



February Committee Meetings @ QCB13 Board Office

- Land Use 2.4.19 @ 7:30 pm
- Public Safety 2.6.19 @ 7:00 pm
- SSSSNC 2.7.19 @ 7:00 pm
- Youth, Education & Libraries 2.12.19 @ 7:30 pm
- Economic Development 2.13.19 @ 7:00 pm
- Transportation 2.14.19 @ 7:00 pm
- Parks and Environment 2.19.19 @ 7:30 pm
- Health 2.21.19 @ 7:00 pm

GENERAL BOARD MEETING

Monday, January 28, 2019 @ 7:30 PM

North Shore Towers, Towers on the Green — 272-48 Grand Central Parkway, Floral Park, NY 11005

AGENDA

1. Community Time
2. Meeting Called to Order
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Welcome from North Shore Towers — Felice Hannah, QCB13 Board Member
5. Elected Officials — Welcome
6. Chairman's Report — Clive Williams
7. District Manager's Report — Mark McMillan
8. NYPD Report — Deputy Inspector Neteis Gilbert, Commanding Officer, 105 Precinct
9. Presentation - Elder Abuse Guide for Law Enforcement (EAGLE)
NYPD Sergeant Jennifer Limage, 105 Precinct
10. Roll Call
11. Approve Minutes — December 2018
12. Public Hearings
13. Committee Reports
14. Public Speaking Time
15. Adjournment

NEXT GENERAL BOARD MEETING, Monday, February 25, 2019
Bellerose Assembly of God 240-15 Hillside Avenue, Bellerose, NY

Queens Community Board 13

219-41 Jamaica Avenue
Queens Village, NY 11428
718.464.9700
Fax: 718.254.2739
qcb13.org



Melinda Katz
Borough President

Vicky Morales-Casella
Director of
Community Boards



Clive Williams
Chair

Mark McMillan
District Manager



PUBLIC HEARING

Monday, January 28, 2019 @ 7:30 pm
Towers on the Green, Arcade Level of Building #2
272-48 Grand Central Parkway, Floral Park, NY 11005

Uniform Land Use Review Procedure (ULURP)

- a. C 180 517 MMQ City Map Changes (JFK North/Nassau Expressway), **Springfield Gardens**
Demapping of JFK North Site/Nassau Expressway
b. CEQR #17DME006Q; PHA#1732A (Bartlett Dairy Inc.), **Springfield Gardens**
The application proposes the elimination, narrowing and realignment of Nassau Expressway and the establishment of a portion of the south street line of Rockaway Boulevard within the area bounded by 159 Street, Nassau Expressway and Rockaway Boulevard.

BOARD OF STANDARDS AND APPEALS (BSA)

- a. BSA Calendar No. 2018-82-BZ (Blink Fitness)
220-05 Hillside Avenue, **Queens Village**

It is proposed to establish a Physical Culture Establishment (PCE) to be operated as Blink Fitness on a portion of the first floor of the existing commercial building.

- c. BSA Calendar No. 2018-179-BZ (Yeshiva Har Torah)
250-10 Grand Central Parkway, **Glen Oaks**

Accelerated variance application seeking to enlarge an existing school facility. Current facility approved under prior BSA Calendar No. 190-10-BZ.

- b. 251- 73 & 77 Jericho Turnpike, **Bellerose**

Multi - Purpose Building "Special Permits" to allow:

- Reduced required parking – BSA Calendar #: 2018-136-BZ
- A school - BSA Calendar #: 2018-137-BZ
- A Physical Culture Establishment (PCE) – BSA Calendar #: 2018-145-BZ (Planet Fitness)

TO SPEAK, YOU MUST ARRIVE BEFORE 7:30 PM TO SIGN-UP.

**IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS,
CALL MARK MCMILLAN, DISTRICT MANAGER AT 718-464-9700.**

**NOTICE
OF
PUBLIC
HEARING**



People Remember the Things You Say; Especially When it is About Them

Recently, I was catching up with some former colleagues who had retired. I was the baby when I joined the team and now I look back at how quickly time has passed...

Well, there was one particular colleague who I became friendly with and for some reason felt that he was incredibly sincere and honorable in the way he carried out his position. I thought this was curious because he easily could have been the exact opposite and been equally as competent. During conversation one day, he expressed regret that he was unable to become a firefighter as that profession was one he really admired. Instead, he became a writer and eventually a journalist.

He spoke about how happy he was to have found cohorts in his age group in the town he recently had moved to. One day when randomly walking into a café, there were a group of men in their early 70s talking about history and politics. Their conversation was intellectual and passionate. The next day he introduced himself and complimented the quality of their conversation; they thought he was joking but invited him to join them despite their amusement with his compliment. It turned out they were all Vietnam veterans and much of what they discussed had to do with combat and the sorts of experiences and decisions one is faced with when doing a tour of duty in a war zone.

He told me he took great joy in these daily conversations and was sure to be on time with coffee in hand. This was just one of many new activities he had embarked upon since retiring; he was easily as busy as when he worked and this time in his life – despite a recent health scare – was very satisfying.

He then recounted to me a day we encountered when we worked together many years ago. I was in charge of security for a large number of people and we had a bomb scare. Fortunately, it turned out to be nothing, so the senior team ended up congregating in one office to discuss what had just happened. One of the duties we had in the case of an emergency was to check each office to make sure everyone had vacated the building. He said that I posed a hypothetical to the group: "If you knew the bomb was real, would you still check every office – not knowing when it would explode – or would you get out as soon as possible?"

He said I went around the room and gave my evaluation as to each person's probable action – it was immediately vacating. He remembers me saying that clearly he would do the round of offices before leaving the building – despite the impending danger. He said, "that was the nicest compliment I ever got...more people should say nice things to each other."

Mark McMillan, District Manager



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DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT – January 2019

Meetings Canceled:

Seniors, Special Needs & Social Services Committee
Parks & Environment Committee
Transportation Committee
Health Committee

Events/Meetings Attended:

December 17, 2018: QCB 13 General Board Meeting at the Bellerose Assembly of God.

December 18, 2018: Attend Queens Borough Cabinet Meeting. Topics:

- I. **Presentation on Fire Safety During the Holiday Season** by Lieutenant Michael Kozo, FDNY
- II. **Overview of NYC Electric Vehicle Initiatives** by Mark Simon, Director of Electric Vehicle Policy, NYC Department of Transportation, and Jen Robertson, Transportation Policy Advisor, NYC Mayor's Office

December 19, 2018: Host District Service Cabinet Meeting at QCB 13 office.

December 26, 2018: Meeting with **Council Member Barry Grodenchik** and James Fox, Director of Yeshiva Yar Torah School re; upcoming expedited variance application.

January 8, 2019: Attend and participate in Youth, Education & Libraries Committee Meeting Chaired by **Rhonda Kontner** and Vice Chaired by **Lorraine Gittens-Bridges**. Details will be shared in their report.

January 9, 2019: Attend and participate in Economic Development Committee Meeting Chaired by **Curlene Nelson** and Vice Chaired by **Richard Hellenbrecht**. Details will be shared in their report.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Clive Williams, Chair, cwilliams@qcb13.org

Angela Augugliaro, First Vice Chair
Anup Ramnauth, Treasurer

Marcia O'Brien, Second Vice Chair
Jerry Wind, Executive Secretary

January 10, 2019: Attend and participate in the Public Safety Committee Meeting Chaired by **Michael O'Keeffe** and Vice Chaired by **Robert Glover**. Details will be shared in their report.

January 14, 2019: Attend and participate in Land Use Committee Meeting Chaired by **Richard Hellenbrecht** and Vice Chaired by **Bess DeBetham**. Details will be shared in their report.

