

# ACROSS THE BOARD

OCTOBER 2015

VOLUME 37, NO. 8

***A NOTE FROM OUR CHAIR, MS. NIZJONI  
GRANVILLE:***

This past July, I had the pleasure of attending Mrs. Viola Bing's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday celebration at the Sheraton Hotel in Downtown Brooklyn. I met Mrs. Bing in 1996 when I joined Community Board 8. I had no idea how involved she had been in the Crown Heights community throughout her life until this time. She had been appointed to the Board in the 1970's, when "community planning boards" were first created. According to a letter written by her friend and fellow Community Board 8 member Mrs. Adelaide Miller, she and Mrs. Bing had also been active members of their block association for more than 30 years. Having Board members who take such an active role in improving the quality of life in their neighborhood has made my job as Chairperson much easier.

Instead of jockeying for a position behind the microphone or in front of a camera, for decades Mrs. Bing quietly went about the business of doing what needed to be done to elevate the quality of life in her neighborhood. In a very real sense, Mrs. Bing is the epitome of President Obama's advice to be "the change that you want to see in the world". I believe that communities do not just happen; communities are not discovered. Instead, community residents make real sacrifices to create the neighborhoods they want to live and work in. We owe a great debt to all the pioneers who have worked tirelessly for the betterment of the community for many years.

When I feel tired, I think about all the years that people like Mrs. Bing, Mr. Robert Matthews, Mr. Charles Palms, Ms. Priscilla Maddox, Ms. Estelle Epstein, Mr. Meredith Staton, Ms. Anna Marie Blinn, Mrs. Miller and so many others have toiled in the vineyard of public service and I am inspired to keep moving forward. The fine example that they have set keeps me focused and should help us all to focus on our common goals, not on our differences.

***DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT***

***MISSING PERSON BILL***

According to a recent article in *Our Times Press*, each year, hundreds of adults in New York State go missing and nothing gets done about it. New York is one of the top 5 states in the country with the most women and children reported missing or disappearing.

Missing Persons Legislation, sponsored by Senator James Sanders, Jr. and Assemblyman Charles Barron, passed both in the Senate and Assembly unanimously. The LaMont Dottin bill (S3790/A7468) requires law enforcement to take a report whenever a person is reported missing, regardless of age, and send such report to the National Crime Information Center Register. The bill is now awaiting Governor Cuomo's signature.

If you are interested in helping to find missing persons from New York State, please call the governor at 518-474-8390 and ask him to sign the LaMont Dottin Bill into law.

The **scorecard rating** for the month of September in District 8 was **91.7 for streets and 93.8 for sidewalks**.

Remember to sweep in front of your property and also 18 inches into the street. All sweepings must be bagged and disposed of properly.

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The following is a summary of the year-to-date CompStat Crime report covering the week of 09/21/15 through 09/27/15.

|                         | Year-to-Date |      |       |
|-------------------------|--------------|------|-------|
|                         | 2015         | 2014 | %Chg  |
| <b>Murder</b>           | 10           | 7    | 42.9  |
| <b>Rape</b>             | 16           | 169  | 0     |
| <b>Robbery</b>          | 203          | 214  | -5.1  |
| <b>Felony Assault</b>   | 278          | 301  | -7.6  |
| <b>Burglary</b>         | 186          | 217  | -14.3 |
| <b>Grand Larceny</b>    | 347          | 369  | -6.0  |
| <b>Gr. Larceny Auto</b> | 80           | 104  | -23.1 |

The overall change year to date is **-8.8%**.

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### **SENIOR BENEFIT ASSISTANCE**

Great News! The **Crown Heights Jewish Community Council (CHJCC)** and **Brooklyn Community Board 8** and **Councilwoman Laurie Cumbo** are working together to bring senior benefit assistance services to the local community every **last Wednesday of each month between 10 AM and 2 PM** starting October 28, 2015. Services will be available at the **Community Board 8 district office located at 1291 St. Marks Avenue (between Rochester and Buffalo Avenues), Brooklyn, NY.**

The staff at CHJCC will assist you with Food Stamps, Medicaid, Medicare Savings Program, Reduced Fare applications, Senior Citizen Rent Increase Exemption (SCRIE), Disabled Rent Increase Exemption (DRIE), Senior

Real Estate Tax Exemption, Social Security and SSI, and much more.

