

ACROSS THE BOARD

JUNE 2026

VOLUME 47, NO. 6

Recognition and Appreciation of Mr. Meredith Staton



Mr. Staton has been a member of Community Board 8 since the inception of Community Boards in the 1970's. He is currently the longest serving member of all 18 Brooklyn Community Boards.

Brooklyn Borough President Antonio Reynoso honored Mr. Staton for his accomplishments and commitment to community service at recent reception.

Containerized Collection Update

As of June 1, properties with 1-9 residential units are **required** to use only official NYC Bins for trash. A warning period will be in effect through September 7. Full enforcement of the NYC Bin requirements for trash will begin Tuesday, September 8, 2026.

The NYC Bin is the official trash bin for properties with 1-9 residential units and some larger buildings. Separate NYC Bins are also available for recycling and composting, but are not required.

Official NYC Bins are available for pick-up at NYC Home Depot stores. Bins can also be ordered online for delivery using one of Home Depot's on-demand delivery partners. For more information, visit <https://bit.ly/4oqmHNI>.

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## BEAT THE HEAT

Extreme heat can be dangerous, especially for older adults and people with health conditions. To stay safe when temperatures rise: Plan. Prepare. Stay informed. Stay hydrated. Stay cool. Visit [nyc.gov/beattheheat](https://nyc.gov/beattheheat) or call 311 to find cool options near you.

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District Manager's Report

Municipal Services Update

The following is a summary of the year-to-date CompStat Crime report covering the week of 06/01/2026 through 06/07/2026.

	Year-to-Date		
	2026	2025	%Chg
Murder	0	1	-100
Rape	11	10	10
Robbery	63	60	5
Felony Assault	173	196	-11.7
Burglary	54	64	-15.6
Grand Larceny	148	157	-5.7
GL Auto	53	48	10.4

The overall change year-to-date is **-6.34**

EARLY VOTING

State and Federal elections are starting soon! Early Voting runs from Saturday, June 13th - Sunday, June 21st, and the Primary Election will be on Tuesday, June 23rd. If you want to view a sample ballot or find your primary voting location and hours, visit <https://vote.nyc.gov/page/find-your-poll-site>.

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## ***FREE HOME INSPECTION INITIATIVE***

Mayor Mamdani and the NYC Department of Buildings (DOB) have announced the No-Penalty Inspection Program, giving homeowners and small property owners access to free visual inspections of their buildings and expert guidance from June 1 through July 10<sup>th</sup>. The program will help homeowners and small property owners identify needed repairs, avoid costly violations and keep buildings safe at no cost to property owners.

The initiative is part of the Mamdani administration's broader effort to reduce costs for homeowners, prevent small maintenance issues from becoming expensive emergencies and help New Yorkers preserve one of the most important sources of stability and wealth available to working families.

By calling 311, property owners can schedule a free inspection and receive guidance on repairs, safety requirements, permits and maintenance needs. When issues are identified, DOB inspectors will provide recommendations and resources to help property owners address them before penalties are incurred.

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PREVENT DEED THEFT NYC

The DuBois Bunche Center and Medgar Evers College, in partnership with State Assemblymember Phara Souffrant Forrest, our co-sponsor for this event, invite you to attend an important virtual webinar focused on protecting homeowners from deed theft in New York. The Zoom virtual session will take place on Wednesday, June 17, 2026 from 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM. Simply go to [zoom.com](https://zoom.us) and enter the meeting ID and passcode (84259021572; Passcode 874943).

Deed theft continues to be a growing concern for homeowners across New York. This informative webinar will provide valuable insights into how deed theft occurs, the warning signs to watch for, and practical steps homeowners can take to protect their property and ownership rights.

Attendees will learn:

- How deed theft happens in New York
- Warning signs and common scams

- Prevention strategies for homeowners
- Available resources and legal protections

This session is ideal for homeowners, families, community members, and anyone interested in safeguarding their property against fraud and unlawful transfers of ownership.

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## ***SNAP UPDATES***

There has been an update on SNAP Rules. New federal rules mean that New Yorkers ages 18-64 must now meet requirements to keep their SNAP benefits. Able Bodied Adults Without Dependents will need to meet additional work requirements to keep getting SNAP. HRA can help you meet requirements. Learn more at [nyc.gov/abawd](https://nyc.gov/abawd). Or call 718-SNAP-NOW.

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SUMMER MEALS

From June 29th to September 4th, anyone 18 years and younger can access **free breakfast and lunch** at select NYC Public Schools, community pool centers, parks, and libraries. No sign up or ID is required. Learn more about 2026 Free Summer Meals Program by visiting <https://www.schools.nyc.gov/school-life/food/summer-meals>.

