

ACROSS THE BOARD

MARCH 2019

VOLUME 41, NO. 3

District Manager's Report

Good news! After months of renovation and being closed to the public, Stroud Playground has re-opened for public use.

Also, the design phase for the Lincoln Terrace Park Pavement Reconstruction Project has been completed. The \$4 million Mayoral funded project entails reconstruction of the seating plaza and provide BBQ grills; reconstruction of existing pathways and provision of new benches; and providing access and a stabilized location for a Parks Portable Stage Trailer.

The Department of Sanitation cleanliness rating of our streets, better known as the "scorecard" rating, was **99.6% for clean streets and 99.4% for sidewalks** for the month of February.

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.



Municipal Services Update

The following is a summary of the year-to-date F.D.N.Y Emergency Statistics through February 2019.

| | Month | YTD |
|--------------------------------|-------|------|
| Structural Fires | 24 | 54 |
| Non-Structural | 22 | 35 |
| Total Fires | 46 | 89 |
| Suspicious Fires | 3 | 4 |
| Non-Medical Emergencies | 260 | 528 |
| Medical Emergencies | 328 | 650 |
| Total Incidents | 649 | 1299 |

The following is a summary of the year-to-date CompStat Crime report covering the week of 02/25/19 through 03/03/19.

| | Year-to-Date | | |
|----------------|--------------|------|-------|
| | 2019 | 2018 | %Chg |
| Murder | 2 | 1 | 100 |
| Rape | 2 | 3 | -33.3 |
| Robbery | 31 | 18 | 72.2 |
| Felony Assault | 36 | 41 | -12.2 |
| Burglary | 19 | 22 | -13.6 |
| Grand Larceny | 63 | 64 | -1.6 |
| GL Auto | 11 | 13 | -15.4 |

The overall change year-to-date is 1.23%.

FREE HOUSING AND LEGAL SERVICES

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

~~~~~

**Housing and Family Services of Greater New York Inc.**, in conjunction with **Majority Leader Laurie Cumbo**, are also pleased to offer Free Housing Services by appointment.

Do you need help with any of the following:

- Getting repairs from your landlord?
- Adequate heat and hot water?
- Are you under the threat of eviction or harassment?
- Lease renewal issues?
- Unlawful rent increases for rent regulated apartments?

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

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

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

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

~~~~~

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

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

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

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

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

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

~~~~~

### ***JOINT HEARING ON HOMEOWNERS CRISIS IN BROOKLYN***

**Senator Velmanette Montgomery, Assemblywoman Tremaine Wright, and Borough President Eric Adams**, along with several other elected officials and community organizations, are hosting a joint hearing to examine the crisis facing homeowners in Brooklyn. The hearing will be held on **Friday, March 15, 2019 from 2-6 PM** a Brooklyn Borough Hall, located at 209 Joralemon Street, Downtown Brooklyn.

This legislative hearing will examine the crisis facing homeowners, particularly homeowners of color, in neighborhoods throughout Brooklyn. As New York City becomes less and less affordable, seniors and homeowners of color in rapidly gentrifying neighborhoods are especially vulnerable. The loss of these homes has also helped fuel the increasing homeless crisis in our city.

Discussions around the systemic barriers and practices that have led to this crisis (redlining, deed theft, equity theft, liens, predatory lending/foreclosure practices, and reverse mortgages) will be discussed by panel experts. For more information or to RSVP, please call 708-802-3700.

~~~~~

THRIVE NYC: A ROADMAP FOR MENTAL HEALTH FOR ALL

Thrive NYC is offering a free Mental Health First Aid Certification Course (with a youth concentration) on **Saturday, March 16, 2019** from 9 AM to 5 PM at Friendship Baptist Church located at 92 Herkimer Street, Brooklyn.

Mental Health First Aid is a free 8 hour course that will help you identify signs and symptoms of anxiety, depression, and other mental illnesses; learn how to respond if you see these signs in your colleagues, friends, and loved ones; and connect persons to appropriate professional, peer, social, and self-help care. All participants receive a certificate for becoming trained in Mental Health First Aid, which is good for three years.

For more information, or to sign up for other MHFA courses around the city, please visit www.mhfa.newyorkcity.us.

