### **Q13 Sentinel** Newsletter It's the little things that make the "BIG" difference.

#### **QCB13 September Meeting Schedule**

- Public Safety Wednesday, September 4, 2019 @ 7:00 pm
- Seniors, Social Services and Special Needs Thursday, September 5, 2019, TBD
- Land Use Monday, September 9, 2019 @ 7:30 pm
- Youth, Education and Libraries Tuesday, September 10, 2019 @ 7:00 pm
- Economic Development Wednesday, September 11, 2019 @ 7:00 pm
- Transportation Thursday, September 12, 2019 @ 7:00 pm
- Parks and Environment Tuesday, September 17, 2019 @ 7:30 pm
- Health Thursday, September 19, 2019 @ 7:00 pm

All QCB13 Committee Meetings are held at the Board Office: 219-41 Jamaica Avenue, Queens Village, NY 11428, unless stated otherwise.

Get Involved

You can help make a difference! The next QCB13 General Board meeting is

Monday, September 23, 2019 at 7:30 pm

Bellerose Assembly of God 240-15 Hillside Avenue Bellerose, NY 11426



Fequently Asked Questions About the Community Board



The United States of America is an experiment in human relationship. It is a vast land bordered on the east and west by oceans with a great mountain range in the middle, that has experienced a history of spectacular economic growth with imbedded social conflict. It is a place seemingly everyone wants to come to and very few leave.

Because of its vastness and aggressive capitalist system, it is possible to immigrate here and accumulate wealth quickly. There is something else that makes America desirable: the rule of law. One's property rights are protected under civil law, one's personal well-being under criminal law. The legal system has created rules and procedures that attempt to institutionalize a sense of fairness, instilling a confidence with its citizenry that with proper representation and evidence a judge or jury of one's peers will do what is right.

All of society's rules are based on the United States Constitution, a document written in 1789. Of course there have been 29 Amendments, but that is not really the point. All of us believe that when conflict occurs between two parties – or at a greater level, a perceived injustice against an identifiable group of people – there will be laws or principles on which those laws were based that will grant those aggrieved redress.

There are also times when extreme acts of patriotism occur because an impasse based on the political passions of the moment can create a constitutional crisis. The best example of this is the 2000 presidential election, when the recount was being done in the State of Florida. This was the election of the "hanging chads". The candidate that won Florida would be the next President of the United States. The Republican appointed majority on the Supreme Court came down with a decision abruptly stopping the recount and ruling it unconstitutional. Without going into the legal details, a sitting Democratic Vice President who was the party's nominee could have said "no fair" and not agreed to concede. However, there is no precedence for this action. If the United States Supreme Court does not have the last word on a legal issue, who does? What would happen next to a very divided country? Because of his belief in America, Vice President Al Gore conceded the election to Texas Governor George W. Bush. America survived what could have been a seminal moment of divide, something that occurred 140 years earlier in what became known as the Civil War.

Today, we are seemingly in another time of extreme division. What is so different now is the availability of technology and the platform it provides for everyone. In the past you had to publish in a journal and sign your name, or go out to the public square, stand on a soap box and proclaim to all who could hear your opinions on current issues and public figures of the day. In today's social media world of Facebook, Instagram and Twitter, you can hide behind anonymity and say without shame outrageous, offensive things complete with pictures and memes. In the short time it has existed, developed in theory to bring people together with a modern communication technique, these media platforms have evolved into a blood sport where no insult is beyond the pale. In fact, the more vicious the comment, the more followers, views, friends(!) which somehow brings you 21st Century glory.

This division also leads you into an echo chamber of online and television information sources. It used to be everyone watched one of the three television networks to get the news of the day. Now, we can gravitate to a news orientation that supports our point of view through the touch of a remote button or algorithms on our social media page. The news is necessarily skewed to its audience. No more solid ground.

