

# ACROSS THE BOARD

**MAY 2015**

**VOLUME 37, NO. 5**

***District Manager's Report***

***Good News!***

***PROPER BATTERY DISPOSAL***

Did you know that since 1996, with the passage of the Mercury-Containing and Rechargeable Battery Management Act, typical household batteries no longer contain harmful chemicals that make them dangerous to our landfills. As such, batteries (AA, AAA, C, and D) can be disposed of with your regular household garbage.

However, if you are environmentally conscious and would prefer to recycle your old batteries rather than tossing them with the regular trash, many electronic stores, big box, and drugstore chains that sell batteries (like Best Buy, Walgreens, and others), will also take them back for free and send them off for proper recycling.

Unfortunately, button cells are another story, with the tiny batteries still containing harmful materials despite the 1996 Act. There are no legal disposal laws for button batteries but in this case, we hope you will do the right thing and recycle them properly rather than having their harmful chemicals and materials

end up in the municipal solid waste stream and contribute to our ongoing pollution problem.

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***FORECLOSURE RESCUE SCAMS***

Thousands of New Yorkers have fallen victim to foreclosure rescue scams. Don't let it happen to you! **The Center for NYC Neighborhoods** is partnering with the **Office of New York State Attorney General Eric Schneiderman** on an educational campaign to protect New Yorkers from these scams.

The Attorney General has formed an easy to use web based application to protect New York families. The web based application, AGScamHelp, can help you determine if a company is government vetted, get you connected to trustworthy help, and allow you to report scams directly to the Attorney General.

Foreclosure rescue scammers are aggressively targeting New York homeowners in financial distress and your help is needed to stop them. Call 1-855-466-3456 or visit [AGHomeHelp.com](http://AGHomeHelp.com) to report a scam or get more information on how to identify a scammer.

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**NYC EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT  
COMMUNITY SPACE SURVEY**

NYC Emergency Management invites you to participate in the **Community Space Survey**.

The Community Space Survey identifies spaces in your community that could potentially support the City's emergency operations or could be used for community outreach events. This survey will assist their efforts in preparing and coordinating emergencies on the community level. Please note that providing information on these sites does not mean the sites will be used in an emergency; however they will be captured in a database and could potentially be a resource for the City. If possible, Emergency Management would also like to consider using these spaces for non-emergency events, such as Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training classes, awards ceremonies or National Preparedness Month events.

Information including guidelines, FAQs and online submission forms are available on their website at: [http://www.nyc.gov/html/oem/html/get\\_involved/cc\\_community\\_space.shtml](http://www.nyc.gov/html/oem/html/get_involved/cc_community_space.shtml).

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**2015 SUMMER PLAYSTREETS**

The NYC Street Activity Permit Office (SAPO) is still accepting **2015 Play Street applications**. For information on Play Streets, to download and application, and to see if you are eligible to host a play street, visit [http://www.nyc.gov/html/cecm/html/office/summer\\_play\\_streets.shtml](http://www.nyc.gov/html/cecm/html/office/summer_play_streets.shtml).

All submissions should be emailed to Maureen DeSantis, the Play Street Coordinator, at [mdesantis@cityhall.nyc.gov](mailto:mdesantis@cityhall.nyc.gov).

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**NYC SAFESTART ACCOUNT**

NYC has partnered with banks and credit unions to offer the **NYC SafeStart Account**, a safe and affordable starter savings account available for New Yorkers. Special features of the account include no overdraft fees; no monthly fees provided a minimum balance of \$25 is met; non debit card ATM card for withdrawals.

You can open an NYC SafeStart Account at participating banks and credit union branches throughout New York City or schedule a free one-on-one financial counseling session at one of the City's Financial Empowerment Centers to learn more about opening an NYC SafeStart Account and managing your money.

For more information, a list of bank locations, or a list of financial empowerment center locations, visit [http://www.nyc.gov/html/ofe/html/policy\\_and\\_programs/safestart.shtml](http://www.nyc.gov/html/ofe/html/policy_and_programs/safestart.shtml).

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**INTRODUCTORY COMPUTER CLASSES  
FOR SENIORS AND ADULTS**

The St. John's Recreation Center is offering **10 weeks of beginners/introductory computer classes for seniors and adults** on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday evenings from 6:30 to 8 PM. St. John's Recreation Center is located at 1251

Prospect Place (between Troy and Schenectady Avenues), Brooklyn, NY.

Space is limited. Contact Ms. Coello Monday through Friday from 3 PM to 9 PM at 718-771-2787, ext 309 for more information or to register.

