FEBRUARY 2019

SPECIAL ELECTION FOR PUBLIC ADVOCATE

Since Letitia James made history by becoming New York State’s first black woman elected to a statewide office as Attorney General, her old job as Public Advocate of New York City has become vacant. As such, Governor Cuomo has called for a special election to fill the vacant seat.

On Tuesday, February 26, 2019, we urge everyone to get out and vote in the Special Election for Public Advocate. ALL REGISTERED NYC VOTERS CAN PARTICIPATE IN THIS ELECTION.

Municipal Services Update

The following is a summary of the year-to-date CompStat Crime report covering the week of 01/28/19 through 02/03/19.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>%Chg</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Murder</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rape</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robbery</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>16.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Felony Assault</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>-4.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burglary</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>-20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Larceny</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>-17.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GL Auto</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The overall change year-to-date is -6.9%.

VOLUME 41, NO. 2

The Department of Sanitation cleanliness rating of our streets, better known as the “scorecard” rating, was 97.9% for clean streets and 97.6% for sidewalks for the month of January.

A note about trash collection and corner basket service during “snow protocol.” When the Office of Emergency Management issues a snow alert, the Dept. of Sanitation goes into what is known as “snow protocol.” This means that most of the Department’s resources are shifted to snow removal, salt spreaders, and anything else related to keeping our streets clear and in decent driving conditions during the forecasted treacherous weather. Unfortunately, this means that the corner baskets might seem a bit neglected. It also means that your garbage might be collected a little later than usual, or even missed entirely for the day.

However, please know that the individuals of BK8, the garage that services Community Board 8, will do their best to get things back to normal as quickly as possible. We urge patience, and we ask you to pay attention to the Office of Emergency Management’s Snow Alerts, as this will inform you whether or not the issues with collection are due to a missed collection, or rather, snow protocol.

Finally, we continue to urge everyone to adhere to the Dept. of Sanitation’s residential enforcement routing times of 8 AM to 9 AM and 6 PM to 7 PM daily. Please clean in front of your properties and 18 inches into the gutter.
area of the street. All sweepings must be bagged and disposed of properly. Thank you for your assistance in helping to keep the District clean.

UPDATE ON HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBILITY AT THE EASTERN PARKWAY/BROOKLYN MUSEUM 2/3 STATION

MTA NYC Transit is currently performing Phase 1 of the Eastern Parkway/Brooklyn Museum 2/3 station ADA project on the north side of Eastern Parkway between Washington Avenue and Underhill Avenue. This phase includes widening the existing station staircase on the Eastern Parkway median and performing associated mezzanine work, and is scheduled to continue until September 2019.

MTA/NYC Transit will be expediting work on this project, and will also begin work on the south side of Eastern Parkway (Brooklyn Museum and Brooklyn Botanic Garden side) later this month to begin Phase 2 of the project (installation of street to mezzanine elevator). They will be installing street barricades on Brooklyn Museum property, between the museum and Botanic Garden in the coming weeks. These barricades will not be extending onto Eastern Parkway until later this year, so no traffic changes on Eastern Parkway will be necessitated in Phase 2.

The Eastern Parkway entrance to the parking lot for the Brooklyn Museum will be open as an “exit only” during the weekends during Phase 2 in order to accommodate their customers. However, during Phase 3, which is slated to begin in September 2019, the parking lot will be closed until early 2020.

PROTECT YOUR MAIL

Mail theft can occur anywhere and with any type of mailbox. These thefts often take place under the cover of darkness or in the early morning hours, when few witnesses may be around. That is why it is very important to learn the steps you can use to prevent becoming a victim of this crime.

- Deposit outgoing mail into blue collection boxes before the final pick up of the same day of deposit. Check the pick-up schedule posted on the box to ensure your mail will not sit in the box overnight or over the weekend.

- Collect your mail from your mailbox every day as soon as possible after it is delivered. Do not allow mail to accumulate, even in a locked mailbox.

- If you have concerns about security in your neighborhood, place mail in a collection box in another area, in a secure receptacle at your place of business, or at a Post Office.

- If you see any suspicious substance, such as glue or other sticky product on the mailbox, please contact your local Post Office to report it, and notify Postal Inspectors. To reach the New York Division of the U.S. Postal Inspection Service by phone, call 212-330-2400.

