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Lunar New Year



Photo by Robert Pearl

Story on page 10



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Canarsie Courier

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Black History Month

By Jibreel Jalloh

Every February, Black History Month invites us to pause, reflect and celebrate the rich contributions of Black people in the United States. This month is a living reminder of resilience, brilliance and the ongoing pursuit of justice.

Black History Month began in 1926 as *Negro History Week*, founded by historian and scholar Dr. Carter G. Woodson and the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History. Woodson recognized a painful truth: Black Americans were largely excluded from history books and public narratives, despite their foundational role in building the Nation. He chose February to honor the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass, two figures closely tied to the fight against slavery. Over time, the week grew into a month-long observance, officially recognized by the federal government in 1976.

At its core, Black History Month represents visibility. It challenges the idea that Black history is a footnote rather than a central chapter of American history. From the labor of enslaved Africans to the cultural innovations that

shaped music, art, science and politics, Black Americans have helped define what this country is — and what it can become.

The month also serves as a moment of truth-telling. It acknowledges the pain of slavery, segregation and systemic inequality, while refusing to let those struggles be the sole narrative. Black history is not only about oppression; it is about resistance, creativity and joy. It is the story of people who imagined freedom even when it was denied and who organized, educated and uplifted generations against all odds.

Most importantly, Black History Month is forward-looking. It reminds us that history is still being made every day — in classrooms, boardrooms, neighborhoods and movements for change. It encourages young people to see themselves as inheritors of a powerful legacy and as authors of the next chapter.

Celebrating Black History Month is not about separating history by race; it is about completing the story. When we honor Black history, we deepen our understanding of American history itself. And when we commit to learn-



ing, celebrating and uplifting these stories year-round, we move closer to a future rooted in truth, dignity and shared humanity.

Black history is American history — and it deserves to be known, celebrated and carried forward.

Jibreel Jalloh is an award-winning organizer and the Founder and Executive Director of The Flossy Organization, a nonprofit dedicated to closing the advocacy gap through education and activism. Over the past few years, he has helped lead efforts to end gun violence, expand public transit and secure investments in local green spaces. Jibreel is a 2024–2025 Obama Foundation Scholar at Columbia University. Learn more at theflossy.org and follow @theflossyorg.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

COMMUNITY
EVENTS
CALENDAR –
VOL. 106, NO. 6

THU. FEBRUARY 5TH

Valentines for Seniors
Mill Basin Library
2385 Ralph Avenue
1 to 7 p.m.

THU. FEBRUARY 5TH

District 22 Parent Workshop:
Imagine Learning's Illustrative
Math Overview
Virtual Event
6:30 to 8 p.m.
Join at
<https://zoom.us/j/92866987489>

SAT. FEBRUARY 7TH

Black History Month: Shirley
Chisholm Hike
Shirley Chisholm State Park
950 Fountain Avenue
10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

SAT. FEBRUARY 7TH

Marine Park Alliance: Black
History Month: Textile Arts
Workshop
Carmine Carro Community
Center
3000 Fillmore Avenue
11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Register at
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/black-history-month-textile-arts-workshop-tickets-1978432661348?aff=oddtcreator>

SAT. FEBRUARY 7TH

Art in the Park: Valentine's
Day Card Workshop
Shirley Chisholm State Park –
Hendrix Creek Patio
1750 Granville Payne Avenue
1 to 3 p.m.

SAT. FEBRUARY 7TH

69th Precinct Community
Council: Older Adults Pre-
Valentines Dinner
Holy Family Auditorium
9719 Flatlands Avenue
4 to 9 p.m.



MON. FEBRUARY 9TH

District 22 Parent Workshop:
Respect for All: Parents as
Partners – Addressing
Bullying
Virtual Event 6:30 to 8 p.m.
Join at
<https://zoom.us/j/94138994650>

WED. FEBRUARY 11TH

Canarsie Library: Teen DIY:
Valentines Day Cards
Golden Age of Brooklyn
9305 Avenue L
3 to 4 p.m.

NEW YORK ROAD
RUNNERS: OPEN RUNS

Saturdays at 9 a.m.:
Canarsie Park - Field House,
Seaview Avenue & East 88th
Street
Sundays at 9 a.m.: Marine
Park - Behind Carmine Carro
Community Center, 3000
Fillmore Avenue

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Canarsie Para Arrested for Allegedly Shoving Student

By Linda Steinmuller

A paraprofessional from P.S. 276 The Louis Marshall School was arrested on Monday, February 2nd, while school was in session.

Police said Moaz Mahmoud, 26, was charged with assault and acting in a manner injurious to a child.

Mahmoud allegedly struck and shoved a 10-year-old student around 11 a.m. inside the elementary school, which is located at 1070 East 83rd Street.

Police took Mahmoud into custody around 12:10 p.m. where he was charged within the confines of the 69th Precinct.

Photo by Baqir Ahmad



East New York

By Lloyd Mitchell

FDNY firefighters quickly extinguished a fire that started inside a Department of Sanitation (DSNY) truck located at the DSNY Depot at Cozine and Georgia Avenues on Monday, February 2nd.

Members of the DSNY were working overtime when they smelled smoke in the one-story commercial building at 922 Georgia Avenue. They quickly called 911, and Engine Company 225 and 290 arrived to find heavy smoke coming from the burning truck.

