELLON

Dorothy, a resident at Serviam Gardens senior living facility, sits at one of the rectangular tables spaced across the room while attending art class. Working from a photograph, she carefully delineates the outline of a building in pencil, the lines light enough so that they will disappear when she colors the image later.

"I was going through some problems and I didn't know how to solve them and somebody introduced me to painting," Dorothy explains. She does not break eye contact with her work to talk, but something about her posture suggests attentiveness. "I learned to like it and I can't stop doing it now."

Recent budget cuts have eliminated funding to many arts programs across New York City, but Chashama, an arts nonprofit organization founded by Anita Durst, has partnered with local community groups to fill the breach.

"We're starting to reach out to other property owners to see if we can expand the program," Durst told the *Norwood News*.

Chashama (Farsi for "to have vision") has four main programs, including Space to Connect, which enables classes like the one Dorothy attends to exist. Drawing from a \$150,000 grant, Chashama and their partners provide classes on art, cooking, African dance, clay, and photography to school aged children and seniors in the Bronx and other parts of the city.

"It's like a medicine for me," Dorothy continues. "Like if I'm going through some changes and I do it, I put my whole self into it and I don't think about it. I don't have to go to the doctor. This is my doctor."

In the Bronx, Space to Connect partners with Fordham-Bedford Housing and Community Services to provide The Bronx Arts Initiative, which engages eight borough artists in pro-



Photo by Mary Mellon

DOROTHY (R) CAREFULLY draws at an art class courtesy of Space to Connect, an affiliate program of Chashama.

viding classes in dance and visual art for 130 to 180 participants each month in exchange for free studio space, access to the unused supply group Materials for the Arts, an art materials budget, and a stipend. The class Dorothy attends is taught by Charles Esperanza, a published children's book illustrator, author, and muralist.

"If you just present a fun project to them, anyone can get something from it," Esperanza says.

His teaching methods are fluid. While he designs the curriculum beforehand, he will adjust projects according to what each class "enjoys doing or what they need to do." In exchange for sharing his skills with the community, Esperanza receives rent-free studio space. "Before, I was working out of my apartment which

you know was way too cramped. I couldn't paint as big as I wanted. It was a mess."

Esperanza says Space to Connect makes it easier to balance teaching with pursuing his own work and that the participants in his classes inspire him. "Between teaching and doing your artwork outside can be difficult. But this makes it easier. Because they give you a space. It's like I have this whole space I need to do my work."

The importance of imagination is critical for Esperanza, who teaches the visual arts class at Serviam Gardens, as well as a class for children at West Farms, but says regardless of age, everyone is "kind of the same."

Space to Connect assigns one participant per class the role of "resident

artist," giving them the chance to support the "Lead Artist" running the class. While Dorothy is the resident artist in her class at Serviam Gardens, all her classmates seem to feel similarly about the program. This should not be surprising, given that the therapeutic power of art is backed by science, with numerous studies concluding that art can heal.

Just behind Dorothy, three women sit at a table equally absorbed in their work. They are dressed casually in jeans and T-shirts, with paint, paintbrushes, and a cup of water occupying the shared space between them.

"It's not only recreation," one says. "But it also makes you use your imagination."

SBS Awards MPC Merchant Organizing Grant

Storeowners along two commercial corridors in Norwood and Bedford Park can expect to see even more help from Mosholu Preservation Corporation (MPC) over the next few years.

The 37-year community development group affiliated with Montefiore Health System received an up to three-year, \$100,000 grant from the New York

City Small Business Services (SBS) for the hiring of a project manager to build a greater organization among the East 204th Street-Bainbridge Avenue Merchants Association and the Webster Avenue Merchants Association. The two respective commercial strips found in Norwood and Bedford Park comprise a mix of mom and pop

and regional businesses.

"We are thrilled to have the opportunity to deepen our work in the 204th and Bainbridge and Webster Avenue commercial corridors to better support the merchants and residents that live and work there. We look forward to our continued collaboration with the merchant associations who

are working diligently to improve their neighborhoods and deliver quality goods and services to the community," said Jennifer Tausig, executive director of MPC.

MPC is the only Bronx community based development organization to receive a grant.

—David Cruz



Quarter Waters: Mostly Sugar, Zero Fruit

BY SILVY SIBO

“Quarter waters” are available for sale at many Bronx bodegas or corner stores for prices as low as \$.25, hence the name. While often marketed as juices containing fruit, these drinks are mostly sugar (about 20 grams or five teaspoons in an 8 oz. bottle), with some food coloring and water.

With names like “Little Hug,” “Chilly Charlie,” “Chubby,” and “Sun Dew,” these unhealthy drinks are largely advertised to children, especially since their price points are relatively affordable compared to larger so-

das and juices.

