

Working for you 24/7

# Assemblyman Mike Miller

District 38

Representing the communities of Ridgewood, Glendale,  
Woodhaven, Richmond Hill, and Ozone Park



July 2015

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## Contact Information

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Dear Friends,

With the arrival of summer, also comes the end of yet another successful legislative session. As we move forward to the next legislative session, I will continue to do my best to make sure that our community obtains the resources it needs to strive not only in 2015, but in future years as well.

This year I was able to pass multiple pieces of legislation that have helped our community. Whether it be through providing better care to our seniors or improving the lives of our veterans, the improvement of our community is always my first priority.

My staff and I are here working for you 24/7 to be sure to address any questions or concerns you may have. For more information on anything listed, please feel free to contact my district office. I am looking forward to hearing from all of you and I wish you a happy and healthy summer.

Sincerely,

Mike Miller

Member of Assembly

## **EVENTS IN THE COMMUNITY**

### **ASSEMBLYMAN MILLER RECOGNIZES CROSSING GUARDS FOR THEIR EXCEPTIONAL WORK**



Assemblyman Mike Miller hosted two events to honor the School Safety Crossing Guards of the 104th PCT and the 102nd PCT for their valued service to our schools within the community



*ABOVE: Assemblyman Miller with the school crossing guards from the 104<sup>th</sup> prescient.*

### **NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY AND SENATE PASSES ASSEMBLYMAN MIKE MILLER'S LEGISLATION TO CREATE KIWANIS LICENSE PLATES TO HONOR KIWANIS' 100TH ANNIVERSARY**

After continued advocacy from Assemblyman Mike Miller (D-Woodhaven), both the Assembly and Senate have passed Assemblyman Miller's legislation (A486A/S438A) that would allow the DMV to create distinctive Kiwanis license plates to honor the 100th anniversary of Kiwanis. Earlier this session, Assemblyman Miller introduced a resolution in the Assembly honoring the 100th Anniversary of Kiwanis International. Kiwanis boasts nearly 600,000 members worldwide and annually raises more than \$100 million in support of their cause, improving the lives of children all over the globe.

Kiwanis clubs, located in 80 nations, help their communities in countless ways. This license plate provides a way for the over 10,000 Kiwanis members to identify themselves. This law allows the Department of Motor Vehicles to create a distinctive Kiwanis license plate to allow members to take pride in their membership in Kiwanis and to take pride in their work helping children throughout the community. The bill currently awaits Governor Cuomo's approval.

### **ASSEMBLYMAN MIKE MILLER HELPS PASS LEGISLATION THAT ALLOWS THE CITY OF NEW YORK TO SELL TAX LOTS TO ABUTTING OWNERS THAT CANNOT BE INDEPENDENTLY DEVELOPED.**

Assemblymember Miller's (D-Woodhaven) bill, A7872, that extends the authority of the city of New York to sell lots to abutting owners that cannot be independently developed passed the NYS Assembly and NYS Senate. The Department of Citywide Administrative Services (DCAS) of the City of New York has jurisdiction over various limited market properties, which are properties that are economically impracticable or infeasible to develop independently due to size, shape, zoning, configuration and topography.

The authorization under City Charter section 384(b)4-a authorizes DCAS, through its SAIL Away (Slivers, Access ways and Interior Lots) Program to conduct direct sales to abutting property owners of this type of property. These properties are not appropriate for sale through the public auction or competitive bidding processes that would be required under other existing laws, as they have no independent utility. Future utilization of these lots is dependent on and linked to the privately-owned adjacent lots. In some cases, portions of these lots have been used by adjacent property owners for years. This legislation would continue to provide authority for DCAS, for an additional five years, to transfer these limited market properties directly to private ownership without the necessity of a public auction or sealed bidding process.

**ASSEMBLYMAN MILLER BIDS  
FAREWELL TO GREAT  
COMMUNITY LEADER AND  
FRIEND**



On Tuesday, June 30, 2015, Assemblyman Miller visited the Woodhaven Senior Center to wish Pat Critelli, 27 year program manager of the center, a great entrance into retirement. Throughout her years at the center, she has managed to forge an unbreakable bond with all the members of the senior center that surely will last for years to come.

