AROUND THE 58th AD



Problem Solved on Avenue D between Brooklyn Ave. and East 35th Street: A huge problem with breaking water main connections caused by Verizon's and National Grid's underground connections resulted in high water bills, disconnections in water service, large potholes, flooding and dangerous traffic conditions. Neighbors are happy the condition was fixed thanks to action from Assemblyman Perry and help from intrepid PIX11 News Reporter Monica Morales.



Haitian Flag Day: Assemblyman Perry celebrated Haitian Flag Day at the Life of Hope Center. Here he is being interviewed by Haitian media on the positive impact Haitian-Americans have had on our state and nation.



Canarsie National Night Out: Assemblyman Perry joined members of the Canarsie Community, (I to r) Mercedes Narcisse, Wanda Ihrig and Father Edward Kane of Holy Family RC Church at Canarsie Park for the 69th Precinct's National Night Out Celebration.



New School Celebration: Assemblyman Perry attended the grand opening of Ivy Hill Preparatory Charter School and toured the new school.



Lieutenant Governor Visits the 58th A.D.: Assemblyman Perry had the pleasure of hosting Lt. Governor Kathy Hochul. One stop they made was at East Flatbush Village's STEAM Camp at I.S. 285 Meyer Levin School where the campers showed off their robotic skills.



Bless Our Kids: The 9th Annual Bless Our Kids event was a rousing success, co-hosted annually by *Assemblyman Perry* with DJ Madd Fyre (pictured far right) children from across the district were treated to snacks, games and back-to-school giveaways.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Assemblyman Perry Passes Pair of Bills to Protect Homeowners

In his on-going effort to protect homeowners, Assemblyman Perry sponsored a pair of bills, one which helps homeowners fight foreclosure and hold onto their homes, and another to protect homeowners, especially senior citizens, from scammers who are stealing homes, and too often getting away with it. Bill A.92A, aids homeowners during the stressful and often confusing time when they are pursuing loan modification options to save their homes. This new law will provide consumers with certain protections if their loan is sold or transferred during the modification process. If the loan is transferred during the application process for a loan modification, the original holder of the loan must provide the consumer with a list of all the application documents provided to the buyer or transferee. Another provision requires that if the loan is sold or transferred after a homeowner has been approved for a modification of their mortgage that the subsequent mortgage servicer must honor the terms and conditions of the approval. In August, Governor Andrew Cuomo signed this bill into law, and it became effective in November 2019.

"These bills protect what will most likely be the largest investment most New Yorkers will ever make. A.92A, which I sponsored in the Assembly, will ensure that homeowners are protected during the modification process when financial institutions pull the trick of selling your mortgage, requiring the homeowner to restart the process; this delay often leads to foreclosure. With this bill signed into law, homeowners can be ensured that the process will continue and not lose time getting the modification approved, giving them the ability to save their home and hold onto their investment."

The second bill, A.440, is expected to be signed by Governor Cuomo shortly and will protect homeowners who are at risk of falling victims to the increasingly common crime of deed theft. To facilitate these schemes, perpetrators often pose as new owners of a home in order to transfer the title. Once the title transfer is complete, the perpetrator can use the new title to obtain a home equity line of credit.

Among those affected by this egregious crime, the elderly are the most vulnerable victims, their homes are often fully paid for, without a mortgage, and therefore with no bank or institution having a vested interest in safeguarding the ownership record property. This bill, when signed into law, would require the county clerk to provide written notice to the title owner of record of the conveyance to a new owner. Therefore, significantly reducing the chances that a title can be unknowingly and fraudulently altered without the true owner's knowledge.

Perry Helps Pass Historic Protections for NY Tenants Evictions Down 46% Since New Law

Assemblyman Perry was pleased to join with tenants and advocates for improvement in tenant protection laws to celebrate passage of the new Housing Stability and Tenant Protection Act which passed just before the close of legislative session in June.

These new laws provide the strongest tenant protections and rent regulations ever passed in New York State to better protect millions of tenants from unfair landlord practices, while safeguarding affordable housing not only in New York City, but across the state (Ch. 36 of 2019). The historic legislation – crafted by the Assembly and Senate and signed into law by the governor– puts power back into the hands of tenants.

The new laws extend rent regulations and make them permanent, repeal vacancy decontrol and high-income deregulation, cap the maximum rent increase for rentcontrolled tenants, repeal the vacancy bonus, made preferential rent the base at lease renewals and place more protections against unnecessary major capital improvements (MCIs) and individual apartment improvements (IAI) in place.