- Immediately report any suspicious activity at any mail receptacle to your local police.

You can report mail theft, identity theft, fraud or other crimes involving the U.S. Mail online 24/7, by visiting the Inspection Service website at https://postalinspectors.usps.gov/. You can also call the national hotline at 877-876-2455.

In terms of mail security, the United States Post Office is deploying high security collection boxes throughout the Triboro District, prioritizing areas identified by the Inspection Service and NYPD. You may have noticed some local mail boxes have replaced their handle pull collection option to a narrow slit. These are the new high security collection boxes. Furthermore, USPS is continuing to educate the public on mail crime to help heighten awareness of the dangers of leaving
mail, especially if it contains personally identifiable information, in a collection box after the collection time has passed.

For more information, visit www.usps.com.

~ ~ ~

CON EDISON PROPOSED INVESTMENTS AND RATE CHANGES

Con Edison is seeking approval for new electric and gas delivery rates in 2020 to fund infrastructure and other investments that would give customers more convenient access to clean, energy-saving products; enhance safety and reliability; and make it easier for customers to get information about their usage and service. If approved, please expect a minimum of an 8% increase in your electric bills, and for Con Ed gas customers, an even higher percentage increase on your gas service.

The proposal is subject to a public rate review by the New York State Public Service Commission and seeks an additional $485 million to run the company’s electric delivery system in 2020 and $210 million for the natural gas delivery system.

For electric, the company’s plan includes:

- Building infrastructure for publicly available quick vehicle chargers. The chargers would provide a cumulative total of 30 megawatts (MW), enough for about 64,000 electric vehicles.
- Installing energy storage on six company properties. The company would charge the batteries at times when demand for power is low and discharge the power to serve customers at times when demand is high, helping to manage the supply of energy.
- Continuing a reliance on non-wire solutions (meaning working with customers to help them use less power while still having the heating, lighting and cooling they need). This approach helps the company avoid or defer building infrastructure.
- Programs that pay customers who make upgrades to HVAC, lighting, appliances and other equipment. These upgrades reduce the amount of power flowing on the grid and emissions into the air.
- Installing smart sensors in manholes to detect a buildup of gas and heat and alert crews to respond, enhancing safety and reliability.

Gas Proposal (for customers outside of Brooklyn and Staten Island)

- Continue to replace more than 90 miles of mains a year as part of a 20-year replacement plan initiated in 2017. The program targets steel and cast-iron pipe for replacement with durable plastic piping.
- Install in homes and businesses natural gas detectors that communicate through the company’s smart metering infrastructure. This advances customer safety.
- Proposals to fund enhanced gas efficiency to further the company’s Smart Solutions program for cleaner energy alternatives.

Environmental Impacts

Con Edison, which has reduced its carbon emissions 49 percent since 2005, is making new proposals that will protect the environment. The investments would help the state and the local governments meet their environmental goals of reducing greenhouse gases and other emissions.

The company proposes replacing high-voltage electric cables that contain a liquid coolant with coolant-free technology that will eliminate potential leaks and replacing equipment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve performance. The gas main replacement program will lower methane emissions by reducing leaks.

~ ~ ~
IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR RENTERS

On February 1st, the Department of Homes and Community Renewal (DHCR) published a list from their audit of its rent registration database and identified multifamily properties receiving, or which had previously received J-51 benefits, where the owner failed to register all of the apartments as required by the Rent Stabilization Law and the Roberts decision. You can view the results of this audit by visiting, http://www.nyshcr.org/Rent/J51/.

Additionally, the NYS HCR Office of Rent Administration (ORA) is pleased to introduce NYS Rent Connect, a new online tool to help tenants in rent regulated apartments quickly access information. NYS Rent Connect simplifies and modernizes interaction with ORA for rent stabilized and rent controlled tenants and building owners.

Tenants, owners, and their representatives can complete applications online related to:

- Lease issues
- Overcharge complaints
- Defective conditions in apartments
- High rent decontrol
- Owner restoration

Major Capital Improvement (MCI) cases:

- Responses to open MCI cases can now be filed online.
- Tenants, owners, and their representatives can estimate the impact of an MCI increase on the monthly rent amount using the MCI Payment Estimator tool.

