Determined to provide every Brooklyn public school student with the opportunity to learn how to code, Borough President Adams launched Code Brooklyn on Monday, November 2nd from PS/MS 282 Park Slope School. His five-point plan started with a call for every district school in the borough to participate in the Hour of Code, a global effort in over 180 countries to help demystify coding, during Computer Science Education Week this December; to spur this effort on, he publicly challenged the city of Chicago to see who can sign up a greater percentage of their public schools. Code Brooklyn also includes an analysis from his office of the infrastructure needs in Brooklyn schools pertaining to their ability to support robust computer science programming; the results of that assessment will lead to an internal report that will help determine allocations of the increased funding that Borough President Adams is committing in his upcoming capital budgets. Additionally, Borough President Adams called for Brooklyn Borough Hall to serve as a go-between with schools and City Hall through the rollout of the Computer Science for All (CS4All) public-private partnership over the next decade to ensure that resources regarding teacher training and staff development are assigned equitably and holistically. Finally, he announced that he is working with State Senator Diane Savino and Assembly Member Jo Anne Simon on state legislation to make computer science a required part of the curriculum buildout are located in Bedford-Stuyvesant, Bushwick, Bed-Stuy, Brooklyn, and Coney Island, respectively.

On Friday, November 6th, Borough President Adams unveiled “Growing Brooklyn’s Future,” an initiative with more than $2 million in initial investment from his Fiscal Year 2016 (FY16) to create hydroponic classrooms in a dozen schools across Brooklyn. He made this announcement inside a classroom at the Academy of Urban Planning, a high school located at the Bushwick Campus which will be transformed into a green learning space through a partnership with New York Sun Works, a non-profit organization that builds innovative science labs in urban schools. The effort highlights the potential of urban farming to revolutionize the borough’s relationship with food and the environment, as well as to create thousands of jobs in the emerging agriculture industry. Schools receiving $167,000 each for the classroom buildout are located in Bedford-Stuyvesant, Bushwick, Brownsville, Bushwick, Canarsie, Cypress Hills, and East New York.

In honor of Veterans Day, Borough President Adams launched the Downtown Brooklyn Partnership and the Cadman Park Conservancy on Tuesday, November 10th to unveil the vision for a renovated Brooklyn War Memorial; the monument has been shuttered for 25 years due to Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) non-compliance. The plan would rehabilitate the building, advancing the original vision as a war memorial and learning center. The project will provide an opportunity for World War II veterans and their families to visit, as well as for future generations to learn about those who served. Proposed renovations include a visitor’s and exhibition center, a roof terrace and event space, a new elevator, and a complete restoration to the Wall of Honor. To date, Borough President Adams has allocated $1 million to the project.

“I may not be sexy to talk about FICO scores and savings accounts, but learning basics of money management is essential if we are going to get serious about Brooklyn’s consumer debt crisis.” Borough President Adams made these comments on Wednesday, November 18th as he launched his partnership between financial institutions and 13 underserved schools in Bedford-Stuyvesant, Brownsville, Clinton Hill, Downtown Brooklyn, and Park Slope to bring financial education into classrooms across the borough. The announcement coincided with the release of Borough President Adams’ report, “Countering Consumer Debt in Brooklyn: Strengthening Communities by Raising Financial Literacy,” an analysis of the borough’s credit crisis that highlights recommendations to improve financial security. In recent months, Borough President Adams has held a series of listening and conducted surveys to get feedback from financial institutions and local residents on the state of the borough’s financial literacy. His report identifies four major areas as causes of Brooklyn’s poor credit: lack of economic opportunity in certain communities, a lack of basic financial education, residents living beyond their available means, and a lack of family communication.

If you have an interest in any of these events, please contact us by visiting brooklyn-usa.org for more information or by calling our event hotline at (718) 802-2338. Additionally, to stay up-to-date with the office, visit www.brooklyn-usa.org to sign up for Borough President Adams’ on-the-record communications, like his Facebook page, and follow CBP_EricAdams on Twitter. If you have an interest in any of these events, please contact us by visiting brooklyn-usa.org for more information or by calling our event hotline at (718) 802-2338. Additionally, to stay up-to-date with the office, visit www.brooklyn-usa.org to sign up for Borough President Adams’ on-the-record communications, like his Facebook page, and follow CBP_EricAdams on Twitter. If you have an interest in any of these events, please contact us by visiting brooklyn-usa.org for more information or by calling our event hotline at (718) 802-2338. Additionally, to stay up-to-date with the office, visit www.brooklyn-usa.org to sign up for Borough President Adams’ on-the-record communications, like his Facebook page, and follow CBP_EricAdams on Twitter.
Brooklyn salutes its veterans! During his Veterans Day “Start Strong, Finish Strong” resource fair, Borough President Adams honored Brooklyn’s military heroes on Monday, November 9th, in partnership with the United States Army Garrison Fort Hamilton along with other organizations working on advancing veterans’ welfare. A former chair of the Committee on Veterans, Homeland Security, and Military Affairs during his tenure in the New York State Senate, Borough President Adams presented citations to those who have served our nation in each of the branches of the United States Armed Forces. The resource fair included a military vehicle display, care packages for veterans, transition services, and a veterans’ art exhibit. For years, Borough President Adams has offered mass in French. Roman Catholic Church, which regularly walks toward an interfaith service at St. Agnes Gardens, where participants lit candles for the outstanding work they perform as police precincts across the borough during the holiday season.