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## ***LICENSED CANNABIS DISPENSARIES***

CB8 has **FIVE New York State licensed cannabis dispensaries that are now open for operation.**

**Transcend Wellness Crown Heights**, 772 Nostrand Avenue (between Sterling and St. John's Places) – opened June 2, 2026

**Take N Toke**, 994 Atlantic Avenue (between Classon and Grand Avenues) – opened May 1, 2026

**Hold Up Roll Up**, 765 Washington Avenue (between Sterling and St. John's Places) – opened March 28, 2026

**Brooklyn Organic Buds**, 623 Bergen Street (between Vanderbilt and Carlton Avenues) – opened August 2025

**OC Dispensary**, 769 Franklin Avenue (corner of St. John's Place) – opened March 2025

Additional locations that are licensed by OCM but have yet to open for operations include Corporate Gift Solutions at 1392 St. Johns' Place and BK Greenery at 367 Flatbush Avenue.



We will continue to post licensed dispensaries. Remember all licensed shops will have this decal displayed in their window. Please continue to report all illicit dispensaries to us.

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STUDENT LOAN WEBINAR

Congresswoman Yvette Clarke, in conjunction with EDCAP, will host Student Loan Webinar on **Monday, June 15th at 6:30 PM**. During this session, experts will cover critical topics, including:

- The latest legal updates regarding the SAVE plan
- Important student loan rules changes taking effect on July 1st
- Next steps for managing your repayment options to not default

Register for the Zoom Webinar: <https://bit.ly/4uvaHfj>.

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### ***ATLANTIC YARDS MEETING***

Over the years, basic facts about the Atlantic Yards/Pacific Park project have become a bit obscure. Consequently, Prospect Heights Democrats for Reform will be hosting an **Atlantic Yards 101 session will be held on Tuesday, June 16, 2026** from 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm at Central Library, 10 Grand Army Plaza (Info Commons Lab).

Atlantic Yards is an epic project, but its basic facts remain confusing. Who owns it? Who decides what happens next? What's the big fuss about anyway? What has gotten lost is that it is on public land and is supposed to have public benefits. This discussion will be an introduction to the project for people who have basic questions about it. This is important because recently, a new development team has taken control of the project and is negotiating changes to the plan with New York State. All the previous agreements seem to be up for discussion again, and it's time for the community to understand its role.

Some topics under discussion will be:

- What was the original goal of the project, and what public benefits have been promised?
- Who are the developers who are requesting changes to the project, and what are those changes?
- How are changes to Atlantic Yards reviewed and approved?
- What is the timeline?
- How is the completed project likely to affect me and my neighbors?

To learn more or to RSVP, visit <https://bit.ly/4elJ2ra>.

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COMMUNITY YOGA CLASSES

Starting this month, there will be a free monthly yoga class at Westbrook Memorial Garden (1233 Pacific Street). The first session will be Sunday, June 14, 2026 from 10AM to 11AM. No experience is necessary; simply bring your yoga mat or derivative and join instructor Amanda Chiles alongside the pollinator garden.

Other dates will be July 25th and August 15th, all from 10AM to 11AM.

Free yoga classes are just one of the many offerings that will be available this summer at Westbrook!

Please come out to support the garden's initiatives as part of Citizens Committee of NY community grant.

JUNE IS PRIDE MONTH

Each June, we celebrate Pride Month to honor the anniversary of the Stonewall Uprising and uplift the LGBTQIA+ community. This year's NYC Pride theme, *For All of Us*, pays homage to LGBTQIA+ activist Marsha P. Johnson and the continued movement rooted in solidarity, visibility, and liberation for all LGBTQIA+ people. 2026 will also be the 30th Anniversary of Brooklyn Pride.

As we honor the trailblazers who paved the way for LGBTQIA+ rights and liberation, we also celebrate the leaders continuing that work today. The NYC Committee on Gender Equity is proud to recognize Executive Director [Priya Nair](#) for being named one of [City & State's 2026 Pride Trailblazers](#).

Additionally, Mayor Mamdani recently launched "[Trans Rights are Human Rights](#)," a citywide public awareness campaign highlighting protections for transgender and gender-nonconforming New Yorkers under the NYC Human Rights Law. Keep an eye out for the campaign across print ads, public transit, and LinkNYC kiosks citywide!

Find city resources from the Mayor's Office of LGBTQIA+ Affairs, join [NYC Pride events](#), discover [LGBTQ+ Hidden Voices](#), and learn about [LGBTQIA+ protections](#) from the NYC Commission on Human Rights.

