

ACROSS THE BOARD

JUNE 2016

VOLUME 38, NO. 6

A Message from the District Manager

We would like to welcome the following new Community Board members:

- Ms. Mary Aikens-Reed
- Ms. Dian Duke
- Ms. Andrea Ferris
- Mr. Elijah Gray
- Ms. Crystal Hudson
- Mr. Edison Stewart

May your time on the Board be fruitful and well spent.

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## ***GREAT NEWS!***

The SUNY ATTAIN Lab has opened at 1604 St. John's Place (between Ralph and Buffalo Avenues)! The State University of New York ATTAIN (Advanced Technology Training And Information Networking) is a statewide project offering an assortment of academic, occupational, and employability courses through state of the art technology labs. These courses are geared to introduce, as well as supplement, student participants with educational and vocational skills through advanced technology training for a high-demanding technological world.

Lab Technology Coordinators are Kiara Peeples and Arvin Stewart, who can be reached via email at the following addresses:

[Kiara.peeples@sjp.attain.suny.edu](mailto:Kiara.peeples@sjp.attain.suny.edu) and  
[Arvin.stewart@sjp.attain.suny.edu](mailto:Arvin.stewart@sjp.attain.suny.edu). Contact  
the ATTAIN Lab at 718-771-7720, ext. 321  
or visit them online at [www.attain.suny.edu](http://www.attain.suny.edu).

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SIDEWALK CLEANING ENFORCEMENT

You can get information on sidewalk cleaning enforcement times. Policies differ for commercial and residential properties.

Residential property owners must clean the sidewalks adjoining their property and 18 inches from the curb into the street. Sanitation agents can only issue violations for dirty sidewalks in front of residential property from 8 AM to 9 AM and from 6 PM to 7 PM, 7 days a week. Enforcement times may differ for properties used for both commercial and residential purposes.

Commercial property owners must clean the sidewalks adjoining their property and 18 inches from the curb into the street. Enforcement times are limited to two 1-hour periods per day and vary according to which sanitation section the address is located in.

Business owners can also request a commercial enforcement routing sticker, which lists the times during which the Department of Sanitation can issue tickets for dirty sidewalks and gutters.

For more information, visit
www.nyc.gov/sanitation.

THREE SUMMERY WAYS TO IMPROVE YOUR HEALTH

For the health conscious, there is no such thing as a summer vacation from making good nutritional choices and getting plenty of exercise. But there is no reason to let a healthy lifestyle become boring. Here are three ways to let the summer season guide your routine:

- ***Mix up movement.*** After months of indoor exercise, you may be ready for a change of scenery. Summer is the ideal time to take a break from the treadmill and incorporate different types of movement and exercise into your lifestyle. So ditch the gym this weekend and head for greener pastures. From row boating to hiking, you will find yourself activating different muscles than you normally would by mixing things up.
- ***Eat in-season produce.*** Take advantage of the summer harvest and plan meals around in-season produce. The USDA lists apples, beets, bell peppers, kiwi, carrots, garlic, peaches, okra, and cherries amongst many more fruits and vegetables that reach their peak in the summer months. These items are full of vitamins and nutrients and taste their best in summer.
- ***Summer sun.*** Beyond the Vitamin D factor, a study published in the Journal of Investigative Dermatology shows that sunlight may lower blood pressure, which could reduce one's risk for heart attack and stroke. Some researchers now say the benefits of sunlight could outweigh cancer risks associated with exposure. Do not forget to take the usual precautions, however. Wear sunglasses, sunscreen, and wide brimmed hats to protect against harmful UV radiation.

CITYWIDE DAY OF ACTION

The NYC Dept. of Social Services along with HomeBase Homeless Prevention Network

invites you to participate in the Citywide Day of Action of June 21, 2016. Imagine being forced out of your home and seeing your children go through it. Help people in that very situation avoid homelessness by participating.

To do your part, you can hand out flyers. With high rents and a lack of affordable housing, families are finding it harder and harder to make ends meet and stay in their homes. You can talk to your neighbors. Homebase gives low-income New Yorkers on the brink of homelessness access to an extensive network of neighborhood based services. Finally, you can help keep them in the community. To volunteer, or for posters and flyers, email Kercena Dozier, Director of Community Relations, at kdozier@dhs.nyc.gov.