They used two hose lines to knock down the main body of fire, and there were no reported injuries.

FDNY Fire Marshals will determine the cause of the blaze.

Sanitation Truck on Fire



Sheepshead Bay

Fatal Fire Claims an Innocent Life

By Baqir Ahmad and Linda Steinmuller

A fire in a Sheepshead Bay apartment building was contained by firefighters on Thursday, January 29th, but one of the occupants didn't survive.

The fire broke out on the second floor of 2709 Ocean Avenue, off of Avenue W, around 2 a.m.

Firefighters from Engine Company 291 and Tower Ladder 127 found an unresponsive and unconscious male in the apartment; he was pronounced dead by EMS at the scene.

There was clutter in the apartment, but it has not been determined if that was the cause of the blaze, which was placed under control within two hours.

A partial vacate order was placed outside the building. The Red Cross has provided temporary housing for some tenants, while others have relocated to friends and family.

The FDNY's Fire Marshal's Office is investigating the cause of the fire.

Photo by Baqir Ahmad



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Midget Squadron's Commodore Takes the Reins for Another Year

By Linda Steinmuller

The Midget Squadron Yacht Club is celebrating its 126th year — so what's the secret to their success? It could be the dedicated members and their anchor, Commodore Howie Rubinfeld, who has tirelessly led the club — through smooth and rocky waters — since 2017. The Annual Installation of Officers took place on Saturday, January 17th, at the iconic Canarsie boat club, complete with fun, frolicking, food and festivities.

That's how Club Chaplain Bernie Jacobs described the event. Kicking off the festivities with a prayer for guidance, wisdom and foresight for the club's leaders and members, he expressed his gratitude for the club and how it continues to grow and succeed every year.

State Senator Roxanne Persaud performed the honors, swearing in all the officers, asking them to uphold and

comply with all rules and regulations of the Midget Squadron. But, before that, Rubinfeld took it a step further, inviting all past officers up to the lectern because, as he told guests, "You can't fill until you have a good foundation, and this is part of it."

Next, Persaud swore in Rubinfeld, lauding his "commitment, time, effort and energy, which has shown outstanding growth and success."

The ceremony was followed by a scrumptious dinner and dessert, and an excellent band provided a variety of music while members danced the night away.

After nine years at the helm, Rubinfeld described his voyage as a "labor of love."

The Midget Squadron Yacht Club is located at the foot of Seaview Avenue and Paerdegat Avenue North.



The Annual Installation of Officers at the Midget Squadron Yacht Club.

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Fresh Creek Residents Disappointed with Snow Removal Efforts

By Angela G. Nannetti

Members of the Fresh Creek Civic Association (FCCA) didn't have to brave the cold weather on Saturday afternoon, January 31st, since their scheduled, in-person meeting was held remotely via Zoom instead. Scores of local residents logged in, where they received important community updates from FCCA President Maria Garrett and members of the board.

The group learned that there has been no further word on the rumors of a men's shelter on East 108th Street since their November 14th rally (see "Community Rallies Against Rumored Men's Shelter on East 108th Street," *Canarsie Courier*, November 27, 2025). They were advised not to panic over the Department of Environmental Protection's recent letter regarding changes to downspout connections but to be wary of unscrupulous and opportunistic contractors who might approach residents in the months to come (see "DEP's New Mandatory Downspout Disconnection Met with Major Backlash," *Canarsie Courier*, January 29, 2026).

Members were encouraged to attend The New York State Association of Black, Puerto Rican, Hispanic and Asian Legislators 55th Annual Leg-

islative Conference, which is being held in Albany, from February 13th to 15th (<https://nysabprlinc.org/>) and the NYPD's Citizens Police Academy, a six-week training program that replicates their recruit training regimen, to obtain a deeper understanding of what is going on within the borough, city and state (<https://www.nyc.gov/site/nypd/bureaus/administrative/training-citizens-police-academy.page>).

There was also a robust discussion on the way snow removal was mishandled in some parts of Canarsie after Winter Storm Fern hit on Sunday, January 25th. Members discussed the way Canarsie, and Rockaway Parkway, between Seaview Avenue and Avenue M, in particular, had not been adequately cleared of snow. Some said they had been put in precarious driving situations, due to mountains of snow blocking the roadways, which required them to drive into oncoming traffic in the opposite lane in order to get by. Others expressed their frustration with the way street corners had not been cleared of snow this time around and how difficult it has been for pedestrians to cross the streets safely.

The next meeting of the FCCA will be announced at a later date.

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Flatlands

Customers Accuse Local Supply Store of Fraud

By Amanda Salazar

When Nora Kernisant's 81-year-old father's Kenmore refrigerator began having trouble in December 2024, he found a local business that sold replacement filters for the old appliance.

He bought the product, which typically retails for around \$50, at Pemco Supply Company, located at 1991 Utica Avenue. Assuming Pemco was charging the standard rate for the item, he didn't think to check the price.

Soon, the bank billed Kernisant's father for \$290 for the product. Disputing the charge didn't work, as the bank faulted the customer for not checking the receipt. The family ac-

cepted that answer — until a bill for \$3,500 showed up in January 2025.

