



**ASSEMBLY MEMBER**  
**LATOYA JOYNER**  
**77<sup>TH</sup> ASSEMBLY DISTRICT**  
 ASSEMBLY.STATE.NY.US/MEM/LATOYA-JOYNER



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**Assemblywoman Joyner Assists District 77's Seniors**



Over the summer, Assemblywoman Latoya Joyner strived to bring much needed services and resources to district seniors, including legal and life planning advice as well as ways to be proactive about safety in and around their home.

**Assemblywoman Joyner Holds Summer Concert**



Focusing on supporting our community with great outdoor family fun, Assemblywoman Joyner held her first annual Mill Pond Park Summer Stage, which included free giveaways and musical performances.

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**LATOYA'S LINE**

Assemblywoman Latoya Joyner's statement, in conjunction with Council Member Vanessa L. Gibson and Senator Jose Serrano, regarding the announcement the installation of 56 security cameras at Sedgwick Houses.

"I commend the efforts of Council Member Gibson, Senator Serrano and my fellow Bronx elected officials to make these cameras a possibility. Their presence at Sedgwick Houses will help deter criminal activity that affects so many families. No one should feel unsafe in or around their home. At the state level, I am happy that I was able to secure \$100 million for New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) capital repairs in this year's budget. This funding will help ensure that our homes are safe for years to come."

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**District Office - Constituent Service Hours**

**When:** Monday - Friday (10:00 AM-6:00 PM)      **Where:** 910 Grand Concourse, Suite 1JK (btwn E. 162 and 163 Streets)

## ASSEMBLYWOMAN JOYNER SUPPORTS AFFORDABLE HOUSING PUSH BY MAYOR DE BLASIO



"When I speak to my fellow Bronxites, the number one concern is keeping affordable housing."

-Assemblywoman Latoya Joyner

BRONX, N.Y. – Assemblywoman Latoya Joyner is pictured (left) in front of the Summit Ridge Apartments, with Mayor Bill de Blasio, Bronx Borough President Reuben Diaz, Jr., and New York City Council Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito, the development will be six-story, mixed-population building on 950 Summit Ave, Bronx NY.

The City financed the creation and preservation of 20,325 affordable apartments and homes during fiscal year 2015.

"The significant progress demonstrated this year by Mayor de Blasio's administration to increase access for quality affordable housing is a critical step in the right direction that will make a difference for so many families in my community, the Bronx and New York," said **Assemblywoman Latoya Joyner**. "For these families, there is help around the corner. Thanks to the historical rent freeze imposed on rent-regulated apartments, families in my district will have some relief – particularly those families that are paying half or more of their total household income to cover their rent and utility costs. I applaud this year's investment and the Mayor's plans for housing over the next decade, as it will protect the city's most vulnerable populations – low income families with extremely high housing costs. I look forward to working closely with the Mayor to ensure that housing is affordable for all

## ASSEMBLYWOMAN JOYNER INTRODUCES LEGISLATION TO PREVENT FUTURE LEGIONNAIRES' OUTBREAK

BRONX, N.Y. – Assemblywoman Latoya Joyner (D – Bronx, 77th AD) will introduce legislation to prevent future outbreaks of the Legionnaires' Disease. With over 113 cases reported, and 12 deaths due to the Legionnaires disease in the South Bronx, Assemblywoman Joyner's new bill will allocate up to \$50 million to the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and the Department of Environmental Protection to fund efforts to continually test cooling towers of the Legionella bacteria. The legislation, which will take effect immediately, will also enforce laws, rules and regulations designed to prevent the Legionnaires' Disease from being a long term public health concern for Bronxites and New Yorkers.

While this legislation will focus on funding continued testing and policing from various New York City agencies, Assemblywoman Joyner welcomes the added assistance from Governor Andrew Cuomo's office, the New York State Department of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. She looks forward to collaborating with all levels of New York government – including her fellow Bronx elected officials – to protect public health concerns by offering resources that will fuel enforcement and testing for the Legionella bacteria in New York City buildings.

"My thoughts and prayers go out to the 12 families who have their lost loved ones due to the Legionnaire's Disease. With more than 100 people having been hospitalized to date, we need to act now to prevent this outbreak from ever becoming a concern for the future. Taking steps today to protect the well-being of our communities by instituting measures that can prevent the Legionella bacteria from resurfacing is the right course of action. That is why I am proposing new legislation that will allocate up to \$50 million in funding to various City agencies," said **Assemblywoman Joyner**. "My bill will help ensure that resources and measures are in place so that future generations do not have to worry about this preventable disease. Also, I welcome the extra support from Governor Cuomo, the New York State Department of Health, and commend the response by Mayor de Blasio and local City health officials, to continue testing and monitoring of our building cooling towers for the Legionella bacteria."



## ASSEMBLYWOMAN CELEBRATES HIGHBRIDGE REOPENING



Assemblywoman Joyner and City Council Member Vanessa L. Gibson address the crowd at this summer's High Bridge Festival.