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### **PROM DRESS GIVEAWAY**

Senator Kevin Parker, in partnership with Macy's and Lydia's Closet, presents the **8<sup>th</sup> Annual Free Prom Dress Giveaway**. The giveaway will be held at **Samuel J. Tilden High School Campus located at 5800 Tilden Avenue, Brooklyn, NY (between E. 58<sup>th</sup> and E. 59<sup>th</sup> Streets) on Saturday, May 16, 2015 from Noon to 3 PM.**

Giveaways are first come, first served. A valid high school photo ID is required. For more information, contact Senator Parker's office at 718-629-6401.

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### **THE ART OF STORYTELLING AT WEEKSVILLE**

The Weeksville Heritage Center (WHC), located at 158 Buffalo Avenue, is pleased to announce the series, **"The Art of Storytelling."**

On **May 16, 2015 at 10 AM**, WHC is please to present, **"Tribute to the Ancestors."** This traditional tribute to those who have passed on features music and drumming, a libation ceremony for the ancestors conducted by the DanceAfrica Council of Elders, and performances by Bale Folclorico da Bahia and invited guests. Visit

[www.BAM.org/DanceAfrica](http://www.BAM.org/DanceAfrica) for more information.

On **May 27, 2015 at 7 PM**, join WHC for **"The Moth StorySLAM: Family."** This event is open to anyone with a true story to share on the night's posted theme: Family. Storyteller hopefuls are selected at random and have five minutes to tell their story. Ten featured stories are scored by teams of judges selected from the audience who pick the StorySLAM winner. Sign up or just enjoy the show. For more information visit [www.themoth.org](http://www.themoth.org).

On **May 29, 2015 from 6:30 to 8:30** at WHC, enjoy **"An Evening with Judith Wellman."** Join WHC for a lively conversation with Professor Judith Wellman, moderated by Weeksville's president Tia Powell-Harris to discuss *Brooklyn's Promised Land*, a literary work by Judith Wellman that invites readers to consider themes still relevant around the world today, including debates about separatism vs. integration as routes toward respect, equality, and justice for African Americans and all people. All are welcomed to attend.

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### **PROTECT YOUR DIGITAL LIFE**

The National Cyber Security Alliance (NCSA) is hosting **"Two Steps Ahead,"** an event to educate consumers and businesses about **adding layers of security to their everyday online activities.**

The event will be held on **Monday, May 18, 2015** at **Brooklyn Central Public Library**, the Dr. S. Stevan Dweck Center, 10 Grand Army Plaza, Brooklyn, NY. The event begins with refreshments and a



meet and greet at 9 AM, with the program beginning at 9:30 and a panel discussion that begins at 10:30. For more information or to register, visit [stopthinkconnect.org/twostepsahead](http://stopthinkconnect.org/twostepsahead).

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### ***PRESERVING PROSPECT HEIGHTS***

**On Monday, May 18, 2015 at 7 PM at PS 9 located at 80 Underhill Avenue** (between Bergen Street and St. Marks Avenue), Brooklyn, the **Prospect Heights Neighborhood Development Council (PHNDC)** will host an **informational forum** for homeowners, landlords, and residents.

Learn about tax credits available for the rehabilitation of properties in Prospect Heights' National Register Historic District, and how PHNDC is working to increase the number of eligible buildings. Find out how to work with the Landmarks Preservation Commission when planning construction for your property in the landmark district. Hear about Mayor de Blasio's proposal to increase building height limits in contextual districts like Prospect Heights, and what it may mean for the neighborhood.

Representatives from the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission, the New York State Department of Parks and Historic Preservation, and the New York City Dept. of City Planning will be on hand to answer questions at the event. For more information, visit [www.phndc.org](http://www.phndc.org).

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### ***DIRECT CARE PROFESSIONAL TRAINING***

**The Direct Care Professional Training is a free program** designed to provide

individuals with the knowledge, practical skills, and certifications required to be an effective Direct Care Professional.

Training offerings include introduction to developmental disabilities; new trends and individual differences; working with families and support systems; ethics and professional standards; promoting positive relationships; strategies for crisis intervention and prevention; cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR); cultural competency; medication (AMAP); and fire safety.

Students must have a high school diploma or GED. For employment, agencies will require medical and background screenings. Learner's permit or license is required.

**Register now for daytime classes beginning May 18, 2015.** For pre-orientation sessions or more information, please contact Shermira Busby-Forrester, via telephone at 718-552-1120 or visit [www.citytech.cuny.edu/conted](http://www.citytech.cuny.edu/conted).

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### ***SENIOR RESOURCE FAIR***

**The Golden Agers and the Women's Ministry of Antioch Baptist Church** invite you to their **Senior Resource Fair for caregivers, seniors, and their families** on **Saturday, May 30, 2015 from 10 Am to 3 PM**. The fair will be held at Antioch Baptist Church located at 828 Greene Avenue, Brooklyn.

