

ACROSS THE BOARD

MAY 2023

VOLUME 45, NO 5

District Manager's Report

New Community Board 8 Members

We would like to welcome the following new members to Community Board 8:

- Ms. Akua Aidoo
- Ms. Sharon Alexis-Pierre
- Mr. Edward Delman
- Mr. Christopher Johnson
- Mr. Robert LaPointe
- Ms. Lisa Maldonado
- Mr. David Mantell
- Ms. Briana Peppers
- Ms. Taraya Pettway
- Mr. Robert Puca
- Ms. Anika Roach
- Mr. Conor Ross
- Mr. Samori Toure

May your membership on the board be fruitful and rewarding.

Municipal Services Update

The Department of Sanitation cleanliness rating of our streets, better known as the "scorecard" rating, was **86.3 for clean streets and 96.5% for sidewalks** for the month of May.

We continue to urge everyone to adhere to the Dept. of Sanitation's residential enforcement routing times of 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. to 7

p.m. 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.

Also, remember the new Waste Setout Times for **setting out trash, recycling, and curbside composting is effect.**

Residential buildings have three options:

- Place trash out after 6:00 p.m. in a container with a secure lid,
- Place trash out after 8:00 p.m. if putting bags directly on the curb,
- If a building has nine or more residential units, the property owner may opt into a 4:00–7:00 a.m. set-out window instead. For more information, visit www.nyc.gov/multiunitsetout.

Businesses that place the waste at the curb for collection have two options, unless waste is collected from a loading dock:

- If using a container with a secure lid, place the waste at the curb 1 hour before closing,
- If putting bags directly on the curb, place waste out after 8:00 p.m. Bundled cardboard may go next to the containers or bags

For both residential properties and businesses, setting out too early could result in fines of \$50 for a first offense, \$100 for a second offense, and \$200 for third and subsequent offenses within a 12-month period.

The grace period is ending soon, tickets will be issued, and the first areas to be checked for enforcement will be those places where warnings were issued.

For a complete list and explanation of new rules, visit www.nyc.gov/SetoutTimes.



The following is a summary of the year-to-date CompStat Crime report covering the week of 05/01/2023 through 05/07/2023.

	Year-to-Date		
	2023	2022	%Chg
Murder	2	3	-33.3
Rape	9	8	12.5
Robbery	65	77	-15.6
Felony Assault	142	103	37.9
Burglary	55	65	-15.4
Grand Larceny	148	144	2.8
GL Auto	53	41	29.3

The overall change year-to-date is **7.48**.



WATER BILL AMNESTY

The NYC Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has extended the one-time amnesty with up to 100% interest forgiveness for all delinquent customers until **May 31st**. Sadly, thousands of property owners across the city still have not signed up for the amnesty program and are at risk of having both their water shut off for back payments, and a lien placed on the property.

The amnesty program offers a 1:1 reduction in interest fees to the amount of your back bill that is paid. For instance, if you pay 30% of the balance, 30% of interest and fees will be removed from your balance. If you pay off your entire principal balance, 100% of interest and fees will be removed.

To learn more or to sign up, visit <https://www.nyc.gov/site/dep/pay-my-bills/amnesty-program.page>.



CROWN HEIGHTS JOB FAIR

The Economic Development Committee of Community Board 8, in partnership with the Creative Side and A Greater good NYC, are hosting a Crown Heights Job Fair on **Friday, May 19, 2023 from 1 to 6 p.m.** on Franklin Avenue between Park and Prospect Places. Over 45 confirmed employers will be in attendance with opportunities across myriad fields. Employment seekers should come prepared for interviews.



CROWN HEIGHTS ARTS STROLL

Calabar Imports located at 708 Franklin Avenue (between Park and Prospect Places) is pleased to present “Crown Heights Arts Stroll” every first Friday on Franklin Avenue. Come out and support Crown Heights’ local artists and arts institutions in District 8, including My Gallery, Calabar Gallery, and Five Myles Gallery to name a few. The next Arts Stroll will be held on Friday, June 2, 2023 from 4 to 9 p.m., starting at Calabar Imports.



TENANT’S RIGHTS IN NYC

Constituent Services of Brooklyn Borough Hall is pleased to present a community resources information series, “Tenant’s Rights in NYC” on Wednesday, May 17, 2023 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the

Brooklyn Children’s Museum located at 145 Brooklyn Avenue (corner of St. Marks Avenue). The NYC’s Mayor’s Public Engagement Unit Tenant Support Unit will provide an overview of resources available to renters living in NYC, as well as help Brooklynites learn more about their rights as tenants and how the pandemic affected tenant’s rights.



