

Bayswater Breeze



74th Year

BAYSWATER

March 25, 2019

BAYSWATER OPEN MEETING

MONDAY, MARCH 25, 2019 AT 8:00 PM

BAYSWATER JEWISH CENTER, CORNER HEALY AVE. & DICKENS ST.

**GUEST: FRED RILEY, SENIOR CITY CONSUMER
AFFAIRS COORDINATOR**

NEW PUBLIC DEFENDER

We have just voted for a new public advocate as the previous one, Letitia James, was elected state attorney general in November.

What does a public advocate do? The job entails leading an office that monitors and investigates city agencies. It does not have subpoena power and its budget is only \$3.6 million. According to the February 22nd New York Times, the "real prize is the office's bully pulpit, a perch from which the occupant can push the concerns of New Yorkers that have gone unaddressed by City Hall."

What do we know about Jumaane Williams who was the winner of the election?

The following information about Mr. Williams comes from the February 22nd editorial by the New York Times which endorsed him for the position and why it did:

Mr. Williams, a former tenant organizer from Brooklyn first elected in 2009, helped build the movement to end the overuse of police stops under Mayor Michael Bloomberg. Along with Councilman Brad Lander, Mr. Williams sponsored the Community Safety Act, which established an inspector general for the Police Department.

Mr. Williams has stood up to Mr. de Blasio as well, voting against the mayor's housing plan, arguing that it could worsen displacement of low-income residents. He has also been increasingly outspoken about the mayor's record on police reform, pressing Mr. de Blasio to exercise more oversight and accountability over the Police department.

He has won passage of more than 50 bills. He has also been arrested while protesting nearly a dozen times. Both facts are keys to understanding Mr. Williams, a hard worker passionate about making government work better for the people it serves.

He sponsored hard-fought legislation to require more safety training for construction workers, after a series of high-profile deaths in the industry. He successfully pushed legislation to strengthen city enforcement against tenant harassment, and another bill to prevent landlords from discriminating against domestic violence survivors.

While Mr. Williams has said he opposes abortion, he firmly supports abortion rights, and has voted consistently on the issue.

Mr. Williams once said he believed marriage was between a man and a woman, but his thinking has evolved and he has in recent years become a dependable supporter of L.G.B.T.Q. rights, including marriage equality.

He is the right person to fight for the millions of New Yorkers frustrated with the city's subways, struggling to find affordable housing in its neighborhoods, and waiting to have their voices heard. We enthusiastically endorse him as the city's next public advocate.

The public advocate may be reached at 1-212-669-7250. The address is 1 Centre Street, 15th Floor, New York, NY 10007

REMINDER

PLEASE REMEMBER TO SEND IN BCA DUES FOR 2019

We have updated our mailing list and hope we have reached more of you and that you like getting our Newsletter and that you will become interested in joining Bayswater Civic Association. This is your organization and exists to keep you informed of local matters. Our membership drive begins shortly. Why not join with us? BCA has been representing the residents of Bayswater for over 75 years. Its Board of Directors, a group of dedicated people, holds monthly meetings, and all kinds of meetings with our political leaders and representatives of city agencies (post office, sanitation, transportation etc.) along with our 4 open community meetings.

Please use either the envelope we sent you or join us at BCA's March 25th meeting where we would love to meet you and greet you, and share thoughts over a cup of coffee or tea and a cookie or two.

THE BAYSWATER BREEZE

Published By
BAYSWATER CIVIC ASSOCIATION

President, Board of Directors.....Enid Glabman
Secretary.....Rosemarie Creelman
Treasurer.....Harvey Rudnick
Editor and Circulation.....Phyllis Rudnick

BAYSWATERCIVIC.ORG - CONTACT US

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Would love to see a big crowd for our first Open meeting this year on March 25th so we can bring you up to date on all the happenings in and around Bayswater. Do hope more of you have sent in your dues. Your voices count! Our guest speaker will be Fred Riley, Senior City Consumer Affairs Coordinator. He will give us an overview of the Department of Consumer Affairs, Financial Counseling Resources and tips on Identity Theft Prevention. Our local officials and NYPD officers always attend so this is an opportunity to air your concerns. I look forward to greeting you.

