



Assemblyman **Dov Hikind**

Reports to the People

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Shredding Event** – Sunday, March 30
– Khal Hisachdis Yireim Veretzky (Landau's shul) Ave. L & E. 9th
- **Shaimos Disposal** – Two weeks before Passover (various locations)
- **Holocaust Remembrance Event** (with Nachas Healthnet) – Thursday, May 15
– Young Israel Beth El of Boro Park, 15th Ave. and 48th St.
- **Healthcare Event in Flatbush** – May

COME MEET OUR STAFF

Assemblyman Hikind's staff is here to serve you. Our office is located at 1310 48th Street. Can't come in? You can also contact us at **718-853-9616** or email us at hikindd@assembly.state.ny.us

CONGRATULATIONS TO WOLF SENDER!

Wolf Sender has been selected by the Brooklyn District Attorney's office to oversee Jewish affairs in Kings County. Wolf has served on Community Board 12 for eleven years and has worked under former Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, former Comptroller Carl McCall, and under former Governor David Paterson during his tenure as New York State Senate Minority Leader. "This is great news for our community and for everyone in Brooklyn," said Assemblyman Hikind. "Wolf is a class act and a professional and I am just thrilled to hear about this."



Assemblyman Hikind, Shani Hikind and Ruchie Freier.

HELPING EZRAS NASHIM SAVE LIVES

"Assemblyman Hikind was the first elected official to help us," says Ruchie Freier, director of Ezras Nashim, the all-female volunteer ambulance service. Since they started, the group has grown to over 60 women EMTs, EMT students, dispatchers and administrative volunteers, all of whom came together for a Malave Malke (post-Sabbath dinner) on Jan. 18, where they were addressed by our Assemblyman and Rabbi Paysach Krohn. Mrs. Freier was proud to present Assemblyman Hikind with a beautiful plaque and thank him for his recent sponsorship, which resulted in the purchase of eight (8) life-saving defibrillators. "Ezras Nashim saves lives," said Assemblyman Hikind.

Assemblyman Dov Hikind

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FIGHTING ILLEGAL BOYCOTTS

Assemblyman Hikind and State Senator Jeff Klein have introduced legislation to counteract the illegal boycott of Israel—and, by extension, Jewish professionals who come from Israel—by the ASA.

“The ASA’s boycott of Israel is not only a direct violation of New York State’s Human Rights Act, it’s a slap in the face to Jews and supporters of Israel everywhere,” said Hikind and Klein in a joint statement. “The ASA’s boycott is targeted discrimination against Israel that betrays the values of academic freedom that we hold dear. We cannot encourage our colleges and universities to engage in this type of discrimination against Israel. New Yorkers expect us to reject discrimination in every form, and cutting off the state spigot is the best way of doing that.”

“If we allow bigotry and prejudice anywhere, all of us will suffer,” said Assemblyman Hikind. Professor Alan Dershowitz was proud to join the Assemblyman in calling the ASA boycott wrongful and illegal. “Shame on those members of the American Studies Association for singling out the Jew among nations,” he wrote. “Shame on them for applying a double standard to Jewish universities.”

JACOB OSTREICHER IS FINALLY FREE



By now, everyone has heard the good news that Jacob Ostreicher has returned to the United States from his illegal imprisonment in Bolivia. No one was happier with the news than Assemblyman Hikind, who worked closely with the Ostreicher family and other elected officials in attempting to bring Jacob home. Our Assemblyman staged rallies at the Bolivian Mission to the U.N., met with numerous elected officials on Jacob’s behalf, and spoke regularly with Jacob and his family members, never once giving up hope and faith that justice would be served. “Jacob and his family have been through an ordeal that none of us can really imagine,” said Assemblyman Hikind. “They have a right to their privacy now. I am just grateful to G-d that their ordeal has finally come to an end.”

