



## Reports to the Community

Summer 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.



### Summer Reading Kickoff with CEO Dennis Walcott

In early June, Queens Library CEO Dennis Walcott and Assemblyman David Weprin joined together with children of the Queens Library 'Drop Everything and Read' Club to announce the 2016 New York State Assembly Summer Reading Challenge at the Queens Library at Hollis. After reading to the children and engaging the group in a thoughtful discussion on politics, Assemblyman Weprin lauded the benefits of reading for pleasure and knowledge.

Through the summer, Assemblyman David Weprin will be offering Summer Reading Challenge materials at the Glen Oaks, Windsor Park, Lefferts, and Hollis locations of the Queens Library, as well as at both of Assemblyman Weprin's District Offices.

### Standing with Governor Cuomo Against BDS

In June, Assemblyman David Weprin joined Governor Andrew Cuomo in support of a first-in-the-nation Executive Order to divest public funds from those that support the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) campaign against Israel. After joining the Governor, Assemblyman Weprin issued the following statement:

"The BDS movement seeks to de-legitimize Israel, the only nation in the region that offers full citizenship to its inhabitants regardless of race or religion, by advocating for a boycott of all Israeli products and businesses. In addition to a blanket boycott of Israel, the BDS movement also selectively engages in rhetoric that aims to isolate Israel from its allies and the greater global community. The underhanded tactics used by supporters of the BDS movement only serve to discriminate against all Israelis and as such, I applaud Governor Andrew Cuomo for issuing this Executive Order against the BDS movement." Weprin continued, "New York and Israel enjoy a special relationship and Governor Cuomo's order ensures that Israel will not be unfairly discriminated against by businesses contracted by New York State."



*Assembly members Phil Goldfeder, Nily Rozic, Walter Mosley, David Weprin, and Charles Lavine with Governor Andrew Cuomo*

### Naturalize NY: Helping New Yorkers on the Path to Citizenship

Assemblyman David Weprin gladly joined Governor Andrew Cuomo at the launch of Naturalize NY, a public-private partnership that will help pay the application fee for low-income New Yorkers on the path to citizenship. The current \$680 application fee required for the naturalization process is often a prohibitive barrier for many legal immigrants and by lending a hand with Naturalize NY, New York State will help ease the burden for thousands of New Yorkers seeking to recognize their dreams of citizenship.

*CUNY Senior Vice Chancellor for University Relations Jay Hershenson, Assemblyman David Weprin, Governor Andrew Cuomo, Former Secretary of State of New York Cesar Perales, and Assemblymember Linda B. Rosenthal*



# Assemblyman Weprin in the Community

## Celebrating Legislative Disabilities Awareness Day

Observed each spring in the legislature, *Legislative Disabilities Awareness Day* serves as an opportunity to focus on the needs and concerns of people with disabilities. As Chair of the Assembly Task Force on People with Disabilities, Assemblyman David Weprin announced the passage of legislation to better serve the needs of New Yorkers with disabilities. The Assembly's legislation included several Weprin sponsored bills to help improve the quality of life for people with disabilities; including measures to provide for Braille ballots in New York, establishing an emergency evacuation plan for individuals with disabilities and creating a tax credit for owners of residential buildings to retrofit homes with access for the disabled.



Assemblyman David Weprin, 12th Annual Dr. Henry Viscardi Jr Award recipient Bryan O'Malley, and Assembly member Patricia Fahy



## Improving Transportation for People with Disabilities

As Chair of the Assembly Task Force on People with Disabilities, Assemblyman David Weprin is working to ensure that people with disabilities have access to all for hire vehicles; including yellow cabs, green cabs, and ride sharing services. After meeting with Commissioner Meera Joshi of the NYC Taxi and Limousine Commission & Commissioner Victor Calise of the New York City Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities this May, Assemblyman David Weprin rallied with coalition of advocacy groups, taxi drivers, and consumers to call for equal and expanded accessibility mandates in all for hire vehicles.

## Voicing Queens' Transportation Priorities

Assemblyman David Weprin participated in a transportation themed panel discussion, "Getting From Here to There: Unclogging New York's Transportation," hosted by the Manhattan Institute at 7 WTC this spring. As the only speaker from Queens and sole representative from the outer-boroughs seated on the panel, Assemblyman Weprin spoke out against proposed congestion pricing initiatives and the tolling of East River bridges, as well as in support of improved North-South bus service in Queens and Brooklyn.



