

ACROSS THE BOARD

MARCH 2018

VOLUME 40, NO.3

A Word from the District Manager

Community News!

District 8 has two new Commanding Officers. We would like to welcome **Deputy Inspector John Buttacavoli** to the 77th Precinct and **Captain Jason Hagestad** to the 78th Precinct! Both Commanding Officers took over their new posts on Monday, March 5, 2018.

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

|                                | Month | YTD  |
|--------------------------------|-------|------|
| <b>Structural Fires</b>        | 27    | 59   |
| <b>Non-Structural</b>          | 23    | 60   |
| <b>Total Fires</b>             | 50    | 119  |
| <b>Suspicious Fires</b>        | 4     | 9    |
| <b>Non-Medical Emergencies</b> | 236   | 661  |
| <b>Medical Emergencies</b>     | 250   | 540  |
| <b>Total Incidents</b>         | 557   | 1378 |

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The scorecard rating for the month of February was **86.5% for streets** and **93.1% for sidewalks**. We 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 CompStat Crime report covering the week of 02/26/18 through 03/04/18.

Year-to-Date

|                | 2018 | 2017 | %Chg  |
|----------------|------|------|-------|
| Murder         | 1    | 0    | *     |
| Rape           | 2    | 5    | -60   |
| Robbery        | 18   | 35   | -48.6 |
| Felony Assault | 41   | 46   | -10.9 |
| Burglary       | 22   | 44   | -50   |
| Grand Larceny  | 63   | 58   | 8.6   |
| GL Auto        | 13   | 11   | 18.2  |

The overall change year-to-date is -19.6%.

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BUILD THE BLOCK

Neighborhood policing seeks to close the divide between cops and community. But it can only succeed with your support. That is why the NYPD has been holding a series of local meetings. These "Build the Block" neighborhood safety meetings are strategy sessions between local police officers and the people they serve. The meetings have two

simple goals: identify the public safety challenges of a specific neighborhood and discuss potential solutions.

The NYPD is taking another important step towards improving trust, collaboration, and safety through neighborhood policing. But they cannot do it without your participation.

Join the discussion about issues in your community. This is your opportunity to have your voice heard about specific safety and policing challenges in your own neighborhood. To locate a meeting in your neighborhood, go to www.buildtheblock.nyc.

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### ***MARCH IS NATIONAL NUTRITION MONTH***

We all have our preferences when it comes to food. WorkWell NYC wants to ensure you are putting your best fork forward when choosing the foods that will fuel your body. Eating healthier can help you have more energy, manage stress, maintain a healthy weight and reduce your risk for chronic diseases like heart disease and diabetes.

Here are a few tips to help keep you healthier:

- Take it with you! Pack your lunch and bring easy-to-carry snacks like apples, carrot sticks, or air-popped popcorn.
- Plan ahead! Prepare and portion out meals in advance, so you can grab-and-go if things are busy.
- Stock up! Buying in bulk can save you money, especially when there are sales. Cooking at home is usually healthier and less expensive than going out.
- Create options! Frozen or low-sodium canned vegetables and fruits have similar benefits to fresh produce, often at a lower price.
- Split it up! Restaurant portions are often enough for two! Share your meal with someone or save half for tomorrow. Whether you're eating out or

packing your lunch, fill half your plate with fruits and vegetables.

- Put the break back in lunch break! Use your lunch time as a mental reset. Take a few minutes to slow down and enjoy your meal.

Following these simple tips can lead to a much healthier and happier lifestyle (and even save you a bit of cash). For more healthy eating tips, visit [www.nyc.gov/workwellnyc](http://www.nyc.gov/workwellnyc).

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HELP PREVENT SEWER OVERFLOWS AND KEEP OUR WATERWAYS CLEAN

New York City is calling on residents in parts of Brooklyn and Queens to cut back their water use during rainstorms by postponing showers and other chores — even waiting to flush toilets. The reason is that household sewage flows into the same underground sewer pipes that also collect rainwater runoff from rooftops and streets. When those pipes are overloaded with rainwater, the combined overflow is then discharged directly into nearby rivers, bays and creeks instead of going to wastewater treatment plants.

