

WOODSIDE HERALD

SERVING SUNNYSIDE-WOODSIDE AND LONG ISLAND CITY

VOL. 93 NO. 8

WOODSIDE, L.I.C., N.Y. FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2026

FREE

SHELTER H I F T

Roughly two dozen homeless families living at the City View Inn in Long Island City were required to relocate after the facility was converted to house single adult men, according to reporting by the New York Post. The move affected 37 school-aged children and occurred during the academic year. For families who had been living at the site, the shelter represented a measure of routine during a period of housing instability. While temporary by definition, shelter placements can provide consistency for children enrolled in school and for parents working to secure permanent housing.

The New York Post reported that families were notified of the transition during the school year. The conversion proceeded despite calls from local residents and advocates urging Mayor Zohran Mamdani to intervene.

Under New York City policy, shelter residents must generally receive at least 48 hours written notice before a non-emergency transfer within the Department of Homeless Services system. The written notice is required to include the reason for the transfer and the address of the new placement. Residents also have the right to request a review of certain transfers.

It is not publicly known how much notice the City View Inn families received or whether the transfer was classified as non-emergency under DHS guidelines.

City officials have described such shelter conversions as part of broader system management. New York City's shelter network serves families with children, single adults and other populations, and facilities may be reconfigured in response to capacity demands and operational needs.

Advocacy organizations note that when families enter shelter, they are advised in writing of facility rules and resident rights. Department of Homeless Services policy allows for transfers when deemed necessary for administrative or operational reasons, though placements are not guaranteed to be permanent. Even when permitted under policy, transfers can present challenges for families already coping with housing instability.

A relocation may require adjusting to a new neighborhood, coordinating transportation changes and establishing new working relationships within a different shelter setting. While DHS guidelines require that a family's case file and housing plan transfer with them to a new site, the specific case manager assigned to a family may change depending on the receiving facility.

Advocates emphasize that continuity — particularly during the school year — can be significant for children experiencing homelessness. Community members in Queens voiced concern over the timing of the City View Inn transition, arguing that families with school-aged children should be given as much stability as possible. Some publicly called for city leadership to reconsider the move.

City representatives have maintained, according to the New York Post, that displaced families remain within the municipal shelter system and continue to receive housing and support services, albeit at different locations.

The episode reflects the broader tension within New York City's shelter infrastructure: balancing operational flexibility with the needs of families navigating temporary housing.

On paper, the conversion of a facility is an administrative decision. In practice, it requires families to pack belongings and adjust once again to a new temporary address while continuing their search for permanent housing.

Whether viewed as necessary system management or as disruptive midyear relocation, the City View Inn transition highlights the ongoing challenge of managing a strained shelter system while preserving stability for the children and parents who depend on it.

We are proud that our late senior partner, Benjamin Shaw, was founding lawyer for Sunnyside Community Services celebrating it's 50th Anniversary.

All Saints Church 43-12 46th Street Sunnyside

VOLUNTEER POSITION

Dr. Sharon Cadiz, Cycle Pete, Rob MacKay,
Stan Popovich, Rix Quinn, Peter Ross,
CONTRIBUTING ARTISTS AND PHOTOGRAPHERS
Dr. Sharon Cadiz, Joe Gurrado, Peter Ross

7. **Get some help:** Sometimes, it helps to be able to talk to someone about your stressful situations. Talking to a trusted friend, counselor, or clergyman can give you additional advice and insights on how to deal with the fear of the unknown. Remember that there is nothing wrong in asking for assistance.

DONOVAN RICHARDS JR.
QUEENS BOROUGH PRESIDENT

But if they were...you would not want to see them in tank tops.

OPINION

TOO MUCH

by Dr. Sharon M. Cadiz

There has consistently been a lot of talk about the new Mayor’s plans to address the needs of New Yorkers. Most of it, from the very beginning of his campaign to run for the office, focused on criticizing the unrealistic nature of his platform. I must confess that when I first heard it, I was also convinced that it was more than what was possible. It took my 24 year old granddaughter to convince me that this man’s mission was something that could actually happen. Although the voters coalesced with his vision resulting in his election to the office of Mayor, there are still naysayers who express their doubts and reservations. I would say that my response to the doubters is: if enough of us believe, it is not a possibility; but instead, a certainty that his agenda can become a reality. Critics like to throw stones out of habit because that has long been the nature of campaigns and political gamesmanship; however, life in New York City is not a game. It has been reduced to the harsh reality of staggering costs and an ever-widening gap between the “haves” and the “have-nots” where the “have-nots” grossly outnumber the “haves.”