January 15, 2019: Attend Queens Borough Cabinet Meeting. Topics:

- I. **Presentation on Pedestrian Ramp Upgrade Program** by Nichole Altmix, Executive Director Planning, NYC Department of Transportation
- II. **Overview of SCRIE & DRIE Programs** by Marcel Dixon, Outreach Liaison, NYC Department of Finance

Attend Retirement Party for **Queens Borough Parks Commissioner Dorothy Lewandowski**. **Council Members Barry Grodenchik** and **Karen Koslowitz**, **NYC Parks Commissioner Mitchell Silver** and **QCB13 Parks & Environment Committee Chair Fay Hill** were in attendance.

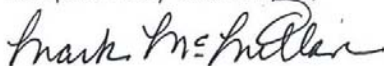
January 16, 2019: Host District Service Cabinet Meeting at QCB 13 office.

January 18, 2019: Attend Presser held by **NYC Comptroller Scott Stringer** at the Jamaica LIRR Station who was advocating for the "Fair Fare" which would make the cost of a LIRR fare at any station in New York City the same as that of the MetroCard. Elected officials in attendance included **Queens Borough President Melinda Katz**, **State Senator John Liu**, **Assembly Members Alicia Hyndman** and **David Weprin**, **Council Members Adrian Adams**, **Barry Grodenchik** and **I. Daneek Miller**.

January 24, 2019: Healthy Community Day 2019 Planning Committee Meeting at the NYC Children's Center. **Board Members Michael O'Keeffe** and **Jerry Wind** were in attendance.

January 25, 2019: Attend **Queens Borough President Melinda Katz's "State of the Borough Address"** at LaGuardia Community College. **Board Member Lourdes Hartrick-Villanueva** was in attendance.

Respectfully submitted,



Mark McMillan
District Manager

CONTACT US

Mark McMillan, District Manager, mmcmillan@qcb13.org

Maxine Brannon, Community Coordinator, mbrannon@qcb13.org

Corey Ince, Community Associate, cince@qcb13.org



[Twitter.com/QueensCB13](https://twitter.com/QueensCB13)



[Facebook.com/QCB13](https://facebook.com/QCB13)

QCB13 Board Office is located at
219-41 Jamaica Avenue, Queens Village, 11428



Phone 718.464.9700

Web qcb13.org



As winter weather brings freezing temperatures, the likelihood increases that home and property owners could experience a problem with a frozen water service line and/or water meter. Since homeowners and property owners are ultimately responsible for maintaining the service line between their property and the City Water main, now is good time for us to remind them about measures to protect their water lines and meters from freezing.

As always, New Yorkers should use 311 to report any issues or unsafe conditions.

How to Prevent Frozen Pipes and Meters

Homeowners are responsible for protecting pipes and water meters from freezing. Most water meters and pipes are in basements, crawl spaces, and other unheated areas, where cold winter temperatures could cause them to freeze.

If a meter freezes and breaks because the homeowner did not take reasonable steps to protect it, DEP will repair or replace the meter and bill the homeowner for the cost. If a service line or pipe freezes and breaks, it is the homeowner's responsibility to have repairs made by a licensed plumber.

Cold Weather Tips to Protect Your Pipes and Meters

- Repair broken and cracked windows, doors, and walls
- Install storm windows on basement windows
- Tightly close doors and windows to the outside
- Insulate outside walls
- Eliminate drafts from crawl spaces
- Turn off the water to outside faucets, remove hoses, and drain the pipes
- Ask your local plumbing supplier about materials to insulate pipes and meters
- Take extra care to ensure your meter is insulated if it is installed in an unheated garage
- Insulate the wall and open cabinets if pipes or meters are in a closed cabinet against an outside wall to allow warmer air to reach them
- Arrange to have someone turn on a faucet periodically if you are going to be out of town during cold weather.

For more information about how to prepare for winter-related dangers, visit the New York City Department of Emergency Management's Winter Weather page at:

<https://www1.nyc.gov/site/em/ready/winter-weather-prep.page>



January 7, 2019

Mr. Mark McMillan
District Manager, CB #13
219-41 Jamaica Avenue
Queens Village, New York 11428

Dear Mr. McMillan:

As requested, I wanted to write as a follow-to your conversation with Queens DOT staff regarding NYC DOT's new citywide speed bump policy as it relates to future requests and letters of support. As you know, these treatments have helped reduce speeding vehicles, particularly on residential and school streets. Speed bumps have been a critical part of Mayor de Blasio's Vision Zero effort to drive down traffic fatalities and injuries in all five boroughs.

For any new studies requested this year, DOT will no longer request letters of support from Community Boards for speed bumps (also known as 'speed humps' or 'speed reducers') or our newer speed cushions (these are specially designed speed-bump like treatments that the agency is now installing on select bus and truck routes). Moving forward, Community Boards citywide will be informed by an informational letter when a speed bump has been studied, approved and scheduled for installation in their district. Please feel free to contact me or my staff if you have any questions.

Thank you for your shared interest in safer streets in your district and boroughwide.

Sincerely,

Nicole Garcia
Queens Borough Commissioner



sanitation

**FOAM
FREE
IN NYC.**



Foam Ban Information

The City's ban on single-use foam products went into effect January 1, 2019.

Businesses had until December 31, 2018 to use their existing foam items and find alternatives. As of January 1, 2019, businesses can no longer sell, distribute, or use single-use foam items.

Banned products include single-service items, such as:

- Cups
- Bowls
- Plates
- Takeout containers
- Trays
- Packing peanuts (foam loose fill packaging)

A new year, a new you

Jan. 1 marks the official start of the new year and is our annual reminder to set resolutions, such as eating healthier, practicing mindfulness, getting organized or finally joining a gym. It's the perfect excuse to hit the reset button to lead a healthier lifestyle.

Whether that's waking up to a glass of celery juice - the go-to drink of 2018 - or taking a spin class, the challenge in getting healthier involves finding a solution that aligns with your everyday lifestyle and personal goals. Every individual's journey is different. Resolving to lose weight on Jan. 1 is the easy part. Sticking with it requires more effort.

What if you could start a weight loss journey that was sustainable? One that helps you build the habits that will carry you through Dec. 31, 2019, and beyond?

Let's get personal

Effective weight loss programs must be highly personalized. Personalization plays a critical role in weight management, serving as the connective tissue between a program and the individual. Inputting height, weight, age and gender into an app or database cannot sustain a successful weight loss experience. Tracking your

progress, consistent feedback, personalized coaching and motivational communications are key. These are made possible thanks to advancements in technology, which when combined with personalization can positively impact weight loss behaviors and yield real results.

Finding the right program for you

Losing weight is not one-size-fits-all, hence the importance of finding a program that is right for your body, mind and schedule. Experts advise seeking programs rooted in sustainability, personalization and ease of use. Developed in collaboration with Louisiana State University's Pennington Biomedical Research Center, a worldwide leader in weight loss science, Amway's BodyKey(TM) SmartLoss(TM) program makes it easier to embrace smarter, healthier lifestyle choices.

Accessibility is also important. The BodyKey SmartLoss program includes a free mobile app that functions as your digital coach to help you achieve and share your success with family, friends and colleagues along your weight loss journey. The app is available for anyone

to download on the iTunes Store and Google Play.

Marrying the use of technology and biological processes, the program features three key elements:

- Personalized eating plan: an easy-to-follow eating plan to educate on appropriate portion size
- Personalized SmartLoss Graph: to map and track healthy weight loss
- SmartTips and SmartLoss Feedback: continual and tailored recommendations to keep users motivated to lose weight

"Personalization is invaluable for any successful weight loss program," said Kerry Grann, Principal Research Scientist, Amway Research & Development. "Each person is unique and requires different specificities to lose weight. What may be beneficial to one person, may not work for another. Finding a solution based on your individual needs will help you lose weight more efficiently."

