

# ACROSS THE BOARD

DECEMBER 2015

VOLUME 37, NO. 10

*IDNYC*

## *DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT*

**Update on Eastern Parkway between New York and Albany Avenues:** The NYC Dept. of Design and Construction (DDC) has begun Phase 3 of the Nostrand Avenue Select Bus Service, Safe Routes to Schools spanning four community boards in the vicinity of the following schools: PS 59, PS 375, Oholei Torah Elementary School, and Arista Preparatory School. The project is also in conjunction with the Nostrand Avenue Wayfinding Foundations. Please note that Safe Routes to School is based on Accident Data.

The project includes neckdowns (an extension of the curb area) to shorten the length of the crosswalk and also the installation of raised median islands on Eastern Parkway to provide a refuge area for pedestrian crossing.

For Oholei Torah, the project includes a neckdown at the NE corner of Brooklyn Avenue and Eastern Parkway on the westbound service road. In addition, a raised median island will be installed on the west side of the intersection at Eastern Parkway and Brooklyn Avenue. For Arista Prep, the project includes a raised median at Eastern Parkway and Kingston Avenue.

DDC presented on Safe Routes to School at the June 2012 Community Board meeting and the Board voted to support the project with the conditions that they make the raised median design consistent with the historic nature of Eastern Parkway and that a left turn signal be installed at the intersection of Eastern Parkway and Kinston Avenue.

IDNYC is the new, *free* identification card for all New York City residents, which gives all of us the opportunity to show who we are—New Yorkers. As a government-issued photo identification card, IDNYC secures the peace of mind and access to City services that come from having recognized identification. IDNYC benefits every city resident, including the most vulnerable communities—the homeless, youth, the elderly, undocumented immigrants, the formerly incarcerated and others who may have difficulty obtaining other government-issued ID.

IDNYC cardholders can access services and programs offered by the City as well as by businesses. IDNYC helps enhance public safety, by serving as a recognized ID for interacting with NYPD. It also helps New Yorkers gain access to all City buildings that provide services to the public and is accepted as a form of identification for accessing numerous City programs and services. **IDNYC also provides a dynamic series of benefits to cardholders, including a free one-year membership at many of the City's leading museums, zoos, concert halls, and botanical gardens.**

Sign up for your IDNYC card by December 31, 2015 if you want to gain access to these wonderful benefits. IDNYC has ongoing registration and has no deadline to apply.

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## ***EXTENDED POST OFFICE HOURS***

To help with the hustle of the holidays, United States Post Offices will be open on Sundays from 10 AM to 2 PM throughout the holiday season.

**ZONING FOR QUALITY AND AFFORDABILITY AND MANDATORY INCLUSIONARY HOUSING PUBLIC HEARING**

The City Planning Commission public hearing on 'Zoning for Quality and Affordability' and 'Mandatory Inclusionary Housing' will be on **Wednesday, December 16, 2015** starting at **9 am** at the Museum of the American Indian, Broadway and Bowling Green near Battery Park. It's CRITICAL that we have a large turnout at this hearing, which is expected to last much of the day.

You can send a letter to every elected official who will either have a direct vote or whose appointee will vote on the 'Zoning for Quality and Affordability' plan by going to [www.gvshp.org/zqa/](http://www.gvshp.org/zqa/). You can personalize your letters, but with a few clicks you send e-mails off to sixty key officials.



The **scorecard rating** for the month of November in District 8 was **90.9 for streets and 91.7 for sidewalks**.

Remember to sweep in front of your property and also 18 inches into the street. All sweepings must be bagged and disposed of properly.



The following is a summary of the year-to-date CompStat Crime report covering the week of 11/30/15 through 12/06/15.

|                  | Year-to-Date |      |       |
|------------------|--------------|------|-------|
|                  | 2015         | 2014 | %Chg  |
| Murder           | 11           | 8    | 37.5  |
| Rape             | 20           | 18   | 11.1  |
| Robbery          | 273          | 269  | 1.5   |
| Felony Assault   | 336          | 362  | -7.2  |
| Burglary         | 237          | 281  | -15.7 |
| Grand Larceny    | 438          | 486  | -9.9  |
| Gr. Larceny Auto | 95           | 125  | -24.0 |

The overall change year to date is **-9.0%**.