BROWER PARK EVENTS

NYPD Community Affairs Bureau Brooklyn Community Outreach Division in conjunction with the 77th Precinct Community Affairs Unit presents a special Father’s Day Celebration on Saturday, June 3, 2023. The special celebration, to be held at Brower Park (Brooklyn Avenue and Park Place entrance) from Noon to 4 p.m., and will feature free haircuts for fathers, giveaways, and much more. For more information, please contact Police Officer Howard (917-834-9011), Police Office Griffiths (917-859-1898), or Police Officer Walker (929-213-9835).



Friends of Brower Park is seeking volunteers to assist with park upkeep every Wednesday from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Volunteers will assist with planting, weeding, mulching, and other gardening projects. Additionally, every Wednesday, also at 10:30 a.m. is “Storytime in the Park.” Visit the Friends of Brower Park Facebook page for more information and to sign up.



ELECTRIC MICRO-MOBILITY EVENT

New York City is one of the most congested cities in the U.S, mainly due to the hustle and bustle of our cars and trucks, but from 2020-2021, sales of electric micromobility devices increased by 240%, mainly driven by the pandemic. Electric micromobility devices provided a more affordable and cleaner alternative to the traditional modes of transportation. More people are now using these

devices for work, traveling, leisure, and as an aid for New Yorkers with disabilities; our city can proactively re-imagine street infrastructure and safety needs while incentivizing this environmentally friendly technology to create a more equitable and safer New York for all.

On Wednesday, **May 17th**, join the Office of the Public Advocate, various city agencies, advocates, and community organizations for an educational advocacy session on battery safety and storage, proper bike usage, new generation bike lanes, protected charging and storage stations, battery trade-in/buy-back programs, accessibility concerns, and more. There will be networking sessions, including tabling by organizations and New York City agencies, and the opportunity to test-ride mobility devices by Veo and Lime.

The event will be held at Thomas Paine Park, Foley Square, Lafayette St., Centre St. between Worth St., Pearl St. and Duane St, Manhattan. Submit inquiries to rsvp@advocate.nyc.gov.



GREENEST BLOCK IN BROOKLYN

The Greenest Block in Brooklyn contest is free and open to all residential blocks, commercial blocks, and community gardens in Brooklyn. The purpose of the contest is to promote streetscape gardening in the borough of Brooklyn through block associations and other community groups. For more information, email community@bbg.org or call 718-623-7250. To enter your block, visit <https://www.bbg.org/community/greenestblock#apply>.



BROOKLYN ROAD RUNNERS BROOKLYN HALF MARATHON

The New York Road Runners are hosting the RBC Brooklyn Half on **Sunday, May 20, 2023** starting at 7:00 a.m. The race begins next to the Brooklyn

Museum and ends on the world-famous Coney Island Board walk. There will be several street closures and several areas with restricted access. For the full route and list of street closures, visit <https://www.nyrr.org/races/rbcbrooklynhalf>.

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### ***ST. JOHN'S RECREATION CENTER SENIOR GAMES***

From June 5<sup>th</sup> to June 15, 2023, older adults aged 50 and over will compete in the ultimate citywide challenge at one of the city's recreation centers. Participate solo or as part of a team in basketball, archery, shuffleboard, swimming, pickleball, corn hole, table tennis, and track and field competitions. Participation is free with a recreation center membership but space is limited and registration is required. To register, visit [www.nyc.gov/parks/senior-games](http://www.nyc.gov/parks/senior-games).

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WARNING: COMBAT CATALYTIC CONVERTER THEFT

Catalytic converter theft is on the rise, and the NYPD has created the Cat-Scan Program which etches a unique serial number and scannable QR Code onto the catalytic converter and enrolls it in the CatGuard Database. This serial number allows police to identify the vehicle the catalytic converter belongs to. The visible ID number can deter thieves. There will be a Cat-Scan event on **Friday, May 19, 2023** from Noon to 4 p.m. at the Upper Parking Lot in Cunningham Park (entrance on Francis Lewis Blvd) in Queens to assist vehicle owners in safeguarding their vehicles and wallets from theft.

