WHAT'S UP AT BROOKLYN BOROUGH HALL?

Prayers for Peace
In light of the recent spate of mass shootings — including those in El Paso, TX; Dayton, OH; Chicago, IL; Gilroy, CA, and locally in Brownsville and Crown Heights — that ravaged the nation starting on July 27th through the first week of August, Borough President Adams convened a candlelight vigil at Grand Army Plaza on Monday, August 5th to pay homage to the fallen and to call on Congress to enact stricter gun laws. Joining him was Lieutenant Governor Kathy Hochul, Public Advocate Jumaane Williams, New York State Attorney General Letitia James, Representatives Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez and Nydia Velazquez, Brooklyn District Attorney Eric Gonzalez, State Senator Zellnor Myrie, former New York Civil Liberties Union Executive Director Norman Siegel, and a bevy of local council members, assembly members, faith-based leaders, community activists, and sympathetic Brooklynites as candles were lit, prayers offered, and calls to action made in protest against the heinous acts of violence that took the lives of 59 victims during that 10-day period.

Chinese Connection
Former National Basketball Association (NBA) All-Star and Chinese Basketball Association (CBA) head coach Stephon Marbury along with a contingent of young Chinese athletes were welcomed at Brooklyn Borough Hall by Borough President Adams on Tuesday, August 6th during their recent trip to America and visit to Brooklyn. Hosted by Brooklyn USA, a youth basketball organization in existence for nearly 30 years, headed by director Thomas Sicignano, the student-athletes, accompanied by Marbury, visited a series of Brooklyn sites in addition to Brooklyn Borough Hall, including Barclays Center, as part of their intention of sharing the spirit of international goodwill and sportsmanship with their Brooklyn-based counterparts.

#NationalNightOut
Borough President Adams, reinforced by members of his Borough Hall Staff, participated in the various National Night Out activities held throughout the borough on Tuesday, August 6th. The annual event, a national community-building campaign sponsored by police precincts across the country, provides an opportunity for enhanced community-police relations and partnerships. Borough President Adams visited precinct-hosted festivities in Bedford-Stuyvesant, Canarsie, Coney Island, and Williamsburg, while Brooklyn Borough Hall staffers ensured he was represented in all precincts boroughwide by engaging in collaborative activities with members of the New York City Police Department (NYPD) and residents in neighborhoods across Brooklyn.
(l.) Borough President Adams distributed flags while greeting the crowd at the Dominican Day Parade in Manhattan;
(r.) Borough President Adams examined projects of the graduates of the Girls Who Code Summer Immersive Boot Camp at the MetroTech campus.

¡Qué Viva la República Dominicana!
On Sunday, August 11th, Borough President Adams brought Brooklyn flavor into Manhattan when he joined the celebration of Dominican culture and heritage at the 37th annual Dominican Day Parade. He greeted thousands as he strolled the length of Sixth Avenue from 36th Street to 52nd Street, enjoying the sights and sounds of the proud revelers embracing their hyphen.

The Greening of Brooklyn
Borough President Adams traveled to Sunset Park on Tuesday, August 13th to celebrate the opening of Brooklyn Grange’s newest location. The event marked the opening of the US’ leading rooftop farming and intensive green roofing business’ third rooftop farm, and its second one in the borough (the other is on a rooftop at the Brooklyn Navy Yard). Borough President Adams expressed his pride in supporting the growth of urban agriculture in Brooklyn by designating millions of dollars in capital funding toward these types of projects in Brooklyn, and particularly in underserved parts of the borough.

A Taste of India
The 39th annual India Day Parade, hosted by the Federation of Indian Associations, was held on Sunday, August 18th in Manhattan. Borough President Adams was a part of the throng commemorating India’s 73rd independence celebration — the world’s largest of its kind — which ran along Madison Avenue from 38th Street to 28th Street featuring traditionally-garbed revelers, sumptuous cuisine, and proudly-waved orange, white, and green native flags seen the length of the parade route.

Girls Run the World
When the Girls Who Code Summer Immersive Boot Camp Graduation commenced at the JPMorgan Chase & Co (JPMC) offices on MetroTech campus in Downtown Brooklyn on Thursday, August 22nd, Borough President Adams was on hand to offer the young graduates words of encouragement and motivation. During the seven-week program, which JPMC has hosted since 2016, the 20 high school students enrolled in the camp at JPMC’s Brooklyn Technology Center were paired with mentors and given practical training in computer science skills in an effort to close the gender gap in technology and to change the public perception of what a programmer looks like and does.

(b.) Borough President Adams met with founders and students of the Young Airmans Association at Floyd Bennett Field in Marine Park
COMMUNITY ALERTS

At a press conference held at Brooklyn Navy Yard Building 92 on Thursday, August 1st, in partnership with Downtown Brooklyn Partnership (DBP) and DUMBO Business Improvement District (BID), Borough President Adams was present for Governor Andrew Cuomo’s announcement of the six Brooklyn-based projects that will fund a $10 million grant from the Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI). The award, which is the result of a proposal submitted by Borough President Adams and the other partners, will advance a vision 10 years in the making to fund upgrades to a number of cultural centers, including modernization and improved accessibility and safety in the Brooklyn Navy Yard, Downtown Brooklyn, and Fort Greene. Go to ny.gov/programs/downtown-revitalization-initiative for more details.