The new Mayor has apparently taken a great many walks through our beloved city and undoubtedly talked to a lot of people. What he has seen and what he has heard closely matches what many of us not only see and hear each day, but live each day. The criticism that he promises “too much” is a declaration of war against those of us who struggle to live, work and manage the reality that includes a growing number of store closings, job losses; rising rents; increases to public transportation; unexplained hikes in food prices and other essentials; the out-of-pocket cost of childcare and health care, and high utility and tax rates for homeowners. It seems ironic that the idea of free buses and child care is “too much” while the cost of living in this city is really what is “too much.”

This morning I looked out of my kitchen window at about 5:45am and saw three women pushing strollers with babies, and another woman walking with a little boy in a rush; presumably heading to a babysitter before work. The woman with the little boy really got my attention because she abruptly stopped right in front of my building, then turned around and started walking in the direction from which they came. Curious, I kept watching to see if she returned, but I didn’t see any trace of her and the little boy. At this point, I began to imagine that she had some problem that prevented her from proceeding. I thought maybe her babysitter cancelled. Even if my guess about the situation is inaccurate; what remains clear in my mind is that this woman met the challenge of rising early to dress herself and her little boy before 6 am on this cold winter morning, and something interrupted the plan. In any case, I have to ask: “Are the challenges too much?”

The reason that I thought about child care regarding this scene is because a couple of years ago a young mother in my apartment building rang my bell desperately asking for my help to watch her child because she had to get to work and her babysitter cancelled at the last moment. I felt surprised by the request, but I deliberated over the matter and agreed to help. The woman said that she started working for MTA on an overnight shift and would return in the morning at about 7:30am to get her daughter ready for school. True to her word, she arrived promptly the next morning and picked up her child. I can imagine how similar challenges arise for folks on a daily basis; if not about child care, perhaps about the cost of commuting or costly co-pays for doctor’s visits.

Life in New York City consists of countless stories of challenge and struggle. When my husband and I walk to a local coffee shop for breakfast, we see a recreational vehicle parked on a corner in the shadow of a new luxury residential building. Looking at this picture, we see the shocking disparity of someone living in a recreational vehicle just a heartbeat away from a high rise building where the rent is “too much.” Most New Yorkers cannot afford to live in this building; and certainly not the person living in the recreational vehicle.

Gig workers and freelancers in this city face all kinds of cash flow problems; some of which were recognized during the pandemic. The reality is that problems persist and have actually gotten worse as a result of funding cuts and various shutdowns and closings. Some people see the increase in public transportation as another burden on their limited financial resources. Seniors on fixed incomes face issues even with meager cost of living increases that get swallowed up by the expense of staying housed, or managing dental, vision or medical costs. My neighbor who is a senior told me that she had to pay \$300 out-of-pocket for eyeglasses, which was her portion of a total bill of \$600. She urged me to ask: “Who is listening and who cares?”

New Yorkers continue to pay “too much” while others, who could afford to pay more, pay “too little.” I commend our new Mayor for hearing the outcries of New Yorkers, and I say shame on those who take a stand that what he is demanding is “too much.” As 2026 continues to unfold in “the city that never sleeps,” let’s not sleep on the ways that we can build on the optimism of a new Mayor who sees promise and possibility in making the lives of New Yorkers better and more affordable.


The views expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of Woodside Herald.

Annual Black History Month Celebration

Wednesday, February 25, 6pm

Refreshments at 5pm and program at 6pm

Helen Marshall Cultural Center at Queens Borough Hall
120-55 Queens Boulevard, Kew Gardens, NY

DONOVAN RICHARDS JR.
QUEENS BOROUGH PRESIDENT



Movie Time at Queens Borough Hall:

Puss in Boots

Saturday, February 21, 1–3pm

Helen Marshall Cultural Center at Queens Borough Hall
120-55 Queens Boulevard, Kew Gardens, NY

DONOVAN RICHARDS JR.
QUEENS BOROUGH PRESIDENT

Woodside ON THE MOVE

woodsideonthemove.org



JOIN US!



