

Assemblyman David I. Weprin



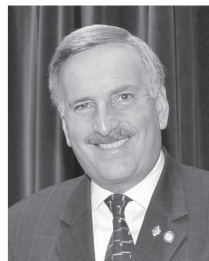
Reports to the Community

Spring 2016

Serving the partial or entire communities of:

Briarwood, Bellerose, Bellerose Manor, Fresh Meadows, Glen Oaks, Hillcrest, Hollis Hills, Holliswood, Jamaica Estates, Jamaica Hills, Oakland Gardens, Queens Village, Richmond Hill, South Richmond Hill, and Utopia.

A Message From DAVID I. WEPRIN



Dear Neighbor,

It's a new year and things are moving quickly again in Albany. As we settle into 2016, I look forward to representing our diverse community in the State Capitol once again. There are many issues on the agenda this year; including the fight to raise the minimum wage to \$15, provide paid family leave for working families, enact tax cuts for the middle class, and pass a comprehensive and on-time budget to address the needs of all New Yorkers.

As your State Assemblyman, I am always advocating to bring the best resources to our district and I hope to pass several bills this session that will be beneficial for our community. Some of the bills that I have introduced include efforts to: eliminate lawn litter by establishing a 'Do Not Drop' registry, provide language assistance in Bengali, Punjabi and Hindi at poll sites in Queens, prohibit workplace discrimination against religious attire, pass the Adoptee Bill of Rights, and retain the toll free status of untolled NYC bridges.

As the Chair of the Task Force for People with Disabilities, I am also looking forward to Disabilities Awareness Day in Albany which will be taking place on Monday, May 16th. Observed annually, Disabilities Awareness Day allows us to inform members of the Assembly and their staffs on important issues while striving to highlight the accomplishments of advocates and persons with disabilities.

My office is also sponsoring several events in the area; including free assisted tax prep at the Queens Library's Lefferts Branch every Wednesday from 10 A.M. - 4 P.M. until April 13th.

I am always here to listen to your concerns about our community, City, and State and encourage you to visit, call, email, or write to either of our District Offices with any questions or concerns. You can reach my staff and me at locations in both Fresh Meadows and Richmond Hill. Together, I am confident that we can continue our work to strengthen and grow our beautiful district. Thank you for your continued support and committed involvement.

Yours sincerely,

David I. Weprin

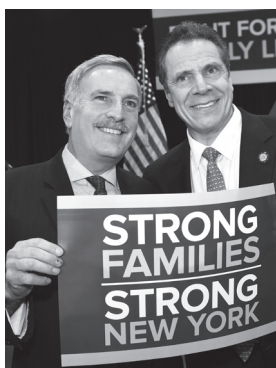
David I. Weprin
Member of Assembly



Senator Leroy Comrie, Councilwoman Vanessa Gibson, Assemblywoman Alicia Hyndman, Councilman I. Daneek Miller, Councilman Barry Grodenchik, Assemblyman David Weprin, and Borough President Melinda Katz.

Detective Brian Moore Street Renaming Ceremony

On May 2nd 2015, NYPD Police Officer Brian Moore, son to Irene & Raymond Moore, brother to Christine Moore, and hero to all New Yorkers; was shot and killed as he performed his duties as a plainclothes police officer in the 105th Precinct's anti-crime patrol unit. Beloved by his family, friends, and fellow NYPD officers; Officer Brian Moore was a "Cop's Cop" and a shining example of the dedicated service that NYPD officers provide on a daily basis. Office Moore's service to our community, borough and City was considered invaluable and after his passing, Officer Moore was posthumously promoted to Detective 1st Grade by Police Commissioner Bill Bratton. In December, Assemblyman Weprin was honored to join NYPD Commissioner Bill Bratton, Councilman I. Daneek Miller, Assistant Chief David Barrere, PBA President Patrick Lynch, CB 13 Chairman Bryan Block and other elected officials to co-name the corner of 222nd Street and 92nd Avenue outside the 105th Precinct in Queens Village as "Detective 1st Grade Brian Moore Way."



Fighting for Paid Family Leave

In early February, Assemblyman David Weprin co-sponsored and voted for the successful passage of Assembly bill A3870, which provides 12 weeks of paid family leave for all New Yorkers. Later in the month, Assemblyman Weprin rallied with Governor Andrew Cuomo in support of the 'Strong Families, Strong New York' campaign to ensure that all New Yorkers have 12 weeks of paid Family Leave. Assemblyman David Weprin is a committed advocate of Paid Family Leave for all New Yorkers and a firm believer that stronger New Yorkers make for a stronger New York.



Visit to ANIBIC

Assemblyman David Weprin and Councilman Barry Grodenchik visited children at the Association for Neurologically Impaired Brain Injured Children (ANIBIC). ANIBIC has been providing a broad range of services to people with special needs for over 50 years and is a leader in advocacy for people with special needs.