Enid Glabman
President

ROCKAWAY DEVELOPMENT & REVITALIZATION CORPORATION (RDRC)

RDRC is having its 33rd Annual Gala Dinner Tribute honoring community leaders who contribute to improving the economic base for residents in the Rockaways May 15, 6 PM.

We are delighted to write that Bayswater Civic Association President Enid Glabman is being honored for her civic contributions at this event.

LOCAL CAPITAL ONE BRANCHES CLOSING

THE WAVE FEBRUARY 8, 2019

By Anthony Santino

Rockaway residents with Capital One accounts will soon have to bank farther afield when the Beach 116th Street and Mott Avenue branches shut their doors in May.

According to employees at the respective locations, May 8 will be the last day of operation for the Rockaway Park Capital One and May 9 will be the last day for the branch in Far Rockaway.

The Capital One branch closures come after a string of other New York closures by the McLean, Virginia bank. The nation's 10th largest bank announced that it would be closing 16 branches on Long Island back in June 2018 and laid off 100 workers by September of the same year.

"Like other national and regional banks, we continue to evolve and optimize our branch network in response to changing banking preferences," said Amanda Landers, a spokeswoman at Capital One, in an e-mail to Newsday. "To continually align with this strategy, decisions are made to open, renovate, and in some instances, close or relocate branches."

Theresa Hagigal, a Capital One customer for several years now, likes the bank because



**IF YOU SEE OR HEAR
SOMETHING SUSPICIOUS,
CALL THE 24 HOUR HOTLINE**

**516-858-7300
POLICE - 911**

To receive Security Alerts sign up at:
securityalerts@rockawaypatrol.org

she feels it has relaxed policies compared to its competitors. She also finds the Beach 116th location to be convenient, as it's very close to her home.

"This is the only one that I come to," said Hagigal. "The other nearest one to me, I believe, is across the bridge in Howard Beach. I'm hoping that one doesn't close as well."

Just as customers like Hagigal are with Capital One partly due to location, so are business owners who like the Beach 116th branch because of its proximity to their stores.

Paul Ohana of ADP Signs & Awnings has been doing business with Capital One for a while and prefers to keep it that way. He thinks switching would be unnecessary for now, but also expresses that their closure isn't ideal.

"It'll make it difficult. It's a very convenient bank to work with," said Ohana.

Joe Young, a resident of Broad Channel, has been banking at the Beach 116th location since the building was occupied by Jamaica Savings Bank. He and his wife both have Capital One accounts.

"My wife got a letter about the Far Rockaway one closing," said Young. "I'm still trying to decide what I'm going to do."

For customers who wish to keep doing business with Capital One, an employee at the bank's Howard Beach branch confirmed that they will remain open through the Rockaway closures. He noted that their location includes 24-hour ATMs in the vestibule, as well as a drive thru ATM option for off-hours.

VOTING FOR A NEW QUEENS DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Richard Brown, the Queens DA who was first appointed in 1991 by then Governor Mario Cuomo is retiring. The March 1st WAVE describes the position of district attorney as a prosecutor who operates in a "highly technical legal world governed by precedent and penal law statutes, oral advocacy, and strict rules of evidence and ethics." In order to ensure that the public - that's us - get to hear AND LEARN ABOUT WHO IS MOST QUALIFIED TO be in that position. THE WAVE will be featuring the candidates for district attorney on their podcast, "Riding The Wave" with former NYS prosecutor Jose Nieves on the program March 18 and then will continue with the other candidates.

The podcast has been added to the Google Podcasts app, and is now available on Spotify. Of course you can always listen to the show and its archive at Blog Talk Radio, where it's had its home since 2014: blogtalkradio.com/ridingthewavewithmarkhealey

TENNIS FANS, REJOICE!

ROGER FEDERER. 37, won his 100th career title when he beat Stefanos Tsitsipas, 20, in the final of the Dubai Championships on Saturday, March 2nd. He had lost to this young man in the finals at the Australian Open. Federer was welcomed to Triple Digit Tournament Victory Club by Jimmy Connors who is the only other player to have reached that milestone as he retired after 109 wins.

