

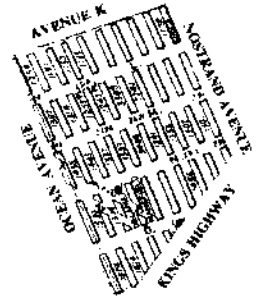


# Nottingham Park News

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## CHECK OUT YOUR NEW PATROL CAR



The picture of our new car shows George. He has been driving the Nottingham car since 1998. We must be doing something right. He certainly is! We are very happy to have him.

Our car finally gave out. After almost eight years and about 120,000 miles, driving at a very difficult 15 miles an hour in all sorts of weather, the repairs became too expensive. Now we have a beautiful gray car with green lettering. There is also a new rotating light. (That gave out too.)

Take a look as it passes by. Say "Hello" to George and Tony. Tony has also been driving the patrol car for 10 years. This is their third car!

Now we need your help. Please make a nice donation. If you wish we can acknowledge it in our next newsletter, or you can remain anonymous. You can call either Helen (that's me) at 718-258-8348 or our treasurer, Estelle, at 718-258-0894 if you wish to make a special donation. Thanks.

Thanks also to our friends at Plaza Toyota for their efficient service when we bought the car.

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**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**



The excitement right now is the patrol car. At our last meeting the Board of Directors authorized the purchase of a new car. Vice-President Samuel Rabinoff, Michael Kaplan and I went to Plaza Toyota on Nostrand Avenue and spoke to the manager, Eric Casale. He knew Nottingham from our last purchase. We were able to select a basic Toyota Corolla from several that were on the lot. We picked it up four days later. Tony drove. I was too excited to drive the brand new car. Tony got us to Tomat's Service Station on Ocean Avenue very well.

Estelle Schaffer took care of the insurance. Joel Rosen returned the license plates from the old car. We were able to realize \$28 for the return. We dressed it up in new lettering, floor mats and a spiffy new light. George and Tony find it very comfortable to drive.

We put out a call for additional donations, and so far we have done very well. We have gotten donations ranging from \$5.00 to \$500.00 from the Nottingham community. In addition, the 2007-2008 state grants from Assemblyman Steven Cymbrowitz, and Assemblywoman Helene Weinstein have come in.

I want to thank everyone who has become a Nottingham member up to this point. Your dues have also contributed to the purchase of the car. Each and every extra donation is important to us. Whether small or large, each amount that you give shows your commitment to the patrol, and your desire to see it continue. Please feel that you have paid for part of the car. The car is yours, whether you paid for a floor mat, a steering wheel, or the whole engine. You bought it.

Does anyone want to buy a tire? a door handle? a seat belt? Please keep the donations coming.

*Helen*

## NEWS FROM THE NOTTINGHAM FAMILY

DO YOU SEE GEORGE driving the Nottingham Patrol Car? Now watch NY1. George's daughter is a newly minted reporter for NY1. Her name is Ty Chandler. She is a graduate of the NYU School of Journalism. We are all excited. We actually have someone in the family reporting the news for us. We all wish her luck. We all congratulate her proud parents.



The Nottingham Patrol Car, the old one that is, was driven 14,024 miles and for 2,310 hours in 2007. It got very tired.

The report from Marsha Edell is that she is getting stronger by the day. It is a long process, and we are thinking of her. We would love to give her her old job back!



Once more former president Mark Lieb has come through for us. He has secured a matching grant for Nottingham from his employer,

Loews Corporation.

Thank you Mark,

and a very big

THANK YOU TO LOEWS.



The re-opening of the Brooklyn Public Library on Ocean Avenue near Kings Highway has been delayed. Asbestos was found as construction was in progress. It must be removed.



In our last issue we mentioned that Tony Morales, who drives the patrol car on Fridays, Saturdays, and Mondays, found a woman wandering in the neighborhood. With the help of the postman, he was able to return her to her home and family. We contacted Father Ruccando at Our Lady Help of Christians to make sure that she is being well cared for. He assured us that she is.

Well, now Tony is also returning lost dogs. It seems that a dog took off, when his/her owner opened the door. Tony was able to catch the pooch and return it with no harm done. He actually did this three times recently; same dog.

## PLANT A TREE

Plant a street tree in front of your house. They benefit our community in many ways.

- Trees raise property values.
- They clean the air we breathe by trapping dirt and pollutants from the air reducing illnesses like asthma.
- They decrease costs of heating and cooling our homes; in the summertime, tree shade cools the surrounding buildings and in the wintertime trees buffer buildings from cold winter winds.
- They combat global warming by consuming carbon dioxide and producing oxygen.
- Trees reduce street noise from cars, trucks and neighbors.
- They improve water quality by reducing storm water runoff into our sewage system.
- Trees attract birds and beautify our neighborhood.