We are living in a time of extreme economic growth. There are all sorts of job opportunities available. Crime is down. Infrastructure is finally being updated. New buildings fill the skyline. But this is New York City... Boston, San Francisco, Miami, Chicago and Seattle. Much of the opportunity has the prerequisite of a proper education, soft skills, the ability to pass a drug test, no criminal record and living in one of these metropolitan areas. The industrial Midwest and rural South – flyover America – have been bypassed and overlooked. Some areas in these regions do not even have Wi-Fi. They are not on solid ground.

America's blessing has been its timely leadership. Our first president decided to step down after his second term and not stay put as a royal might have. An unknown congressman from Illinois somehow got elected president at this country's most dire moment, and through inspirational speeches and deft politics was able to keep this country united even as its sons killed each other on the battlefield over the issue of slavery. A president who was an outdoorsman and hunter recognized the natural beauty of this country and created National Parks effectively eliminating the option of development on millions of acres of land while preserving the habitat of native wild animals. After the Depression devastated the economy, a leader came in who created "The New Deal," upgrading American infrastructure and putting its people back to work. He also was able to mobilize America industry for a war effort building ships, planes, jeeps and artillery that later was the catalyst to make America a superpower. A young president was elected at the dawn of the jet age who decided that America would go to the moon in a decade. Much of the technology needed to power that effort is the foundation of computer technology used today. His successor, in the midst of social strife dividing the country was able to pass the Civil Rights Act and the Voting Rights Act, dooming his party for generations in the Southern United States, but righting a wrong that had gone too far. This is solid ground. This is America's blessing.

We are all immigrants or their sons or daughters, some without choice. When we travel abroad, we lose the "hyphen" in front of "American" in the way we refer to each other domestically. America represents something to the world: life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. This ideal is our solid ground. It is the same as when we exchange a piece of green and white paper and respect the number written on it as having that value in the marketplace.

Please remember as you go about your daily activities that we are blessed because of our solid ground. You may be different in race, religion, national origin, economic class, educational attainment, but you share a belief in a way of life.

It is the American way.

It is the American dream.

It is a united state.

It is the solid ground.

mark me hute

Mark McMillan, District Manager July, 2019



Worried about the potential impact of traffic created by a new hockey and concert arena in Belmont Park, politicians in Eastern Queens demand a new full-service Long Island Rail Road station. On Monday Governor Cuomo introduced plans for one in Belmont, approximately half a mile north of the arena-hotel complex being planned next to the historic thoroughbred horse racing track.

#### Arena critics get a new LIRR station

Residents, officials in Eastern Queens secure rail service to offset traffic

#### Ochron.com | Thursday, July 11, 2019

By: Michael Gannon

Among the demands that Queens officials have been making in return for their approval of a hockey arena and hotel at Belmont Park was a full-service, two-direction Long Island Rail Road station to help alleviate the traffic impact on the Cross Island Parkway and neighborhoods in Eastern Queens.

Gov. Cuomo announced on Monday that they are getting one.

The new station will be on the LIRR's main line between the existing Bellerose and Queens Village stations.

"The Belmont project will help drive the region's economy forward while building the Islanders a state-of-the-art facility at home on Long Island, creating thousands of jobs and hundreds of millions of dollars in economic output along the way," Cuomo said in a statement issued by his office. The governor said it will be the first new LIRR station in more than 50 years.

The project is intended to build an 18,000-seat arena for the New York Islanders of the National Hockey League; it will hold 19,000 for concerts. Also being planned are a 250-room hotel and an upscale shoppers' village.

The aim is to have the Islanders in the new arena in time for the NHL's 2021-22 season. The Empire State Development Corp. is teaming up on the project with New York Arena Partners, a consortium of developers that includes the Islanders ownership and Sterling Equities, which is controlled by the Wilpon family, owners of the New York Mets.



An architect's conception shows the platform area of a planned Long Island Rail Road station now planned for the Belmont Park arena development project.

The arena will be in Nassau County just east of the Cross Island Parkway. Civic leaders and elected officials on Queens' eastern border have been alarmed from the start over how much traffic could be generated both on the already-jammed CIP and in neighborhoods such as Queens Village and Cambria Heights.