On Saturday, July 25, Assemblywoman Latoya Joyner joined NYC Parks and fellow elected officials – in the Bronx and Manhattan – to kick off the High Bridge Festival. Reopened on June 9 after its closure in 1970, the High Bridge – New York City's oldest standing bridge – has regained its spot as one of New York's major attractions. The High Bridge originally opened in 1848 and was an integral part of the City's first water supply system.

"The High Bridge's reintroduction into the hearts of so many families in the Bronx and Manhattan this summer has been a welcomed boost to our community. Having New York City's oldest standing bridge back to its original luster will have a significant impact on the surrounding communities and their families. The bridge's grandeur, its link to our history and its passage into the future will be enjoyed by all whom cross it, whether it be by bike or their own two feet. I commend New York City Department of Parks & Recreation and its effort to restore the High Bridge back its rightful place as one of New York's major attractions."-

--Assemblywoman Latoya Joyner

## ASSEMBLYWOMAN SUPPORTS CAMPUS SAFETY



Assemblywoman Latoya Joyner (D – Bronx, 77th AD), along with her colleagues at the state and federal level, joined Gov. Andrew Cuomo as he signed legislation meant to combat sexual assault on New York college campuses.

## ASSEMBLYWOMAN SUPPORTS PUERTO RICO ECONOMIC HEALTH

In a letter to Congress, Assemblywoman Latoya Joyner (D – Bronx, 77th AD) joined Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr., and over 100 elected officials from across the nation, to demand immediate action to enact legislation that will allow the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico to enter bankruptcy.

The letter seeks federal action for Puerto Rico and how its current financial crisis should be handled, such as allowing it to declare bankruptcy and changing the island's reimbursement rate for Medicare. This is meant to support future economic health for the Commonwealth as it continues to address its financial debt concerns.

## ASSEMBLYWOMAN JOYNER CELEBRATES SUMMER READING CHALLENGE EFFORT

Assemblywoman Latoya Joyner sponsored a **Summer Reading Challenge**, in coordination with the New York State Library, to motivate our district children to pick up a book and read this summer break. Last month, the Assemblywoman continued her outreach – including district children that are in transitional housing or shelter situations. On Aug. 18, the Assemblywoman held her 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Read-to-Succeed Garden Party, where she honored participants with “New York State Excellence in Reading” certificates and other great giveaways.



## ASSEMBLYWOMAN JOYNER IS ON THE LOSING SIDE OF DUNK TANK

Focusing on supporting the long standing tradition of Family Day at Sedgwick Houses, Assemblywoman Latoya Joyner sacrificed herself by participating in her first ever “Dunk the Assemblywoman” event.





**PUBLISHED OP-ED ARTICLES**

Assemblywoman Latoya Joyner recently published an opinion article for *The Bronx Free Press* explaining how her first law will help create additional housing options for seniors and persons with disabilities.

**Housing for those that need it most**

BY LATOYA JOYNER, ASSEMBLY MEMBER

August 5, 2015

Shouldering rent increases is a major problem for our community - it forces many Bronxites to choose between keeping a roof over their heads, paying utility bills or feeding their families. For seniors and persons with disabilities, the resulting economic squeeze is even worse.

The first law I have enacted as your Assemblywoman - Assembly Bill A.8238- will help us address that issue. Signed by Governor Andrew Cuomo last month, it continues a program that speeds construction of

affordable housing for low income seniors and disabled New Yorkers known as Urban Development Action Area Project (UDAAP). As a result, this initiative will significantly lower the cost of developing additional affordable housing in our community.

The 61-unit senior building known as “Artsbridge” being built at 172nd Street and Plimpton Avenue in the Highbridge community is a direct result of the UDAAP program. Since 2002, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has financed over 2,800 units for elderly or disabled persons of low income in New York City - primarily in the Bronx and Brooklyn. With the help of HUD, we can continue this aggressive approach.

**How bad is our current situation?**

There are roughly 1.4 million people that call the Bronx home, and many of those families are forced to make hard decisions every day regarding their rent and other expenses. Nearly 60 percent of households in the Bronx face housing costs that consume roughly 30 percent of their income - making this the highest proportion in all of New York. Many Bronxites are handcuffed by housing costs - with monthly rent

bills mounting to 50 percent or more of a household’s monthly income.

Right now, seniors and those that are disabled need some reprieve. The harms of living on a fixed income are evident and need a long term solution - not a temporary fix. Along with the enactment of my UDAAP legislation, I have also supported improvements to the Senior Citizen Rent Increase Exemption (SCRIE) and the Disability Rent Increase Exemption (DRIE) programs that make it easier for families to maintain their benefits.

Ensuring that no one is priced out of their homes and spurring development for low income housing options is essential to maintaining the sense of community that we all know and love in the 77th Assembly District. Making it easier to add to our current affordable housing stock, the UDAAP process saves times and money when building affordable housing for so many of our seniors and disabled members of my community and New York City, and I am pleased to extend this program so that even more residents can benefit from it.

# Vivienda para quienes más la necesitan



BY LATOYA JOYNER, ASSEMBLY MEMBER

August 5, 2015

Asumir los aumentos de alquiler es un problema importante para nuestra comunidad y obliga a muchos residentes del Bronx a elegir entre mantener un techo sobre sus cabezas, pagar las facturas de los servicios públicos o alimentar a sus familias. Para las personas mayores y las personas con discapacidad, la restricción económica resultante es aún peor.