Breaking barriers

With no tracking or calorie counting required, Amway's BodyKey SmartLoss program effectively drives weight loss by including scientifically proven strategies

to help shift away from unhealthy habits that prevent you from losing weight. It is also personalized to help identify potential barriers such as mindset, sleep, stress and eating habits, and teaches new skills to overcome those barriers.

"Creating healthy habits such as weighing yourself daily and replacing one meal a day with a nutrient-packed shake or bar can lead to long-term success in managing weight," Grann continued. "These habits ensure daily allowances are properly met and that you receive the nutrients your body needs to lose weight."

In addition to meal replacement shakes and bars, Amway's BodyKey SmartLoss program also offers tools, snacks and teas to help make portion control easier.

As we approach a new year, now is the time to evaluate your physical, mental and spiritual health. Managing your weight doesn't have to be a lifelong struggle. Proper weight management can be safely achieved through programs such as BodyKey SmartLoss. This program, combined with a proper education on the tools and nutrients your body benefits from, can enable you to reap rewards in no time.

Courtesy BPT

Do you have an emergency fund?

Some people call it a "sinking fund" or a rainy day fund. It doesn't really matter what you call it. An emergency fund is one of the foundational necessities to a healthy financial outlook.

Many people don't have an emergency fund. In fact according to the FINRA Investor Education Foundation National Financial Capability Study carried out in 2015, 50% of Americans don't have an emergency fund.

If you don't have a fund started already, here are two easy ways to start...

Save \$1,378 in 52 Weeks!								Save \$13,340 in 52 Weeks!							
Week	\$\$\$	Week	\$\$\$	Week	\$\$\$	Week	\$\$\$	Week	\$\$\$	Week	\$\$\$	Week	\$\$\$	Week	\$\$\$
1	\$1	14	\$14	27	\$27	40	\$40	1	\$10	14	\$140	27	\$270	40	\$400
2	\$2	15	\$15	28	\$28	41	\$41	2	\$20	15	\$150	28	\$280	41	\$410
3	\$3	16	\$16	29	\$29	42	\$42	3	\$30	16	\$160	29	\$290	42	\$420
4	\$4	17	\$17	30	\$30	43	\$43	4	\$40	17	\$170	30	\$300	43	\$430
5	\$5	18	\$18	31	\$31	44	\$44	5	\$50	18	\$180	31	\$310	44	\$440
6	\$6	19	\$19	32	\$32	45	\$45	6	\$60	19	\$190	32	\$320	45	\$450
7	\$7	20	\$20	33	\$33	46	\$46	7	\$70	20	\$200	33	\$330	46	\$460
8	\$8	21	\$21	34	\$34	47	\$47	8	\$80	21	\$210	34	\$340	47	\$470
9	\$9	22	\$22	35	\$35	48	\$48	9	\$90	22	\$220	35	\$350	48	\$480
10	\$10	23	\$23	36	\$36	49	\$49	10	\$100	23	\$230	36	\$360	49	\$490
11	\$11	24	\$24	37	\$37	50	\$50	11	\$110	24	\$240	37	\$370	50	\$500
12	\$12	25	\$25	38	\$38	51	\$51	12	\$120	25	\$250	38	\$380	51	\$510
13	\$13	26	\$26	39	\$39	52	\$52	13	\$130	26	\$260	39	\$390	52	\$520

Making your New Year's resolution stick



Lose weight? Check. Start exercising? Check. Stop smoking? Check.

It can be daunting when your list of New Year's Resolutions is as long as your holiday shopping list. In addition to the post-holiday slump, not being able to keep your resolutions by February, March or even late January may increase your anxiety. When your holiday decorations are packed up and stored away, the frustration of an unused gym membership or other reminders of failed resolutions can make the later winter months feel hopeless.

However, it is important to remember that the New Year isn't meant to serve as a catalyst for sweeping character changes. It is a time for people to reflect on their past year's behavior and promise to make positive lifestyle changes. "Setting small, attainable goals throughout the year, instead of a singular, overwhelming goal on January 1 can help you reach whatever it is you strive for," says psychologist Lynn Bufka, PhD. "Remember, it is not the extent of the change that matters, but rather the act of recognizing that lifestyle change is important and working toward it, one step at a time."

By making your resolutions realistic, there is a greater chance that you will keep them throughout the year, incorporating healthy behavior into your everyday life. APA offers these tips when thinking about a New Year's resolution:

Start small

Make resolutions that you think you can keep. If, for example, your aim is to exercise more frequently, schedule three or four days a week at the gym instead of seven. If you would like to eat healthier, try replacing dessert with something else you enjoy, like fruit or yogurt, instead of seeing your diet as a form of punishment.

Change one behavior at a time

Unhealthy behaviors develop over the course of time. Thus, replacing unhealthy behaviors with healthy ones requires time. Don't get overwhelmed and think that you have to reassess everything in your life. Instead, work toward changing one thing at a time.

Talk about it

Share your experiences with family and friends. Consider joining a support group to reach your goals, such as a workout class at your gym or a group of coworkers quitting smoking. Having someone to share your struggles and successes with makes your journey to a healthier lifestyle that much easier and less intimidating.

Don't beat yourself up

Perfection is unattainable. Remember that minor missteps when reaching your goals are completely normal and OK. Don't give up completely because you ate a brownie and broke your diet, or skipped the gym for a week because you were busy. Everyone has ups and downs; resolve to recover from your mistakes and get back on track.

Ask for support

Accepting help from those who care about you and will listen strengthens your resilience and ability to manage stress caused by your resolution. If you feel overwhelmed or unable to meet your goals on your own, consider seeking professional help. Psychologists are uniquely trained to understand the connection between the mind and body. They can offer strategies as to how to adjust your goals so that they are attainable, as well as help you change unhealthy behaviors and address emotional issues.

105 PRECINCT NCOs

Commanding Officer: Deputy Inspector Neteis Gilbert

The 105th Precinct serves the easternmost portion of Queens. Queens Village, Cambria Heights, Laurelton, Rosedale, Springfield Gardens, Bellerose, Glen Oaks, New Hyde Park, and Floral Park comprise the area covered by the precinct.

Contact Information

92-08 222nd Street,
Queens Village, NY, 11428-1474

Precinct: (718) 776-9090

Community Affairs: (718) 776-9176

Community Policing: (718) 776-9430

Crime Prevention: (718) 776-9207

Safe Horizons: (718) 774-9121

Domestic Violence: (718) 776-9415

Youth Officer: (718) 776-9164

Auxiliary Coordinator: (718) 776-9268

Detective Squad: (718) 776-9252

Get to Know Your Neighborhood Coordination Officers

Neighborhood Coordination Officers, or NCOs, are your local problem solvers. They spend all their working hours within the confines of their assigned sectors, actively engaging with local community members and residents. They get to know the neighborhood, its people, and its problems extremely well.