NYS Rent Connect Assistant:

- A self-help tool offering easy access to records and forms, current rent increase information, and other general information.

You can explore the NYS Rent Connect tool by visiting https://rent.hcr.ny.gov/.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES

Three units of affordable housing (one studio apartment, and two 1-bedroom apartments) are available at 912 Bergen Street, Brooklyn. The studio is being rented at $904/month with an income range for a single person at $30,994-$43,860; the 1-bedrooms are being rented at $1,039 for the income range of $35,623-$43,860 for an individual or max of $50,100 for two people.

Interested persons should apply by mail by sending a self-addressed envelope to 912 Bergen Street Apartments, c/o Reside New York, 381 S5 Street, Brooklyn, NY 11211. Duplicate applications will result in forfeiture of consideration.

In addition, at 146 Pierrepont Street, there are 23 newly constructed units available. There are four studios available for $596/month for income ranges of $22,389-$29,240 for one person; five 1-bedrooms at $685 for the income range of $25,509-$29,240 for one person or max $33,400 for two people; and nine 2-bedrooms based on 30% of income in the 60% AMI bracket (amount of unit not listed on the flyer) with an income range of $42,618-$50,100 for two people, max $56,340 for three people, and max $62,580 for four people.

Interested persons should apply online at www.nyc.gov/housingconnect. You can also apply by mail by sending a self-addressed envelope to 146 Pierrepont Street Apartments, 1357 Broadway, Box 309, New York, NY 10018. Apply only once and only by one of the methods. Duplicate applications will result in forfeiture of consideration.
FREE HOUSING AND LEGAL SERVICES

Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams is offering free legal services for all. Legal services are available in the following areas at these times:

**Housing Discrimination for Individuals with Disabilities:** Second Friday of every month from 10 AM to 1 PM.

**Foreclosure Intervention and Prevention:** Second Wednesday of every month from 2 PM to 5 PM.

**Veteran’s Issues:** Every Tuesday from 9 AM to Noon.

**Housing Matters, Trusts and Estates, Elder Law, and Government Benefits:** Every second Thursday from 2 PM to 5 PM.

**Domestic Violence:** Third Monday from 10 AM to 4 PM.

**Family Law:** First Wednesday of every month from 4 PM to 7 PM.

Please call 718-802-3777 to make an appointment for any of these services. Appointments are required. All services are offered at Brooklyn Borough Hall located at 209 Joralemon Street, Downtown Brooklyn.

If so, please call 718-435-7585 and speak to John Goss. You can also email Mr. Goss at JGoss@brooklynhousing.org to schedule an appointment. Appointments are available by pre-registration, and will be given on Thursdays from 12 PM to 4 PM at the Shirley Chisholm State Office Building located at 55 Hanson Place, Brooklyn.

Also, in conjunction with New York Legal Assistance Group (NYLAG), the Councilwoman is offering free legal assistance. New York Legal Assistance Group (NYLAG) provides free civil legal services to New Yorkers who cannot afford a private attorney.

Through its Mobile Legal Help Center, NYLAG is able to offer its legal services on the ground, in the community. Staff aboard the van are able to provide assistance on a wide range of legal issues.