**HONORING MOTHERS FOR  
ALL THEY DO IN OUR  
COMMUNITY**



On May 16, 2015, Assemblyman Miller attended the AAMUS Mother's Day Celebration where he presented awards for women in our community who excelled in not only parenting, but also their community involvement.

Eligibility to purchase such City-owned real property is determined to be in the best interests of the City, at the discretion of the Mayor, based on a certification by the Commissioner of Citywide Services that independent development is economically impracticable or infeasible. Sales are limited to abutting property owners or an entity comprised of such owners. DCAS has identified hundreds of lots in all five boroughs, that are potentially eligible for this program.

Additionally, such sale of said real property is subject to approval pursuant to the Uniform Land Use Review Procedure (ULURP), Section 197-c of the New York City Charter. Accordingly, the Mayor urges the earliest possible favorable consideration of this proposal by the Legislature.

**LEGISLATION TO BROADEN THE FOCUS OF THE NEW  
YORK STATE COMMITTEE FOR THE COORDINATION OF  
POLICE SERVICES TO ELDERLY PERSONS BEYOND TRIAD  
PROGRAMS PASSES ASSEMBLY & SENATE**

The New York State Assembly and New York State Senate passed Assemblyman Miller's bill, A928, which broadens the focus of the New York State Committee for the Coordination of Police Services to Elderly Persons beyond only triad programs. The legislation allows them to consider new approaches and programs in addition to current ideas. Because the nature of crimes against the elderly are becoming more widespread and sophisticated, it is important to adapt responses to changing times as well.

Crimes against the elderly are on the rise and often go unreported. In fact, the NYS Office for the Aging estimates that for every one case of elder abuse, five others go unreported. Such staggering number's indicates there is a systematic flaw in efforts to protect senior's from being victims of crimes. The Committee for the Coordination of Police Services to Elderly Persons was assembled to study and evaluate "Triad Programs" which is the triad cooperative model developed by the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP), the National Sheriffs Association and International Association of the Chiefs of Police. With the expansion of the Committee's role, it will allow the Committee to study and evaluate other initiatives as well, which may provide useful tools for law enforcement to address criminal victimization of the elderly.

### **ASSEMBLYMAN MILLER HONORS LIFE OF PAT TORO**



On March 18, 2015, Assemblyman Miller passed a resolution honoring the life of Pat Toro, a decorated former marine and fierce advocate for veterans, and invited the Vietnam Vets to be part of the celebration.

### **ASSEMBLYMAN MILLER RECOGNIZES OUR STUDENT OF THE MONTH THROUGHOUT THE COMMUNITY**



*Assemblyman Miller and Principal Carpenter of the St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Academy*

On Friday Jun 5, 2015, Assemblyman Miller visited the St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Academy in Woodhaven to recognize their students of the month.

### **ASSEMBLYMAN MILLER, CONGRESSWOMAN GRACE MENG, AND GCOP PATROL OUR NEIGHBORHOOD**



On July 9, 2015, Assemblyman Miller, along with Congresswoman Grace Meng, and members of the Glendale Civilian Observation Patrol (GCOP) went on patrol around our neighborhood.

### **ASSEMBLY PASSES THE SHARED WORK PROGRAM TO BENEFIT EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES**

The New York State Assembly passed Assemblyman Miller's Shared Work Program bill, A7821, that would benefit both employers and employees alike who are facing a temporary decline in business. The bill offers employers an alternative to laying off employees by enabling them to keep their already trained and productive workforce. An employer would not have to bear the expense of recruiting, hiring, and training new employees. Also, employees are spared the hardships of full unemployment.

Instead of cutting staff, employers can reduce the number of hours of all employees or just a select few- offer seasonal, temporary or intermittent employment where their employees can still collect partial unemployment benefits to replace a portion of their lost wages. Provisions of this law that this bill extends provides an incentive for employers to take advantage of this program by allowing, under certain circumstances, the employers unemployment insurance account to not be charged when they participate. The state would cover it and be reimbursed by the Federal Government pursuant to the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012.

