JUNE 2015

A message from Ms. Nizjoni Granville, Chairperson

For the last two years, Community Board No. 8 has received complaints from residents stating that we are unwilling to request a reduction in Alternate Side Parking (ASP) cleaning days. Residents believe that our current 4 days per week cleaning schedule is too much for a district that is relatively clean. However, this information is incorrect. Community Board 8 does, in fact, support a reduction in Alternate Side Cleaning days. Our scorecard rating, however, does not reflect our desires. For those of you that are not aware, the scorecard rating is a cleanliness rating for streets and sidewalks that gives the Dept. of Sanitation an idea of how clean our streets and sidewalks are.

To help address concern over the scorecard and the repeated requests to reduce ASP, as well as to give tenants and homeowners valuable information on environment and sanitation related issues, the Environment and Sanitation Committee of CB 8 held an Awareness Forum on May 20, 2015. Representatives from the Dept. of Sanitation, Dept. of Environmental Protection, Con Edion, and National Grid were all on hand to discuss various issues—including the scorecard. Unfortunately, the event was attended by a mere twelve people.

This was not the first time that a committee sponsored event has been ill attended by Board members and community residents alike. Last year, the SLA and Sidewalk Café review committee hosted a Night Life forum for business owners and residents concerned with businesses that possess a liquor license. The New York State Liquor Authority, DEP, Dept. of Buildings, FDNY, and NYPD were all on hand to discuss their role in the liquor licensing and complaint process. Unfortunately, only 20 people were in attendance. Also last year, the Economic Development Committee held an economic forum designed to help people better understand their financial options. The Parks Committee also held a Community Awareness Forum with different organizations and agencies invited to showcase what they offer to the community. Like the other events and forums, both were poorly attended.

The lack of support at Community Board sponsored events engenders a lackluster mindset by the agencies, who become unwilling to come out to events in the future. It is extremely difficult to gather so many agencies in one location for a forum and have them bring supplies and
materials and present before an empty room. It discourages our committees from wanting to host future forums.

Members and residents alike need to participate more in community functions. They are held for the benefit of all. While it is mandatory that Board members participate on a minimum of two committees and attend general meetings monthly, it is also important for them to support the committees' efforts in hosting informational forums. The information is not exclusively for Board members; it is for the entire community. Therefore, I beseech all of you to try to be more involved in the future and attend a few of these events and forums. There is no shortage of valuable information to be obtained.

I sincerely thank you for your interest in Community Board 8 and hope that it is heightened in the future. —Nizjoni Granville

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District Manager’s Report

We would like to welcome the following new members to the Board: Mr. Michael Cox, Ms. Liz Grefrath, Mr. Yahay O. Raji, Ms. Opel Richards, and Mr. Adam Sachs. May your time on the Board be well spent.

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IDENTIFY AND REPORT GAS LEAKS

In wake of the many gas leaks and explosions across the city, Con Edison and National Grid (in Brooklyn) are urging customers to be diligent in noticing and reporting gas leaks.

Natural gas has a distinctive, strong odor similar to rotten eggs. If you see a white cloud, mist, fog, bubbles in standing water, blowing dust, or vegetation that appears to be dead or dying for no reason, or hear a roaring, hissing, or whistling sound, it may be an indication of a gas leak.

If you suspect a gas leak, evacuate immediately and inform your neighbors to do the same. If the smell is very strong, open your windows before evacuating to give the gas an opportunity to escape rather than collect in a confined space, thus increasing the chances of an explosion. Call Con Ed (if outside of Brooklyn) immediately at 1-800-752-6633 or National Grid (only in Brooklyn) at 718-643-4050.

Do not do anything that could create a spark, thus igniting the gas and causing an explosion. Sparks are caused by many normal activities and things that we would not suspect. Do not light matches, turn on or off appliances and light switches, use a telephone of any kind, ring a doorbell, or start a car. Any of these activities would be enough to cause a deadly explosion if indeed there is a gas leak.

For additional information and safety tips on natural gas, visit www.coned.com or www.nationalgrid.com and go their customer support sections.

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SUMMER FIRE SAFETY

The FDNY’s Fire Safety Education Division would like you to know the following ways to stay safe this summer while still beating the heat and enjoying the warm weather.
First, please remember that fireworks are illegal in New York City. Every year, hundreds of children and adults alike get injured from improperly handling and using fireworks. Amateurs can suffer devastating burns, other injuries, inadvertently cause fires to erupt in vulnerable structures. If you see someone illegally using or selling fireworks, call 311 to report it and eliminate unnecessary potential dangers.