NCO Supervisor	Sgt. John Collins	John.Collins@nypd.org
Sector A (Brookville, Rosedale and Springfield Gardens)	PO Kurt Benjamin	Kurt.Benjamin@nypd.org
	PO Luis Benzant	Luis.Benzant@nypd.org
Sector B (Laurelton and Rosedale)	PO Lonell Patrick	Lonell.Patrick@nypd.org
	PO Christopher Kissane	Christopher.Kissane@nypd.org
Sector C (Cambria Heights)	PO Darnell Gatling	Darnell.Gatling@nypd.org
	PO Jessica Koehler	Jessica.Koehler@nypd.org
Sector D (Queens Village and Bellerose)	PO Richard Tarver	Richard.Tarver@nypd.org
	PO Vincente Vivar	Vicente.Vivar@nypd.org
Sector E (Bellerose, Floral Park, Glen Oaks)	PO Joseph Contessa	Joseph.Contessa@nypd.org
	PO Shawn Gallagher	Shawn.Gallagher@nypd.org



1st Quarter 2019
Build the Block Meetings



Sector Adam PO Luis Benzant and PO Kurt Benjamin
Brookville | Rosedale | Springfield Gardens

Thursday, March 21, 2019
St. Peter's Lutheran Church
224-04 147 Avenue
Springfield Gardens, NY 11413
Doors open at 6:30 pm –Meeting starts at 7:00 pm

Sector Boy PO Christopher Kissane and PO Lonell Patrick
Laurelton | Rosedale

Thursday, March 14, 2019
St. Mary Magdalene Roman Catholic Church
218-12 136 Avenue
Laurelton, NY 11413
Doors open at 6:30 pm –Meeting starts at 7:00 pm

Sector Charlie PO Jessica Koehler and PO Darnell Gatling
Cambria Heights

Tuesday, February 12, 2019
Campus Magnet High School (Library)
207-11 116 Avenue
Cambria Heights, NY 11411
Doors open at 6:30 pm –Meeting starts at 7:00 pm

Sector David PO Richard Tarver and PO Vicente Vivar
Bellerose | Queens Village

Thursday, March 7, 2019
St. Joachim and Anne Roman Catholic Church
218-27 Hollis Avenue
Queens Village, NY 11429
Doors open at 6:30 pm –Meeting starts at 6:30 pm

Sector Eddie PO Joseph Contessa and PO Shawn Gallagher
Bellerose | Floral Park | Glen Oaks

This Build the Block Meeting took place
on Wednesday, January 23, 2019

QCB13 — A Few 2018 Highlights

January

- January 16, 2018 — Panel Discussion on Reverend Doctor Martin Luther King, Jr's Six Principles of Nonviolence. BM Jonathan Logan was a panelist.
- January 22, 2018— NYPD Patrol Borough Queens South Assistant Chief Barrere attended QCB13 General Board meeting.



February

- February 8, 2018 — Jamaica Postmaster came to the General Board meeting to resolve postal issues.



June

- May 3, 2018 — DSNY Outreach Team brings Compost to Jamaica Avenue and beautifies street tree beds.
- Welcome new Board Members Andy Laine and Nantasha Williams.



- June 27, 2018 — Board Members James Delaney (45 years of service), Verdell Boncoeur (15 years of service) and Kangel Moore (10 years of service) are acknowledged at the Queens Borough President's Community Board Awards at Queens Borough Hall.
- June 2018 — Welcome Deputy Inspector Neteis Gilbert as the new commanding officer of the 105 Precinct.

September



- September 22, 2018 — 2nd Annual QCB13 Healthy Community Day was held at Queens Village Veterans Plaza.
- The Board goes on a "Hard Hat Tour" of TWA Flight Center Hotel at JFK International Airport.

October

- October 24, 2018 — City announces progress on the \$1.9 Billion commitment to alleviate flooding in Southeast Queens.



March

- March 22, 2018 — MARLS Radio Show interview with Board Chair Clive Williams on Community Boards and the services that QCB13 provides the community.
- March 23, 2018 — New York City Elected and School Officials Announce Martin Van Buren High School is in Good Standing.



April

- April 15, 2018 — Street Co-Naming Ceremony for former Board Member Jack Friedman.
- April 20, 2018 — Gregory Nelson, Board Member Curlene Nelson's son, receives Congressional Recognition from Congressman Gregory Meeks for being admitted into the US Naval Academy.



July

- Rosedale Civic Association hosts their "Rosedale Walks Street Fair" on 243 Street between Caney Road and Mayda Road.



August



- Another well attended National Night Out at Cabbell Park on 121 Avenue and Francis Lewis Boulevard in Cambria Heights.

November

- November 8, 2018 — Queens Borough President Melinda Katz's Veterans Day observance at Queens Borough Hall.
- Celebration parade for Guru Nanak Dev Ji's 550's Birthday.



December



- December 18, 2018 — Annual Queens Community Board 13 Holiday Party at Mateus' Bar and Restaurant.



Finding care for all
of the *afters* in life



Does my income qualify me for affordable housing ?

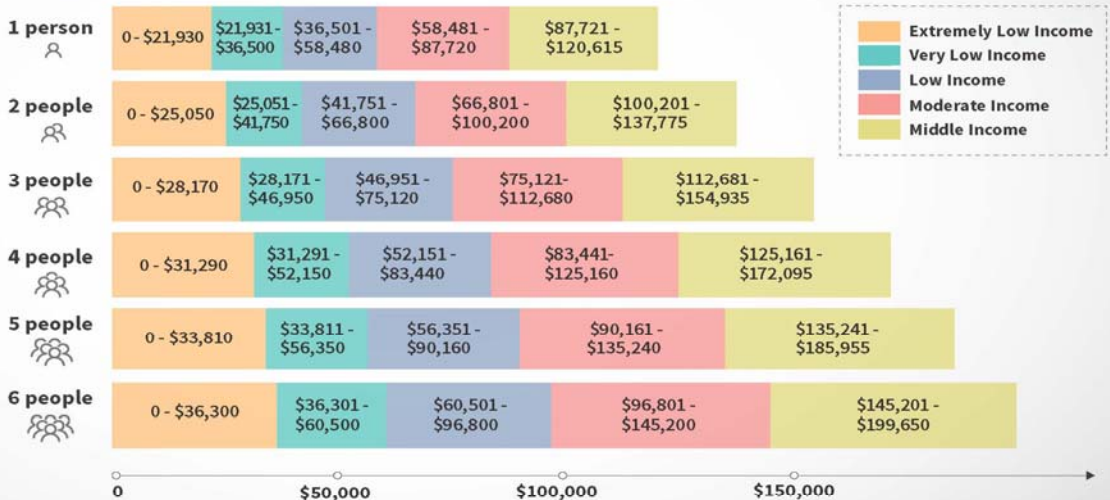
NYC creates affordable housing opportunities for households at a wide range of sizes and income levels.

This chart helps explain the income categories that we use, which vary by household size, so you can see where you and your family fit in:

Affordable housing is based on a household's percentage of the area median income (AMI), which is set by the federal government. Housing is considered affordable if it costs about one-third or less of what the people living there make, and is regulated so the rent can't go up dramatically over time.

The numbers on this chart reflect 2018 AMI levels.

Eligible Income Levels by Household Size



If your income fits in this chart, register for Housing Connect today so you can apply for housing opportunities that are affordable for you: nyc.gov/housingconnect

NYC Department of Housing Preservation & Development

“ Kind Words can be short
and easy to speak
but their echoes are truly endless ”



— Mother Teresa



TROUBLE COPING? DON'T STRUGGLE ALONE

Below is a list to help you with various hardships including: financial, hunger, housing, heat, employment, stress, depression, anxiety or addiction.

Call 1-888-NYC-WELL - **NYC Well** is confidential and free. 24/7

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM: helps people who cannot meet an expense due to an unexpected situation or event. Contact HRA's Infoline at 718-557-1399 for more information about the One-Shot Deal.

UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS: According to a U.S. Office of Personnel Management fact sheet, federal employees may be eligible for "Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees," which is administered by state unemployment insurance agencies. The fact sheet notes "the law of the state in which an individual's official duty station in Federal civilian service is located will be the state law under which an individual's eligibility for benefits is determined."