Also, as a greater number of hate crimes against the LGBTQ+ community are committed in the city, there will be a **Bystander Intervention to Support the LGBTQIA+ Community** on June 17, 2026 at 1:00 PM. This interactive training will teach you the 5Ds of bystander intervention methodology and how these strategies can be used to support the LGBTQIA+ community. You'll start by talking about the types of disrespect that LGBTQIA+ individuals are facing right now using a tool called the "spectrum of disrespect." You'll learn what to look for and the positive impact that bystander intervention has on individuals and communities. You and hosts will talk through five strategies for intervention: distract, delegate, document, delay, and direct; and how to prioritize your own safety while intervening. There will also be time at the end for practice, and you'll leave feeling more confident

intervening the next time you see anti-LGBTQIA+ harassment.

To register for the training, visit <https://bit.ly/49TWPno>.

Onward to celebrations!

30th Annual Brooklyn Pride Multicultural Festival: June 13, 2026, 11:00 AM – 5:00 PM on Union Street to 9th Street on 5th Avenue (Park Slope) Sign up to march at <https://pci.jotform.com/form/261266354874162>.

Brooklyn Pride Fest & Twilight Pride Parade, June 13th starting at 7:30pm. The festival runs all day, and the parade kicks off at 7:30pm. Details can be found at <https://brooklynpride.org/pride-week-2026>

Vanderbilt Avenue Open Streets special pride programming:

Saturday, June 13:

- Musical performances outside Branded Saloon, 2-9pm: Come enjoy a lineup of local musicians at the Open Streets Stage celebrating Brooklyn's LGBTQ+ community.
- Body and Boxing workshop between Park and Prospect, 3-4pm: Join local boxer Jalil Regalas for a 1-hour boxing and calisthenics workshop. Everyone welcome.
- T-shirt and Totes craft event between Prospect and St. Marks, 2-5pm: Come paint t-shirts and tote bags with Vedma Arts!

Sunday, June 14: Musical performances outside Branded Saloon, 2-9pm: For a second day, the Open Streets Stage will feature local musicians celebrating Brooklyn's LGBTQ+ community.

Additional scheduled programming include:

Saturday, June 20: Soccer Street World Cup Party, 12-8pm: Come out for a day filled with activities to celebrate the World Cup in NYC, including a soccer pitch setup on Vanderbilt Ave.

Saturday, July 11: Soccer Street World Cup Party, 12-8pm: Come out for a day filled with activities to

celebrate the World Cup in NYC, including a soccer pitch setup on Vanderbilt Ave.

Saturday, August 29: BierWax family affair block party, 2-8pm: Come listen and watch local DJ legends spin classic vinyl R&B and hip hop and dance on the Avenue.

You can sign up to march by clicking the link. <https://pci.jotform.com/form/261266354874162>.

Additional Pride Programming includes:

Friday, June 26th, 6-10PM
Pride Disco Skate Night

Lace up your skates and join us for a Pride Disco Skate Night at Lakeside! Groove to a live DJ and celebrate our community; a portion of ticket sales will directly support Brooklyn Community Pride Center's vital LGBTQ+ services. Registration in advance is required at www.prospectpark.org/pride-skate. LeFrak Center at Lakeside, 171 East Dr, Brooklyn, There is a fee for this event.

Harlem Pride 2026 on June 29th

The Studio Museum in Harlem will be participating in the 15th Annual Harlem Pride Festival. During the festival adaptive art materials will be available to participate in drop-in quilt-making, an activity inspired by Faith Ringgold's "Echoes of Harlem" (1980) and the AIDS Memorial Quilt to honor the LGBTQIA+ ancestors of African descent and appreciation for living community members.

NYC Pride March on June 30th

NYC Pride will mark 55th Anniversary of Stonewall Uprising and honor the diverse LGBTQIA+ community with an amazing celebration. There will be awe-inspiring floats, incredible performances, dizzying costumes, and streets packed with revelers. This year's grand marshals include DaShawn Usher, Miss Major, Raquel Willis, Michelle Visage, Eshe Ukwell, and Baddie Brooks. (Manhattan)

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**LISTENER LED FORUM**

New York Public Radio's independent body of volunteer listener advisors is hosting a Listener-led

Public forum on **Wednesday June 17, 2026** at 6:30pm via Zoom. This is the latest of several listener conversations we hold throughout the year, this time open to all Listeners, regardless of where they live.

Interested persons may also register directly at [forum.nyprcab.org](http://forum.nyprcab.org).