What started as a routine purchase — albeit an upcharged one — has become a long, stressful ordeal where both customer and owner accused the other of fraud, and other scorned customers are coming forward to share their stories.

"This situation has been a burden on us and a nightmare and it's still going on," Kernisant said.

About the Business

Pemco Supply sells a wide range of appliance parts across many well-known brands.

It's owned by Howard Kindler.

An internet search reveals a slew of unhappy reviews and ratings, from a 1.2-star rating on Yelp to a 2.9-star rating on Experience.com to a 3-star rating on Google, all out of five stars.

Customers report extreme price gouging and the refusal to accept returns or exchanges, even just moments after the payment was made. Reviewers say the owner is rude and disrespectful and won't even disclose prices through a phone call. Agreements to have products delivered go unhonored.

Pemco is *not* accredited by the Better Business Bureau and has a D- rating as of January 2026. It also advertises itself as an affiliate of Sears, which it is not.

The store did not respond to the *Canarsie Courier's* requests for comment by email and phone. However, Kindler told *News 12 Brooklyn*, which broke this story: "We don't play games here; our customers, not so much."

How it Started

In January 2025, when the bill for \$3,500 came to Kernisant's father, they called his bank to figure out what the charge was. When the bank said it was from Pemco, they canceled the credit card and disputed the charge.

In February 2025, Kernisant went to the store to inquire about the bill. She spoke to Kindler, who was at the counter, but at the time she wasn't aware he was the owner. Kindler said he didn't know what the bill was for and he would send the matter to the accounting department to get more information.

As days passed without hearing back, she called Pemco to see if there was any more information, which there wasn't. It was at this point Kernisant finally checked out the online reviews for the store.

"This situation has been so stressful, to the point where I started to get anxiety and palpitations," she said. "I wish I just looked at the reviews from the first part."

Kernisant realized her father had been scammed. She took the issue to the police, who paid the store a visit. Kindler told the officers he was still waiting to hear back from accounting to explain the charge.

By the end of March 2025, Kernisant still hadn't heard back, and she filed a police report and a complaint with the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. The bureau was able to ascertain more information and found that Kindler had created a contract between Pemco and her father and then forged the customer's signature. Kindler said the customer was the one trying to scam him out of a rightful payment.

He said Kernisant's father ordered a Samsung fridge in December 2024 that he picked up in a truck. The family still uses the Kenmore fridge, her father does not drive and Pemco doesn't sell whole appliances, only appliance parts.

Kernisant brought a legal case on his behalf against Pemco. Kindler didn't show up to the

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August 19, 2025, court date, so the judge ruled in her favor. Now, it's a matter of getting the money back.

Other Victims Come Forward

As the situation unfolded for Kernisant, she learned she's not the only customer to take Kindler — who also goes by the aliases Howie Kindle and Jack Sands — to court. Twenty-five people have sued the owner, and not once has he shown up to a court date, according to the victims.

It was October 2024 when Alfred Thomas purchased a converter from Pemco for \$224. The store told Thomas to come back the next day to pick up the item — then said they lost the product and the payment.

Thomas has been to court four times over the situation, with a fifth date set for February 2026.

"This guy's a trickster; he's a thief," he said. "I'm just fed up of this."

Heather Alexander went to Pemco at the end of December 2024 to buy a part for a stove. The part, usually just \$150, cost \$500 at Pemco, which at first her husband agreed to, before changing his mind immediately after Alexander's card was swiped.

When she informed Kindler they'd changed their mind and she'd like to void the transaction, he said he'd send it to the accounting department. Weeks passed without answers. Alexander couldn't dispute the charge because Pemco created a contract and forged her signature.

Alexander took Kindler to court in November 2025, but he didn't accept the notice. A new court date was set for February 2026.

"It's wrong," she said. "I feel like I need to do this for my community. It's not even about the money at this point; I just need this guy to stop doing this to people."

Photo: Google Maps



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Marine Park

Welcoming the Year of the Horse With Colorful Lunar New Year Dance Celebration



Group photo with dancers, Scott Middleton, Marine Park Alliance and volunteers.

By Robert Pearl

The cold temperatures outside did little to chill the warmth inside the Carmine Carro Community Center, at 3000 Fillmore Avenue, where the Lunar New Year was celebrated on Saturday, January 24th, with a vibrant showcase of culture, movement and community presented by the Marine Park Alliance (MPA), Assemblywoman Jaime Williams and the acclaimed Nai-Ni Chen Dance Company.

Families packed the room for an interactive performance that brought ancient traditions to life through dazzling costumes, rhythmic storytelling and hands-on audience participation. The dance company captivated attendees with performances rooted in centuries-old Chinese folk traditions, while seamlessly blending modern movement and contemporary flair. The onlookers were also treated to a live musical performance on a traditional Asian bowed string instrument, characteristic of a Morin Khuur—style instrument also known as the Mongolian horsehead fiddle.

“We are proud to support MPA in presenting cultural events such as the Lunar New Year to our community,” Williams said, praising the partnership and the importance of exposing residents — especially young people — to global traditions. “These programs help carry traditions forward and allow children to experience cultures beyond their own.”