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### ***BROOKLYN URBAN GARDENER***

The Brooklyn Urban Gardener (BUG) certificate program is an annual multiple-session course that covers the basics in urban gardening and community greening. It connects the educational

resources of Brooklyn Botanic Garden to the greening efforts of Brooklyn's communities.

BUG students can expect an experiential, train-the-trainer program. Using a hands-on, participatory education model, the course includes instruction in sustainable horticultural practices suited to the urban environment, street tree stewardship, community engagement practices, effective teaching methods, and an overview of the greening resources available in Brooklyn. The training is free. Classes begin in mid-September and run into November.

If you have any questions, email [bug@bbg.org](mailto:bug@bbg.org) or call 718-623-7250. To apply, visit [https://www.bbg.org/community/brooklyn\\_urban\\_gardener\\_certificate\\_application](https://www.bbg.org/community/brooklyn_urban_gardener_certificate_application).

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FREE SUMMER THEATER PROGRAM FOR NYC TEENS

Stella Adler Studio of Acting is offering a Summer Shakespeare five-week intensive program that is free for qualifying students. Twenty-two students are selected to train five days a week in voice, movement, ensemble work and scene study (50 hours of classes total). The program culminates in a production of an abbreviated Shakespeare play. Summer Shakespeare is an intensive program that requires the quick understanding and execution of new skills. To learn more about this exciting, free program, please email Program Director, Yeauxlanda Kay at yolanda@stellaadler.com with the subject heading: Interested in Free Actor Training.

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### ***AFFORDABLE HOUSING EXPO***

On Saturday, June 10, 2023 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the CUNY Graduate Center located at 365 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue (at 34<sup>th</sup> Street), Manhattan, there will be an Affordable Housing Expo. Attendees will learn

about programs and services offered by partners from lending, government agencies, housing providers, real estate professionals and more. Industry experts from lending, real estate, legal and non-profits will provide first-time homebuyers with market insight, tips, and tricks of the trade to navigate the housing market and homebuying process.

To register, go to [www.housingpartnership.com/expo23](http://www.housingpartnership.com/expo23).

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ADULT CONTINUING EDUCATION AND ESL CLASSES

Adult Continuing Education is a branch of the NYC Dept. of Education that caters educational services to adults over the age of 21. Their classes are free and open to the community regardless of immigration status. English proficiency classes are offered as are GED classes.

Registration is in-person only and takes place weekly at the enrollment hub located at 271 Melrose street in Brooklyn, NY 11206 as well at MS61 located on 400 Empire Blvd., Brooklyn, NY 11225 from 8:00am - 2:00pm M-F and 6:00pm - 9:00pm Tuesday and Wednesdays and Thursdays (ESL).

For more information, visit <https://bit.ly/SCHOOL7>.

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### **FREE MAMMOGRAMS**

**On Saturday, June 3, 2023 from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.**, the 77<sup>th</sup> Precinct Council and 77<sup>th</sup> Precinct Clergy Council will be hosting a mammogram bus providing no cost mammograms to the community. The mammogram bus will be located at Calvary Community Church located at 1575 St. John's Place (corner of Buffalo Avenue).

Mammograms are open to women ages 40 and older currently living in New York City that have not had a mammogram in the last 12 months. You do not have to have insurance or even be a citizen to take advantage. Schedule your no-cost mammogram today at 646-948-7219 or 877-628-9090.

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SENIOR CINEMA AT BROOKLYN ACADEMY OF MUSIC

Senior Cinema at the Brooklyn Academy of Music offers seniors 65 and older free admission to repertory classics with complimentary popcorn and soda on the third Friday of every month.

Upcoming shows are **Fining Fela! (2015)** on Friday May 19, 2023 at 10 a.m. and **The Young and the Damned (1950) (Original title: Los Olvidados)** on Friday, June 16, 2023 at 10 a.m. (in Spanish with English subtitles).

Brooklyn Academy of Music is located at 30 Lafayette Avenue (between St. Felix Street and Ashland Place).

