



May 2023

## COMMUNITY BOARD # 8 NEWSLETTER

### DISTRICT OFFICE

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### 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:** Harbachan Singh  
**BUDGET DIRECTOR:** Vacant

### CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

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

### BOROUGH PRESIDENT

Honorable Donovan Richards

### STAFF

**DISTRICT MANAGER:** Marie Adam-Ovide  
Sandra Aikens-Williams, 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 Meirov, Rabbi Shlomo Nisanov, Tobias Paris, Simon Pelman and Jacob Weinberg.

#### Area 2 – Briarwood

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

#### Area 3 – Hillcrest Estates & Jamaica Hills

**Kevin Forrestal – CHAIR,** Dilafroz Ahmed, Bhitihara-Martha Fulton, 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.

Happy Asian-American Pacific Islander Heritage Month!

### March Community Board Public Hearing/Meeting (recap) 183-02 Union Turnpike Fresh Meadows

- A moment of silence was observed in memory of one of the most active Community Board 8 members, **Marc A. Haken**, who passed away last month. [He served on the Board for a total of 35 years . He was the Capital and Expense Budget Director, and the Chairperson of the Youth, Education & Libraries Committee.]
- The Minutes of the March 15, 2023, Board Meeting were unanimously approved by 26 members.
- **Chairperson’s Report:**  
Chairperson Taylor welcomed new CB8 Members: Michael Athy, Tobias Paris, Jenna Citron Schwab and Rabbi Mayer Waxman. Our new staffer, Nettie Norris, was also introduced.  
She offered her condolences to Board Member Alan Ong on the passing of his mother.

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Next Public Hearing/Meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 10, 2023

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

## A Word from the District Manager

Dear Stakeholder,

After a hiatus due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, I am pleased to inform you that we are planning our annual health fair at Cunningham Park this spring. The tentative date is June 30, 2023. It will be our 10th Community Board 8 Health Fair. It will be our very best one so far!

If you are a healthcare provider and would like to participate, please send us an email [qn08@cb.nyc.gov]. All services provided at the Community Board 8 Health Fair are free. This is one way to give back to our community and showcase the stellar healthcare services that you provide.

Please share this information with your friends and neighbors. **It takes more than City Hall to make New York City great, it takes us all!**

Sincerely,

*Marie Adam-Ovide*

*P.S.: Once again, I am encouraging you to sign up to receive our Newsletter via email. This will help us save on the cost of postage.*



## JOIN THE NYPD TO COMBAT CATALYTIC CONVERTER THEFT



- The NYPD Cat-Scan Program etches a unique serial # and scannable QR Code onto the catalytic converter and enrolls it in the CatGuard database
- This serial number allows police to identify the vehicle the catalytic converter belongs to.
- This visible ID number can deter thieves.

**FRIDAY, MAY 19, 2023**

Noon - 4:00 p.m.

**Cunningham Park - Upper Parking Lot**  
(Entrance on Francis Lewis Blvd.)

**For more information, Contact PBQS Community Affairs (718) 969-7462**

*Special thanks to: NYC Police Foundation, Queens District Attorney Melinda Katz, City Councilmember Linda Lee, NYPD Patrol Boro Queens South, National Insurance Crime Bureau and NYC Parks.*

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Chairperson Taylor acknowledged the hard work of our Honorable State Senators Toby Stavisky, Leroy Comrie, John Liu and Joseph Addabbo. Thanks to their efforts the mandate for the affordable multi-unit housing within a half mile of a subway station has been removed from the budget.

**PUBLIC HEARING** - Steven Konigsberg, Zoning Committee Chairperson:

**BSA Cal. No. 295-57-BZ** - 146-15 Union Turnpike – This is an application to extend the term of a variance, which expired in August, 2021. The property is designated a C1-2 with Commercial overlay.

Presentation by Todd Dale representing the applicant.

It is a gas station located at 146-15 Union Turnpike. The site is at the northwest corner of 147th Street and Union Turnpike. The property is designated a C1-2 with Commercial overlay. It is currently used as a gasoline station with a one-story building at the rear. The building was built in 1957 prior to the current construction regulations. The owners have come before this community board on seven prior occasions, for minor amendments. The most recent request was in 2012 for a Certificate of Occupancy. This application was filed prior to expiration. The property was inspected, the sole objection was to graffiti on the side which was removed. There are no changes to the administration of this 65-year-old establishment. The gasoline portion is operational 24 hours, the repair portion is operational from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. They are planning to keep all physical and administrative aspects the same.

Two board members left before the vote and we no longer had a quorum. The vote was tabled until the next meeting scheduled for May 10, 2023.

