



NEWS FROM

Speaker of the Assembly **Carl E. Heastie**



Dear Neighbor,

I want to express my deepest gratitude for your unwavering support. This year in Albany, we faced numerous challenges, including managing a \$268 billion budget, engaging in difficult conversations about the federal government's actions, and ensuring that the families of this great state remained our top priority.

To provide context, my previous newsletter showcased the numerous legislative achievements of the SFY 26-27 session, addressing significant issues such as healthcare, higher education, and public safety, among others. In contrast, this newsletter aims to highlight the community's triumphs.

As we approach the final stretch of the summer season, I would like to extend my warmest wishes. The warm weather and sunny skies create the perfect backdrop for cherished moments with friends, family and loved ones. I encourage you to actively engage with our thriving community by attending the numerous events happening across the district.

Your input is crucial in guiding our efforts to create a thriving and inclusive community. We are stronger when we work together! If there is any way that I can be of assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact me. My office is here to serve you.

With Love and Hope,

Speaker of the Assembly
1446 E. Gun Hill Road • Bronx, NY 10469
718-654-6539 • speaker@nyassembly.gov

Local Funding Secured in SFY 26-27

- **East 233rd Street Senior Center - \$10,000** – Financial assistance will provide materials for senior programs and activities.
- **Wiz Kids Books B4 Basketball - \$30,000** – Funds will be used to purchase new materials and supplies for activities.
- **Fresh Air Fund - \$1.6 million** – This program, also known as Camp Junior, is an innovative project that allows Bronx youth to experience summer camp in upstate New York. The funding will provide disadvantaged youth with the opportunity to leave the city and spend two weeks learning about nature and the great outdoors.
- **Getting Out and Staying Out - \$325,000** – To assist with resources needed to help individuals and families impacted by arrest and incarceration.
- **RAIN Senior Centers - \$400,000** – For continued programming for seniors across centers.



Groups Funded Through Special Projects Program

- **Jewish Association for Services for the Aged Bay Eden Senior Center - \$30,000** – To support programming for Bay Eden Senior Center.
- **Wake-Eden Community Baptist Church - \$125,000** – Summer STEM program.
- **Gun Hill Basketball Association, Inc. - \$25,000** – Basketball programming.
- **New York Zoological Society - \$85,000** – To assist in conservation efforts.
- **American Debate League - \$25,000** – Support for programming and prepping children for debate competitions.
- **BioBus - \$750,000** – To support science education programming in the 83rd Assembly District.

Speaker Heastie Makes Community Cleanliness a Priority

Community wellness continues to be a top priority for residents of the Northeast Bronx, this includes the cleanliness of its streets. During the summer months we see an increase in the amount of garbage along many of our business corridors as well as dumping in the area.

Maintaining a clean and beautiful community is not just a goal but a shared responsibility. To assist in these efforts, Assemblyman Heastie has continued to work alongside the New York City Department of Sanitation to identify areas that require hidden cameras to assist in deterring illegal dumping.

Assemblyman Heastie has also provided funding of \$350,000 to The Association of Community Employment Programs for the Homeless (ACE) to provide supplemental cleaning of our busiest streets (specifically the Boston Road, Gun Hill Road, and White Plains Road business corridors). These investments assist our community in keeping our streets clean while enhancing the quality of life for all residents.



Before



After

Community Cleaning Provided by ACE

Speaker Heastie Secures Funds for Argus Cameras in the District

Community safety continues to be a top priority for residents of the Northeast Bronx.

Last year, Speaker Heastie made investments in Argus Cameras, also known as 'eyes in sky' or surveillance cameras, an initiative that will enhance community safety. This year, Speaker Heastie has allocated \$360,000 for the 47th NYPD Precinct, reflecting a commitment to building a safer Northeast Bronx Community.

Investment in Food Programs Provide Increased Stability for Families

This year's state budget continued to allocate funds to support food assistance programs, crucial for families across the state. Access to nutritious meals assists to not only fight hunger, it ensures families have better health outcomes, while supporting cognitive functioning throughout the day.

