



December 2015

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

CHAIRMAN: Alvin Warshaviak
DISTRICT MANAGER: Marie Adam-Ovide
1st VICE CHAIR: Stanley Weinblatt
2nd VICE CHAIR: Martha Taylor
3rd VICE CHAIR: Seymour Schwartz
EXEC. SECRETARY: Carolyn Baker-Brown
TREASURER: Harbachan Singh
BUDGET DIRECTOR: Vacant

CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Honorable Barry Grodenchik - 23rd District
Honorable Rory Laneman - 24th District

BOROUGH PRESIDENT

Honorable Melinda Katz

STAFF

Alma Karassavidis,
Joseph Marziliano
Jatnna Pimentel-Agramonte

BOARD MEMBERS BY AREA

Area 1 – Kew Gardens Hills

Dr. Allen J. Bennett – CHAIR, Susan D. Cleary, Florence Fisher, Joshua Glikman, Bright Limm, Mitch Lisker, Jennifer Martin, Rabbi Shlomo Nisanov, Simon Pelman, Michael Sidell and Jacob Weinberg

Area 2 – Briarwood

Seymour Schwartz - CHAIR, Carolyn Baker-Brown, Allen Eisenstein, Elke Maerz, Charlton Rhee, Douglas Sherman and Albert Willingham

Area 3 - Hillcrest Estates & Jamaica Hill

Kevin Forrestal - CHAIR, Dilafroz Ahmed, Fakrul Islam Delwar, Paul Lazauskas, Frances Peterson and Samuel Rodriguez

Area 4 – Flushing Heights, Flushing Suburban, Hillcrest

Jagir Singh Bains—CHAIR, Kenneth Cohen II, Steven Konigsberg and Alvin Warshaviak

Area 5 – Georgetown Mews, Pomonok, Electchester, Flushing

Mary Maggio Fischer – CHAIR, Monica Corbett, Carolann Foley, Sylvia Hernandez, Frank Magri, Steven Sadofsky and Stanley Weinblatt

Area 6 – Utopia, Fresh Meadows, West Cunningham Park

Maria DeInnocentiis – CHAIR, James Gallagher, Jr., Robert Harris, Tami Hirsch and Tamara Osherov

Area 7 – Jamaica Estates & Holliswood

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

Community Board 8, Queens
Hillcrest Jewish Center
183-02 Union Turnpike (Auditorium)
Fresh Meadows, NY 11366

- The October 14, 2015 Community Board 8 Minutes were unanimously approved by 34 members.
- **Councilman-elect Barry Grodenchik** stopped by and greeted his new constituency. He announced that he will be serving on the Parks Committee and the Transportation Committee at the City Council. He also announced that former District Director Ari Gershman [*under Former Councilman Mark Weprin*] will be his new Chief-of Staff.
- The Community Board has been liaising between many parties and Dunn Development regarding development of the T-Building. Mark J. Lefkof moved that Community Board 8 reach out to the Board's Elected Officials to facilitate this development in moving forward, seconded by Marc A. Haken.

Count in favor: 32 **Opposed:** 1 **Abstained:** 1

- A memorial was held for Shirley Weinstein. She was an active Civic Member within Community District 8 for over 40 years. She also served as the Secretary of Community Board 8 under Chairman Al Daly. Community Board Members James Gallagher, Jr. and Maria DeInnocentiis spoke in her honor. Mrs. Janet Diamond also spoke in her honor. Ivan Massop spoke on behalf of former Board Member Marilyn Massop praising Ms. Weinstein. The Board observed a moment of silence in her honor.

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Next Community Board 8 Meeting will be on WEDNESDAY, December 9, 2015 at 7:30 p.m.

*** Minutes of Board Meetings are available on our website: www.nyc.gov/queenscb8

A Word from the District Manager ...

Dear Community Board 8 Resident,

How healthy are your fellow community members? What factors affect your health and theirs? How does Community District 8, Queens (CD8Q) fare in comparison to other districts in the City? The New York City Department of Health published a Community Health Profile for each community district in 2015. At CB8, we do not believe in failures; therefore, let's highlight our successes and address areas for improvement.

What are we doing well?

- The assault rate in our district is lower than the citywide average. The rate of preterm birth is lower than the city as a whole and the teen birth rate is less than one-third of the citywide rate. The incarceration rate is lower than the Queens and the citywide rates.*
- Our district has a 16% obesity rate, which is better than the citywide rate and Queens' rate. Stuyvesant Town and Turtle Bay neighborhoods have the lowest rate of 8%.*
- Substance abuse rates are lower than the citywide rate and Queens rate; however, our substance abuse rate is double that of the best neighborhoods of Bayside/Little Neck (in CD11Q).*
- A lower percentage of homes has maintenance defects compared to other homes in Queens and citywide.*
- Tobacco retailers are less prevalent in our district than in Queens or citywide.*
- Our air quality is better than the air quality of other areas in Queens and citywide.*

Where should we improve?

