

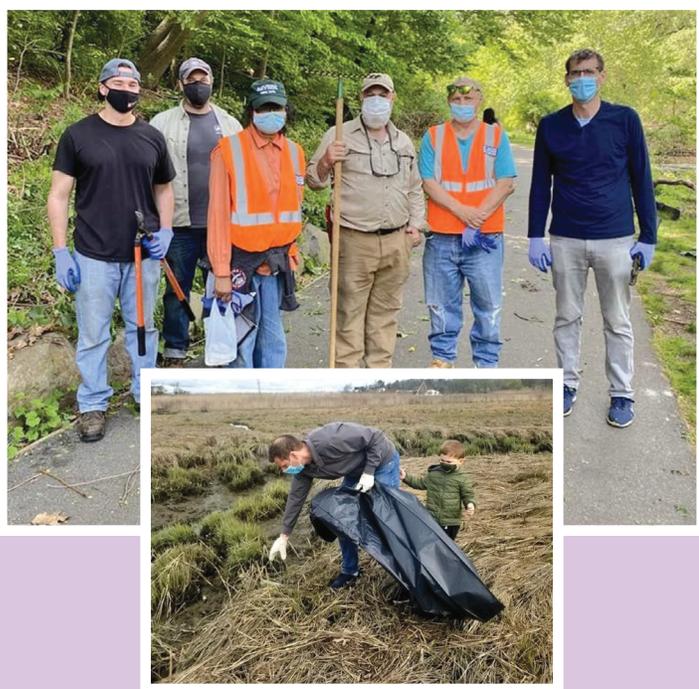
Around the Community



Assemblyman Braunstein joined the Little Neck-Douglaston Memorial Day Parade Committee for an Interfaith Service and Wreath Laying Ceremony on Memorial Day.



Winners of Assemblyman Braunstein's Northeast Queens Student Mother's Day Essay & Poetry Contest: (clockwise, from top left) Zoe Olivia Chi (P.S. 31 Bayside), Sohana Singh (P.S. 115 Glen Oaks), Evan Lianos (William Spyropoulos Greek-American Day School Flushing) and Luana Restrepo (P.S. 221 Little Neck).



Assemblyman Braunstein joined Friends of Alley Pond Park at Oakland Lake in Bayside and the Udalls Cove Preservation Committee in Douglaston for volunteer-led spring cleanings and beautification projects.



Assemblyman Braunstein partnered with the Lower East Side Ecology Center and Senator John Liu on a successful e-waste recycling event at St. Anastasia in Little Neck, where residents safely disposed of their unwanted or broken electronics for free.

Assemblyman Edward C. Braunstein

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Assemblyman Braunstein Passes Bills Protecting Middle Class Co-op Owners

Governor Cuomo has signed Assemblyman Braunstein's legislation (sponsored in the Senate by Toby Ann Stavisky) extending the J-51 property tax exemption and abatement program into law. This bill extends this critical exemption for one year, to June 30, 2022, so more property owners can take advantage of it.

"Renewing the J-51 tax incentive will provide needed property tax relief to eligible New York City co-ops while ensuring that buildings and structures undergo necessary capital and safety improvements," said Assemblyman Braunstein.

The Assembly and Senate also passed Assemblyman Braunstein's bill (sponsored in the Senate by John Liu) that excludes co-ops from certain provisions of the Housing Stability and Tenant Protection Act.

"Exempting cooperatives from these provisions will shield co-op owners from bearing the burden when fellow shareholders fail to meet their financial obligations," said Assemblyman Braunstein.



Now Open: Pandemic Small Business and Emergency Rental Assistance Programs

The Pandemic Small Business Recovery Grant Program is now open for applications. Assemblyman Braunstein, who serves as a member of the Assembly's Working Group on Transitioning N.Y. Economy Toward COVID-19 Recovery, encourages Queens small businesses who experienced financial hardship due to COVID-19 to apply to the program by visiting www.nysmallbusinessrecovery.com.

The Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP), which was also passed as part of this year's state budget, is now accepting applications. The program helps eligible New Yorkers impacted by COVID-19 pay rent and utility costs.

Tenants and small landlords in need are encouraged to apply as soon as possible. To find out if you are eligible and to submit an application, please visit www.otda.ny.gov/erap.

Assemblyman Braunstein Provides Benefits Assistance for Seniors

Assemblyman Braunstein, in partnership with Services Now for Adult Persons, Inc., is offering benefits and entitlements counseling to persons 60 years of age and older, including help with EPIC, Food Stamps, HEAP, Medicaid, Medicare Part D, SCHE, and SCRIE. Please call Assemblyman Braunstein's office at 718-357-3588 if you would like to schedule an appointment with a case worker.



Assemblyman Braunstein presented NYS Assembly Citations of Merit to two local centenarians: Bay Terrace's Ann Nasi, who turned 100 on April 21, and New Hyde Park's Anna Galati, who turned 100 on May 25.

