



December

COMMUNITY BOARD # 8 NEWSLETTER

DISTRICT OFFICE

197-15 Hillside Avenue
Hollis, NY 11423-2126
Tel # (718) 264-7895
Fax # (718) 264-7910
E-Mail: qn08@cb.nyc.gov
Website: www.nyc.gov/quencenscb8

OFFICERS

CHAIRPERSON: Martha Taylor
1st VICE CHAIR: Michael Hannibal
2nd VICE CHAIR: Seymour Schwartz
3rd VICE CHAIR: Mary Maggio
EXEC. SECRETARY: Bhitihara-Martha Fulton
TREASURER & BUDGET DIRECTOR: Harbachan Singh

CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Honorable Linda Lee - 23rd District
Honorable James Gennaro - 24th District

BOROUGH PRESIDENT

Honorable Donovan Richards

STAFF

DISTRICT MANAGER: Marie Adam-Ovide
Soleil Griffin, Community Assistant
Nettie Norris, Community Service Aide

BOARD MEMBERS BY AREA

Area 1 – Kew Gardens Hills

Mitch Lisker – CHAIR, Heather Bennett-Idels, Susan D. Cleary, Jennifer Martin, Rabbi Yaniv Meitrov, Rabbi Shlomo Nisanov, Tobias Paris, Simon Pelman and Jacob Weinberg.

Area 2 – Briarwood

Seymour Schwartz – CHAIR, Solomon Davydov, Allen Eisenstein, John Gebhard, Elke Maerz, Mohammad Rahman, Charlton Rhee and Douglas Sherman.

Area 3 – Hillcrest Estates & Jamaica Hill

Kevin Forrestal – CHAIR, Dilafroz Ahmed, Bhitihara-Martha Fulton, Wendy Gennaro, Ahsan Habib, Mohammed “Delwar” Islam, Hersh Parekh and Frances Peterson.

Area 4 – Flushing Heights, Flushing Suburban, Hillcrest

Dr. Penny M. Stern – CHAIR, Kenneth Cohen II, Steven Konigsberg, and Dilip Nath.

Area 5 – Georgetown Mews, Pomonok, Electchester, Flushing

Mary Maggio – CHAIR, Neeta Jain, Jenna Citron Schwab and Deepti Sharma.

Area 6 – Utopia, Fresh Meadows, West Cunningham Park

Maria DeInnocentiis – CHAIR, James Gallagher, Alan Ong, Tamara Osherov and Amy Tse.

Area 7 – Jamaica Estates & Holliswood

Howard Fried – CHAIR, Dr. Robert Block, Edward Chung, Michael Hannibal, David Mordukhaev, Jesse Rosenbaum, Harbachan Singh, Martha Taylor, Mohammed Tohin and Mayer Waxman.

November’s Community Board 8 Public Hearing/Meeting (recap)

183-02 Union Turnpike

Fresh Meadows

The minutes of Wednesday, October 11, 2023, were unanimously approved by 38 members.

Chairperson’s Report:

Second Vice Chair Seymour Schwartz informed the community that Community Board 8 Queens beautification project was not chosen by the Neighborhood Support Team from the Mayor’s office. This project was for Hillside Avenue in partnership with Community Board 12.

On Monday, November 13, 2023, Chairperson Martha Taylor kicked off our own beautification project by sprucing up the Midland Mall along with the Department of Parks and Recreation, CB8 staff, Jamaica Estates Association’s members, and volunteers. They planted daffodil bulbs, trimmed hedges, turned over the grass and added mulch. They also arranged to have Kingsford Triangle’s shrubs pruned, bulbs planted and are waiting for mulch to be laid.

We are also looking to partner with Community Board 12 to spruce up Major Marks Park that is located only across from our district.

Next Public Hearing/Meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 13, 2023

Minutes of Board Meetings are available *usually* within two weeks on our website.

A Word from CB8...

Dear Resident,

As the year ends, please consider sharing your blessings with the less fortunate.

The 107th Police Precinct [71-01 Parsons Blvd. in Flushing] is collecting non-expired, non-perishable goods for the Annual City Harvest Food Drive. This is for our needy residents and others experiencing food insecurity. The precinct is collecting winter coats [new or slightly used] to keep everyone warm this winter. They are also collecting baby clothing [new or slightly used] sizes 0-24 months. We have an influx of migrants who came with young children. Brand new/unwrapped toys for children are also being collected. Help put a smile on the young faces this season.