**COMMUNITY CONVERSATION ON THE
MARIJUANA REGULATION AND TAXATION
ACT (MRTA)**

Senator Velmanette Montgomery and Assemblyman Walter Mosley invite the community to participate in a conversation on the Marijuana Regulation and Taxation Act (MRTA) hosted by Rev. Dr. Mark V.C. Taylor of the Church of the Open Door located at 201 Gold Street, Brooklyn (corner of Flushing Avenue). The conversation will be held on **Thursday, March 21, 2019 from 6-8 PM**. There will be a panel discussion on the current state of the law; the possible legalization of cannabis; and what this could mean for the community.

For more information or to RSVP, please call 718-596-0100 or 718-643-6140.

~~~~~

**PAROLE PANEL DISCUSSION**

**Plymouth Church** presents a panel discussion, "**What's Wrong With Our Parole System,**" a discussion designed around the issues faced by individuals on parole in New York City and New York State. Recidivism rates are extremely high, especially amongst black men, with most re-incarcerations due to technical violations that are not crimes.

The NYS Legislature is taking up a comprehensive package of criminal justice and parole reform bills, addressing some of the challenges that make our prison system a needless revolving door. Learn about the current system, the proposed reforms, and what you can do to help people get back on their feet and stay out of prisons. To put it into firmer perspective, it costs \$10 million to create six (6) new jail beds in New York City. Yes, you read that correctly: \$10 million for six (6) new jail beds. That money could be used for a wide array of other purposes.

The event is free and open to the public. It will be held on **Sunday, March 24, 2019** at 12:30 PM at Plymouth Church located at 75 Hicks Street, Brooklyn. For more information or to RSVP (not required), visit [www.plymouthchurch.org/racialjustice](http://www.plymouthchurch.org/racialjustice).

~~~~~

"RIGHT TO KNOW ACT"

Police and civilians should treat each other with respect. Respect is a two-way street and is something that should be automatically given, contrary to popular opinion that it should be earned. Unfortunately, once broken, respect is difficult to regain for many, and that is why the Civilian Complaint Review Board (CCRB) is inviting the public to come and learn about the agency that investigates and mediates allegations of police misconduct, and the new "Right to Know Act."

The workshop will be held on **Wednesday, March 27, 2019** at 6 PM at Crown Heights Apartments, located at 1055 St. John's Place (Community Room), Brooklyn. If you have any questions, please contact Jahi Rose via email at jrose@ccrb.nyc.gov.

~~~~~

**WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATION**

Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams cordially invites you to the **6<sup>th</sup> Annual Women's History Month Celebration** on **Thursday, March 28, 2019 from 6 to 9 PM**. The event will be held at Brooklyn Borough hall located at 209 Joralemon Street, Downtown Brooklyn. Please RSVP to 718-802-3946.

~~~~~


FREE RAT ACADEMY TRAINING

The Brooklyn Queens Land Trust (BQLT) is offering free training for Community Gardeners and Community Composters on rat and rodent prevention methods. Attendees can enter a free raffle to win a rodent-resistant garbage can.

The event will be held on **Thursday, March 28, 2019 from 6-8 PM** at the Grand Army Plaza Library, Info Commons Lab, located at 20 Grand Army Plaza, Brooklyn.

RSVP to Moriba Jackson at moriba.jackson@bqlt.org.

~~~~

### ***WOMEN OF COURAGE AWARDS LUNCHEON***

On **Saturday, March 30, 2019** from Noon to 3 PM, the Brooklyn Anti-Violence Coalition will hold its **11<sup>th</sup> Annual Women of Courage Awards Luncheon**, honoring women who have dedicated themselves to serving their communities.

The event will be held at Sanders Studios, 525 Waverly Place (between Fulton Street and Atlantic Avenue), Brooklyn. This event is free to the public, but please RSVP to Bianca Robinson at [biancarobinson28@gmail.com](mailto:biancarobinson28@gmail.com).

~~~~

SPECIALIZED HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL MEET AND GREET

All parents of 6th and 7th graders are invited to attend the "Meet the Principals of the Specialized High School" event on **Monday, April 1, 2019 at 6:30 PM** at Brooklyn Technical High School located at 29 Fort Greene Place, Brooklyn. The presentation will include the unique academic features of each school, information about the freshman

program and support services available to help with high school transition, and descriptions of extra/co-curricular programs.