"As rent increases continue to outpace wage growth, it's critical that we acted to protect access to affordable housing," said Assemblyman Perry. "For too long, tenants have suffered under a system that favors landlord profits over families' well-being. These tenants protection laws are not aimed at landlords who treat their tenants with dignity and recognize their right to decent housing at an affordable price, but to those landlords who practice to push profits over people as their regular business practice. This groundbreaking legislative package enacts permanent protections for all New Yorkers because everyone should have a safe, affordable place to call home."



Assemblyman Perry visits the Breukelen Houses (NYCHA) and listens to the concerns of the residents.

Perry Co-Sponsors and Helps Pass a Variety of Bills to Improve the Lives of all New Yorkers

The 2019 Legislative Session in Albany proved to be quite productive, as Assistant Speaker Pro Temp of the New York State Assembly, Assemblyman Perry played a vital role in passing key pieces of legislation into law which will benefit all New Yorkers. Here are some of the highlights:

Passed comprehensive election reforms, including:

- Allow early voting in New York State, which would take place during a nine-day period before elections (Ch. 6 of 2019)
- Advanced constitutional amendment to allow voting by absentee ballot without declaring a reason for doing so (A.778)
- Ensure voter registration is automatically transferred to your new county when you move (Ch. 3 of 2019)

Financial aid for children of immigrants:

• Turned the Jose Peralta New York State DREAM Act into reality to help the children of immigrants achieve their college dreams by allowing them access to state financial aid (A.782)

Justice for victims of childhood sexual abuse:

• Made the Child Victims Act law so childhood sexual abuse victims can seek justice and hold abusers accountable (Ch. 11 of 2019)

Increased protections against gun violence:

• Passed common sense measures, including establishing an extreme risk protection order, to prevent senseless gun violence (Ch. 19 of 2019, A.2684, A.2686-A, A.2690)

Criminal justice reforms:

• Increased fairness in New York's criminal justice system by reforming cash bail, ensuring speedy trials, and revamping the discovery process (A.2009-C)

For more information on these new laws, or assistance with a variety of other issues please do not hesitate to call Assemblyman Perry at (718) 385-3336.





2020 CENSUS MYTHS *vs.* FACTS

MYTH

My information will be shared.



Your information is protected and anonymous. Federal law requires your answers to be kept confidential and can only be used to produce statistics.



My information will be used against me.

Information cannot be used to track people, determine eligibility for government benefits or be shared with immigration or law enforcement.



There will be a citizenship question on the 2020 Census.

No, there will not be a citizenship question on the census. Everyone who lives in New York should respond.



The Census is not important.

It's extremely important for everyone to be counted to ensure New York gets its fair share of federal funds for our communities, including education, housing, health care, transportation and more.

Assemblyman Perry Strongly Encourages You to Participate in the 2020 Census

Every 10 years, the U.S. Census Bureau works to count every person residing in the United States, and Assemblyman Perry is committed to making sure our community is fully counted. The information collected helps inform many important political, economic and social decisions, including the allocation of funding, legislative redistricting and congressional representation. New York State receives \$53 billion each year in federal funding for hospitals, public schools, transportation, emergency services and more. Each person not counted costs the state over \$2,600 in federal aid each year. This is why it is so crucial you and your family participate in the 2020 Census. In March 2020, the Census Bureau will be sending mailings with instructions on how to fill out the form. People in areas with high internet usage will receive a letter with details on how to fill out the form online. People who live in areas with low internet usage will be sent both a paper form and instructions on how to fill out the form online. Assemblyman Perry encourages you to fill out the entire Census form, however people who do not fill out every question on the census form will still be counted. Anyone who does not fill out a form at all may receive a follow-up phone call or an in-person home visit by a Census Bureau employee.

An often asked question. What Can Assemblyman Perry Do For Me? Here are some, but not all of the answers.

Whether you are registered to vote or not, if you reside in the 58th Assembly District, Assemblyman Perry works for you. Primarily he is your representative and is elected to represent your interests in the New York House of Assembly. Through the district office, Assemblyman Perry with a trained staff, paid for by the State of New York, is able to provide a variety of services to improve your quality of life. Such as making sure the city provides sanitation services, that the police serve you courteously and respectfully, local hospitals will care for you when you are ill and provide you with medical care when you seek their services, that landlords respect your rights as a tenant under the Tenant Protection Act, and helping you with numerous other problems which confront residents in our community.