To schedule an appointment, call the Councilwoman’s office at 718-260-9191.

~~~~

SERVICES OFFERED BY ASSEMBLYWOMAN DIANA RICHARDSON

Assemblywoman Diana Richardson in collaboration with Neighborhood Housing Services of Brooklyn (NHS) is offering Tenant Support on **Wednesdays from 10:30 AM to 2 PM**. NHS offers the following resources: landlord and tenant resources; anti-eviction assistance; senior housing; rent arrears and rent subsidies referrals; affordable housing; housing lottery education; and much more.

NHS Brooklyn offers a comprehensive array of services for homeowners, homebuyers, and tenants, including first-time homebuyer education, financial coaching, home repair assistance, home insurance counseling, landlord training, foreclosure intervention, and tenant
support services. Most of these services are free to the public.

Labor Services are also being offered at the Assemblywoman’s office on Thursdays from 10 AM to 4 PM. Unemployment concerns, training, job seekers, and compliance appointments can be scheduled. Appointments are necessary.

Assemblywoman Richardson is also pleased to offer a Health Insurance Navigator Program on Mondays from 11 AM to 5 PM. Navigator Programs help to simplify the complicated world of selecting the health insurance plan that is right for you and your family. Individuals can qualify for insurance during this special enrollment period due to loss of health insurance (for reasons other than non-payment of premium), divorce or legal separation, birth or adoption of a child or placement of a child in foster care, and marriage or domestic partnership. Small businesses can apply at any time.

For more information on the Navigator Program or to schedule an appointment, call 718-875-9300.

All services are held at Assemblywoman Richardson’s office located at 330 Empire Blvd, 1st Floor, Brooklyn. Please call 718-771-3105 to schedule an appointment for free legal or tenant services, or to get additional information.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATIONS

The Brooklyn Neighborhood Improvement Association (BNIA) and The Brooklyn Arts Initiative (BAI) cordially invites you to their Black History Month Jazz Jam on Sunday, February 24, 2019 from 5:30 PM to 9:30 PM at BNIA located at 465 Sterling Place (off Washington Avenue), Brooklyn.

For more information or to RSVP, call 718-773-4116.

Brownsville Neighborhood Health Action Center is pleased to offer a Film Series in honor of Black History Month. Light refreshments will be served at each film screening, which will all be held at 259 Bristol Street (between Blake and Dumont Avenues), Brooklyn.

The film series includes The Great Debaters on Friday, February 15, 2019, To Kill a Mocking Bird on Friday, February 22, 2019, and Hidden Figures on Friday, March 1, 2019. All film screenings will be held from 5:30-7:30 PM. For more information, call 718-312-6130 or email ksuttonagnw@health.nyc.gov.

NOTICE OF PROPERTY VALUE PUBLIC SESSIONS

Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams in partnership with the NYC Dept. of Finance and the NYC Tax Commission invite you to a Notice of Property Value Public Session on Tuesday, February 19, 2019 from 5-7 PM at Brooklyn Borough Hall located at 209 Joralemon Street, Downtown Brooklyn.

At the event you can:

- Consult with the NYC Dept. of Finance or the NYC Tax Commission to discuss your property
- Ask questions about your property’s assessed and market value
- Learn how to dispute your property’s assessed value
- Learn how to get your property description changed (e.g., number of units in your building or square footage)
- Learn about exemptions and how to apply for them.
To RSVP, call 718-802-3700 or email cassistance@brooklynbp.nyc.gov.

STATE OF THE 5TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

Assemblyman Walter Mosley invites you to attend his State of the District 2019 address on Wednesday, February 20, 2019 from 6-8 PM at St. Joseph’s College located at 245 Clinton Avenue, Brooklyn. Please RSVP to daviselliottg@nyassembly.gov or by calling 718-596-0100. The event is free and open to the public.

BREAKFAST WORKSHOP CONFERENCE

The Brooklyn Neighborhood Improvement Association (BNIA) invites you to join them at their monthly Breakfast Workshop Conference on Saturday, February 23, 2019 from 10 AM to Noon at BNIA located at 465 Sterling Place (off of Washington Avenue), Brooklyn.

Topics include: landlord/tenant issues; foreclosures; rentals; SRIE/DRIE; financial literacy; and credit counseling. In addition, HPD will be present along with legal services.

Continental breakfast will be served. For more information or to RSVP, call 718-773-4116.

GENTRIFICATION SUMMIT

Medgar Evers College invites you to attend the 2019 Gentrification Summit: The Impact of Gentrification on the Urban Church, on Friday, March 1, 2019 from 10 AM to 2 PM at 1638 Bedford Avenue, Academic Building 1, Dining Hall, Brooklyn.

Join the college for presentations and conversations on the economic impact of gentrification, strategies on space utilization, reviewing and understanding legal agreements, and the importance of resource collaboration.

RSVP via email to amagrunder@mec.cuny.edu or calling 718-804-8229.

MAKING BROOKLYN BLOOM 2019

Brooklyn Botanic Garden is hosting its Annual Making Brooklyn Bloom Celebration on Saturday, March 9, 2019 from 10 AM to 4 PM. This year’s event is titled, “Stories of Home: People and Plants on the Greenest Block in Brooklyn.” BBG states: “Our block is a place where old meets new, where people (both young and old) from diverse origins weave vibrant colors and rhythms into creative planters, window boxes, and tree beds.”

Brooklyn Botanic Garden is located at 990 Washington Avenue. For more information, visit www.bb.org/mbb or call 718-623-7200.

COMMUNITY MEETINGS

The next General Membership Meeting of the Crown Heights North Association (CHNA) will be held on Wednesday, February 20, 2019 at 6:45 PM at St. Gregory the Great R.C. Church located at 999 St. John’s Place, corner of Brooklyn Avenue, Brooklyn. The invited speaker is Erin M. Tobin, Vice President for Policy and Preservation, with the Preservation League of New York State.

Councilman Robert Cornegy invites you to attend his next Monthly Advisory Board meeting on Saturday, February 23, 2019 from 10 AM to Noon at Restoration Plaza located at 1360 Fulton Street, Suite 500, Brooklyn. This month’s topic will be “Substance Abuse and the
K2 Epidemic.” For more information, please call 718-919-0740.

Assemblywoman Diana Richardson invites you to get Civic Minded! Please join her every 4th Saturday of the month (next meeting: **February 23, 2019**) from 2 to 4 PM to discuss issues in the community and create solutions to many of the community’s problems. All meetings are held at MS 61, 400 Empire Blvd, Brooklyn. For more information, contact the Assemblywoman's office at 718-771-3105.