Secondly, an open hydrant can waste as much as 1000 gallons of water per minute—drastically reducing water pressure for all fire hydrants connected to the line. 1000 gallons is also as much as an entire family of four will use in a year! Beat the heat by calling your local fire house and asking a fireman to install a sprinkler cap. Hydrants in use with a sprinkler cap use much less water and have a negligible effect on water pressure in case of emergencies. In addition, not having a full blast stream of water hitting the skin makes it easier and safer for kids to enjoy the sprinkle effect and keep cool.

Thirdly, everyone knows that the summer time is the best time to grill and sit outside enjoying warm summer nights. No one wants to use the oven inside the hot house. Use your grills carefully. Follow these guidelines to protect yourself, your home, and other properties while you enjoy grilled food:

**Propane BBQ Grills**
- Check the tubes that lead into the burner for any blockage from insects or food grease. Use a pipe cleaner to clear any blockage and push it thru the main part of the burner.
- Visually inspect propane hoses for cracking, brittleness, holes, and leaks. A soap and water solution may be used to test for leaks. Never use a flame to check for gas leaks!
- Move propane hoses as far as possible from hot surfaces and dripping grease.
- Make sure your propane tank is free of dents, gouges, bulges, corrosion, leakage, or excessive rust. If any of these defects are evident, return the tank to your distributor.
- Do not attempt to repair the propane tank valve or the appliance yourself. Have a licensed, qualified person make any needed repairs.
- Do not use in enclosed spaces as carbon monoxide may accumulate.
- Position the grill in an open area at least 10 feet away from buildings, deck railings, out from under eaves and overhanging branches, and away from any other type of combustible material.
- Use utensils with long handles to avoid burns and splatters; wear short sleeves or tight cuffed sleeves while wearing flame retardant mitts to avoid burns.
- Have a charged garden hose or bucket of sand nearby to extinguish any small flare-ups. Never leave your grill unattended.

However, please keep in mind that it is **strictly prohibited** in New York City to use portable patio fireplaces, patio hearths, fire pits, and chimneys in the yard. And definitely be careful with charcoal grills and your use of lighter fluid!

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ATTENTION: HOMEOWNERS

Protect yourself from the cost of water and sewer service line repairs! Water and sewer service line emergencies can be complicated and costly to repair. American Water Resources (AWR) is the exclusive service line protection provider of the New York City Dept. of Environmental Protection (DEP). AWR is the leading provider of Water and Sewer Service Line Protection Programs protecting customers in 39 states plus Washington, DC.

Property owners are responsible to repair any service line issues. Most homeowner insurance policies do not cover service line repair costs. AWR is basically insurance for your water and sewer lines! AWR protected customers can have a local master plumber dispatched to their homes within 4 hours of calling in an emergency.

Unprotected, the cost of a water service line leak or break can run between $3,000 and $5,000. The average cost of a sewer service line break can run between $10,000 and $15,000. With AWR coverage, the protected homeowner cost is $0. For combined protection, the monthly program cost is a mere $13 and $4.50 for water service line coverage only and $8.50 for sewer service line only. Don’t you think it’s worthwhile to get covered?

For more information, call 888-300-3570 or visit www.awrusa.com/nyc.

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RESIDENTIAL REBATE PROGRAM

It is easy to make smart energy choices with rebates for homeowners with Con Edison’s Residential Rebate Program! Con Edison’s Green Team rebates can save you money and energy. There are plenty of ways to save at your 1-4 unit home.

Recycle your old appliances and receive money! Upgrade your equipment and save! If you have a freezer or refrigerator, Con Ed will pick it up at a time convenient for you, recycle it for free, and give you $50 as a thank you. During your pickup, Con Ed can also collect and recycle your old, inefficient window or wall air-conditioner units.

Install high-efficiency appliances and get $50 refrigerator rebate for eligible models; $10 Energy Star dehumidifier rebate; $20 Energy Star room A/C rebate. These models use 10-30% less electricity than conventional models to save you money and energy over the long run, reducing your spending and your carbon footprint.

To find out which models are eligible for an appliance rebate, visit www.conedhyvacrebates.com/rebate. To schedule a recycling pickup or for more information about these programs, call 1-800-430-9505 or visit www.coned.com/greenteam.

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SUMMER READING PROGRAM

The Brooklyn Public Library’s Summer Reading Program is in full swing! Summer Reading is an annual program that encourages children and families to visit their neighborhood libraries for reading and fun activities.

