

Q¹³

Sentinel Newsletter

2020

It's the little things that make the "BIG" difference.

GENERAL BOARD MEETING

Monday, January 27, 2020 @ 7:30 PM
Bellerose Assembly of God
240-15 Hillside Avenue, Bellerose, NY 11426

AGENDA

1. Community Time
2. Meeting Called to Order
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Chairman's Report — Clive Williams
5. Committee Reports
 - a. Economic Development
 - b. Land Use
 - c. Public Safety
 - d. Seniors, Social Services & Special Needs
 - e. Youth, Education & Libraries
6. Elected Officials — Welcome
7. NYPD Report — Inspector Neteis Gilbert, Commanding Officer, 105 Precinct
8. Roll Call
9. Approve Minutes — December 2019
10. Public Speaking Time
11. Adjournment

JANUARY



NATIONAL BLOOD DONOR MONTH

Learn more about blood donation on page 10

NEXT GENERAL BOARD MEETING

Monday, February 24, 2020

Bellerose Assembly of God

240-15 Hillside Avenue

Bellerose, NY 11426



Civic Duties 2020

Over the next 5 months there will be an immense call for all of us to participate in some important civic duties. There will be a Special Election for Queens Borough President on March 24, the Democratic Presidential Primary on April 28, New York State Democratic primaries on June 23, and the United States Census which will begin sending out invitations to respond on March 12. If you are a Republican you have less to do; nevertheless, the future of political leadership, political representation and the allocation of government dollars are all at stake and require maximum participation for our democracy to function fairly.

Voter participation is usually lower when it is not for president, governor or mayor. Primaries in New York State only allow registered members of their parties to participate. Weather on election day also plays a role in turnout. However, there are things you should note:

- The Special election for Queens Borough President will not list candidates by party and is open for all registered voters. There will also be early election voting days.
 - The winner, assuming he or she is a Democrat, will have to run in the Democratic Primary in June and win, and the General Election in November and win, just to finish out former Borough President Melinda Katz's term.
 - In 2021, there will be another Democratic Primary to establish the Democratic Party nominee for Borough President, and the winner will have to beat the nominees from any other parties that are on the ballot in November.
 - That equals 5 elections in 2 years to earn a 4-year term as Queens Borough President beginning in January 2022.
- Politics today is extremely polarized; not only between Democrats and Republicans, but within the Democratic party between "Progressives" and "Moderates". When there are intense feelings about various political policies and political leaders, there is usually also more energy to come out and make your respective voices heard.
- With so many cable stations having 24-hour political coverage, people are understanding more than ever how important legislators are in the overall policy debate. Who your Congress Member, State Senator or State Assembly Member is matters – even if they are in the same party.
- The Democratic Presidential Primary will have a huge effect on the June NYS Democratic primaries (for State Senate and Assembly) as it will show where the energy and voting numbers are in the Democratic Party.

The United States Census count also begins on March 12. You will receive a card in the mail with a number on it asking you to respond online. (This office will be sending out a sample of what the Census form looks like.) The mission of the Census is collect data that will create a baseline for resources the government will allocate over the next 10 years. It also is attempting to create a profile of the demographics of all of our communities.

In order to do this monumental task, the Census form requires that each person – and you do not have to be an American citizen – to reveal personal information about themselves including: full name, address, date of birth, marital relationship (if any), number of children (if any), self-identity (meaning: gender, race, nationality, etc.) and the number of people residing in the home. This also means those who do not trust the government, social media and large internet companies have to trust the government for this Census count to work.

**(Census workers are precluded by law, under penalty of criminal punishment by incarceration and/or civil fine, from divulging confidential information for life. Additionally, your responses to the 2020 Census are safe, secure, and protected by federal law. Your answers can only be used to produce statistics. They cannot be used against you by any government agency or court in any way—not by the FBI, not by the CIA, not by the DHS, and not by ICE.)*

Living in New York has tremendous benefits that all of us understand because we choose to live here. There are times that it is necessary to do the "work" to maintain this vibrant city, state, indeed, country, so it best reflects the will of the people. This work is upon us. If you are reading this, you are already doing the work. Please, spread the word. The time taken to vote (numerous times) and properly fill out a Census form is a major investment in a brighter future for all of us.

Mark McMillan, District Manager

January 16, 2020 Transportation Committee Report

The NYC Department of Transportation made two PowerPoint presentations. The first by the Architectural Consultant, Hardesty & Hanover. The second by DOT Engineers:

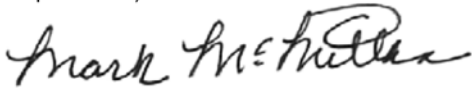
- I. Component Rehab Project #HBCR03B 4 Bridges –
 - a. Springfield Boulevard over the Belt Parkway
 - b. Hillside Avenue over the Cross Island Parkway
 - c. 130 Avenue over the Laurelton Parkway
 - d. Francis Lewis Boulevard over the Laurelton Parkway

Items "a" thru "c" are for the reinforcement of the bridge arches, and new concrete façade of these bridges over the respective highways, new roadways for motor vehicles with appropriate striping of the streets, new jersey barriers with new fences atop. Item "d" is for new jersey barriers with new fences atop. All of the locations above will have new sidewalks for pedestrians.

