



*Back. And Better Than Ever.*  
**MEALY MEDIA**  
*Community News & Information For District 41*

*Quarterly Newsletter Published By City Council Member Darlene Mealy*

# HAVE A HAPPY, HEALTHY & PROSPEROUS 2023!

## *Building a Strong and United Community - Block by Block.*

### **Dear Friends & Neighbors:**

It was quite an eventful 2022! But together, we not only survived, but thrived. I want to wish all of you the very best for 2023. It is my sincere hope that things will finally be better after the many challenges of 2021 and 2022. Last year we did many things together since you re-elected me to serve you again. I promise that I will not let you down because I appreciate the confidence that you've placed in me.

### **Nurses Champion!**



*CM Mealy addresses Healthcare Workers fighting for "Better Benefits and a Fair Living Wage" during recent protests on the steps of City Hall.*

### **District Office**

400 Rockaway Avenue  
 Brooklyn, NY 11212  
 Phone: 718-953-3097  
 Fax: 718-953-3276

### **Legislative Office**

250 Broadway, Suite 1754  
 New York, NY 10007  
 Phone: 212-788-7387

### **Council Member**

**DARLENE MEALY'S**

### **Committee Assignments**

Chair, Sub-Committee on Senior  
 Canters & Food Insecurity

- Committee on Aging
- Committee on Land Use
- Committee on mental Health, Disabilities & Addiction
- Committee on Public Housing
- Committee on Public Safety
- Committee on Small Business

This year I'll also continue to focus on our **senior citizens** and **PUT FAMILIES AND CHILDREN FIRST**. I will continue my **OPEN DOOR** policy when it comes to my District Office. **Remember, we're here to serve you.**

I also want to hear from you because that's the best way I can champion your interests at City Hall. You can email me, call or write to me. Let's work together to improve the quality of life for all residents of the district. I invite you to be my partner as **we build a strong and united community - block by block.**

*Darlene Mealy*

## How We Serve The Community

- Housing Advocacy
- NYCHA Help & Assistance
- Small Business Information & Advocacy
- Youth Empowerment
- Community Organizations Development & Support
- Senior Centers Advocacy & Support
- Food Insecurity Programs
- Monthly Community Advisory Board Meetings
- Partnering with the Faith-Based Community
- Immigration Help & Referrals
- Legal Help

**To Make An Appointment**

**Call (718) 953-3097**

## Fall Foliage Cruise Winner!



**Ms. Mary Ray was one of the lucky winners of CM Mealy's Senior Fall Foliage Lunch Cruise TV Raffle! The Council Member made the presentation recently at her District office.**

## Rent freeze for seniors

**SCRIE** helps eligible senior citizens ages 62 and over stay in affordable housing by freezing their rent. Tenants pay the frozen rent. A property tax credit covers the difference between the actual rent amount and the frozen rent.

For questions about HPD-supervised SCRIE, email [SCRIE@hpd.nyc.gov](mailto:SCRIE@hpd.nyc.gov)

### Call HPD

**Call 212-863-8494 if you have questions about HPD-supervised SCRIE.**

## New York City & State Holidays

February 12\* - Lincoln's Birthday\*

February 13\* - Lincoln's Birthday\* (Observed)

February 20 - Presidents' Day

May 29 - Memorial Day

June 19- Juneteenth

July 4 - Independence Day

September 4 - Labor Day

October 9 - Columbus Day

November 7 - Election Day

November 10 - Veteran's Day (Observed)

November 11 - Veteran's Day

November 23 - Thanksgiving Day

December 25 - Christmas Day

January 1, 2024 - New Year's Day

# Leading from the front. Back & Better Than Ever.

## Children and Families First

*Excited children at Council Member Darlene Mealy's Annual Toy Giveaway pose at the "photo wall". It was a day of family fun with children taking center stage.*



## Annual Toy Giveaway 2022

*Stellar performance by dance team from Victory Music & Dance Company seen here with CM Mealy and members of the Marine Corps Toys for Tots Program.*



## My Oldest Constituent

### 104 Year-Old Maurice Mitchinson James

Mr. James was born on January 26, 1918 in the Caribbean Island of St. Vincent & the Grenadines. He is a former police officer, tailor, government worker and security officer. As a young man Mr. James was an avid cricketer who enjoyed cooking and spending time with his family.

He migrated to the United States in 1980, and settled in New York City. He retired as a security guard at Pace University in 1996. He is the proud father of three grown children. "Mr. James is a much appreciated and loved treasure in my district that is home to quite a number of residents knocking on the 100-milestone door. I am so proud to be representing this population, and to work for and on their behalf. It gives me immense pleasure to salute Maurice Mitchinson James on his 104th birthday. May God continue to bless him," Council Member Darlene Mealy said.

## Food Help

For urgent food and hunger help call 311 and ask for the Emergency Food Assistance Program. You'll get hours of operations and directions for the nearest food pantry and community kitchens. REMEMBER: Everyone is eligible for food assistance regardless of immigration status or how much money you have. If you need help buying food check out **ACCESS NYC** at <https://access.nyc.gov/>

## NYC ID Card

**IDNYC** is a **FREE** government-issued photo ID card for people 10 years and older who live in New York City. It can help you get City services, museum memberships, open bank accounts, and more. It can also be used to sign up for SNAP benefits, Cash Assistance and Section 8. and qualify for housing with Housing Connect. To qualify visit: <https://www.nyc.gov/site/idnyc> or call **311 for more information.**

# COMING IN 2023!

## In-Office Immigration Services - Starts February 9



Council Member Darlene Mealy's District Office at 400 Rockaway Avenue will be launching its MONTHLY **IMMIGRATION DAY 2023**. Please look out for updates. This **FREE** outreach community program will be conducted by **CUNY Citizenship Now!** . **PLEASE NOTE:** We will do the intake at the office for residents and schedule the interview and appointments day/days.



Coming in 2023. Housing is a major issue in the district. So, Council Member Mealy is bringing resources and services to you.

## Excel Space

**Best African Fabric Store in Brownsville**  
16 Belmont Avenue, Brooklyn NY 11212



Boutique owner Ms. Lola stands in the midst of some of her diverse and beautiful mix of African fabric.

## Langston Hughes Houses Gets FREE Internet!

Council Member Darlene Mealy said that this was a welcome improvement that was long in coming. "**Big Apple Connect** providing residents of Langston Hughes NYCHA Housing development with a free bundle that consists of in-home, high-speed internet connection, including a modem and router; basic cable TV service, including a cable box and remote control; and common area Wi-Fi hotspots, is to be applauded." Council member Mealy stated.

## Community Advisory Board Meeting 2023

Saturday, January 28th - 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m

1757 Utica Avenue, 2nd Floor

Ms. Ebony Jefferson, Certified Life Coach

Topic: *Conversation on Wellness & Well-Being*

For More information call (718) 953-3097

*COVID -19 Protocols apply.*

## JSI Flea Market

Young entrepreneurs at JSI Flea Market newest business in District 41 at 379 Rockaway Avenue



Booth owners pose for the camera. At second from right is J.S. Illery the market's owner. Here's wishing them every success!