Throughout the afternoon, dancers paused between pieces to explain the meaning and history behind each performance, offering insights into symbolism, balance, strength and grace. Children were invited onto the floor to learn basic Chinese dance gestures — including the elegant “orchid hands” and powerful “tiger hands” — drawing smiles, applause and laughter from the audience.

Artistic Director Greta Campo and dancers including Sarah Botero, Lorenzo Guerrini, Madeleine Lee and Michael Zhu guided attendees through movements while emphasizing discipline, patience and years of practice. One dancer explained that concentration and balance are essential, noting that “strength is built through years of repetition.”

MPA Executive Director Scott Middleton thanked the community for turning out despite the frigid winter weather. “Thank you so much to everyone for coming and for supporting free programs like this,” Middleton said, adding that community support allows MPA to continue offering cultural programming year-round. He also reminded attendees of upcoming events, including a Black History Month program on Saturday, February 7th, at 11 a.m.

In the back of the room, tables were stocked with traditional Chinese confections and festive goody bags filled with candy, drinks, activities and Lunar New Year-themed coloring pages celebrating the Year of the Horse.

The Nai-Ni Chen Dance Company, known for bridging Asian elegance with American modern dance, continues to empower communities through performances that reflect resilience, heritage and the immigrant journey. Their presentation in Marine Park embodied that mission, transforming the Carro Center into a space of connection, learning and joy.

As families lingered after the final bow, and children posed with the dancers and lion, Marine Park’s Lunar New Year celebration was more than a performance — it was a shared cultural experience, ushering in the Year of the Horse with energy, harmony and community spirit.

You can learn more about the Nai-Ni Chen Dance Company, its dancers, programs and upcoming performances at www.nainichen.org

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Sheepshead Bay

Community Supports Marine Park Alliance at IHOP Fundraiser

By Amanda Salazar

Community members and park enthusiasts showed up to support the Marine Park Alliance (MPA) at its IHOP fundraiser, at 2951 Avenue U, on Tuesday, January 27th, fighting both the cold and difficult driving conditions from the snow leftover from the weekend's storm.

Between the hours of 3 and 10 p.m., 20% of the profits from customers who came for the event went to the nonprofit, which cares for Marine Park and holds public cultural events.

"We're incredibly grateful to [manager] Danielle and the whole IHOP team for flipping the griddle in support of Marine Park tonight," MPA Executive Director Scott Middleton said. "On a cold, icy night like this, IHOP really stacks up as a warm, welcoming place for Marine Park neighbors to gather, connect and support a great cause."

While the bitter cold and slush-covered streets did keep away some customers, a group of dedicated neighbors showed up. One Flatlands resident who didn't want to be named said that she and her husband dug out their car specifically to make it to the fundraiser.

Those who attended didn't just get a warm meal but were also given Wonder gift cards, donated by the food app to MPA, and were educated about the organization's upcoming events.

"Everybody uses the park; the Alliance supports the park, keeps the park in good shape," said lifelong Marine Park resident Daniel Lichtman, whose father is an original MPA board member.

The Avenue U IHOP is no stranger to hosting fundraisers, often benefitting Brooklyn schools and other nonprofits. It's the only franchise in the area to do so.

"I know the importance of the struggle for nonprofits to get any type of support, but this is a way that we can give back to the community," manager Danielle Altamirano said.

Photos courtesy of Marine Park Alliance



Marine Park Alliance members pose with IHOP staff.



MPA Volunteer Coordinator Carrie Knorr (right) sits with a Teen Leader.

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Assembly District 58 Highlights Community Power, Global Impact and Mental Health Leadership



By Bristol Hendrix

From neighborhood task forces to international relief efforts, Assembly District 58 is demonstrating what sustained community engagement looks like in action.

Under the leadership of Assemblywoman Monique Chandler-Waterman, AD 58 has mobilized more than 100 volunteers, advocates and community members across seven in-district task forces, while also responding to crises beyond New York City's borders. Her monthly Vital Voice event took place on Saturday, January 24th, at P.S. 189, located at 1100 East New York Avenue.

"This is not an 'I' thing — it's a 'we' ting," a phrase prominently displayed at a recent gathering, reflects the spirit driving the district's work.

AD 58's community engagement is anchored by seven active task forces: Public Safety, Mental Health, Education, Small Business and Non-Profits, Quality of Life and Civic Engagement, Faith Leaders and Youth Ambassadors. Together, these groups bring residents, clergy, educators, advocates and business owners into the policy-making process, ensuring that community voices are not only heard but acted upon.

In 2025 alone, the assemblywoman's office, in partnership with the AD 58 Task Force, held over 100 events, addressing issues ranging from public safety and education to wellness and economic development.

Chandler-Waterman also serves as co-chair of the New York State Caribbean-American Delegation and has played a central role in nine Jamaica relief efforts following Hurricane Melissa.

Working alongside the Consulate General of Jamaica in New York, the Jamaica American Law Enforcement Organization (JAMLEO), labor unions including PEF and UUP, clergy, elected officials and community stakeholders, AD 58 helped coordinate large-scale relief operations. More than 60 boxes of supplies were collected and packed by 100 volunteers, supporting families and children in affected areas.

A delegation led by NYS Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie traveled to Jamaica with over 50 elected officials and community leaders to distribute relief items, assist with cleanup efforts and support the local YMCA. These collective efforts raised over \$150,000, funding repairs to the Jamaica YMCA roof, replacing computers, distributing more than 100 generators and providing other essential resources.

