

The QCB 12 Advisor

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Looking Good Feeling Good	2
Sewer Service Protection Plans	2
Tax Lien Sales	3
Parli Pro Tips	4

Chair-ing with Purpose!

CB 12's Chairwoman Adrienne Adams reminds us that we continue to move forward in our collective mission of People, Unity, Respect, Partnership, Ownership, Support and Excellence. War against the machine rages on!

She reports that contrary to the pleas of parents and wishes of the community, several more local schools have been slated to close, though the understanding exists

that the provision of necessary resources hold the promise of restoration for these vital institutions. As an added disappointment the Panel unceremoniously voted down a proposed moratorium on school closures in general.

Between the ongoing flooding issues which create health issue and property damage, and the Community Board 12 area being the dumping ground for everything unwanted in

other communities Madam Chair encourages us to remember what is best for ourselves and our children. We are reminded in this season of renewal and new beginnings to keep the pressure on, and not accept the lack of concern for the quality of our lives and staggering disrespect for things hard won by our community.

To quote from the Chairperson's Report, "We as a community must make our demands known and keep the pressure on, so that change can occur".

Trash Talk in the Trenches

Now that spring has sprung, the greening of our area ranks right up there with the cleaning of our area!

After consideration of a variety of ways to help keep the Jamaica area cleaner our Sanitation's Citizen Advisory Committee has offered the following suggestions for the improvement for many or our more problematic areas.

These are a few of those suggestions; Aggressively enforce litter and illegal dumping laws currently in place; Work with local elected officials to revise local litter laws; Hold banks and other property owners accountable for

keeping their homes (foreclosed and/or abandoned) clean and otherwise maintained. Time limits and increased fines may also assist in reminding negligent property owners of their responsibility in maintaining the quality of life their neighboring property owners have paid for the privilege to enjoy.

While no family likes to have its dirty laundry aired, a little television exposure may bring just the right kind of attention to this problem. This has been the hope of

Aiysha Jaggassar-Johnson, Chairperson of the Sanitation Committee, who has already enlisted the assistance of our hardworking Councilman Ruben Wills alongside his Director of Constituent Affairs, Jahi Rose, the Greater Jamaica Development Corp, NYC Development Corp, Jamaica BID and news station NY1 to expose the horrendous conditions which currently exist in our area.

Bravo to you all, for taking on this odious challenge!

Special points of interest:

- **Trash Talk in the Trenches**
- **College Fair**
- **Know Your Rights Conference**
- **NYC Safe Disposal**

Community Board 12 appreciates the many hours dedicated by its committees to hearing and responding to the many and very specific needs of this community.

The Committee Chairs Welcome the Partnership of the Community in the work of its Committees;

- Good and Welfare** **Land Use** **Senior Citizens** **Transportation**
- Communications and Technology** **Sanitation** **Education** **Health** **Youth Services**
- Economic Development** **Parks** **Blocks United**



Looking Good, Feeling Good!

Shape UP NYC is a program sponsored by our Mayor Bloomberg, the Dept of Aging, the Dept of Education and others who have your best shape in mind.

All of the following Shape Up Fitness Classes are free, with no registration required in order for you to join in and get moving.

You'll notice that they are held on different days at different times, so where you may not be able to fit one into your

hectic schedule, there'll certainly be another that fits just right!

Senior Fitness- Tues/Thurs@11a.m. at the Vic Hanson Field House 133-39 Guy R Brewer Blvd, Jamaica 11434.

Group Fitness-Wed@1130 at the Roy Wilkins Park 177th Street and Baisley Blvd, Jamaica 11434.

Aerobics-Wed@4pm at the Queens Library-Central Branch 89-11 Merrick Blvd,

Jamaica 11432

Cardio Fitness-Saturdays@12 noon at the South Jamaica II Cornerstone Community Center located at 109-04 160th street, Jamaica 11435.

There are more than 50 locations participating in this citywide fitness program, so to find one that may be closer to where you need, please visit www.nyc.gov or call 311 for more information.

A Secret to Share– Sewer Service Line Protection

The Dept of Environmental Protection (DEP) brought little known but valuable information to the Community Board meeting concerning the important notices which they had sent to homeowners in our area. Many of these had been discarded without reading, or due to misunderstanding the information enclosed.