Assemblyman Weprin in the Community

Holiday Toy Drive - Boys & Girls Club of Metro Queens

The Holiday Toy Drive was arranged by Assemblyman Weprin's District Office and began in November 2015. By late-December, with an incredible show of support and compassion from several community organizations, schools, and residents all throughout Queens; Assembly member Weprin's district offices received more than 400 toys for children of all ages. Toys were distributed to over 300 children at the Boys & Girls Club of Metro Queens with each child receiving a gift relative to their age and choice. The remaining toys were distributed to local schools and charities including the Once Upon a Time school in Richmond Hill.

'Twas the week before Christmas, and Assemblyman David Weprin was joined by John J. DeCristoforo, Chief Executive Officer of the Boys & Girls Club of Metro Queens, and others to gift collected toys to the Boys & Girls Club of Metro Queens in Richmond Hill, New York.



Rally to Keep the Queensboro Bridge Toll-Free

In December, Assemblyman Weprin was joined by Senator Tony Avella, Assemblywoman Alicia Hyndman, Councilman Barry Grodenchik, the Queens Chamber of Commerce & the Queens Civic Congress in opposition to a reintroduced congestion pricing scheme that seeks to place tolls on the Queensboro/59th Street Bridge. In addition to rallying against the MOVE NY proposal, Assemblyman Weprin has introduced legislation that prohibits the placement of any tolls on currently toll-free East River bridges in Queens and Brooklyn.



Interfaith Council for Community Development, Peace, and Security

Assemblyman David Weprin joined a panel at the Bosnian Community Center in Richmond Hill to discuss religious tolerance and security. Hosted by Dr. Mohamed Hack, the panel featured leaders from Sikh, Christian, Hindu, Muslim, and Jewish communities. Addressing the diverse audience, Assemblyman Weprin said 'Anytime there is a hate crime, we all have to stand together; a hate crime against one group is a hate crime against all of us.'



Honoring Editha Santiago, recipient of the AARP I Caregivers award

Assemblyman Weprin and the AARP joined together to honor Editha Santiago with a New York State Assembly Proclamation and the AARP I Caregivers award. Ms. Santiago was chosen as the New York State recipient of AARP's I Caregivers initiative, to recognize the dedication of exceptional caregivers in each state. Editha cared for her mother, Cesaria, for nearly two decades. Cesaria had early stages of dementia and couldn't walk because of issues with her knees. One of 10 children, as a retired nurse, Editha took on the majority of her mother's care. Editha Santiago is one of the 40 million Americans - nearly 2.6 million in New York State - who help older parents, spouses, and other loved ones live independently at home, where they want to be.



Celebration of Guyana's 50th Jubilee Anniversary

In January, Assemblyman Weprin joined with Assemblywoman Alicia L. Hyndman to present the Prime Minister of Guyana, Moses Nagamootoo with a Citation for his commitment to public service, human rights and democracy. Prime Minister Moses Nagamootoo was visiting Queens in celebration of Guyana's 50th Year of Independence.



Bangladesh Victory Day Celebration

Assemblyman Weprin met with Ambassador Masud bin Momen, the Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the United Nations in commemoration of Bangladesh's Victory Day at the Permanent Mission of Bangladesh to the United Nations. At the event, Assemblyman Weprin praised the contributions of the Bangladeshi community in New York and noted the sacrifices of Bangladesh's Freedom Fighters, many of whom were present in the audience. The holiday marks the 45th Anniversary of Bangladesh's victory in the Bangladesh Liberation Day War.



(Pictured: Councilman Barry Grodenchik, Assemblyman David Weprin, Rabbi Shlomo Hochberg, Mrs. Karen Hochberg, Councilman Rory Lancman, and Dinner Chairman Dr. Harold Biller)

Inter-Community Civic Association Senior End-of-Year Luncheon

The Inter-Community Civic Association (ICCA) and Indo-Caribbean Federation held a special end-of-year luncheon for seniors at the Villa Russo restaurant. The annual luncheon is an opportunity for community members to recognize senior citizens at the end of the year. At the luncheon, Assemblyman Weprin presented Citations to honor several senior citizens. Pictured with Assemblyman Weprin are Rukhminee Persaud and Dr. Taj Rajkumar.