“Quarter waters” usually lack a nutritional label informing consumers of their ingredients, so many are unaware of the large amount of sugar in each bottle. Too much sugar in one’s diet can lead to serious health problems like diabetes, obesity and heart disease.

Interestingly, these drinks are rarely found in higher-income neighborhoods, which contributes to the health disparities we see in the Bronx. So, what can we do about it? Talk to your local bodega owner and let them know that you don’t think



Photo courtesy Montefiore Health System

SO-CALLED “QUARTER WATERS” are available across bodegas, but they are not healthy.

these products should be sold to young children. You should also let your local store owner know you don’t think products without nutritional labels should be sold.

Encourage children to swap cheap, sugary drinks for no-calorie alternatives like water, fresh squeezed juice, or unsweetened

tea. Children can get diabetes if they consume too much sugar. It’s time “quarter waters” get replaced with beverage options that will keep our kids fit, alert and healthy.

Editor’s Note: *Silvy Sibo is with Montefiore Health System’s Office of Community & Population Health.*

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



**Your Business
Classified Here!**
Rates start at \$12 for
the first 20 words
and 25 cents for
each additional
word. To learn more,
call (718) 324-4998.



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

Financial Freedom can be simple with a business of your own. Go to:
Frendzhelppfrendz.com. Steve Dunckley (347) 376-3116. Member ID# BC02646.



Kancellas Travel & Tours

Book Your Vacation With Us!!!

Saturday, May 26, 2018: Resort Casino, Atlantic City \$46 pp includes Bonus!

Saturday, 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/>.

My Brother's Keeper

Services for young boys and men of color will be available at a workshop sponsored by My Brother's Keeper on May 17, from 6 to 8:30 p.m., at the Bronx County Building, 851 Grand Concourse. Dinner will be provided. RSVP is required. For more information and to RSVP, contact Monica Major at mmajor@bronxbp.nyc.gov or call (718) 590-6012.

Bird Walks

Free bird walk tours with guides provided by the New York City Audubon Society and Van Cortlandt Park Conservancy, are scheduled for ev-

ery Saturday through July 21 from 9 to 10:30 a.m. at the Van Cortlandt Park Conservancy. Meet at the VC Nature Center. For more information, contact Joseph McManus at mcmanus638@aol.com.

Free Bike Helmets

Free bike helmets will be given away at a distribution event on May 23 inside the school gymnasium of PS 226, 1950 Sedgwick Ave., from 3 to 6:30 p.m. Helmet recipients must be present to get a helmet and have a parent or guardian present if they are under the age of 18. Parent must agree to sign a waiver for the child and also for themselves. For more information, call 311.

Norwood Column Art Piece

Comments on your impression of the Norwood community are needed for the "Norwood Column," an art piece set to be installed at the intersection of Grand Concourse and Moshulu Parkway by mid to late spring. The artist will take comments and include them as part of the column. Comments can be made at <https://goo.gl/forms/ZKKxJax0mXE0g25jl>.

Preparedness Workshop

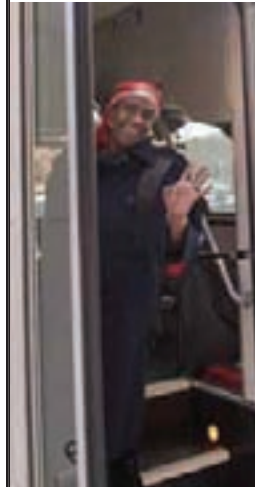
Learn how to prepare for emergencies at a workshop on May 17 at 1 p.m. at the Bronx Library Center, 310 E. Kingsbridge Rd. Participants will learn how to prepare for any disaster, develop a family emergency plan and learn how to stock supplies. For more information and to RSVP, visit www.prepare.ny.gov. Walk-ins are also welcome.

Owning a Home Workshop

University Neighborhood Housing Program offers a free workshop, May 19 from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., for Bronx residents interested in buying a home for the first time. Review steps toward home ownership with lenders, attorneys, and real estate professionals. Plan and schedule steps for mortgage, special loan and/or grant program, a savings plan, financial coaching and credit improvement. Event will be held at Concourse House, 2751 Grand Concourse (196th Street). For more information and to RSVP, call (718) 933-2539/3101.

*"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

Out & About

Compiled by JUDY NOY

EDITOR'S PICK

Wellness Fair

The public is invited to a Wellness Fair sponsored by Mosholu Preservation Corporation, NYC Department of Small Business Services, and Friends of Mosholu Parkland, at Frisch Field, Webster Avenue and Botanical Square (East Mosholu Parkway South), on May 19 from noon to 4 p.m. Events include games, fun activities, music, refreshments, treats, and more. For more information, call (718) 324-4461.

