

# NEWS FROM

**Carl E. Heastie**  
Member of Assembly



Speaker Heastie leads Hurricane Dorian relief efforts in the Northeast Bronx.

## Speaker Carl Heastie coordinates Hurricane Dorian relief efforts for the Bahamas

Dear Neighbor(s):

First, I write to wish you and your family a wonderful holiday season filled with joy and love. I have been so fortunate to have your trust and support over the many years I have represented the Northeast Bronx. I could not have been successful without the guidance and counsel of our amazing community.

I wanted to update you on some community events and developments in the Northeast Bronx. In addition to supporting local capital projects, I have also been hosting community events and coordinating community support for important issues. Together, we can help make our neighborhoods even better places to live and raise a family.

I know that there is still much work to be done. I pledge to you that I will continue to do all that I can to secure the necessary resources to continue improving our community. As always, if there is any way that I can be of assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact me. My office is here to serve you.

With Love and Hope,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Carl E. Heastie".

Carl E. Heastie  
Speaker of Assembly

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speaker@nyassembly.gov

Speaker Carl Heastie joined the New York State Assembly Haitian Caucus, including Assemblymembers Michaelle Solages, Rodneyse Bichotte, Kimberly Jean-Pierre, Clyde Vanel and Mathylde Frontus, to assist in Hurricane Dorian relief efforts. The powerful storm devastated the Bahamas and other places in the Caribbean, leaving destruction in its wake.

Team Heastie coordinated local efforts to help victims of Hurricane Dorian. Speaker Heastie collected goods to ship to the Bahamas by way of the Bahamian Consulate. The Assembly Majority worked closely with the Consulate General of the Bahamas and the Bahamian American Association to implement strategies needed to assist impacted communities. Additionally, many Assembly Majority members' offices hosted individual relief drives across New York to help Bahamians affected by Hurricane Dorian.

The road to recovery will be difficult for all who have been affected by this devastating storm, particularly residents of the islands of Grand Bahama and Abaco, a portion of which is heavily populated by Haitian immigrants. Immediate assistance is greatly needed as thousands are without clean drinking water, food, shelter and dry clothing.



**“The devastation wrought by Hurricane Dorian on the Bahamas has been heartbreaking. These islands hold a special place in my heart as the place my paternal grandparents called home, and I have returned there often to visit friends and family,” said Speaker Heastie. “The Northeast Bronx community is always ready to assist those in need – especially our brothers and sisters in the Caribbean.”**



Speaker Heastie tours the site of the new Northeast Bronx YMCA.



Local construction workers lay the foundation for the Edenwald YMCA facility.

## Update on construction of the new Northeast Bronx YMCA

Since Speaker Carl Heastie, local elected officials and community stakeholders broke ground on the new Northeast Bronx YMCA community and recreational facility, the project has moved on schedule and is nearing completion. The 50,000-square-foot facility will serve as a valuable resource to the community. The YMCA is expected to open in 2020, offering two swimming pools, a full-length basketball court, gym facilities, an indoor track, a wellness center, a child care facility and multipurpose rooms.

The center will also provide child care, after-school programs and summer camp, health and wellness classes and activities to strengthen the community, including senior adult programs and civic classes for new Americans. The recreational facility is expected to serve thousands of New Yorkers by its fourth year of operation. The project has also placed an emphasis on local hiring and MWBE contracting.

**The YMCA will be open to every family in the Northeast Bronx, regardless of income.**



Speaker Carl Heastie gives away free turkeys to local residents for the Thanksgiving holiday.

## Speaker Carl E. Heastie and the Food Industry Alliance provide turkeys for Thanksgiving dinner

Speaker Carl E. Heastie, in cooperation with the Food Industry Alliance, provided turkey dinners for families in the Northeast Bronx for Thanksgiving celebrations. As the holiday season began, Speaker Heastie got into the holiday spirit by donating 200 turkey dinners with “all the fixins” and canvas shopping bags that were distributed to local families.

“I would like to recognize the work of the Food Industry Alliance for their efforts to help local families enjoy the holiday season,” said Speaker Heastie. “This is just another example of the joy of giving and how New Yorkers share the holiday spirit with each other.”

Speaker Heastie and the Food Industry Alliance donated the turkeys and coordinated this event.

## Speaker Heastie leads push to relieve homeowners of the cost of repairing sidewalks damaged by city trees

While knocking on doors and visiting with constituents, it became clear to Speaker Heastie that bureaucracy and a flawed system have been putting a significant hardship on city homeowners. Since then, he has worked tirelessly to develop a solution for homeowners.

This fall, Speaker Heastie joined the mayor to announce that the city will no longer impose liens on one-, two- and three-family properties that have sidewalk damage caused by city trees. The City of New York has done the right thing by relieving homeowners of the financial burdens they have incurred through no fault of their own.