- II. Safety Improvements on Rockaway Boulevard between Sutphin and Farmers Boulevards because of the large number of vehicle accidents, pedestrian injuries and fatalities. These improvements include the standardizing of lane size, left turn lane bays, new traffic signals and re-locating of bus stops and the painted extension of sidewalks at key pedestrian crossings.

There were a number of constituents who requested traffic mitigation measures at specific locations in the areas in which they live and work. These requests were documented with the DOT representative present and will generate both an investigation and response from DOT.

Respectfully submitted,



Mark McMillan
District Manager

Liquor Licenses

- Cari Mia Restaurant (Renewal)
220-20 Hillside Avenue, **Queens Village**
- Rhythm Restaurant and Bar Inc. (New Application)
222-18 Merrick Boulevard, **Laurelton**
- OTG JFK T5 Venture (Renewal)
JFK International Airport, Terminal 5, 7NC
- Sodexo Operations (New Application)
JFK International Airport, Terminal 4
- Flik International Corp. (Renewal)
JFK International Airport, Terminal 7



Queens Community Board 13

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



Sharon Lee
Acting Borough President

Clive Williams
Chair

Vicky Morales-Casella
Chief of Staff

Mark McMillan
District Manager

DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT – January 2020

Meetings Canceled:

Parks & Environment Committee
Health Committee

Events/Meetings Attended:

December 17, 2019: Attend Queens Borough Cabinet meeting. Agenda:

- I. **Update on Ed Koch Queensboro Bridge Upper Deck Replacement Project**, presented by Nicole Garcia, Borough Commissioner, NYC Department of Transportation; Queens Borough Commissioner's Office
- II. **Presentation on Fire Safety Prevention During the Holiday Season**, presented by Captain Michael Kozo, New York City Fire Department

January 6, 2020: Attend "Swearing In" Ceremony of **District Attorney Melinda Katz**. **Board members** present included **Alain Berrouet, Kyle Bragg, Delroy Dawkins, Derrick DeFlorimonte, Vernal Holder, Andy Laine, Marcia O'Brien, Lourdes Villanueva-Hartrick**.

January 8, 2020: Attend and participate in Public Safety Committee Meeting Chaired by **Michael O'Keeffe** and Vice Chaired by **Robert Glover**. Details will be shared in their report.

January 10, 2020: Attend "Scoping Meeting of the Reading Garden" at the Bellerose Playground convened by **State Senator John Liu, Council Member Barry Grodenchik, Board Members Lourdes Villanueva-Hartrick and Jim Delaney Jerry Wind** were in attendance.

January 14, 2020: Attend Queens Borough Cabinet meeting. Agenda:

- I. **Presentation on Homeowner and Tenant Benefits Programs**, presented by Sonia Villamil, Queens Outreach Coordinator, NYC Department of Finance

January 15, 2020: 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.

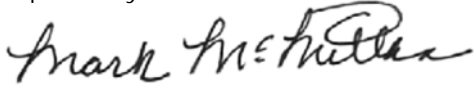
January 16, 2020: Chair Transportation Committee. This report is included in the January Sentinel.

January 22, 2020: Host District Service Cabinet Meeting at QCB 13 office.

January 23, 2020: Participate in “Queens Borough President’s Queens Complete Count Committee” at Queens Borough Hall. Agenda:

- I. Census Questionnaire: Guest Presenter – Dr. Joseph Salvo, Director, Population Division, NYC Department of City Planning
- II. Census Basics: Adjoa Gzifa, Co-Chair, Queens CCC Subcommittee 6 (covering Community Districts 10-12, 13-14)
- III. Strategy Session with Community Board Leaders

Respectfully submitted,



Mark McMillan
District Manager

Queens Interagency Council on Aging
SENIOR EMPLOYMENT—RESOURCES & OPPORTUNITIES

The Queens Interagency Council on Aging (QICA), is holding it’s February Borough wide community meeting on Friday, February 7, 2020, from 9:00 am to 11:00 am at Queens Borough Hall, room 213, 120-55 Queens Boulevard, Kew Gardens, NY. Pre-registered guest sign-in begins at 9:00 am served with a continental breakfast. The program begins promptly at 9:30 am.

Keynote speaker **State Senator Joseph Addabbo** will discuss his spring Job Fair, exclusively for seniors, in which more than 20 organizations participate. He will be joined by representatives of Commissioner Lorraine A. Cortez-Vazquez, NYC Department for the Aging (DFTA), Mr. Azadeh Khalili, Deputy Commissioner and Ms. Maria Serrano, head of DFTA’s Senior Employment Unit. Other presenters will be announced to discuss opportunities for senior employment, training an resources.

Have you considered employment in your “Golden Years”?

Are you having a difficult time financially in making ends meet?

Would you like to use your spare time in the pursuit of learning, where your life work experience, wisdom and common sense is valued?

Then join QICA on Friday, February 7, 2020, to hear experts in the field discuss employment opportunities and resources at no cost to you.

The meeting is free and open to the public. However, limited seating capacity requires pre-registration to attend. Contact QICA at 718.268.5954/ Fax 718.268.5952/ Email: qicany@aol.com.

CONTACT US


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[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
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Felice Hannah on the grounds of her North Shore Towers co-op.

While Felice Hannah was growing up, her mother made her and her two sisters volunteer after church and after school. "We volunteered and volunteered," laughs Hannah, who, at the time, would rather have been playing with the other kids.