Here in the 83rd Assembly District, Assemblyman Heastie provided:

- **New York Common Pantry, Inc. - \$950,000** – For mobile food services/pantry for the community.
- **St. Luke's Community Food Program - \$30,000** – For community food pantry services.
- **Grow NYC - \$210,000** – to supply free fresh produce at several Northeast Bronx sites.
- **Hunts Point Meat Market - \$20,000,000** – For capital improvements to ensure the longevity of a market that feeds hundreds of thousands of families in the tri-state area and beyond.



Distributing Fresh Produce at the Northeast Bronx YMCA

#FreeSummerMeals for All 18 and Under a Reality in NYC

Continuing from its success last year, #FreeSummerMeals is back. As a response to children losing an essential lifeline during the summer months, Speaker Heastie alongside Senator Jamaal Bailey, Councilman Kevin Riley, NYC Schools, and No Kid Hungry have worked together to assist families. Here in the Northeast Bronx, Haffen Park has been home to mobile meals!

Summer Meals (Breakfast and Lunch) will be available through September 4th to all youth 18 and under at select NYC Public schools, local parks, community pools, and libraries. To learn more visit: <https://www.opt-osfns.org/schoolfoodny/meals/default.aspx>



Speaker Heastie Allocated Funding for the Northeast Bronx YMCA for Preparatory Programs

Speaker Heastie continues to prioritize education from early childhood to college. To prepare youth for successful futures, funds have been allocated to bring SAT prep as well as Specialized High Schools examination prep to the Northeast Bronx YMCA. "Our students deserve to be represented in every room," said Speaker Heastie. "The cost for preparation programs for SATs and SHSATs has historically been a deterrent for families who cannot afford it. By bringing this free resource to the Northeast Bronx YMCA, we are giving our community's children the opportunity to reach their fullest potential."

Together with the Northeast Bronx YMCA Team, and #TeamHeastie staffer, Raven Brown-Williams, the program is set to tentatively begin in late fall. More details to come.

#TeamHeastie Hosts their Annual Community BBQ in Haffen Park

This year's community barbecue was a resounding success, bringing over 500 families to Haffen Park for the annual celebration. The event showcased the great spirit of the Northeast Bronx and featured a variety of small businesses, vendors, numerous non-profit organizations that provided information that varied from health to community clubs, constituent services, food, festivities, and guest appearances from our Congressman Latimer, Mayor Mamdani, Bronx Borough President Gibson, Bronx District Attorney Clark, and City Councilman Riley.

#TeamHeastie expresses their sincerest gratitude to everyone who attended. See you all next year. Different time, same place.



From left to right: Assemblyman Heastie, Mayor Mamdani, Bronx Borough President Gibson, Bronx District Attorney Clark, City Councilman Riley, Congressman Latimer.



Assemblyman Heastie's annual community BBQ 2026



Intern Write-up Spotlight:

The Future of Haffen Park

By: Irelsa Harry

April 17th marked the commencement of the renovation of the Haffen Park Pool Complex, a thrilling development for our neighborhood. A location that has long been a mainstay of summer in the Northeast Bronx, the pool complex is being revitalized with the utilization of funds derived from the NY SWIMS initiative, aiming to create safer, cleaner, and more accessible spaces for families to spend their time in the warm weather.

“The reconstruction of Haffen is about creating a stronger, more cohesive community,” said Speaker Heastie. “Collaboration with partners like NYC Parks Department, DASNY and my colleagues in government, Senator Bailey, Councilman Riley and Governor Hochul, has allowed for this dream to materialize, guaranteeing that families across our borough have access to safe swimming opportunities and welcoming recreational areas.”

To provide children, teens, and families with the ideal setting to unwind, socialize, and create enduring memories while maintaining the historic character that makes Haffen Park so unique, the pool complex is only the beginning. With three more phases to follow, the park will be receiving a complete face lift costing just over \$70 million. These updates aim to modernize the children’s play areas, basketball courts, and turf field and create more adaptable areas for recreation and seating. This project exemplifies the possibilities that arise when people band together for a common goal.

Haffen Park’s complete reconstruction is a significant turning point that paves the way for further neighborhood investment. Haffen is a place where families can unite, youth can remain active, and our community can flourish.

New York State Assembly, Albany, New York 12248

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NEWS FROM

Speaker
Carl E. Heastie

“Wishing you a safe and memorable summer in the Bronx. I hope the weeks ahead bring plenty of sunshine, time with loved ones and opportunities to enjoy all our community has to offer.”

– Speaker Carl E. Heastie