The last day for the Cunningham Park Down to Earth Farmer's Market will be on Sunday, December 17, 2023. They are open every Sunday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the parking lot off Union Turnpike and 196th Place.

Great news! The upper playground at Cunningham Park is now open to the public. It is now a beautifully upgraded playground with the newest play equipment.

Wishing you Happy Holidays!

Sincerely,

Martha Taylor

Chairperson

Marie Adam-Ovide

District Manager



AMERICORPS SENIORS FOSTER GRANDPARENT PROGRAM NYC Department for the Aging



The Foster Grandparent Program (FGP) is a program for older adults (55+) who wish to work with children in their community. FGP provides an opportunity to serve as mentors, tutors, and caregivers for children and youth with special needs. Foster Grandparents provide anywhere from 15 to 40 hours of weekly service to community organizations such as Head Start, hospitals, public schools, daycare centers, and juvenile detention centers where they provide support to children with special needs children from birth to 21 years of age. Volunteer are given up to \$1,000 monthly stipend and reimbursement for travel and meals. Paid annual and sick leave. They also receive accident and liability insurance while volunteering.

Interested in volunteering or have additional questions?

Call (212) 244-6469 or email fgp@aging.nyc.gov

Scan the QR code to complete the Interest Form



(Continued from Page 1)

Shubhra Datta – representing Borough President Donovan Richards

Queens Borough President Donovan Richards hosted a Transgender Day of Remembrance Ceremony on Thursday, November 21st at Queens Borough Hall. The Community Board Membership Applications will be available on their website at the beginning of next year.

Guest Speakers:

Deputy Inspector Kevin Chan, 107th Precinct

The community is up thirty percent (30%) in crime. The factor driving up crime is Domestic Violence and Social Media Robberies. Whenever you are selling an item to someone you met online, meet them at the precinct. People with high end watches have gotten robbed.

Paul Graziano, Urban Planner – Report on the **City of Yes**

Provided the five main components to the housing section and focused on three of the eighteen economic components of the City of Yes.

There are five main components to the housing section:

- The authorization of **accessory dwelling units**. Accessory Dwelling Units would be allowed on all one- or two-family properties in the city. This would allow a basement, cellar, rooms, attic, garage conversion, or a new two-story house behind a house.
- Imposed **transit-oriented development**. This would allow apartment buildings on every single property that has wide streets. On narrow streets, apartment building could be built on every corner.
- Establish **town center zoning**. This would cover every commercial overlay in R1 through R5 zones to allow up to four stories of residential on top of ground floor retail/commercial.
- **Dismantle the zoning resolution** by changing the basic size of your lot. The massive changes would encourage bigger, denser development on smaller lots in all R1-R5 zones.
- **Eliminate parking requirements for all new residential development**. Any development that takes place, will not have a parking lot.

The following three components of the economic opportunity were mentioned:

- **Corner stores** – This creates a process to allow for small new bodegas and other locally-serving storefronts in residential areas. This would allow commercial retail store fronts or office within one hundred feet of every corner/residential block to go up to twenty-five hundred square feet.
- **Home occupations** – Allow New Yorkers more flexibility to have businesses in their homes. Home offices currently take up a maximum of twenty-five percent of a primary residence and up to five hundred square feet. The proposal would make it forty-nine percent of the residence, no maximum floor area and up to three employees working in your home.
- **Adapting spaces for industries like film** – Give businesses, like film studios, a rational process to allow them to adapt and expand. This would allow the BSA to give a regular permit to anyone that would like to grow their business. If the property has ten thousand square feet, the BSA would give them a permit for twenty thousand square feet.

Health Minutes with Dr. Stern

Dr. Penny Stern gave a moment to recognize Veterans Day and acknowledged Second Vice Chair Seymour Schwartz for being a World War II veteran [*this was met by overwhelming applause*].

Dr. Stern spoke about World Diabetes Day as being the world's largest diabetes awareness campaign. The campaign was created in 1991 by the International Diabetes Federation and the World Health Organization due to the growing concerns about the escalating health threat posed by diabetes.