But the habit stuck. So did the good feeling it gave her. Today Hannah, a retired school administrator, serves in a long list of volunteer positions, key among them her role as vice president of the co-op board at the 1,840-unit North Shore Towers in Glen Oaks, Queens, her home for the past 13 years. She also serves on Community Board 13, the board of directors of Queensborough Community College, and as the retiree representative of the union local of the American Federation of School Administrators.

Hannah doesn't just sit there. When she was chosen to chair her co-op's political action committee, for instance, she transformed the rather quiescent post into a potent force, staging monthly events that educate and inform shareholders. She and the committee recently staged a public debate among the seven candidates running for Queens district attorney, which drew a crowd of 400. "It helps residents make informed decisions when voting," Hannah says. "And voting for the person that you believe will make a difference in your life and others' is one of the most important exercises you can do."

The monthly presentations transcend politics. The committee recently brought in a speaker from the city's Department of Finance to explain tax abatements. As a longtime state-certified volunteer Medicare consultant, Hannah hosts an annual forum on Medicare changes. When the federal government shut down recently, she and the committee began a drive to collect basic items such as soap and diapers for people in need; that drive is still ongoing. And in partnership with the nearby Long Island Jewish Medical Center, the co-op's committee regularly offers health seminars. A recent one focused on envisioning calmness, which attracted about 200 people. "If we helped one person," Hannah says, "it was a great evening."

Inclusion is important to Hannah. She spent the first years of her life in Wilson, North Carolina, and she still remembers being mystified by signs denoting which facilities were for "Whites" and which were for "Coloreds." After explaining the vicious realities of Jim Crow laws, Hannah's mother told her: "Don't ever let anyone define who you are. You define who you are."

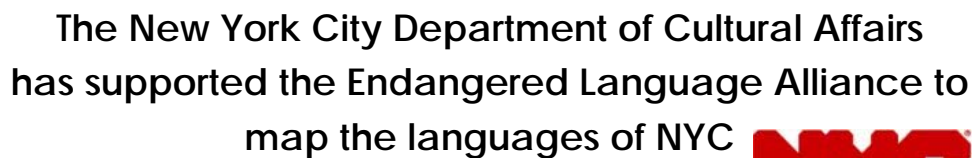
After Hannah's father passed away, her mother moved to New York City, seeking better educational opportunities for her three girls. "If you can get your education," she told them, "no one can take that away from you." All three completed college. Hannah initially worked as a nurse, then went into teaching before becoming a school administrator and an adjunct professor at Dowling College on Long Island, which closed three years ago.

Since joining the nine-member North Shore Towers board in 2013, Hannah has been involved in passing a smoking ban, renovating the pool, revamping the parking regulations, and other actions large and small. "Our board is as congenial as it can be," she says. "We should not agree all the time, but we should be able to agree to disagree – and we do."

While her volunteer work consumes a major chunk of her energy, Hannah makes time to visit her two far-flung grandchildren in Denmark and Florida. As for her volunteering, whether she's putting on a political forum at her co-op, attending a meeting of the Community Board, or collecting soap and diapers for people in need, Hannah says it all comes down to the same thing: "It's the satisfaction that I've helped somebody today. That's all I want out of volunteering."



*Felice Hannah was a gem to her community and our Board.
Condolences to her family and friends.*



'THEY DON'T HAVE A WORD FOR RETIREMENT'

DAN BUETTNER, EMMY-WINNING FILMMAKER AND BEST-SELLING AUTHOR, ON BLUE ZONES — WHERE PEOPLE LIVE LONGER AND BETTER



How did you discover the “blue zones”, the places around the world where people are most likely to live to be 100?

As a *National Geographic* fellow, I came across a report showing that the people who lived in Okinawa had the longest disability-free life expectancy in the world. We organized an expedition to find out why, and then went to the National Institute on Aging for funding to look for other blue zones. In the first wave of research, we identified two more: Sardinia and a Seventh-day Adventist community in Loma Linda, California. Later we added the island of Ikaria in Greece and the Nicoya Peninsula in Costa Rica.

What makes a blue zone?

These places have the lowest rate of middle-age mortality or the highest concentration of centenarians on their continent. In places where people live the longest, they're not being tempted to do things that make us sick in America, they live in an environment that sets them up for success.

How exactly?

They're nudged into movement every 20 minutes or so. They don't have mechanized conveniences, and every time they work or visit friends, they walk. They also have a vocabulary for purpose.

What does that mean?

In Okinawa they don't have a word for “retirement”. They talk about *ikigai*, which means “why I wake up in the morning”. People think of themselves as being useful into their 90s and even 100s. In Costa Rica the phrase is *plan de vida*, or life plan. In blue zones, the older you get, the more revered you are. It's not like, “OK Grandma, you've worked your whole life. Put your feet up.” It's more like, “Grandma, we need you. We honor your wisdom”.

In your new book, *The Blue Zones Kitchen*, you talk about the importance of eating a largely plant-based diet.

The main foods you see in every blue zone are greens, grains, tubers, nuts and beans. It's the peasant diet.

What is your favorite recipe?

Sardinian minestrone. I got it from the Melises, the Guinness world record holder for the longest-living family. Everyday they have the same lunch: sourdough bread, a small glass of red Cannonau wine and a bowl of minestrone.

In recent years, you've introduced the blue zones approach to several U.S. cities. What have you learned?