Trees can be selected which will minimize fall cleanup, maintain level sidewalks, provide colorful fall leaves, and pretty fragrant spring flowers.

If you want a street tree fill out the form below and mail it to Community Board 14. If you have no tree pit, the city will consider digging one at no cost to you. You can get more information by calling 212-227-1887 or going on line to [www.treesny.com](http://www.treesny.com). Below you will find an application for a free street tree. Return the application to Ms. Doris Ortiz, District Manager CB 14.

Source: *Midwood Sentry*, Fall 2007. Midwood Development Corporation.

## REQUEST FOR FREE STREET TREE PLANTING

Ms. Doris Ortiz, District Manager. Community Board 14. 810 East 16th St. B'klyn, NY 11230.

Dear Ms. Ortiz:

Please be advised that I wish to be placed on CB14's list for a free street tree to be planted at the curb in front of my property by the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation as follows.

House Address \_\_\_\_\_

Cross Streets \_\_\_\_\_

Planting Site \_\_\_\_\_

In front of, alongside, etc.

Is there currently a tree stump at this location? \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_

Property Owner's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

## THINK ABOUT WINTER. IT IS UPON US.

How to cope with winter while driving your car.

1) Roads tend to be most slippery near the freezing point (32° f.). This is because traffic polishes the ice smooth and a thin layer of water forms on top. Therefore, decrease speed and double following distance. To do that, watch as the car in front of you passes a stationary object. Then count *1 Mississippi, 2 Mississippi*. Your car should reach the stationary object at *6 Mississippi*. That is a six second lapse between cars. If you are closer, slow down.

2) If you are traveling down an icy hill DO NOT pump your breaks, whether you have anti-lock brakes or not. Instead apply steady pressure, with your heel on the floor and the ball of your foot, or your toes on the brake. If you do not have anti-lock brakes stop when you feel that the wheels are no longer turning. You may be sliding. At that point ease off pressure on the brake just a bit. With anti-lock brakes keep a firm pressure on the brake. Below 5mph, the system's computer and sensors will do the work for you.

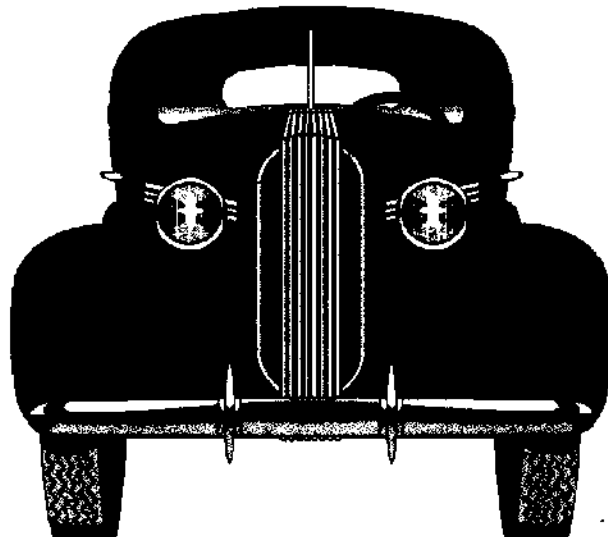
3) When you are in a skid, keep your eyes in the direction that you want to go. Old advise said to turn into the skid. That is no longer true. By keeping your eyes in the direction that you want the car to travel, your hands will automatically follow and you will correct the skid.

4) In a rear-wheel skid press lightly on the accelerator. Regaining traction in such a skid has to do with the transference of weight. In a rear-wheel skid, accelerating shifts the vehicle's weight to the back and helps to restore traction. On the other hand, in a front-wheel skid breaking shifts the

weight forward, and helps restore the grip. It is difficult to tell the difference between a front and a rear-wheel skid. Therefore, it is suggested that one practice in an empty icy area before hand.

5) In order to get out of an icy rut rock the car gently back and forth. Putting a board under the wheel is very dangerous. It could fly out and injure someone. Trying to power out of it, would only dig you in deeper.

This information was found in the December 2007 edition of *Car and Travel*, the newsletter from AAA



## REMINDER: SHOVEL!

## **PROTECT WATER METERS AND PIPES AGAINST COLD**

It has happened that water pipes have frozen and meters have been damaged by cold, even in homes that are occupied. The Department of Environmental Protection has produced a brochure telling us how a winter tragedy can be averted.

1. Water meters are often in unheated parts of the house, or against outside walls. Make sure that broken windows are repaired. Install storm windows on all basement windows. Insulate outside walls. Eliminate drafts from crawl spaces. Check temperatures near your meter frequently during cold weather. Ask your plumber for suggestions and materials that can be used to insulate the meter.
2. When water pipes are next to an outside wall, as is often the case in the kitchen, insulate that wall and leave cabinet doors open to the warm room outside.