Reading over the summer months is critical to helping kids maintain and improve their reading skills. Please
encourage students of all ages to be Brooklyn Summer Readers with the public library! For more information, visit http://www.bklynlibrary.org/summer.

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THE ART OF STORYTELLING AT WEEKSVILLE

The Weeksville Heritage Center (WHC), located at 158 Buffalo Avenue, is pleased to present, Weeksville Weekends “Home,” on Saturday, June 13, 2015. Come out for an afternoon of art workshops, music, dance performances, face painting, giveaways, and more!

Weeksville Heritage Center is located at 160 Buffalo Avenue (between Bergen Street and St. Marks Avenue). Visit www.weeksvillesociety.org for more information.

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ROADMAP FOR MENTAL HEALTH

NYC First Lady Chirlane McCray and the New York City Dept. of Health and Mental Hygiene are pleased to present: Roadmap for Mental Health.

The Brooklyn session will be hosted by Borough President Eric Adams on Tuesday, June 16, 2015 from 6 to 8 PM at Brooklyn Borough Hall located at 209 Joralemon Street, Downtown Brooklyn.

Learn about and discuss a new vision for mental health services in New York City. Space is limited so please arrive early.

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INTERACTIVE FIRST TIME HOMEBUYER WORKSHOP

The Local Development Corporation of Crown Heights is pleased to present, “Interactive First Time Homebuyer Workshop” series for those that are tired of renting, looking to buy a new house, or interested in learning the do’s and don’ts of purchasing a new home.

Go to any one of their free workshops offered on Tuesdays, June 16, 2015 and June 23, 2015 from 6-8 PM to learn more! The workshops will be held at Crown Heights Apartments located at 1055 St. John’s Place, Community Room, Brooklyn.

To register, email Dorothy McLaurin at DMcLaurin@LDCCH.org or Yinery Martinez at LDCCH752@aol.com or call 718-467-8800.

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BEGIN AGAIN

Join District Attorney Kenneth Thompson for Begin Again, an initiative designed to help individuals resolve outstanding summons warrants. Court and Defense attorneys will be available to help with warrants for consumption of alcohol in public, unlawful possession of marijuana, sidewalk bicycle riding, littering, transit fare evasion, loitering, in the park after closing, disorderly conduct, trespass, unleashed dog, spitting, making unreasonable noise, and many more.

Begin Again will be held on Friday, June 19, 2015 and Saturday June 20, 2015 at Emmanuel Baptist Church located at 279 Lafayette Avenue (corner of St. James Place), Brooklyn, from 9 AM to 3 PM.
For more information, call 718-250-3888 or visit www.brooklynda.org.

THE CITY SPEAKS: BRINGING RESIDENTS AND AGENCIES TOGETHER

Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams in partnership with Brooklyn Community Boards, invites you to attend “The City Speaks,” an opportunity for residents to meet the representatives of government agencies and learn about their policies and guidelines on the services they provide.

The next session of The City Speaks will feature the NYC Dept. of Parks and Recreation on Wednesday, June 24, 2015 starting at 5:30 PM. There will be a discussion Q&A on tree services: Million Tree Initiative, planting trees, tree pruning and removal; parks, recreation and playgrounds; beaches and pools; dog runs; community gardens; special events permits; and much more.

Registration begins at 5:30 PM and the program begins at 6 at Brooklyn Borough Hall, 209 Joralemon Street, Community Room, Downtown Brooklyn. RSVP to 718-802-3777.

WELLNESS WEDNESDAYS

Wellness Wednesdays is an adult education program designed to assist adults in understanding certain areas of health related issues by providing information.

Wednesday, June 24, 2015 from 6 to 7 PM is “Mens Month: Cancer Screenings “HE” Needs!”. Wednesday, August 26, 2015 is HIV/AIDS & STD Awareness and Testing. All seminars are for information purposes only. If you have any health issues, please seek medical advice from your primary care practitioner or qualified licensed practitioner for pre-existing concerns.

All seminars are held at Interfaith Medical Center located at 1545 Atlantic Avenue, Main Conference Room, 1st Floor. Call 718-613-4686 or 718-613-4140 for more information.

DANCE DANCE REVOLUTION

Berean Community and Family Life Center cordially invites you to attend its Dance Dance Revolution, 2nd Annual Fund Raiser Dance Marathon on Saturday, June 27, 2015 from 3 PM to 11 PM. There will be live performances, DJ, food, and dance battles at the event to be held at Berean Missionary Baptist Church, which is located at 1635 Bergen Street, Brooklyn.