World Diabetes Day became an official United Nations Day in 2006 in which we recognize the day on November 14th. You should pay attention to your diet, eat fiber-rich grain products and vegetables. Omit saturated fats from your diet and choose vegetable fats.



RECYCLE YOUR E-WASTE

Sunday 12/03/23 10am – 2pm Rain or Shine

Avoid a fine: It's now illegal to discard electronics in the trash !

DROP OFF SITE: Cunningham Park – Parking Lot
Union Tpke b/w Francis Lewis Blvd & 196th Place
Fresh Meadows

WE ACCEPT: Working & non-working
computers, monitors, printers/scanners, keyboards, mice,
cables, TVs, VCRs & DVD players, phones, audio/visual
equipment, cell phones & PDA's

Hosted by **Lower East Side Ecology Center**
Co-hosted by Council Member Linda Lee
In Cooperation with NYS Senators John C. Liu & Toby Stavisky
Assembly Members Nily Rozic & David Weprin
& Congresswoman Grace Meng
For more information:
lesecolgycenter.org or **212.477.4022**

The electronic waste collection program is made possible by:



Become a NYC Lifeguard!

Being a New York City lifeguard takes guts, dedication, and drive. NYC Parks' intensive training program helps prepare potential guards to keep close watch over beaches and pools.

Do you have what it takes to join them this summer?

START YOUR JOURNEY



1. PREP

Find out if you meet the age, vision, and physical requirements, and brush up on your swimming skills at an upcoming clinic.

2. TEST

Sign up for a qualifying test, which includes a sprint swim and a vision exam.

3. TRAIN

Once you've passed the test, you'll begin a 16-session course to learn CPR and lifesaving techniques, and get the training you need to complete the final long distance swim.

4. GUARD

After successfully completing training, you may be hired for a full-time position at a beach or pool. Put your skills into action and keep New Yorkers safe this summer!



Learn more at nyc.gov/parks/lifeguards.

NYPD BUILD THE BLOCK MEETING

SECTOR C

Thursday, December 7, 2023

Time: 6:30 p. m. *(Meeting starts)*

Queens Public Library
85-12 Main Street
Briarwood, NY 11435

Neighborhood Coordinating Officers:

- *Officer Bryce Bertothy*
- *Officer Michael Simmons*

NYPD BUILD THE BLOCK MEETING

SECTOR D

Wednesday, December 6, 2023

Time: 7:00 p. m. *(Meeting starts)*

Kehilat Sephardim of Ahavat Achim
150-62 78th Road
Flushing, NY 11367

Neighborhood Coordinating Officers:

- *Detective Anthony Schmitt*
- *Officer Matthew Kirby*

The Holidays are coming . Protect your hard earned dollars...

ATM Skimming.

The Scam.

ATM "Skimming" occurs when a criminal attaches a phony card reading device over the real card reader located either at the lobby entrance door or on the ATM machine, the phony device looks identical to the real device and is equipped with electronic recorders that will capture the financial information from your card. This data is later used to create "cloned" cards which will later be used to withdraw money.

What Can I Do?



Before Using

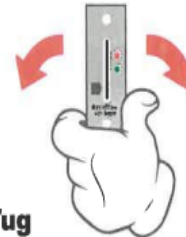
Give the card reader a tug. See if it feels loose or out of place. Inspect the ATM, gas pump, or credit card reader before using it. Be suspicious if you see anything loose, crooked or damaged, or if you notice scratches or adhesive tape/residue.

Be Aware



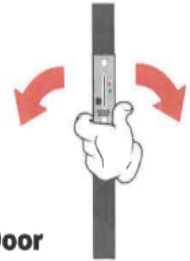
Be careful of ATMs in tourist areas - they are a popular target of skimmers

Tug



These devices are usually attached with two sided tape and can be discovered by simply tugging on areas where the card must be swiped.

Door



Skimming device can also be affixed to the card reader at the entrance door to the ATM.



Money Trap

Be aware of "Money Trapping", where the criminal attaches a device to the cash dispenser "trapping" the customer's money and retrieves it after the customer leaves the ATM area.



Protection

When entering your PIN, cover the keypad with your other hand to prevent possible hidden cameras from recording your number.



