



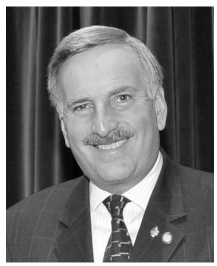
Reports to the Community

Winter 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.

A Message From DAVID I. WEPRIN



Dear Friend and Neighbor,

Happy New Year to you and your families, I am hopeful that this upcoming year will be a safe and healthy year for

our Assembly district. As we enter another year here in The World's Borough, I am reminded of how fortunate we are to be living in peace and harmony among our beloved neighbors and friends here in Queens.

The New Year also means a new legislative session in Albany and as your local representative in the State capital, I will continue working to do everything I can to ensure our district continues to prosper and grow. Working together, we can continue to build and strengthen this great community, and I look forward to hearing your comments as we enact new laws to serve everyday New Yorkers.

Finally, this past winter provided us an opportunity to focus on some local issues affecting our district and I'd like to announce the following changes: one hour metered parking has been changed to two hour metered parking along Union Turnpike between Utopia Parkway and 188th Street following a request from the Jamaica Estates Association; and a traffic light has been installed at the corner of 150th Street and 87th Road following a request from the Darus Salam Masjid.

As always, please feel free to contact either of my district offices in Fresh Meadows or Richmond Hill with any questions or concerns and happy New Year!

Yours sincerely,

David I. Weprin
Member of Assembly

Breast Cancer Prevention Bill Signing



Assemblymember Alice Cancel, Assemblymember David Weprin, Assemblymember Francisco Moya, Assemblymember Rebecca Seawright, Assemblymember Jeff Aubry, Sandra Lee, Governor Andrew Cuomo, Billy Joel, Senate Majority Leader John Flanagan, Assembly member Didi Barrett, Senate Minority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins.

As part of the "Get Screened, No Excuses" campaign; Assemblyman Weprin joined Governor Andrew Cuomo, Sandra Lee and Singer Billy Joel at Citi Field as legislation was signed to increase patients' access to breast screening services and facilities. As part of the legislative agreement, 210 hospitals and hospital extension clinics will offer extended hours of screening for at least four hours per week to help women who have difficulty scheduling mammograms during the typical 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. workday. In addition, the legislation eliminates annual deductibles, co-payments and co-insurance payments for screening and diagnostic imaging for the detection of breast cancer; including diagnostic mammograms, breast ultrasounds and MRIs.

Rally for Kosher, Halal and Vegetarian School Lunches

Assemblyman David Weprin is sponsoring a bill in the State Assembly that would provide kosher, halal and vegetarian food options in New York City public schools. In September, Assemblyman Weprin joined Public Advocate Letitia James, Comptroller Scott Stringer, Councilmembers Brad Lander and Mark Levine, as well as Mazeda Uddin of Safest and Rabbi Yakov D. Cohen to rally in support of increased food choice for students of faith. "The cost is limited compared to having a healthy meal, allowing students to eat and to be able to perform," said Weprin.



Standing United Against Hate

Following the November election, Assemblyman David Weprin, Councilmember Barry Grodenchik, and Public Advocate Letitia James were joined by Marc Weitzman of the Simon Wiesenthal Center, Mazeda Uddin of SAFEST, Attorney Ali Najmi, Imam Mohammed of Masjid Al Rahman and Rabbi David Wise from the Hollis Hills Jewish Center to stand united against any occurrence of hate in Queens. "A hate crime against one of us is a hate crime against all of us, an assault on our inclusive New York Values, and a threat to our identity as Americans," said Weprin.

Assemblyman Weprin in the Community

Compost Collection in Queens

The New York City Department of Sanitation has expanded its voluntary NYC Organics curbside food and yard waste recycling program to residents in Queens' Community Board 11. During the fall, Assemblyman David Weprin joined Councilmember Barry Grodenchik and Sanitation Commissioner Kathryn Garcia for a bin-delivery event in Douglaston, Queens. Speaking in support of the program, Weprin said "Recycling makes New York a cleaner and healthier place to live and I encourage the residents of Oakland Gardens, as well as their neighbors in the surrounding communities, to participate in this environmentally beneficial program."



Supporting the Bus Turnaround Campaign



Councilmember Ydani Rodriguez, Assemblyman David Weprin, Deputy Brooklyn Borough President Diana Reyna and State Senator Dan Squadron.

