

# A Message From ASSEMBLYMEMBER HARVEY EPSTEIN



## **ASSEMBLY MEMBER HARVEY EPSTEIN COMMUNITY BOARD 6 REPORT, NOVEMBER 2022**

Dear Neighbor,

As we enter the holiday season and end of the year, I hope you're spending it with friends and loved ones. We're less than two months from January, when I'll return to Albany for the start of the 2023 legislative session.

There's a lot to do, including building on the successes of last year like expanding and protecting reproductive health care and keeping guns off our streets. We urgently need to address the housing supply and affordability crisis. To that end, I will be reintroducing legislation to enable New York City to safely upgrade basement apartments which would bring tens of thousands of units across the City up to safety standards and create legal protections for tenants, and redouble my commitment to passing the good cause eviction bill.

See you around the district,

Harvey

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## Clothing Donations for Migrant Families Surge

Our office has been collecting clothing and other essential items for migrants arriving in New York City. It has been a privilege to help people coming to our city seeking safety and opportunity. I'm grateful for the kindness our community has shown in helping people in need.

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## Bellevue Day Care Center Turns 50

I was proud to celebrate Bellevue Day Care Center's 50 years of service with a proclamation. The center has served more than 4,000 families in the neighborhood & Bellevue employees, providing high-quality & affordable childcare programs. Here's to 50 more!



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## New COVID-19 Boosters Available

New Yorkers are urged to get the updated COVID-19 vaccine booster

The updated bivalent COVID-19 booster vaccines, from Pfizer and Moderna, protect you against the original COVID-19 virus and the current BA.4 and BA.5 Omicron subvariants.

NYC Health + Hospitals now has the updated bivalent COVID-19 booster available for all our patients. Make an appointment today at any of our hospitals or Gotham Health Centers in your neighborhood.

The updated booster is available for those who have already completed their primary COVID-19 vaccine series or booster at least two months ago. [Learn more](#)

[Make an appointment](#) | Call 877-829-4692 for an appointment | [NYC Vaccine Finder](#)

*Who can get the updated COVID-19 booster shot?*

- Young people from age 12 -17 can only receive the updated Pfizer booster vaccine.
- Adults 18 and older can receive the updated Pfizer or the updated Moderna COVID-19 booster vaccine.

[Read the CDC vaccine and booster recommendation by age](#)

*Why you should get the updated booster shot.*

If you completed a COVID-19 primary vaccine series, you will be considered up-to-date when you receive the booster dose recommended for you by the CDC.

- 90% of all current COVID-19 cases are caused by the BA.5 subvariant.
- Getting the updated vaccine booster will increase your protection against getting very sick or needing to go to the hospital if you get COVID-19.

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### **Senior Affordable Housing Opportunity at Norfolk Senior Apartments**

Applications are now being accepted for senior affordable housing at the Norfolk Senior Apartments located at 64 Norfolk Street, New York, NY 10002.

Enclosed is included a copy of the advertisement with detailed information on number of units available, rent, and income limits.

Note that minimum incomes listed may not apply to applicants with Section 8 or other qualifying rental subsidies.

**We encourage interested persons to apply online at <https://housingconnect.nyc.gov/PublicWeb/details/3229> or write to request a paper application and advertisement (see below). Online and paper applications are available in English, Arabic, Chinese, Haitian Creole, Korean, Russian, and Spanish.**

To obtain paper applications send self-addressed envelope to:

**NORFOLK SENIOR APARTMENTS c/o K&G Upright Consulting: 638 E. 169<sup>th</sup> Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Bronx, NY 10456.**

Please remember that online applications must be submitted by **December 5, 2022**, the deadline date, and that the applications received after this deadline date will not be considered. Completed paper applications must be sent to the Post Office Box address indicated on the application, postmarked by the application deadline date. Applicants may not submit more than one application per household.

Please be advised that this is the application period for the 64 Norfolk Street building only. The application period for the 55 Suffolk Street building is anticipated to start in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2023. We will send notification of that application period start at that time. For more information, please contact [communityatbroome@gothamorg.com](mailto:communityatbroome@gothamorg.com).

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### **Community Board Role in Conditional Adult-Use Retail Dispensary Licenses**

Community Boards have a role to play in the approval of retail dispensary and on-site consumption businesses. Applicants for these types of licenses must notify a community board no less than 30 days before they file an application. Then, if the community board chooses to weigh in, its comments will be considered and responded to by the Cannabis Control Board in its decision to grant or deny the application.

We are all aware that many businesses have recently popped up and are selling cannabis illegally. These businesses undermine the goal of the Marijuana Regulation and Taxation Act and cause harm to people trying to enter the market the right way. We tried to ensure in the law that applicants, who are at this stage people who have been convicted of a marijuana-related offense and have business experience, have the support they need to apply and receive licenses and get their legal businesses off the ground. If you see a business operating illegally, you should contact 311.

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### **New York Road Runners- Race Free Program**

I wanted to share a new program that New York Road Runners is launching to increase access to running. Their [Race Free](#) program provides New York City residents that meet

certain income requirements free opportunities to participate in our races, including our marquee races such as the TCS New York City Marathon, United Airlines New York City Half, and the RBC Brooklyn Half Marathon as well as our many community races held throughout the city. It would be great if you could share it with your community.

Applicants must be:

- At least 18 years old as of January 1, 2023
- A resident of New York City
- Meet [NYCHA Section 8 Housing Income requirements](#); **You do not have to live in NYCHA housing to qualify for this program, just meet the income requirements.**

**The 2023 Race Free application is now open and the deadline to apply is November 18, 2022.**

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### **Upcoming Events**

*Office of Cannabis Management Forum - 12/18 @6:00 PM - 8:00 PM*

Join me and representatives from the New York State Office of Cannabis Management to learn about the laws surrounding New York's budding cannabis industry. Topics will include the licensing process and how prior convictions affect licensing.

*See you there on December 14th from 6-8 at the Lower East Side Girls Club 402 East 8th street New York, NY.*

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*NYC Public Housing Preservation Trust Preservation Trust Town Halls 11/16 - 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM*

NYCHA is hosting virtual town halls to provide general information about the Trust and answer your questions. Translation services will be provided in the covered languages (Cantonese, Mandarin, Russian, and Spanish). Attend one of the following meetings to learn about the draft trust voting procedures and provide comments:

Wednesday, November 16, 6:30pm-8:30pm  
Rutgers Community Center, 200 Madison Street, New York, NY 10002  
Register at [on.nyc.gov/inperson-trust-meetings](https://on.nyc.gov/inperson-trust-meetings)



### *USP Holiday Kickoff*

The USP Holiday Kickoff event is on Sun Nov 20th from 11 AM to 2 PM in the West Plaza of Union Square Park. Snap a pic in their one-of-a-kind photo display, grab treats from local businesses, and enjoy caroling, giveaways + holiday entertainment. Source: <http://www.usqholiday.nyc/>

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### *NYC Health and Hospitals Presents: 2022 Health Insurance Forums with Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)*

Registration is now open for our annual in person series of free health insurance workshops to prepare New Yorkers for the upcoming open-enrollment periods.

#### **MANHATTAN**

**Monday, November 14, 2022, 8:30 A.M – 12:30 P.M.**

NYC Health + Hospitals/Metropolitan

1901 First Avenue

New York, NY 10029

Please visit Eventbrite and [register](#)