For more information, call Community Board 8 at 718-467-5574 or the Crown Heights Jewish Community Council at 718-778-8808.

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### **HEAT SEASON**

October 1, 2015 marked the first day of heat season in NYC. The Dept. of Housing, Preservation, and Development has strict minimum heat guidelines that all landlords must follow.

From now until May 31, 2016, between the hours of 6:00 AM and 10:00 PM, if the outside temperature falls below 55 degrees, the inside temperature is required to be at least 68 degrees Fahrenheit. Between the hours of 10:00 PM and 6:00 AM, if the temperature outside falls below 40 degrees, the inside temperature is required to be at least 55 degrees Fahrenheit. Any landlord that fails to adhere to these guidelines should be reported to HPD via 311 immediately.

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### **FLU SEASON**

Flu season is upon us once again. As last year's flu epidemic was one of the worst in years, this year's flu season is expected to be the same if not worse.

Everyone, especially seniors, are encouraged to get a flu shot. If you have an elderly relative, it is essential that you encourage them to get vaccinated against the flu.

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### **DEPT. OF SANITATION TO CHANGE BUSINESS RECYCLING REGULATIONS**

In an effort to have more uniform and understandable recycling rules for all businesses, the Dept. of Sanitation (DSNY)

has proposed amended rules governing recycling requirements for commercial establishments and others who have their garbage and recycling collected by private carters.

The proposed rules are: 1. Designate a number of recyclable materials including, but not limited to, metal, glass, plastic and paper that businesses are required to recycle; 2. Prohibit the co-mingling of any designated recyclable materials with garbage or other solid waste; 3. Allow private carters to collect recyclables in separate paper and metal, glass, and plastic streams; 4. Require each business to post signs identifying their private carters and each recyclable material that will be collected; and a few others.

If adopted as proposed, the rules would go into effect in July 2016 and businesses would have one year to come into compliance. DSNY will accept comments on the proposal until October 22, 2015, when there will be a public hearing at a location to be determined. For more information, call 311.

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### ***BREAST CANCER AWARENESS***

It is important to remember that breast cancer does not only affect women; it affects men as well. **Breast cancer is an uncontrolled growth of cells in the breast region, and therefore, men are not immune.** Walking for a cure will help men just as it will women. Early breast cancer usually does not cause symptoms. This is why regular breast exams are important. As the cancer grows, symptoms may include:

- Breast lump or lump in the armpit that is hard, has uneven edges, and usually does not hurt
- Change in the size, shape, or feel of the breast or nipple -- for example, you may have redness, dimpling, or puckering that looks like the skin of an orange

- Fluid coming from the nipple -- may be bloody, clear to yellow, green, and look like pus

Symptoms of advanced breast cancer may include bone pain; breast pain or discomfort; skin ulcers; swelling of one arm (next to breast with cancer); and/or weight loss.

Early detection is your best remedy as there is no cure. Women are advised to perform monthly self-breast examinations and women over the age of 40 are urged to get their yearly mammograms.

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### ***CONTRACTOR RESOURCE SUMMIT***

**Neighborhood Housing Services and Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams** invite you to a free Contractor Resource Summit, in partnership with non-profits and government agencies. Topics include becoming a licensed minority/women vendor; low interest financing for clients in need of repair; information on asbestos and lead certification; and much more.

The resource summit will be held on **Wednesday, October 14, 2015 from 6-8:30 PM at Brooklyn Borough Hall** located at 209 Joralemon Street, Downtown Brooklyn.

For more information or to RSVP, call 718-649-4679, email [infoef\\_10@nhsnyc.org](mailto:infoef_10@nhsnyc.org) or visit <http://bit.ly/1PZGPyw>.

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### ***DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS FORUM***

Please join **Congresswoman Yvette Clarke** for a Domestic Violence Awareness Forum on **Wednesday, October 14, 2015 from 6:30 to 9 PM** at the **Brooklyn Museum Canto Auditorium**, located at 200 Eastern Parkway, Brooklyn.

Participants include the Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence; the Brooklyn Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.; and New York Regional Chapters of Omega Pi Phi Fraternity Inc.

For more information and to RSVP, call the Congresswoman's District office at 718-287-1142.