### **ASSEMBLYMAN MILLER VOTES TO STRIP PENSIONS FROM CORRUPT PUBLIC OFFICERS**

Assemblyman Miller (D-Woodhaven) announced that he helped pass legislation to restore integrity in government by ensuring public officers convicted of corruption do not receive taxpayer-funded pensions (A.7704). "Public officers should always work for the people, never for themselves," said Assemblyman Miller. "Those who violate the laws they are sworn to uphold should face the full extent of the consequences, including forfeiting their taxpayer-funded pension."

The proposed constitutional amendment would apply to all elected officials at the state and local level, judges, executive appointees, policymakers and certain members of public boards and government bodies. To protect innocent family members, a judge would be required to set aside a portion of the pension for a spouse and dependent children. Passage of the measure builds on a series of ethics reforms included in this year's state budget, which increased disclosure of legislators' outside income, enhanced transparency for travel reimbursements and strengthened campaign finance laws.

"Taxpayers should not be subsidizing the retirements of corrupt public officers. Nor should corrupt officials enjoy the fruits of their crime. Taxpayer-funded pensions are supposed to reward years of hard work and public service, not years of corruption and self-serving," said Assemblyman Miller. "The best way we can ensure government is working for the people is by passing tough standards to regulate conduct and increase accountability in public office – and I'm committed to doing just that."

Should the Senate pass the Assembly's amendment, it would need to pass again during the next legislative term to appear on the ballot as a public referendum to change the New York State Constitution.

### INTERNATIONAL YOGA DAY



Assemblyman Miller, Councilman Paul Vallone, members of the Indian Business Association, and participants of World Yoga Day

On Saturday, June 13, at Flushing Meadows Corona Park, Assemblyman Mike Miller, Councilman Paul Vallone, and the Indian Business Association hosted International Yoga Day to commemorate the United Nations' declaration of June 21st as World Yoga Day. In attendance were several participants and Yoga instructors who engaged in several yoga sessions.



Above: Assemblyman Miller, Speaker Carl Heastie, and members of the Indian Business Association

### LEXINGTON SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF



On June 2, 2015, Assemblyman Miller met with Tanvir Chowdury and Dilshane Seneviratue, students from the Lexington School for the Deaf, on their annual trip to Albany to get more personally acquainted with their elected officials.

## UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE COMMUNITY

### Assemblyman Miller invites you to take part in our Mammovan Event



When: Sunday, October 25, 2015  
9:00am-4:00pm  
Where: 83-91 Woodhaven Boulevard  
Woodhaven, NY 11421

## ASSEMBLYMAN IN YOUR AREA:

We invite you to please come and visit Assemblyman Miller with any questions, concerns, or to apply for a FREE SENIOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL ID CARD:

#### Ozone Park Senior Center

103-02 101<sup>st</sup> Avenue, Jamaica, NY 11416  
August 11, September 8, October 13, November 17, December 15  
10:00AM- 12:00PM

#### Woodhaven Residents' Block Association

84-20 Jamaica Ave, Jamaica, NY 11421  
August 24, September 21, October 19, November 16, December 7  
11:00AM- 12:30PM

#### Ridgewood Older Adult Senior Center

5914 70th Ave, Flushing, NY 11385  
August 12, September 23, October 7, October 28, December 9  
10:30AM-11:30AM  
September 11, November 13  
10:00am- 11:30AM

#### Independence Residences Café

94-16 Jamaica Avenue, Woodhaven NY 11421  
August 25, September 22, October 27, December 14  
10:00AM-11:30AM

#### Community Help Desk

175 Forbell Street Brooklyn, NY 11208  
September 16, October 14, December 16  
1:00PM- 2:30PM  
October 2, November 20  
1:00PM- 2:00PM

#### Woodhaven Richmond Hill Senior Center

89-02 91st Street Woodhaven, N.Y. 11421  
August 26, September 29, October 26, November 30, December 29  
11:30PM-12:30PM