Mental health remains a cornerstone of AD 58's legislative and advocacy agenda. The assemblywoman played a key role in the passage of Daniel's Law, an \$8 million pilot program focused on non-police mental health crisis responses, community input and peer-centered care.

Additional reforms include changing state language from EDP to PEC to promote person-centered treatment, strengthening discharge planning to ensure follow-up care within a week and implementing quarterly incident review panels for serious mental health cases occurring in the community.

On the advocacy side, AD 58 hosted the 4th Annual NYS Daniel's Day Mental Health Resource Block Party, bringing together communities across NYC, Rochester and Buffalo. The initiative honors the life of Saheed Vassell and emphasizes access to care during mental health crises.

Through a partnership with LinkNYC and artist Busta Rhymes, the district successfully promoted the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline, placing messaging on all 2,000 LinkNYC kiosks citywide.

Taken together, the work of Assembly District 58 reflects a model of leadership rooted in collaboration, cultural competence and accountability. Whether addressing local quality of life issues, reshaping mental health policy or delivering international disaster relief, the message remains consistent: real change happens when communities lead — and government listens.

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Sheepshead Bay Business Community Unites to Build Stronger Local Economy

By Robert Pearl

A packed room of local merchants and community leaders gathered on Thursday, January 29th, at the Sheepshead Bay Library, 2636 East 14th Street, for a Business Growth Meeting hosted by Assemblyman Michael Novakhov (AD 45) in partnership with the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce and the Sheepshead Bay Library.

The event focused on launching the Sheepshead Bay Merchants Association and introducing small business owners to free resources available through city and state programs. Topics included how a \$100,000 allocation from the Small Business Administration will be used for neighborhood business development, access to low-interest loans, free marketing and promotion opportunities, attracting new customers, and obtaining city and state contracts.

Business owners also learned how a local merchant association can strengthen advocacy, collaboration and economic growth within Sheepshead Bay. Representatives from the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce, led by President Randy Peers, pledged to help coordinate the formation of the new neighborhood business group.

The meeting drew a diverse group of small business owners, nonprofit leaders and professionals, including long-time neighborhood proprietor Coffee Spot Cafe owner Igor Bartashoff and cosmetologist Viktoria Gavrilov.

Library Director Svetlana Negrimovskaya welcomed attendees and emphasized the library's role as a hub for community and economic development.

Novakhov called the turnout a strong sign of momentum, saying the event marked "just the beginning" of ongoing efforts to support local merchants, strengthen the local economy and keep Sheepshead Bay vibrant and thriving.

The free event ran from 6 to 7:30 p.m. and was open to current and aspiring business owners. Similar events are expected in the near future.



Attendees and local merchants with Assemblyman Michael Novakhov at Business Growth Meeting on Thursday, January 29th.



Assemblyman Michael Novakhov welcomes local merchants.



Assemblyman Michael Novakhov, Sheepshead Bay Library Director Svetlana Negrimovskaya and Ari Kagan

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BESS Under Scrutiny — Calls Grow to Advance State Safety Legislation

By Robert Pearl

Community leaders, elected officials and environmental justice advocates convened on Saturday, January 31st, for a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) Virtual Town Hall focused on growing concerns over the siting of these controversial storage systems in densely populated New York City neighborhoods, as pressure intensifies in Albany to advance legislation regulating where these facilities may be built.

The forum, hosted by the Southeast Queens Residents Environmental Justice Coalition, in partnership with the Addisleigh Park Civic Organization and former Assemblyman William Scarborough, brought together state lawmakers, legal experts and grassroots activists to address the rapid proliferation of lithium-ion battery storage sites near homes, schools, hospitals and commercial corridors. The event drew participants from across the outer boroughs, where multiple BESS projects are already under construction or approved.

At the center of the discussion were Assembly Bill A.6955 and its Senate companion, S.7197, sponsored by Assemblywoman Jaime Williams and co-sponsored in the Senate by State Senator Leroy Comrie. The bills would mandate minimum setback distances between large BESS facilities and residences, require public hearings before approvals are granted and give municipalities clearer authority over siting decisions.

Williams, a leading voice who has been at the forefront of the battle and on the ground at these facilities, described the issue as both personal and urgent, pointing to two BESS facilities under construction along Flatbush Avenue in Marine Park. One site, she said, sits “a stone’s throw away” from private homes,

while highlighting a baby’s bedroom window directly overlooking the battery installation. “We are not opposed to clean energy,” Williams said, “but we are opposed to putting dangerous, unregulated infrastructure in people’s backyards without notice, hearings or safeguards.”

A major point of alarm raised during the town hall was testimony from the FDNY regarding its official response to lithium-ion battery fires. Organizers replayed footage from a City Council hearing in which an FDNY chief confirmed that the department’s policy for BESS fires is to allow them to burn themselves out due to the risk of explosion and toxic gas release. “We don’t put them out,” the chief stated. “That’s the technology that’s there.”

Legal expert Michael Mezzacappa, an attorney specializing in catastrophic fire and explosion cases, warned that BESS fires burn hotter and longer than conventional fires and cannot be extinguished with water or foam. He cited recent BESS fires in California and Upstate New York, including multiple incidents in Warwick, where evacuations were required and fires burned for days.