Our most recent city was Fort Worth, Texas. They credit us with lowering the smoking rate 31 percent since 2014. The city also improved its overall Gallup-Sharecare Well-Being Index score by almost four points during the project. The way we did it was not trying to convince 1 million people in the Fort Worth area to eat their veggies, start running and socialize more. We did it by changing the environment. We said, “Here are 30 things that have worked elsewhere—such as adding sidewalks and bike lanes, creating ordinances to encourage nonsmoking. Pick eight of them and we'll help you implement them over the next three years.” It turns out that every community we've worked with, the people said, “We can do that.”

What are the broader implications of this nationwide?

We have a \$3.7 trillion health care problem that ain't going away. We need to stop beating the dead horse of individual responsibility and switch the focus to changing people's environments. It's completely delusional to think we're going to get 330 minutes of physical activity a week and live a purpose-driven life. We need to improve the ecosystem we live in, one that sets Americans up for success.

Global Kids to Rally Underserved New York City Communities to Take Part In Census

YouthToday.org | December 13, 2019

By: Stell Simonton



Global Kids youth take part in a discussion and planning session. The organization received a \$100,000 grant for young people to educate and activate people in their communities to get counted in the 2020 Census.

When the 2020 Census launches in March, a group of 75 to 100 New York City teenagers will kick into gear. They'll fan out in their neighborhoods, give presentations at PTA meetings and community centers and set up events at parks, street fairs and schools. They'll be educating their communities, and in some cases, helping people complete census forms.

These peer educators are part of Global Kids, an after-school youth leadership and civic education nonprofit headquartered in New York City. Its goal is to educate and inspire young people in underserved communities to engage in critical issues facing the world.

The census count has an important impact on young people, said Evie Hantzopoulos, executive director of Global Kids.

Population numbers determine how much funding New York City gets for education, public housing and a host of other services — as well as determining the number of representatives in Congress.

According to Mayor Bill de Blasio's office, \$650 billion is at stake.

New York City is estimated to have had less than 62% of its population counted in the 2010 Census.

The peer educators "are going to go through an intensive training on why the census is important, especially in underserved communities, and how it affects them and their families," Hantzopoulos said.

They'll help strategize effective ways to do outreach. "They're going to be the ones deciding how to do it," she said.

They may also be combating disinformation about the census in the midst of a heated presidential race.

The youth in Global Kids know firsthand how to reach the people in their communities, Hantzopoulos said.

"We have multilingual young people," she said. "They're going to be able to speak to people in their networks and communities. They'll gain all these skills on how to organize and mobilize communities to the communities' benefit."

The Global Kids project is part of a major New York City campaign led by the mayor's office, the New York City Council and the City University of New York. It includes the \$19 million New York City Complete Count Fund, designed to support outreach by community-based organizations. Community organizations are considered effective messengers since they serve New Yorkers where they live and in the languages that they speak. Global Kids received a \$100,000 grant from the fund.

In January, Global Kids will start recruiting young people to be peer educators. Youth will be trained in February and roll out the program in March.

In addition to the peer educators, all 3,000 young people in Global Kids' after-school programs will learn about the census and will get pledge cards to take to their families.

The census count runs from mid-March through the end of July. Each U.S. household should receive a census form by April 1. They are urged to self-report by filling out the form online, by mail or by phone. Across the nation, the response rate was about 74% in 2010.

Later, census takers will fan out to try to reach people who have not responded, as well as to reach college students, seniors in care facilities and others.



Global Kids®



To learn about what Global Kids does
or to get involved visit them online at

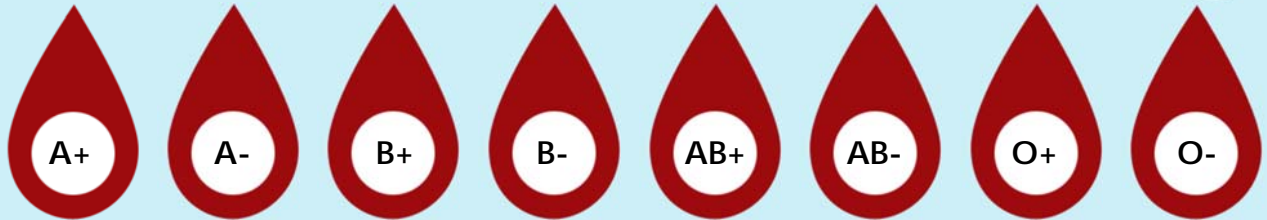
globalkids.org

DONATING *Blood* SAVES LIVES

WHAT'S MY BLOOD TYPE?



These are the 8 most common blood types. Chances are, you're one of these! You can determine your blood type through ABO typing by your doctor or with an at-home blood type testing kit.



TYPES OF DONATIONS



Whole Blood Donation

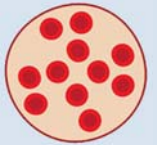
This is the most common and flexible type of blood donation.



Whole blood can be used in its whole form or separated into red cells, plasma and platelets to help specific needs.

Power Red Donation

A concentrated donation of red cells, to be used in regular transfusions.



Your red blood cells are separated from the rest of the blood. Then the plasma and platelets are returned to your body.

Platelet Donation

A donation used in cancer treatment and life threatening illnesses.



Your platelets are separated from the rest of the blood. Then the red cells and plasma are returned to your body.