Depending on your income, you may be able to use **NYC Free Tax Prep** services, which include online and in-person filing. Call 800-906-9887 to find the nearest Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) or Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE).

THE QUEENS EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY CENTER was established to serve New York State residents who are academically unprepared for college level study and vocationally unprepared for employment, lack competitive skills, and are from low to moderate income households. Call 718-725-3320.

HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM APPLICATIONS: (HEAP) Contact us by phone: 1-800-342-3009. Contact us by email: nysheap@otda.ny.gov.

HOMESNAP: The national home search platform has launched a relief program to pay the rent or mortgage of 10 government workers or contractors in February who are not being paid during the shutdown. To participate, share what your home means to you by snapping a photo, recording a video or writing up a few words and then tagging Homesnap and using #MyHomeMeans and #ShutdownStories on social media by Jan. 31, 2019. You can also apply and learn more at www.homesnap.com/myhomemeans.

BANKS

- **Bank of America:** Offering a Client Assistance Program for personalized financial assistance. *
- **Chase Bank:** Chase will automatically waive or refund overdraft and monthly service fees on Chase checking and savings accounts if an employee's salary from an affected federal agency was direct-deposited into the account in November, 2018. *
- **Discover:** Discover card members that have a loan with Discover Bank may be eligible for assistance such as skipping a payment. *
- **Wells Fargo:** The bank will work with individuals and business banking customers whose income is disrupted as a result of the shutdown. *
- **U.S. Employees Credit Union:** Impacted union members who have direct deposit of their government pay may be eligible for interest-free loans. According to its website, the Government Shutdown Loan is to be "repaid in 60 days or when the government processes back pay, whichever is sooner." *

OTHER

- **AT&T:** For customers affected by the shutdown, you are eligible for flexible payment options to keep your service running. *
- **Sprint:** Sprint Customer Care is prepared to work with federal government employees seeking short-term payment solutions. *
- **T-Mobile:** T-Mobile is providing account support to customers directly affected by the U.S. government shutdown to ensure their wireless service remains available during the closure. *

Compiled by Maxine Brannon, Community Coordinator

*** Please check with the above businesses to confirm availability.**

Qualifying New Yorkers can apply for the affordable apartments at 146 Pierrepont Street until **March 27, 2019**.

Visit <https://on.nyc.gov/2WaTrNv> for information on how to apply.



Unit Size	40% AREA MEDIAN INCOME (AMI) UNITS	Monthly Rent ¹	Units Available		Household Size ²	Annual Household Income ³ Minimum – Maximum ⁴	60% AREA MEDIAN INCOME (AMI) UNITS	Monthly Rent ¹	Units Available		Household Size ²	Annual Household Income ³ Minimum – Maximum ⁴
Studio		\$596	4	→	1 person	\$22,389 - \$29,240		-	-	-	-	-
1 bedroom		\$685	5	→	1 person	\$25,509 - \$29,240		-	-	-	-	-
					2 people	\$25,509 - \$33,400						
2 bedroom		-	-	-	-	-		\$1,183	9	→	2 people	\$42,618 - \$50,100
											3 people	\$42,618 - \$56,340
											4 people	\$42,618 - \$62,580

January 2019 • Volume 15 • Issue 1

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

QUEENS AT THE HEART OF THE NYC TECH BOOM

I hope everyone had an enjoyable and wonderful holiday season. As we ring in 2019, the Queens Chamber is ramping up efforts to bring you an action-packed series of events designed to generate more business for your organization.

We want to make this year your best year yet, and we are also very excited about the continued growth opportunities in our great borough of Queens.

The economy in Queens is thriving, which equates to growing opportunities for local businesses. Nationally, the December 2018 jobs report showed 312,000 jobs created; much higher than analysts predicted.

One of the great opportunities for our borough is the tech sector. With academic institutions like NYU Poly and Cornell Tech, the attraction is certainly here for our tech-savvy residents.

And with many other tech incubators in the works, including one

operated by the Queens Chamber, the New York City tech ecosystem dwarfs San Francisco and is contending with Silicon Valley.

Amazon HQ2 will only add to this transition, with Queens in particular as the center of U.S. tech.

New York City Tech Boom

Per recent statistics, New York City's tech ecosystem employs 291,000 people, or 7 percent of the 4.27 million people working in New York City.

By comparison, the retail sector employs 354,000 people, or 8 percent of total workers, while healthcare employs 665,000 people, or 16 percent of total workers.

The hourly wage for a worker in the New York City tech ecosystem is \$39.50, which is 49 percent higher than the average citywide hourly wage.

Furthermore, according to 2013 data, the New York City tech ecosystem generated over \$5.6 billion

in annual tax revenues to the city, which represented 12.3 percent of the total 2013 tax revenue.

By comparison, \$2.5 billion comes from property taxes, \$1.3 billion from personal income taxes, \$900 million from sales and use taxes, and \$900 million from corporation and business income taxes.

Small Biz and Startups

New York City tech firms are mostly small businesses that are productive employment generators. For example, the Computer Systems Design and Related Services industry includes over half of all city tech industries firms.

Falling into this category are tech startups, which have an average firm size of 13 people. Such startups are experiencing exceptionally high growth in NYC.

Age and Gender

Recent college graduates are the most sought after in the New York City tech industry. The local tech ecosystem presents employment opportunities for all ages, but especially for college graduates.

Tech employs people predominantly between the ages of 25 and 54, while the New York City economy has a greater share of people aged 55 and greater.

Gender distribution in New York City is generally even, except in the tech economy, which remains male dominated. This underrepresentation is in tune with national averages, where there exists a 20 to 50 percent difference between the number of male and female employees.

Why Queens now?

The over-performing New York City tech economy is due to the digital transformation of business. As companies demand more accessible, instantaneous services, tech jobs increase as well.

And the more a company requires technology, the more that company will require additional tech support. Moreover, tech industries, most notably those associated with startups, are ushering in a new era of growth

For an in-depth look at the findings, visit nyc-techeconomy.com.



TOM SANTUCCI
CHAIRPERSON

City outlines path to legal weed

Mayor Bill de Blasio last week endorsed the safe and fair legalization of cannabis in New York.

The mayor also released his Task Force report on Cannabis Legalization, which calls for a strong, regulatory framework to prevent corporate greed, foster small businesses and meet the demands of New York City communities.

The report also places great emphasis on the need to ensure that any marijuana industry in New York City right the wrongs of the past and promotes economic opportunity.

"I have been convinced that we can establish a regulatory framework that keeps our streets safe, rights the wrongs of the past, and gives economic opportunity to communities hit hardest by the war on drugs," said de Blasio.

The recommendations are centered on local development, equity, public health and a wholesale departure from the failed war on drugs.

These include the automatic expungement of criminal records for conduct that would be legalized, subject to notice and opportunity by District Attorneys' Offices to raise objections in specific cases; educational resources for youth, educators, consumers, health care

workers; the elimination of routine testing as prerequisite to social service benefit eligibility; and the prohibition of pre-employment and random testing, with some narrow exceptions.

It also calls for balancing state regulatory structures with local authority to permit licensed consumption sites, determine business density restrictions to avoid over-concentration and allow localities to restrict or prohibit home cultivation.

The report also makes recommendations to prevent big business from market domination by instituting a licensing system that would create opportunities for small businesses.

In November of 2014, the NYPD changed its policy to issue criminal summonses instead of arresting for possession of marijuana in open view. That policy led to a 37 percent decline in arrests from 2014 to 2015.

Then, in September 2018, the NYPD began issuing criminal summonses instead of making arrests for marijuana consumption in public. Since this change in policy for public consumption enforcement, arrests are down 80.6 percent and summonses are also down 30 percent.