The Department of Transportation and the Parks Department will continue to inspect for dangerous sidewalk conditions, but the city, not the homeowners, will now be responsible for fixing the damage.

**“I would like to thank my Assembly Majority colleagues and Mayor de Blasio for their commitment on this issue. This will undoubtedly be a great relief to hardworking New York City homeowners.”**

**– Speaker Heastie**

To sign up, call 311 or visit the webpage at:

[www.nycgovparks.org/services/forestry/trees-sidewalks-program](http://www.nycgovparks.org/services/forestry/trees-sidewalks-program)

Under the Trees and Sidewalks Program, New York City will:

- Cancel liens against homeowners for damage caused by city trees and review all outstanding sidewalk violations
- Expedite the re-evaluation process for homeowners in the process of selling or refinancing their homes
- Complete 5,500 urgent repairs over the next three years



Assemblyman Heastie took DOT officials to see the damage to local sidewalks caused by city-owned trees.



# 2020 CALENDAR

Provided by Speaker Carl E. Heastie  
 1446 East Gun Hill Road, Bronx, NY 10469, 718-654-6539

| JANUARY |    |    |    |    |    |    |
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| FEBRUARY |    |    |    |    |    |    |
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| MARCH |    |    |    |    |    |    |
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| APRIL |    |    |    |    |    |    |
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| JUNE |    |    |    |    |    |    |
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| JULY |    |    |    |    |    |    |
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| AUGUST |    |    |    |    |    |    |
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| SEPTEMBER |    |    |    |    |    |    |
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| OCTOBER |    |    |    |    |    |    |
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| 18      | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
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| NOVEMBER |    |    |    |    |    |    |
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| 22       | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
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| DECEMBER |    |    |    |    |    |    |
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| 13       | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20       | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27       | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |    |

## 2020 Holidays:

- Jan. 1 New Year's Day
- Jan. 20 Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- Feb. 17 Presidents' Day
- May 25 Memorial Day

- July 4 Independence Day
- Sept. 7 Labor Day
- Oct. 12 Columbus Day
- Nov. 3 Election Day

- Nov. 11 Veterans Day
- Nov. 26 Thanksgiving Day
- Dec. 25 Christmas Day

## \$36.6 million project for new elevators at the Gun Hill Road/Dyre Avenue Station of the 5 train

The New York City Department of Transportation expects to complete the renovation of the 5 train station on Gun Hill Road and Dyre Avenue by Sept. 1, 2020. This project features the installation of two hydraulic elevators at the Gun Hill Road/Dyre Avenue 5 station. The project will also extend and replace the southern ends of each platform with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant platforms. The existing mezzanine will be reconfigured, including a new agent booth, doors, windows, wall and floor finishes, ceilings and handrails. The existing stairs will either be replaced or rebuilt. The project will also include the replacement and enhancement of lighting, public address system, fire alarm system, CCTV, ventilation system, plumbing and drainage.

The northbound platform was closed from March through September 2019, while the south end of the platform was replaced and the steel towers for the elevators were installed. The southbound platform will be closed from September through February 2020 to replace the southern end of the platform and pour the concrete for the elevator towers. The whole project is expected to be finished in the summer of 2020.

### How to Become a Census Bureau Community Partner:

[www.census.gov/partners.html](http://www.census.gov/partners.html)

#### NY Regional Census Bureau Office

212-584-3400 or 800-991-2520

New.York.Regional.Office@census.gov

#### Bronx 2 Area Census Office – Now open!

718-841-2111



## Speaker Heastie facilitates Census outreach in undercounted communities

Every 10 years, the U.S. Census Bureau works to count every person residing in the United States. Census data is used to determine a community's federal representation – meaning the more people who are counted, the more representation an area will receive – and determine the distribution of hundreds of billion of dollars in federal aid.

In order to ensure everyone is counted, the 2019-20 New York State budget includes \$20 million to promote the census and assist with local outreach efforts. Historically, the census has undercounted young children, people of color, rural residents, immigrants, renters and low-income households at higher rates than other populations. With 2020 right around the corner, now is the time to get involved to be sure our communities are fully counted. Local outreach through libraries, schools, houses of worship and other places of trust will be most effective. My office is providing this information to help you learn more about the 2020 Census and take action in your communities. If we can be of any assistance or answer questions, please feel free to contact my office.

### Your information will be protected

Census Bureau employees swear a lifetime oath to protect respondent data. It is a felony to disclose any confidential information.

New York State Assembly, Albany, New York 12248

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# News from



**Carl E. Heastie**  
Member of Assembly

“With the holiday season underway, I want to wish you and your family a season of peace and joy. This was a historic year for New York State. We secured big, progressive wins that will make our neighborhoods stronger and life better.”

– Speaker Carl E. Heastie