**Public Safety Committee:**

Committee Chairperson Dilip Nath was unable to attend to present the committee's report. The minutes of the meeting are posted on the CB8 website.

**Health Minute with Dr. Penny Stern, Health Committee Chair**

The month of April is National Minority Health Month – raising awareness about the importance of the health of racial and ethnic minority communities and reducing health disparities. Encouraging health education and early detection.

It is also Alcoholism Month – focusing on the effects of alcoholism on health.

National Public Health Week is from April 3rd through April 9th. This is to focus on the achievement of public health administration and the reduction in childhood mortality, vaccine advances, safe drinking water and sanitation, prevention and control with HIV/AIDS, and Tuberculosis control.

**COUNCILMAN JAMES F. GENNARO  
AND NYC PARKS PRESENT**

# **FAMILY DAYS IN QUEENS**



**MAY 20- 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM**

## **PLAYGROUND SEVENTY FIVE**

160th Street & 75th Avenue, Hillcrest

**MAY 21- 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM**

## **UTOPIA PLAYGROUND**

73rd Avenue & Utopia Parkway, Fresh Meadows

**JUNE 3- 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM**

## **CAPTAIN TILLY PLAYGROUND**

Highland Avenue & 165th Street, Jamaica Hills

**JUNE 4- 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM**

## **MAURO PLAYGROUND**

Park Drive East & 73rd Terrace

**JUNE 10 - 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM**

## **POMONOK PLAYGROUND**

Kissena Boulevard & 65th Avenue, Pomonok

**JUNE 11 - 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM**

## **HOOVER-MANTON PLAYGROUND**

Manton Street & Main Street, Briarwood

**JUNE 18 - 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM**

## **JUDGE MOSES WEINSTEIN PLAYGROUND**

Vleigh Place & 78th Road, Kew Gardens Hills

- **Arts & Crafts**
- **Games & Music**
- **Face Painting**
- **Inflatables**
- **Popcorn**

*\*\*\*Please note not all locations will offer music or popcorn \*\*\**



**NYC Parks**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL COUNCIL MEMBER  
JAMES F. GENNARO'S OFFICE AT (718) 217-4969**



## *Happy Asian-American Pacific Islander Heritage Month!*

**It is most important to learn about the valuable contributions of members of different groups in our society. Here are a few in honor of Asian-American Pacific Islander Heritage Month. With knowledge comes understanding...**

### **May 1, 1978: Naomi Uemura Becomes the First Person to Reach the North Pole Alone**

The heroic Japanese explorer was known for his many hair-raising expeditions, including his solo trip to the North Pole. Uemura was the first person in history to complete the arduous journey, and during his trek, he gathered evidence about air pollution and weather and took ice and snow samples for the Smithsonian Institution and for research institutes in Japan. Uemura was also the first man to climb Mount McKinley solo in 1970 and the first Japanese man to climb Mount Everest, according to the Chicago Tribune.

"Uemura just had this enormous vitality," Jim Wickwire, a prominent American mountaineer, told the outlet in 2004. "He was like a kid and it just came through."

In March 1984, the New York Times reported that the search for Uemura's body had come to a close after he was reported missing during one of his expeditions. The explorer was 43 when he died. During his life, Uemura wrote several books about his adventures. After his death, his wife, Kimiko, published a book of personal letters she received from him between 1974 and 1983, and the Uemura Museum Tokyo in Itabashi City was erected in his honor.

### **May 7, 1946: Technology Giant Sony Is Founded**

The global conglomerate was founded by Masaru Ibuka and Akio Morita, and is now headquartered in Minato, Tokyo. Ibuka said that the purpose of the company was to "establish an ideal factory that stresses a spirit of freedom and open-mindedness that will, through technology, contribute to Japanese culture," according to Sony's website. The company is responsible for creating many of the world's first electronics, including the first transistor-based videotape recorder, first direct-view portable transistor TV and Japan's first tape recorder and transistor radio. Sony has now expanded into gaming, entertainment and financial services.

### **May 8, 1936: Prolific Manga Writer Kazuo Koike Is Born**

Koike, one of the manga world's master creators who's best known for Lone Wolf and Cub, Lady Snowblood and Crying Freeman, died on April 17, 2019, at 82. His mangas inspired generations of writers, including crime writer Max Allan Collins, who wrote the graphic novel Road to Perdition, which was inspired by Lone Wolf and Cub, in 1998. The graphic novel was then adapted into the 2002 film starring Tom Hanks. Koike established a training school for manga writers in 1977, later taught manga at Osaka University of Arts and was inducted into the Will Eisner Comic Awards Hall of Fame in 2004, according to the Washington Post.

