

# ACROSS THE BOARD

**DECEMBER 2018**

**VOLUME 40, NO. 10**

## *A Word from the District Manager*

We would like to thank Ms. Shalawn Langhorne, former First Vice Chair of Community Board 8, for the wonderful work she did while serving on the Board. Ms. Langhorne was extremely active while serving as a member for over 17 years, and was an inspiration for many new members via her tireless efforts and desire to truly help the community. We wish Ms. Langhorne the best of luck in her future endeavors.

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## *Municipal Services Update:*

The following is a summary of the year-to-date CompStat Crime report covering the week of 11/26/18 through 12/08/18.

|                | Year-to-Date |      |       |
|----------------|--------------|------|-------|
|                | 2018         | 2017 | %Chg  |
| Murder         | 2            | 4    | -50   |
| Rape           | 33           | 22   | 50    |
| Robbery        | 166          | 194  | -14.4 |
| Felony Assault | 276          | 278  | -0.7  |
| Burglary       | 151          | 173  | -12.7 |
| Grand Larceny  | 371          | 347  | 6.9   |
| GL Auto        | 67           | 57   | 17.5  |

The overall change year-to-date is -0.8%.

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The Dept. of Sanitation cleanliness rating of our streets, better known as the "scorecard" rating, was **80.9% for clean streets and 96.0% for sidewalks** for the month of November.

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.

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The following is a summary of the year-to-date F.D.N.Y Emergency Statistics through November 2018.

|                                | Month | YTD  |
|--------------------------------|-------|------|
| <b>Structural Fires</b>        | 31    | 319  |
| <b>Non-Structural</b>          | 9     | 152  |
| <b>Total Fires</b>             | 40    | 471  |
| <b>Suspicious Fires</b>        | 4     | 28   |
| <b>Non-Medical Emergencies</b> | 273   | 2865 |
| <b>Medical Emergencies</b>     | 324   | 3522 |
| <b>Total Incidents</b>         | 657   | 7101 |

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## **COMMITTEE UPDATES**

Please be advised that the Land Use Committee and the SLA and Sidewalk Café Review Committee (SLAC) will return to meeting at the

Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation in January. Additionally, the Housing (Advocacy) Committee will resume meeting on the second Wednesday of the month at the Brooklyn Neighborhood Improvement Association.

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### **NYC FOAM BAN**

Effective January 1, 2019 businesses, nonprofits and agencies can no longer sell or use any expanded polystyrene (EPS) foam items, such as single-service items like cups, bowls, plates, takeout containers, and trays or loose fill packaging, aka “packing peanuts.”

Also, certain expanded polystyrene (EPS) items will be banned from sale, distribution, or use in New York City. For more information, visit [www.nyc.gov/foamban](http://www.nyc.gov/foamban). Small businesses not part of a chain with less than \$500,000 in gross income for the most recent tax year and non-profit corporations may apply for hardship exemptions from the Department of Small Business Services. For more information, visit [www.nyc.gov/foamwaiver](http://www.nyc.gov/foamwaiver).

Visit [www.nyc.gov/dsnybusinessresources](http://www.nyc.gov/dsnybusinessresources) to access free educational materials, trainings, and site visits. Email questions to [commercialprograms@dsny.nyc.gov](mailto:commercialprograms@dsny.nyc.gov).

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### **REPLACEMENT OF MANHOLE HARDWARE**

Starting the week of Monday, December 10, 2018, the NYC Department of Design and Construction (DDC) will be Replacing Manhole Hardware within Community Board 8 at various locations. Each location will take approximately two (2) hours to complete and the appropriate maintenance and protection of traffic (MPT) measures will be implemented and executed. The overall completion of the project is anticipated to be May 2019.

Pedestrian access to residences will be maintained at all times. Emergency vehicles will have access at all times, and the contractor is permitted to work from 7:00am to 6:00pm Monday thru Friday.

If you have any questions, concerns, or would like to learn more about the DDC Project, please contact Rafiqul Chowdhury, P.E Office at 646-543-5243 or email [hdwr17k@gmail.com](mailto:hdwr17k@gmail.com).