ST. PAT’S FOR ALL PARADE

Sunday, March 1st | 11:30 AM

Meet-up: The Lowery Bar & Kitchen
(43-02 43rd Ave, Sunnyside, NY 11104)

End Location: 58th and Woodside Ave

Registration deadline February 24th | Aali@woodsideonthemove.org

Woodside ON THE MOVE

51-23B Queens Blvd Woodside, NY 11377

woodsideonthemove.org

Upcoming Workshops



02/18

Tuesday

Housing Legal Consultation

10am - 4pm | 51-23B Queens Blvd

Work in-person with a housing attorney.
45 minute consultation. Spanish available.

02/24

Tuesday

Know Your Rights

6pm - 8pm | 51-23B Queens Blvd.

Learn your tenant rights, NYC rent policies,
and get answers from housing experts.

02/26

Thursday

Immigration Consultation

10am - 4pm | Virtual Call

Work virtually with an immigration attorney.
45 minute consultation. Spanish available.

Call to schedule appointment

(718) 476-8449

APPLY TO
TO CEC30



(Community Education Council 30)

Join CEC30 today to:

- Recommend school capital improvements
- Collaborate on superintendent evaluation
- Approve zoning lines
- Hold at least one public meeting per month
- Serve as a liaison for schools in the District

Deadline: March 6, 2026

Apply: on.nyc.gov/4agUUKf





 CEC30
Community Education Council
for District 30

 NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL
JULIE WON
COUNCIL MEMBER



 NYC Public
Schools

STREET CO-NAMING
IN LONG ISLAND CITY



New York City Council Member Julie Won joined the New York Irish Center, the Consul General of Ireland in New York, elected officials, and community members to celebrate the “New York Irish Center Place” street co-naming at the intersection of 50th Avenue and Jackson Avenue in Long Island City.

The New York Irish Center was founded 21 years ago as a cultural hub for Irish Americans in New York. Its roots reflect District 26’s vibrant Irish community dating back to the 1930s when Irish immigrants came to Woodside to find jobs after the Great Depression. The Center has since expanded its reach to include over 25,000 New Yorkers, serving as a hub for youth, seniors, education, and the arts.

In attendance were New York City Council Member Julie Won, George Heslin, Executive Director, New York Irish Center, Gerald Anglely, Consul General of Ireland in New York, Angela Reily, Wife of the New York Irish Center Founder

“For over 20 years, the New York Irish Center has been a cornerstone of community, culture, and service in the neighborhood. It is an honor to co-name the intersection of 50th Avenue and Jackson Avenue to commemorate the Center’s legacy in our neighborhood,” said Council Member Julie Won. “The New York Irish Center has been a trusted partner throughout my time in Council, bringing people together through cultural celebration and community giveback. Thank you to George Heslin and the team at the New York Irish Center for their contributions to New York’s Irish Community and to Western Queens.”



Dr. Richard Belli
Podiatrist



*“My specialty is Podiatry.
That is Podiatric Medicine,
Surgery and Orthopedics.”*



Hours

Thurs.

12-5

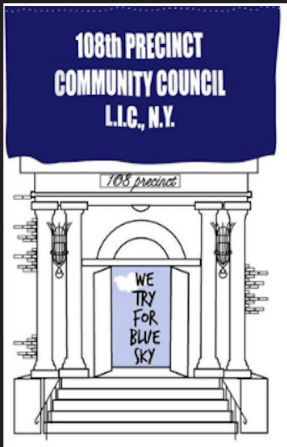
Tues. / Wed. / Sat.

10-3

44-15 43rd Avenue, Suite 1C, Sunnyside, NY 11104

718-672-3421

www.drbelli.com



108th Precinct Community Council Meeting

Join us on Tuesday, February 24, 2026
7:00 P.M.
at The Culture Lab LIC, 5-25 46th Ave,
Long Island City, NY 11101



The Community Council meets once every month on the last Tuesday of each month. (Except in July, August, and December) All are welcome to attend the meetings. We provide community updates and crime stat reports.

For Additional information please contact us at: 108communitycouncil@gmail.com



Executive Board

President Kevin Romero
Vice President Tommy Mituzas
Sgt. Of Arms Richard O'Connor



108th Precinct

Commanding Officer:
Captain Hameed Armani
108 Community Affairs:
P.O. Francisco Maria
P.O. Shiva Sharma

To donate to the 108 Precinct Community Council, contact:
Kevin Romero at (917)-670-4463, or
P.O. Francisco Maria at (718)-784-5420



[108th Precinct Community Council](#)