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FREE CULTURAL ACTIVITIES THIS SUMMER

- Did you know that you could visit Brooklyn Botanic Garden for free via the community pass? Visit www.bbg.org and select "community pass" in purchase options. Free entry is available all days, but is not for special exhibits or member's only events. You can also get a free one year subscription with your City ID card.
- **Juneteenth Celebration at Adams St Library, June 17, 2-5pm.** There will be snacks, giveaways, crafts and music outside of the library. More info [here](#).
- **July 4th & America 250 Celebrations Coming to Brooklyn Bridge Park.** On July 4 there will be a [large naval procession of tall ships](#) from all over the world sailing through the NY Harbor, with several ships docking in Brooklyn Bridge Park after that. **Macy's is also celebrating the 50th Anniversary of their fireworks show and America 250.** The events will draw large numbers of tourists and residents to the park and surrounding neighborhoods. My office is in touch with event organizers, the City, and community organizations on this and will update you as we learn more.
- **Rehearsal Space with Brooklyn Conservatory of Music.** This June, musicians can enjoy free rehearsal spaces at the Brooklyn Conservatory of Music (BKCM) to celebrate [NY Music Month](#)! Musicians have access to 17 studios at BKCM's Park Slope home. Spaces will book up fast – sign up today by visiting bkcm.org/studios.

- Bushwick Inlet Park: Summer Music Series 2024 runs from June 20 - August 1. Friends of Bushwick Inlet Park fourth annual Summer Music Series is bringing live musical performances to the beautiful waterfront of the 86 Kent Shoreline Esplanade. Live performances will be presented by George Gray Jazz Coalition, Bombay, Gerry Eastman & Friends, and more! For a calendar, visit <https://bit.ly/43pQZXh/>.
- Summer Lunchtime Jazz Concerts are from July 2 – July 23. Enjoy your lunch outdoors at Columbus Park Plaza with some of Jazz's celebrated musicians. Curated by the Jazz Foundation of America and in partnership with the Brooklyn Borough President's Office.
- Soul Sundays at Atlantic Terminal Plaza runs from July 7 – August 18. Get in the groove with Soul Sundays at Atlantic Terminal's outdoor plaza! Celebrate the rich culture of old school hip hop, soul, and R&B with DJ Ace all afternoon, starting at 1:00 PM.
- Atlantic Terminal Summer Salsa Nights runs from July 10 – August 21. Spice up your summer with the Summer Salsa Series at Atlantic Terminal! Every other Wednesday, gather at Atlantic Terminal for an unforgettable night of live music, dancing, and joy! "Free live music by the Cuarteto Guataca & salsa instructions provided by Marlon International."
- Museum Mile Festival on June 18: The 46th Annual Museum Mile Festival will include outdoor activities and offers free admission to the eight participating cultural institutions, which stretch from 86th Street to 110th street along Fifth Avenue: The Metropolitan Museum of Art; Neue Galerie; Guggenheim Museum; Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum; The Jewish Museum; Museum of the City of New York; El Museo del Barrio; and The Africa Center.
- WBL's 50th Anniversary Celebration: Jon B / Vivian Green / Melisa Morgan / Horace Brown / Jeff Redd / Music by Funk Flex at

the Coney Island Amphitheater on August 11: WBL's has been holding it down as the center of soul and R&B in New York City for decades. For this throwback jam in Coney Island, it assembles a collection of R&B stars from the late '80s and '90s sure to trigger nostalgic notions of love and tenderness, hosted by the legendary radio DJ Funk Flex. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/4enleDn>.

- Intrepid Museum Free Friday and Movie Night Series from June 28 - August 23: Free Fridays are back at The Intrepid Museum! Admission is free of charge from 5:00pm – 9:00pm. Don't miss special programming during Free Fridays, including the Museum's popular Summer Movie Series. Guests are invited to bring lawn chairs, picnic baskets and blankets to view the film outdoors, free of charge, on a huge inflatable screen on the flight deck. Seating is available on a first-come, first-served basis and space is limited. Doors open at 5:00pm and close at 8:30pm. The movie will begin at sunset.

For a complete list of events and special programming this summer, visit <https://bit.ly/4vaUfSG>.

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### **SHAPE UP NYC**

Shape Up NYC is a free NYC Parks group fitness program for adults and seniors with locations in all five boroughs. Whether you're a seasoned fitness enthusiast or just starting your fitness journey, Shape Up NYC offers something for everyone.

Sign up to take fitness classes like dance fitness, bodyweight circuit training, yoga, bootcamp, Zumba, and much more.

Use the link below to access all of the Shape Up NYC classes in and around the Crown Heights neighborhood: <https://bit.ly/43uWNyF>.

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ADULT CONTINUING EDUCATION

We're excited to share that The Door is now actively recruiting for upcoming Advance & Earn GED Program!

This is a no-cost, paid opportunity designed to help young adults earn their High School Equivalency Diploma (GED) while building the academic, professional, and personal skills needed to succeed in college, training programs, and the workforce.