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### **ORGANICS DROP OFF**

As many of you are aware, the NYC Dept. of Sanitation has recently halted organics collection due to a need to revamp the system to make it more effective. As Community Board 8 was slated to receive organic collection this past June, DSNY is selecting additional locations for organics drop offs..

Imani II Garden has recently been selected as a food scrap drop off site. There is a bucket available 24/7 just inside the gate which is left open 18” to allow organics to be dropped off. They accept all food scraps except meat, fat and bones. Imani II is located at 1680 Pacific Street at the corner of Schenectady.

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### **WEEKEND WALKS APPLICATION OPEN**

The 2019 Weekend Walks application is currently available. **All applications are due by 5pm on January 11, 2019.** Application and more info can be found on the program’s website at [www.nyc.gov/weekendwalks](http://www.nyc.gov/weekendwalks).

Weekend Walks are multi-block, multi-day events on commercial corridors that promote the use of streets as public space. NYCDOT provides limited funding to community based organizations to close commercial streets and program them to highlight NYC’s unique neighborhoods and local businesses.

The program requirements are:

- Events must be on a recurring and predictable schedule
- Consecutive event dates are not permitted (e.g. Saturday 8/16 and Sunday 8/17). Usually, other weekend walks have been done over multiple weekends on a set day (Saturday or Sunday)
- Must attend mandatory partner meeting in the spring or summer
- All events and programming should be open to the public
- Events must occur along primarily commercial corridors within the 5 boroughs
- Minimum length: 2 blocks, maximum length: 10 blocks
- Minimum number of days: 2, maximum number of days: 10
- Organized by community based organizations with strong ties to the neighborhood in which they are planning the event

Any community based organization interested in hosting a Weekend Walk event should visit: [www.nyc.gov/weekendwalks](http://www.nyc.gov/weekendwalks). If you have any questions or require additional information, email [weekendwalks@dot.nyc.gov](mailto:weekendwalks@dot.nyc.gov).

### ***DEPT. OF SMALL BUSINESS SERVICES ASSISTANCE TO NEW BUSINESSES***

The NYC Department of Small Business Services (SBS) would like to share with new businesses how they could help small businesses launch in the community.

SBS works directly with business owners looking to open and operate businesses throughout the five boroughs. They work hand-in-hand with other City agencies to cut through the red tape, making it easier for businesses to

start, operate, and grow without delay. They assist business owners:

- Understand key City rules and requirements,
- Connect to government agencies to get the permits and licenses they need,
- Coordinate reviews and inspections from City agencies,
- And access other services such as legal and financial assistance.

For more information or to participate, contact Ms. Melody Li, Business Launch Specialist, Division of Business Services, NYC Dept. of Small Business Services at 212.618.8955 or visit [www.nyc.gov/nycba](http://www.nyc.gov/nycba).

### ***STOREFRONT SIGNAGE AND AWNINGS***

Many store owners have begun receiving fines for unpermitted/disallowed signage and awnings by the NYC Department of Buildings. As such, please learn the rules and regulations for proper signage that will reduce the threat of being in non-compliance with the Dept. of Buildings.

First and foremost, all business owners are responsible for ensuring their business is operating in compliance and legally in accordance with rules and regulations.

### **General Sign Regulations:**

- All signs require permits, unless painted on the exterior of the building or less than 6 square feet.
- If sign is illuminated an annual permit and renewal is required. If the sign requires electricity, an electrical permit is required. (2 different permits)
- If the sign requires a permit, it must be installed by a licensed sign hanger. To get business contact information visit the License lookup page.

Commercial Zoning districts determine sign regulations related to size, height, angles, etc. More details can be found in the Zoning Resolution. NOTE: Text/graphics on awning cannot exceed 12 square feet. Lettering on awning/canopy cannot be higher than 12 inches. Awning/Canopy can only display the name and address of the business.

### **General Sign Violation Information:**

- There are generally two types of sign violations: Environmental Control Board, aka ECB Violation (adjudicated by OATH), and DOB Civil Penalty, aka DOB Violation (requests for reductions and waivers are adjudicated by DOB)
- ECB violations may have a curable period and a hearing date. To change the hearing date, contact OATH.
- Only DOB can clear violations, but NYC Small Business Services (SBS) can help merchants navigate government, and educate them on process to get in compliance.