### **May 5, 2008: South Korean Novelist Park Kyung Ri Dies**

The distinguished author and poet is best known for her epic 20-volume novel Toji (Land in English), which chronicles how Koreans were affected by the Japanese occupation from 1897 to 1945. It was later adapted into a movie, television series and opera.

Park opened up the Toji Cultural Foundation, which also manages the Toji Cultural Center, to help foster new writers, and won several awards, including The Woltan Literature Award (1972), The Inchon Award (1990), the Gabriela Mistral Prize (1996) and was awarded one of South Korea's highest honors, the Order of Cultural Merit, Geum-gwan Medal, posthumously.

### **May 4, 1975: Fashion Designer Kimora Lee Simmons Is Born**

After she was discovered as a model and deemed the "Face of the 21st Century" by the late fashion icon Karl Lagerfeld, Simmons took the world by storm and never looked back.

In addition to her Baby Phat by Kimora Lee Simmons fashion empire, the star has helped pave the way for reality television with her 2007 Life in the Fab Lane series and has had a long history with philanthropy, having established the Kimora Lee Simmons Scholarship Fund to help students pursue careers in fashion.

*Excerpt from People.com*



# Did you know?



## IMPORTANT DEPARTMENT OF SANITATION NOTICE

We would like to remind you that waste setout times changed April 1st! As part of our commitment to keeping our streets clean, the NYC Department of Sanitation is implementing a new rule to reduce the time that trash, recycling, and curbside composting will sit on sidewalks. The new rule went into effect April 1, 2023. Learn more at:

[nyc.gov/SetoutTimes](https://nyc.gov/SetoutTimes)

There will be a one-month grace period in which businesses and residents will receive written warnings until **May 1, 2023**.

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### Residents

Residential buildings of any size (single-family and multi-unit) have two options:

Place waste out after 6:00 PM in a container of 55 gallons or less with a secure lid, or Place waste out after 8:00 PM, if putting bags directly on the curb. To ensure collection, all waste must be set out by midnight.

### Businesses

Businesses that place waste at the curb\* for collection have two options:

If using a container with a secure lid, place waste at the curb 1 hour before closing, or if putting bags directly on the curb, place waste out after 8:00 PM.

*\* This does not apply to businesses that have waste collected from a loading dock. Remember, containers must be removed from the curb by the time your business reopens.*

# LIQUOR LICENSE NOTIFICATION (S)

- **Grace Lanes, LLC, Inc.**  
67-19 Parsons Boulevard in Flushing  
**Renewal - Full Liquor 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.*

## DEMOLITION NOTICE



- **80-23 189th Street - Demolition**  
(Garage only)

### *Message from Senator John Liu*

Identity thefts are on the rise. Protect yourself from scams by always shredding important documents with personal identifying information.

Amid this surge in our community, my office is partnering with the NYC Department of Sanitation, Assembly Member Ron Kim, Assembly Member Nily Rozic, Council Member Sandra Ung, Broadway-Flushing Homeowner's Association, Bowne Park Civic Association, and in conjunction with US Congress Member Grace Meng, to host Free Paper Shredding Events on **Saturday, May 27, 2023**, from 10 AM to 12 PM at Bowne Park at 29th Ave & 157th Street; and on **Sunday, June 18, 2023**, from 10 AM 12 PM at the Kissena Park Velodrome Parking Lot at Booth Memorial Ave & Parsons Blvd.

There is a weight limit of 50 pounds. No metal, plastic, or clips. Please stop by to make use of this service and keep you and your loved ones safe from fraud and identity theft.

For additional information, please call our office at (718) 765-6675, or email: [events@johnliusenate.com](mailto:events@johnliusenate.com).

## CITY PARKING RULES

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



Solemnity of the Ascension.....Thurs, May, 18th  
Shavuot.....Fri., May 26th – Sat., May 27th  
Memorial Day.....Mon., May 29th

**Parking meters are still in effect.**

## 3rd Annual Great Books Giveaway

**\*June 10, 2023**

Rain Date: **June 17, 2023**

**11 a.m. to 4 p.m.**

Hilltop Village Cooperative #One, Inc.  
Courtyard, behind The Alpine Building  
204-15 Foothill Avenue,  
Hollis, New York 11423



# May 2023

## Community Board 8, Queens

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9  Lag B'Omer	10 Board Meeting Public Hearing 7:30 p.m. Hillcrest Jewish Center 183-02 Union Turnpike	11	12	13
14 HAPPY Mother's DAY 	15	16	17	18  ASCENSION DAY	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26  Happy Shavuot	27  Happy Shavuot
28	29  Never Forget Their Service	30				

*“It’s not easy being a mother. If it were, fathers would do it.”* – Golden Girls