Program services are provided at The Door Manhattan Youth Center (SoHo) and will **begin September 8, 2026**.

Participants will receive GED preparation and instruction, paid internship opportunities, transportation support (OMNY card provided), job readiness training and job placement assistance, financial literacy and life skills training, individualized counseling, tutoring, and case management, and support with post-secondary education and career planning.

To be eligible, participants must be a NYC resident, 18–24 years old, committed to earning their GED, and be available Monday–Friday, 9:00 AM–5:00 PM.

Sign up in person by completing the Interest Form and becoming a Door Member at the Manhattan Youth Center located at 555 Broome Street, New York, NY 10013 Monday–Friday, 2:00 PM–5:00 PM. Required documents are your social security card, valid NYS ID, NYC ID, or Passport, your birth certificate, proof of NYC residency (dated within the last 6 months), and selective service registration (required for males ages 18+).

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## ***YOUTH SUMMIT***

All young people are invited to participate in Young Voices in Planning Citywide Summit on Saturday, **June 13th, 2026**, from 9:30 am – 3:30 pm at Borough of Manhattan Community College (199 Chambers Street, Manhattan).

This free, full-day event is designed to introduce young people to urban planning and civic

engagement. Whether you are a student or curious about how cities work, interested in careers that shape communities, or just want to make their voices heard, this summit will give them the tools and connections to get started or new ways to take action on the issues they care about.

What Young People Will Experience:

- Hands-on learning: Data for planning, Zoning 101, and interactive debates about real development scenarios
- Career pathways: A career panel with professional planners and keynote remarks from NYC Planning leaders
- Community connection: Listening circles where they can share their experiences of NYC and their vision for the future
- Real-world exploration: A guided walking tour to see the city through a planner's eyes
- Networking: Time to connect with other youth and professionals in the field
- Plus: Free breakfast and lunch, raffle prizes, and take-home resources.

Why This Matters: Young people, especially those from communities historically excluded from planning decisions, bring critical perspectives to conversations about NYC's future. This summit creates space for them to be heard, learn new skills, and see themselves as changemakers in their neighborhoods.

Please RSVP at <https://bit.ly/49QIQzY> or reach out to [youngVoicesInPlanning\\_DL@planning.nyc.gov](mailto:youngVoicesInPlanning_DL@planning.nyc.gov) with any questions.

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EVERY ROAD TO HEALING: LISTENING SESSION

Common Justice, in conjunction with CB8's Public Safety and Senior Committees, is hosting a listening session, "Every Road to Healing: Advancing Brooklyn's Vision for Community-Led Safety" on **Wednesday, July 1, 2026** at 5:30PM at Crown heights Apartments located at 1055 St. John's Place.

Every Road to Healing will bring together community members, survivors, and local leaders to shape a vision of safety rooted in care, prevention,

and community-based solutions. With a new mayoral administration making key decisions about the future of safety in NYC, it's critical that Brooklyn voices are part of the conversation.

You'll be sharing your vision, uplifting survivor-centered policies, and help drive real change in CB8. If you have any questions or require more information, contact Cade Terada at cterada@commonjustice.org or 929-678-3505.

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### ***PARKS OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM***

NYC Parks is in the process of recruiting and hiring job candidates for the Parks Opportunity Program which allows you to participate in job training while working to keep the city's parks, playgrounds, and other facilities clean and green.

The program offers:

- Six-month maintenance position with NYC Parks earning \$19.14 per hour
- Career coaching and resume building in finding a job with potential employers
- Get trained and earn credentials such as High School Equivalency (GED/HSE), food handler, CPR/First Aid, driver's license (CDL/Class D), horticulture training and security certifications

To learn more or to apply, visit <https://bit.ly/4xsFufy>.

Interested applicants can refer to the website or email [workforce.development@parks.nyc.gov](mailto:workforce.development@parks.nyc.gov) for more information.

Thank you for your ongoing support and advocacy for our city parks.

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WHEN BLACK MEN READ, CHILDREN SUCCEED

Join the NAACP Education Committee, Men of Mount Sanai, and the National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa Theta Chapter for an important seminar on **Saturday, June 27, 2026** from 10AM to 5PM at Mount Sanai Baptist, 84 Quincy Street, Brooklyn.

"When Black Men Read, Children Succeed" is a powerful community movement and literacy initiative designed to boost children's reading skills and confidence. By centering Black male role models as storytellers, these programs improve literacy, disrupt negative stereotypes, and provide children with characters and mentors who reflect their own identities.

Come connect, share stories, and get lit with them as they support literacy and empowerment in a relaxed, welcoming space. Let's make reading a powerful experience for everyone! For more information or to RSVP, visit <https://bit.ly/4uvkaDk>.