The new “Wait ...” campaign is the latest strategy by the city’s Department of Environmental Protection to reduce so-called “combined sewer overflows” that have long polluted local waterways, closed down beaches and plagued recreational sports. Today, about 20 billion gallons of combined sewer overflows are discharged annually into waterways, down from nearly 110 billion gallons in 1985, according to city officials. Typically, about 90 percent of that combined overflow is rainwater runoff.

Angela Licata, a deputy commissioner for the Department of Environmental Protection, said that in about 60 percent of the city’s sewer system, the same pipe is used to collect rainwater and sewage from homes and businesses, mainly in areas with older infrastructure.

The city has spent more than \$45 billion since the 1980s to improve wastewater treatment and reduce the discharge of combined sewer overflows, resulting in waterways that are the cleanest in more than a century. It has built and upgraded wastewater treatment plants, and is spending about \$1.5 billion just on green projects such as installing “curbside rain gardens” (bioswales) and other infrastructure in parks, playgrounds and public housing projects to absorb storm water and keep it out of the sewer system. It also plans to disinfect some sewer overflows before they are discharged from sewer lines by using a chlorination process in the pipes. In total, the city has 14 wastewater treatment plants that process an average of 1.3 billion gallons of sewage on rainless days. They can generally handle up to 3 billion gallons per day.

So please, do your part to keep our waterways clean. We all desire clean beaches and not to be assaulted by foul odors near certain tributaries. By reducing our normal water usage during rainstorms, we can make this a reality. Let us all work together to reduce sewer overflows. For more information, visit www.nyc.gov/dep.

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***RIGHT TO COUNSEL FOR THOSE  
FACING EVICTION***

On August 11, 2017, New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio signed legislation which guarantees legal representation for low-income tenants who face eviction. The new law has two major innovations with respect to eviction petitions brought in Housing Court. First, the new law guarantees legal representation in Housing Court for qualified low-income tenants who face eviction proceedings. The lawyers will be provided by nonprofit legal organizations with funding from the City.

Secondly, the new law guarantees individual consultations with lawyers for all tenants who face eviction in Housing Court, not just qualified low-income tenants.

Housing Court, while it may appear to be a somewhat casual environment, is a formal, limited jurisdiction court. Housing Court has an extensive and complex set of procedures that govern how the cases proceed, and applies laws that regulate many aspects of the landlord-tenant relationship, including housing standards, rent levels, government subsidies and the grounds on which landlords can legally evict.

The law signed by Mayor deBlasio requires New York City to build up the capacity of the City’s nonprofit legal services organizations over a period of five years so that by July 31, 2022 the organizations will be able to provide attorney representation for every low-income household in New York City that is sued in Housing Court for eviction. The law’s definition of low-income includes households with incomes at or below 200% of the federal poverty guidelines. This means that a family of four with income below \$49,200 a year, for example, will be provided free legal representation if their landlord sues them for eviction in Housing Court.

The legislation also commits New York City to ensuring that all tenants who face eviction proceedings in court, regardless of household income, receive access to what the law calls “brief legal assistance.” Like actual representation, this brief legal assistance, which is an individual consultation with an attorney, is supposed to be provided no later than the first scheduled appearance in Housing Court, or as soon after that as possible. New York City’s nonprofit legal services providers are being asked to contract with the City to provide these consultations to over-income individuals, as well as to provide the full representation to eligible low-income individuals. Like full representation, this service will be provided regardless of immigration status.

If you need assistance with landlord/tenant issues, please reach out to your local housing advocacy group. For District 8, that organization is the Brooklyn Neighborhood Improvement

Association, and they can be reached at 718-773-4116.

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***FREE GRANTS FOR LEAD PAINT
REMEDiation IN PRIVATELY OWNED
BUILDINGS***

MHANY Management Inc. is a community-based not-for-profit housing organization recently selected by the NYC Dept. of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD) to identify and assist private owners who are interested in and might benefit from City programs that could help with the financial and physical needs of their buildings. There are two programs MHANY is working on:

- **HPD’s Lead Hazard Reduction and Healthy Homes Program** that provides free grants to eliminate lead-based paint hazards to eligible owners/buildings.
- **HPD’s Landlord Ambassadors Program** that provides technical assistance for owners whose buildings have been identified as “at risk” for tax lien sale or need some type of financial or physical intervention.