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### **NEWS AND UPDATES FROM COUNCILMEMBER CRYSTAL HUDSON**

Councilmember Crystal Hudson of the 35<sup>th</sup> Council District, is pleased to share the following information with the community:

- Every Second Tuesday of the month, Constituent Services hours with Brooklyn Neighborhood Services are held at the Central Library located at 10 Grand Army Plaza from 4-8 p.m.
- The next 'Planning Together For Our Future' Workshop on Land Use In District 35 is happening on Saturday, May 13th from 2-5 p.m., at McNair Park - Washington and Eastern Parkway. (In case of rain - it will happen at St. Francis de Sales School for the

Deaf.) You can RSVP by calling our office at 718-260-9191 or using this link: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/planning-together-for-our-future-a-public-workshop-on-land-use-in-d35-tickets-626544861547>

- The 2nd Annual Mother’s Day Celebration and Luncheon will be held on Friday, May 19th at the Brooklyn Academy of Music’s Fisher Building. The event will feature a catered lunch, live music, and raffles with prizes from local businesses from Noon to 6 p.m.
- #CoffeeWithCrystal will be held at R&D Foods in Prospect Heights (602 Vanderbilt Avenue) on Saturday, May 20th, at 9 a.m! Wes Jackson, President of BRIC Arts Media is the invited guest to speak about the vital role cultural institutions play in nurturing our communities, and to spread the word about BRIC's Celebrate Brooklyn! Series set to begin in June.
- The final set of Working Group Meetings set to begin on Monday, May 22nd. All of the working groups will take place at the Fort Greene Council’s Grace Agard Older Adult Center (966 Fulton Street) and run from 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.
  - Streets, Infrastructure, & Open Space; May 22
  - Economic Development, Human Capital, & Services
  - Land Use, Housing, & Density; May 30

For more information or to RSVP for any of the upcoming events, please call 718-260-9191.

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***NEWS AND UPDATES FROM
COUNCILMEMBER CHI OSSE***

Councilmember Chi Ossé of the 36th Council District, is pleased to share the following information with the community:

- Housing Info with CUFFH Affordable Housing Services is held every Tuesday from Noon to 6 p.m.
- Migrant Resource Day is held every Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Migrants can apply for various services including WIC, transportation, housing, health insurance, immigration attorneys, and can even apply for a free cell phone or tablet.
- Free Legal Immigration Advice will be offered on June 8th from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Appointments are encouraged but walk-ins will be accepted.
- Bike Day will be held on May 13, 2023 from 2 to 11 p.m. Join the Councilmember for a bike around the 36th Council District. Meet at 2 p.m. at Restoration Plaza (with a bike) for the ride, then enjoy music, food, karaoke, and a movie screening of Beat Street at sundown. All will be held at Restoration Plaza.
- Haitian Flag Day at Brooklyn Children’s Museum located at 145 Brooklyn Avenue (corner of St. Marks) on May 18, 2023 at 6 p.m.
- City Chat with Chi will be held at Somewhere Good located at 320 Tompkins Avenue 1-3 p.m. on May 27th.

All services are provided at the Councilmember’s office located at 1360 Fulton Street, Suite 500. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call 718-919-0740.

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***NEWS AND UPDATES FROM  
CONGRESSMAN DAN GOLDMAN***

Rental Assistance in Federal FY 24 Budget – Congressman Goldman joined Congresswoman Maxine Waters (CA-43) and Congresswoman

Ayanna Pressley (MA-07) in leading a group of 90 members of Congress to call for funding that would provide crucial rental assistance to help ensure affordable housing for low-income households. With the end of the Emergency Rental Assistance Program, renters continue to face barriers to housing stability in the face of rising rental costs, inflation, and the end of COVID federal and local eviction protections. Goldman, Waters, and Pressley led their colleagues in requesting full funding for Public Housing, Section 8, Section 202, and Section 811 rental assistance programs, including housing choice vouchers and the Public Housing Operating Fund. The members have also requested an additional \$1 billion in funding to create and support new affordable housing units.

Passport Backlog – The U.S. Passport Agency is facing a huge surge in passport applications as many Americans resume international travel and work to replace passports that expired over the last few years. This flood of applications has created a backlog, and processing times are increasing. This has also increased the demand for in-person appointments at passport agencies, making it very difficult to secure one. If you have travel scheduled in Fall or Winter 2023, please apply for your passport renewal now. Current processing times are 7-9 weeks for expedited processing and 10-13 weeks for routine service. This means you should count on being without a passport for 3-4 months, as you will have to mail in your old passport with your renewal application. Passport applications already increase during the summer months so it is likely processing times will continue to increase. You can find the current processing times and everything you need to know about submitting a passport application or renewal at <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/passports.html/>

Get in Touch! Please visit <https://goldman.house.gov> to sign up for the Congressman’s newsletter. Residents of NY-10 can also request help with a federal agency by

going to our website or calling our Brooklyn office at 718-312-7575.