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### ***HOUSING EXPO***

Bridge Street Development Corporation is pleased to host a Housing Expo: From Questions to Solutions on **Saturday, June 27, 2026** from 11AM to 2PM at 625 Quincy Street, Brooklyn.

Stable housing builds strong communities! Receive housing support inclusive of affordable housing applications, rent arrears assistance, eviction prevention, Housing Connect/NYCHA support, tenant rights guidance, and referrals to housing counselors. For more information contact Shawn Peyton at 718-399-0146 ext. 313.

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JUNK JOURNALING FOR HEALING

The NYC Mayor's Office to End Domestic and Gender-Based Violence is offering a free 8-week workshop on **Fridays beginning July 10th** for survivors.

Junk Journaling for Healing is a highly accessible, tactile form of art therapy that helps regulate the nervous system, process grief or trauma, and quiet perfectionism. Because it relies on repurposing scraps, imagery, and textures rather than just words, it allows you to express complex, hard-to-articulate emotions without judgment.

All sessions will be held from 5:30-6:45PM at 350 Jay Street, Downtown Brooklyn. All supplies are

provided and no experience is needed. Register with Liz at elizabeth.follano@heartshare.org.

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### ***FREE NONPROFIT EVENTS & CAPACITY-BUILDING OPPORTUNITIES***

Brooklyn Org. is a platform and partner for local philanthropy, bringing together Brooklynites to become champions for change. Each year, our community invests millions of dollars in nonprofits around the borough working across every issue to help our neighbors thrive. From monthly giving to volunteering to Donor Advised Funds, there is a part for you to play with Brooklyn Org. Below are some upcoming activities for nonprofits.

#### **June Nonprofit Leader Salon**

**June 18<sup>th</sup> from 5:30–7:30 PM**

This event will feature a gathering for Executive Directors to connect with peers, exchange ideas, and discuss summer planning, outreach, and events. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3QD4y2C>.

#### **July Nonprofit Leader Salon SATURDAY EDITION, July 11<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 AM–12:00 PM**

A monthly networking and learning opportunity for Executive Directors and nonprofit leaders. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/3QD4y2C>.

#### **Social Summer: Creating a Recruitment Campaign with Big Duck Co-Founder Farra Trompeter**

**July 15<sup>th</sup> from 3:00–5:00 PM**

This interactive workshop will help nonprofit leaders build an effective recruitment campaign to raise awareness and increase participation in programs and services. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/4ureJ8j>.

#### **Social Summer: Managing Volunteers with Amanda Jones**

**July 20<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 AM–12:00 PM**

Additional details will be shared soon at <https://brooklyn.org/nonprofit-resources/>.

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West Brooklyn Regional Convening

July 22nd from 10:00 AM–12:00 PM

Location: Women Building Up, 401 State Street, Brooklyn, NY 11217

This convening will bring together nonprofit leaders serving West Brooklyn neighborhoods to strengthen connections, share resources, and collaborate on solutions for local communities. For more information visit <https://bit.ly/4opFhp5>.

Unless otherwise noted, all events take place at Brooklyn Org Office located at 80 Hanson Place, 5th Floor, Downtown Brooklyn. For more information on Brooklyn Org, visit their website at <https://brooklyn.org/>.

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### ***YOUTH SUMMER FUN***

Summer can either be as boring for youth or as fun as they (and you) want it to be. To that extent, New York City created an amazing youth resource to find fun things for your youth to do or they can find themselves. Activities are curated for all youth up to the age of 25. The website, <https://www.nyc.gov/content/summer/pages/>, is an interactive site that allows filtering for age and desired activity type (from sports, to arts, to theater etc.) and then lets you search via zip codes! Laying out the outcome of activities to you on a map.

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SAFE SPACE SATURDAY

Black Girls Smile is a non-profit organization based in Brooklyn and Atlanta that focuses on the mental health and mental well-being of Black girls and women between the ages of 13 and 26, as well as their supporters, parents, and caregivers.

On **Saturday, June 13th**, they will be having their quarterly free event, Safe Space Saturday, at their BK Space at 1406 Fulton St, Room 203, Brooklyn, NY 11216. Safe Space Saturday will be held both indoors and outdoors, featuring different activations and workshops. If you are interested, please register at <https://bit.ly/49XORd0>.