Assemblyman Perry's staff will be happy to help senior citizens and others in understanding and completing a variety forms, some of which can save you money, including:

- NYC-210 New York City School Tax Credit: This is a rebate of \$62.50 (for individuals) or \$125 (for couples) who do not file a tax return and cannot be claimed as a dependent on another's return. You can apply for the past four years.
- Senior Citizen/Disabled Homeowners' Exemption: This is a reduction in property taxes for homeowners over age 65 or those with a documented disability and a combined income below \$58,399.

- Veterans Homeowners' Exemption: In order to be eligible for this exemption, homeowners must be a veteran or a spouse, widow or widower of a veteran who has served during a time of war/conflict and this home must be your primary residence.
- Senior Citizen Rent Increase Exemption: This is a rent freeze for heads of households, 62 or older, who pay more than one-third of their monthly income on rent and have an income of under \$50,000 a year.
- **Disabled Parking Permit Applications:** NYC issues a permit or placard to individuals with a documented disability allowing either on-street or off-street parking. If you have any questions about these or any other programs, please contact my district office for assistance.

For Free Assistance in Resolving Problems with Citizenship and Immigration Applications, Utility Bills, City/State Agencies and Various Community Issues, Visit Assemblyman Perry's District Office at:903 Utica Avenue (Between Church & Snyder Aves.) or contact him by phone at (718) 385-3336 or via email, perryn@nyassembly.gov



Dear Constituent,

Season's Greetings. As we get into the traditional hustle and bustle of the holiday season, something of monumental import to the future of our nation is unfolding before our eyes, and shockingly, so many of us don't really care. Too many of us have not tuned in enough to understand what's really going on. The fact is our democracy is being unraveled, and if the cornerstone principles of America's great democratic system of government is not preserved by the actions we take now, we will be the ones that lost it.

Benjamin Franklin, one of America's founding fathers declared that they gave us "A republic, if you can keep it." If we don't come together and strongly stand in support of keeping and ensuring the longevity of our democracy, we could be the generation that allowed the seeds of future dictatorship to germinate and grow. So my holiday message is let's stand together and get involved to save our great American democracy.

This year in Albany was quite gratifying. I am delighted and thankful for the great privilege you allowed me, to be your representative during this year of historic legislative accomplishments. We passed major criminal justice reforms. We finally gave hardworking New Yorkers who pay rent for their housing the protection they need against unfair landlords. I am proud to have sponsored, and passed into law, bills that protect homeowners and strengthened New York's landmark law to hold prosecutors accountable for wrongdoing.

As you should know, this newsletter is a very abbreviated report and I urge you to read it and please contact me if you have any questions or suggestions. I work for you and want you to know that I'm available to hear your complaints and/or suggestions to do the job you want me to accomplish for you.

May all the joys and happiness of the season fill your home and be with you and all your loved ones. May you feel and practice the value of charity and kindness and extend such to all those in need who pass your way. Happy holidays and may peace, love, good health and prosperity be yours throughout all of 2020.

Assemblyman N. Nick Perry

New York State Assembly • Albany, New York 12248

Assemblyman **WINTER 2019**

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\$700,000 Allocation from Assemblyman Perry Helps Place Brookdale Among the Top Hospitals in NYC

For the second straight year, Assemblyman Perry has come through with a large allocation to Brookdale Hospital to not only help improve cancer detection services at the facility, but also improve the overall quality of medical care at the hospital which serves our community, and is the only hospital located within the 58th Assembly District. Assemblyman Perry was successful in securing a \$700,000 state grant to purchase a state-of-the-art 1.5T High Field Strength MRI scanner

that will be housed in the hospital's Oncology/Radiology Department. The new MRI system will pair nicely with the Siemens SO-MATOM Definition AS-20 CT scanner purchased by Brookdale with \$500,000 in funding secured by Assemblyman Perry last year. The new equipment enables radiologists to take X-ray measurements from different angles, and produce cross-sectional images of specific areas of a scanned object, allowing them to see inside cancer-affected tissues without having to surgically cut into a patient to determine the position of a tumor. The new equipment allows for new and modern procedures to now be done on location, rather than having to refer patients to other facilities—which is currently the practice at Brookdale.

Over the last five years Brookdale Hospital's reputation in regards to the improvement in the quality of care delivered by the hospital has surged. Once slated for imminent closure, the hospital has climbed out of the doldrums and is now an emerging, high-quality healthcare provider. Thanks to Assemblyman Perry's recent allocations, the hospital is now equipped with top-notch diagnostic and treatment equipment, to go along with their highly skilled and hardworking staff, placing them at the top of the class among New York healthcare providers.

In addition to the funding to provide high-tech medical equipment, Assemblyman Perry has also funded improvements for electronic doors at the hospital's main entrance, and cameras to improve security around the facility.