MHANY has also been asked to identify superintendents, maintenance staff, contractors, and painters who may be interested in free training and certification in Lead-Safe Work Practices. Training is offered free of charge through the NYC Dept. of Health.

MHANY is available to help owners complete and submit applications to HPD. Please call Nick or Jake at 718-246-8080 ext. 271 to find out more about these programs and how MHANY can assist you as a small building owner.

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***RACE, FOOD, AND JUSTICE***

Join the Brooklyn Botanic Garden on **Saturday, March 10, 2018 from 10 AM to 4 PM** for a discussion on Race, Food, and Justice with Malik Yakini, Executive Director, Detroit Black Community Food Security Network. The keynote address will examine the issues of the impossibility of having a just food system in the United States without massive land reform. According to Mr. Yakini, “the concentration of land ownership in the hands of a few creates communities that are intentionally disempowered and dependent on others to feed them.”

For more information on the program, please visit [www.bbg.org/mbb](http://www.bbg.org/mbb) or call 718-623-7250. Brooklyn botanic Garden is located at 990 Washington Avenue, Brooklyn.

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PARENTING WORKSHOP

The Black Lady Theater is offering a free parenting Workshop, an event for the community with free Caribbean lunch and raffle prizes on **Saturday, March 10, 2018 from 10 AM to 2 PM** at the Black Lady Theater located at 750 Nostrand Avenue. Topics include Teens and Violence; Financial Planning; Healthy Eating; Urban Gardening; Spirituality and Parenting; and Academic Success. There will be a free give away for the first 25 families to arrive. For more information or to pre-register, email mosaicbrooklyn@gmail.com.

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***SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT***

The Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) provides New York City youth between the ages of 14 and 24 with summer employment. SYEP participants work in a variety of entry-level jobs at government agencies, hospitals, summer camps, nonprofits, small businesses, law firms, museums, sports

enterprises, and retail organizations. SYEP also offers workshops on job readiness, career exploration and financial literacy, and opportunities to continue education and social growth. Online applications are available from now via [www.nyc.gov/dycd](http://www.nyc.gov/dycd).

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SUMMER YOUTH RESOURCE FAIR

Council Majority Leader Laurie Cumbo and Assemblyman Walter Mosley invite you to attend their 2nd Annual Summer Youth Resource Fair on **Saturday, March 10, 2018 from Noon to 4 PM** at University Settlement Ingersoll Community Center located at 177 Myrtle Avenue, Brooklyn. You will be able to obtain information on SYEP, internships, summer camps, music programs, and the like. For more information, contact Dominique Bryant at 718-260-9191.

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### ***SMOKE ALARMS SAVE LIVES!***

The FDNY is hosting a free Fire Safety Education Event on **Saturday, March 10, 2018** from Noon to 4 PM at Target Downtown Brooklyn, 139 Flatbush Avenue and Duane Reade located at 724 Flatbush Avenue, Brooklyn. Members of the FDNY Fire Safety Education Team will be distributing batteries and fire safety literature. Remember: Change your clocks...Change your batteries! Daylight Savings Time is Sunday, March 11, 2018. Change the batteries in your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.

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NYC FREE TAX PREP

File your taxes safely and for free at a special one-day event hosted by Councilmember Laurie Cumbo in partnership with the NYC Dept. of Consumer Affairs and RGC VITA. An IRS certified VITA/TCE volunteer preparer will

help you get the full refund you deserve. To qualify, you must earn \$54,000 or less.

Tax preparation services will be offered from 9 AM to 4:30 PM on **Tuesday, March 13, 2018** at Councilwoman Cumbo's office located at 55 Hanson Place, Suite 778, Brooklyn. You will need to bring with you a government issued identification and all necessary and applicable tax forms for filing. For more information visit www.nyc.gov/taxprep or call the Councilwoman's office at 718-260-9191.

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### ***FREE TAX PREPARATION AND FILING AT BORO HALL***

From now until April 16, 2018, free tax preparation services will be available at Brooklyn Borough Hall located at 209 Joralemon Street, Downtown Brooklyn, on select days. An appointment is necessary. Eligibility requirements are an income of \$60,000 or less with dependents or \$34,000 if single; or self-employed with expenses of \$5,000 or less. Please bring a government issues identification card as well as all necessary tax documents. To schedule an appointment, visit [www.growbrooklyn.org/taxes](http://www.growbrooklyn.org/taxes) or call 347-682-5606.