- While more than half of our adults have a college degree; one in seven adults has not completed high school.*
- One in six CD8 residents live below the poverty level. More than half of our residents [53%] spend more than 30% of their gross income on rent as compared to 51% Citywide and 53% in Queens. It is only 37% in Greenwich Village/Soho (in CD2 NY), which is the best performing district.*
- Teenaged girls from our district are less likely to receive the full human papillomavirus (HPV) series than girls citywide and our adults are less likely to get tested for HIV than adults citywide.*
- We have less supermarket access than the average for Queens or Citywide. We only have 137 square feet per 100 people vs. the best neighborhood of South Beach and Willowbrook (in CD2 SI) which has 450 square feet per 100 people].*

The Queens Community District 8 profile can be found in its entirety at:

<http://www.nyc.gov/html/doh/downloads/pdf/data/2015chp-qn08.pdf>

The average life expectancy for our community district residents is 83.3 years old. Let's strive for a 100+ years and make each one of them healthy ones.

Sincerely,

Marie Adam-Ovide

P.S. If you would like an email version, please contact us at 718-264-7895 and provide your email address.

This information is also available on our website: www.nyc.gov/queenscb8. Remember to "Like" us on



It takes more than City Hall to make New York City great, it takes us all!



Currently, the QM5, which operates seven days a week and has its eastern terminus in Glen Oaks, provides service to 64th Avenue and 188th Street when the QM1, which has its terminus in Fresh Meadows and operates on weekdays only, is not in service.

Beginning in January 2016, all midday weekday service to 188th Street and 64th Avenue in Fresh Meadows will be provided by the QM5, while all midday, weekday QM1 bus service will be discontinued. QM1 bus service will remain unchanged during weekday peak hours, (*approximately 6:00 a.m.- 9:30 a.m. Manhattan-bound and 4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m., Queens-bound*). Customers in Fresh Meadows who had formerly used the QM1 bus will now be able to use midday weekday bus service **more frequently** on QM5 to travel to and from Manhattan.



Public Meeting

Downtown Jamaica Transportation Study

Wednesday, December 2, 2015

6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

The Harvest Room

90-40 160th Street
in Jamaica, Queens

The study area boundaries are Union Turnpike (north), Linden Boulevard (south), 183rd Street (east), Liberty Avenue (south), and the Van Wyck Expressway (west). This area will be subjected to a detailed and focused traffic analysis.

The goal of the study is to improve traffic circulation and enhance safety for all road users while addressing community concerns. Issues such as land use, traffic congestion, pedestrian and bicyclist safety, truck activity, and crashes will be studied in detail.



CityBench



A bench has been approved under the NYCDOT CityBench Program to be installed I/F/O 70-35 150th Street in Kew Gardens Hills.

The Community Board has been asked to comment on this proposed installation. If anyone in the immediate area would like to comment, please contact us by email at qn08@cb.nyc.gov or call us at **718-264-7895** by December 15th.

If there are no issues, it should be installed in January 2016.

(Continued from Page 1)

- **ULURP Application No. N 160051 ZRY/ CEQR No. 16DCP028Y– Citywide Mandatory Inclusionary Housing**
Zoning Chair Steven Konigsberg presented this application brought to Community Board 8 by the Department of City Planning. The City is trying to solve the problem of housing a growing population in such a large city. This proposal is an attempt to require any new residential building of 10 units or more to give something back by way of a percentage of affordable housing to take advantage of certain benefits.

Count in favor: 1 Opposed: 32 Abstained: 0

- **ULURP Application No. N 160049 ZRY/ CEQR No. 15DCP071Y– Zoning for Quality and Affordability Text Amendment**– Zoning Chair Steven Konigsberg presented this application brought to Community Board 8 by the Department of City Planning. This proposal also attempts to solve the problem of housing a growing population in such a large city. The application aims to reduce building loss, create more affordable housing, create more beautiful city landscapes and make the city a better place. Parking requirements in some areas would be reduced, certain buildings would be allowed to be taller and the buildings' set-backs would be changed.