Invited principals come from the following schools: LaGuardia School of Music, Art, and Performing Arts; Bronx High School of Science; Brooklyn Technical High School; Brooklyn Latin School; High School for Mathematics, Science, and Engineering at the City College of New York; High School of American Studies at Lehman College; Queens High School for the Sciences at York College; Staten Island Technical High School; and Stuyvesant High School.

Registration is required. To register, go to <http://bit.ly/shsprincipals>.

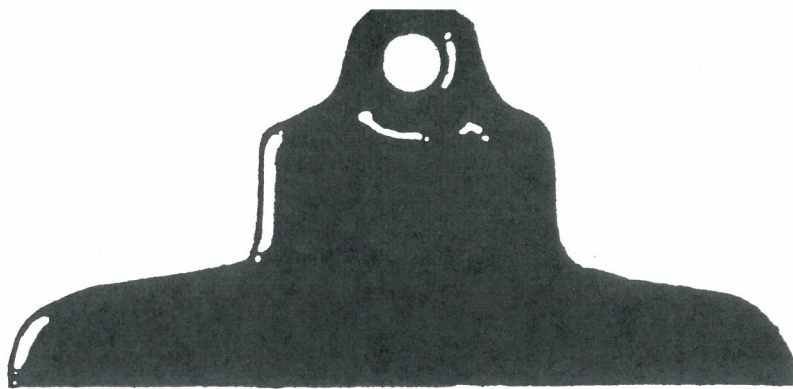
~~~~

### ***GIRLS WHO CODE***

Girls Who Code Campus is a new two-week summer program for girls ages 10 to 18. Each course uses hands-on projects to dive deep into exciting new technology like iPhone App Development or Wearable Tech & Fashion Design. Challenging projects and highly-qualified and trained instructors will give the young girls and women in your life a summer of sisterhood and a set of skills they will take with them to high school, college and beyond.

Programs are offered at the Brooklyn Friends School, the Spence School, the Hewitt School and the Centre for Social Innovation. Visit [www.girlswhocode.com](http://www.girlswhocode.com) for a full calendar of all programs and locations.

Registration is open, and courses fill up first-come, first-served. Use code INSIDE to save \$100. **Early Bird pricing ends March 15.** Need-based scholarships are available. Additional information can be found on [www.girlswhocode.com](http://www.girlswhocode.com).



## **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

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

For more information, visit [www.nyc.gov/nypd](http://www.nyc.gov/nypd) or call 212-RECRUIT.

~~~~~

The 2020 Census may have a job for you in New York City and is seeking individuals that speak specialized languages. If interested, please go to <https://2020census.gov/jobs>.

~~~~~

We wish a speedy recovery to Mr. Yves Vilus and Ms. Glinda Andrews.

~~~~~

We wish the happiest of birthdays to our Board members: **Ms. Xeerxeema Jordan, Mr. Meredith Staton, Ms. Sharon Wedderburn, Mr. Drew Gabriel, Mr. Adam Sachs, and Mr. Wayne Bailey**, who will all celebrate birthdays in the month of March.

~~~~~

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

The next **77<sup>th</sup> Precinct Community Council** meeting will be held on **Monday, April 8, 2019** at a **location to be determined**. Please call **Community Affairs** at **718-735-0634** to obtain the location.

~~~~~

The next Community Board 8 general meeting will be held on **Thursday, April 11, 2019** at **Concern for Independent Living**, located at **151 Rochester Avenue (between St. Marks Avenue and Prospect Place)**, Brooklyn at 7 PM.

~~~~~

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

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

**Community Board No. 8**  
**1291 St. Marks Avenue**  
**Brooklyn, NY 11213**  
**Phone: 718-467-5574/5620**  
**Fax: 718-778-2979**

**Website: [www.brooklyn8.org](http://www.brooklyn8.org)**  
**Email: [brooklyn8@gmail.com](mailto:brooklyn8@gmail.com)**

Like us on **f**acebook/Community Board 8  
Sign up for **NextDoor** at  
**[www.nextdoor.com](http://www.nextdoor.com)**.

~~~~~