Queens officials appeared to be signing on. State Sen. Leroy Comrie (D-St. Albans) has said repeatedly that he would not support the project without an LIRR component.

"This new station will not only be a boon to the redevelopment project, which will create 10,000 construction jobs and 3,200 permanent jobs, but also for commuters who are dealing with crowded conditions at the Queens Village and Bellerose stations and heavy traffic on the Cross Island Parkway," Comrie said in Cuomo's press release.

Assemblyman Clyde Vanel (D-Queens Village) said he was excited about the news.

"Eastern Queens and the Elmont community have been in need for transportation alternatives for a very long time," Vanel said. "Also, we are encouraged about the economic opportunities in the community."

In an email to the Chronicle on Tuesday, Councilman Paul Vallone (D-Bayside) believes the station improves the project.

"Finding the nexus between smart economic development and robust community input is the path to long-term success in New York State," Vallone wrote. "A new, full-time railroad station at Belmont Park will provide proper relief from existing traffic on the Cross Island Parkway and overcrowding conditions at other LIRR stations in the area."

And while the councilman said he is looking forward to the project and its economic benefits coming to fruition, Vallone is not going to settle for that alone.

"Next up, an Islanders Stanley Cup!" he wrote.



### **PROPER PREPARATION PRODUCED**

#### NYPD promotes CO of 105th Precinct

Gilbert elevated to full inspector

#### Ochron.com | Thursday, July 4, 2019

#### By: Michael Gannon

The commanding officer of the NYPD's 105th Precinct has been promoted to the rank of inspector.

Inspector Neteis Gilbert, in her 20th year with the NYPD, was promoted on June 27 in a ceremony at 1 Police Plaza in Manhattan.

Gilbert assumed command of the 105th Precinct in June 2018, taking over when Inspector Jeffrey Schiff was promoted to the NYPD's Counterterrorism Division.

The precinct has its main headquarters on 222nd Street in Queens Village and a satellite station in Rosedale just north of the Long Island Rail Road station.

The new inspector has had



Inspector Neteis Gilbert, 105 Precinct's Commanding Officer

a varied career, including a stint as executive officer in the 105th Precinct back in 2014.

She began her career with the NYPD in Brooklyn's 79th Precinct and then was transferred to the 103rd in Jamaica.

Gilbert worked in the subways with Transit District 33, which covers Brooklyn. Just prior to her first tour in the 105th, then-Lieutenant Gilbert supervised more than 600 people while assigned to the School Safety Division. Prior to coming back to the 105th last year Gilbert was the commanding officer of Public Service Area 1, which polices public housing projects in Brooklyn's 60th, 61st, 63rd and 69th precincts.

Gilbert has a bachelor's degree in law and justice, one master's in neurophysiology and another in forensics.

Among her innovations since coming back to Queens Village is a registry of private and commercial security cameras, allowing officers to better canvass neighborhoods for possibly useful footage when a crime is committed in a given area.

### PHENOMINAL PROMOTIONS!

#### Kyle Bragg voted new president of 32BJ SEIU as union prepares for public memorial service for longtime leader Hector Figueroa

Crainsnewyork.com | Wednesday, July 24, 2019

By: Ryan Deffenbaugh



Kyle Bragg became 32BJ's president in July of 2019 after the sudden death of Hector Figueroa. He previously served as Secretary-Treasurer prior to becoming president. Photographed at the New York Daily News in Manhattan, New York. July 18, 2019. (Mark Woodward/New York Daily News)

The executive board of the 32BJ Service Employees International Union voted unanimously Tuesday to name Kyle Bragg as its new president.

The vote from the influential union came a day before the public memorial service for Héctor Figueroa, who had led 32BJ since 2012. Figueroa died July 11 at age 57 from a reported heart attack, prompting an outpouring of grief and sympathy from New York city and state leaders.