For more information on DOB violations, please visit:

<https://www1.nyc.gov/site/buildings/industry/resolving-dob-violations.page>. For more information on ECB/OATH violations, visit: <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/buildings/business/ecb-hearings-penalties.page>.

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### ***BROOKLYN JOB CORPS***

The Brooklyn Job Corps is looking to assist the young adults of our community. They provide free educational services, training, certifications, transportation, meals, as well as employment services. The Brooklyn Job Corps is a non-residential vocational training program, assisting young adults 17 ½ years old -24 years old, with or without high school Diploma or High school equivalence Diploma (G.E.D.).

They offer six different vocational training areas which are Medical Assistant, Nursing Assistant, Computer Technician, Computer Networking, Culinary Arts, and Security Officer.

If you or someone you know would like to participate, please contact Ms. Whitney Sheard, Outreach Admission Specialist, Brooklyn Job Corps, at 718-623-4032 or via email at [sheard.whitney@jobcorps.org](mailto:sheard.whitney@jobcorps.org).

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### ***RED CROSS COMMUNITY RELATIONS AMBASSADOR***

Every day, the American Red Cross in Greater New York responds to 6-9 disasters across our region. The effects of nature's climate change and manmade disasters has never presented a greater concern to our region as they do today. For these reasons, the Red Cross is re-focusing and re-organizing their strategies and efforts to bring our vital lines of services directly to the communities in which we work and live in and they need your help.

The Community Relations Ambassador Program is a volunteer position that serves to advance the programs, services and activities provided to communities within the Greater New York Region. This position serves as an extension and is directly connected to the Senior Regional Director of Government and Community Relations.

Volunteers will help to better prepare your community through the Red Cross services and be directly involved in helping the community recover when disaster strikes.

Anyone interested in the Community Relations Ambassador Program can submit their resume to [john.waldman@redcross.org](mailto:john.waldman@redcross.org). For more information, you can also contact the Red Cross at 212-875-2396.

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## ***COOPER UNION RETRAINING PROGRAM FOR IMMIGRANT ENGINEERS***

The Cooper Union Retraining Program for Immigrant Engineers at CAMBA is currently accepting new student applications for the spring 2019 semester. Their goal is to assist highly skilled immigrant professionals who are underemployed or unemployed gain access to higher paying jobs through training and job placement assistance.

The program includes courses in information technology, mechanical, electrical and civil engineering. Courses are scheduled around the needs of working professionals and offered evenings and weekends.

Since its inception in 1987, the Retraining Program for Immigrant Engineers has taught over 4,800 students and placed more than 70% in jobs.

To be considered for the program applicants must:

- Be work authorized to work in the U.S.
- Have educational credentials and professional experience in the field of engineering, information technology, or a related field from their country of origin (not the U.S).
- Demonstrate a financial need.

Please visit [www.cooper.edu/immigrant-retraining](http://www.cooper.edu/immigrant-retraining) for more information and application instructions. In addition to free professional training, the program offers career advising, resume preparation, mock interviews, and employer referrals to all graduates.

For more information, please call CAMBA at 718.226.0437 or visit their website at [www.camba.org](http://www.camba.org).

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## ***NEW COLLEGE OPPORTUNITY IN CB 8***

The Parkway Stuyvesant Community and Housing Council, Inc. is proud to announce they are collaborating with Manhattan College. Students may bring in as many as 60 credits accumulated from other college courses. Manhattan College offers a myriad of Elective Courses which may be taken to earn additional 60 credits.

The classroom atmosphere is a blend of lectures, discussions and various learning activities; including cases, designed for maximum student engagement and participation.

The program is offering an M.S. in Organizational Leadership, which consists of 11 courses that are offered in a Blended Learning Format Accelerated Courses for a 7 week Completion Cohort Based Classes.

The Cohorts meet once a week for 4 hour sessions, usually Mon., Tues., Wed. or Thurs. beginning at approximately 5:00 p.m. There will be 13 - 15 students per Cohort.

Students can realistically earn both the B.S. and M.S. degrees from Manhattan College in 4½ years. Tuition is highly competitive and Financial Aid is available.

