



*Assemblyman*  
**WILLIAM F. BOYLAND, JR.**

Summer 2010

*Assemblyman Boyland and local activist attorney Latrice Monique Walker kick off the summer with*

**CONCERTS AND CELEBRATIONS IN BROWNSVILLE PARKS**

For years one favorite tradition of the summer has been to watch artists perform at the numerous free concert series that take place throughout the borough. In June, Assemblyman Boyland with the help of City Parks Foundation and Latrice Walker Esq., Brownsville

Parks air was filled with music that brought people of all ages and interests to Betsy Head Park every Thursday to hear different artists and DJ's perform.

Brownsville residents enjoyed the sounds of the legendary Roy Ayers, hip-hop icons Nice and Smooth and radio personality DJ Felix Hernandez, host of the Rhythm Review. Each concert featured different performers that offered different styles of music that galvanized Brownsville through encouraging fellowship for those who live, work and play here.

Assemblyman Boyland and Ms. Walker Esq. also took part in celebrating Independence Day with resi-

dents of the district at Kelly Calahan Park. Close to 2,000 people joined together to honor our nation's independence with a wonderful fireworks display along with music, food and fun for residents who wanted to enjoy the weather and celebrate the day with their friends and neighbors.



*Brownsville Parks' air was filled with music . . .*

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*Assemblyman Boyland supports*

## **LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL IN THE DISTRICT**

*“The Brownsville Little League is a great way to bring parents, children and the community together behind one cause.”*

*Assemblyman Boyland*

Little League Baseball has always been a favorite of parents and children when it comes to organized activities. Parents not only have the ability to watch their children play America’s national pastime, but also get an opportunity to teach their young ones valuable lessons about sportsmanship and teamwork, lessons that will impact them for the rest of their lives. This year, Assemblyman Boyland sponsored the Brownsville Little League which offers our kids the chance to do something fun and healthy.

“The Brownsville Little League is a great way to bring parents, children and the community together behind one cause. It is one of the community’s best known youth sports leagues and has given us so many benefits ranging from making sure our kids get enough exercise, to children having the chance to make new friends, to even developing physical and personal skills. I am proud to lend my support to the Brownsville Little



League and am thankful for the lessons it teaches our parents and young people every day,” stated Assemblyman Boyland.

The Brownsville Little League accepts children from ages 4 to 14 and has t-ball and baseball activities. For more information please contact the District Office.

*Assemblyman Boyland, parents, students, and the UFT*

## **FIGHT AND WIN TO KEEP OUR SCHOOLS OPEN**



William Maxwell High School, PS 332, and Paul Robeson will remain open. The Dept. of Education had a plan to close these facilities due to poor performance and low grades. Assemblyman Boyland and the parents fought for a plan of action to see the school made whole again. The board decided to close the schools after little to no plan of action on correcting the failing administration before making a decision to close these facilities. These decisions would result in overcrowding and a higher drop out rates for neighboring schools. After a severe court fight and several months of negotiations the courts decided that the DOE’s explanations and their defense of closing the schools was in direct conflict with the laws of school governance that the legislature passed in 2008 which lays out a process to closing school which DOE did not follow.

## Local activist lawyer Latrice Monique Walker and Assemblyman Boyland **SOUND ALARM ON PUBLIC SAFETY ISSUES**

*“The Assemblyman and I want to make sure that we have a collective partnership with the people who are sworn to protect us so that everyone, from our seniors to our children, can enjoy the summer safely.”*

*Lawyer Latrice Monique Walker*

Public safety is one of the most important issues facing the constituents of the 55<sup>th</sup> Assembly District. Assemblyman Boyland and Latrice Monique Walker; a lawyer and a resident in Brownsville; has held numerous meetings and forums with the NYPD to address various problems ranging from violent crime to quality of life issues. Officials from the Kings County District Attorney’s Office along with the commanding officers from Police Service Area 2, the 73<sup>rd</sup>, 75<sup>th</sup>, 77<sup>th</sup> and 81<sup>st</sup> Precincts, have heard from residents at these events about the problems that they are facing and the vision for police protection in Bedford-Stuyvesant, Brownsville and East New York. Assemblyman Boyland

has continually worked in partnership with the NYPD to ensure that all residents are safe and that crime trends and problems are addressed. He welcomed the opportunity to work with the commanding officers of the aforementioned precincts, along with district groups, to address and solve problems. He also encouraged individuals to join their local precinct community councils in order for them to work collectively with the NYPD to reduce crime in their neighborhoods.

