

LATEST INITIATIVES

Borough President Adams and civil rights attorney Norman Siegel convened a series of town halls, beginning on Tuesday, July 14th, to investigate cases of tenant harassment throughout Brooklyn, with the aim of determining the potential for lawsuits against particularly bad-acting landlords taking advantage of the borough-wide emergency. Hundreds turned out at Brooklyn Borough Hall, All Saints Church in Williamsburg, and SUNY Downstate Medical Center in East Flatbush to share their testimony and get connected with legal assistance. Additionally, Borough President Adams is continuing to push for a reopening of the debate in Albany to strengthen rent regulations, as evidenced by a roundtable he convened on Wednesday, July 15th with local lawmakers and a public town hall he held at Medgar Evers College on Wednesday, July 29th to galvanize support for decisive action.

Access-Friendly NYC is an initiative launched earlier this year by Borough President Adams to focus on how Brooklyn and New York City

can lead the way in making improvements to physical, visual, auditory and social access for all of its residents; twelve percent of the borough's population is over the age of 65, while almost ten percent have reported having some form of disability. He released a report on Tuesday, July 14th, which can be read on brooklyn-usa.org, to detail policy and standards recommendations for improving accessibility throughout New York City. This built upon a set of guidelines he developed to advance accessibility of public buildings beyond compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). As part of advancing those standards, Borough President Adams announced that a series of upgrades have been made to the "People's House", in consultation with the New York City Department of Citywide Administrative Services and disability advocates, to improve access for people with disabilities.

"Parks are our great equalizer, the backyard for all New Yorkers who don't have one, turning

people from someone living next door to you to your neighbor." Those were comments by Borough President Adams as he announced the parks funding component of his capital budget plan during a press conference at the Brooklyn War Memorial, located inside Cadman Plaza Park in Downtown Brooklyn. Standing beside the leadership of the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation, elected officials, park advocates, and local veterans from across the borough, including former Brooklyn Borough President Howard Golden, he outlined his \$11.9 million in allocations during Fiscal Year 2016, which represents more than a twofold increase from last year, in his budgetary commitment to enhancing Brooklyn's open space. This includes the allocation of \$1 million to help overhaul handicapped accessibility at the Brooklyn War Memorial, a monument to over 300,000 Brooklynites who served in World War II that has been shuttered for 25 years.

Borough President Adams weighed in 22-year-old Matt Stonie at a ceremony in the rotunda of Brooklyn Borough Hall that certified him for competition in the Nathan's Famous Fourth of July International Hot Dog Eating Contest held in Coney Island; Stonie went on to dethrone eight-time defending champion Joey Chestnut and take home the mustard-yellow championship belt.

Photo Credit: Kathryn Kirk/Brooklyn BP's Office



BROOKLYN BOROUGH PRESIDENT ERIC L. ADAMS' MESSAGE OF THE MONTH



WHAT'S UP AT BROOKLYN BOROUGH HALL?

International Day of Friendship is celebrated around the world, as countries partake in a variety of events to promote peace and unity. Nearly one million Brooklynites were born abroad and 47% of the borough speaks a language other than English at home. Brooklyn is the perfect place to celebrate diversity and culture! Join Borough President Adams on Sunday, August 2nd at 1:00 PM in Cadman Plaza Park for a multicultural day of festivities. Admission is free!

Come out to the hot spot for cool entertainment in Central Brooklyn this summer! Don't miss the remaining shows in the 2015 Martin Luther King Jr. Concert Series, the 33rd season of weekly performances proudly hosted by Borough President Adams at Wingate Park in East Flatbush. The Annual Gospel Night is on Monday, August 3rd, with performances by Ricky Dillard & New G, Mike Willis & The Called, as well as the Christian Cultural Center Choir. On Monday, August 10th,

VP Records Presents Reggae Night will include Freddie McGregor, Christopher Martin, New Kingston, and Ikaya. Old School Night will close out the series on Monday, August 17th with Doug E. Fresh, Kurtis Blow, and Special Ed. All shows are free to the public and begin at 7:30 PM.

On Tuesday, August 4th, join Borough President Adams in celebrating National Night Out Against Crime, a celebration in communities coast-to-coast of the relationship between police and the residents they serve and protect. Events are held in every police precinct around Brooklyn; call your local stationhouse for details.

In partnership with INCLUDEnyc, Borough President Adams is hosting free one-to-one help for parents of young people with disabilities at Brooklyn Borough Hall. Come out on Tuesday, August 18th at 2:00 PM to make an appointment; walk-ins will be seen based on availability.