Assemblyman Braunstein welcomed hundreds of residents to a free shredding event, co-sponsored by Senator John C. Liu, Cord Meyer Development Company, Northwest Bayside Civic Association, Bay Terrace Community Alliance, and Royal Waste Services, Inc., at the Bay Terrace Shopping Center.

Assemblyman Braunstein's Bill Simplifying School Enrollment for Military Families Passes

The New York State Assembly and Senate have passed Assemblyman Braunstein's legislation that would allow military families relocating to New York State to enroll their children in school at the same time as their peers, prior to physically arriving in the neighborhood. Assemblyman Braunstein's district includes Fort Totten, located in Bay Terrace.

The Defense Department estimates that the average child in a military family will move six to nine times during a school career and over 185,000 military children move between schools annually, causing them to potentially miss important registration, application, or extracurricular enrollment periods within their new school community.

"Due to frequent relocations necessitated by their service to our country, military members and their families face unique challenges enrolling their children in schools and extracurriculars," said Assemblyman Braunstein. "This bill would help offer military children the best possible educational experience while they and their families call New York State home."



Assemblyman Braunstein attended the Queens Flag Day Dinner in Douglaston and awarded Citations of Merit to the outstanding honorees.

Assembly and Senate Pass Assemblyman Braunstein's Bill to Co-Prescribe Overdose Antidote with Opioids

The New York State Assembly and Senate have passed Assemblyman Braunstein's critical legislation that would require medical professionals to co-prescribe an antagonist, such as naloxone, with a new opioid prescription once annually when certain patient risk factors are present.

According to the CDC, U.S. drug overdose deaths rose by nearly 30% in 2020, hitting the highest number ever recorded in a 12-month period. Drug overdose deaths in New York increased by an estimated 37% in the first eight months of 2020, year-over-year. Between January and March of 2020, 440 New York City residents died due to an accidental drug overdose, nearly 100 more deaths during the same time in 2019. Opioid-related overdoses mainly drove these increases. Naloxone hydrochloride acts to block the effects of opioids and reverse overdose.

"In 2020, as we fought to contain one public health epidemic, another was quietly on the rise: opioid abuse," said Assemblyman Braunstein. "Increasing access to the antidote naloxone would not only save lives in New York and reduce emergency room admissions, but also open a critical dialogue between doctor and patient about the dangers associated with opioids and long-term use."

Assemblyman Braunstein Announces Passage of Gun Reform Legislation to Protect Communities

During this Session, Assemblyman Braunstein helped pass a gun safety legislative package that will enable law enforcement to crack down on gun crimes without infringing upon the rights of law-abiding gun owners.

The package expands protections for domestic violence victims by ensuring law enforcement can seize the weapons of a person who is the subject of an order of protection if they refuse to surrender them. Other key measures passed would prohibit the possession and sale of unfinished firearm frames and receivers, which can be used to build illegal, untraceable guns at home, and require licensed gunsmiths to add serial numbers and register "ghost guns" to help law enforcement track down firearms used in crimes. Most recently, Governor Cuomo signed into law a bill allowing those engaged in the manufacture, sale, or marketing of guns to be held civilly liable for damages resulting from their failure to implement reasonable controls and procedures to protect public safety.

"Too many families have been torn apart by the scourge of gun violence. The ripple effect of every incident is far-reaching and devastating," said Assemblyman Braunstein. "These bills will help prevent gun violence and take vital steps toward protecting New Yorkers from harm."



Assemblyman Braunstein celebrated the ribbon cutting on the new Tanenbaum Family Pool locker room and community food pantry at Commonpoint Queens Sam Field Center in Little Neck.



Assemblyman Braunstein presented the Bayside Hills Civic Association with a New York State Legislative Resolution to celebrate Bayside Hills' 85th Anniversary.

Dear Neighbor:

I hope you are enjoying a pleasant summer. This newsletter highlights the actions I have been taking in our district and in Albany on behalf of our community. If you would like to sign up for my email list to receive more frequent updates, please email me at braunsteine@nyassembly.gov.

As always, my office is available to assist you. If you are having trouble with state or local government issues, please do not hesitate to contact us. My staff and I are always here to help you obtain benefits, provide information on government programs, and develop legislative solutions to community problems. I thank you for the privilege of serving as your Assemblyman and I wish you and your family a healthy and happy rest of the year.



Edward C. Braunstein
Member of Assembly, 26th District

New York State Assembly • Albany, New York 12248

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Assemblyman **Edward C. Braunstein** Reports to the People

Summer 2021



Assemblyman Braunstein called on the city to open permanent COVID-19 vaccination sites in Northeast Queens at a February press conference held in Little Neck and successfully pressed Mayor de Blasio to open multiple sites, including one at Korean Community Services in Bayside.



Assemblyman Braunstein stood with local elected officials and the Northeast Queens community at a Unity Rally in Bay Terrace to condemn discrimination and attacks targeting Asian Americans.