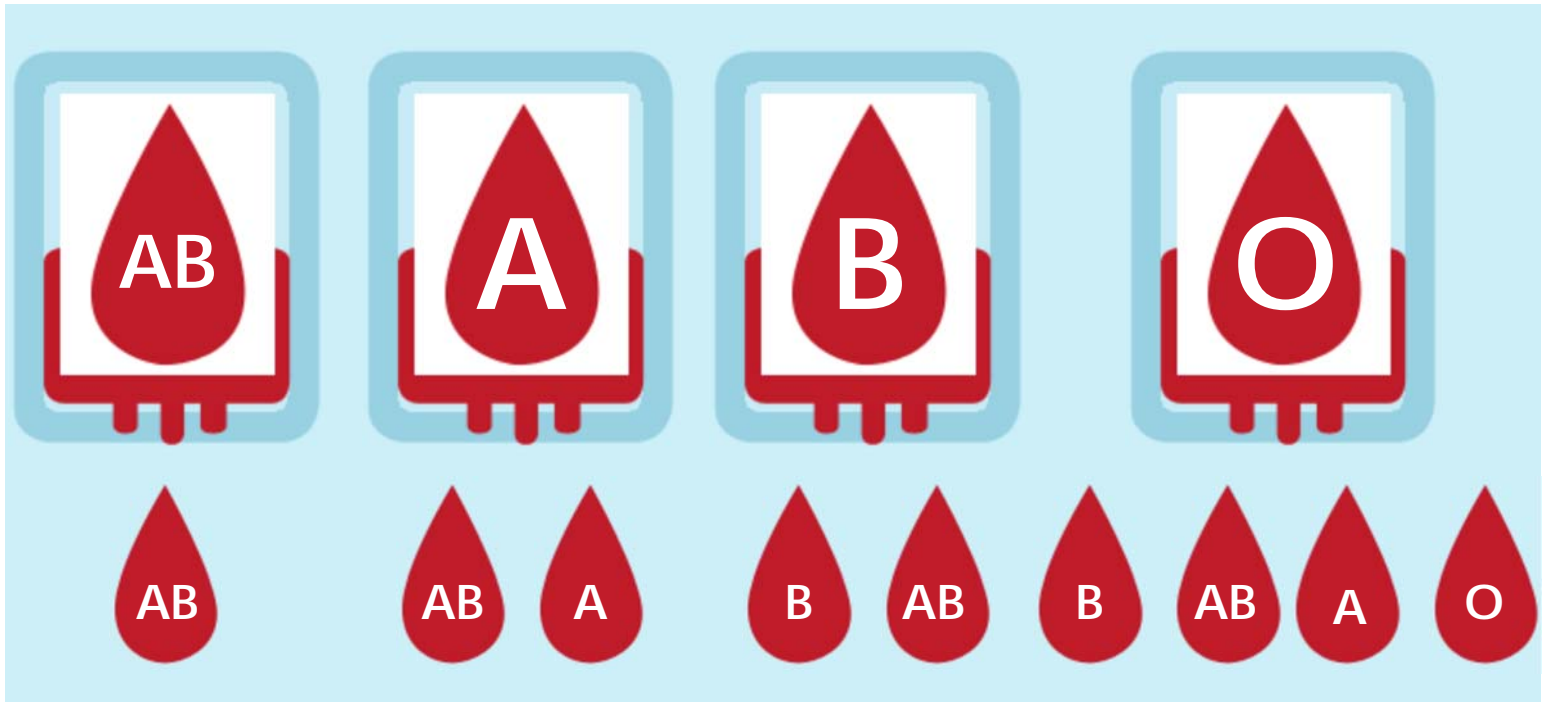
AB Elite Plasma Donation

A donation used to treat emergency patients and used for any blood type.



Your plasma is separated from the rest of the blood. Then the red cells and platelets are returned to your body.

WHERE DOES MY DONATION GO?



Some blood types aren't compatible with each other.

Different blood types must match for safe transfusion.

*Universal
red cell donor*

Type
O

&

Type
AB

*Universal
plasma donor*

HOST A BLOOD DRIVE

You can host a blood drive with the assistance of the American Red Cross.

For more information on how to host a blood drive, visit:

<https://www.redcrossblood.org/hosting-a-blood-drive/learn-about-hosting/how-hosting-a-blood-drive-works.html>

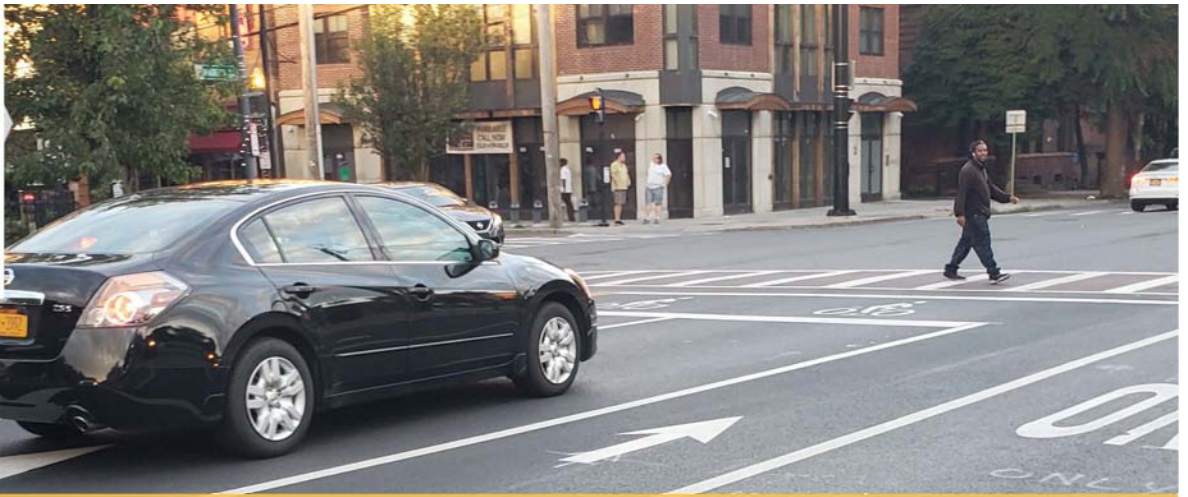
Did you know?