For more information, visit www.nyc.gov/homebase.

KNOW THE FACTS ABOUT MENTAL ILLNESS

1 in 5 New Yorkers experience a mental health condition in a given year. Two-thirds of people with a diagnosable mental illness never seek professional help. Many do not know where to go, don't realize their condition is treatable or fear discrimination. WorkWell NYC wants to make sure you know the facts, and provide resources to those living with and supporting individuals with mental illness.

Here is what you can do to end the stigma and advocate for those living with mental illness:

SEEK HELP IF YOU NEED IT. If you are seeking help for yourself, a child, or a close friend, there are several resources available.

EDUCATE YOURSELF. It's important to know the common warning signs of mental health concerns. The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene is offering free Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) training that teaches the skills needed to identify, understand, and respond to signs of mental health and substance use challenges or crises. Visit <http://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/health/health-topics/mental-health-first-aid.page> to learn more or sign up for a training.

GET INVOLVED. Together, we can take a stand and end the stigma around mental illness. Be a part of the movement to create a city where those with mental health concerns can ask for help and receive the services they need to live healthy, active lives.

Help and information is available. **The Employee Assistance Program** is available to employees and their family members seeking support for stress, anxiety, depression, alcohol and drug abuse, family difficulties, and mental health conditions at no cost. The services are free and confidential.

1-800 LifeNet is a free confidential hotline available to all New Yorkers seeking support for depression, anxiety, drug or alcohol use.

Starting July 1st, all employees with city health insurance will be able to receive depression and alcohol misuse screenings with no co-pay when seeing in-network providers. More information is available here: <http://www1.nyc.gov/site/olr/health/active/health-active-responsibilities.page>.

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**HELP USA**

HELP USA Supportive Services for Veteran Families Program (SSVF) offers targeted services to low-income veterans who are homeless or at imminent risk of becoming homeless, with locations throughout New York City.

Since its founding, HELP USA has combined innovation with management excellence, becoming a national leader in both homeless prevention and a developer of permanent supportive housing for special needs population such as homeless families, veterans, and survivors of domestic violence.

SSVF provides assistance to unemployed or underemployed veterans to access job training and educational opportunities. The program not only addresses immediate housing needs, but also the underlying issues that present risks to housing stability and independence.

HELP USA works directly with the Dept. of Veteran Affairs, the NYC Dept. of Homeless Services, and other community partners to create, implement, and monitor initiatives that support low-income veterans.

When you visit the HELP USA Supportive Services for Veteran Families program, you will get:

- Professional Case Management
- Free Legal Services
- Advocacy for Public and VA Benefits
- Temporary Financial Assistance
- Employment and Job Search
- Housing Placement
- Aftercare

In addition, program participants will have access to a host of community resources and benefit from targeted referrals.

Don't wait! If you are in need of services or know someone who might benefit from the SSVF program, do not hesitate to reach out by calling 1-855-HLP-SSVF. You can reach out to NYC locations directly by emailing [ssvfny@helpusa.org](mailto:ssvfny@helpusa.org).

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**TAKE CARE NEW YORK 2020
PLANNING PARTNERS RFP**

The Fund for Public Health in New York (FPHNY) on behalf of the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH) is seeking proposals from organizations interested in becoming TCNY Planning Partners. Each TCNY Planning Partner will receive up to \$50,000 to lead a community health planning process from July to December 2016 in a neighborhood or district where residents are at high risk of poor health outcomes. Specifically, funded partners will work with local stakeholders to identify strategies to improve community health and develop a plan of action for advancing 1-2 strategies.

At least one TCNY Planning Partner will be selected in every borough; no two organizations will be funded to work in the same neighborhood. Up to ten organizations will be selected. Organizations serving the following communities are strongly encouraged to apply: Jamaica (Queens), Far Rockaway (Queens), Williamsbridge (Bronx), Sunset Park (Brooklyn), Coney Island (Brooklyn), Washington Heights/Inwood (Manhattan), Stapleton (Staten Island).