Report It.

Immediately report any skimming devices to your financial institution and the NYPD by calling 911.



Safeguard Your Apartment.

TIPS FOR YOUR PERSONAL SAFETY

What Can I Do?



Always use a licensed locksmith. Use a deadbolt lock with a one-inch bolt throw or a heavy duty drop-bolt lock. Install a pick-resistant cylinder. Additional locks should be installed 12 to 18 inches above or below the doorknob. Consider children, the elderly, and/or the disabled before installing a lock too high. Do not use a double-cylinder lock; that is, a lock that has a key on both sides. It can be deadly if a fire breaks out.



Do not enter or remain with a stranger in an elevator if you feel unsafe.



Use the intercom. Buzz people into your building ONLY when you are absolutely sure of the visitor's identity.



If you live on the top floor of an apartment building, make certain that the roof door is closed, but unlocked. Under NYC Building Code regulations, a roof door may not be locked – temporarily or permanently. It must always allow for an emergency exit.



Check your apartment door and door frame. Should they be repaired or replaced? All exterior doors should be either metal or solid core wood (1-3/4" thick).

Window safety tips:

- Any window within 18 feet of ground level, a building projection, or a fire escape is considered to be an accessible opening that should be secured.
- If you live or work in a basement apartment, the windows may be secured with safety gates (or grilles) that contain a safety latch to allow for emergency exits.
- Do not assume that the basement windows are too small for entry. They are, in fact, one of the most popular points of entry for a burglar.
- The best and safest way to secure your fire escape or any first floor window is with a New York Fire Department-approved gate. This gate is commonly known as the "ferry" or "safety gate" and is operated by a latch (not a padlock or combination lock). DO NOT ACCEPT SUBSTITUTES.



www.nyc.gov/nypd

LIQUOR LICENSE NOTIFICATION (S)

- **New Empire Deli & Grocery Corp.**
 d/b/a *Empire Deli*
 176-57 Union Turnpike
Renewal - Beer & Cider License



*Any complaints about establishments with liquor licenses should be sent to Community Board 8 **in writing**. Unless a signed, written notification is received at our office, we cannot follow up. You must also include your address and telephone number.*

CANNABIS LICENSE NOTIFICATION (S)

- **Pratikaben Patel**
 d/b/a Shivalay Deli, Inc.
 71-06 Kissena Blvd. in Flushing
- **Skyler Rodriguez - Retail Dispensary Premise**
 d/b/a Square Knot LLC
 138-19 Queens Boulevard in Briarwood



CANNABIS/LICENSE Committee Meeting

Tuesday, December 19, 2023
7:30 p.m.

Community Board 8 Office
 197-15 Hillside Avenue
 Hollis, NY 11423

CITY PARKING RULES

The City suspends alternate side parking regulations for both street cleaning purposes and traffic flow, on legal and/or religious holidays.



Immaculate Conception.....Dec. 8th
Christmas*.....Dec. 25th

*(Parking meters are still in effect.
 * Except during major holidays)*

DEMOLITION/VACATE NOTICE



- **184-15 Aberdeen Road- Demolition**
(House & Garage)
- **85-11 Homelawn Street - Demolition** *(House)*
- **138-25 Union Turnpike - Demolition** *(Garage)*
- **85-62 160th Street - HPD Vacate Order - Illegal Cellar**
Apartment created: inadequate means of egress and natural light. Boiler room is adjacent to sleeping quarters.



December 2023

Community Board 8, Queens



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3 ADVENT	4	5	6 Executive Cmte. Meeting 7:30 p.m. CB8 Office	7 Happy Hanukkah	8 feast of immaculate Conception	9
10	11 Transportation Cmte. Meeting 7:30 p.m. CB8 Office	12	13 Board Meeting Public Hearing 7:30 p.m. Hillcrest Jewish Center 183-02 Union Turnpike	14	15 Hanukkah	16
17	18	19 Liquor/Cannabis Cmte. Meeting 7:30 p.m. CB8 Office	20	21	22	23
24	25 Christmas We're closed	26 HAPPY Kwanzaa	27	28	29	30
31 NEW YEARS EVE						

"You have not lived today until you have done something for someone who can never repay you." - John Bunyan