Count in favor: 0 Opposed: 33 Abstained: 0

Council Member Rory I. Lancman

&



Assemblyman
Michael Simanowitz



Smoke/Carbon Monoxide Alarm Giveaway



#GETALARMEDNYC

FRIDAY, December 4, 2015

10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Kew Gardens Hills Library
(Temporary Storefront Location)

71-34 Main Street

Kew Gardens Hills, New York 11367

Assemblyman David I. Weprin



**HOLIDAY
TOY DRIVE**

To benefit Charitable Organizations,
including the Boys and Girls Club of
Metro Queens

Make a Child Smile this Holiday Season

Please bring a new or gently used unwrapped toy,
book or game suitable for children 12 and under to
Assemblyman Weprin's Office:

Fresh Meadows

185-06 Union Turnpike

Fresh Meadows, NY

11366

(718) 454-3027

Richmond Hill

111-12 Atlantic Ave, Ste. 5

Richmond Hill, NY

11419

(718) 805-2381

All donations must be received by

December 18, 2015

Smoke Alarms Save Lives!

Did you know that if a fire starts in your home, you may have just *two minutes* to escape?



**American
Red Cross**

American Red Cross will be in Jackson Heights offering **free** smoke alarm installations
on

Saturday, December 5, 2015

from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

To schedule an appointment, please complete the form at:

www.redcross.org/hfpcappointment or call 1-877-733-2762

A Safety Message from FDNY...



More than 33 percent of candle fires occur when candles are left unattended.

Half of the people killed by candle fires in the home are younger than 20 years of age, with most of the victims between the ages of five and nine.

Burns are the leading cause of death in the home for children and young adults. Holiday time means candles, matches and fire. When burning candles, make your home safer by:

- Using sturdy candleholders, with flame-protective non-combustible (glass or metal) shades or globes.
- Placing candles at least four feet away from curtains, draperies, blinds, kitchen cabinets and bedding.
- Placing candles out of reach of small children and pets.
- Extinguishing candles when they burn within two inches of the holder.
- Never leaving burning candles unattended.
- Securing hair and clothing, such as sleeves or aprons, from the flame when handling candles.
- Keeping candles, matches and lighters, including lit memorial containers and Chanukah menorahs, out of reach of children.

CHRISTMAS TREE SAFETY TIPS

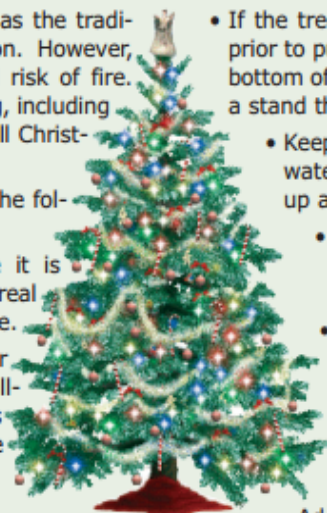
Christmas trees are enjoyed in many homes as the traditional centerpiece of the holiday celebration. However, both real and artificial trees pose an increased risk of fire. Christmas tree fires do happen. Defective lighting, including electrical cords and plugs, cause almost half of all Christmas tree fires.

Protect your family and your neighbors with the following fire prevention tips:

- When choosing an artificial tree, be sure it is labeled as fire-retardant. When choosing a real tree, select the freshest-looking tree available.
- Select a tree that is an appropriate size for the room. Keep in mind that trees look smaller when they are outside and tree toppers and stands will add to the final height of the tree.

REAL Trees

- Test for freshness by gently grasping a branch between your thumb and forefinger and pulling it toward you. Very few needles should come off.
- Shake or bounce the tree on its stump. If an excessive number of green needles fall to the ground, the tree may not be fresh.
- Buy your tree early. Most tree lots receive only one shipment of trees. Trees don't become fresher sitting in a lot.
- If you don't plan on putting the tree up right away, make a one half inch fresh cut off the bottom of the trunk and place the tree in a five-gallon bucket of warm water. Store the tree in cool temperatures, but above freezing.



- If the tree has been stored for more than three days, prior to putting it up, make another one inch cut off the bottom of the trunk and immediately place the tree into a stand that holds at least a half-gallon of water.

- Keep the water level above the cut and check the water level daily. (Initially, a fresh tree may soak up a gallon of water per day.)
- No water additives, such as aspirin, sugar or commercial fire retardant, are necessary. Plain tap water is best!
- Place the tree away (at least three feet) from heating system air registers, fireplaces and other heat sources.
- Try to position the tree near an electrical outlet to minimize use of extension cords.
- Adequately support the tree with a sturdy stand designed not to tip over.

- Do not use electric lights on metallic trees. (Use remote spot or reflective lights.)
- Do not use lighted candles or other flaming devices on or near your tree.
- Whenever possible, use decorations made with flame-resistant, flame-retardant or non-combustible materials.
- Unplug the tree lights when out of the room and before going to sleep.

Even if you keep your tree properly watered, it will naturally start to dry out. Discard the tree immediately after the holiday.