Borough President Adams saluted the “stanky legg”? A video of his memorable moves went viral as he was honored on Friday, November 13th for his three decades of public service during the Sixth Annual Stars of New York Dance at LIU’s Kumble Theater in Fort Greene. The charitable event began in Carroll Park, a popular community hub in Carroll Gardens, where participants lit candles for peace. The gathering led into a candlelight walk toward an interfaith service at St. Agnes Roman Catholic Church, which regularly offers mass in French.

Honoring those who play a vital role in ensuring the safety of all Brooklynites, Borough President Adams recognized and thanked more than 40 detectives from precincts across the borough during an awards ceremony on Thursday, November 19th in Brooklyn Borough Hall. Joining by their families, the detectives were cited for their outstanding work they perform as part of their duties, including past and present cases that, in total, have resulted in thousands of arrests.

For years, Borough President Adams has been proud to host “A Celebration of Praise and Thanksgiving Musical Concert” at Brooklyn College’s Walt Whitman Theater in Flatbush. On Sunday, November 22nd, the annual tradition continued with a special evening of thankfulness, music and treats for some of Brooklyn’s underserved children. Attendees of the uplifting event were asked to bring a non-perishable food item, as well as toys for children in need.

Want to “talk turkey”? Borough President Adams distributed over 1,500 turkeys and 7,000 pounds of trimmings on Monday, November 23rd, including fresh apples, collard greens, potatoes, and yams, to more than one hundred churches and community-based organizations serving Brooklynites in need this Thanksgiving. While helping to load vehicles with packages of food at the Brooklyn Navy Yard, he gave thanks for the sponsors and volunteers that made the large-scale donation, speaking to the spirit of One Brooklyn in giving back during the holiday season.

According to Borough President Adams, “the foundation of Brooklyn is built on its cornerstones.” In what read like a “Who’s Who” of Brooklyn businesses over the past half-century, he honored more than 30 Brooklyn Business Cornerstones, employees who are distinguished by long tenures with their companies, at a Brooklyn Borough Hall ceremony on Tuesday, November 24th. Among those receiving a gold brick symbolic of their special status were famed pizza maker Domenico De Marco of Di Fara Pizza, the chef and owner of the 50-year-old eatery, and Herb Turetsky of the Brooklyn Nets, the only scorekeeper in the franchise’s history.

Every year, more than 2,000 New Yorkers die of seasonal influenza and pneumonia, which can develop as a complication of flu. The illness is caused by influenza viruses that infect the nose, throat, and lungs, and it can cause mild to severe illness, and at times can lead to death. To help combat this respiratory infection, Borough President Adams hosted free flu shots for uninsured and underserved residents, in partnership with the Visiting Nurse Service of New York, on Friday, November 6th and Thursday, November 19th at Brooklyn Borough Hall. Yearly vaccination is the best way to prevent becoming infected with the flu. Additionally, to prevent the spread of this and other infections, it is advised that people cover their mouths and noses when they cough or sneeze, as well as wash their hands often with soap and water or an alcohol-based hand sanitizer. More information is available at nyc.gov flu.

“High-speed access is a prerequisite to progress in 21st century Brooklyn, and we cannot accept roadblocks to progress in any of our communities.” These were the words of Borough President Adams, a member of the Franchise and Concessions Review Committee, in advance of a public forum he hosted with Wasting4FiOS, a coalition made up of advocacy group Consumers Union and Common Cause/NY, on Tuesday, November 15th in response to terror attacks that have rocked the global community. Borough President Adams held the first in a series of ongoing counter-terrorism security meetings designed to harden the soft targets in our borough. More than 20 Brooklyn entertainment venues as well as leadership from the New York City Police Department and New York City Office of Emergency Management met with him on Friday, November 20th to share best practices and receive access to basic training services. While there is currently no credible or specific threat against Brooklyn, Borough President Adams expressed that local establishments, whether big or small, must prepare to expect the unexpected and factor potential threats into their business plans. He recommended the use of NYPD Shield, a public-private partnership seeking to work with private sector security managers to protect the city from terrorist attacks; those seeking more info can visit nypdshield.org.

Our Constituent Assistance Center is here to serve all of Brooklyn. If you or someone you know are having any issues, or if you have questions about issues like alternate side parking, sidewalk pickup or other community matters, such as the matters in this month’s update, call the Center at (718) 902-3777.