### ***HIGH SCHOOL ENRICHMENT PAID INTERNSHIP PROGRAM***

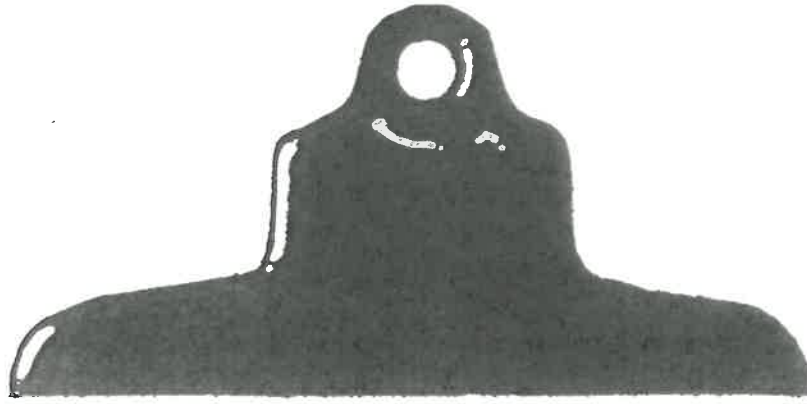
Kavi’s Public Health Institute is looking for high school juniors and seniors to participate in a 6-week enrichment program of paid internships in the field of Public Health. The goal of the program is to increase students’ awareness and understanding of the issues that disproportionately affect residents of Central Brooklyn. Topics include mental health, opioid abuse, sexual health, medical screening and life saving techniques amongst others.

To participate in the Saturday program, contact [marcus@kavibrooklyn.org](mailto:marcus@kavibrooklyn.org) or call 929-543-4030.



### ***AABE SCHOLARSHIPS***

The American Association of Blacks in Energy is a professional organization of African Americans in the energy industry. Through its Scholarship Program, AABE seeks to help increase the number of African Americans, Hispanics and Native Americans (under-represented minorities) in energy related fields. By doing so, they help the nation address a critical need and a challenge to our future economic vitality in the world market. Candidates for an AABE scholarship must have an overall “B” unweighted academic average (3.0 or better on a 4.0 scale); be a graduating high school senior who has applied to one or more accredited colleges/universities, and plan to major in business or one of the physical sciences, technology, engineering or mathematics fields in preparation for a career in the energy sector; and be a member of one of a class or group of individuals who has been historically underrepresented in those areas.



The scholarship application can be accessed by visiting AABE National Scholarship page via <https://aabescholarship.awardspring.com/Home/ScholarshipDetails/253844>.

The next 77<sup>th</sup> Precinct Community Council meeting will be held on Monday, June 12, 2023 at location to be determined. Please call Community Affairs at 718-735-0634 to confirm the location.

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EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

NYC Dept. of Corrections Summer Interns

The NYC Dept. of Corrections is hiring summer interns for various offices and locations including (but not limited to) the Engineering Audit Unit, Central Office of Procurement, Strategic Initiatives, and General Counsel.

To learn more or to apply for any of the internships, visit www.nyc.gov/jointheboldest.

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The next **Community Board 8 general meeting** will be held on **Thursday, June 8, 2023** at 6:15 p.m. at the Palace 713 Nostrand Avenue, (Enter on Sterling Place), Brooklyn.

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ACROSS THE BOARD is a monthly publication:

Irsa Weatherspoon, Chairperson
Michelle George, District Manager/Editor
Julia Neale, Community Coordinator

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We wish the happiest of birthdays to Community Board 8 members Mr. Edward Delman, Ms. Dian Duke, Mr. Kwasi Mensah, Ms. Marva Brown-Henry, Mr. Gib Veconi, and Ms. Deborah Young.

**Community Board No. 8**  
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**Phone: 718-467-5574, 467-5586, 467-5620**

**Website: [www.brooklyncb8.org](http://www.brooklyncb8.org)**  
**Email: [brooklyncb8@gmail.com](mailto:brooklyncb8@gmail.com)**

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The next 78th Precinct Community Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 30, 2023 at 7:30 p.m. via zoom. Go to www.zoom.com and enter Meeting ID 160-237-2143, Password: qP#7zmxj. You may also join by phone by dialing 646-254-5252 or 646-964-1167 (US Spanish Line) and entering meeting ID: 160-237-2143.

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Sign up for **NextDoor** at www.nextdoor.com