**SENIOR BENEFIT ASSISTANCE**

Great News! Every last Wednesday of the month from 10 AM to 4 PM the **Crown Heights Jewish Community Council (CHJCC)** will be in our office assisting seniors with completing the following applications: Food Stamps, Medicaid, Medicare Savings Program, Reduced Fare applications, Senior Citizen Rent Increase Exemption (SCRIE), Disabled Rent Increase Exemption (DRIE), and Senior Real Estate Tax Exemption.

Services will be available at the **Community Board 8 district office located at 1291 St. Marks Avenue (between Rochester and Buffalo Avenues), Brooklyn, NY**. You **MUST call to schedule an appointment as walk-ins are not allowed**.

This program is only available to seniors living in Crown Heights. To schedule an appointment, call Community Board 8 at 718-467-5574.



**CHRISTMAS IN CROWN HEIGHTS: A COMMUNITY CAROLING AND TREE LIGHTING EVENT**

Beulah Church of the Nazarene, in partnership with Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams, Assemblywoman Diana Richardson, and SOS Crown Heights invites you to join them as they celebrate **Christmas in Crown Heights: A Caroling and Tree Lighting event**. The event will be held on **Saturday, December 12, 2015** at 1250 St. John's Place (corner of Troy Avenue), Brooklyn. The caroling journey begins at 5 PM



**BROWER PARK ANNUAL TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY**

Councilman Robert Cornegy and the Crown Heights North Association, the Brooklyn Children's Museum, Friends of Brower Park, and Community Board 8 are pleased to present the **Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony** on **Sunday, December 13, 2015** from 5 to 7 PM at

**Brower Park**, Kingston Avenue between Park and Prospect Places.

Featuring performances by recording artists Vivian Green and Kyla Imani, Broadway actress K'Lynn Jackman of the Lion King, Brooklyn Ballet of the Brooklyn Nutcracker, and Broadway actor Marquise Neal of Kinky Boots, it is bound to be a festive time! All are welcomed to attend.



**UPCOMING EVENTS SPONSORED BY  
BOROUGH PRESIDENT ERIC L. ADAMS**

**Monday, December 14th at 6pm**  
**Tree Lighting** at Borough Hall

**Tuesday, December 15th from 11 AM to 12 PM**  
**National Day of Healing** at Borough Hall

**Tuesday, December 15th at 6pm**  
**One-to-One Counseling for Parents of Children with Special Needs** at Borough Hall

**Tuesday, December 15th at 6pm**  
**Neighborhoods.NYC Info Session** at Borough Hall

**Tuesday, December 15th at 6pm**  
**Free Legal Services Clinic to fight residential displacement**  
127 Pennsylvania Avenue, Brooklyn, NY

**Thursday, December 31st at 9pm**  
**New Year's Eve Coney Island Ball Drop**  
Coney Island - Steeple Chase Plaza on the boardwalk, Brooklyn, NY

**Thursday, December 31st at 11pm**  
**New Year's Eve Fireworks Display**  
Grand Army Plaza, Brooklyn

For more information about these and other events at Brooklyn Borough Hall, please call the events hotline at 718-802-2328 or visit [www.brooklyn-usa.org](http://www.brooklyn-usa.org). Borough Hall is located at 209 Joralemon Street, Downtown Brooklyn.



**HOLIDAY BOOK DRIVE**

Senator Jesse Hamilton 20th Senatorial District is pleased to announce his first annual **Holiday Book Drive from December 14<sup>th</sup> through December 31, 2015**. **Brooklyn drop off locations are:**

**PS 9**, 80 Underhill Avenue  
**Park Slope Armory Veteran Center**, 1402 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
**Brooklyn Boulders**, 575 Degraw Street

Help give the gift of literacy this season. For more information, call Brooklyn Boulders at 347-834-9066 or email [Hamilton@nysenate.gov](mailto:Hamilton@nysenate.gov).



**RECORD REPAIR INTAKE SESSION**

Community Service Society Next Door Project in collaboration with Councilman Robert Cornegy presents a **Record Repair Intake Session** on **Monday, December 14, 2015 at 10 AM** at Bedford Stuyvesant Restoration Plaza Community room located at 1368 Fulton Street, Brooklyn.

What if you are offered a job and you have to do a background check? Learn what is on your rap sheet before you look for a job. Services are free of charge for income eligible clients. You must provide proof of income.

To register for this session, please call Omayra Falcon at 718-919-0740 or Hazel Beckles Young Lao at 212-614-5556.



**7<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT  
AND TREE LIGHTING**

Councilwoman Darlene Mealy invites you to her **7<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas Concert and Tree Lighting** on **Tuesday, December 15, 2015 from 6-8 PM** at St. Matthews Church located at 1123 Eastern Parkway (between Utica and Schenectady Avenues).



