



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/queenscb8

OFFICERS

CHAIRPERSON: Martha Taylor
1st VICE CHAIR: Michael Hannibal
2nd VICE CHAIR: Seymour Schwartz
3rd VICE CHAIR: Mary Maggio
EXEC. SECRETARY: Carolyn Brown
TREASURER: Harbachan Singh
BUDGET DIRECTOR: Marc A. Haken

CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Honorable Barry Grodenchik - 23rd District
Honorable James Gennaro - 24th District

BOROUGH PRESIDENT

Honorable Donovan Richards

STAFF

DISTRICT MANAGER: Marie Adam-Ovide
Jatnna Reyes, Community Associate
Izabela Szczepanska, Community Assistant

Help Wanted— Community Service Aide (Part Time)
<https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/queenscb8/downloads/pdf/2021/CB8Q-Job-Posting-Community-Service-Aide-2021.pdf>

BOARD MEMBERS BY AREA

Area 1 – Kew Gardens Hills

Mitch Lisker – CHAIR, Heather Bennett-Idels, Susan D. Cleary, Florence Fisher, Joshua Glikman, Jennifer Martin, Rabbi Shlomo Nisanov, Simon Pelman, Deepti Sharma and Jacob Weinberg

Area 2 – Briarwood

Seymour Schwartz - CHAIR, Carolyn Brown, Solomon Davydov, Allen Eisenstein, John Gebhard, Elke Maerz, Wendy Phaff, Mohammad Rahman, Charlton Rhee, Douglas Sherman

Area 3 - Hillcrest Estates & Jamaica Hills

Kevin Forrestal - CHAIR, Dilafroz Ahmed, Ahsan Habib, Bhitihara-Martha Fulton, Paul Lazauskas, Hersh Parekh and Frances Peterson

Area 4 – Flushing Heights, Flushing Suburban, Hillcrest

Jagir Singh Bains—CHAIR, Kenneth Cohen II, Steven Konigsberg, Dilip Nath and Dr. Penny M. Stern

Area 5 – Georgetown Mews, Pomonok, Electchester, Flushing

Mary Maggio – CHAIR, Carolann Foley, Tamika Williams-Moore

Area 6 – Utopia, Fresh Meadows, West Cunningham Park

Maria DeInnocentiis – CHAIR, James Gallagher, Jr., Tami Hirsch, Alan Ong and Tamara Osherov

Area 7 – Jamaica Estates & Holliswood

Howard Fried – CHAIR, Dr. Robert Block, Edward Chung, Marc A. Haken, Michael Hannibal, David Mordukaev, Jesse Rosenbaum, Harbachan Singh, Martha Taylor and Mohammed Tohin

Happy Holidays! Happy Hanukah! Merry Christmas! Happy Kwanzaa!

Next CB8 Meeting will be on Wednesday, December 15, 2021 at 7:30 p.m.

Hillcrest Jewish Center's Auditorium
183-02 Union Turnpike in Fresh Meadows

Our meeting will be HYBRID again. It will be held in-person at the Hillcrest Jewish Center this month and virtually via WebEx. It will also be livestreamed via YouTube so we can reach more people.

Out of an abundance of caution, ONLY those who are vaccinated may attend our in-person meeting and they MUST show proof of vaccination to enter the building. We will also do a temperature check. If you forgot your vaccination card, you will be given instructions on how to retrieve your Excelsior Pass on your mobile telephones. Otherwise, you will receive a flyer with information on how to participate remotely via WebEx or how to view it on YouTube. Our doors will be open at 6:45 p.m. to allow enough time for us to screen everyone. If you plan to attend in person, please come in early.

If you have any flu like symptoms, please be mindful of your neighbors and DO NOT attend the in-person meeting. Information on how to view it on YouTube and how to participate by WebEx will be available on our website or contact the office.

Minutes of Board Meetings are available on our website: www.nyc.gov/queenscb8 usually within two weeks.



A Word from the District Manager...

Dear Community Board 8 Resident:

This holiday season, I want to remind every one to take precautions as they do their holiday shopping. Please stay alert at all times and heed the advice of our local precinct. When you park your car consider the following:

- Please park your vehicle in well lighted areas.
- **Do not** keep your driver's license, registration, or car title in the car. Thieves can use these documents to sell your car if stolen, or to impersonate you when they are stopped by the police. Owners who indiscriminately leave keys, registrations and other identifiable materials in their vehicles may return to their residence only to find that they have been a victim of burglary.
- Close all windows and lock all the doors.
- Activate any anti-theft device you may have to protect your vehicle.
- Don't leave your pocketbook or wallet laying around, and keep it latched.
- Remove all packages and valuables such as Laptops, GPS Navigations, iPads, CDs, CD Players. Most importantly, **do not** leave them in the trunk.