Comrie emphasized that the Senate bill currently sits in the Energy and Telecommunications Committee and faces stiff opposition from industry lobbyists. “The next step is getting this bill out of committee and onto the floor,” he said, calling for coordinated public pressure.

Community voices were also central to the discussion. Michael Scotland, a civic leader and organizer of a Change.org petition supporting the legislation, stressed that BESS facilities do not directly power nearby homes during outages, undermining claims that residential siting is necessary. Chris Alexander, executive director of the New York State NAACP

and a nearby resident, framed the issue as one of environmental justice and democratic process, criticizing the lack of mandatory community engagement.

As Albany lawmakers weigh the bills, organizers urged residents across Brooklyn, Queens, Staten Island and the Bronx to contact their assembly members and state senators — particularly those serving on energy committees — and demand that the legislation be advanced for a full floor vote. Please reference the bills according to whether you are contacting members of the Senate or Assembly.

“This is not a theoretical risk,” organizers said. “It’s happening now, in real neighborhoods, outside real bedroom windows.”

Assembly Energy Committee: Bill A.6955

Chair: Assemblywoman Didi Barrett

Albany Office:

Phone: 518-455-5177

District Office:

Phone: 518-828-1961

Email: barrettd@nyassembly.gov

Senate Energy Committee: Bill S.7197

Chair: State Senator Kevin Parker

Albany Office

Phone: (518) 455-2580

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Email: parker@nysenate.gov

Please call, write or email the Committee Chair asking him to support S.7197.

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LEGAL NOTICES



KINGS COUNTY SUMMONS

SUPPLEMENTAL SUMMONS-SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, COUNTY OF KINGS – MORTGAGE ASSETS MANAGEMENT, LLC, Plaintiff, -against- WENDY P. BARNARD, AS HEIR, DEVISEE, DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF GWENDOLYN BARNARD; ANY AND ALL KNOWN OR UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES AND ALL OTHER PARTIES CLAIMING AN INTEREST BY, THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST THE ESTATE OF GWENDOLYN BARNARD; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ACTING ON BEHALF OF THE SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT; THE CITY OF NEW YORK SOCIAL SERVICES DISTRICT; NEW YORK CITY ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL BOARD; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, ACTING ON BEHALF OF DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY - INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE; NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION AND FINANCE; "JOHN DOE #1" through "JOHN DOE #10," said names being fictitious and unknown to plaintiff, intended to be possible tenants or occupants of the premises, or corporations, persons, or other entities having or claiming a lien upon the mortgaged premises, Defendants - Index No. 532704/2021 Plaintiff Designates Kings County as the Place of Trial. The Basis of Venue is that the subject action is situated in Kings County. To the above named Defendants-YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer the Complaint in this action and to serve a copy of your answer, or, if the complaint is not served with this Summons, to serve a notice of appearance, on the Plaintiff's Attorney(s) within 20 days after the service of this Summons, exclusive of the day of service (or within 30 days after the service is complete if this Summons is not personally delivered to you within the State of New York); and in case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the Complaint. That this Supplemental Summons is being filed pursuant to an order of the court dated November 26, 2025. NOTICE-YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME – If you do not respond to this summons and complaint by serving a copy of the answer on the attorney for the mortgage company who filed this foreclosure proceeding against you and filing the answer with the court, a default judgment may be entered and you can lose your home. Speak to an attorney or go to the court where your case is pending for further information on how to answer the summons and protect your property. Sending a payment to the mortgage company will not stop the foreclosure action. YOU MUST RESPOND BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF (MORTGAGE ASSETS MANAGEMENT, LLC) AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT. The foregoing summons is served upon you by publication pursuant to an order of the Honorable Menachem M. Mirocznik, J.S.C. Dated: November 26, 2025 Filed: December 5, 2025. The object of this action is to foreclose a mortgage and covering the premises known as 1402 Prospect Place, Brooklyn, NY 11213. Dated: July 15, 2025 Filed: December 24, 2025 Greenspoon Marder LLP, Attorney for Plaintiff, By: Raspreet Bhatia, Esq., 1345 Avenue of the Americas, Suite 2200, New York, NY 10105 P: (212) 524-5000 F: (212) 524-5050 (No Service by fax) Service purposes only: Trade Centre South 100 W. Cypress Creek Road, Suite 700, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309 P: (888) 491-1120 F: (954) 343-6982

KINGS COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Notice of formation of Ramsay Studios. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of NY (SSNY) on 12/16/2025. Office location: Kings County. SSNY designated as an agent of Limited Liability Company (LLC) upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY should mail process to Legal Zoom: ramsaypilates@gmail.com. Purpose: Any lawful purpose.

KINGS COUNTY NOTICE OF FORMATION OF A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

SEPAR GROUP LLC, Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 01/21/2026. Office loc: Kings County. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 124 Lee Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11211. Purpose: Any Lawful Purpose.

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Senator Persaud Hosts Webinar on Alzheimer's and Dementia

By Angela G. Nannetti

Although Alzheimer's has been identified as the fifth leading cause of death for females in the United States and despite the fact that there are more than six million Americans currently living with the disease, it is still a subject many do not wish to discuss.