La primera ley que he promulgado como su asambleísta -Proyecto de ley de la Asamblea A.8238- ayudará a enfrentar esa cuestión. Firmada por el gobernador Andrew Cuomo el mes pasado, es un programa que acelera la construcción de viviendas asequibles para los neoyorquinos mayores y con discapacidad de bajos ingresos,

conocida como Proyecto Área de Acción de Desarrollo Urbano (UDAAP por sus siglas en inglés). Como resultado, esta iniciativa reducirá significativamente el costo de desarrollar vivienda asequible adicional en nuestra comunidad.

DirDiaLogoEl edificio principal de 61 unidades conocido como "Artsbridge", que se está construyendo en la calle 172 y la avenida Plimpton en la comunidad de Highbridge, es un resultado directo del programa UDAAP. Desde 2002, el Departamento de Vivienda y Desarrollo Urbano de Estados Unidos ha financiado más de 2,800 unidades para personas mayores o discapacitadas de bajos ingresos en la ciudad de Nueva York, principalmente en el Bronx y Brooklyn. Con la ayuda de HUD, podemos continuar con este enfoque agresivo.

¿Qué tan grave es nuestra situación actual?

Hay aproximadamente 1.4 millones de personas que llaman su hogar al Bronx, y muchas de esas familias se ven obligadas a tomar decisiones difíciles todos los días con respecto a su renta y otros gastos. Casi el 60 por ciento de los hogares del Bronx enfrentan costos de vivienda que consumen aproximadamente el 30 por ciento de sus ingresos, haciendo de este el porcentaje el más alto de todo Nueva York. Muchos residentes del Bronx están maniatados

por los gastos de vivienda, con facturas mensuales mayores al 50 por ciento, o más, de los ingresos mensuales de un hogar.

En este momento, las personas mayores y con discapacidad necesitan un respiro. Los daños de vivir con un ingreso fijo son evidentes y necesitan una solución a largo plazo, no una temporal. Además de la promulgación de mi legislación UDAAP, también he apoyado mejoras en los programas de Exención de Aumento de Renta a los Ciudadanos Mayores (SCRIE por sus siglas en inglés) y la Exención de Aumento de Renta por Discapacidad (DRIE por sus siglas en inglés) que hacen que sea más fácil para las familias el mantener sus beneficios.

Asegurar que nadie quede fuera de sus hogares y estimular el desarrollo de opciones de vivienda de bajo costo es esencial para mantener el sentido de comunidad que todos conocemos y amamos en el Distrito 77 de la Asamblea. Haciéndolo más fácil de añadir a nuestras existencias actuales de vivienda asequible, el proceso UDAAP ahorra tiempo y dinero al construir vivienda asequible para muchos de los adultos mayores y miembros discapacitados de mi comunidad y la ciudad de Nueva York, y me complace ampliar este programa para que incluso más residentes puedan beneficiarse de él.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN JOYNER INVITES THE COMMUNITY TO HER UPCOMING EVENTS

## Free Civil Legal Services Coming to Your Neighborhood



Courtesy of  
NYS Assembly Member  
Latoya Joyner

The Mobile Legal Help Center is a partnership between the New York Legal Assistance Group (NYLAG) and the New York State Courts' Access to Justice Program that provides free civil legal services to New Yorkers in need.

Private meeting rooms and technology inside the vehicle enable it to function as a full-service office.

The vehicle will be stationed at:

**Assemblywoman Joyner's  
Community Office**  
910 Grand Concourse, Bronx, NY  
(btwn E. 162 and 163 Streets)  
September 4, 2015  
10am to 3pm

To Make an Appointment please visit:  
<https://mobilelegalhelpcenter.acuityscheduling.com/>

For more information, please call: 718-538-2000



Staff onboard the Mobile Legal Help Center will provide FREE legal assistance on issues related to:

- HOUSING
- PUBLIC BENEFITS
- DISABILITY BENEFITS
- HEALTHCARE BENEFITS
- IDENTITY THEFT
- DEBT MANAGEMENT
- CONSUMER CREDIT
- IMMIGRATION
- DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
- DIVORCE
- CUSTODY
- EMPLOYMENT
- ADVANCE PLANNING
- SUPERSTORM SANDY

Everyone is eligible to receive free legal services, regardless of immigration status.



*Roberto Clemente State Park,  
Presents*

### Free Self-Defense Seminar For Women

Sponsored by

State Assemblywoman Latoya Joyner,  
Council Member Vanessa Gibson & NYPD 46th Precinct

Seminar Introduction Day  
Saturday  
September 12, 2015  
10AM—11AM

\*Special Appearance by  
Assemblywoman Latoya Joyner\*



Location: Roberto Clemente State Park Gymnasium

- For women ages 18 & up
- Classes will be held on 5 consecutive Saturdays starting September 12, 2015 at 10AM-11AM
- Registration forms can be picked up in the RCSP Administration Office.
- ONLY 20 SPACES AVAILABLE! Registrations will be accepted through the "Seminar Introduction Day"



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