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

FREE E-WASTE RECYCLING
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2021 (10 AM TO 2 PM) RAIN OR SHINE

**Cunningham Park
Parking Lot
Union Turnpike and 196th Place**

ACCEPTABLE MATERIALS INCLUDE:

working & non-working computers, monitors, printers, scanners, keyboards, mice, cables, TVs, VCRs, DVD players, phones, audio/visual equipment, cell phones, and PDAs

Presented by the **Lower East Side Ecology Center,**
Senator Leroy Comrie, Senator John C. Liu,
Assembly Member Nily Rozic, Assembly Member David I. Weprin,
and **Council Member Barry S. Grodenchik.**

For more information: lesecologycenter.org or 212.477.4022



November's Virtual Community Board Meeting Re-cap

The Minutes of the October 13, 2021 Board Meeting were unanimously approved by 42 members.

Chairperson's Report:

Welcome back! Community Board 8 will be having hybrid monthly meetings. This will enable more community residents to participate. We are also making technological upgrades to our office so our committee meeting can be hybrid as well.

We had hired a part-timer earlier this year. He was a college student who had to resign due to conflicts with his schedule. We are hiring a replacement. The job is posted in the Queens Chronicle, on our CB8 website and we have copies on the table for those interested.

Congratulations to Community Board Member Carolyn Brown who is now the President of the Queens Hospital Community Advisory Board (CAB). Congratulations to Mary Maggio who received the honor of "Woman of Distinction" from State Senator Toby Stavisky. Congratulations to Board Member Steven Konigsberg whose son is getting married and could not attend tonight's meeting.

Elected Officials' Announcements:

Honorable Councilman James Gennaro – In honor of Veterans Day, Councilmember Gennaro presented Seymour Schwartz with a City Council Citation for being our favorite veteran. He spoke about Mr. Schwartz's service to the country. He commended him for using his own funds to support fellow veterans.

Honorable Assembly Member David Weprin – Assembly Member Weprin spoke in favor of the Bukharian Jewish Congregation of Hillcrest. He asked the Community Board to support this application, as it is necessary to help meet the programmatic needs of the Congregation. *(A copy of his letter to the Community Board was distributed to everyone.)*

Commanding Officer Kevin Chan – 107th Precinct: Commanding Officer Chan thanked all the veterans for everything they do. Crime was down by 60%. In the last month they have seen a spike in grand larcenies and check scams. They are washing checks, changing the amount, and depositing into their accounts. He recommended that everyone get alerts from their banks to avoid these scams. Catalytic converters being stolen from vehicles. If you hear loud music in the night, they may be possibly trying to remove the convertor. He asked everyone to call 911 right away. With the holiday season approaching he is asking everyone to hide any purchases or bring them directly home to avoid theft. He wished everyone a happy and healthy Thanksgiving.

Guest Speaker:

Maroua Righi- Outreach Coordinator, NYC Civilian Complaint Review Board – Ms. Righi spoke about the NYC Civilian Complaint Review Board (CCRB). These are some of the main highlights of the presentation:

- The CCRB is a city government agency that is independent from the NYPD. The CCRB investigates, mediates, and prosecutes complaints of misconduct against members of the NYPD.
- The CCRB is staffed entirely with civilian employees who are primarily investigators and attorneys. They are governed by a fifteen-member board. These members are selected by the Mayor, City Council, Police Commissioner, and the Public Advocates office.
- The NYPD has strict rules by which officers carry out the duties of their job. These rules are outlined in the NYPD's Patrol Guide.

(Continued on Page 4)

November's Virtual Community Board Meeting Re-cap

(Continued from Page 3)

- They investigate four types of police misconduct – force, abuse of authority, discourtesy, and offensive language.
- The Right to Know Act law passed in 2018. When officers are stopping people, they should identify themselves and explain the purpose of the interaction. They all carry business cards that are available to the public. We all have the right to language access services.

You can report police misconduct by going online to nyc.gov/ccrbcomplaint, calling telephone number: 1-800-341-2272, or filing a complaint in person, at any police precinct, or with your local council member.

Committee Reports:

Health Committee – Health Minute with **Dr. Penny M. Stern**, Health Committee Chair Dr. Stern spoke about food and the health effects it can have on a person. Some food may help keep a person energized, this can be helpful as autumn turns into winter. She recommended snacking on hazel nuts, almonds, or berries. This can help keep the blood sugar levels where they should be.

An easy way to lower stress levels involves deep breathing. A cup of cantaloupe can also be helpful because it contains both vitamin A and vitamin C which work together to lower the stress hormone output.

Kelp or seaweed can give a person a healthy dose of iodine. This can help keep your thyroid functioning and increase energy. Pomegranates are effective for COVID and the flu. There are chemicals in pomegranates called polyphenols which have been shown to kill flu strains. She recommends everyone to think of these healthy snack choices instead of salty and sugary snacks.