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## ***BKAC CANDID CONVERSATION: REPAIRING THE PAST – A PATH TO JUSTICE***

Delta Sigma Theta Brooklyn Alumnae Chapter is pleased to invite the community to a special event during Juneteenth Weekend about Reparations. At this event, Actress, Activist, Advocate, and Director Erika Alexander will screen her reparations documentary, *The Big Payback*. There will be a Q&A with her and these special guests followed by photo opportunities:

- Congresswoman Yvette Clarke, Congressional Black Caucus Chairwoman
- Erika Alexander, Actress & Director of *The Big Payback*
- Robin Rue Simmons, Former Alderwoman of Evanston, IL
- Michaelle Solages, NY State Assemblywoman

NYS Assemblywoman Michaelle Solages and NYS Senator James Sanders, Jr., passed reparations legislation in 2023 that Governor Hochul signed into law. It empaneled a commission to study and report on various reparation remedies.

This event will be held on **Saturday, June 20, 2026** from 10:30 AM – 2:00 PM, Brooklyn College, New Ingersoll 148 Skurnick Lecture Hall, Brooklyn.

This event is FREE and open to the community, but registration is necessary at <https://bit.ly/4uZMoqM>.

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NEWS AND UPDATES FROM YOUR LOCAL ELECTED OFFICIALS

Senator Zellnor Myrie would like to share the following with the community:

“During this legislative session, Senator Myrie worked to deliver a range of concrete wins for Brooklyn and New Yorkers across the state, focusing on protecting residents, strengthening rights, and investing directly in the community.

“On consumer protection and public safety, the Senator helped lead efforts to confront the growing wave of scams and fraud targeting New Yorkers. As Chair of the Codes Committee, Senator Myrie hosted a joint Senate hearing on white-collar crime and fraud in which he brought attention to how outdated laws are failing to keep up with modern schemes that cost families their savings and security. He introduced the SCAM Act, which would modernize New York’s fraud statutes and strengthen penalties for serious corporate wrongdoing. The bill also proposes new tools to ensure that when large corporations engage in criminal conduct, meaningful penalties can be directed toward compensating victims.

“Senator Myrie secured important progress on civil rights protections. He successfully included language in the state budget that strengthens New Yorkers’ ability to seek damages when their constitutional rights are violated, ensuring clearer legal pathways for accountability when those rights are infringed. In addition, Senator Myrie advanced legislation in the Senate that also passed in the Assembly that allows three-way negotiated agreements between the judge, prosecutor, and defense to eliminate mandatory minimum sentences.

“In the area of justice for survivors, he convened a historic Senate hearing where survivors of Jeffrey Epstein’s trafficking network provided public testimony. He advocated for legislation in the Senate to expand legal options for survivors of trafficking, including allowing claims against estates and entities that benefited from exploitation, and creating a pathway for long-delayed justice through a look-back window for older claims.

“Locally, Senator Myrie delivered significant investments back to Central Brooklyn. This includes major funding for cultural and community institutions such as the Brooklyn Public Library, Brooklyn Botanic Garden, Brooklyn Children’s Museum, Weeksville Heritage Center, and the Brooklyn Conservatory of Music. These investments support arts, education, workforce development, youth programming, legal services, and community-based violence prevention. The Senator also secured funding to combat deed theft and protect homeowners, along with new resources for

innovation and education at Medgar Evers College, including support for AI research and civic data infrastructure.

“He also led efforts to formally recognize Little Panama as a state-designated cultural district, honoring the history and contributions of Brooklyn’s Panamanian community while opening new opportunities for cultural organizations to access state support.

“This session reflects a consistent focus: protecting families from fraud, strengthening fundamental rights, expanding justice for survivors, and bringing real investment back to the neighborhoods of Central Brooklyn.”

Sign up for State Senator Zellnor Myrie’s newsletter at <https://bit.ly/4xmgTc3>.

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**Councilmember Chi Osse** has the following announcement:

“Last week, we celebrated the mothers of District 36 at Weeksville Heritage Center. It was a joyous occasion, and we’re excited to share it with you in today’s newsletter. We also want to provide a few updates from the NYC Department of Transportation:

“NYC DOT plans to implement safety improvements on Rochester Avenue between Fulton Street and East New York Avenue. Rochester Ave has been identified as both a Vision Zero and Truck Priority Safety Corridor, and the proposed safety improvement project will seek to reduce speeding, improve pedestrian visibility, and shorten crossing distances. Keep an eye out in the next month or so from NYC DOT, as they will provide a construction timeline (our office will share it with you once we receive it). Forthcoming safety improvements for the corridor include:

- Installation of painted neckdowns at Rochester Avenue and Park Place, St. Marks Ave, Bergen St, Dean St, Prospect Place, and Fulton St.
- Addition of turn-calming at Fulton St and Rochester Ave.

- Installation of Neighborhood Loading Zones on Rochester Ave near St. John’s Place, Dean St, and St. Marks Ave.
- Signal timing changes”

The member believes these changes will bring much needed safety to the corridor.

