

United Coalition secures mobile postal van for Noble Mansion residents

by Bobby Giardinii
This week, the United Coalition Association, a not-profit charitable organization that gives self-empowering and educational seminars, announced the addition of a new postal mobile unit from the West Farms Post Office Station.

On behalf of the Noble Mansion Tenants Association and the community area residents of E. 174th Street and Roperdine Avenue, the United Coalition Association presented the postal mobile unit. The postal mobile unit

will be parked at that location on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 8 to 11 a.m. during a projected three month trial period, and perhaps permanently if successful.

United Coalition Association executive director and founder Ronald Savage, Jr. said the organization penned a 140-signature petition calling for the mobile unit last week after residents complained of the walking distance from that area to the general post office. Savage said the mobile unit would provide those in the area with stamps,

envelopes, and certified mail. "Basically everything but money orders and large packages will be available," Savage explained.

"It's very important to have access to the post office," he added. "In this community, there is very little available to the residents, considering the distance and minimal storefronts. Many residents, especially some of the older residents, were walking to the general post office and now they won't have to take that long a trip."

Savage said he was surprised that the post office acted so quickly on the petition and also very happy that they carried enough about the community to make the addition.

"I was looking to help the community, especially with senior citizens, many of whom signed the peti-

tion," said Nilza Moreado, acting manager for Bronx Parked Units, which provides the postal mobile unit. "Mr. Savage contacted me and sent me a copy of the signature, and we worked out a schedule for the mobile unit. The unit is a tremendous convenience and should provide those in the neighborhood with all their postal needs."

Moreado said the chance of the mobile unit becoming a fixture in the community depend solely on the success over the trial period.

"We will have to see what happens," she said. "For now, it's a welcome addition that we are happy to have in the community."

Savage said he'll be about to send out the mobile unit on Tuesday. "I hope that the community will be pleased with the service," he said. *By Bobby Giardinii*

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Coalition Association at (718) 842-3751 or log on to their website at www.unitedcoalitionassociation.org

Savage started the organization in February to show students the importance of staying in school, and also trying to get young children out of gangs by giving them valuable information for success. "Our organization holds community meetings on how people can make their community better," said Savage, adding that the organization is a registered with the New York State Attorney General's Charities Bureau. "This is a wide range, from getting drug dealers out of your community to help bringing relationships between state representatives, elected officials and local communities. We are looking to have a voice on local and national governmental issues."