PROUDLY SERVING NEW YORK
SHOOTING COMMUNITY SINCE
1960
NRA AFFILIATED RANGE
MEMBER OF GREATER NEW YORK
PISTOL LEAGUE

64-69 DRY HARBOR ROAD
MIDDLE VILLAGE, NY 11379
PHONE (718)326-7350

STUYVESANT
ROD & GUN
CLUB

HTTP://STUYVESANTRODANDGUN.ORG

NYC Pistol or Rifle License required to become a member



QUEENS UNDERGROUND
.ORG

J F K L G A

REPRESENTING
QUEENS
TO THE
FULLEST



Mosaiccommunitycenter.org
43-01 46th Street,
Sunnyside, NY

Mon-Sat 9AM-5PM
Food Distribution 10AM

MOSAIC COMMUNITY CENTER

Food Distribution, Infant/Toddler Supplies, Hot Food, Pet Supply Drop & Pick Up

Please email Articles, Photos, Letters and Opinions for Woodside Herald to

SSabba@woodsideherald.com

WOODSIDE HERALD
SERVING SUNNYSIDE-WOODSIDE AND LONG ISLAND CITY

718-472-4585

Free food is available
Find your nearest food provider at

FoodHelp.nyc.gov

**Get help enrolling in
benefits with PEU at**

nyc.gov/AccessBenefits



NYC
Mayor's Public
Engagement Unit

**Need Help with Food?
You May Qualify for Support.**
If you're a Medicaid member and need help accessing food, you may be eligible for Enhanced Health-Related Social Needs (HRSN) services.

Not sure if you qualify?
A screener will help determine your eligibility and connect you to other available resources—even if you don't qualify for Enhanced HRSN services.

If you are eligible, be sure to tell your screener you want Rethink Food to prepare your meals.

MANHATTAN



BROOKLYN

BRONX


QUEENS

LONG ISLAND

MEALS WITH PURPOSE



Want to learn more?
Check out our website to find out more about the program



CHAIR YOGA on ZOOM

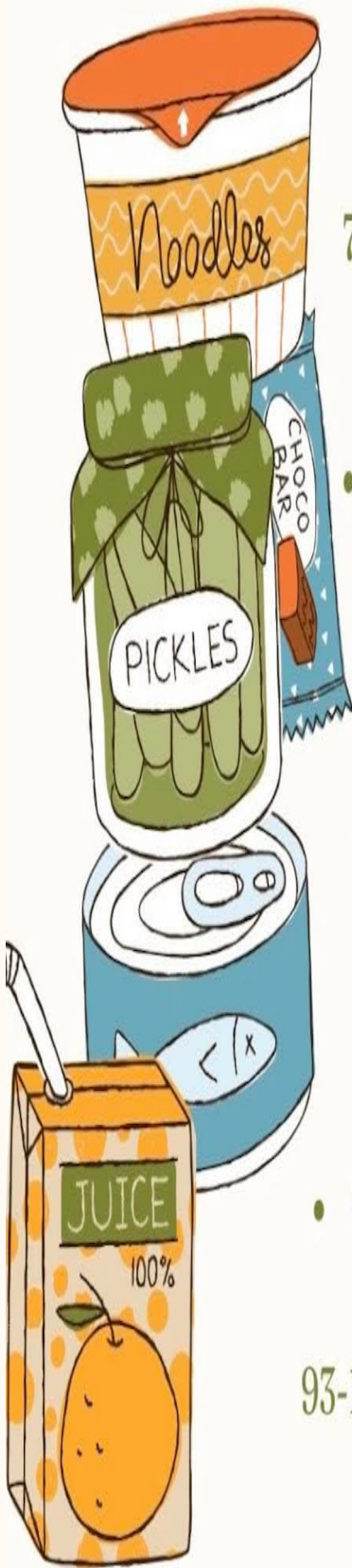
You don't have to be a pretzel to SIT AND BE FIT!

Every Wednesday: 2:15 to 3:15 PM
(formally taught at St Sebastian's Rec Center)

EVERYONE WELCOME!

Call Karen (570)766-1268
\$10 per class or pay what you can!