Federer has won at least one title every season since his first in Milan.

DECORATIVE AND ENVIRONMENTALLY FOCUSED

The New York City Department of Sanitation is providing both professional and amateur artists with a most interesting opportunity.

TRUCK OF ART

The New York City Department of Sanitation has announced "Trucks of Art," an opportunity for artists to put their artwork, focused on suitability or our workforce, on one of our collection trucks. As the Department is leading New Yorkers to send zero waste to landfills, artists will use paints that would otherwise be discarded or recycled. "Trucks of Art" is open to all artists, professional and amateur. Those interested in applying should submit a short description of their ideas, design mock-ups, and let us know why they want to be selected, along with contact details and a short biography to TrashTalk@dny.nyc.gov. All submissions must be emailed by Sunday, March 31, 2019. The Department will choose finalists and provide them paint - from donated household latex paints to spray paints. The Department will provide access to the trucks for painting in April, before the trucks are publicly unveiled. Full details of the Trucks of Art project, including full submission information, may be found at <http://nyc.gov/truckart>

PSEG WARNS CUSTOMERS ABOUT SCAMMING

THE WAVE FEBRUARY 22, 2019

PSEG Long Island is urging customers to be alert for increasingly sophisticated scams that continue to target utility customers across the nation. In recent weeks, customers have reported phone scammers pretending to be PSEG Long Island employees, in some cases with caller ID reading "PSEG Long Island." The scammers demand payment for past due bills or priority AMI install and threaten to have electric service shut off if payment isn't remitted immediately. In 2018 more than 4,088 scams were reported to PSEG Long Island, a 75 percent increase over 2017. In total, the utility has received reports of more than 10,000 scams over the past 5 years, with a 6 percent victim rate.

Said Rick Walden, vice president, customer operations, PSEG Long Island, "If you receive a call from anyone demanding immediate payment, do not give them any personal or account information. Hand up the phone and call PSEG Long Island at 1-800-490-0025."

With this scam, a call is generated with a phony PSEG Long Island caller ID and someone pretending to be a PSEG Long Island Employee says that, without immediate payment via a pre-paid card (e.g Green Dot Money Pak, Vanilla Reload Card) or bitcoin, their service will be shut off. If the victim takes the bait, the scammer gives them a telephone number to call after they have purchased the card or bitcoin. When customers call that number, they hear interactive voice response prompts that imitate those they would hear when calling the authentic PSEG Long Island customer service line. When the fake representative answers, they ask for the number on the back of the pre-paid card. After the scammers have that number, they take the money from the

Continued on back page

IT'S 2019! A NEW YEAR!!!

We need each other. YES, I'll send my dues!

Bayswater Civic Association

1022 Bay 24th Street

Bayswater, New York 11691

YES, I will join my neighbors for the betterment of Bayswater.

Enclosed \$25 for the year 2019

Do you have a skill BCA can use? Join us.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Print clearly, so we can send messages!

Yes, we have been sending messages.

As a result of rising costs to postage and printing please let us know by email or send back a piece of paper with your name, address, and the words no Breeze if you wish to discontinue the Breeze. Those who have paid their 2019 dues will continue to receive the Breeze.

FAR ROCKAWAY TEMPORARY LIBRARY NOW OPEN

ADDRESS: 1003 Beach 20th Street, next to the Teen Library Center on the corner of Beach 20th Street and Cornaga Avenue.

THESE ARE THE HOURS:

Monday: 9 AM - 8 PM

Thursday: 12 N - 8 PM

Tuesday: 1 PM - 6 PM

Friday 10 AM - 6 PM

Wednesday: 10 AM - 6 PM

Saturday: 10 AM - 5 PM

STOPPING THE WILLIAMS PIPELINE

The Williams Pipeline is to be a 23-mile long pipeline that will carry fracked gas under New York Harbor, running along the Staten Island coast and to extend out to four miles off Rockaway. According to the groups fighting this pipeline which is being called the Northeast Supply Enhancement (NESE) Pipeline and is to be constructed by the Williams Company of Oklahoma, will require the digging of a giant trench across New York harbor which will churn up toxins like PCBs, dioxin, lead, and arsenic into the water and when washed ashore by tides, will contaminate marine life and the shoreline. The issue of fracking also involved with Lee Ziesche, one of the pipeline opponents, noting that in Pennsylvania people cannot drink their water and are having trouble breathing the air where fracking is done.