That is precisely why State Senator Roxanne Persaud chose to start her own conversation about Alzheimer's on Thursday, January 29th, as she hosted a webinar in partnership with the Alzheimer's Association and NYU Langone, focused on brain health, early detection and quality care.

The senator invited guest speaker, Omoghio M. Bubu, MD, PhD, MPH, a brilliant physician, published research scientist and professor whose training and credentials have made him a foremost expert in the field of Alzheimer's and other types of dementia, to provide an overview. Bubu discussed the discovery of a link between Alzheimer's and sleep, highlighting the tremendous importance of rest on memory consolidation. He advised participants who wish to improve their sleep quality to avoid naps, limit caffeine, follow a sleep schedule and encouraged those who suffer from obstructive sleep apnea to seek treatment.

While non-modifiable risk factors like age, genes and family history certainly play a role in the risk of developing Al-

zheimer's, Bubu explained that quality sleep, a healthy diet, social interaction, physical activity, continuing education and cognitive exercise can all help to prevent the disease. He also explained that controlling diabetes and high blood pressure can do a great deal to diminish one's risk of developing Alzheimer's.

Persaud also invited Alzheimer's Association New York City Chapter Program Manager Jamel Thigpen to share his invaluable insight with participants, not only through his role as a community educator, but from his perspective as a caregiver to his mother, who was diagnosed with the disease years ago. Thigpen explained that dementia is an umbrella term for the loss of memory and other thinking abilities that is not a normal part of aging and includes Alzheimer's, Vascular, Lewy body, Frontotemporal and other types.

He discussed helpful tips for prevention and highlighted the importance of early detection and intervention, advising the group that while there is no cure, there are treatments that can help with symptoms and slow the progression of the disease. Thigpen explained that his organization is equipped to help match patients with research studies and clinical trials and offers a plethora of assistance to families from free education and resources to support groups. To learn more, visit alz.org or call the 24/7 hotline at (800) 272-3900.




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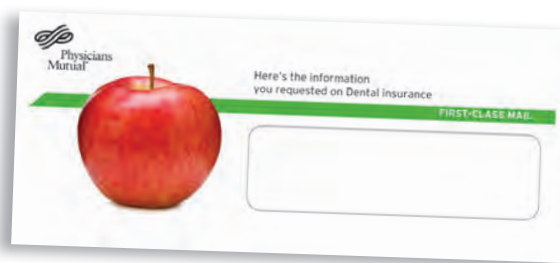
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Your local neighborhood newspaper seeks experienced salespeople to sell advertising space.

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We are looking for **EXPERIENCED WRITERS** to cover meetings, events and human interest stories in Canarsie and surrounding areas!

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Editorial Department
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Brooklyn, NY 11236

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Canarsie/E104

1 Family semi-detached, mint condition, 3 BRs, duplex, finished walk in basement, \$749K.

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Broker
(718) 490-5703**

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Large 1 BR, beautiful hardwood floors throughout, Ready To Go!! asking \$205K negotiable.

**L J Estates
(917) 294-0612**

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All updated commercial unit, 500 square feet, new kitchen/bath, asking \$155K. Ready To Go!

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Canarsie: Parking for 1 or 2 cars available. (917) 402-4308

ROOMS FOR RENT

Rooms Available

**Furnished/ Unfurnished
From \$700 to \$1,600**

**FMM Premier Properties
(718) 825-6034
(718) 968-0029**

Canarsie: Furnished, share kitchen/bath, no smoking/pets, near transportation/shopping. (917) 609-2093

E Flatbush: Unfurnished, share kitchen/bath, no pets/smoking. Exit All Seasons RE (347) 782-8571

Canarsie: Nice, furnished, share kitchen/bath, no smoking/pets, near transportation/shopping, \$1,000 negotiable. (917) 385-9514

Canarsie: Furnished, share kitchen/bath, no pets/smoking, parquet floor, \$300 weekly. (631) 449-4087; (917) 831-9360

OMB: Furnished, share kitchen/bath, no smoking/pets, 2 weeks rent/security, \$275. Owner (347) 742-9828; (347) 453-7962

Mill Basin: Furnished, share kitchen/bath, no pets/smoking. (347) 290-8359

E Flatbush/King Highway: Furnished, share kitchen/bath, no pets/smoking, \$250 weekly. (917) 364-4730

Georgetown: Furnished, share kitchen/bath, no pets/smoking, \$1,000 monthly. (718) 844-4907

Spring Creek: Unfurnished, share bathroom/kitchen, no pets/smoking, \$1,000 monthly. (929) 530-4524

Rockaway Parkway: Very large unfurnished, share kitchen w/2 other people, no pets, \$1,000 monthly, 1 month rent, 1 month security. (908) 737-2353

Canarsie/E Flatbush: Furnished, share kitchen/bath, no smoking/pets, \$1,000 monthly. Broker (646) 474-6640

Canarsie: Large, unfurnished, share kitchen/bath, excellent condition, \$1,200. Broker (347) 471-5034

**BUY IT! SELL IT! RENT IT!
In The Canarsie Courier Classifieds**

ROOMS FOR RENT

Canarsie: Large clean furnished, share kitchen/bath, \$240 weekly, (917) 528-7678