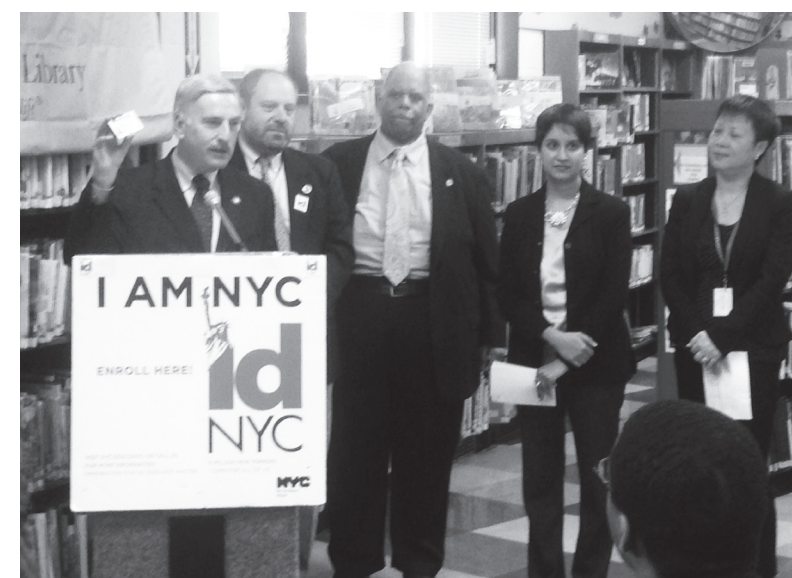


Lunar New Year Stamp - First Day of Issue at St. John's University

Assemblyman David Weprin joined Congresswoman Grace Meng, Congressman Gregory Meeks, and Assemblywoman Nily Rozic at St. John's University to ring in the Lunar New Year with a new stamp created in commemoration of the Year of the Monkey. Issued by the USPS and launched at St. John's University, the new stamp will be on sale at post offices across the country.

Minimum Wage Rally with Governor Cuomo and U.S. Secretary of Labor Tom Perez

In early January, Assemblyman David Weprin joined Governor Andrew Cuomo, U.S. Secretary of Labor Tom Perez, Attorney General Eric Schneiderman, & other elected officials at the 1199SEIU United Healthcare Headquarters in Manhattan to rally in support of Governor Andrew Cuomo's campaign for a statewide \$15 minimum wage. The 'Mario Cuomo Campaign for Economic Justice' is a broad effort by Governor Cuomo to increase the statewide minimum wage to an hourly rate of \$15. Speaking after the event, Assemblyman Weprin said "All hard-working New Yorkers deserve a living wage. Currently, there are far too many Queens residents that are working two, or sometimes even three, jobs to make ends meet. I applaud Governor Cuomo for organizing this rally and I am proud to support the Governor's office in this fight for a statewide minimum wage of \$15 an hour."



IDNYC at Briarwood Public Library

Assemblyman David Weprin showed his IDNYC card at the IDNYC Pop Up Enrollment Center in the Queens Library Briarwood branch. In addition to serving as an official form of government identification for city services, the IDNYC card also provides free access to over 30 cultural institutions citywide including the Flushing Town Hall, Jamaica Center for Arts & Learning, Queens Botanical Garden, Queens Museum, and Queens Theatre in the Park. Pictured are Assemblyman David Weprin, Councilman Rory Lancman, Senator Leroy Comrie, Commissioner for Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs Nisha Agrawal, and Cathy Chen, Queens Library.

107th Precinct Holiday Party

The 107th Precinct Community Council held their Annual Children's Holiday Party on December 6th. At the event, Assemblyman David Weprin met with Community Council President Carolann Foley, officers from the 107th Precinct's Community Affairs Unit, and children from the community. Assemblyman Weprin was also greeted by McGruff the Crime Dog, who appeared to appreciate the Assemblyman's committed efforts to "take a bite out of crime."



Assemblyman Weprin as the Ringmaster at Big Apple Circus

Assemblyman Weprin cameos as the ringmaster of the Big Apple Circus at Cunningham Park. Here, he poses with the daily ringmaster John Kennedy Kane & the Assemblyman's Grandson, Ethan, at the circus.

Assemblyman Weprin Celebrates Diwali at City Hall

Diwali, the Hindu festival of lights, is celebrated each fall in neighborhoods across Queens and in communities across the city. This past December, the New York City Council hosted a Diwali celebration in City Hall featuring performances and speeches from Indian-Americans. Pictured at the event with Assemblyman David Weprin is Dr. Neeta Jain, Trustee of the Hindu Center of NYC, with Indian Classical Dance performers in the background.



Hollis Hills Menorah Lighting Ceremony

The Hollis Hill Civic Association hosted a Menorah Lighting Ceremony during Hanukkah. The celebration brought together the Congregation of the Chabad House of Eastern Queens and a large group of Hollis Hills residents to light a menorah designed and built by the students of PS 188. On the eighth night of Hanukkah, Assemblyman David Weprin & Councilman Barry Grodenchik joined hands with the children of PS 188 to light the final Hanukkah candle of 2015.



Assemblyman

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Assemblyman Weprin kicked off tax season at the Queens Library Lefferts branch in Richmond Hill with Community Board 9 District Manager Lisa Gomes, Richmond Hill - S Ozone Park Lions Club President Carolina Soto, NYS Tax & Finance Department Outreach Specialists Cory Ziter & Somra Khalid, and volunteers from the NYS Department of Taxation and Finance.

The NYS Department of Taxation and Finance and Assemblyman Weprin's Office will continue hosting a Facilitated Tax Assistance site at the Queens Library Lefferts branch in Richmond Hill every Wednesday from 10 A.M. - 4 P.M. until April 13th.

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