Onstage

Lehman College, 250 Bedford Pk. Blvd., W., presents free **Spring Musical**, "When I Get to Where I'm Going '18," May 10 at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. and May 11 at 11 a.m.; all in the Music Building, room 306; and on May 12 at 11 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. at Bronx Library Center, 310 E. Kingsbridge Rd. For more information and to RSVP, call (718) 960-7796.

Lehman College, 250 Bedford Pk. Blvd., W., presents a **variety of free events** including music and dance, through May 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 through June 3 including Memorial Day. For more information, tickets, or a full schedule of performances, call (718) 367-1010.

Events

Williamsbridge Oval offers the following free events: **Yogalates**, fitness class combining yoga and pilates, May 12 at 9:30 a.m.; **Toddler Transportation**, featuring trains, planes and cars and doing artwork and playtime, May 21 (adult must remain with child); and **film**, "Toy Story," May 25 at 7:30 p.m. (bring chair or blanket). For more information, call (917) 543-8672.

Senator Jamaal T. Bailey presents his annual **Mother's Day Celebration**, May 12 from 1 to 5 p.m. at Dreiser Loop Community Center, 177 Dreiser Loop, Co-op City. Events include health and wellness screenings,

massages, hair and makeup sessions and Zumba. For more information and to RSVP (by May 11), call (718) 547-8854.

The 233rd and White Plains Road Merchants Association together with Mosholu Preservation Corporation are cosponsoring a **Cultural Day** celebration on May 18 from 5 to 7 p.m. in Williamsbridge Square (White Plains Road between East 212th Street and Magenta Street). Events include local merchants contests, dance performances and lessons, music, face painting, raffles, food, and more. For more information, call (718) 324-4461.

Bronx County Historical Society presents the following: **Women's Suffrage and New York City**, May 20 from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., a symposium honoring women of the past and present, at the Woodlawn Cemetery's Chapel (\$30). Breakfast and lunch are included. Also scheduled is **History Comes Alive at Bronx Cemeteries Trolley Tour**, May 19 from noon to 5 p.m. (\$40), and begins at Woodlawn Cemetery's Jerome Avenue entrance. For more information and to purchase tickets, call (718) 881-8900.

Bring your teddy bear, stuffed animal, or doll for a free checkup at the **Teddy Bear Hospital** with the hospital's doctors and nurses at Montefiore's Wakefield Campus Emergency Department, 600 E. 233rd St. Events include an ambulance tour, ER visit, teddy bear x-ray, and more, including giveaways. For more information, call (800) 636-6683.

Wave Hill, a Bronx oasis at 675 W. 252nd St. in Riverdale, offers **Family Art Projects**: Messages for Mother Earth and Mom, to bring photos of mom, then make painting on a card and envelope, May 12 and 13; and



File Photo

HUNDREDS OF SPECTATORS are expected at the Bronx Week Parade, capping the Bronx Week extravaganza (more information on Bronx Week events can be found under the "Bronx Week Events" section).

Bird Calls Mural, to make mural and cardboard bird, May 19 and 20; both in the WH House from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Also scheduled is **Nature Day Presentation: Meet the Birds**, to learn about a variety of birds, May 20 from 2 to 3 p.m., on the grounds. 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.

Bronx Week Events

Williamsbridge Oval hosts **Family Day Olympiad**, May 12 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. where one adult and one child play together for a chance to be champion in Olympic style event (ages 6 to 16). Lunch provided. Reservations required. For additional information and to RSVP, call (718) 590-6431.

Bronx Week closes with its free **Parade**, along Mosholu Parkway, including celebrities, marching bands, sports teams, schools, and others (public is invited to join), May 20 at noon, followed by **Bronx Food & Arts Festival**, offering food for sale and artists for face painting (on Mosholu Parkway between Van Cortlandt Avenue East and Bainbridge Avenue), and free **Concert**, featuring a variety of music at Mosholu Parkway and Bainbridge Avenue, both from noon to 6 p.m.

A full event list of **Bronx Week events**, an 11-day celebration of the borough and its offerings, May 10 to 20, can be found at www.ilovethebronx.com.

Exhibits

Bronx Museum of the Arts, 1040 Grand Concourse, presents **Oded Halahmy-Exile is Home and Moses Ros: Landing/Aterrizarje**, 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.

Rafaela (Ella) Santos, 315 E. 201st St., presents her solo art exhibit **W/O [man] Hood**, through May 27 from 1 to 5 p.m.

Library Events

The Bronx Library Center, 310 E. Kingsbridge Rd., presents for children: **Peter Rabbit: A Children's Opera**: (ages 3 to 12), featuring classical music and Q&A, May 12 at 2 p.m. Teens/young adults can enjoy **film**: "Harry Potter," May 22 at 4 p.m. For more information, call (718) 579-4244/46/57 or visit www.nysl.org.