To sign up to be a dancer, contact Sadiqa Delaney at 718-778-2438.

BROOKLYN MUSEUM EXHIBITION PREVIEW AND RECEPTION

The Trustees and Arnold Lehman, Shelby White, and Leon Levy Director of the Brooklyn Museum, invite you to attend the exhibition preview and opening reception for “The Rise of Sneaker Culture” and “Faile: Savage/Sacred Young Minds,” which will both run at the museum from July 10, 2015 to October 4, 2015.
The exhibition preview and reception will be held on Wednesday, July 8, 2015 from 6:30 to 8:30 PM at the Brooklyn Museum of Art located at 200 Eastern Parkway, Brooklyn.

Please RSVP by Wednesday, June 24, 2015 by email to special.events@brooklynmuseum.org or call 718-501-6424.

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EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Education Coordinator with State Youth Services

The State Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) is looking for Youth Education Coordinators to supervise teachers at residential centers. The application deadline is June 17, 2015 and the fee is $35.

The salary is $52,293 per year. If you work in New York City or in Nassau, Suffolk, Rockland, or Westchester counties, you will receive an additional $3,026 annual downstate adjustment.

As a Youth Education Coordinator, you would be responsible for supervising the education program in a small OCFS residential center. You would develop an overall education plan, hire and supervise teachers, evaluate staff performances, and assign students to appropriate classes.

Get more information or apply online by visiting http://goo.gl/789z8A.

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Resource Coordinator

New York State Unified Court System is hiring a Resource Coordinator for the Supreme Court, Kings County, Mental Health Court. Base salary is $51,783 + $3,697 Location Pay.

For more information and directions on how to apply, visit: http://www.brooklyncb8.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/ResourceCoordinatorII_26501-1.jpg.

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Assistant District Manager

Brooklyn Community Board 6 is looking to hire an Assistant District Manager. Salary: $35,517 (New City Employee) or $38,301-$57,819 (Incumbent Rate).


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The following is a summary of the year-to-date CompStat Crime report covering the week of 05/25/15 through 05/31/15.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year-to-Date</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>%Chg</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Murder</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>-50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rape</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>-10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robbery</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>126</td>
<td>-7.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Felony Assault</td>
<td>137</td>
<td>154</td>
<td>-11.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burglary</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>124</td>
<td>-24.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Larceny</td>
<td>176</td>
<td>196</td>
<td>-10.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gr. Larceny Auto</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>-28.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The following is a summary of the year-to-date F.D.N.Y Emergency Statistics through May 2015.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Month</th>
<th>YTD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Structural Fires</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Structural</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>165</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Fires</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>301</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suspicious Fires</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Medical Emergencies</td>
<td>242</td>
<td>1360</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Emergencies</td>
<td>305</td>
<td>1375</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Incidents</td>
<td>613</td>
<td>3145</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We would like to congratulate Dr. Frederick Monderson on the birth of his daughter.

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The next 78th Precinct Community Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 30, 2015 at 7:30 PM at the 78th Precinct located at 65 6th Avenue, Brooklyn.

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We urge everyone to adhere to the Dept. of Sanitation’s routing times of 8 AM to 9 AM and Noon to 1 PM daily. The front of your property should be swept and free of debris 18 inches into the street. All sweepings must be bagged and disposed of properly. This will help us improve our scorecard rating which was 88.1 for streets and 92.0 for sidewalks for the month of May.

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The next meeting of Community Board No. 8 will be held on Thursday, September 10, 2015 at a location to be determined.

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ACROSS THE BOARD is a monthly publication:

Nizjoni Granville, Chairperson
Michelle George, Dist. Manager/Editor
Julia Neale, Community Associate
Melanie Grant, Community Assistant

Community Board No. 8
1291 St. Marks Avenue, Brooklyn, N.Y.
718-467-5574
Fax: 718-778-2979

Website: www.brooklyncb8.org
Email: brooklyncb8@gmail.com

We would like to wish the happiest of birthdays to Mr. James Ellis and Ms. Diana Foster, who will celebrate birthdays in June; Ms. Kim Albert, Ms. Ethel Tyus, Mr. Robert Witherwax, and Ms. Michelle George, who will celebrate birthdays in July; and Ms. Shalawn Langhorne and Ms. Vilma Zuniga, who will celebrate birthdays in August.