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**OCTOBER IS SUDDEN CARDIAC  
DEATH MONTH**

October is Sudden Cardiac Death Month. Join Mount Sinai Heart for a free information health fair on **Thursday, October 15, 2015 from 11 AM to 2 PM at Mount Sinai Brooklyn, 3201 Kings Highway** (between E. 32<sup>nd</sup> Street and New York Avenue), Brooklyn.

For more information, call 718-951-2916.

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**RED TAPE COMMISSION**

NYC Comptroller Scott Stringer in partnership with **Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams, Co-Chairs Jessica Lappin and Michael Lambert and Red Tape Commission Members** invite you to "**Red Tape Commission,**" a Brooklyn hearing for business owners and entrepreneurs.

Break out your scissors and come share your stories, ideas, and concerns on **Friday, October 16, 2015 from 8:30 to 10 AM at Brooklyn Law School, Geraldo's Café, Feil Hall, 205 State Street, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Downtown Brooklyn.**

If you would like to submit written testimony or comments, please send them via email to [redtape@comptroller.nyc.gov](mailto:redtape@comptroller.nyc.gov). To RSVP or for more information, call 212-669-7746 or send email the aforementioned address.

**FREE BOOKS FOR CHILDREN**

**The United Federation of Teacher (UFT), in partnership with First Book,** will hand out **free children's books** to parents and educators as long as supplies last on **Saturday, October 17, 2015 at PS 81, 990 Dekalb Avenue, Brooklyn, NY.**

To receive your pick of 15 free children's books, you must be registered with First Book. If you are not already registered, you must do so by **Friday, October 9<sup>th</sup>** in order to attend this event.

To register, download and print the registration form, fill out **only** the top section entitled "About You" and bottom section entitled "Signature Confirmation," skipping the middle section, and return it to Betty Zohar.

- Scan it onto your computer and email it to [bzohar@uft.org](mailto:bzohar@uft.org).
- Fax it to [718-852-9891](tel:718-852-9891).
- Mail it to: ATTN: Betty Zohar, UFT Brooklyn Borough Office 335 Adams St., 25th Floor, Brooklyn, NY 11201 (Make sure it is postmarked by Oct. 9<sup>th</sup>)

Once you register, you will receive a confirmation card with the time of this First Book event. Bring the card with you on Oct. 17.

Download your application here: <http://files.uft.org/parents/first-book-registration-brooklyn-parents.pdf>.

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**CB 8 HEALTH FAIR**

Join the Health/Human Services, Parks, and Seniors Committees of Community Board No. 8 for a health fair with information from infants to seniors on **Saturday, October 24, 2015 from 10:30 AM to 4 PM at St. John's**

**Recreation Center located at 1251 Prospect Place (between Troy and Schenectady Avenues), Brooklyn.**

Please support the committees' hard work and efforts in putting on the informative health fair. For more information or to register a table, please call the Community Board 8 office at 718-467-5574.

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***CANCER IN THE COMMUNITY: A FORUM ON PREVENTION, COPING, AND LIVING WITH CANCER***

**CenterLight Health System** in cooperation with **Bedford Stuyvesant Senior Task Force** invites you to attend **"Cancer in the Community: A Forum on Prevention, Coping, and Living with Cancer."** The Keynote speaker will be Dr. Vincent Yeung, Flushing Radiation Oncology Services.

The forum will be held on **Tuesday, October 27, 2015 from 3 to 5 PM at the Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation, located at 727 Classon Avenue** (between Park and Prospect Places), Brooklyn. Light refreshments will be served.

Seating is limited. For additional information and to RSVP, please call Jackie Kennedy-Saddler at 718-636-1000, ext. 437.

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***SMALL BUSINESS FORUM***

Join Borough President Eric Adams and Fidel F. Del Valle, Commissioner of the NYC Office of Administrative Trials and Hearings (OATH) for a Small Business Forum: How to Respond to Notices and Summonses. The forum will be held on **Tuesday, October 27, 2015 from 6-8 PM at Brooklyn Borough Hall** located at 209 Joralemon Street, Downtown Brooklyn.

The event will bring together OATH representatives as well as representatives from

the City's ticket-issuing agencies to discuss some of the most commonly issued violations, how to avoid getting those violations, and how to contest alleged violations at OATH hearings. There will be a Q&A session after the panel of speakers.

For more information or to RSVP, please call 718-802-3777 or email [CAssistance@brooklynbp.nyc.gov](mailto:CAssistance@brooklynbp.nyc.gov).