Bragg is one of 85,000 New Yorkers in the union, which is the largest property-services union in the country with 175,000 members across 12 states. He has been a member for more than 30 years, according to the announcement, and most recently was secretary-treasurer under Figueroa. In a statement, Bragg pledged to

"build on our union's commitment to our principles and on our people power, both by continuing our core work to maintain strong contracts and to improve our standards, and by pushing forward in 32BJ's mission to improve conditions for our members by making the world we share a better place."

As secretary-treasurer, Bragg grew 32BJ's Residential Division to 35,000 members in the city, Westchester County, Long Island and New Jersey, according to the union. His leadership included what the union called a major victory: a 2014 residential contract that won members raises of more than 11% over four years.

Union members, elected officials and community activists will gather at 1 p.m. today at Riverside Church for a memorial service for Figueroa.

### Frequently Asked Questions

#### 1. What is a "Community Board"?

- Community Boards are the local representative bodies of New York City's Community Districts. There are 59 Community Boards throughout the city.
- We encourage and facilitate the participation of citizens with City government within their communities.

#### 2. How can my Community Board be helpful to me?

- The Community Board, its District Manager, and its office staff serve as advocates and service coordinators for the community and its residents. They cannot order any City agency or official to perform any task, but Boards are usually successful in resolving the problems they address.
- The Community Board district office is comprised of a salaried staff of knowledgeable City employees, experienced in dealing with citizens' complaints. Residents are encouraged to call or email their complaints directly with the Community Board District Office. The staff know which City agency office to contact and how to handle complaints. We are your local non-partisan interface to the many offices and agencies of City government.

#### 3. What is the work of the Community Board?

- The City Charter mandates that each Community Board consider the needs of the Community District which it serves as well as cooperate with, consult, assist, and advise elected government officials about any matter that "relates to the welfare of the District and its residents."
- Boards frequently call public hearings on land use matters and other major issues to give people of the community a chance to express their opinions.
- The Board's input on district capital and expense budget, zoning issues such as variances and zoning changes and land use issues, such as placement of group homes and public facilities, must be considered by elected officials in any decision they make.
- Much of the planning and final work of the Board is prepared by committees, which may include non-Board Members. Committees hold meetings once a month.

### About the Community Board

#### 4. Is there a way I can get involved in Community Board activities?

 Get active, attend committee meetings -- Board members are selected from among active and involved people of each community and must reside, work, or have some other significant interest in the community.

#### 5. When and where are the Community Board meetings held?

- ° Meetings occur once a month and are open to the public.
- ° Visit our website at qcb13.org for the monthly calendar.

#### 6. Who are the members of the Community Board?

 Each Board consists of up to 50 volunteers appointed by the Borough President with half nominated by City Council Members of the Board district. Board Members are selected from among active, involved people throughout the district.

#### 7. How did they become members?

° Apply on line with the Borough President's Office at queensbp.org/community-boards.



Queens Community Board 13 We Serve the Communities of:			
Bellaire	Bellerose		
Brookville	Cambria Heights	at Stig	
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North Shore Towers	Queens Village	SOUTHERN PORY ELAURELTON	
Rosedale	Springfield Gardens	ADDRESS AND ADDRESS AD	
Warnerville	Wayanda	Same	



### Fun Facts About Our District

Population — 208,786 Born in the USA — 119,008 Born Outside the USA — 89,778 Working Age — 133,623 Under 18 — 75,163 Over 65 — 35,494 Black — 112,744 Asian — 32,779 Hispanic — 31,318 White — 20,043 Median Household Income — \$84,409 Size — 13.2 Square Miles Civic Associations — 23 Hospitals — 1 Languages Spoken — 21 Libraries — 6 LIRR Stations — 4 Parks & Playgrounds — 35 Public Schools — 36 Number of Businesses — 2,357 Zip Codes — 18 NYCHA Buildings — 2

