DAVID I. WEPRIN



Reports to the Community

AUGUST 2021

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 Friends and Neighbors,

I hope that this past summer was a healthy and safe one for you and your family. I was overjoyed to greet

many of you this summer at the Open House for my Fresh Meadows office! I look forward to additional opportunities to speak with you at one of the many community events this year.

Among the upcoming events sponsored by my office will be a rain barrel and compost giveaway. If you have not already done so, please follow me on Facebook or sign-up for my email list so that you can receive advanced notification about these events. As always, it remains my pleasure to represent you in our State Capital in Albany and to advocate on behalf of your needs.

If you have any questions or concerns that you would like to share with me, please do not hesitate to call my Fresh Meadows office at 718-454-3027 or email me at weprind@nyassembly.gov.

Sincerely Yours,

David I. Weprin Member of Assembly Chair of the NYS Assembly Committee on Correction

> DISTRICT OFFICES: 185-06 Union Turnpike Fresh Meadows, NY 11366 718-454-3027

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Street Renaming: Pandit Ramlall Way

I was thrilled to participate in the unveiling of Pandit Ramlall Way, located at the corner of Liberty Avenue and 133rd Street in Richmond Hill, Queens. Dharmacharya Pandit Ramlall was a spiritual leader who founded the NY Holi Parade and the Arya Spiritual Center. Our shared values of community service and civic engagement is why I was honored to participate in the street renaming with Mr. Ramlall's family and friends.



Assemblymembers David Weprin, Jenifer Rajkumar, and Khaleel Anderson, and Councilwoman Adrienne Adams celebrate the unveiling of Pandit Ramlall Way.

On Andrew Cuomo's Resignation

Earlier this year, when allegations of sexual harassment against Governor Andrew Cuomo arose, I called for an independent investigation to be conducted by NYS Attorney General Letitia James. On August 3, 2021, the Attorney General's report came out and raised very serious allegations against Governor Cuomo.

Simultaneously, the Assembly Judicary Committee has been conducting its own investigation since March 2021. As a member of the Assembly Judicary Committee, I have been heavily involved in that investigation and fact finding. The troubling allegations would probably have resulted in articles of impeachment had the Governor not resigned on August 10th, effective August 24th.

Even though it looks like a trial in the Senate will not take place, I feel strongly that my work and the work of the Assembly Judiciary Committee should continue and conclude its investigation with a public report. I believe that the public is entitled to the findings of our investigation and any evidence discovered should be available to the various law enforcement investigations taking place.

I welcome our new Governor, Kathy Hochul and I look forward to working with her on issues of concern to our district and the overall state of New York.

Welcoming Our New Governor Kathy Hochul



I wish Governor Kathy Hochul well in the transition. I have worked with Kathy Hochul as Lieutenant Governor for the last seven years. I know she will hit the ground running. Her historic position as the first female Governor of New York is something we can be proud of. It is important for people to see themselves represented in government. As the first female Governor of New York, Kathy Hochul is a role model for girls and women.

Assemblyman David Weprin and Governor Kathy Hochul.

National Night Out Against Crime

I enjoyed taking part in the National Night Out Against Crime on Tuesday, August 3, 2021. There was entertainment and food at each event I stopped by. So many people came out to support the 113th, 111th, 105th, 107th, and 102nd police precincts. Seeing community members and police officers interact in positive ways is what this event is all about!

Assemblyman
David Weprin
with Chief
Rodney
Harrison
and Captain
Antonio
Fidacaro at
the 102nd
Precinct event.





Assemblyman David Weprin with Carolann Foley and Captain Kevin Chan, commanding officer of the 107th Precinct.

July 4th Celebration

On the Fourth of July, I celebrated Independence Day at an event on 168th St. in front of the Jamaica Muslim Center in Queens. The event I spoke at was organized by The Weekly Bangladesh and Jamaica Bangladesh Friends Society.



Assemblyman Weprin, General Secretary of the JMC Monjur Chowdury, community leader Delwar Islam, and community leader Moin Chowdury each shared a few words with the audience at the Jamaica Muslim Center.

Ribbon Cutting Ceremony Along Braddock Avenue

I was proud to participate in the Braddock Avenue ribbon cutting ceremony. I rejoiced with the residents and business of Queens who can now use Braddock Avenue safely. For years, it was left in disrepair, but the community did not remain silent about it. Speaking up brought about the improvements we see here today. Thank you, Department of Transportation, for making these much-needed repairs to our urban infrastructure.



Assemblyman David Weprin, Councilman Barry Grodenchik, Senator John Liu, and Assemblyman Clyde Vanel take part in a ribbon cutting for the recently repayed Braddock Avenue.