~~~

**INTERNSHIP PROGRAMS, SCHOLARSHIPS, AND EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

**Youth Empowerment Program**

Bedstuy Campaign Against Hunger is a government funded organization that provides training services and paid internships for youth ages 16 to 24. Their Youth Empowerment Program targets youth that are currently not working, or not in school, and places them at a work site where they are paid $13/hour for a ten hour workweek, during which time they will gain experience.

The program also includes a workshop component that helps the participants with resume writing, interview skills, teamwork skills, as well as communication skills. These types of skills will improve participants' desirability in the job market, making them more likely to gain employment.

Applications are currently being accepted for the next cohort, which begins March 5, 2019 and extends to June 7, 2019. If you are interested in participating, please contact Mr. Johnny Futch at 718-773-3551 x 116.

Bedstuy Campaign Against Hunger is located at 2010 Fulton St. Brooklyn NY, 11223.

**Brooklyn Job Corps**

Brooklyn Job Corps is actively enrolling for all of their vocational trainings. Orientation is held every Wednesday at 8:30 am at 585 Dekalb Avenue, Brooklyn.

Brooklyn Job Corps is a free, self-paced HRA/NYCHA approved job training program designed to support young adults 17-24 years old, in the process of preparing for and maintaining full-time and living wage employment. The program offers career readiness preparation, employment training and hands on experience in the fields of:

- Security Officer (8 and 16)
- Culinary Arts
- A+ Certification
- Network Plus
- Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA)
- Certified Medical Assistant (CMA)