District Elected Officials			
US Congress Member Thomas Suozzi	New York Congressional District 3	250-02 Northern Boulevard Little Neck, NY 11362 Phone: (718) 631-0400	
US Congress Member Gregory Meeks	New York Congressional District 6	153-01 Jamaica Ave. 2FL. Jamaica, NY 11432 Phone: (718) 725-6000	
NYS Senator James Sanders, Jr.	New York Senatorial District 10	142-01 Rockaway Blvd. So. Ozone Park, NY 11436 Phone: (718) 523-3069	
NYS Senator John Liu	New York Senatorial District 11	38-50 Bell Boulevard, S C Bayside, NY 11361 Phone: (718) 765-6675	
NYS Senator Leroy Comrie	New York Senatorial District 14	205-80 Jamaica Ave. Hollis, NY 11423 Phone: (718) 454-0162	
NYS Assembly Member David Weprin	New York Assembly District 24	185-06 Union Turnpike Fresh Meadows, NY 11366 Phone: (718) 454-3027	
NYS Assembly Member Edward Braunstein	New York Assembly District 26	213-33 39th Ave. Bayside, NY 11361 Phone: (718) 357-3588	
NYS Assembly Member Alicia Hyndman	New York Assembly District 29	129-32 Merrick Blvd Jamaica, NY 11434 Phone: (718) 723-5412	
NYS Assembly Member Michele Titus	New York Assembly District 31	19-31 Mott Ave. Room 301 Far Rockaway, NY 11691 Phone: (718) 327-1845	
NYS Assembly Member Clyde Vanel	New York Assembly District 33	97-01 Springfield Blvd. Queens Village, NY 11428 Phone: (718) 479-2333	
NYC Council Member Barry Grodenchik	New York City Council District 23	73-03 Bell Blvd. #1N Oakland Gardens, NY 11364 Phone: (718) 468-0137	
NYC Council Member I. Daneek Miller	New York City Council District 27	172-12 Linden Boulevard Saint Albans, NY 11434 Phone: (718) 776-3700	
NYC Council Member Donovan Richards	New York City Council District 31	234-26 Merrick Blvd. Laurelton, NY 11422 Phone: (718) 527-4356	

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FOR MORE INFORMATION: (646)256-9189 OR (516)297-1634

### Early detection saves lives

State Senator Leroy Comrie & the American-Italian Cancer Foundation are proud to present

### NO-COST MAMMOGRAM & CLINICAL BREAST EXAMS

Thursday, August 29, 2019 9 AM - 4:30 PM \*by appointment only\* Senator Comrie's Office 113-43 Farmers Boulevard St. Albans, New York

#### **Eligibility:**

Women between 40 and 79 years old with health insurance Women between 50 and 79 years old without health insurance Currently living in New York City No mammogram in the previous 12 months

> No co-pays required & deductibles waived. Uninsured patients welcome.

Please call to schedule an appointment: (718) 765-6359

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#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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#### **BOARD MEMBERS**

North Shore Towers Felice Hannah

Queens Village Mohamood Ishmael Andv Laine Peter Richards Nagassar Ramgarib Perminder Thiara

#### Rosedale

Kyle Bragg **Delroy Dawkins Derrick DeFlorimonte** 

Samuel Ellliott Vernal Holder Franck Joseph Kangela Moore Marcia O'Brien Lorraine Gittens-Bridges Tameka Pierre-Louis

**Springfield Gardens** Fay Hill Curlene Nelson

Wayanda Isa Avery





Call the Queens Borough President's Office to apply. 718.286.3000.

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Bess DeBetham

Floral Park Charles Farruggia Seymour Finkelstein Rhonda Kontner

Glen Oaks Anthony Kuncheria Mathew Thomas

#### Laurelton

Deepa Patel

Sylvia Cothia

Robert Glover **Bonnie Huie** Jackie Wilson

New Hyde Park Pritpal Singh Walia

### entinel Newsletter

#### CONTACT US

Mark McMillan, District Manager, mmcmillan@gcb13.org Maxine Brannon, Community Coordinator, mbrannon@qcb13.org Corey Ince, Community Assistant, cince@qcb13.org



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OCB13 Board Office is located at 219-41 Jamaica Avenue, Queens Village, 11428 Phone 718.464.9700 Web qcb13.org