Parkway Stuyvesant Community is located at 77 New York Ave., Brooklyn, N.Y. 11216. For more information, contact Ms. Suzanne Schneider, Program Coordinator, Recruiter, Educator at 718- 862-7863 or 914-262-1927.

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## ***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.

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### ***KARAOKE TOY DRIVE***

Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams and Assemblywoman Latrice Walker invites you to their annual Karaoke Toy Drive on **Saturday, December 14, 2018 from 8 PM to midnight** at 2 Steps Down, located at 240 Dekalb Avenue, Brooklyn. Bring an unwrapped toy, buy a drink, and if you come early, refreshments will be available. For more information, contact Boro Hall at 718-802-3700.

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### ***CROWN HEIGHTS NORTH ASSOCIATION***

The Crown Heights North Association's (CHNA) annual Holiday Celebration will be held on **Wednesday, December 19, 2018 at 6:45 PM** at St. Gregory the Great Roman Catholic Church located at the corner of Brooklyn Avenue and St. John's Place, Brooklyn.

Additionally, CHNA is hosting a holiday house decorating contest as well as the Nostrand Avenue Merchant's Holiday Decorating Contest. Homeowners in Crown Heights North from Albany to Franklin Avenues, Eastern Parkway to Pacific Street can participate. Merchants on Nostrand Avenue from Atlantic Avenue to Eastern Parkway can participate.

Applications must be received **no later than December 19<sup>th</sup>** for those participating. Applications can be mailed to Ms. Gail Branch-Muhammad at 1136 Dean Street, Brooklyn, NY 11216. Judging will take place Thursday, December 27<sup>th</sup>. Three prizes for each contest will be distributed. For more information, contact Ms. Deborah Young at 718-774-3834.

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### ***V.I.D.A. HOLIDAY PARTY***

The Vanguard Independent Democratic Association (V.I.D.A.) presents their annual Holiday Party on **Thursday, December 20, 2018 from 5 PM to 9 PM** at Restoration Plaza located at 1360 Fulton Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor. RSVP by emailing [vanguard.democrats@gmail.com](mailto:vanguard.democrats@gmail.com) or calling 347-765-0826. Please bring an unwrapped toy to donate to Children of Promise NYC.

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### ***HOLIDAY PARTY***

Assemblywoman Jo Anne Simon invites you to attend her **annual holiday open house on Friday, December 21st, 4:00 pm – 6:30 pm** at her district office located at 341 Smith Street, Brooklyn, NY 11231. In the spirit of the giving season, her office is hosting a Toys for Tots Drive. Drop off an unwrapped toy or book for children ages 12 and younger at the holiday party, or at her office throughout the month of December. For more information, call the Assemblywoman's office at 718-246-4889.

### ***HOLIDAY TOY AND BOOK DRIVE***

District Leader Olanike Alabi, and many more local elected officials invite you to support a Holiday Toy and book Drive on **Friday, December 21, 2018 from Noon to 2 PM** at Emmanuel Baptist Church located at 36 St. James Place, Brooklyn (between Dekalb and Lafayette Avenues). Please bring an unwrapped book or toy. All donations will benefit children who are patients in Brooklyn hospitals or reside in North or Central Brooklyn.

For more information, please call 718-398-0750.

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### ***CHRISTMAS TOY GIVEAWAY***

Lighthouse Christian Church, located at 1449 Broadway, Brooklyn, welcomes you to celebrate the meaning of Christmas through song, gifts and fellowship on **Sunday, December 23, 2018 from 2-5 PM**.

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### ***DISTRICT 17 SPELLING BEE***

Join the students of School District 17 on **Thursday, January 17, 2019 at 5 PM** for their Spelling Bee. All families and community members are welcome. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place prizes will be awarded. The Spelling Bee will be held at the District 17 office located at 1224 Park Place, Brooklyn in the auditorium.

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### ***YOUTH JOB FAIR AND CAREER EXPO***

Assemblyman Walter Mosley of the 57<sup>th</sup> Assembly District invites you to attend the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Youth Job Fair and Career Expo for youth ages 14 to 24. The event will be held on **Friday, January 25, 2019 from 10 AM to 4 PM** at the Shirley Chisholm State Office

Building located at 55 Hanson Place, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor, Brooklyn. You must have a photo ID to enter the building; student IDs are accepted.