For more information, call 718-623-4032 or email sheard.whitney@jobcorps.org.

~~~

**Made in NY Production Crew**

Join the Production Crew of the Made in NY program by Brooklyn Workforce Innovations. This free Production Assistance training course includes job placement for up to two years paid work in NYC’s Film and Television industry.

Program qualification requirements are as follows:

- 18+ years in age
- NYC resident
- Unemployed or low income
- Available full time

Information sessions are held every Monday at 1 PM (latecomers will not be allowed entry) at Brooklyn Navy Yard Building 92 (enter the
Navy Yard at the intersection of Carlton Avenue and 63 Flushing Avenue), Brooklyn.

For directions visit www.bldg92.org. For more information about this program, visit www.bwnyc.org. Call 718-237-2017, ext 145 prior to attending the information session in case of emergency cancellations.

Direct Support Professional Training

The Direct Support Professional training is a free program designed to provide English Language Learners with the knowledge, practical skills, certifications, and English language skills required to be a competent Direct Support Professional.

This is a 9-week training program that runs from February through April 2019 with daytime classes held 3 days per week. Training offerings include:

- Introduction to Developmental Disabilities
- Working with Families and Support Systems
- Ethics and Professional Standards
- CPR, Strategies for Crisis Intervention & Prevention, Medication Administration, Fire Safety, and Promoting Positive Relationships certifications.

Eligibility requires are as follows:

- High intermediate/advanced English skills (speaking, reading, and writing)
- High School Diploma or Equivalency
- Driving permit or license
- Eligible to work in the US
- Experience or desire to be employed in the health industry
- Available to begin work after completing the program

For more information or to sign up for an information session, call 718-552-1140. All information sessions and course offerings are offered at the NYC College of Technology, Adult Learning Center, Division of Continuing Education, 25 Chapel Street, 4th Floor, Brooklyn.

Resident Economic Empowerment and Sustainability (REES)

Hudson Yards, a dramatic new neighborhood with shops, restaurants, offices and residences, and a great new public plaza, is opening in March 2019. Jobs are currently available, with priority given to NYCHA residents, veterans, homeless, formerly incarcerated, and people with disabilities. Positions available are: janitorial/cleaning services, security, hospitality, mailroom and delivery services loading dock, and logistics support.

To register for an interview, please visit www.hudsonyardsjobs.com. Workforce1 will be hosting optional resume and interview preparation workshops at Career Centers throughout the city. Please contact the Workforce1 Career Center nearest you to learn about the schedule of workshops. You can find your nearest center by visiting https://maps.nyc.gov/sbs/.

Brooklyn Educational Opportunity Center (BEOC)

Jump-start your future with tuition-free training at BEOC. They offer academic programs in College Prep, English as a Second Language (ESL), and High School Equivalency; career programs in Direct Support Professional, Medical Assistant, Medical E-Records and Office Administration, Medical Billing and E-Records, Tourism and Hospitality Operations; and even short term training in OSHA certification and Security Guard Training.
BEOC eligibility requirements are as follows:

- 17 or older
- US citizen, permanent resident, or refugee
- Minimum one year contiguous residency in New York State
- For college or career prep programs, you must have high school diploma or equivalency
- Have fewer than 33 college credits (except ESL)
- Must be low to moderate income

BEOC has day and evening classes, offers industry certifications, is an official HSE/TASC test site, and all programs are instructor led, computer based courses, and there is tutoring and academic student support.

For more information or to apply, visit www.sunybeoc.org, call 718-802-3330 or email admissions@beoc.cuny.edu.

NYC Comptroller 2019 Summer Internship Program

The Office of New York City Comptroller Scott Stringer seeks highly motivated interns with an interest in public service. Interns participate in hands-on departmental projects as well as an enrichment program that includes networking opportunities, professional development programming, and community service activities.

Qualified applicants must be enrolled in an accredited undergraduate or graduate degree program for the Fall 2019 semester. Successful candidates will have excellent communication, research skills, and relevant education and experience.

Undergraduate interns will receive an hourly salary in the range of $13-$15.50 based on college year level. Graduate and Law students will receive an hourly salary in the range of $16-$23, also based on year of study.

The program term is 9 weeks, from June 10th to August 8, 2019. Interns work 28 hours a week on a Monday-Thursday schedule. The application period closes on March 8, 2019.

To apply, visit https://comptroller.nyc.gov/jobs/summer-internship-program.

MWBE University (Minority and Women Owned Business Enterprises)

The MWBE University is a series of workshops designed to increase access to the Comptroller’s Office and citywide opportunities for MWBEs. Programs are offered in classroom format from 9:30 AM to Noon. Offerings are as follows:

February 28th: Win Your Next Contract and Get Paid: Learn how to conduct your own market analysis, check on the status of an existing contract, and know your rights in the contract dispute resolution process.

March 22nd: Become a Prequalified NYC Auditor: for CPAs only: Learn what it takes to become prequalified to conduct audits on behalf of New York City.

April 3rd: Accelerate the Digital Transformation of NYC: Learn what it takes to accelerate the digital transformation of your clients, including City agencies.

May 23rd: Become a NYC Depository Bank & Receive Tax Breaks: Learn how to become a NYC Designated Bank and receive tax breaks for contributing to NYC's economic development efforts.

August 2nd: Doing Business with the Comptroller's Office: Hear directly from the Comptroller's Office about opportunities for professional services, standard services, and goods contracts.
December 6th: The Future of MWBEs:
Discuss solutions and recommendations to help NYC MWBEs move to the next level and get briefed on the latest Making the Grade report.
All classroom trainings with the exception of the April 3rd class are offered at the David N. Dinkins Municipal Building located at 1 Centre Street, Room 1005 (March 22nd is offered in the 5th Floor Boardroom). The April 3rd class will be offered at Microsoft Offices located at 11 Times Square, 6th Floor.

To RSVP, visit http://comptrollerdiversity.eventbrite.com or email diversity@comptroller.nyc.gov. If you need interpretation services or other special accommodations, call 212-669-3916.