Additionally, Councilmember Osse is pleased to announce his Juneteenth Celebration on Friday, June 19<sup>th</sup> at Herbert Von King Park (Lafayette Avenue between Tompkins and Marcy Avenues).

Enjoy a fun-filled day from Noon to well after 9PM including live music by The Soul Experience Band (Noon to 3PM), the Bed-Stuy Double Dutch Club Competition (3-4PM), dance party with DJ Actazif and RES, followed by the Haiti v Brazil FIFA World Cup Match. While there, enjoy massage therapy, a DIY self-care station, carnival games, screen printing, and of course free food and beverages.

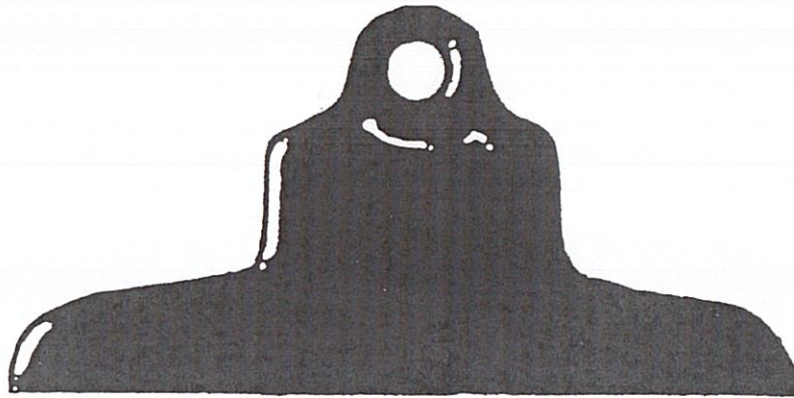
**Assemblywoman Stefani Zinerman** invites you to her 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Block Party celebrating the 56<sup>th</sup> AD on Saturday, June 13, 2026 from Noon to 5PM on Fulton Street between Marcy and Brooklyn Avenues. Come out, connect, and celebrate the community!

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Assemblywoman Phara Souffrant-Forest is pleased to announce the following:

- On June 16th, join them for the Neighbors & Numbers Tax Clinic Workshop and learn the basics of filing with confidence alongside Mobilization for Justice! Whether you’re filing for the first time or just want to better understand your taxes. This will be at the Clinton Hill Library from 6:30 - 7:30PM
- On July 18th, they are hosting an E-Waste event at Saint Francis De Sales!
- BrooklynROOTS, our annual organizing workshop and leadership development series is back in September! This will take place on Saturdays in September and October at the Bedford Library. Constituents can RSVP today at <https://bit.ly/3S6ruru>.

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### ***CELEBRATE MUSIC WITH BRIC!***

Wear your dancing shoes to Brower Park in Crown Heights for a BRIC Celebrate Brooklyn! Pop-Up presented in partnership with New York City Council Member Chi Ossé and Rooftop Films. Your DJs for the night are presented by Black House Radio, a platform deeply rooted in house music, bridging generations and acting as a guiding light for Black DJs and their sound.

This event on **July 25, 2026** is part of BRIC Celebrate Brooklyn!, New York City's longest-running, free, outdoor performing arts festival. It will feature music from Black House Radio.

View the entire summer lineup at <https://bricartsmedia.org/celebrate-brooklyn/>.

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JUNE BALLOON

Once upon a time, there was a children's festival in Brower Park, Crown Heights called **JUNE BALLOON!** The Crown Heights CARE Collective and Another World are bringing June Balloon back to **Crown Heights on June 27th** from 11AM to 6PM at Brower Park! Volunteers are needed! For more information email ryanchristman@gmail.com.

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### ***CHINA JUNE MEMBERSHIP MEETING***

Join the Crown Heights North Association on **Wednesday, June 17, 2026** at 6:45 PM for their general membership meeting. The invited speaker is

Yolande I. Nicholson, Esq, who will speak on Deed Theft, and the meeting will be held at Crown Heights Apartments, 1055 St. John's Place (between Brooklyn and Kingston Avenues).

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We wish the happiest of birthdays to Ms. Mimi Mitchell, who will celebrate a birthday in the month of June.

We wish the happiest of birthdays to Mr. Isaac Andino, Ms. Michelle George, Mr. Brian Saunders, Ms. Robin Smith, and Mr. Robert Witherwax, who will all celebrate a birthday in the month of July.

We wish the happiest of birthdays to Ms. Sharon Alexis-Pierre, Ms. Fior Ortiz-Joyner, Mr. Ezra Roth, Ms. Cheryl Walcott, and Ms. Regina Wilson, Cheryl Walcott, who will all celebrate a birthday in the month of August.

We wish everyone a fun and safe summer!

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

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