If pipes freeze, your best bet is to use a hair dryer to try to get them to run freely. **Never use an open flame.** Open the faucets, so that you can tell when the water is running again.

The DEP will repair meters, at your expense. If your meter is damaged by the cold contact 311.

Source : Department of Environmental Protection ✦ Bureau of Customer Services ✦ 59-17 Junction Boulevard ✦ Corona NY 11368-5107

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## **HOW COMMUNITY BOARD 14 WORKS FOR US**

Community Board 14 is a city agency that represents the interests of Midwood and Flatbush residents and merchants. Its boundary lines are the same as the 70th Precinct -- the precinct that serves the Nottingham Park community.

Among the specific responsibilities of the community board are :

- to handle complaints and requests related to services provided by the city agencies to the community. This includes, but is not limited to, matters relating to defective street lights, garbage collection, potholes, clogged catch basins, and zoning violations.
- to work with city agencies to plan local projects and monitor delivery of city services to the community board district.
- to assess the needs of the local neighborhoods and makes recommendations in the city's Capital and Expense budget processes to address these needs.
- to review proposed zoning changes and other land use matters in the district.
- to process applications for street activities and special events in the district.

In general, Community Board 14 acts as the community's liaison with New York City agencies. Community Board 14 is located at 810 East 16th Street (between Avenue H and the dead end). The office telephone number is 859-6357. Doris Ortiz is the district manager.

## DECEPTION BURGLARIES

### DON'T BE A VICTIM

A relatively new type of crime has cropped up in the last few years in which con artists pose as utility workers, deliverymen/women or home improvement contractors, to gain entry to homes and businesses in order to steal money and property. This crime is called a DECEPTION BURGLARY.

These con artists are very clever and sometimes work the scam when a utility or construction truck is near by. They usually work as a team with more than one person.

Sometimes they will use the deception just to get into your home or business. Once inside they can immediately demand money and property. Sometimes they can distract you or claim to be inspecting the water, roof or electricity in your home or business. They may ask you to complete a questionnaire. While you are distracted, they will search the place for cash and valuables.

### HOW TO KEEP FROM BECOMING A VICTIM

- ♦ Be wary of unannounced visitors, including utility workers, maintenance personnel, delivery people and other uniformed personnel.
- ♦ Never automatically open a door to strangers.
- ♦ Use your peephole or intercom to communicate with, and identify visitors.
- ♦ Ask to view photo identification card before opening your door. **"No I.D., No Entry."**
- ♦ If unsure whether person is from utility company, call to verify. (Don't use the telephone number provided by the visitor.)
- ♦ Have a free security survey of your home or business conducted by the 70<sup>th</sup> Precinct Crime Prevention Officer.
- ♦ If you think you are the victim of a deception burglary call "911."

**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT 70<sup>TH</sup> PRECINCT  
CRIME PREVENTION OFFICE 718-851-5504**

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### WATCH IT!

Every year people are arrested for having revoked driver's licenses. Often they do not know why. If your car is stopped for this reason, you can be jailed. If you are caught in any of the following situations, your license can be REVOKED for at least one year:

- ♦ operating an uninsured vehicle.
- ♦ permitting another person to operate your uninsured vehicle.
- ♦ the DMV receives evidence that you were involved in an accident without being insured.

Your license can be SUSPENDED if you

don't answer a traffic summons, or if you fail to pay the full fine or surcharge listed on the summons. If your license is suspended, it will remain so until you correct the condition that led to the suspension.

Check the status of your driver's license by calling the Department of Motor Vehicles between the hours of 9:30 AM and 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday. The telephone number is 718-488-5710. Be sure to have your license in hand, so that you can answer any questions.

*This information came from the office of  
City Councilman Michael Nelson.*

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Really?

**The Claim: Margarine Is Healthier Than Butter.**

By ANAHAD O'CONNOR  
THE FACTS

The debate has been around nearly as long as butter and margarine themselves: Is one truly healthier than the other?

The confusion persists for good reason. Butter, which has been used for thousands of years, is made from animal products, making it high in cholesterol and saturated fat, which have been linked to heart disease.

Margarine is made from polyunsaturated vegetable oils like corn oil, which do not contain saturated fats. Most people assume that makes it heart-healthy. Not exactly. The process of turning polyunsaturated oils into semisolid table spreads creates trans fats, which are just as bad as saturated fats, if not worse.

But most studies and health experts suggest that margarine, selected carefully, can be a safer choice. Because higher levels of trans fat make margarines more solid, it is best to choose those that are liquid or sold in tubs. Many varieties now contain water or liquid vegetable oil instead of partially hydrogenated vegetable oil, which can make them virtually free of trans fats. Even better, experts say, is to choose an alternative, like olive or canola oil.

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