



Information from Catherine Nolan

Helping our Community

Fall/Winter

Dear Neighbor,

I am honored to be able to once again serve our wonderful community. I look forward to continuing to work on issues important to you.

This fall we have been successful on some big issues that will help to improve our community; one of them is the preservation of the Ridgewood Reservoir. So far we were able to protect the reservoir from being destroyed and I look forward to continuing to preserve the area for future generations.

I urge all residents to learn about the housing lottery that is taking place in the Hunters Point South area of Long Island City. These units will be located along the waterfront in Long Island City and 60% of the apartments (about 925) will be permanently affordable. I would urge residents to apply and submit an application. NYC Housing Connect has information about all affordable housing programs in the city of New York.

As the next Legislative Session approaches, I will continue to advocate for additional resources for our public schools. As Chair of the Assembly Education Committee and the parent of a public school student, I know how important it is to support our students. I will also continue to push for the NYC Department of Education to remove the many trailers from our schools. As new school buildings continue to go up, the trailers should be removed.

I wish you, your family and friends a very happy and healthy New Year!

Sincerely,

Catherine Nolan
Member of Assembly

Assemblywoman Catherine Nolan speaks at the NYC Police Department School Safety Division Award Ceremony

I was invited to speak at the Queens North Command Awards Ceremony for the School Safety Officers. The event is sponsored by the New York Police Department and honors several School Safety Officers for their outstanding performance.

It was truly to an honor to be a part of this ceremony because I know that the school safety officers play a major role in keeping our students, teachers and schools safe.

Assemblywoman Catherine Nolan with NYC Police Commissioner William J. Bratton and Chief of Community Affairs Joanne Jaffe.



Assemblywoman Catherine Nolan, Diane Ballek, Director of Constituent Services of my office and several officers from Local 237 honored at the ceremony.

Long Island City Business Women

I stopped by the Long Island City Business Women's monthly meeting to discuss issues related to Western Queens. I also observed and learned quite a bit from both Captain Hennessy and Officer Luis Santiago of the 108th Police Precinct as they lead a self-defense class to discuss techniques on how residents can better protect themselves.



Assemblywoman Catherine Nolan with Captain Brian Hennessy, Luis Santiago of the 108th Police Precinct, including community leaders Sheila Lewandowski and Gianna Cerbone-Teoli and several members of the LIC Business Women's group.



Hunters Point Civic Association

The Hunters Point Civic Association invited me to speak to their members on the topic of Education. I was happy to give several updates on many of the educational issues affecting our community including standardized testing and universal Pre-K. Thanks again to Brent O'Leary, President of the Hunters Point Civic Association for putting together this meeting.

Women's Healthcare in Long Island City

A new health care facility has opened in our community sponsored by Planned Parenthood. It will provide private, safe health services to women and our families.

(L to R) State Senator Toby Ann Stavisky, Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney, Assemblywoman Catherine Nolan, Dr. Moitri Savard, Long Island City Resident, Elizabeth Lusskin, Executive Director, Long Island City Partnership and Assemblywoman Nily Rozic.



Dutch Kills Civic Association

I stopped by the Dutch Kills Civic Association to give an update on various issues relating to Western Queens. One issue in particular is the proposed hotel that is being built on 27th Street in Dutch Kills. The developer is asking for an extension of time to complete this project. I have very serious concerns and have written several letters to both the NYC Planning Commission and the NYC Board of Standard and Appeals (BSA) opposing this extension. I will continue to stand with the many residents of Dutch Kills in opposing this project.

Sunnyside Shines Opening Night Restaurant Week

I attended the opening night of Sunnyside's 2nd Annual Restaurant Week. Last year, the Restaurant Week was a huge success and this year even more of our community restaurants have participated. I encourage all of our residents to support our local restaurants so we can continue to keep our community strong.



Photo credit: Michael Rapp

Lily Gavin, Owner Dazies Restaurant, Assemblywoman Cathy Nolan, Sarah Corona and Rachel Thieme, Executive Director of the Sunnyside Shines/BID.

Rudy's Bakery and Café 80th Birthday

On Saturday October 25, I joined Toni Binanti, Owner of Rudy's Bakery, Ted Renz, Executive Director of the Myrtle Avenue Business Improvement District and Ridgewood residents to celebrate the 80th Birthday of Rudy's Bakery and Café.

Congratulations again to Toni and Rudy's Bakery for its 80th Birthday celebration. Toni has worked hard to keep this well-known bakery successful and it is so important to our community to have strong local businesses like Rudy's.



Assemblywoman Catherine Nolan with Toni Binanti and Ted Renz.