The Mosholu Library, 285 E. 205th St., offers for children ages 5 to 12: **Crafty Fridays at 3 p.m.**: crafts, May 11 and 18; and **STEM: Kids Science at 3 p.m.**: air gravity, May 15 and 22. Teens/young adults can enjoy: **We Are the World: Understanding Salsa**: featuring instruments, music, and lyrics, May 18 at 3:30 p.m.; and **film**: "Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle," May 19 at 1:30 p.m. Adults can attend: **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 ages 5 to 12: **Afternoon Arts**: guided craft hour to make beautiful creation, May 14 at 3:30 p.m.; and **Circuits, Science, and Project Making**: to learn about science and circuitry and make a bracelet or wristband (all materials provided), May 21 at 3:30 p.m. For more information, call (718) 549-5200.

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY TO ALL OUR MOM READERS!

NOTE: Items for consideration may be mailed to our office or sent to norwoodnews@norwoodnews.org, and should be received by May 14 for the next publication date of May 24.

Homicides in Norwood

(continued from page 1)

wanted for the shooting.

According to the FDNY, paramedics were called to the front of 3322 Perry Ave. at 11:20 a.m. for the shooting. Police later identified Saunders as the victim. Saunders has an address in Elmhurst, Queens, that the city Buildings Department declared unsafe. A partial vacate order was issued eight days before Saunders died. The local 52nd Precinct, which covers the Norwood area, said Saunders had an arrest record and was known by police.

Sections of Perry Avenue, East 209th Street and Hull Avenue were cordoned off for the rest of the afternoon that Saunders was killed. Detectives from the NYPD's Crime Scene Unit would return the following day, prompting some residents to think that a retaliatory incident took place.

Within a day, wanted posters of two suspects linked to Saunders' killing were released to community stakeholders. Tanisha Banks and Tyrone Frank were named as suspects in the shooting. Video surveillance showed the pair was last seen driving in a black 2015 Honda Civic with a Connecticut license plate.

Meantime, police had stepped up patrols around the area.

The fatal shooting is the second in Norwood this year, well before the year's half-way mark, underscoring the rarity of these homicides in the area.

A lifelong Norwood resident who only went by Chris said the two shootings are unusual for the neighborhood. "[Norwood's] not that bad. You know, it happens everywhere. Even in rich neighborhoods, they kill people. Now down there, past Fordham, they're killing people every day down there."

Norwood experienced one homicide last year in the fatal shooting of resident Michael Vermong in the overnight hours of March 29. Jamel Burney was charged with second degree murder, manslaughter, and criminal possession of a weapon in the crime.

Norwood resident Silve Espinoza agrees that neighborhoods south of Norwood deal with shooting incidents regularly, saying, "In the other summers that have passed, you've had something happen, but then the rest of the summer, nothing happens. A fight here or there, but it's not something that's consistent out here. Maybe in the South Bronx, but not out here."

First Shooting of '18

The fatal shooting came nine days after the 52nd Precinct reported its first homicide of the year. On April 23, a 38-year-old man was shot inside an apartment at 3152 Hull Ave., less than a half-mile from the May 1 shooting. The victim, unresponsive, was taken to the St. Barnabas Hospital trauma unit where he was pronounced dead upon arrival. The victim was identified as Rommel Goode, 38, of Brooklyn. On May 7, police announced the arrest of Darick Johnson, 31, for Goode's death.

Deputy Inspector Peter Fiorillo said the year's first homicide was the result of a "dispute between the ex-boyfriend who was staying with a young lady in the house and her cousin."

At the April 26 52nd Precinct Community Council meeting, Fiorillo told residents, "You look at our numbers, you look at our statistics. It looks like we're up in crime. Is it really that bad? It's concerning you know, but a lot of what I'm seeing is, especially this year. We're seeing a lot of friend and acquaintance relationships between the victim and the bad person, which means I'm having people who are robbing, stabbing, stealing from people who they know."

Overall major crime—including murder, rape, robbery, assault, burglary, grand larceny and car robberies—is up 13.85 percent within the Five-Two as of press time.

Fiorillo continued, "A lot of our crime is happening inside. Our officers are not in your apartments." He added, "These are things that are not happening in the street and they're not visible to your officers to see."

Brenda Caldwell, president of the 52nd Precinct Community Council, said residents shouldn't worry about the recent spate of shootings in the neighborhood, citing the nature of the incidents. "It's personal things that have been going on. I don't want it to happen at all," Caldwell said. "It sort of like calms you down, the fact that it's not anyone going around, randomly doing this."

Not everyone is convinced of these shootings' infrequency in Norwood. James, the man who tried reviving Saunders, worries that the recent incidents may foreshadow what's to come in the warmer months. He said, "Honestly, in the summer you can't tell. It's hit or miss. Hopefully this summer will be good, but with the way it started, don't look too good."

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**