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***CITY-OWNED REAL ESTATE AUCTION***

On **Wednesday, October 28, 2015 starting at 10 AM**, the NYC Dept. of Citywide Administrative Services (DCAS) will hold a public real estate auction of city-owned properties located throughout the city. The auction will be held at the **Bronx County Courthouse located 851 Grand Concourse in the Bronx.**

This is an exciting opportunity for the public to own a piece of New York and for the City to raise revenue by putting properties back on the tax rolls. The auction not only allows city residents to purchase property, but it provides an opportunity for local business owners to purchase and develop land.

The auction brochure that lists the properties to be offered, including the terms and conditions of sales and other information, can be obtained at [www.nyc.gov/auctions](http://www.nyc.gov/auctions).

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***LEGAL CLINIC***

**District Leader Olanike Alabi, the Nigerian Lawyers Association, and the 57<sup>th</sup> A.D. Democratic Organization** are pleased to present a free legal clinic information session and presentation. Issues to be discussed are immigration, housing rights, criminal law, family law and divorce, wills and estate planning.

The legal clinic will be held on **Thursday, October 29, 2015 from 6:30-8 PM at the Teen Challenge Center located at 444 Clinton Avenue** (between Gates and Greene Avenues).

For more information, call 718-398-0750 or email [secretary@NigerianLawyers.org](mailto:secretary@NigerianLawyers.org).

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### ***MONSTER MASH***

Join the Brooklyn Children's Museum for their annual "Monster Mash" celebration on **Saturday, October 31, 2015 from 10 am to 5 pm** at BCM located at 145 Brooklyn Avenue. Come dressed to impress as the museum celebrates Halloween.

For more information, call 718-735-4400 or visit [www.brooklynkids.org](http://www.brooklynkids.org).

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### ***BROOKLYN MUSEUM OF ART CHILDREN'S BOOK FAIR***

On **Saturday, November 14, 2015 from Noon to 4 PM at the Rubin Pavilion**, meet your favorite Brooklyn authors and illustrators! On display will be storybooks, picture books, original art-coloring activity, and author readings.

The Brooklyn Museum of Art is located at 200 Eastern Parkway. For more information, call 718-638-5000 or visit [www.brooklynmuseum.org](http://www.brooklynmuseum.org).

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### ***31<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. ESSAY, POETRY, AND ART CONTEST***

The Central Brooklyn Martin Luther King Commission is pleased to announce their 31st Annual "Education - Key To The Future" essay, poetry, and art contest for students in grades 4-12. Plus a new Original Oratory Contest has been instituted for 11th grade

students only. Topics for essays, poems, art & speech contestants details can be found on their website at [www.cbmlkcommission.org](http://www.cbmlkcommission.org).

### **Three prizes will be awarded in each category:**

Elementary School Winners Prize; \$100 each to three winners

Middle School Winners Prizes; \$250 1st, \$200 2nd, \$75 for 3rd place

High School Winners Prizes; \$500 1st, \$350 2nd, and \$100 for 3rd.

All entries will receive a T-shirt.

**Contest entries must be received online, on or before November 2, 2015.** For more information, please visit

[www.cbmlkcommission.org](http://www.cbmlkcommission.org), send an email to [cbmlkcommission@gmail.com](mailto:cbmlkcommission@gmail.com) or call the Commission at 347-599-2061.

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### ***BROOKLYN PUBLIC LIBRARY VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES***

The Brooklyn Public Library is excited to promote the following volunteer opportunities:

**Afterschool Homework Helper:** Tutors provide support, assistance, and encouragement to children in grades 1 through 8 who need extra help with their homework.

**High School Tutor:** Tutors provide support, assistance, and encouragement to teenagers in grades 9 through 12 as they prepare for standardized tests, apply for college, and complete homework assignments.

**First Five Years:** Volunteers assist library staff with programs and provide experiences with books in language-rich environments so that young children will develop the skills they will need to be successful in school.

**Citizenship Exam Coach:** Volunteers assist patrons by providing individual help by leading exam preparation instruction.

**Resume Coach:** Volunteers assist job seekers by providing individual help with resume, cover letter, and other employment related objectives.

**English Conversation Group Leader:** Help people improve their English-speaking skills by leading small English conversation groups.

Patrons wishing to learn more about these services may contact their local library. Individuals who are interested in volunteering may apply online at [www.bklynlibrary.org/support/volunteer](http://www.bklynlibrary.org/support/volunteer).