*As New York City Residents we must obey a gamut of regulations. We realize that most residents want to do the right thing and obey the rules. However, they often break them, as they are **unaware** of their existence. So...*



Did you know???

Protect Your Water Meter and Pipes from Freezing

Most water meters and pipes are in basements, crawl spaces, and other unheated areas, where cold winter temperatures could cause them to freeze.

Homeowners are responsible for protecting meters and pipes from freezing. If the meter freezes and breaks because you failed to take reasonable steps to protect it, DEP will repair or replace the meter and bill you for the cost. If the service line or piping freezes and breaks, it is the homeowner's responsibility to have repairs made by a licensed plumber.

Here are some tips and suggestions to prevent freezing

- Repair broken and cracked windows, doors, and walls.
- Install storm windows on basement windows.
- Tightly close doors and windows to the outside.
- Insulate outside walls.
- Eliminate drafts from crawl spaces.
- When you are checking to see how cold the area is where your meter and pipes are installed, remember that it is colder near the floors and foundation walls.
- Turn off the water to outside faucets, remove hoses, and drain the pipes.
- Ask your local plumbing supplier about materials to insulate pipes and meters. If your meter is installed in an unheated garage, take extra care to ensure the meter is insulated.
- If pipes or the meter are in a closed cabinet against an outside wall, insulate the wall and open the cabinet to allow warmer air to reach them.
- If you are not going to be home for several days during cold weather, arrange to have someone visit periodically and turn on a faucet to ensure that the water is still flowing.

If your service line, pipes, or meters freeze:

- Open a faucet near the frozen point to release vapor from melting ice;
- Direct a hair dryer or heat lamp at the frozen section, or put a small space heater nearby; and
- NEVER thaw a frozen pipe or meter with an open flame. This is not only a fire hazard, but could also cause a steam explosion. If you are unable to thaw the frozen pipes, consult a licensed plumber.

LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATIONS



♦ **Lucky 21 Convenience, Inc.**

192-21 Union Turnpike in Fresh Meadows, ***Renewal application for Beer License.***

♦ **Hado Asia Bistro Inc. d/b/a Hado Sushi [formerly Hado Japanese Sushi Inc.]**

138-38/40 86th Avenue in Briarwood / ***Transfer - application for Wine, Beer and 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.

CITY PARKING RULES

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



- ♦ **December 8th - Immaculate Conception**
- ♦ **December 25th - Christmas Day**

Remember, parking meters are still in effect.

DEMOLITION/VACATE NOTICE



- ♦ **71-66 Parsons Boulevard - Demolition (full)**

Immediate Emergency Declaration

75-02 177th Street/ BBL 4-7187-7 - Garage

One story garage, approximately 10 ft. by 20 ft., wood-framed with brick façade, located in the rear yard of the lot. Most portion of the Exposure#4 loadbearing wall has collapsed/displaced. Roof is temporarily shored along Exposure #4. The shoring is undocumented and structurally inadequate. Structural integrity of garage is compromised. Garage is unstable, at risk of collapse. Garage is a danger to the public.

Remedy - Demolish garage.

Street Activity/Block Party Permit Request



Holiday Toys for Tots Event

Sunday, December 20, 2015 (4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.)

80th Drive (between Chevy Chase Street and Haddon Street)

The above was approved by CB8 and awaits the approval of the Street Activity Permit Office (SAPO).



Alley Pond Environmental Center

228-06 Northern Boulevard - Douglaston, NY 11362
www.alleypond.com Tel.: 718-229-4000

The Alley Pond Environmental Center has many programs for children that are 2 to 12 years old:

Saturday, December 5, 2015

- Nature Tales - Keep Looking
- Science Fair 101 - Rainbow Magic
- When Winter Comes Toddler Tales
- Tween and Teen Yoga

Sunday, December 6, 2015

- Tasty Treats for Animals

Wednesday, December 9, 2015

- Wonderful Winter Cupcakes - Decorating Workshop

Saturday, December 12, 2015

- Nutty Squirrels for 4 & 5 year-olds
- Animal Care Trainee

Sunday, December 13, 2015

- Furry Friends APEC Adventure Time

Thursday, December 3 and 17, 2015

- Toddler Yoga

Call 718-229-4000 for more information



December 2015

Community Board 8, Queens

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
<p>Happy Hanukkah</p>	7	<i>Immaculate Conception</i>	Board Meeting 7:30 p.m. Hillcrest Jewish Center 183-02 Union Turnpike	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	<i>We're closed</i> 25 <i>Merry Christmas!</i>	<i>Happy Kwanzaa!</i> 26
27	28	29	30	31		