To volunteer, please call 718-953-3097 or email [alipkind@council.nyc.gov](mailto:alipkind@council.nyc.gov).

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***GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE &  
MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM SEWER  
SYSTEMS***

There will be a **PUBLIC MEETING on the Citywide long term control plans on green infrastructure and municipal separate storm sewer systems** on **Wednesday, December 16, 2015** at LaGuardia Community College located at 31-10 Thomson Avenue, Long Island City, NY 11101 from 6-8 PM. The Dept. of Environmental Protection (DEP) will provide a brief presentation at 6:30 PM.

When there are heavy rains and the sewer system is at full capacity, a diluted mixture of rain water and sewage, also known as combined sewage, may overflow into local waterways as a combined sewer overflow. DEP is developing a combined sewer overflow Long Term Control Plan that will identify and evaluate alternatives to improve the water quality around the city. Participate in the meeting to provide your input in developing the plan.

To RSVP, please email [ltcp@dep.nyc.gov](mailto:ltcp@dep.nyc.gov) or call 718-595-4148. For more information on DEP' combined sewer overflow plan, please visit [www.nyc.gov/dep/ltcp](http://www.nyc.gov/dep/ltcp) or follow on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/NYCWater](http://www.facebook.com/NYCWater).

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***ANNUAL CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS  
PARTY***

The **West Indian American Carnival Association** is pleased to invite you to its **Annual Children's Christmas Party** on **Saturday, December 19, 2015 from 2 to 6 PM** at Tropical Paradise-Ballroom, located at 1367 Utica Avenue (between Foster Avenue and Farrugut Road), Brooklyn. This event is open to the general public, especially children ages 1 through 8.

For more information or to RSVP, visit <http://www.punchbowl.com/partypage/d0015db6b65889f6>.

***MAKE MUSIC WINTER***

It's almost time for **Make Music Winter** where the North Flatbush Avenue Business Improvement District (NFBID) will be joining forces with the white-haired, big guy in a red suit, City Stompers and Nick Horner Family Band to bring "**Flat Foot Flatbush**"-- a musical parade through our district on **December 21, 2015!** This great band of musicians and dancers who joined the NFBID at the Fall Fest in October are geared up to offer flat-footing lessons at the workshop before the parade kicks off--see more info in the link below.

If you are musically inclined and want to join the band for the event or need additional information, click the following link: <http://makemusicny.org/winter-2015/flat-foot-flatbush/>.

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***FINANCIAL FITNESS FORUM FOR  
VETERANS AND SERVICE MEMBERS***

We appreciate the sacrifices of our veterans, service members, and their families. The Chamber Coalition empowerment financial session focuses on addressing their financial concerns and tools that veterans, service members, and military families need to make the right financial decisions and to avoid unfair financial business practices.

Come out and learn what makes service members attractive financial targets; the unique risks that service members face; and how the consequences of poor financial decisions can devastate a service member's career and more.

The financial fitness forum will be held on **Tuesday, December 22, 2015 at 26 Court Street, Suite 701, Downtown Brooklyn at 6 PM**. To register or for more information, call 718-722-9217. You can also register online at [www.chambercoalition.org](http://www.chambercoalition.org).

### **3<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS DINNER**

Brooklyn Anti Violence Coalition, 57<sup>th</sup> Assembly District Leader Olanike Alabi, St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, The Dedicators, the 77<sup>th</sup> Precinct Community Council, and Church Women United, Inc. Brooklyn Unit invite you to the **3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Community Christmas Dinner**.

The dinner will be held Christmas Day, December 25, 2015, from Noon to 3 PM at St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church located at 1227 Pacific Street (between Nostrand and Bedford Avenues). Come enjoy food, folks, and fun!

For more information, contact St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church at 718-467-8750, or email [O.Alabi@hotmail.com](mailto:O.Alabi@hotmail.com) or [BAVCinc@aol.com](mailto:BAVCinc@aol.com).

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### **DREAMS YOUTHBUILD**

Do you want to receive PAID TRAINING while attending school for your High School Equivalency (HSE)? If so, there are two great options in one location.