YAD EPHRAIM: A BASTION OF KINDNESS

On January 8, Assemblyman Hikind was honored to attend the annual dinner at Yad Ephraim which was dedicated to the memories of his own mother Frieda Hikind and his mother-in-law Miriam Kahn. “Yad Ephraim’s importance can’t be overstated,” said the Assemblyman. “Their work eases the suffering of people suffering in hospitals. And who better to lead a group of kind-hearted volunteers than the wonderful and warm founder Pesach Greenberg.” Assemblyman Hikind also singled out Yechezkel Brach and Yoely Liefer for their outstanding contributions and support of Yad Ephraim.



Yoni Hikind introduces his father to the audience.



Rabbis Pesach Greenberg (founder of Yad Ephraim), Chaim Fleisher, Yitzchok Stralberg and Moshe Steinmetz.

LOCAL HEROES MAKE A DIFFERENCE



Tommy Prestia and Mike Kroski (courtesy of The New York Daily News)

Our entire community was stunned and relieved to hear the story of how little Moshe Altman from Boro Park fell into a broken manhole. Assemblyman Hikind immediately dispatched a staff member to the scene to gather information and offer any needed assistance. He was relieved that no serious injuries were suffered and was quick to join Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams in publically commending the men who helped Moshe.

“Mike Kroski and Tom Prestia may not know the Talmudic saying that whoever saves a life is considered as if he saved an entire world, but their brave actions exemplify that saying,” said Assemblyman Hikind. “Who knows what would have happened to little Moshe Altman had Mike and Tom not been there—or if they had hesitated. Mike and Tom are not only a credit to their employer Verizon, they are a credit to our city and to people everywhere; they are the living examples of how people should act when someone else is in trouble. Mike and Tom are people who make a difference.”

CONGRESSMAN GRIMM AGREES: DEPORT NAZI WAR CRIMINALS

Congressman Michael Grimm is supporting Assemblyman Hikind in calling on Germany to accept all Nazi War Criminals living illegally in the U.S. On the anniversary of Kristalnacht, Assemblyman Hikind launched a campaign to bring all remaining Nazi war criminals living in America to justice. “This farce has gone on too long,” said our Assemblyman. “Why are illegal Nazi war criminals still here? Because of a technicality. We can’t deport them because there’s no country that wants them. We need to fix this. A technicality can’t impede justice.” Assemblyman Hikind is pursuing Nazis identified by U.S. Justice Department data—Nazis who had been ordered deported but never left the country. “We don’t want these murderers living among us. Their presence here mocks the memory of the tens of thousands they collectively murdered.”



Congressman Grimm and Assemblyman Hikind discuss the problem of Nazi War Criminals still in the U.S.

STAYING ON TOP OF “KNOCKOUT” ATTACKS

“As frightening as these attacks were to all of us, we are also equally grateful to our excellent police officers who addressed these crimes quickly and seriously.”

– Assemblyman Hikind

When the initial “Knockout” assaults occurred in Brooklyn, Assemblyman Hikind was the first elected official to respond and bring attention to the matter. “This can’t continue,” he told a gathering of community leaders in Crown Heights, where the attacks were first reported. “We need arrests.” Our Assemblyman continued to pressure the police by drawing attention to each individual attack. He visited the victims, remained in touch with their families and made certain the media understood that this was no “game”. Then, on January 2, Assemblyman Hikind was notified by Deputy Inspector Mike Deddo of the 66th police precinct that a key arrest had been made in conjunction with at least three of the attacks. A male

was in custody who had been identified by three separate women who said he had attacked them.

“I was delighted to share this news with our community,” said Assemblyman Hikind. “As frightening as these attacks were to all of us, we are also equally grateful to our excellent police officers who addressed these crimes quickly and seriously. I have the highest praise for the NYC Police Department, the 66th and 70th precincts and their bias units, and the other units involved with this case. I will continue to watch this case closely, and I continue to urge caution. No one in our community should live in fear, but prudence is always advisable.”