NYCHA By the Numbers

The New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) is the largest public housing authority in North America. One out of every 14 New Yorkers lives in NYCHA housing. As a stand-alone city, NYCHA's population would be almost the same as Milwaukee and would be the 32nd largest city in the country.

NYCHA 2018 Fact Sheet

Number of Developments	325
Number of Buildings	2,418
Number of Apartments	175,636
Total Residents	392,259
Total Families Served	173,946
Number of Families on Waiting List (May 2018)	209,180
Number of Apartment Vacancies Available (May 2018)	153
Number of Elevators	3,277
Number of Open Work Orders (Oct. 2018)	240,120
Number of Developments 50+ Years Old	78
Number of Developments 60+ Years Old	64
Number of Developments 70+ Years Old	15
Average monthly rent	\$522

Source: NYCHA 2018 Fact Sheet and NYCHA Metrics, New York City Housing Authority



QUEENS QUICKLY



Chef Jean-Georges Vongerichten

Renowned chef to land at TWA Hotel

Jean-Georges meets the Jet Age.

World renowned chef Jean-Georges Vongerichten will premiere the Paris Café restaurant at the 512-room TWA Hotel at John F. Kennedy International Airport, opening in spring 2019.

The restaurant will serve breakfast, lunch, dinner, snacks and cocktails at a medium price point.

Located in the heart of the iconic 1962 Eero Saarinen-designed TWA terminal, the Paris Café by Jean-Georges will encompass the entire footprint of the terminal's original Paris Café and Lisbon Lounge, which have been dark since 2001.

As an avid traveler," said Vongerichten, "I am very excited to be a part of recreating a culinary destination in this iconic landmark."

The spaces were originally outfitted by famed Parisian industrial designer Raymond Loewy, the mind behind the 1955 Coca-Cola contour bottle, the 1959 TWA twin globes logo, the 1963 Studebaker Avanti, the 1962 Air Force One livery and the 1971 Shell logo.

Vongerichten's take on the restaurant will help reignite the magic of the Jet Age throughout the TWA Hotel.

The restaurant's name holds spe-

cial significance for Vongerichten: Raised on the outskirts of Strasbourg in Alsace, France, the chef trained in classical French cuisine at Auberge de l'Ill in Alsace and L'Oasis in southern France before developing a passion for flavors of the East at luxury hotels in Bangkok, Singapore and Hong Kong.

Vongerichten now operates 36 restaurants, including ABC Kitchen in Manhattan, Mercato in Shanghai, and Simply Chicken in New York's Madison Square Garden.

Connected to JetBlue Terminal 5 via the flight tubes made famous by the 2002 film *Catch Me If You Can*, the TWA Hotel features 512 ultra-quiet guest rooms, 50,000 square feet of event space for up to 1,600 people, a 10,000 square foot fitness center, a rooftop pool and observation deck and a museum devoted to TWA and the mid-century modern design movement.

"Around the world, Jean-Georges is known for his delicious dishes and impeccable service," said Tyler Morse, CEO and managing partner of MCR and MORSE Development. "He is the perfect chef to reinvigorate the legendary Paris Café."

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY'S VERY REAL IMPACT

American Express created Small Business Saturday in 2010, and now the specially designated shopping day is in its ninth year.

There's no shortage of options when shopping in New York City, but what makes the five boroughs so unique are all its small businesses. According to 2016 New York City Economic Development Corporation data, there are more than 32,000 small business retail establishments across the city.

An average two-thirds (67 cents) of every dollar spent at a small business stays in the local community, according to a new Small Business Economic Impact Study from American Express.



TOM SANTUCCI
CHAIRPERSON

In Queens, specifically, our diverse constituency makes us very unique, and Small Business Saturday has a dramatic impact on the business owners in the borough. Some of these businesses literally get 30 percent of annual sales as a direct result of this one day.

As for community reinvestment, these bolstered sales go a long way. If a business sees increased sales in a specific community, there is a great chance they will be spending that money with other businesses in the same area. This really is a "rising tide lifts all boats" scenario.

As the Chairman of the Queens Chamber of Commerce, we will continue to advocate for our small

2018 SMALL BUSINESS ECONOMIC IMPACT STUDY

ON AVERAGE,
FOR EVERY DOLLAR YOU
SPEND AT A SMALL BUSINESS

67¢

STAYS IN THE
LOCAL COMMUNITY



44¢

GOES TO THE SMALL BUSINESS OWNER
AND EMPLOYEE WAGES AND BENEFITS

23¢

GETS REINVESTED IN
OTHER LOCAL BUSINESSES

EVERY \$1 YOU SPEND AT A SMALL BUSINESS CREATES, ON AVERAGE,
AN ADDITIONAL 90 CENTS IN ECONOMIC IMPACTS FOR THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

30¢

BUSINESS SPEND TO LOCAL
SUPPLIERS AND VENDORS

20¢

SPENT LOCALLY BY BUSINESS
OWNERS AND EMPLOYEES



Source: Econsult Solutions
Learn more at amex.co/another-reason-shop-small

Proudly Backed by

business owners and do whatever it takes to get them noticed.

Queens Chamber staff have gone into the neighborhoods to not only remind them of the importance of the day, but give recommendations

and alerts to what business owners can do to enhance sales.

We congratulate the success of our small business owners and will continue to remain a champion of their growth!

FOR BREAKING NEWS VISIT WWW.QNS.COM

JANUARY 3, 2019 • THE QUEENS COURIER 11

2019 preview

Wide-open special election for public advocate set for February

BY CARLOTTA MOHAMED

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@QNS

More than two dozen candidates have either declared or are exploring a run for the Office of Public Advocate in the upcoming citywide special election next month.

Attorney General-elect Letitia James stepped down as public advocate on Jan. 1 upon her inauguration to her new office. Mayor Bill de Blasio announced on Saturday that the special election will take place on Tuesday, Feb. 26, 2019.

"This date will help maximize voter turnout, and my administration will work around the clock to make sure every New Yorker is encouraged to exercise their right to vote," said de Blasio.

The special election will be nonpartisan followed by a partisan primary for another general election for the office in November. Each candidate must secure their own ballot lines by petition; parties may endorse a candidate, but they may not offer nominees.

The public advocate is the first in line to succeed the mayor and is the second highest ranking elected office in the city, according to advocate.nyc.gov. The office serves as a direct link between New Yorkers and their government, acts as a "watchdog" over city agencies, and investigates complaints about



File photo/THE COURIER

Letitia James resigned as the city's public advocate on Jan. 1 as she was sworn in as New York State's new attorney general. Now, the race is on to find out who will succeed her.

city services. The public advocate is a non-voting member of the New York City Council with the right to introduce and co-sponsor legislation.

While the office is vacant, City Council Speaker Corey Johnson will oversee operations at the Public Advocate's office.

Among the list of public advocate candidates, there are two Queens lawmakers who are vying for the seat: Democratic Assemblyman Ron Kim from Flushing and Republican City Councilman Eric Ulrich of Ozone Park, both of whom announced their candidacies in December.

Kim's campaign, People over Corporations, vows to transform the Office of Public Advocate.

As a public advocate, Ulrich, the only Republican in the field who represents the 32nd District, wants to cut property taxes, create more jobs and provide quality education to all children, according to his campaign letter.