Sam Schwartz of Sam Schwartz Engineering, Port Authority of New York and New Jersey Executive Director Pat Foye, Nicole Gelinas of the Manhattan Institute, Assemblyman David Weprin, and Errol Louis of NY1 News

## Honoring the New York Mets National League Championship

The New York State Assembly honored the New York Mets' memorable 2015 season this past session. The Mets appeared in their first World Series since 2000, fifth overall, after sweeping the Chicago Cubs in the NLCS. As a lifelong New York Mets Fan, Assemblyman David Weprin met with New York Mets Manager Terry Collins and COO Jeff Wilpon to congratulate the New York Mets on their 2015 National League Championship.

Assemblyman David Weprin, New York Mets Manager Terry Collins, and COO Jeff Wilpon



## The 24th Assembly District South Asian Advisory Panel

Assemblyman David Weprin hosted the 24th Assembly District South Asian Advisory Panel this spring. Conceived as a means to improve communication between the South Asian community and elected officials, the Advisory Panel is composed of leaders from the South Asian community, as well as concerned residents. Past meetings centered on discussions regarding healthcare, transportation, and senior care.



## Fire Alarm Giveaway at the Hillcrest Jewish Center

After a number of fire related incidents in Queens this spring, Assemblyman David Weprin partnered with Council member Rory Lancman, the FDNY, American Red Cross, and Mayor's Community Affairs Unit to hold a 'Get Alarmed NYC' event at the Hillcrest Jewish Center. The fire alarm giveaway at the Hillcrest Jewish Center followed events held at the Jamaica Muslim Center and Queens Library at Windsor Park.



FDNY Fire Safety team, Assemblyman David Weprin, Council member Rory Lancman, Jessica Douglas of the Mayor's Community Affairs Unit, and Clive Dawkins of the American Red Cross

## Rain Barrel Giveaway at Cunningham Park

Assemblyman David Weprin, Council member Barry Grodenchik, Senator Leroy Comrie, and the New York City Department of Environmental Protection distributed 150 rain barrels at Cunningham Park in June. Part of New York City's Green Infrastructure Plan, the giveaway provides rain barrels to homeowners as a way to promote water conservation.



Assemblyman David Weprin, Council member Barry Grodenchik, Senator Leroy Comrie, and officials from the New York City Department of Environmental Protection

## Yeshiva of Central Queens 75th Anniversary

Assemblyman David Weprin, Assemblyman Michael Simanowitz, and Council member Rory I. Lancman joined together to recognize Rabbi Mark Landsman and Naomi Landsman; Eric S. Goldstein; Ronen and Tanya Nissini; and the Hametz, Holzer, and Rothberger families; at the 75th Anniversary of the Yeshiva of Central Queens Dinner.



Congratulating the 2016 Graduating Classes of PS/IS 178 Holliswood, PS 115 Glen Oaks, Richmond Hill HS, and Summit School

## Ramadan Iftar hosted by the Jamaica Community Club

Assemblyman David Weprin attended the Ramadan Iftar at the Jamaica Community Club in June. Held each night during Ramadan, Iftar is the evening meal where Muslims end their daily Ramadan fast at sunset.



## Over 90's Party at the Samuel Field Y

Assemblyman David Weprin attended the Over 90's Party at the Samuel Field Y this past May. After celebrating with the vibrant group of seniors, Assemblyman Weprin presented certificates to senior center members over the age of 90.



*Assemblyman David Weprin with seniors at the Samuel Field Y*

## Queensborough Community College Commencement Ceremony

Assemblyman David Weprin proudly addressed some of Queens' most dedicated and hardworking students at the Queensborough Community College / CUNY Commencement Ceremony this past June.



*Assemblyman David Weprin, Queensborough Community College President Diane Call, and Senator Toby Stavisky*

## Baba Sant Nidham Singh Cultural Center Soccer Tournament



*Harpreet Singh Toor, Samam Singh Parhar, Council Member Barry Grodenchik and Assemblyman David Weprin*

## Young Israel of Jamaica Estates Charity Car Wash



## Glen Oaks Annual BBQ



*Bob Freidrich, Council Member Barry Grodenchik, Assemblyman David Weprin, and Assembly member Edward Braunstein*



Assemblyman

**DAVID I. WEPRIN**

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## Donate to our School Supply Drive!

Help a student in need by donating to Assemblyman David Weprin's School Supply Drive. We will be accepting donations of backpacks, marble notebooks, folders, art supplies, index cards, paper towels, tissues, and other assorted supplies in Fresh Meadows and Richmond Hill. For more information, please call 718-454-3027 or 718-805-2381.

## Boy Scouts Meet and Greet at St. John's



*Assemblyman David Weprin with the Boy Scouts of the Cub Scout Day Camp at St. John's University*