Every two seconds, someone in the United States needs blood. ¹

Every day, blood donors help a whole variety of different patients, including accident and burn victims, heart surgery and organ transplant patients, and those fighting cancer.



1. <https://www.redcrossblood.org>



Creating Walkable and Bikeable Communities

COMPLETE STREETS

WHY ARE COMPLETE STREETS IMPORTANT?



Complete Streets is a set of street design concepts that treat pedestrians, bicyclists, transit users, and drivers as legitimate users of the transportation network. Everyone is accommodated regardless of how they travel or what their special needs may be. A Complete Street can significantly improve safety and reduce pedestrian-related crashes. It can also help reduce congestion, improve and increase transit use, provide more efficient travel and goods movement within the community, and spur economic development.

Complete Streets are particularly good at improving mobility for the young and old – those less likely to drive.

{ WHO BENEFITS? }

EVERYONE!

100%

of **children under 16**
do not drive



22% of **workers**

16 years and older
in NYS **do not have**
access to a vehicle



35% of NYS **workers 16 years**

and older in NYS **walked, rode a**
bike, or took public transportation to
work



WHY ARE COMPLETE STREETS IMPORTANT?



SAFETY

People are using the existing infrastructure – whether or not it is designed for travel by all users.



HEALTH

Complete Streets encourages increased physical activity.



MOBILITY

Complete Streets provides options for all users. It also provides or enhances options for the mobility impaired.



SOCIAL EQUITY

Transportation costs are the 2nd highest family expense according to most studies. Providing mobility options such as bicycling and walking can help keep transportation costs down.



PLACE-MAKING

They make places more pleasant to spend time, support greening of corridors, and implementation of green infrastructure.



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Statistics show that Complete Streets investments support and enhance economic development – more foot traffic = more potential purchases.

{ MAKING COMMUNITIES SAFER }

What can you do to make your community safer and bring about Complete Streets?

BE A COMPLETE STREETS CHAMPION

1. Contact the Planning or Health Department(s) in your community to inquire about Complete Streets activities.
2. Attend an MPO or municipal meeting.
3. Identify what neighboring communities are doing and discuss how these can be implemented in your community.
4. Assess Complete Streets potential in your community.
5. Help bring about or assist with Complete Streets implementation by volunteering on a local Board or Committee.



HOW DO WE GET STARTED?

1. **Education:** If Complete Streets is not a focus in your community, help educate elected and appointed officials about its importance.
2. **Adopt a Policy/Ordinance/Resolution:** One of the first steps to committing to a Complete Streets program/effort is to adopt a policy or ordinance stating goals for such efforts and showing the commitment of your municipality.
3. **Form a Committee:** Request that your municipality form a Complete Streets Committee to assist elected officials and staff with implementation opportunities.



BRING ABOUT POSITIVE CHANGE: IDENTIFY LOW-COST SOLUTIONS

1. Ensure that municipal departments are coordinating infrastructure projects. If a drainage, grading, widening or development project is proposed, work to ensure that Complete Streets infrastructure is included in the project.
2. Identify locations for simple restriping projects that could create bike lanes, upgrade or provide high-visibility crosswalks, or incorporate sharrows (shared lane markings).
3. Locate areas that would benefit from the addition of curb extensions, reverse angle parking, lighting, or other physical improvements.



For more information on “Complete Streets” visit www.nysmpos.org and visit their “Fact Sheet” page.

Exemptions — Reducing Your Property Tax

The City of New York offers tax breaks known as exemptions to seniors, veterans, clergy members, people with disabilities, and others. If you are granted an exemption, it is subtracted from the assessed value of your home, reducing your taxable value. (An exemption differs from an abatement, a type of tax break that reduces your tax bill after the tax has been calculated.) Your June property tax bill shows the exemptions you will receive for the tax year beginning July 1.

Finding the Right Exemption(s) for You

	STAR (School Tax Relief) Basic STAR*	Enhanced STAR	Senior Citizen Homeowners' Exemption (SCHE)	Disabled Homeowners' Exemption (DHE)
ELIGIBILITY	Available to owners of houses, co-ops, and condos with less than \$500K annual adjusted gross income.	Available to owners 65+ with annual income less than \$88,050.	Available to owners 65+ with annual income of \$58,399 or less.	Available to owners with disabilities and annual income of \$58,399 or less.
BENEFIT	Tax savings: approximately \$300/year	Tax savings: approximately \$600/year	Reduces assessed value up to 50%	Reduces assessed value up to 50%
TO APPLY	Visit www.tax.ny.gov or call (518) 457-2036.	Visit www.tax.ny.gov or call (518) 457-2036.	Complete an application, available at www.nyc.gov/sche .	Complete an application, available at www.nyc.gov/dhe .
DEADLINE	March 15	March 15	March 15	March 15

*In 2016, STAR was changed by state law from a property tax exemption to an income tax credit. Current recipients of the STAR property tax exemption can continue to receive it. New applicants must apply to the state for the credit. If you are eligible, you will receive the credit in the form of a check. The dollar value of the credit will generally be the same as the property tax exemption.