Latrice stated, “We all know some of the challenges that we face as summer approaches. The Assemblyman and I want to make sure that we have a collective partnership with the people who are sworn to protect us so that everyone, from



our seniors to our children, can enjoy the summer safely.”

For more information about your local precinct community council, please contact your precinct or the District Office.

## **A VICTORY FOR PARENTS AND STUDENTS**

As a result of the budget of the budget deficit that the Metropolitan Transit Authority (MTA) faces, the agency proposed eliminating the use of free student MetroCards which are used by New York City students to get to and from school. Once this announcement was made by the MTA, Assemblyman Boyland worked with his colleagues in the Assembly to ensure that parents and students would not have to face an additional burden of paying a bus or train fare to get to school.



“It is unbelievable that the MTA would put parents in

this position. Considering what has taken place at this agency, I can not believe that the MTA would shift this responsibility onto hard-working parents. For years, children in New York City have been able to go to and from school without having to pay a fare which has allowed parents and children to have additional educational choices. To take that away from them now is unacceptable and I will fight along with my colleagues in the Assembly to make sure this benefit is not taken from them,” said Assemblyman Boyland.

**Assemblyman Boyland voted on the budget legislation passed in June that preserved student MetroCards (A 9705-D).**

## FIGHTING FOR EDUCATION DOLLARS IN THE STATE BUDGET

The State of New York is faced with an unprecedented budget crisis that has threatened the delivery of many state services. The Assembly did not believe that during this time, our children had to bear the brunt of cuts that would be placed across the board to balance the state's budget. The budget plan (A 9703-C) that was released and passed by the Assembly in June, spared our schools from devastating cuts and avoided disastrous impacts on education by passing a measure that would help to close the state's budget gap. Unfortunately, Governor Paterson vetoed this measure after its passage in the Senate.

For too long the children within our public schools have not been given the support and opportunities needed for them to succeed and Assemblyman Boyland joined his colleagues in voting for a budget bill that would enable our children to receive the services and supplies they need in order to be prepared for their futures.

"I am thankful that my colleagues in the Assembly restored money that had been cut out of the education budget. We all have a commitment toward our public schools and ensuring that our children have the best opportunities possible to succeed. We have to defend our public schools and the programs that are available to help them achieve and obtain an affordable and quality education. If we don't, we are hurting the students who need our help the most," said Assemblyman Boyland.

### The bill restored the following cuts:

- **\$600 million** in education cuts.
- **\$49 million** in proposed cuts to the Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) including:
- **\$23.6 million** to proposed across the board state cuts, which would have resulted in a decrease of awards of by \$75;
- **\$14 million** to restore the maximum award to \$4,500 (the Executive proposed reducing it to \$4,000);
- **\$8.4 million** for rejection of increased academics standard and credit minimum for TAP;
- **\$3 million** in awards for graduate students.

In this bill, the Assembly also approved a \$56 million restoration to proposed community college cuts which included a \$40.3 million restoration to the State University of New York and \$16.4 million to the City University of New York.



## TENANT REPRESENTATION ON NYCHA BOARD

This month the New York State Assembly passed legislation (A11557) that would allow a tenant representative on the New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) Board. Currently the tenants of public housing have little input into the operation of their complexes (the only role that they had was in an advisory capacity). This is a victory for residents of NYCHA housing since the new representative will have a direct voice and link to NYCHA and act as a representative of the tenants. The representa-

tive will allow tenants to play a greater role in addressing the problems that are faced in Housing Authority developments and increase accountability by having decisions now made by a Board that will have direct tenant input about the programs and services delivered by NYCHA.

The bill provides that the representative may be appointed by the Mayor, must be eighteen years or older, be a resident of public housing and serve a term of three years.

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