~~~~~

MWBE Opportunities at the Bedford Union Armory

There are numerous opportunities for MWBEs and Local Finishing Trades Contractors and Suppliers (painting, plumbing supplies, flooring, tile, appliances, lighting fixtures, plumbing fixtures) at the Bedford Union Armory, which is currently under development.

On Thursday, February 21, 2019, MWBEs and Local Finishing Trades Contractors and Suppliers are encouraged to stop by Crown Heights Apartments located at 1055 St. John’s Place, Brooklyn, in the Community Room from 10 AM to Noon to meet the project team and learn about bidding requirements.

To RSVP or for more information, contact BTN Consulting Services at 347-559-7980 or email admin1@btn-consulting.com.

~~~~~

NYPD Traffic Enforcement Agents

Traffic Enforcement is hiring additional agents. It is a union protected job with great benefits, promotional opportunities, various assignment levels, and retirement plan. Applicants can potentially earn over $38,000 after the first year.

For more information, visit www.nyc.gov/nypd or call 212-RECRUIT.

~~~~~

2020 Census Jobs

Are you a US Citizen 18 or older? Are you fluent in a second language (urgently needed languages are Japanese, Tagalog, and Vietnamese)? If so, then the 2020 Census may have a job for you in New York City. If interested, please go to https://2020census.gov/jobs.

~~~~~

Our Heartfelt Condolences

The last few weeks have been quite difficult for Community Board 8. Within a span of two weeks, we lost two revered members, Mr. Edison Stewart and Ms. Adelaide Miller.

Mr. Stewart, despite having been a member of CB 8 for a short while, was always very active in the community, serving as president of the Sterling Place Block Association (between Troy and Albany Avenues) for many years prior to his passing. Mr. Stewart began building the block association one member at a time, and provided great insight with his wisdom, wit, and intelligence on Board matters. He will surely be missed.

Ms. Miller also was a stalwart of the community. In the mid-1970s, Ms. Miller co-founded Nkiru Bookstore on Flatbush Avenue with her daughter, Leothy. Nkiru was often cited as the oldest African-American bookstore in Brooklyn, and the store’s original mission was to supply low-income communities in Brooklyn with multicultural children’s books,
introducing children of color to stories that would allow them to see their experiences reflected through literature. Eventually, the store began stocking texts from a wide range of black, Latino, Asian, and Native American writers. She was appointed to CB8 in 2007, but long before then, had actively participated and attended meetings. She applied for membership at the urging of District 8 staff, and served until her passing. She, too, will be truly missed.

As the city has spoken and demanded term limits for Community Board members, we use these two stalwarts of service as an example of what we need from new prospective members. A community board is only as strong and successful as the members who put forth the effort to improve the community.

The next 78th Precinct Community Council meeting will be held on **Tuesday, February 26, 2019** at 7:30 PM at the 78th Precinct located at 65 6th Avenue, Brooklyn, NY.

The next 77th Precinct Community Council meeting will be held on **Monday, March 11, 2019** at a location to be determined. Please call Community Affairs at 718-735-0634 to obtain the location.

The next Community Board 8 general meeting will be held on **Thursday, March 14, 2019 at 1000 Dean Street (between Classon and Franklin Avenues), Brooklyn** at 7 PM.

We wish the happiest of birthdays to our Board members, Mr. Fred Frazier, Ms. Atim Oton, Mr. Robert Puca, and Mr. Yves Vilus, who will celebrate a birthday in the month of February.

We wish a speedy recovery to Mr. Yves Vilus.

**ACROSS THE BOARD** is a monthly publication:

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

Community Board No. 8
1291 St. Marks Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11213
Phone: 718-467-5574/5620
Fax: 718-778-2979
Website: [www.brooklynycb8.org](http://www.brooklynycb8.org)
Email: brooklynycb8@gmail.com
Like us on Facebook/Community Board 8
Sign up for NextDoor at [www.nextdoor.com](http://www.nextdoor.com).