OUR COMMUNITY SCHOOLS



Queens Vocational High School

I visited Queens Vocational with NYS Commissioner John King, NYS Chancellor and Regent Meryl Tisch and NYC Chancellor Carmen Farina. I wanted to highlight this school because of the many vocational programs they have to offer. It is important that we continue to make vocational programs available for all the students who request them. Learning a trade can be a valuable tool to help our students go on to college and compete in the job market.

Chancellor Visit

I toured Voice Charter School in Long Island City with Chancellor Carmen Farina. We met with several students, teachers and staff to see the wonderful programs the school has to offer.

Assemblywoman Catherine Nolan with Chancellor Carmen Farina and Franklin Headley, Principal of VOICE Charter School.



Principal Meet and Greet

I co-hosted an event with the Council of School Administrators (CSA) for meet and greet with many of the Principals and Assistant Principals of schools in my Assembly District. I had great conversations and dialogue about many educational issues that are affecting our community schools. Thanks again to both the Council of School Administrators (CSA) for co-hosting the event and all of the Principals and Assistant Principals who take time out of their schedule to attend. I look forward to continue working with our schools.

Sunnyside Gardens 90th Anniversary

I was happy to join Herbert Reynolds and the Sunnyside Gardens Preservation Alliance, Sunnyside residents and others to unveil three new historical district markers and to celebrate the 90th Anniversary of Sunnyside Gardens.

I have always been drawn to its history and the vision of Lewis Mumford to provide affordable, livable housing. This principle has endured for over 90 years because of the determination of the many families that call Sunnyside Gardens and indeed all of Sunnyside their home. I am truly honored to have had the privilege of representing this community and I look forward to continue supporting its preservation. Congratulations again to Sunnyside Gardens on its 90th Anniversary.



Assemblywoman Catherine Nolan with residents from Sunnyside Gardens.

Hunters Point South Housing Forum

I recently sponsored a housing forum on the new affordable development that is being built in the Hunters Point area in Long Island City. The new unit will be known as Hunters Point South and is currently being constructed by the Related Companies New York City. The three housing forums which took place last month had several representatives give both a power point presentation about the units and take questions from the residents who attended.

Board 2, 7% of the apartments will be for applicants who are hearing and/or visually impaired and 5% will be given priority if you are a municipal employee. Please remember that this application process is a lottery and the list is completely randomized.

The applications period started on October 15 and will go for 60 days and end on December 15. I would urge all of our residents to apply. You can also go online at HuntersPointlivingsouth.com to find

out additional information regarding income ranges, application questions and descriptions of the various apartments.

There are several ways to apply:

- 1) Applications are currently being accepted online at NYC.gov/housingconnect. You will have to create a profile and then apply for the Hunters Point South unit.
- 2) You can mail your name and address to Hunters Point South Living, 1357 Broadway, Box 308, New York, NY 10018 to request a paper application.
- 3) Call or visit our Sunnyside District office and ask for a postcard which you can fill out and mail to request a paper application.

Note: Please only choose one method (mail or online) and apply only once. If you have any questions, please feel to call or visit our Sunnyside District Office.



These 925 apartments will be permanently affordable and are scheduled to be completed by next May. Over 50% of the applications will be given priority if the resident lives in Queens Community



Assemblywoman

**Catherine
NOLAN**

*Helping our
Community*

Update on the Ridgewood Reservoir

Several months ago, a group named "Save the Ridgewood Reservoir" reached out to me. The NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and the NYC Department of Parks (City Parks) were planning to breach the basins in the reservoir, which they argued could possibly disturb the environmental aspect of the reservoir. The proposed work would consist of breaching the berms that separate the Ridgewood Reservoir's basins, building permanent access roads into this habitat, and cutting down at least 470 trees. Due to new revised flooding regulations, the DEC was going to start fining the NYC Parks if the work would not be done by the end of August.

After gathering information, my staff and I learned that the park provided drinking water to both Brooklyn and Queens. In the 1960s it was shut down and given back to nature. With no development, the reservoir became an environmental sanctuary becoming home to many different species of plants, trees and birds. That is why I believed this plan to breach the dams was

misguided. The basins are over six feet high and the annual rain fall for Queens is approximately 40 inches. The risk of an overflow would be very low for our community.

Fortunately, we received a response from NYS DEC, that gave us a victory on everything we asked. The DEC was not going to fine NYC Parks for inaction, the reservoir would be re-classified as low hazard, the wetland study would continue and, most importantly, the city taxpayers would be saving over \$6 million for not starting this very misguided project. I believe that there are many other areas where the city can spend this money including building more schools, improving our infrastructure, upgrading our transportation system, and many other capital requests that our Community Boards have highlighted. As we move forward I look forward to talking with both the NYC Parks Department and the DEC as we work together to preserve this wonderful place known as the Ridgewood Reservoir. I will continue to keep the community involved in this issue.