Gateway Mall/Flatlands: Unfurnished, share kitchen/bath, no pets/smoking, all utilities included, plus WiFi & cable, Quiet block. (347) 339-3881

Canarsie: Unfurnished, King size, share kitchen/bathroom, no pets/smoking, \$1,100 monthly. (718) 444-5469

Mill Basin: Furnished, share kitchen/bath, no smoking/pets. (347) 671-4987

Canarsie: Furnished, share kitchen, no smoking/pets, dining and bathroom, with two people, second floor, quiet, all utilities included, W9 required, \$1,200. (347) 578-4130

Canarsie: Furnished, share kitchen/bath, \$900, includes, utilities, no pets. Owner (718) 360-6592

Brownsville: Furnished, share kitchen/bath, no pets/smoking, brand new furniture, \$1,300. (347) 743-7667

Canarsie: Furnished, share kitchen, private bathroom, no pets/smoking, near transportation/shopping, (943) 255-5670

Canarsie: Furnished, share kitchen/bath, no pets/smoking, \$1,000. (347) 381-9772



**Got News?
(718) 257-0600**

"All real estate advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation, or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make such preference, limitation or discrimination. We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal, opportunity basis."

ACTION CLASSIFIED

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FURNISHED APT

Furnished studio, excellent condition, nice kitchen & bath, \$1,500. Broker (347) 471-5034

UNFURNISHED APT

Apartments Available

Studio to 4 bedrooms from \$1,500 to \$3,900

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(718) 968-0029

Canarsie: Unfurnished Studio, own bathroom/kitchen, near transportation/shopping, (718) 809-9119

Canarsie: Brook Club Condos, 1 BR, cozy, asking \$1,800 negotiable. Broker (718) 251-6551

Sterling Place/Utica Avenue: LARGE 1 BR in Building, Hardwood Floors, Eat in Kitchen, NEW APPLIANCES, near 3 & 4 Trains, B46, B15 buses, \$1,500. Curtis Chance Realty (718) 859-7300; (917) 679-3017

Rockaway/Sutter: LARGE RENOVATED STUDIO, close to shopping/transportation, near B15 & B35, \$1,250. Curtis Chance Realty (718) 859-7300 (917) 679-3017

AVENUE N/UTICA AVENUE: 1 BR, NEW KITCHEN CABINETS & APPLIANCES, CERAMIC FLOORS, NEW TILE BATH, BEAUTIFUL APARTMENT, \$2,150. OWNER (917) 776-4151

Thomas Boyland/Fulton: COMPLETELY RENOVATED 1BR, LARGE bedroom and living room, EIK, new appliances, HWF's, near transportation, A & C trains & buses, \$1,700. Curtis Chance Realty (718) 859-7300 (917) 679-3017

E Flatbush: Newly renovated 2 BR, Programs welcome, by appointments only, pay your own utilities. (347) 385-8387

Schenectady/Beverly: Completely RENOVATED SPACIOUS 2 BR walk in apartment, w/central Air Conditioning. ALL NEW stainless steel appliances, large closet, near transportation, B46, B35, B8 buses, G&E INCLUDED, \$2,300 Curtis Chance Realty (718) 859-7300; (917) 679-3017

E Flatbush: 2 BR, 1 bath, near transportation. Text (347) 392-0157

Canarsie/E Flatbush: 2 BRs, close to transportation, no pets/smoking, \$2,500. Broker (646) 474-6640

Canarsie: 2 BRs, excellent condition, LR, EIK, new appliances, \$2,600. Broker (347) 471-5034

Gates/Throop: RENOVATED 2 BRs in elevator building, LARGE LIVING ROOM, LOTS of closets, HWF's, 24 hour security, laundry on premise, \$2,300, PROGRAMS ACCEPTED. Curtis Chance Realty (718) 859-7300 (917) 679-3017

Crown Heights: 3 BRs, newly renovated, formal dining room, \$2,500, Broker (917) 846-9843

UNFURNISHED APT

Apartments Available

Lenox Road

1 BR \$2,400
 1 BR \$2,400
 2 BR \$2,700
 All Utilities Included

Broker
(917) 541-3804

Canarsie: 3 BRs, excellent condition, recessed lighting, HWF's, freshly painted, \$3,400. Broker (347) 471-5034

Canarsie/E96: Newly renovated 3 BRs, near transportation/shopping, \$3,000. (917) 627-5312

Canarsie: 3 BRs, 1 bathroom, 1st month security deposit, \$3,811 rent, Vouchers accepted, Call landlord James (646) 653-9742

Newkirk/E23: COMPLETELY RENOVATED 3 BRs, SPACIOUS living room, lots of closet space, HWF's, near transportation, B8, B41, BM2, B44, B103 buses, B, Q, #2 & #5 trains, \$3,450, PROGRAMS ACCEPTED. Curtis Chance Realty (718) 859-7300 (917) 679-3017

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Combo Boil for 2 \$110

♥ **Choice of 1 Appetizer** ♥

Calamari or Mozzarella Sticks

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2 Snow Crab Clusters, 2 Lobster Tails, 1 lb Shrimp (Head-off),
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♥ **Choice of 1 Dessert** ♥

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