#### Traditional Youthbuild Model

- 10 month comprehensive youth and community development program
- Leadership development, life skills, paid internship, job placement, college placement assistance
- Multi track certifications
- 10-hour OSHA authorization
- Must show proof of financial need to qualify for services

#### Youthbuild AMERICORPS

- Must complete traditional youthbuild requirements
- Must complete 450 hours of community service
- Receive \$1468 upon completion of hours

- Must show proof of financial need to qualify for services
- Must obtain HS diploma or HSE

Eligibility requirements:

- 17.5-24 years old and have not completed high school (participants ages 17 must turn 18 within the school year)
- State ID, social security card, birth certificate, proof of citizenship, immunizations, proof of address, proof of income are all required
- HS transcript, working papers if under 18, health insurance card
- Males over 18 must be registered with Selective Service

For more information, walk-in to Dreams Monday thru Friday from 10 AM to 4 PM, 1615 St. John's Place (lower level, between Ralph and Buffalo Avenues), Brooklyn. Call 718-455-4308 to schedule an appointment or to get further information.

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### **NEW YORK DRIVES**

Don't let the lack of a Driver's License stall your career! New York Drives is an opportunity to enter one of Brooklyn Workforce Innovations' FREE training programs in Cable Insallation, TV/Film Production, Security Guard Training for Women or Woodworking and get your driver's education and professional development training. The program includes job placement assistance for two years.

To apply, you must meet all of the following requirements:

- 21+ years old (18+ for those interested in Made in New York film production)
- NYC resident
- Unemployed or low income
- Available full-time (Monday thru Friday 8 AM to 5 PM)
- Must not have had a driver's license previously.

**Information sessions are held every Thursday from 2 to 5 PM** at 621 Degraw Street, Brooklyn,

NY 11217. **The application deadline for any of the programs is December 17, 2015.**

For more information call 718-237-2017, ext 143 or email [NYDinfo@bwiny.org](mailto:NYDinfo@bwiny.org).

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**2015 CONGRESSIONAL APP CHALLENGE**

**Congressman Hakeem Jeffries** and the U.S. House of Representatives has announced the launch of the second annual "Congressional App Challenge" (CAC) designed to encourage high school students nationwide to use their creativity to inspire new apps for a mobile, tablet, or computer devices in the Congressional Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Academic Challenge. The "Congressional App Challenge" is open to all high school students in New York. To determine eligibility, visit <http://bit.ly/1HOYc0p> or <http://1.usa.gov/1NWtQ2G>.

To enter, the student must create an account on [www.challengepost.com](http://www.challengepost.com) and then register for the House Student App Contest under their participating Member of Congress' profile during the Competition Submission Period. All entries must be an original in concept, design and execution. Additionally, students may submit entries that are conceptual and do not have a working program.

Students participating must submit their app source code by **11:59 PM Eastern Standard Time on January 15, 2016**. Participants should include a YouTube/Vimeo video explaining the app itself and what they learned through this competition.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call Congressman Jeffries' office at [\(718\) 237-2211](tel:7182372211).

**HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (HEAP)**

The **Crown Heights Jewish Community Council** will help individuals apply and receive **HEAP services**. They are also emphasizing the **HERR Boiler Replacement** program that they are helping with through HEAP.

Do you have a boiler that is not in working condition? A boiler that is no longer repairable? You may be eligible for a **FREE Boiler Replacement!** The Crown Heights Jewish Community Council, can help you apply for a **FREE boiler** through the **HEAP program!** You must be income and asset eligible. **The HEAP program runs through March 15, 2016.** The regular HEAP benefit is based on income, household size, primary heating source, and whether a vulnerable household member is included.

A HEAP representative will be in their office every Tuesday. The Crown Heights Jewish Community Council is located at 387 Kingston Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11213. For more information call [718-771-9000](tel:7187719000), ext 7701 or visit [www.CHCentral.org/boiler-replacement](http://www.CHCentral.org/boiler-replacement).

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**THE JACKIE ROBINSON SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION**

We are pleased to inform you that the online application for the **Jackie Robinson Foundation Scholarship** is now available at [www.jackierobinson.org](http://www.jackierobinson.org).

The JRF application is the vehicle through which more than 3,000 talented young minority high school students apply to become JRF Scholars and carry on the civic-minded legacy of the Foundation's namesake, Jackie Robinson.

**The deadline** to submit the application for a Jackie Robinson Foundation Scholarship **is February 15, 2016 by 5:00 pm ET.** To learn more about the Jackie Robinson Foundation, please visit their website at [www.jackierobinson.org](http://www.jackierobinson.org).