Borough President Adams is sponsoring a career panel for women of color in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) with Black Girls CODE and Connect with STEM on Saturday, August 22nd at 10:00 AM in Brooklyn Borough Hall. The event is free and open to youth ages 10-17 and their parents, and it also includes a school supply giveaway.

Brooklyn seniors: savor the last days of summer with Borough President Adams! Make the trip to Kingsborough Community College on Wednesday, August 26th from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM for his "Seniors by the Sea" celebration.

If you have an interest in any of these events, please contact us by e-mailing askeric@brooklynbp.nyc.gov. Additionally, to stay up-to-date with the office, visit www.brooklyn-usa.org to sign up for Borough President Adams' paperless notifications, like his Facebook page, and follow @BPEricAdams on Twitter.

Every Independence Day, the eyes of the world turn to Brooklyn for the Nathan's Famous Fourth of July International Hot-Dog Eating Contest. Borough President Adams "relished" the opportunity to have some fun with the eaters on Friday, July 3rd as he oversaw the official weigh-in for the competition. A day later, thousands in Coney Island cheered as women's champion Miki Sudo and men's champion Matt Stonie proved they were the sport's "top dogs"!

Did you know that Brooklyn is home to the world's oldest living person? It's true! Susannah "Miss Susie" Mushatt Jones celebrated her 116th birthday on Tuesday, July 7th at a big party thrown in her honor at the Vandalia Senior Center in East New

York. Borough President Adams was on hand to proclaim "Miss Susie Day" in the borough to honor her milestone achievement, which was formally recognized by the Guinness Book of World Records.

Eid Mubarak! Borough President Adams hosted an Iftar dinner in the courtroom of Brooklyn Borough Hall on Thursday, July 9th to break the daily Ramadan fast with over a hundred Muslim Brooklynites, including local religious leaders and ambassadors from Middle Eastern and Asian nations. Over twenty-five area mosques and cultural organizations sponsored the celebration, which recognized a number of community members for their advocacy and support of issues affecting Muslim-Americans.

The latest Heroes of the Month were named by Borough President Adams on Wednesday, July 22nd at a ceremony in Brooklyn Borough Hall. He paid tribute to Iver Whittingham, a Good Samaritan volunteer with women's empowerment group Battered 2 Beautiful who tried to stop a fight between teenage girls at a McDonald's in Fort Greene, as well as retired NYPD Detective Richard Lyman, who helped solve a 12-year-old murder case in Flatlands. Both were declared "Heroes of the Month" for July in honor of their commitment to the well-being of Brooklynites in need.

Thousands of music-loving Brooklynites turned out for the Seaside

Continued on next page



Brooklyn Borough President Eric L. Adams and TV personality Chef Daisy Martinez show off copies of his "Cut the Salt, Curb the Sugar" cookbook, following their cooking demonstration of a healthy recipe for summer gazpacho in Columbus Park. Photo Credit: Malcolm McDaniel/Brooklyn BP's Office



Borough President Adams recognized retired NYPD Detective Richard Lyman, who helped solve a 12-year-old murder case in Flatlands, and Iver Whittingham, a Good Samaritan who tried to stop a fight between teenage girls at a McDonald's in Fort Greene, as "Heroes of the Month" for July during a ceremony in Brooklyn Borough Hall. Photo Credit: Malcolm McDaniel/Brooklyn BP's Office



Borough President Adams, joined by Council Member Robert Corney, Jr., a fellow avid cyclist, called for an expedited street redesign for thoroughfares determined to be priority corridors under the City's Vision Zero initiative, like 4th Avenue, Atlantic Avenue, and Flatbush Avenue, due to the high rates of traffic collision-related casualties, including a fatal cyclist crash in Boerum Hill. Photo Credit: Kathryn Kirk/Brooklyn BP's Office



Borough President Adams joined disability advocates to welcome the ADA Legacy Tour "Road to Freedom" Bus, a mobile exhibit traveling across the country to raise awareness of disability issues in recognition of the ADA's 25th anniversary this month, to Brooklyn Borough Hall. Photo Credit: Stefan Ringel/Brooklyn BP's Office

COMMUNITY ALERTS

Summer Concerts 2015 Festival at MCU Park, the much-awaited return of the 36-year series in Coney Island. Borough President Adams was pleased to host the three-day run of shows that began on Wednesday, July 22nd, which included performances by JT Taylor "The Voice", formerly of Kool & the Gang, the Lord Calverts, Starship featuring Mickey Thomas, N'Klabe, and Eddie Santiago.

