



Community Board 12

The City of New York

Borough of Queens

Jamaica, Hollis, St. Albans, South Ozone Park, and Springfield Gardens

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Donovan Richards
BOROUGH PRESIDENT

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CHAIRPERSON

Michael Carlier
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY BOARDS

Yvonne Reddick
DISTRICT MANAGER

District Manager Report

November 20, 2024

Holiday Scams

- **Fake Charities**

Verify the charity and their information is correct:

Better Business Bureau's Wise Giving Alliance

Charity Navigator

Charity Watch

Guide Star

- **Phone Scams**

Take many forms, usually a well-known company

- **Bank**
 - **Account restricted**
 - **Unauthorized transaction**
- **Online retailer**
- **Delivery retailer**

- **Delivery companies (UPS, Fed Ex, Amazon, or USPS)**
- **Government agency (IRS, FBI)**

Romance Scams

- **In 2023 nearly 65,000 victims lost over \$1 billion**
- **In 2022 reported losses were \$1.3 billion (FTC 2023 data)**
- **Scammers create profiles on dating, chat or other sites**
- **Contact their victims on social media and develop a relationship**
- **Soon after comes the lies to get your money**

Warning Signs – Romance Scams

- **Scammers always have a reason they cannot meet in person**
- **Scammers may not want to communicate on the dating site, may direct to other chat sites**
- **Scammers seem more interested in learning about you than providing personal details about themselves.**

Stolen Checks/Check Washing Scams

- **Thieves will steal your check from your mail, a USPS mailbox, or relay box.**
- **They will alter the info on a check to make it payable to themselves or someone close to them and change the amount. The victim's signature often remains – this is called check washing. The bank assumes the check is legitimate because your signature is on it. It will be too late before the victim even realizes what has happened.**

Homeowner Scams

▪ Contractor Scams

- **Working in the area**
- **Having left over materials from another job**
- **Only accept cash or wire transfers**

Deed Fraud

- **You no longer receive mail, like utility bills**
- **You begin to receive mail in someone else's name**

Protect Yourself

- **Check your deed with Dept. of Finance Sheriff's Office (718) 707-2100 (ACRIS)**
- **Never sign documents you don't understand**
- **Be wary of solicitors**

Identify Theft

- **Identify theft is when someone uses your personal or financial information without your permission or authority**
- **Safeguards**
 - **Do not provide your personal information to solicitors**
 - **Do not click on hyperlinks from unknown emails**
 - **Regular credit checks (Trans Union, Equifax, Experion)**

Avoid Being a Victim

- **Be skeptical**
- **Be careful of unusual payment requirements**
- **Do not call phone number you have not verified for yourself**
- **Never share your personal information**
- **Review your statements**
- **Check your credit**

What To Do If You Are a Victim

- **Queens County District Attorney's Office**
 - **Consumer Fraud Hotline**
 - **(718) 286-6673**
 - **Elder Fraud Unit**
 - **(718) 286-6578**
 - **Local Police Precinct**
 - **FBI Internet Crime Complaint Center**
 - **www.IC3.gov**
 - **Federal Trade Commission**
 - **Consumer Frauds**
 - **ReportFraud.FTC.Gov**
 - **IdentityTheft.Gov**

Demolition

- **163-51 Phroane Avenue**
- **175-04 145 Drive**

- 88-29 184 Street
- 139-11 Linden Blvd.
- 168-31 88 Avenue
- 168-33 88 Avenue

Vacate Order

- 118-61 Nashville Boulevard
- 108-46 171 Place
- 150-66 116 Avenue
- 115-21 197 Street

National Grid Construction New Main Install

<u>On Street</u>	<u>Cross Street</u>	<u>Cross Street</u>
Liverpool Street	97 Avenue	101 Avenue
97 Avenue	Allendale Street	Liverpool Street
97 Avenue	Liverpool Street	Intersection
97 Avenue	Liverpool Street	Waltham Street

There will not be garbage, recycling, or compost collection on Thanksgiving, Thursday, November 28, 2024.

Our community is as good as we make it if you see something you say something. Take pride in your community.