### ***CROWN HEIGHTS ORAL HISTORY PROJECT***

To commemorate the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Crown Heights Riots, Weeksville Heritage Center is collecting the oral histories of people that experienced, participated in, or remember events surrounding the Crown Heights Riots. Additionally, they are interested in capturing how the neighborhood and Brooklyn have changed in the past twenty-five years. As Brooklyn is experiencing demographic and economic changes, it is important to collectively remember and record what Brooklyn used to be.

- Did you live in Crown Heights (or the surrounding area) in 1991?
- Did you experience or participate in the Crown Heights Riots of 1991?
- Have you heard family and friends discuss the Crown Heights Riots of 1991?
- Have you, your family, or friends lived in Crown Heights (or the surrounding area) for 25 years or more?

If any of these questions apply, please record your oral history! If you are interested in sitting down for an oral history interview or would like to learn more information about this project, please contact Amaka Okechukwu at [amaka@weeksvillesociety.org](mailto:amaka@weeksvillesociety.org) or 718-756-5250 ext. 305 or visit: <http://www.weeksvillesociety.org/crown-heights-riots/>.

### ***NEIGHBORHOOD GRANTS***

The **Citizens Committee for New York City is offering grants of up to \$3,000** to neighborhood groups, public school-based groups, and NYCHA tenants associations working to improve the quality of life across the city, including in your community. Neighborhood grants are an

important resource for community groups, particularly in low-income areas. Groups supported carry out projects as varied as community gardening, visual and performing arts programming, composting, tenant organizing, and much more.

**The application deadline is January 26, 2015.** For a grant application and for more information, contact Tehmina at 212-822-9563 or email [tbrohi@citizensnyc.org](mailto:tbrohi@citizensnyc.org).

### ***EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES***

#### ***COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR***

A Brooklyn State Senator is seeking a full time Communications Director. Applicants should possess a minimum of 2 years relevant work experience in media and/or public relations. He/she should have excellent writing skills and be detail oriented. He/she will be responsible for handling external messaging through print, online and visual media.

The director will also coordinate social media activities (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn, etc.) involving various legislative, public policy and community related matters.

Other duties include preparing newsletters and press statements, managing weekly press clippings and organizing press conferences where necessary. Ideal candidate would be proficient in or able to learn basic web content management skills. Salary commensurate with experience. Please email resume to: [DistrictOfficeJob@gmail.com](mailto:DistrictOfficeJob@gmail.com).

#### ***DISTRICT MANAGER***

Brooklyn Community Board 9 is seeking a new District Manager (DM). The DM, under the executive direction of the Executive Board, represents the Board in monitoring and evaluating the delivery of municipal services within the community district and actively participates in the coordination of delivery of these services.



- Candidate must have knowledge of city government/agencies and be familiar with issues facing the CB 9 geographical communities
- Understand and/or be familiar with zoning codes
- Candidate should have some form of intergovernmental experience either from working for a city agency, and/or an elected official
- Candidate must be organized, have excellent writing skills, verbal skills, public speaking and must be proficient in Microsoft Outlook, Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint
- Must be highly organized, detail oriented, and capable of multi-tasking.

To apply, please submit resume to Brooklyn Community Board 9, Application Submission, 890 Nostrand Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11225 or email at [cb9brooklyn@gmail.com](mailto:cb9brooklyn@gmail.com).

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The next **77<sup>th</sup> Precinct Community Council** meeting will be held on **Monday, December 14, 2015** at St. Gregory's Roman Catholic Church located at 991 St. John's Place, Brooklyn at 7 PM.

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The next **78<sup>th</sup> Precinct Community Council** meeting will be held on **Tuesday, December 29, 2015** at the 78<sup>th</sup> Precinct located at 65 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Brooklyn, NY at 7 PM.

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We wish the **happiest of birthdays** to our Chair, Ms. Nizjoni Granville, Ms. Stacey Sheffey, and Ms. Irsa Weatherspoon.

We send our **heartfelt condolences** to Community Board 8 member Ms. Lee Ann Banks, after the passing of her mother.

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We wish a speedy recovery to Community Board 8 members Mr. Desmond Atkins and Mr. Curtis Harris. Get well wishes can be send to the Community Board office and we will forward them.

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The next meeting of **Community Board No. 8** will be held on **Thursday, January 14, 2016** at 7 PM at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation located at 727 Classon Avenue (corner of Park Place), Brooklyn, NY.

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

**Nizjoni Granville, Chairperson**  
**Michelle George, District Mgr/Editor**  
**Julia Neale, Comm. Associate**  
**Melanie Grant, Comm. Assistant**

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