The 5-month scope of work for the TCNY Planning Partners will include the following:

- Convene community members and stakeholders to review local health data and select a key objective for the focus of the action plan
- Research local assets and opportunities to promote health, and identify resources that could be utilized to support a local action plan
- Develop and document a plan of action for advancing 1-2 interventions with community consensus

Interested applicants will find the RFP and application by visiting:
<http://fphny.org/whatsnew/rfps>.

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**WEST INDIAN AMERICAN DAY  
CARNIVAL ASSOCIATION VENDOR  
REGISTRATION**

This year, WIADCA will be celebrating its 49<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Carnival in Brooklyn with events beginning Thursday, September 1, 2016 to Monday September 5, 2016. Interested vendors have the opportunity to set up along the parade route on Eastern Parkway on Monday, September 5<sup>th</sup>.

Early registration runs through Thursday, June 30<sup>th</sup>. There is a discount on booth fees during this time. Regular registration runs from Friday, July 1<sup>st</sup> through Wednesday August 31<sup>st</sup>. An additional late fee of \$50 will be applied for any registration submitted after August 31<sup>st</sup>. Individuals purchasing more than one space will be offered an additional discount.

Registration can be done in person at WIADCA's office at 325 Rogers Avenue (between Montgomery and Sullivan) or online at [www.wiadcacarnival.org](http://www.wiadcacarnival.org).

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**INTERSECTION | PROSPECT
HEIGHTS**

Intersection | Prospect Heights returns this month with a panel discussion and series of tours to launch "Our Places," a new booklet presenting stories and concerns of current and former neighbors, tracking development and demographic change, and looking at how it plays out on our streets. What is the future of Prospect Heights and our city?

Participate in, **'It was not about money' : An Intersection | Prospect Heights**

discussion on June 15, 2016 from 7-8:30 PM at Information Commons Lab, Brooklyn Public Library, Grand Army Plaza.

“It was not about money” will talk with organizers, politicians and planners about the experience of change in Prospect Heights, and what it implies for neighborhoods across the city facing large-scale development. How do we preserve community?

Speakers include Letitia James, NYC Public Advocate, Thomas Angotti (Hunter College, CUNY), Deb Howard (IMPACCT Brooklyn), Regina Cahill (North Flatbush BID) and Catherine M. Green (ARTs East New York). The discussion will be moderated by Gabrielle Bendiner-Viani (Buscada) and Gib Veconi (PHNDNC).

Participate in Creative walking tours on Saturdays, June 11 & June 18, 2016. Meet at Met Food, 632 Vanderbilt Ave., between Park Place & Prospect Place. Join Prospect Heighters for creative walking tours telling the new and old Intersection stories in sites around the neighborhood. How these are similar or different to your own stories?

Book your (free) tickets for the June 11th tour here:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/intersection-prospect-heights-guided-tour-june-11-tickets-25437001757>. Book your free tickets to the June 18th tour here:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/intersection-prospect-heights-guided-tour-june-18-tickets-25437614590>.

Find out more at www.inter-section.org.

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### ***CENTRAL BROOKLYN ARTS AND CULTURE WEEKEND***

Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams and One Brooklyn Fund Inc. are pleased to present the Central Brooklyn Arts & Culture Weekend.

**On Saturday, June 25, 2016 at 6:30 PM**, come out for **Movie Night Under the Stars** at the Brooklyn Museum Parking Lot (bring blankets and chairs).

**On Sunday, June 26, 2016 from 11 AM to 6 PM**, participate in the **Celebrate Brooklyn Arts and Culture Walk** along Eastern Parkway between Flatbush and Washington Avenues. The Walk begins at Children’s Village on Washington Avenue.

For more information, call 718-802-3900.

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ONE CROWN HEIGHTS

Come meet your neighbors at various neighborhood festivals on **Sunday, August 21, 2016!** Fun for all ages with games, music, festival rides, arts and crafts, live entertainment, kosher and non-kosher food.