Other candidates who are either declared or exploring a run for office include city council members, advocates, state assembly members, and others in the list below:

- State Assemblyman Michael Blake – who represents parts of the Bronx
- City Councilmembers Rafael Espinal and Jumaane Williams – who represent parts of Brooklyn
- City Councilman Ydanis Rodriguez – who represents parts of Manhattan
- Assemblymember Daniel O'Donnell – who represents parts of Manhattan
- Assemblymember Latrice Walker – who represents parts of Brooklyn
- Melissa Mark-Viverito – former speaker of the City Council

• Non-lawmakers include:

- Nomiki Kurst – Journalist
- David Eisenbach – Columbia University Professor
- Dawn Smalls – A lawyer who previously worked in the Obama and Clinton administrations
- Theo B. Chino – Entrepreneur, systems engineer
- Ifeoma Ike – Political activist
- Gwen Goodwin – Community activist and past city council candidate
- Tony Herbert – Community activist and past candidate for public advocate in 2017
- Benjamin Yee – Business owner, member of the Democratic state committee, and secretary for the Manhattan Democratic Party
- Mike Zumbuskas – Former Chairman of the Manhattan Independence Party
- Walter Iwachiw – Republican candidate for various offices such as mayor, state Assembly, CUNY Student Senator.

The winner of the Feb. 26 special election is only guaranteed to serve as public advocate for the remainder of the calendar year. New Yorkers will vote in November for a public advocate to serve the remainder of James' term, which expires in 2021.

If you're not registered to vote, visit the New York City Board of Elections website and sign up.

The City Council voted last Thursday in favor of requiring special permits for building new hotels or motels in light manufacturing, or M1, zones.

"Requiring prospective hotels to secure a special permit to set up shop in a light manufacturing area will allow the city to preserve ready job-creating industrial areas while also exposing hotel development to our public land use review process," Zoning and Franchises Subcommittee Chairman Francisco Moya (D-Corona) said in a prepared statement. "I proudly stand with my colleagues in adopting this amendment."

The text amendment was pushed by the Department of City Planning. The special permits required by it will be acquired through the city's Urban Land Use Review Procedure.

Notably, the Council changed the proposal to include M1 zones surrounding John F. Kennedy International and LaGuardia airports, areas that were excluded in the city's original plan. The airports themselves are still exempt, though.

Some in Queens had criticized the proposal because it has a carve-out for hotels built in M1 zones "for a public use" — a category that includes certain homeless shelters. The city has rented rooms in Maspeth, Ozone Park, Bellerose and other parts of the borough to house

the undomiciled.

For that reason, College Point residents had voiced concerns about the proposal to Councilman Paul Vallone (D-Bayside) earlier this year. Making good on his promise to oppose the carve-out, he was the only elected to vote against the zoning text amendment last Thursday.

The bill's passage is a win for the Hotel and Trades Council, an influential union that fought to make the special permit required in M1 districts.

"Requiring Special Permits for hotels in M1 zones provides necessary protections for industrial business zones who have been on the losing end of the battle for land for too long, while also ensuring local Council Members play a role in securing the needs of their local districts throughout the permit process," Councilman Donovan Richards (D-Laurelton) said in his own statement.

Queens hotel development has exploded in recent years. According to the DCP, the borough had 6,500 rooms in 2007. As of last year's first quarter, it had 12,264 of them.

In 2016, Queens hotels reached a record rate of occupancy: 84.6 percent, a report from the planning agency about the city's hotel market says.

health

Elder Law Minute™

Is a Handwritten Will Ever Appropriate?

BY RONALD A. FATOULLAH, ESQ.
AND EVA SCHWECHTER, ESQ.



ELDER LAW
RONALD FATOULLAH
ESQ., CELA*

Most people understand the importance of having a last will and testament to document how they would like their assets distributed upon their passing. However, sometimes individuals try to save time and money by hand-writing their own will, using a pre-printed form or utilizing a "do-it-yourself" online program. While there is no technical requirement to hire a lawyer to draft a will, failure to consult with a qualified attorney can lead to significant problems that may prolong estate administration, cost unnecessary money, and create headaches for one's heirs and loved ones.

A will is a legal document that directs who will receive an individual's property upon his/her death. The legal requirements for a valid will are fairly straightforward. In order for a will to be valid, an individual must know the nature and extent of his property, what it means to leave his property to another on his passing, sign the document, and have it witnessed according to the laws of his state.

In New York, those laws require that the will be in writing, signed at the end by the testator in the presence of at least two attesting witnesses, and acknowledged by the testator to be his last will and testament during the execution.

A "holographic" will is a will that is handwritten and signed by the testator, generally without witnesses. Some states make allowances for handwritten wills. New York State makes limited allowances for holographic wills for mariners at sea and members of the U.S. armed forces, but New York does not otherwise recognize handwritten wills. However, holographic wills which were properly executed in a jurisdiction that recognizes them are valid in New York. In general, a handwritten will is much more likely to be challenged after the testator passes, and should generally be avoided in New York.

In addition to the issue of due execution and the validity of a handwritten will,

there is the issue of the content of such a will. The "do-it-yourself" will software offered by an online program might work for an individual with a simple estate, little or no property, small savings or investments, and a traditional family tree, but use of these programs is not in everyone's best interest. It is recommended that even a person of average means meet with a lawyer to definitively determine whether or not his needs are indeed simple. Prior to drafting a will on his own, an individual should determine if the estate is taxable under state or federal law, or whether there is anything about his estate that is unusual, such as having children from a previous marriage or having a disabled child. Both of these circumstances might have implications beyond his understanding in the context of a will, and can result in his estate not being distributed according to his wishes should he proceed with a will without consulting an attorney. If an individual has any questions about his estate plan, it is prudent that he consult with a knowledgeable elder law and estate planning attorney.

If an individual chooses to prepare his

own will, he runs the risk of not having his estate distributed in accordance with his wishes. While an individual may save some money in the short term, he is in danger of making mistakes that can cause unneeded conflict and possibly a great sum of money, and it may not achieve the desired results for his beneficiaries. It is best to seek the advice of an attorney before creating an estate plan and drafting a will.

Ronald A. Fatoullah, Esq. is the founder of Ronald Fatoullah & Associates, a law firm that concentrates in elder law, estate planning, Medicaid planning, guardianships, estate administration, trusts, wills, and real estate. Eva Schwechter is an elder law attorney with the firm. The law firm can be reached at 718-261-1700, 516-466-4422, or toll free at 1-877-ELDER-LAW or 1-877-ESTATES. Mr. Fatoullah is also a partner with Advice Period, a wealth management firm that provides a continuum of financial and investment advice for individuals and businesses, and he can be reached at 424-256-7273.

City officially launches 'Fair Fares' NYC program for low-income New Yorkers

TimesLedger.com | January 8, 2019

By: Bill Parry



Mayor Bill de Blasio and City Council Speaker Corey Johnson held a joint appearance Friday afternoon to roll out the city's fair fare program and its efforts to address poverty through the development of a half-priced MetroCard for low-income New Yorkers.

The program is launching in phases and initial eligibility is open to New Yorkers at or below the federal poverty line who are receiving cash assistance of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance from the city's Department of Social Services.

"New Yorkers shouldn't have to choose between a ride on the subway or bus and their

next meal," de Blasio said. "Our partnership with the Council for fair fares will make our city stronger and fairer for low-income New Yorkers whose lives depend on mass transportation."

The Fair Fares NYC MetroCard will allow participants to purchase unlimited weekly and monthly passes at a 50 percent discount at MTA vending machines. The cards can be used on any New York City subway or non-express bus.

The city is working with the MTA to phase in a pay-per-ride option, which it expects to launch in April.

"Fair Fares is a groundbreaking program that will help New Yorkers who need it most," Johnson said. "Fair Fares will open up this city and its promise to people who currently are being shut out because they can't afford a swipe. It will change lives for the better."