Full eligibility and benefit details are available at www.nyc.gov/finance.

What's the difference between the two reductions?

Exemptions

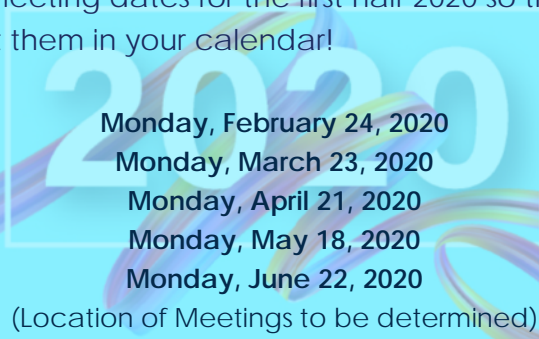
An exemption reduces your assessed value before your taxes are calculated.

Abatements

An abatement reduces your taxes after they've already been calculated.

Please visit nyc.gov/finance for the most up-to-date information about exemptions.

Veterans Exemption	Disabled Crime Victim and Good Samaritan Exemption	Clergy Exemption	
Available to certain veterans, spouses/widow(er)s of veterans, and Gold Star parents.	Crime victims and those injured trying to prevent crime or assist a victim. Civilians only. Owner must have modified home to accommodate disability.	Certain members of the clergy or their unmarried surviving spouses.	ELIGIBILITY
Level of benefit varies. (Basic, combat, disabled...)	Compensation for cost of renovations to accommodate disability.	Reduces assessed value of home by \$1,500. Tax savings: approximately \$256/year	BENEFIT
Complete an application, available at www.nyc.gov/ownerexemption .	Complete an application, available at www.nyc.gov/ownerexemption .	Complete an application, available at www.nyc.gov/ownerexemption .	TO APPLY
March 15	March 15	March 15	DEADLINE

School Calendar 2019–2020		QCB13 General Board Meeting Dates
JAN 28	Spring Term Begins (For students in semester-model schools)	<p>Here is a quick list of all of the upcoming General Board Meeting dates for the first half 2020 so that you can put them in your calendar!</p>  <p> Monday, February 24, 2020 Monday, March 23, 2020 Monday, April 21, 2020 Monday, May 18, 2020 Monday, June 22, 2020 (Location of Meetings to be determined) </p>
FEB 17-21	Midwinter Recess (School closed)	
MAR 4-5	PTA Elementary and K-8 Schools	
MAR 12-13	PTA Middle Schools and District 75 Prog.	
MAR 19-20	PTA HS, K-12, and 6-12 Schools	
APR 9-17	Spring Recess (School closed)	
MAY 7	PTA Elementary and K-8 Schools	
MAY 14	PTA Middle Schools	
MAY 21	PTA HS, K-12, and 6-12 Schools	
MAY 25	Memorial Day (School closed)	
JUN 4	Chancellor's Conference Day (Students do not attend school)	QCB13 Meeting Schedule <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land Use: 1st Monday • Public Safety: 1st Wednesday • Seniors, Social Services and Special Needs: 1st Thursday • Special Initiatives: 1st Thursday • Youth, Education and Libraries: 2nd Tuesday • Economic Development: 2nd Wednesday • Transportation: 2nd Thursday • Parks and Environment: 3rd Tuesday • Health: 3rd Thursday • 105 Pct. Community Council: Last Wednesday
JUN 9	June Clerical Day for Lower Grades Only (Elementary school/middle school/D75 students do not attend)	
JUN 26	LAST DAY OF SCHOOL FOR ALL STUDENTS (Early dismissal)	
*These parent teacher conference dates are citywide. However, schools may decide to hold conferences on alternative dates, with approval. Please check with your school for details. For testing dates and other events, visit schools.nyc.gov/calendar .		

February 2020 New York City Parking Calendar

Wednesday, February 12, 2020	Abraham Lincoln's Birthday
Monday, February 17, 2020	Washington's Birthday (Presidents Day)
Wednesday, February 26, 2020	Ash Wednesday

Alternate Side Parking regulations may be suspended from time to time because of snow emergencies, inclement weather conditions or other emergencies. Visit www.nyc.gov/dot/parkingrules or dial 311 for further information.

In the event that a Snow Emergency is declared, it is advised for motorists to avoid standing or parking on designated snow emergency streets. You can use <http://maps.nyc.gov/snow/> to determine your street's snow plow designation.

Alternate Side Parking or ASP (Street Cleaning Rules): Most Alternate Side Parking signs are clearly marked with the "P" symbol with the broom through it. Some signs are traditional 3-hour ones, but others can vary considerably. Some metered parking zones have Alternate Side Parking rules. When Alternate Side Parking is suspended for a holiday or other reason, the parking meters remain in effect.