Commemoration Ceremony: Noon-1 PM
Jewish Children’s Museum, 792 Eastern Parkway

Free Museum Admission: 10 AM-5 PM
Brooklyn Children’s Museum, 145 Brooklyn Avenue

Neighborhood Festival at Brower Park: 1 PM- 5 PM
Park Place between Brooklyn and Kingston Avenues

For more information, contact Margaret Walton at mwalton@brooklynkids.org.

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### ***FREE HOME MAINTENANCE WORKSHOPS***

The Local Development Corporation of Crown Heights, Inc. is pleased to present two **free home maintenance workshops** on **Tuesday June 14<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> from 6 to 8 PM**. Topics include do it yourself repairs, energy

efficiency tips, home inspections and much more.

The home maintenance workshops will be held at Crown Heights Apartments, Community Room, 1055 St. John's Place, Brooklyn. For more information and to confirm your attendance, please call 718-467-8800 or email [LDCCH752@aol.com](mailto:LDCCH752@aol.com).

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***A NOTE FROM MS. ETHEL TYUS,
ESQ., VICE-CHAIR OF CB 8'S
HOUSING COMMITTEE***

Neighbors, this is a wake-up call to beg you all not to sell your beautiful Brooklyn brownstones. If you need money, do a residential ground lease instead. You will get cash flow that you can structure to continue well beyond the time in which your profit from a sale will have been expended. You will still own the property; and you and your family will benefit from the inevitable increase in value over the years to come.

The value of your brownstone has increased substantially over the years and now you wish to access your equity - harvest the cash value of that increase through a sale. Once you do that, the access to future increases in value is foreclosed forever. If you put the property into a trust and give a potential buyer a residential ground lease instead, then you will retain ownership for yourself and your heirs. Think of it as giving a potential buyer a time-share in your property. You can structure the lease to reset to market value periodically, just like the maintenance on a time-share increases over time. Either you or the tenant will have to pay for an appraisal every five, 10, or 15 years, whatever reset period you can agree on.

Ground leases are written to place the requirements for all property maintenance, as well as all tax payments on the tenant. In fact, if the property is not landmarked, you can allow the tenant to replace the building with

new one. At the end of the lease, possession of the premises reverts to you or your trust as the landlord - deed holder. We should recognize that for most residents of this Community District, home ownership is, by far, the major component of their family wealth. Given the increasing population numbers for Central Brooklyn, with its proximity to Manhattan - the shorter commute and the more peaceful surroundings compared to Manhattan, the run-up in value of our beautiful Brooklyn brownstones is likely to continue well into the future. Ten years from now your house may be worth twice as much as it is today.

Selling now would be like cutting off your nose to spite your face. Give a residential ground lease to a potential buyer instead. While this may be a foreign concept to some, the potential buyer will quickly figure out that they have to put out less money up front. You can structure the lease to provide a large upfront lease payment that will facilitate your purchase of a new home or alternate residence in bucolic location related to your family's origins (which is the usual intent of retirees fleeing the City). You will need legal assistance to put this plan in place. Please check with the Brooklyn Bar Association referral service at [\(718\) 624-0843](tel:7186240843).

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***2016 DONNA HOKE SCHOLARSHIP***

The New York Black Librarians' Caucus (NYBLC) has opened applications for the 2016 Donna Hoke Scholarship. The scholarship recognizes students of African American or African descent, currently enrolled or accepted to an ALA-accredited MLS program; and who have shown both an acquired proficiency in, and a strong commitment to the field of librarianship. A maximum of two (2) \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded during the fall semester. In addition to the Donna Hoke Scholarship,

applicants may be eligible to receive one of the various book awards offered by NYBLC.

**The deadline for submitting an application for the 2016 NYBLC Donna Hoke Scholarship is June 30, 2016.**

**Who is eligible:** Applicants must hold a Bachelor’s degree and have completed at least six credits in an ALA-accredited MLS program. Applicants must be residents of New York State. Officers of the New York Black Librarians’ Caucus are not eligible. Former applicants must submit an updated application.