Recognizing the necessity for improved bus transit service in Queens, Weprin joined advocates, lawmakers and NYC commuters of the Bus Turnaround Campaign to call for increased bus transit options in Brooklyn and Queens. Weprin is strong proponent of increased north-south bus service throughout Queens and spoke in support of an improved citywide bus transportation network at the rally.

Welcoming New Leadership/Halloween at the 107th Precinct

The 24th Assembly District is fortunate to welcome an accomplished veteran and one of New York's finest to the 107th Precinct this winter, NYPD Deputy Inspector Scott Henry. Deputy Inspector Henry, the new commanding officer at the 107th Precinct, met with Assemblyman David Weprin at his Fresh Meadows District Office in December. At their meeting, Weprin noted the diversity and unity of the of the northeast Queens community and shared his priorities and concerns with the incoming commanding officer. Weprin also remarked on his relationship with the 107th Precinct's Community Council.



In October, Weprin joined Community Council President Carolann Foley at the precinct's Annual Halloween Party for children.



Homecoming for Queens Olympians

A number of athletes from Queens represented the United States at the Summer Olympics in Brazil this August. The following month, Assemblyman David Weprin joined Queens Borough President Melinda Katz and elected officials and to welcome and honor the Queens Olympians at Borough Hall. At the homecoming, Weprin met with Dalilah Muhammad, who won gold in the 400-meter hurdles, Natasha Hastings, who won gold as a runner in the 4x400 relay, and table tennis round two finalist Jennifer Yue Wu.



Torah Dedication at the Hollis Hills Bayside Jewish Center



In September, Assemblyman David Weprin marched with the Hollis Hills Bayside Jewish Center as synagogue members brought six ceremonial scrolls, called Torahs, to the Hollis Hills Bayside Jewish Center. The dedication marked the unification of two Queens synagogues, the Hollis Hills Jewish Center and the Bayside Jewish Center.

Honoring Junior Olympic Gold Medalist Estee Ackerman



Two-time Junior Olympic Gold Medalist Estee Ackerman received a New York State Assembly Citation from Assemblyman David Weprin at the Yeshiva University High School for Girls in Hollis, Queens. Ackerman, a high school sophomore with a talent for table tennis, won first place in the 2016 Amateur Athletic Union's Junior Olympics in two events; the under 16 girls singles division and the under 16 girls doubles division. She also holds the rare accomplishment of beating tennis superstar Rafael Nadal in a game of ping pong in 2013. As an orthodox Jew, Ackerman chose to observe the Sabbath this past February while participating in the US Olympic Trials, forfeiting her final opportunity to qualify for the 2016 Rio Olympics as a result. Weprin, noticing this extraordinary show of faith, compared Ackerman to baseball legend Sandy Koufax. Weprin said, "Estee in my opinion is the Sandy Koufax of Table Tennis. Back in 1965, Sandy Koufax sat out Game 1 of the 1965 World Series for Yom Kippur. But he did pitch Game 7 of the World Series and won the title for the LA Dodgers. Keeping that in mind, 2020 is not too far away."

Halloween at the Queens Center for Progress



In October, Assemblyman David Weprin visited the Queens Center for Progress in Bellerose to serve as a judge in QCP's 11th annual Pumpkin Decoration Contest. Organized each year by the direct care staff at QCP, the Pumpkin Decoration Contest is a friendly competition between teams at QCP.

Columbus Day Parade with Cardinal Dolan

Assemblyman David Weprin celebrated Columbus Day by marching in New York's 72nd Columbus Day Parade. At the parade, Weprin, along with City Councilman Barry Grodenchik, greeted Cardinal Timothy Dolan, Archbishop of Roman Catholic Archdiocese of New York.



Diwali at City Hall/Queens Hospital Center



Assemblyman David Weprin attended Diwali Celebrations at New York City Hall and the Queens Hospital Center this autumn. At City Hall, Weprin joined Councilmembers Rory Lancman and Barry Grodenchik, as well as a number of leaders from the Indian community to light diyas, or candles, for Diwali. At both events, Weprin remarked on the USPS's new Diwali stamp, the highest selling stamp in USPS history, and applauded community leaders Ranju Batra and Ravi Batra of the Diwali Stamp Project for their advocacy.

Renee Mehrra, Ranju Batra and Assemblyman David Weprin.



Eid at Jamaica High School



Assemblyman David Weprin joined Mayor Bill de Blasio, City Council Speaker Melissa Mark Viverito, Councilmember Rory Lancman and Imam Shamsi Ali of the Jamaica Muslim Center at Jamaica High School for Eid Ul-Adha in September. Speaking at the event, Weprin wished a happy "Eid Mubarak" to all celebrating Eid.