Safety was also important as it was noted that Williams pipelines and compressor stations have exploded and/or caught fire ten times within the past ten years. The federal Environmental Regulatory Commission (FERC) has issued an Environmental Impact Statement which concluded that "environmental Impacts would be reduced to less than significant levels with the implementation of mitigation measures proposed by Williams and FERC."

The Stop the Williams Pipeline Coalition presented elected officials with hundreds of handwritten letters opposing the project. Elected officials are also against the project.

A coalition of groups made up of the New York Public Interest Research Group Fund (NYPIRG,) Food & Water Watch - New York, New York Communities for Change, 350 NYC and more formed to prevent the NESE pipeline from happening. Patrick Houston, Sara Gronim, Eric Weltman and Lee Ziesche are some of the people at the helm of this campaign to prevent the NESE construction.

Governor Andrew Cuomo ultimately has the power to veto the construction of this pipeline. Weltman mentioned that, in the last year, people he's worked with and petitioned to have made over 10,000 calls to Cuomo over the pipeline issue. The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) will also have the power to block the pipeline by denying requisite permits. As it stands, the deadline for NYSDEC to make their decision is May 16.

Those interested in helping this cause can visit stopthewilliamspipeline.org, call Cuomo at 877-235-6537 or text "RENEWABLES" to 69866

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card - usually within minutes. If a bitcoin payment is demanded, the scammers will ask customers to deposit at a certain location. PSEG Long Island would never require customers to use one specific payment type. The utility offers a variety of payment options, but it does not accept pre-paid debit cards or bitcoin. PSEG Long Island customers scheduled for disconnection due to non-payment receive written notice on their bill at least 10 days in advance

If you get a call:

Know what PSEG Long Island will and won't discuss. A genuine PSEG Long Island representative will ask to speak to the Customer of Record. If that person is available, the representative will explain why they are calling and share the account name, address and current balance. If you do not receive this correct information from the person on the phone, you are likely not speaking with a PSEG Long Island representative.

If the Customer of Record is not available, the PSEG Long Island representative will

not discuss the account at all and ask that a message be left for the Customer of Record to call PSEG Long Island at 1-800-490-0025.

Email Scams

Phone scammers aren't the only ones trying to trick customers out of their money. PSEG Long Island also cautions customers to beware of emails that appear to be bills from the utility. These emails request personal information, leading to identity theft.

PSEG Long Island does not ask customers to provide personal information online without first logging into My Account. Do not provide any personal information requested by email. Do not download any attachments, and do not click on any links in the email. Open a browser window and visit www.psegliny.com to log into My Account to get accurate information.

Unannounced Visits

Recently, PSEG Long Island has received reports of door-to-door solicitors from solar companies and energy service companies impersonating PSEG Long Island employees or approved vendors. Reports have also been received of subjects impersonating PSEG Long Island employees to gain entry to homes and steal items.

PSEG Long Island employees should be wearing a PSEG Long Island ID Badge and PSEG Long Island-branded clothing. If you doubt the identity of a visitor claiming to be from the utility, do not give them access to your home. Call 1-800-490-0025 to determine if PSEG Long Island employees are in the area. If you are unable to verify that PSEG Long Island employees are present, call 911. Any customer who has doubts about the legitimacy of a call or an email - especially one in which payment is requested - should call the utility directly at 1-800-490-0025 or visit a local PSEG Long Island Customer Service Center. Service Centers are open Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., with locations listed on customer bills and online at: <https://www.psegliny.com/page.cfm/Account/PaymentCustomerServiceCenters>.

For more information on various payment scams in the PSEG Long Island service area and around the country, visit www.psegliny.com/scam.