DISTRICT 26 FOOD PANTRIES AND HOT MEAL DISTRIBUTIONS



FOOD PANTRIES LOCATED IN QUEENS

Aids Center of Queens County

Tuesdays, line starts at 6:30 a.m., opens at 8 a.m.
62-07 Woodside Ave, 3rd Floor
Woodside, NY 11377

Blessed Virgin Mary St. Mary's Winfield

Thursdays, 9:30-11:45 a.m.
70-31 48th Ave, Woodside, NY 11377

Hour Children - Hour Pantry

Mondays & Thursdays, 2-4 p.m.
Tuesday, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
36-49 11th St, Long Island City, NY 11106
(inside St. Rita's parking lot)

Iglesia Alianza Cristiana Misionera Ebenezer

Saturdays, 8 a.m.-1 p.m.
43-02 38th St, Long Island City, NY 11101

Jacob A. Riis Neighborhood Settlement

After School Program
Monday through Friday, 3-3:30 p.m.
10-25 41st Ave, Long Island City, NY 11101

Jacob A. Riis Neighborhood Settlement

Hot Meal Distribution
Tuesdays, Wednesdays, & Thursdays,
11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
10-25 41st Ave, Long Island City, NY 11101

La Jornada

Wednesdays, 8 a.m.-1 p.m.
Saturdays, 8 a.m.-1 p.m.
39-04 61st St, Woodside, NY 11377

St. Raphael RC Church Food Pantry

Thursdays, 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m.
Saturdays, 1:30-3 p.m.
35-20 Greenpoint Ave, Long Island City, NY 11101

St. Teresa Church Saint Vincent DePaul Society

Tuesdays, 4-5:30 p.m.
50-20 45th St, Woodside, NY 11377


The Urban Upbound Bread of Life Pantry

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 12-3 p.m.
Wednesdays, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.
Thursdays, 12-3 p.m.
38-49 12th St, Long Island City, NY 11101

- THE LEGACY CENTER
71-02 CYPRESS HILLS STREET
THURSDAYS @8:00AM
(718)456-4852
- FENIX COMMUNITY FRIDGE
586 SENECA AVENUE
FRIDAYS @5:00PM
(718) 821-2121
- CENTRAL QUEENS Y-FOOD
PANTRY
108-13 67TH RD, FOREST HILLS
(718) 268-5011
- COMMUNITY CENTER SERVICES
ORGANIZATION
93-15 CORONA AVENUE ELMHURST
(332) 228-8525
- ST. THERESA CHURCH,ST. VINCENT
DEPAUL
50-20 45TH STREET WOODSIDE
(718) 784-2123
- EVANGEL FOOD PANTRY
39-21 CRESCENT ST, ASTORIA
(718) 361-5454
- RIDGEWOOD COMMONS
585 WOODWARD AVENUE

SHINING STARS

Helping Special Needs Families Navigate The System



***DISCOVER SHINING STARS:
Guiding Families with Special Needs***


Are you navigating the complex world of special needs/Autism support?
At Shining Stars, we are here to help.
With 40 years of personal experience, our dedicated team offers comprehensive guidance for families with special needs members from kindergarten age to adulthood.

****OUR SERVICES INCLUDE:****


- Personalized support plans
- Advocacy and resource navigation
- Educational guidance and assistance
- Emotional and social support for families

Let us light the way for your family's journey.
Join the Shining Stars community today and experience the difference expert care and genuine compassion can make.

CONTACT HOWARD: 917-972-5587, Daily 9a-5p
EMAIL: hlbrick@aol.com
DONATIONS GREATLY APPRECIATED




FOOD BANKS



Let's Help Feed
New Yorkers who
Need it the Most

To find a food bank in your area visit:

bit.ly/Food-Bank-Locator





MOSAIC CHURCH



SCAN ME FOR DIRECTIONS



MOSAIC COVENANT CHURCH



FREE FOOD PANTRY
MOSAIC COMMUNITY CENTER
43-01 46TH ST
DONATIONS ARE GREATLY APPRECIATED
MON-FRI
5-8PM

Deanery Queens²

FOOD PANTRY

Dispensa de Comida




St Theresa of Lisieux
50-20 45th Street
Woodside, NY 11377
718-784-2123 - Office
Food Pantry is Open
Tuesday 3:00PM to 4:30PM
www.SaintTeresaChurch.org

Corpus Christi
31-31 60th Street
Woodside, NY 11377
718-278-8114 - Office
Food Pantry is Open
Wednesday 11:00AM to 1:00PM
<http://CCWoodsideNY.org>

St. Raphael
35-20 Green Point Ave Long Island City, NY 11101
718-729-8957 - Office
Food Pantry is Open
Thursday 10:30AM to 12:00PM
Saturday 1:30PM to 3:00PM
<http://StRaphael-Queens.org/>

For more information on
Helping the Needy

Click on [Deanery Q2](#)
Or Use the QR Code



www.DeaneryQ2.org