Zoning Committee:

BSA Cal. No. 2019-277-BZ – 81-04 166th Street – BBL 4-7026-21 – Variance to permit the construction of a house of worship contrary to 24-11 (*FAR*), 24-521 (*height*) and 24-36 (*side yard*) within and R2A zoning district. [*Public Hearing was held last year on 10-10-2020. Applicant was granted a postponement.*]

Count in favor 9 Opposed: 29 Abstained: 0

BSA Cal. No. 171.97-BZ – 65-01 Kissena Blvd. – BBL 4-6742-10 – Extension of terms of a variance which permitted a trade school (Use Group 9) and accessory use granted pursuant to 1-01.3(b)(3) since the prior term expired on October 30, 2018.

Count in favor 36 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0

BSA Cal. No. 2021-59-BZ – 161-09 Union Turnpike – BBL 4-6831-118 – Special permit pursuant to ZR 73-243 to a Use Group 6 eating and drinking establishment with accessory drive-through service in a C1-2/R2-3 zoning district.

Count in favor 10 Opposed: 25 Abstained: 0



Christmas Tree Safety



As you deck the halls this holiday season, be fire smart. A small fire that spreads to a Christmas tree can grow large very quickly.



PICKING THE TREE

- Choose a tree with fresh, green needles that do not fall off when touched.



PLACING THE TREE

- Before placing the tree in the stand, cut 2" from the base of the trunk.
- Make sure the tree is at least three feet away from any heat source, like fireplaces, radiators, candles, heat vents or lights.
- Make sure the tree is not blocking an exit.
- Add water to the tree stand. Be sure to add water daily.



LIGHTING THE TREE

- Use lights that are listed by a qualified testing laboratory. Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use.
- Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Read manufacturer's instructions for number of light strands to connect.
- Never use lit candles to decorate the tree.
- Always turn off Christmas tree lights before leaving home or going to bed.



After Christmas

Get rid of the tree after Christmas or when it is dry. Dried-out trees are a fire danger and should not be left in the home or garage, or placed outside against the home.

Check with your local community to find a recycling program.

Bring outdoor electrical lights inside after the holidays to prevent hazards and make them last longer.

FACTS

- ! **Almost one third** of home Christmas tree fires are caused by electrical problems.
- ! Although Christmas tree fires are not common, when they do occur, they are more likely to be serious.
- ! A heat source too close to the tree causes more than **one in every five** of the fires.



Your Source for SAFETY Information

NFPA Public Education Division • 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169



Did you know?

Hurricane Ida Assistance

Were you affected by the remnants of Hurricane Ida? A Small Business Administration low interest loan may help!

The deadline to apply has been extended to **Monday, December 6, 2021.**



Queens General Assembly 2022

Borough President Donovan Richards Jr.'s Queens General Assembly is a borough-level intergroup dialogue project. It brings together community stakeholders of diverse backgrounds for meetings and activities that promote leadership enhancement, coalition building, and social networking.

Recruitment for the 2022 session officially began on **Monday, November 29, 2021** and continues through **Monday, January 3, 2022**. Twenty finalists will be appointed as Delegates and serve from January through December of 2022.

Eligible candidates are Queens residents who care about their communities and are interested in bridging divides. Anyone over the age of 18 is welcome to apply. Please complete this Google application:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSegXFm7mWbZ8COnQXewSAa88YTJV9te3KDpztDsjrEQgARXNw/viewform?usp=sf_link

Finalists will be contacted in mid-January. For more information, please email **Susie Tanenbaum**, the Borough President's Queens General Assembly Coordinator, at stanenbaum@queensbp.org.





LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATION (S)

- ◆ **Lucky 21 Convenience, Inc.**
192-21 Union Turnpike, Flushing
Renewal - Beer & Cider Application
- ◆ **Dream NYC Restaurant & Lounge, Inc.**
77-02 164th Street, Fresh Meadows
New - Full Liquor License Application

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.

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*.....Wed., Dec. 8th
Christmas Eve.....Fri., Dec. 24th
Christmas.....Sat., Dec. 25th
New Year's Eve.....Fri., Dec. 31st

***Parking meters are still in effect
except on Major Holidays.**

DEMOLITION NOTICE



186-06 Union Turnpike – Demolition
75-10 137th Street – Demolition
75-10 137th Street – Demolition (Garage)

COMPOST YOUR FALL LEAVES!

Instead of letting your leaves rot in landfills and create harmful greenhouse gases, help DSNY make compost!

- Place leaves in paper lawn & leaf bags or open, unlined containers for collection on **Saturday, December 11, 2021** after 4 p.m.. No plastic bags. Find leaf bags at nyc.gov/leafcollection.
- No branches & yard clippings from hired professionals.
- Brown paper leaf bags will be available at the Community Board 8 office from Friday, December 3rd to Friday, December 10th, during regular office hours.





December 2021

Community Board 8, Queens



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5 	6	7	8 	9	10	11
12	13	14	15 CB8 Meeting <i>Hybrid</i> Hillcrest J.C. 183-02 Union Tpke. 7:30 p.m.	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24 Christmas Eve We are closed!	25 
26 	27	28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve We are closed!	

*** Please note - Jewish Holidays begin at sundown the night before.

“Do not let your assumptions about a culture block your ability to perceive the individual, or you will fail.” — Brandon Sanderson