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***RED CROSS CITIZENS  
PREPAREDNESS CORPS COLLEGE  
SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM***

The **American Red Cross** is seeking motivated college students to become Campus Coordinators and to go out into their campus communities and the general public to train their fellow classmates, friends, family and other individuals on disaster preparedness. **The American Red Cross has partnered with Governor Andrew Cuomo to deliver the Citizen Preparedness Corps presentations all throughout the State of New York, with a goal of training 20,000 New Yorkers.** This presentation is designed to educate individuals on how to prepare for, how to respond and how to recover from any natural, man-made or technological disasters that occur.

The Citizens Preparedness Corps College Scholarship Program gives college students the opportunity to educate their community on disaster preparedness, while also giving them the opportunity to earn a scholarship that will assist them with the costs of higher education.

**Criteria to participate in the Citizen Preparedness Corps College Scholarship Program:**

- Must be a student (undergrad or grad) attending an accredited Institution of Higher Education in New York City, Long Island or the Lower Hudson Valley.
- Must be able to successfully pass a criminal background check.

**Scholarship Awards**

- Scholarships will be awarded based on the number of individuals trained either online or in-person.
- The Campus Coordinator will be required to train at least 250 individuals in order to be awarded the first scholarship amount.
- Each Campus Coordinator will be awarded \$500 for every tier they advance to.

**This scholarship program will end at the close of business on March 31, 2016.** The scholarship awards will be paid directly to the school to be posted to the student's account. For soon to be graduating students who might not have an account balance, the scholarship will be paid directly to their federal or private student loan provider. In order to do this, the Campus Coordinator must provide his/her college or student loan provider account number.

To apply, please send your resume and cover letter to Alex Lutz, Senior Regional Director, Community Relations at [Alex.lutz@redcross.org](mailto:Alex.lutz@redcross.org).

All interested candidates will be required to schedule an in-person interview at the chapter's Manhattan headquarters.

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***EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES***

***NYC Teaching Fellows***

The New York City Teaching Fellows program is preparing a critical mass of exceptional teachers committed to a better



future for the NYC students who need them most. Fellows work in 80 percent of New York City's 1,800 public schools and represent 12 percent of the city's active teaching force and are transforming educational opportunities for the city's highest-need students, and you have the opportunity to be a part of the movement. The application for the June 2016 Fellowship is now open, and the early admission deadline is October 22nd.

To start your application and learn more about the impact you could have next year as a Fellow, visit <https://nyctf.teachertrack2.org/r/17fea2b0-d749-4d89-93fd-a50e01606c62>. If you have any questions, contact Julia Zweig, Site Manager, NYC Teaching Fellows at [Jzweig3@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:Jzweig3@schools.nyc.gov).

### *City Exams*

**School Safety Agent**, Exam No. 6306, file through October 31<sup>st</sup>

**Traffic Enforcement Agent**, Exam No. 6307, file through November 30<sup>th</sup>

For further information on any of the exams above, or to file, go to [www.nyc.gov/examsforjobs](http://www.nyc.gov/examsforjobs) and search for the specific exam number. Some exams have daily walk-in testing available.

The next **Crown Heights North Association** meeting will be on **Wednesday, October 21, 2015 at 6:45 PM** at St Gregory's Church located at the corner of St Johns Place

and Brooklyn Avenue, Brooklyn. The FDNY will be on hand to discuss fire prevention and the Parks Department will be on hand to discuss tree guards and the Million Trees Initiative.

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The next **77<sup>th</sup> Precinct Community Council** meeting will be held on **Monday, October 12, 2015** at 7 PM at Ebenezer Wayside Methodist Church, located at 1024 Bergen Street (near Rogers Avenue), Brooklyn, NY.

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The next **78<sup>th</sup> Precinct Community Council** meeting will be held on **Tuesday, October 27, 2015** at 7 PM at the 78<sup>th</sup> Precinct located at 65 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Brooklyn, NY.

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The next meeting of **Community Board No. 8** will be held on **Thursday, November 12, 2015** at 7 PM at Union United Methodist Church located at 121 New York Avenue (corner of Bergen Street), Brooklyn, NY.

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

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**Michelle George, District Mgr/Editor**  
**Julia Neale, Comm. Associate**  
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