Property Tax Relief

On Sunday, July 11th, at Haggerty Park, I called on the NYC Department of Finance to grant Queens homeowners much-needed property tax relief. I stressed the hardships homeowners faced due to the COVID-19 pandemic. With the City still in the early stages of recovering from the devastation caused by the pandemic, protecting Queens residents from possible eviction is more important than ever. Community activists and representatives from Queens Village Civic Association, local community clubs, St. Albans Civic Improvement Association, SEQLegalNYC, and New York Community For Change were there to voice their concerns.



Assemblyman David Weprin stood alongside community members Asim Deen, Preston Baker, Jean Sassine, Jason Clark, Harold Miller, Oster Bryan, Lynn Lynn, and Juanita Oliva at the property tax relief rally.

Rally To Repair: Sidewalk Damage From Tropical Storm Isaias

I joined fellow elected officials and homeowners in a rally demanding that City Hall fix our damaged infrastructure. Though Tropical Storm Isaias passed through New York City last year, its impact is still being felt in our community today. Sidewalks throughout Queens were left in disrepair. For the sake of seniors and businesses, as well as all residents and organizations in our community who use these walkways, it's time for them to be repaired. The rally to repair damaged sidewalks took place on Tuesday, July 13th.



Assemblyman David Weprin, Senator John Liu, Borough President Donovan Richards, Assemblymembers Clyde Vanel and Nily Rozic, Councilman Barry Grodenchik, Community Board 8 Chair Martha Taylor and District Manager Marie Adam-Ovide, and homeowners call on City Hall to repair the damage caused by Tropical Storm Isaias.

QBP Richards Mobile Constituent Services At Glen Oaks

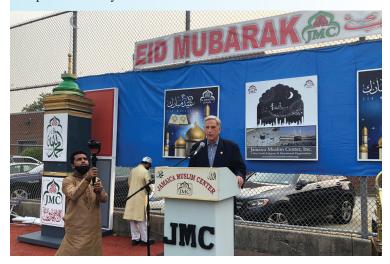
I was grateful for another opportunity to speak with constituents face-to-face through the Queens Borough President's Mobile Constituent Services outreach program. Constituents took home informational pamphlets on topics ranging from COVID-19 prevention to the New York Emergency Rental Assistance Program.



Queens Borough President Donovan Richards, Assemblyman David Weprin, and President & CEO of the Queens Public Library Dennis Walcott greet constituents outside of Glen Oaks Library.

Eid Al-Adha

Eid Mubarak! I celebrated Eid al-Adha with constituents, District Attorney Melinda Katz, and Senator John Liu at the Jamaica Muslim Center and Darus Salaam Masjid in Jamaica as well as at the Ahmadiyaa Muslim Community Center in Holliswood. Eid al-Adha, also known as the Festival of Sacrifice, is one of the most important holidays in the Muslim faith.



Assemblyman David Weprin speaking before the Eid Al-Adha prayers at the Jamaica Muslim Center.

Sheldon Schwartz Proclamation



Dr. Sheldon Schwartz was happy to receive a Proclamation from Assemblyman David Weprin on his 102nd birthday.

I was honored to present an Assembly Proclamation to Dr. Sheldon Schwartz on his 102nd birthday! He is a member of JASA Holliswood Senior Center and the Young Israel of Holliswood. Dr. Schwartz's wife Marlene Wadler Schwartz, his family members, and JASA Holliswood Senior Center members celebrated the special occasion on Wednesday, July 21st. Sheldon Schwartz devoted his life to serving others by working as a doctor in Queens.

Perhaps, a commitment to making things better for people in need is the secret to longevity. We would all do well by following Dr. Schwartz's example!

Nepali Group BBQ Picnic



On Sunday August 1st, I spoke at the Nepali Group BBQ Picnic in Queensbridge Park. I was delighted to be chosen as the Guest of Honor at the event. The event was organized by the GPK Foundation of America President and the ASAAL Jackson Heights Chapter.

Assemblyman David Weprin was a guest of honor at the Nepali Group BBQ Picnic.

75th Indian Independence Day Celebration

I was proud to participate in the 75th Indian Independence Day celebration at the Gujarati Samaj Hall in Fresh Meadows on August 15th. As the NYS Assemblyman for District 24, I am honored to represent one of the largest Indian American populations in New York State.



Assemblyman David Weprin attends the 75th Indian Independence Day celebration at the Gujarati Samaj Hall.

Suitcase Sunday



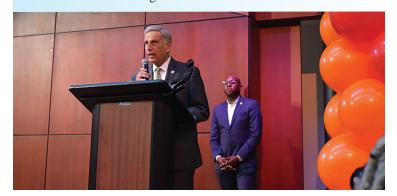
Assemblyman David Weprin chats with entrepreneurs and advocates at the inaugural Suitcase Sunday event.