TOP PRIORITIES: EDUCATION TAX CREDITS AND SPECIAL EDUCATION

Offsetting the high cost of educating children remains highest on Assemblyman Hikind’s list of priorities.

The Assemblyman is actively pursuing legislation that will benefit children with special education needs and fighting for the Education Investment Tax Credit act, a bill that will substantially increase investment in New York State education and benefit all children and families. This bill would provide a dollar-for-dollar tax credit against income for donations to education-related entities making it possible for low-income and middle-class families to have far more scholarship opportunities than before. “I am very hopeful that this bill will make it through,” said Assemblyman Hikind. “I will also continue to advocate for special-needs children and their families, and with G-d’s help we will see progress.”

Assemblyman Michael Cusick of Staten Island and Assemblyman Hikind, lead sponsors of the bill, discuss the Education Investment Tax Credit act.



ROCK THROWING IN MIDWOOD

A woman from our community was driving down Avenue L between E. 15 and E. 16 when her car was pummeled by what she thought was snowballs. Her rear window was smashed and her 4-year-old daughter who was in the back seat was hysterical. The driver called 911 and they took her name and number. Then, on closer inspection, she realized it wasn't a snowball—it was a rock that had broken her window and endangered her child.

Assemblyman Hikind learned of the incident when the victim approached him to report it. He immediately contacted the 70th Precinct to make certain the matter was being dealt with. "We will continue to monitor this situation," said the Assemblyman. "When things like this occur, community members shouldn't hesitate to call me."

NEVER TAKE OUR FIRST RESPONDERS FOR GRANTED!

The minute he learned of a fire raging at 1171 Ocean Parkway in Midwood, Assemblyman Hikind sent his staff to gather information and to assist residents in any way possible. Despite the magnitude of the fire, there were no casualties and no major injuries. "Our fire fighters are the very best there are," said the Assemblyman. "They risk their lives to save the lives of others and they did so once again. Thank G-d no lives were lost. Our communities owe a large debt of gratitude to these brave individuals—we should all thank them and never take what they do for us for granted."

ARE YOUR MUNI-METER RECEIPTS BLOWING IN THE WIND?

It's a shame to penalize people who are attempting to follow the rules but that's what happens when flimsy muni-meter receipts are grabbed by a gust of wind or blow to the floor when a car door is closed. After receiving numerous calls from constituents regarding this issue, Assemblyman Hikind offered a simple solution: thicker receipts! Our Assemblyman suggested to the new Dept. of Transportation Commissioner that New York City follow the example of other cities with muni-meters, such as Jerusalem, which use thicker receipts. Assemblyman Hikind's solution received a great deal of local support and just several days later Meir Birnhack, a community activist, returned from a trip to Philadelphia where he collected a handful of muni-meter receipts that were also much thicker and more practical than New York's.



Assemblyman Hikind is visited by Meir Birnhack with a handful of receipts from Philadelphia.

SHOMRIM SHOOTER IS OFF THE STREETS



Yanky Daskal of the Boro Park Shomrim.

Although cleared of all serious charges after shooting four Shomrim members in 2010, David Flores was sentenced to 12 years in prison for possession of an illegal firearm. "It's beyond comprehension," said Assemblyman Hikind. "Four unarmed people shot and hospitalized. How was this sick individual not found guilty of more serious crimes?" Assemblyman Hikind visited the individuals who were shot while they were hospitalized and praised their efforts in attempting to safeguard the community.

"The Shomrim were protecting our children by trying to prevent this sick animal from doing further harm," said our Assemblyman. "The good news is he will be off the streets for the next 12 years. And when he comes up for parole, you can count on my being there to remind the parole board of what he did."

BENEFITTING FROM BENEFITS

Are you eligible for benefits? Our office is delighted to help people every day seeking SCRIE (Senior Citizen Rent Increase Exemption), Heart-Share, and other benefits. If you are eligible for benefits and need help applying, please visit us.



Sharon Fuchs reviews benefits with a constituent.