A true pilot program was heralded when Borough President Adams joined members of the New York City Police Department (NYPD) Aviation Unit, the Young Airmans Association, and Council Member Alicka Ampry-Samuel (46th District) on Tuesday, August 6th at Floyd Bennett Field in Marine Park to congratulate and bestow a $20,000 grant on United Youth Aviators (UYA), New York City’s first aviation summer camp. The non-profit, established by three Brooklyn-born and -bred African-American members of the NYPD who all earned their pilot licenses, seeks to expose youth to the world of aviation by teaching them STEAM education skills such as aerodynamics and navigation, while also teaching them to fly a Cessna 172 Skyhawk out at an airfield in Long Island, logging flight time to go toward their own eventual pilot licenses. The grant is intended to help get the camp off the ground so that it can serve as many Brooklyn youths as possible. For more information on the program, go to unitedyouthaviators.com.

Borough President Adams convened a press conference on Tuesday, August 20th to announce a total allocation of $700,000 toward repairs to Moore Street Market in East Williamsburg. Council Member Antonio Reynoso and representatives from the New York City Economic Development Corporation (NYCEDC) were present for the disclosure of the investments in roof and window repairs on one of Brooklyn’s oldest public markets, dating back to 1941. The market, a community cornerstone, is home base for a variety of small business vendors and it hosts classes and seminars throughout the year; serving, as, in Borough President Adams’ words, “a beacon of opportunity” for consumers and entrepreneurs throughout the borough. Go to nycedc.com to learn about other projects, services, opportunities, and resources available from NYCEDC.

(b.) Borough President Adams hosted Stephon Marbury and the young athletes of the 2019 Marbury Basketball Oversea Camp at Brooklyn Borough Hall;

Tune in to News 12 Brooklyn every second Monday from 5:30 PM – 6:30 PM for “Ask the Borough President.” Weigh in live as Borough President Adams discusses topics of the day, in person and in real time. If you have a question you’d like answered, call (718) 861-6827 or tweet using the hashtag #BKAstTheBP.

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 topics such as alternate side parking, sidewalk pickup, or other community matters, including the topics in this month’s update, call the Center at (718) 802-3700.
LATEST INITIATIVES

Borough President Adams and Council Member Robert Cornegy announced the findings of their investigation into the Third Party Transfer (TPT) program during a press conference on Thursday, August 1st at Borough Hall. TPT is a program run by the city that seizes distressed properties and turns them over to nonprofit developers to renovate and lease out as affordable housing. Borough President Adams and Council Member Cornegy, who have been very vocal about the problems surrounding TPT, which include an opaque process and bureaucratic errors that have led to people losing their homes, called for the program to be overhauled. There is currently legislation before the City Council to impose a two-year moratorium on the program.

“You may think you only have this one shot - but don’t use this one shot to miss out on all the others you have.” That was the message of a new PSA released on Wednesday, August 21st by Borough President Adams this month, addressed at members of the NYPD who are struggling with mental health issues. Nine police officers have taken their own lives this year to date, and Borough President Adams, a former law enforcement official, used the video to show fellow officers that they are not alone. Earlier this year Borough President Adams stood with the Police Benevolent Association and advocates to call on the NYPD to train officers in meditation and wellness practices. He believes that giving officers the tools to heal themselves internally will help address the suicide crisis currently plaguing the department.

Transportation cannot be based on gentrification, said Borough President Adams during a press conference on Monday, August 26th with Council Member Rafael Espinal, transit advocates, and disability advocates, where they urged the MTA to make critically-needed repairs to the Broadway Junction station. Located in the neighborhood of East New York, Broadway Junction is a transportation hub where the A, C, J, L, and Z lines converge, and serves over 100,000 commuters a day. Borough President Adams noted during the press conference that the station contained no accessibility features, and was in a state of disrepair. Earlier this year, he and Council Member Espinal unveiled a vision document, crafted in close partnership with community stakeholders, laying out a vision for the future of Broadway Junction as a truly accessible, engaging, and dynamic hub.

Multiple studies have found that breastfeeding a baby, especially in the early months, are critical to its healthy development. That’s why Borough President Adams joined with Council Members Laurie Cumbo, Robert Cornegy, and Stephen Levin, along with breastfeeding advocates on Tuesday, August 27th at Borough Hall to announce new legislation mandating that the Department of Health train staff at locations required to make lactation rooms available, and that quarterly inspections be conducted. The legislation, introduced in August, builds on previous efforts by Borough President Adams to expand access to safe, sanitary spaces where mothers can express breastmilk. The announcement took place in front of the lactation room in Brooklyn Borough Hall, which opened to the public in 2015.

UPCOMING EVENTS

VARIous DATES
VARIous TIMES
Brooklyn Borough Hall – Room G-80
FREE Legal Services for All

EVERY MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY
9:30 AM – 4:00 PM
Brooklyn Borough Hall
Constituent Assistance Center
Constituent Assistance Center Walk-In

EVERY MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY
VARIOUS TIMES
Brooklyn Borough Hall – Room G-80
SCORE NYC Small Business Mentoring

EVERY TUESDAY THROUGH OCTOBER 1ST
6:30 PM – 8:00 PM
Brooklyn Borough Hall
Financial Literacy Workshop Series

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4TH
6:00 PM – 8:00 PM
Brooklyn Borough Hall
Brooklyn Borough Board Meeting

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22ND
9:30 AM
White Park
170 East 106th Street, NYC
NYC4PR. Silent Procession

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26TH
7:00 PM
Bayview Community Center
Emergency Preparedness Workshop

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27TH
10:00 AM – 4:00 PM
Brooklyn Borough Hall
Annual Brooklyn Recovery Conference

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2ND
6:30 PM – 9:00 PM
Chelsea Piers Fitness in Brooklyn
Brown Talks Conscious Beauty Conversation

If you have an interest in any of these events, please contact us by visiting brooklyn-usa.org for more information or by calling our event hotline at (718) 802-2328. Additionally, to stay up-to-date with the office, visit brooklyn-usa.org to sign up for Borough President Adams’ paperless notifications, “like” his Facebook page, and follow him @BPericAdams on Twitter and Instagram.