What could be better than "A Summer Movie Under the Stars"?

Borough President Adams launched his first-ever family-friendly film series at Long Meadow North in Prospect Park on Wednesday, July 22nd, as hundreds of young Brooklynites and their parents gathered to enjoy the classic feature "E.T. the Extra Terrestrial". Other features included "Where the Wild Things Are", a film adaptation of the classic children's book by Brooklyn-born writer Maurice Sendak, "The Hunger Games: Mockingjay Part 1", the most recent entry in the blockbuster series, and the Oscar-winning animated musical "Happy Feet".

On Saturday, July 25th, Borough President Adams and Hot 97's award-winning show "Street Soldiers with Lisa Evers" hosted hip-hop artists, celebrities, youth groups, local leaders, and hundreds of community youth for their second annual Push 4 Peace town hall at Brooklyn Borough Hall. The event featured a special panel of guests focused on the theme of "Gangs, Guns & Broken Lives: Moving Beyond the Violence" along with live questions and comments from the audience.

Cut the Salt! Curb the Sugar! This preventative health initiative from Borough President Adams and the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene geared up on Tuesday, July 28th during an event in Columbus Park. He distributed hundreds of copies and served as sous chef to TV personality Chef Daisy Martinez for a live cooking demonstration of her healthy recipe for summer gazpacho; a video of their presentation can be viewed on Borough President Adams' YouTube channel. Those in attendance also participated in health screenings and received free Health Bucks for Brooklynites to shop

at the Brooklyn Borough Hall Greenmarket, which is open on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays.

Partnering with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Center for Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships

Borough President Adams hosted a capacity building and grant writing workshop for community organizations on Wednesday, July 29th at Brooklyn Borough Hall. Attendees learned about the federal funding process as well as received practical advice on how to develop capacity building and write competitive grant proposals.

In advance of Borough President Adams's second celebration of International Day of Friendship

he raised the Cuban flag over Brooklyn Borough Hall on Friday, July 31st. The ceremony, flanked by an array of international flags, was organized to hail the power of global goodwill and to strengthen Cuban-American ties in and around the borough; as of 2013, there were an estimated 68,000 Cubans in the New York metro area.

On Thursday, July 9th, Borough President Adams joined the New York City Housing Authority at Sheepshead Bay Houses

in Sheepshead Bay to mark the milestone of 43,769 feet of unnecessary sidewalk shedding that the City has removed since the start of the de Blasio administration. For years, residents have complained that the unused scaffolding obstructs visibility, creates a sense of danger, and often collects trash. In Brooklyn, there were seventeen NYCHA developments where nearly five miles of purposeless shedding needed removal, more than it would take to enclose the entire perimeter of Prospect Park. The remaining sidewalk shedding citywide supports safety at active construction sites where repairs are currently underway. Those interested in more information can visit nyc.gov/nycha.

A horrific bike crash caused by a oncoming speeding vehicle by the intersection of 4th Avenue and Atlantic Avenue in Boerum Hill claimed the

life of Alejandro Moran-Marin on Monday, July 13th. The next day, Borough President Adams biked the dangerous path with members of the media to highlight the urgent need for the New York City Department of Transportation to take immediate action. The number of bicyclists killed last year rose to 20, from 12 in 2013, according to the City. He made the call for an expedited roll-out of the Great Streets program that promised a street redesign of high-priority corridors such as 4th Avenue, Atlantic Avenue, and Flatbush Avenue, including an increase in bike infrastructure. Anyone can visit nyc.gov/dot to learn about current and planned DOT projects.

Chip cards are credit cards with embedded integrated circuits which can provide identity documentation, security authentication, data storage, and application processing. EMV is the technical standard for smart payment cards and payment terminals, replacing magnetic strip technology. Major credit

card companies are implementing a liability shift for point-of-sale terminals beginning October 1st of this year; the shift will occur for pay-at-the-pump gas stations and ATMs in a staged rollout over the next couple years. On Wednesday, July 15th, Borough President Adams hosted Visa at Brooklyn Borough Hall on their Small Business Chip Education Tour, in an effort to ready Brooklyn entrepreneurs on this significant change. There is additional information at visa.com for all those wanting to learn more about chip technology.



Our Constituent Assistance Center is here to serve all of Brooklyn.

If you or someone you know are having any issues, or if you have questions about issues like alternate side parking, sidewalk pickup or other community matters, such as the matters in this month's update, call the Center at (718) 802-3777.