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NATIONAL SCHOOL WALKOUT RALLY

The office of Brooklyn Borough President Eric L. Adams invites you to the National School Walkout Rally on **Wednesday, March 14, 2018 from 2 PM to 5 PM**. Students and staff have the right to teach and learn in an environment free from worry of being gunned down in their classrooms or on their way home from school. The School Walkout Rally is a show of solidarity in a March for Our Lives! The rally will be held at the Prospect Park Bandshell, 141 Prospect Park West, Brooklyn (enter at Prospect Park West and 10th Street).

To RSVP, please visit www.brooklyn-usa.org/schoolwalkout. For questions, please call 718-802-2356 or email programs@brooklynbp.nyc.gov.

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### ***BROOKLYN CROCHETS FOR A CAUSE***

Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams invites you to participate in Brooklyn Crochets for a Cause, a homeless outreach project. Crochet with other members of the community and help create blankets and scarves that will be donated to individuals that are homeless. Yarn will be provided free of charge.

Crafting sessions will be held on Wednesdays, March 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, and 28<sup>th</sup>, and April 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, and 25<sup>th</sup>; and Tuesdays May 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, and 22<sup>nd</sup> from 10 AM to Noon at Brooklyn Borough Hall located at 209 Joralemon Street, Downtown Brooklyn.

If you have any questions, please call 718-802-3700. Donation day will be held on Wednesday, June 6, 2018. If you already know how to crochet and cannot attend one of the classes and crafting sessions, you can still contribute by dropping off your completed blankets and scarves at Borough Hall, where there will be a donation box in the lobby.

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FREE MAMMOGRAMS

District 17 and Legal Hand are pleased to host a mobile care clinic to provide no cost digital mammograms and clinical breast exams to women aged 40+, currently living in NYC, and who have not had a mammogram in the past 12 months. District 17 and Legal Hand are working with the American Italian Cancer Foundation to provide these services. All deductibles and co-pays will be waived. Uninsured patients are welcomed.

The mobile care clinic will be outside of MS 394 located at 188 Rochester Avenue, Brooklyn on **Saturday, March 17, 2018 from 9 AM to Noon**. To schedule an appointment, call 347-335-4126 or 877-628-9090.

Additionally, the Mobile Care Clinic will be at the Crown heights Mediation Center located at 250 Kingston Avenue, Brooklyn from 2-4:30 PM on **Monday, March 26, 2018**. To schedule an appointment, call 718-619-4248 or 877-628-9090.

Please schedule an appointment at one of the locations only so that as many women as possible can be served. Medical services are provided by Multi-Diagnostic Services.

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### ***ON SITE IMMIGRATION SERVICES***

Senator Jesse Hamilton in partnership with Mobilization for Justice and Immigrant Justice Corps, is offering **free on-site immigration services** on **Monday, March 19, 2018 and Tuesday, March 20, 2018** from Noon to 3 PM at the Senator's office located at 1669 Bedford Avenue, Brooklyn. Services include relative petitions; citizenship/permanent residency; new green card application; extension of visas; re-entry permits; employment authorization/petitions; and free legal consultation. To schedule an appointment, call the Senator's office at 718-284-4700.

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TOWN HALL MEETING

District Leader Olanike Alabi is pleased to host a Town Hall Meeting on **Thursday, March 22, 2018 at 6:30 PM** at the Teen Challenge Center located at 444 Clinton Avenue, Brooklyn. Meet the candidates for Civil Court, Supreme Court, and Surrogate's Court. For more information, email olanike2010@gmail.com.

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### ***“PASSPORT TO HEALTH” HEALTH FAIR***

Community School District 17 presents “Shockfactor: Passport to Health” Health Fair on **Saturday, March 24, 2018 from 10 AM to 3 PM** at PS/MS 394 located at 188 Rochester Avenue, Brooklyn. Please register using the following link:  
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/community-district017-passport-to-health-health-fair-tickets-42953004593>.