Last spring, the Mayor and the Council announced a plan to fund \$106 million for the Fair Fares NYC program in the first year. On Jan. 4, the Department of Social Services started contacting 30,000 eligible working New Yorkers who are receiving cash benefits. The notifications, and subsequent phone calls, will inform the group of their eligibility, and invite them to the nearest Fair Fares NYC location to receive their half-priced MetroCard.

Eligible recipients can also call 311 to assist in receiving their card. In April, an additional estimated 130,000 New Yorkers who are receiving SNAP benefits will receive notifications about how to access their cards.

"Fair Fares is now a reality in New York City," said City Councilman Daniel Dromm, the chair of the Committee on Finance. "These discounted MetroCards will make bus and subway fares more affordable for thousands of low income New Yorkers who rely upon mass transit each day. Fair Fares has long been a priority of the Council and I'm thrilled to see it come to fruition."

Critics argue the program leaves out CUNY students, the working poor and some immigrants. Comptroller Scott Stringer released data that shows the city had significantly scaled back initial eligibility leaving out hundreds of thousands of low-income New Yorkers.

"The good news is that Fair Fares is finally leaving the station. The bad news is that after today's announcement, the price of a MetroCard will remain an obstacle for the vast majority of the 800,000 New Yorkers who were originally promised relief," Stringer said. "That's hundreds of thousands of families who will struggle to get to work or a job interview because they can't afford a full fare. For their sake, we need to make sure this delay doesn't become a derailment."



Notice of Property Value Sessions



Receive one-on-one assistance regarding your property taxes with the New York City Department of Finance and the Tax Commission

- ➔ Understand your NOPV
- ➔ Inquire about your market and assessed values
- ➔ Change your property's description
- ➔ Save money on your property taxes by applying for exemptions

Be sure to bring your Notice of Property Value (NOPV)

MORNING SESSIONS (10 A.M. TO 12 P.M.)

FEB 5, 2019	Bronx Borough Hall – 851 Grand Concourse, Rotunda
FEB 6, 2019	Manhattan Municipal Building – 1 Centre Street, Mezzanine North
FEB 7, 2019	Brooklyn Borough Hall – 209 Joralemon Street
FEB 12, 2019	Queens Borough Hall – 120-55 Queens Blvd, Atrium
FEB 14, 2019	Staten Island Borough Hall – 10 Richmond Terrace, Room 125

EVENING SESSIONS (5 P.M. TO 7 P.M.)

FEB 13, 2019	Manhattan Municipal Building – 1 Centre Street, Mezzanine North
FEB 19, 2019	Brooklyn Borough Hall – 209 Joralemon Street
FEB 20, 2019	Queens Borough Hall – 120-55 Queens Blvd, Atrium
FEB 21, 2019	Bronx Borough Hall – 851 Grand Concourse, Rotunda
FEB 25, 2019	Staten Island Borough Hall – 10 Richmond Terrace, Room 125

Please call 311 to check on additional outreach locations.



If due to a disability you need an accommodation in order to apply for and receive a service, or to participate in a program offered by the Department of Finance, please contact the Disability Service Facilitator at nyc.gov/contactdofeeo or by calling 311.

**NYS Senator & Marine Corps Veteran
James Sanders Jr.
presents**



Send a Vet a

Will you bring some happiness to an elderly veteran?

Valentine



Your donation of a greeting card or NEW clothing such as hats, gloves, scarves or socks will make this Valentine's Day special for an elderly veteran who has served our country

Please Drop Off Donations By Wednesday, February 6, 2019 to:
Sen. Sanders' Office 142-01 Rockaway Blvd. in S. Ozone Park

If you have any questions, contact Sen. Sanders' Office at 718-523-3069

**Assemblyman Edward C. Braunstein
and The Law Offices of Ann-Margaret Carrozza
are proud to sponsor the**

23rd Annual Valentines for Vets



Your donation of a card, candy (sugar-free a plus!), playing cards, puzzles, shaving cream, toothbrushes, toothpaste, or NEW clothing items such as pajamas, robes, slippers, and socks will show hospitalized and disabled veterans how much we appreciate the sacrifices they made for us.

Please drop off donations by Monday, February 11, 2019 to:

Assemblyman Edward C. Braunstein's office
213-33 39th Avenue, Suite 238
718-357-3588

Law Offices of Ann-Margaret Carrozza
213-38 40th Avenue
718-224-4746

Community Board 11
46-21 Little Neck Parkway
718-225-1054

**If you have any questions about our Valentines for Vets program, please contact
Assemblyman Braunstein's office at 718-357-3588.**

BOARD MEMBERS

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Jerry Wind

Cambria Heights

Bryan Block

Barbara Clements

Tanya Cruz

Jonathan Logan

Celeste Powers

Steven Taylor

Clive Williams

Nantasha Williams

Floral Park

Charles Farruggia

Seymour Finkelstein

Rhonda Kontner

Glen Oaks

Anthony Kuncheria

Mathew Thomas

New Hyde Park

Pritpal Singh Walia

Rosedale

Kyle Bragg

Delroy Dawkins

Jackie Campbell

Samuel Elliott

North Shore Towers

Felice Hannah

Laurelton

Alain Berrouet

Verdell Boncoeur

Bess DeBetham

Robert Glover

Bonnie Huie

Jackie Wilson

Queens Village

Isa Avery

Mohamood Ishmael

Andy Laine

Peter Richards

Sanu Thomas

Nagassar Ramgarib

Springfield Gardens

Fay Hill

Curlene Nelson

Vernal Holder

Franck Joseph

Kangela Moore

Marcia O'Brien

Lorraine Gittens-Bridges



Alternate Side Parking Rules

2019 Suspension Calendar (Feb.—June)

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|---|---|
| ◆ Lunar New Year Eve 2.4.19 | ◆ Purim 3.21.19 | ◆ Good Friday (Orthodox) 4.26.19 |
| ◆ Lunar New Year 2.5.19 | ◆ Holy Thursday 4.18.19 | ◆ Passover (7th/8th Days) 4.26.19-4.27.19 |
| ◆ Lincoln's Birthday 2.12.19 | ◆ Good Friday 4.19.19 | ◆ Memorial Day 5.27.19 |
| ◆ President's Day 2.18.19 | ◆ Passover (1st/2nd Days) 4.20.19-4.21.19 | ◆ Solemnity of the Ascension 5.30.19 |
| ◆ Ash Wednesday 3.6.19 | ◆ Holy Thursday (Orthodox) 4.25.19 | |

Public Safety Committee Report - January 10, 2019 Meeting

- Liquor License Renewals approved: John F. Prince VFW Post, **Bellerose**; Nancy's Restaurant, **Floral Park**; Antun's Catering, **Queens Village**; Pegasus Lounge, **Floral Park**; Pour House, **Queens Village**.
- NCO Supervisor Sgt. Collins gave some examples of how Neighborhood Coordinating Officers are working with the community. In one instance, a community member emailed video footage of a package theft to an off-duty NCO in Sector David. The officer immediately sent the information to detectives investigating the case.
- Thefts Involving Package Delivery: Sgt. Collins recommended that people who are expecting package deliveries have them sent to a neighbor who is home during the daytime. Also consider utilizing a store which receives packages or lock box facility.
- Capt. Chan reported crime continues to trend downward, but reports of felony assaults have increased. Much of this is related to domestic violence. Domestic violence can be verbal, or physical. In the case of senior citizens, adult children sometimes verbally abuse their parents and take advantage of them financially.
- Carbon Monoxide Death: A man was found dead in his Floral Park, Queens home on Friday Jan 18, the apparent victim of a carbon monoxide leak. The Red Cross will install smoke alarms and CO detectors in residences for free. To make an appointment, call 1-877-RedCross or do an internet search for "Greater NY Red Cross Home Fire Campaign." Please get this information out to your organizations.