Major Legal Holiday Rules (Indicated by an asterisk): The city suspends ASP rules on the legal and religious holidays listed. No Stopping, No Standing and No Parking regulations are also suspended, except where those regulations are normally in effect seven days a week (for example: "No Standing Anytime"). Parking meter regulations are also suspended. On all other holidays, only street cleaning rules are suspended.

Reminder: Parking meters are not in effect on Sundays.



Bill to create 1,000 units of homeless housing per year passes council

QNS.com | December 20, 2019

By: Mark Hallum



Photo by Mark Hallum

Councilman Rafael Salamanca

What Council Speaker Corey Johnson called a “revolutionary change in policy” passed in the chamber Thursday and could finally deliver stable housing to families experiencing homelessness.

Intro 1211 by city Councilman Rafael Salamanca, will require housing developers receiving city funds to reserve 15 percent of units for homeless New Yorkers, a goal which will provide affordable housing and bring relief to the city’s shelters which house well over 60,000 people.

“This bill will do more to fight homelessness in New York City than any other actions that has been taken in the last 10 years,” Councilman Stephen Levin said while voting in favor of the bill. “The fact there are 20K children in shelters every night... is something we should all be ashamed of.”

Under the bill, the Department of Housing and Preservation would enforce the regulation and provide an annual report for both the mayor and council speaker on the number of affordable units created.

“Building more shelters is not the solution, we need to build more affordable housing and have statutory set-asides for people who have fallen on hard times,” Councilman Eric Ulrich said voting in the affirmative. “Next year we really need to turn the heat on Albany to get them to pony-up to provide funding for a real and robust rental subsidy program.”

The motion passed 38 in favor and 3 opposed in the stated meeting which was the last of the year and saw several members absent.

“This historic vote today represents a major turning point in combating the city’s record homelessness crisis,” “This historic vote today represents a major turning point in combating the city’s record homelessness crisis,” Giselle Routhier, Policy Director at Coalition for the Homeless, said. “By codifying a requirement on a project-by-project basis, this bill could create 1,000 additional apartments each year for the New Yorkers who need them.

VOCAL-NY as well as Nathylin Flowers, who gained notoriety after confronting Mayor Bill de Blasio about homelessness while in his Brooklyn gym, campaigned in favor of Intro 1211 for months leading up to its passage.

“My lifetime fighting for racial and social justice taught me that change only comes when people fight together, confront power, and demand what is right,” Flowers, now a leader in VOCAL-NY, said. “The bill we passed today is simple and right. At its core, it legislates that government must serve the needs of the people. We look forward to many more victories like this one, because we need to ensure everyone has a home.”

The bill will become effective 180 days after Thursday passage.



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listing of available positions.



FREE CPR PROGRAM

FDNY Free CPR Program

The FDNY Free CPR Program offers New Yorkers a 30-minute class on compressions-only CPR (please note, this program does not offer CPR certification at this time). The free classes are taught throughout the year by certified FDNY EMS personnel at various locations. To date, the program has successfully trained thousands of New Yorkers in this lifesaving technique.

The course offers the following:

- Basic instruction on performing hands-only CPR
- Basic instruction on how to use an automated external defibrillator (AED)
- Practice mannequins for use during class and take-home instruction for follow-up practice.

To sign up for one of our free classes, or to schedule a class in your community for groups of 15+, visit their website: www.fdnysmart.org/CPR/ or contact the FDNY's CPR Training Unit at 718.281.3888.

FDNY Free CPR Program

The FDNY FireZone is now hosting Free CPR classes. Space is limited. For more information and to RSVP to the FireZone call 212.698.4527.



FireZone

34 W. 51st St.
New York, NY 10020



Attention Teens: Become A Stacks Homework Assistant



Teens, are you looking for a way to give back to your community and build your resume? Can you commit to a minimum of six hours per week?

If the answer is yes, **join us as a STACKS Homework Assistant.**

You will gain valuable experience and community service credit by helping school-age children in first through eighth grade tackle daily homework and projects in a fun and interactive setting.

You will receive training to handle a variety of situations from managing large and small groups to encouraging independent work.

We are looking for individuals ages 16 and up:

- Available Monday through Friday between 3:00 pm and 5:30 pm
- Possess a 3.0 GPA or 85% average as a student
- Friendly and willing to work in a high energy and fast-paced environment
- Able to work as part of a team

Apply online at volunteer.queenslibrary.org/hwcenters2019 to begin the registration process.

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718.286.3000.



hello
FEBRUARY



February Committee Meetings @ QCB13 Board Office:

- **Land Use** - Monday, February 3, 2020 @ 7:30 pm
- **Public Safety** - Wednesday, February 5, 2020 @ 7:00 pm
- **Seniors, Social Services & Special Needs** - Thursday, February 6, 2020 @ 7:00 pm
- **Special Initiative** - Thursday, February 6, 2020 @ 7:00 pm
(Location: TBD)
- **Youth, Education & Libraries** - Tuesday, February 11, 2020 @ 7:30 pm
- **Economic Development** - Wednesday, February 12, 2020 @ 7:00 pm
- **Transportation** - Thursday, February 13, 2020 @ 7:00 pm
- **Parks and Environment** - Tuesday, February 18, 2020 7:30 pm
- **Health** - Thursday, February 20, 2020 , 2019 @ 7:00 pm

The community
is always welcome
to attend!