Youth will learn about employment opportunities, higher learning, internships, apprenticeships, and summer employment. For more information, contact the Assemblyman's office at 718-596-0100.

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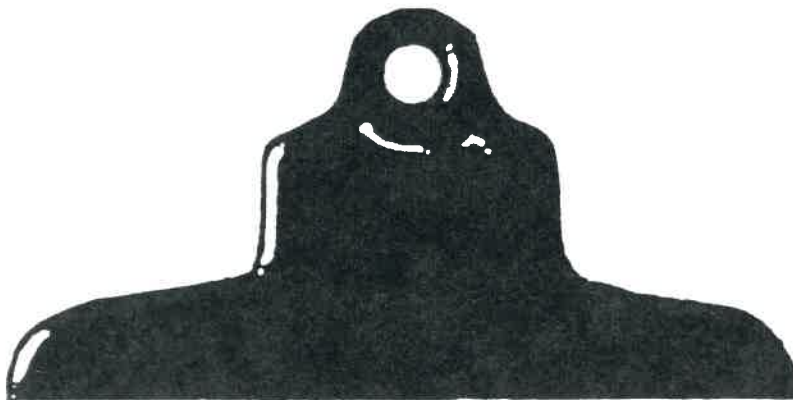
### ***HOPE 2019***

On **Monday, January 28, 2019**, the Department of Homeless Services (DHS) will conduct its Homeless Outreach Population Estimate (HOPE), an annual point-in-time estimate of New Yorkers sleeping unsheltered on the streets that is required by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development. The HOPE estimate helps the city provide resources to this vulnerable population.

DHS is calling on all New Yorkers to help them canvass parks, subways, and other public spaces to estimate the number of people who are living on the street on one of the coldest nights of the year. HOPE can only be a success with the assistance of the caring public.

**Volunteers are needed from approximately 10:00 p.m. to 4:00 a.m. on the night of the 28<sup>th</sup>.** Just one night of your time will help DHS collect critical information to help people move from the streets and into a safe, stable environment. During the past two years, through the HOME-STAT street outreach program, DHS has helped more than 2,000 people come off the streets and remain off the streets in transitional programs or permanent housing.

As work to address street homelessness across the city continues, this is a unique opportunity to participate in an extraordinary citywide effort. If you have volunteered before, we encourage you to sign up again. If you have yet to experience how truly rewarding a night of



HOPE can be, we invite you to join the Hope Count for the first time.

Please visit [www.nyc.gov/hope](http://www.nyc.gov/hope) to learn more and to register. Your help is essential to help DHS address the problem of homelessness that has built up over many years, and continues to grow due to rising rents and stagnant wages.

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The next **77<sup>th</sup> Precinct Community Council** meeting will be held on **Monday, January 14, 2019** at a location to be determined. Please call **Community Affairs** at **718-735-0634** to obtain the location.

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The next **78<sup>th</sup> Precinct Community Council** meeting will be held on **Tuesday, January 29, 2019** at 7:30 PM at the 78<sup>th</sup> Precinct located at 65 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Brooklyn, NY.

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The next Community Board 8 general meeting will be held on **Thursday, January 10, 2019** at **Concern for Independent Living** located at **151 Rochester Avenue, Brooklyn** at 7 PM.

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Community Board 8 staff and members would like to wish everyone a happy and healthy holiday season.

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We wish the happiest of birthdays to our Board members: **Ms. Nizjoni Granville, Ms. Stacey Sheffey, and Ms. Irsa Weatherspoon**, who will all celebrate birthdays in the month of December.

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We would like to wish a speedy recover to **Ms. Gail Branch-Muhammad, the Chairperson of our Seniors Committee**. Furthermore, we would also like to wish continued prayers for former Board 8 Chair and current member, **Robert Matthews**.

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

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**Michelle George, Dist. Manager/Editor**  
**Julia Neale, Community Coordinator**  
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**Sign up for [NextDoor](http://www.nextdoor.com) at [www.nextdoor.com](http://www.nextdoor.com).**

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