To apply for the NYBLC Donna Hoke Scholarship and to learn more about the application process, visit <http://www.thenybhc.org/Scholarship.html>. For more information, please contact Tracy Crawford or Simone L. Yearwood via email at [tcrawford@queenslibrary.org](mailto:tcrawford@queenslibrary.org) or [Simone.Yearwood@qc.cuny.edu](mailto:Simone.Yearwood@qc.cuny.edu).

***EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES***

Child Protective Specialist

The city is offering exams through the end of June for the position of Child Protective Specialist. The application fee is \$68. You can apply and schedule yourself for the exam at <http://goo.gl/Ga4BoC>.

Correction Officer

The city is offering exams through the end of June for the position of Correction Officer. You can schedule to take the exam this month at [www.nyc.gov/examforjobs](http://www.nyc.gov/examforjobs). The application fee is \$54. 60 college credits, military, or police experience is required for the position.

School Safety Agent

The city is offering exams through June 30, 2016 for the post of School Safety Agent. The application fee is \$47. A high school diploma and Driver’s License are required for the

position. To apply and schedule yourself for an exam, go to [www.nyc.gov/examsforjobs](http://www.nyc.gov/examsforjobs). The exam number is 6326 through June 30<sup>th</sup>.

Environmental Police Officer

The city is offering exams through June 30, 2016 for the post of Environmental Police Officer. The application fee is \$40. A high school diploma and Driver’s License are required for the position. To apply and schedule yourself for an exam, go to [www.nyc.gov/examsforjobs](http://www.nyc.gov/examsforjobs). The exam number is 6316.

**The following is a summary of the year-to-date CompStat Crime report covering the week of 05/30/16 through 06/05/16.**

|                         | Year-to-Date |      |       |
|-------------------------|--------------|------|-------|
|                         | 2016         | 2015 | %Chg  |
| <b>Murder</b>           | 4            | 2    | 100   |
| <b>Rape</b>             | 10           | 10   | 0     |
| <b>Robbery</b>          | 96           | 122  | -21.3 |
| <b>Felony Assault</b>   | 158          | 143  | 10.5  |
| <b>Burglary</b>         | 83           | 99   | -16.2 |
| <b>Grand Larceny</b>    | 187          | 182  | 2.7   |
| <b>Gr. Larceny Auto</b> | 38           | 39   | -2.6  |

The overall change year-to-date is -3.5%.

We urge everyone to adhere to the **Dept. of Sanitation’s enforcement routing times of 8 AM to 9 AM and 6 PM to 7 PM daily**. The front of your property should be swept and free of debris 18 inches into the street. All sweepings must be bagged and disposed of properly. This will help increase our scorecard rating, which for the month of May was **93.3 for streets and 94.4 for sidewalks**.

We would like wish the happiest of birthdays to Mr. James Ellis and Ms. Diana Foster.



We send our heartfelt condolences to the family of Meredith Staton, after the passing of his daughter, Lorraine.

We send our heartfelt condolences to the family of CB 8 member, Kim Albert.

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Congratulations to Julia Neale, Community Coordinator, on the completion of her second Master's Degree in Sociology from Brooklyn College.

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The next **77<sup>th</sup> Precinct Community Council** meeting will be held on **Monday, June 13, 2016** at St. Matthews Community Center located at 1345 Lincoln Place, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Brooklyn.

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The next **Crown Heights North Association** meeting will be held on **Wednesday, June 15, 2016 at 6:45 PM** at St. Gregory's Roman Catholic Church located at 224 Brooklyn Avenue, corner of St. John's Place.

The next **78th Precinct Community Council** meeting will be held on **Tuesday, June 28, 2016** at 7:30 PM at the 78th Precinct located at 65 6th Avenue, Brooklyn.

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The next **Crown Heights North Association** meeting will be held on **Wednesday, June 15, 2016 at 6:45 PM** at St. Gregory's Roman Catholic Church located at 224 Brooklyn Avenue, corner of St. John's Place.


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ACROSS THE BOARD is a monthly publication:

Nizjoni Granville, Chairperson
Michelle George, Dist. Manager/Editor
Melanie Grant, Community Assistant
Julia Neale, Community Coordinator

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**[www.nextdoor.com](http://www.nextdoor.com)**