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HOW TO FILE COMPLAINTS OF POLICE MISCONDUCT

The Civilian Complaint Review Board investigates, mediates, and prosecutes complaints of police misconduct in four areas: force, abuse of authority, discourtesy, and offensive language. The CCRB will be hosting a seminar on How to File a Complaint of Police Misconduct on **Monday, March 26, 2018 at 6 PM** at Legal Hand, located at 250 Kingston Avenue, Brooklyn.

For more information or to RSVP, please call 718-619-4248. All are welcomed to attend. Pizza will be provided.

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### ***CONSUMER DEBT AND BANKRUPTCY***

On **Monday, March 26, 2018**, the Foundation Law Committee will present a free program to the public at the Brooklyn Bar Association, 123 Remsen Street, Brooklyn from 6-7:30 PM. The topic will be **Consumer Debt and Bankruptcy: The Process, Defenses, and Options**. Reservations are not required but are recommended.

For more information or to RSVP, contact Jen Bryan, Member Services Director via e-mail at [jbryan@brooklynbar.org](mailto:jbryan@brooklynbar.org) or phone at 718-624-0675, ext. 209. You can also RSVP online at

<https://brooklynbar.org/event/bankruptcy-process-defenses-options/>.

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FREE AND CONFIDENTIAL LEGAL SERVICES FOR YOUTH UNDER 24

Senator Jesse Hamilton is offering free and confidential legal services for youth under the age of 24 at his office located at 1669 Bedford Avenue, 2nd Floor, Brooklyn on Mondays, March 26th, April 23rd, and May 21st. Services include obtaining a copy of your criminal record (RAP sheet), housing and employment discrimination due to a criminal record, tickets to appear in Summons Court, child support issues in Family Court, school suspensions, and legal issues relate to an arrest or conviction.

To schedule an appointment, call 718-284-4700.

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### ***5<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATION***

The office of Borough President Eric Adams cordially invites you to attend the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Women’s History Month Celebration, honoring women who are committed to public service and giving back to their communities. The event will be held on **Thursday, March 29, 2018 from 6-9 PM** at Brooklyn Borough Hall located at 209 Joralemon Street, Downtown Brooklyn. RSVP to 718-802-3717 or [www.brooklyn-usa.org/womenshistory2018/](http://www.brooklyn-usa.org/womenshistory2018/).

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STOP N’ SWAP

On **Thursday, April 19, 2018 from 11 Am to 2 PM** at Brooklyn Borough Hall Plaza (209 Joralemon Street, Downtown Brooklyn), there will be a Stop N’ swap event. Drop off items from 8 AM at the Greenmarket. This is an outdoor event, but it will be moved indoors in case of inclement weather. Bring clean,



reusable, portable items such as clothing, housewares, electronics, books, and toys that you no longer need. Take home something that is “new to you” for free! **You do not have to bring something to take something.**

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***FREE SHREDDING EVENT***

The Crown Heights North Association (CHNA) is hosting a free document shredding event on **Saturday, April 21, 2018 from 10 AM to 2 PM** at St. Gregory’s RC Church located at 991 St. John’s Place (corner of Brooklyn Avenue), Brooklyn. Shred your papers, important documents with vital information, books, etc. For more information, call 718-774-3834.

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We wish the happiest of birthdays to **Ms. Xeerxeema Jordan, Mr. Meredith Staton, and Ms. Sharon Wedderburn**, who will all celebrate birthdays in the month of March.

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The next **77<sup>th</sup> Precinct Community Council** meeting will be held on **Monday, March 12, 2018** Trinity Baptist Church, located at 179 New York Avenue (between St. Marks Avenue and Prospect Place)

The next **78<sup>th</sup> Precinct Community Council** meeting will be held on **Tuesday, March 27, 2018** 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, April 12, 2018** at 7 PM at Weeksville Gardens Community Center located at 1640 Pacific Street (between Troy and Schenectady Avenues), Brooklyn.


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***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**

718-467-5574  
718-467-5620  
718-467-5586  
Fax: 718-778-2979

Website: [www.brooklyn8.org](http://www.brooklyn8.org)  
Email: [brooklyn8@gmail.com](mailto:brooklyn8@gmail.com)  
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Sign up for **NextDoor** at [www.nextdoor.com](http://www.nextdoor.com).