

# Neighbor News

The Community Newsletter of Queensboro Council for Social Welfare, Inc.

## Keep Children Safe

1. Always know where your children are playing and who they are with.
2. Never back out of your driveway without first looking behind your car for children and toys.
3. Keep children away from barbecue grills.
4. Encourage your children to let you know if they see bees or hornets and teach them to not touch these insects.
5. Keep all lawn fertilizers and liquids, household cleaners, pool chemicals, and gasoline out of the reach of children.
6. Examine your children for ticks when they come inside for the night after playing in the yard or natural areas.
7. Post your pediatrician's contact phone number on your refrigerator or in a visible spot and always give this information to your babysitters.
8. Check your deck, patio, and yard for tripping hazards such as protruding nails in decks and sprinklers in the yard. Summer season, be prepared and avoid becoming part of the statistics.

## Boat Festival

On Saturday and Sunday, August 2nd & 3rd The 18th Annual Hong Kong Dragon Boat Festival. It's **FREE** Rain or Shine Flushing Meadow Park 9am-5pm.

## Installation of Window Guards

Owners of multiple-dwelling buildings are legally required to install window guards in apartments where children 10 years or younger live. Additionally, tenants are required to inform their landlord when they have children ages 10 and younger living in their apartment. Window guards must be installed and maintained by the owner, manager or agent of a multiple dwelling (defined as a building with three or more units) – not by the tenant. Every year, building owners are also required to provide forms that allow tenants to report children living in the apartment, and to request installation of window guards. Tenants also should use the form to indicate whether window guards need repair, or to request window guards.

Even if no children live in the apartment, by law, window guards must be installed if the tenant request them. If a child ten years of age or younger resides there, tenants may *not* refuse installation. The law also allows anyone to request window guards, which the building owner must then install. If a child/children 10 years or younger lives in your apartment, OR if you provide child care services in your apartment, you must:

- Inform the landlord of that fact.
- Let the landlord come in to install window guards.

- Not take down window guards once they are installed.
- Not make alterations to window guards.
- Not remove any part of a window guard.

Tenants who have contacted their landlord to install or repair window guards and who have not received a response should call **311** to file a complaint; building owners can also call **311** to report tenants who refuse to have these guards installed as required by law.

## Free Meals

Smart FREE Summer Meals!

All children 18 years of age and under can enjoy a FREE breakfast and lunch at any open site in New York City.

*Not required:* Registration Documentation or I.D.

Regardless of income and citizenship status, all children can enjoy a free meal, even if they don't attend public school or live in NYC.

Call QCSW at 718.468.8025 or 311 to find an open public school, pool, park or other site near you.

## Free Classes

The Queens Public Library offers free computer classes for Spanish speakers being held 2:30pm - 4:30pm at Langston Hughes 100-01 Northern Blvd, Corona, NY 718.651.1100.

## Cooling Centers

As Heat Advisory takes effect this summer with very high temperatures, residents can take refuge from the extreme heat. The Office of Emergency Management (OEM) reminds New Yorkers to take appropriate precautions because high temperatures and humidity can cause serious illness, particularly among seniors and those with chronic medical conditions.

During heat emergency days, OEM will open cooling centers throughout all five boroughs. Cooling Centers are public places, such as senior centers and community centers, where air conditioning is available. New Yorkers can call 311 or log on to [www.nyc.gov/oem](http://www.nyc.gov/oem) to find the nearest cooling center.

## TIPS TO BEAT THE HEAT

- ◆ Visit one of the City's Cooling Centers.
- ◆ Wear loose-fitting, light colored clothes.
- ◆ Use an air conditioner if you have one.
- ◆ Keep body temperature low by taking cool baths or showers.

## Trafficking

Human Trafficking is a global problem, with victims typically coming from underdeveloped countries. Experts believe human trafficking is estimated to be a \$5 to \$9 billion industry worldwide. City Council hearings last year found human trafficking to be the third largest criminal operation in all organized crime enterprises.

## Pool Safety Tips

While swimming in your own pool should be a fun experience, thousands of people are injured or killed in pool related accidents every year. Most of these affecting children under the age of five.

Did you know that drowning can happen silently, in just a few inches of water?

There is absolutely no substitute for adult supervision when it comes to accident prevention.

Consider putting in a pool alarm or a security camera.

Check that all drains are properly covered to prevent hair or small arms from getting sucked in.

Make sure all chemicals are out of the reach of children and pets.

Children should take swimming and water safety lessons.

Keep rescue equipment and emergency numbers and a cell phone close to the pool.

Knowing CPR could also mean the difference between life and death.

## FOOD STAMPS

Now it's easier than ever to apply! Get More - Get Foodstamps. If you are Working-Unemployed-An Immigrant - Senior - or Disabled you could be serving healthier meals for less. To find out more information contact: QCSW at 718.468.8025.

## Important #s

For Emergency 911

Non-Emergency City Services 311

QCSW Information & Referral 718.468.8025

## Apartment Rentals

Applications are now being accepted for 55 affordable housing rental apartments now under construction at 730 Rockaway Ave., in the Brownsville section of Brooklyn. Qualified applicants will be required to meet income guidelines and additional selection criteria. Request application by regular mail from: NY ACORN Housing Company, PO Box 25050, Bklyn, NY 11202-5050 (Please include a self-addressed envelope with your request, or in person at 2-4 Nevins St., 2nd Flr., Bklyn, NY. MUST be postmarked by September 8, 2008.

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