Seminars will include Wills and Estate Planning; Medicaid Planning; Guardianships; Identity Theft; Signs of Dementia/Alzheimer's; Funeral Planning; Medication Management; Elder Abuse; Homecare Services; Housing Alternatives;

Reverse Mortgages; Hospice Care; and others.

Refreshments will be served and admission is free. For more information, contact [antiochbaptistlegal@gmail.com](mailto:antiochbaptistlegal@gmail.com) or call 718-878-7529.

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**BROOKLYN DAY**

Borough President Eric Adams and Deputy Borough President Diana Reyna invite you **Brooklyn Day** on **Thursday, June 4, 2015 from 11 AM to 3 PM** (rain or shine). Join the Borough President and Deputy Borough President at Canarsie Park, E. 88<sup>th</sup> Street and Seaview Avenue for free sports and fitness clinics during a family friendly and fun-filled day. Guests are encouraged to bring a lawn chair. Established groups can apply for transportation vouchers.

Buses to Canarsie Park include the B17, B103, BM2, B42, or the L Train to the B42. Please call Stanley Bridgman, Community Liaison, at 646-343-6736 for more information.

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**LINCOLN TERRACE TENNIS ASSOCIATION**

Lincoln Terrace Tennis Association is pleased to present **Junior and Adult Summer Tennis Programs** at Lincoln Terrace Tennis Park. **The 2015 Summer Session runs from May 23, 2015 through August 29, 2015** on Saturdays from 10 AM to Noon.

Applications are available at [www.lincolnterracetennis.com/#!/forms/](http://www.lincolnterracetennis.com/#!/forms/)

[c2510](http://c2510). For additional information, contact Charles East at 917-379-0094 or Ken Wilkinson at 646-789-3972 or visit [www.lincolnterracetennis.com](http://www.lincolnterracetennis.com).

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**LOOKING FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN BROOKLYN?**

New city-subsidized affordable buildings are coming to various areas of Brooklyn. All units will be available through the Dept. of Housing Preservation and Development's (HPD) lottery system. **Councilwoman Laurie Cumbo and Assemblyman Walter Mosley** are sponsoring free seminars to help **learn how to successfully navigate the lottery system**. By attending, you will obtain tips on how to correctly fill out and submit housing lottery applications.

The next free seminar will be held on **Wednesday, June 10, 2015 at 6:30 PM** at Ingersoll Community Center located at 177 Myrtle Avenue, Brooklyn, NY.

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The following is a summary of the year-to-date CompStat Crime report covering the week of 05/04/15 through 05/10/15.

|                         | Year-to-Date |      |       |
|-------------------------|--------------|------|-------|
|                         | 2015         | 2014 | %Chg  |
| <b>Murder</b>           | 1            | 1    | 0     |
| <b>Rape</b>             | 7            | 7    | 0     |
| <b>Robbery</b>          | 92           | 98   | -6.1  |
| <b>Felony Assault</b>   | 113          | 123  | -8.1  |
| <b>Burglary</b>         | 79           | 109  | -27.5 |
| <b>Grand Larceny</b>    | 151          | 161  | -6.2  |
| <b>Gr. Larceny Auto</b> | 32           | 47   | -31.9 |



We urge everyone to adhere to the **Dept. of Sanitation's routing times of 8 AM to 9 AM and Noon to 1 PM daily**. The front of your property should be swept and free of debris 18 inches into the street. All sweepings must be bagged and disposed of properly. This will help us improve our scorecard rating which was **93.1 for streets and 91.6 for sidewalks** for the month of April.

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The following is a summary of the year-to-date **F.D.N.Y Emergency Statistics through April 2015**.

	Month	YTD
Structural Fires	33	106
Non-Structural	20	153
Total Fires	53	259
Suspicious Fires	2	6
Non-Medical Emergencies	231	1118
Medical Emergencies	286	1070
Total Incidents	595	2532

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We would like to wish the happiest of birthdays to Dr. Flize Bryan, Mr. Curtis Harris, Mr. Kwasi Mensah, and Ms. Deborah Young.

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The next **78<sup>th</sup> Precinct Community Council** meeting will be held on **Tuesday**,

**May 26, 2015** at 7:30 PM at the **78<sup>th</sup> Precinct** located at **65 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Brooklyn**.

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The next **77<sup>th</sup> Precinct Community Council** meeting will be held on **Monday, June 8, 2015** at 7:30 PM at a location to be determined. Call Community Affairs at 718-735-0634 for the location.

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The next meeting of **Community Board No. 8** will be held on **Thursday, June 11, 2015** at 7 PM at Concern for Independent Living, 151 Rochester Avenue (corner of St. Marks Avenue), Brooklyn.

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

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

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