The first annual Suitcase Sunday took place on July 18th at Baisley Pond Park. I spoke with advocates representing organizations like Release Aging People From Prison, From Tragedy 2 Triumph, Katal Center, and Father's Alive In the Hood. The event, organized by Witness

to Mass Incarceration and sponsored by Councilwoman Adrienne Adams, was an opportunity for entrepreneurs who were formerly incarcerated to showcase their goods and services. Just Soul Catering, Fresh Taste Bakery, Lozo Couture, and Abundant Motors are just some of the businesses owned by formerly incarcerated individuals that are making a meaningful, positive impact on the community.

QBP Inaugural Black Business Month Celebration

August is Black Business Month. In honor of the occasion, Queens Borough Hall held a Black Business Month Celebration in the Helen Marshall Center. I was thrilled to see so many small businesses operating in Queens. A variety of businesses like TeasByTiffany, Bakewell: Bakery & Restaurant, Roti on the Run, Keiko Studios Music Academy, and Laughing River, LLC. showcased their goods and services that evening. I was grateful for the opportunity to offer a few words of encouragement to business owners at the event.



Assemblyman David Weprin and Queens Borough President Donovan Richards speak at the First Black Business Month Celebration at Queens Borough Hall.

Young Israel of Jamaica Estates Dinner

I was proud to attend the 42nd Anniversary Dinner of the Young Israel of Jamaica Estates. The Young Israel of Jamaica Estates has been an endless source of inspiration and renewal for tens of thousands of Jewish families in Eastern Queens. At the anniversary dinner, I presented Assembly Proclamations to members Rhonda and Hilton Blachman, Tzipporah and Moshe Boim, and Zach Herskowitz. Each recipient has made a positive impact on the Jewish community in Queens by sacrificing their time and resources for the greater good.



Assemblyman David Weprin presents Assembly Proclamations to members of the Young Israel of Jamaica Estates at their 42nd Anniversary Dinner. Assemblyman Weprin is seen here with Rabbi Shlomo and Karen Hochberg, Hilton and Rhonda Blachman, Zach Herskowitz, outgoing President Sam Herskowitz, and Rabbi Dov and Rebbetzin Miriam Lerner.

Office Open House

I was happy to see so many old friends and new faces at my Fresh Meadow office's Open House. After over a year of working remotely because of the COVID-19 pandemic, it's great to be back in the office!



Assemblyman David Weprin welcomed publisher and founder of the Queens Jewish Link Yaakov Serle, Queens Civic Congress President Kevin Forrestal and his wife Jackie Forrestal, and all guests to his Open House this August.

Ecuadorian Day Parade

As a member of the Puerto Rican/Hispanic Task Force, I was proud to participate in the 38th Annual Ecuadorian Day Parade. The parade was an opportunity to celebrate the fact that New York has one of the largest Ecuadorian-American communities in the United States. Ecuadorian-Americans have made Queens their home. It is part of why we are known as "The World's Borough."



Assembly Member David Weprin, Catalina Cruz, and Jessica Gonzalez-Rojas, Congresswoman Grace Meng, and Queens Borough President Donovan Richards marched in the parade.

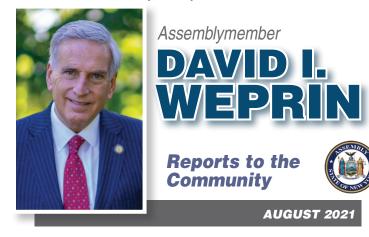
Hollis Hills Bayside Jewish Center + Marathon Jewish Center = Congregation Etz Hayim Of Hollis Hills Bayside

I was pleased to give an Assembly Proclamation to the Congregation Etz Hayim of Hollis Hills Bayside. The Congregation formed from the consolidation of Marathon Jewish Center and Hollis Hills Bayside Jewish Center. This egalitarian synagogue has served the Northeast Queens Jewish Community. The synagogue has displayed a commitment to promoting the values of family, faith, and community. I am honored to recognize their good work.



Assemblyman David Weprin, co-Presidents of the new synagogue Maris Blechner and Abe Dyzenhaus, Rabbi Gary Greene, Cantor Sol Zim, Rabbi David Wise are all smiles after receiving the Assembly Proclamation.

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Queens County Farm

The New York Farm Bureau invited elected officials to participate in a conversation about food access and farming at the Queens County Farm Museum (QCFM). One of the many lessons of the COVID-19 pandemic is the importance of safeguarding the food supply chain. At the QCFM, I listened to the New York Farm Bureau express their concerns for the future.

Thank you, New York Farm Bureau, for raising awareness on this matter.



Executive Director of the Queens County Farm Museum Jennifer Walden Weprin, Assemblymembers David Weprin, Edward Braunstein, and Judy Griffin (Nassau), as well as Councilman Barry Grodenchik share a warm-hearted moment at the Queens County Farm Museum.