Hollis Hills Civic Association's Annual Menorah Lighting



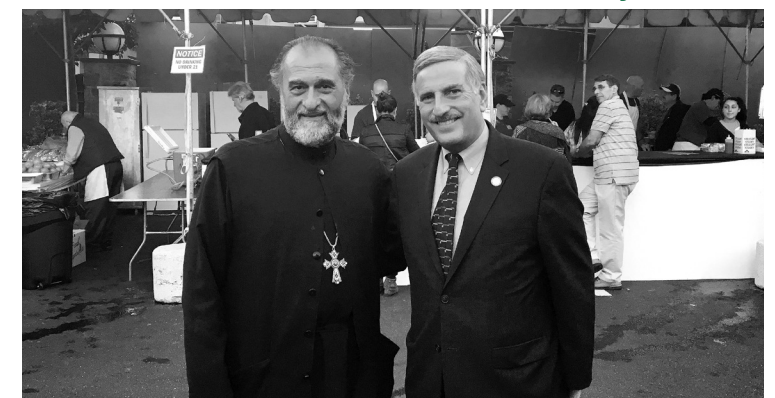
Assemblyman David Weprin joined Councilman Barry Grodenchik, Rabbi Neil Rabbi Yerachmiel Zalmanov of the Chabad House of Eastern Queens and Hollis Hills Community Civic Association President Zion Halili for the Hollis Hills Civic Association's Annual Menorah Lighting.

Calling for the release of Hadar Goldin, Oron Shaul, Abraham Mengistu and Hisham Al-Sayed



Early in September, Assemblyman David Weprin joined the parents of fallen Israeli soldier Hadar Goldin, Dr. Leah and Dr. Simcha Goldin, Michael Miller and Charles Temel of the Jewish Community Relations Council of New York (JCRC-NY), Consul General of Israel in New York Dani Dayan as well as Councilmember David Greenfield and State Senator Simcha Felder to call for the immediate and unconditional release of fallen Israeli soldiers Hadar Goldin and Oron Shaul and the safe return of Israeli civilians Abraham Mengistu and Hisham Al-Sayed, all of whom are being held hostage by Hamas. At the press conference, Assemblyman David Weprin announced the introduction of an NYS Assembly resolution calling for the aforementioned on humanitarian grounds.

St. Nicholas Festival with the Greek Orthodox Community



The Greek Orthodox Community of St. Nicholas hosted their Annual Greek Festival in October. At the festival, Assemblyman David Weprin met with Reverend Paul Palesty of St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church in Flushing and thanked volunteers for their contribution.

Assemblyman Weprin in the Community

Annual Holiday Toy Drive



Assemblyman David Weprin, Principal Jeffrey Slivko, Student Organization Coordinator William Sasso with students from MS 172. MS 172's Student Organization partnered with Assemblyman David Weprin's office and raised hundreds of toys for the Holiday Toy Drive.

Assemblyman David Weprin continued a holiday tradition this fall by hosting the 24th Assembly District's 3rd annual Holiday Toy Drive. The Holiday Toy Drive, which began in November 2016, was arranged to benefit charitable organizations including the Boys & Girls Club of Metro Queens and Heartshare First Step Early Childhood Center. By late-December, with an incredible show of support and compassion from several community organizations, schools, and residents throughout Queens, including a significant donation from Irwin Altman Middle School 172; Assembly Member Weprin's district offices received more than 400 toys for children of all ages.

Assemblyman David Weprin with children from the Boys and Girls Club of Metro Queens.



Assemblyman

DAVID I. WEPRIN

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PS 51 School Supply Drive

In October, Assemblyman David Weprin joined Principal Magdaly Saint Juste and the students of PS 51 Queens to distribute supplies generously donated during Assemblyman David Weprin's School Supply Drive. The distribution was held on PS 51's Family Math Day, a day when parents are invited to the school to participate in math programs and where students learn about the importance of math education. After meeting with parents and representatives from Community Education Council 27, Weprin took questions from first grade students on a multitude of issues. The students, aged from 6 – 7 years old, asked about the current election cycle, presidential candidates, as well as questions on how the Assemblyman uses math in his position. The donated supplies, which included backpacks, notebooks, art supplies and more, went to benefit students currently living in temporary housing.