Ms Ellis explained that the when there is a break or a breach in the sewer line which connects a home to the sewer line, where the damage occurs will determine

who is responsible for the making and paying for the repair. A break in the line between the home and the sewer connection is the responsibility of the homeowner. Sewer lines themselves are the responsibility of the City to repair. Unfortunately repairs to the line the homeowner must repair is never inexpensive. It is for this reason DEP offers information regarding a Service Line Protection Plan. For \$11.98 per month

homeowners are covered for repairs due to Breaks/Leaks, In Street Service including Tree Root Infiltration, though the service may be separated into \$3.99 for Break/Leaks and \$7.99 for In Street Service per month. One call will connect the homeowner to emergency service from a Master Plumber within 4 hours, and 12 hours for non emergencies.

In order to sign up for this contract, please call 888.300.3570 or find more information at AWRUSA.com/nyc.

Public Concerns– The District Manager’s Report

Tax Lien – Once again it is Taxi Lien Sales Time

What is a Lien?

- A lien is a legal claim against real property for unpaid property taxes, water and sewer charges, and other property related municipal charges including the interest due to these charges.

What is a Lien Sale?

- The lien sale is when debt has been delinquent for a legally specified period of time, the City is allowed to sell the debt – this is a lien sale.
- The City creates a Trust and sells the liens – not the property to the Trust, which pays the City up front for the debt and hires an authorized private collector to be the new lien holder.

After the sale the new lien holder has the authority to collect the money that was previously owed to the City plus other fees and interest.

If you own a 1-family house and only owe water/sewer charges but not property taxes, the City may not sell a lien on your property. Although the water/sewer debt may not be sold, DEP may terminate your water/sewer service if charges remain delinquent.

Last day to pay is May 16, 2013.

For Family and Community

Get a Jump on the College Search

You'll have the opportunity to meet representatives from Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Private, Technical, Art colleges, CUNY and SUNY colleges at the College and Vocational School Fair scheduled for Saturday April 13th 2013 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. with the Jamaica Community Partnership located at 90-40 160th street Jamaica NY 11432.

Know Your Rights!

Network or make those all important connections at the Know Your Rights Conference presented by the Association of Women Construction Worker's of America which celebrates the 50th

Anniversary of the Equal Pay for Women's Act takes place Wed April 17th 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at the Hilton New York JFK Hotel 144-02 135th Ave Jamaica NY 11436. Call Craig Collins at 718.523.6868 or send an email to jcp@mediatenyc.org for more information.

While it is important to use non toxic items whenever

possible some commonly used household items may be harmful you, your young family, pets and city workers and the environment if not disposed of correctly.

Recycle More Waste Less

NYC Safe Disposal Events are being sponsored by NYC Dept of Sanitations Bureau of Waste Prevention, Reuse and Recycling. Call 311 or visit nyc.gov/SAFEdisposal to find the most convenient place for NYC residents with proof of residency to dispose of the following item types; automotive, housewares & household cleaners, personal care and medications and electronics.

*NYC Safe Disposal
Tips and Alternatives
may be found at
nyc.gov/*

wasteless/harmful.

*To find a place to
donate paint or
working electronics,
visit*

nyc.gov

/stuffexchange

*Soon it will be illegal
to dispose of
electronics in the
trash. Get the facts at*

nyc.gov/ecycle

Parli Pro Tips

THIRTEEN STEPS TO THE DEBATING PROCESS

COMMUNITY BOARD 12

90-28 161st

Jamaica, NY 11432

Phone:

718.658.3308

Fax:

718.739.6997

E-Mail:

pshawbilbo@cb.nyc.gov

Community Board 12 meets on the third Wednesday of each month at the

Robert Ross Johnson Family Life Center, which is located at 172-17 Linden Blvd

St. Albans, NY 11433 at 7 PM

- 1) Address: Board member addresses the Chairperson
- 2) Recognition: Chairperson recognizes the Board member.
- 3) Obtain the Floor: Board member has the floor.
- 4) Motion: Board member introduces a motion.
- 5) Second: Another Board member seconds the motion.
- 6) Informal Discussion: The Chairperson and introducer of the motion can discuss modification withdrawal of the motion.
- 7) Statement of the Question: The Chairperson states the question (motion) to the Board mem for their consideration.
- 8) Debate: The Board Members debate the merits of the motion. Amendments may be submit and acted upon.
- 9) Closing of Debate: The Chair or a Board member initiates the closing of the debate.
- 10) Debate Decision: Board members vote whether to end the debate and start the voting process.
- 11) Restatement of the Question: Before the voting process  actually begins, the Chairperson will again clearly state the exact question (motion) that the members will be voting on.
- 12) Voting: Voting and disposition takes place.
- 13) Results of Vote: The Chairperson announces the results of the vote.

CELESTE E JAMES
Communications and Technology Chairperson

Greg Mays Committee Member

Adrienne Adams Advisor

QUEENS COMMUNITY BOARD 12

90-28 161ST STREET
JAMAICA, NY 11432

