INDIAN DIASPORA COUNCIL SUPPORTS JUNETEENTH at OLDE TOWNE FLUSHING on June 17, 2023

Participants at the event on June 17, 2023

Ashook Ramsaran making his remarks

Ashook Ramsaran's Remarks

Thank you, Maureen, for your kind introduction. This is a special program and I am privileged to participate.

One my favorite books is "The 1619 Project". It is informative, revealing and captivating. I have given several copies to family and friends as gifts, and I urge you to read it as well.

When Queens Civic Congress (QCC) was considering a special honor for Robbie Garrison (Chair of Olde Towne of Flushing Conservancy), Henry Euler (Secretary of Olde Towne of Flushing Conservancy), insisted that QCC must also honor the late Mandika Tshaka for his relentless efforts to make the Olde Towne of Flushing Burial Ground a reality.

We are grateful to Robbie Garrison and the late Mandika Tshaka who made it possible to preserve and protect this cemetery that is the resting place of so many Native Americans and Afro-Americans who we honor today and always.

I want to also acknowledge the other board members of the Conservancy who contribute their time and talent to preserve and maintain the Olde Towne of Flushing Burial Ground as a hallowed place which is shared by the community as a landmark and an integral part of its history. These include: Maureen Regan, Henry Euler, Beverly Riley, Sally Mehretaab and others of the Conservancy.

I want to also acknowledge the extra-ordinary support of NYC Council Member Sandra Ung and his very helpful staff of Alex Hart (Chief of Staff) and Xin Wu (Director of Community Affairs) to obtain approval of the street naming "OLDE TOWNE FLUSING LANE. This will be unveiled before the end of this summer and I am also privileged to have spearheaded the effort to make this a reality.

I am honored that Robbie Garrison has requested my assistance to produce a book on the entire history of Olde Towne of Flushing Burial Ground, an informative compilation of documents, photos and efforts to secure this sacred place in the annals of the history of New York.

Thank you and keep up the good work you do.

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MC: Maureen Regan
Others who participated: NYS Senator John Liu; NYC Council Member Sandra Ung; NYS Assembly Member Ron Kim; Queens District Attorney Melinda Katz; Representative of Queens Borough President Donovan Richards; Representative of NYC Department of Parks, Queens

NYS Senator John Liu

NYC Council Member Sandra Ung

NYC CM Sandra Ung, Beverly Riley & Evelyn Gong

NYS AM Ron Kim, Ashook Ramsaran, NYC Council Member Sandra Ung, Evelyn Gong and Queens Borough President Representative

1865 JUNETEENTH

JUNETEENTH

Please join us in our celebration featuring a major art exhibit by local Black artists and local Black quilters.

QPL Bookmobile
Please bring a friend and a folding chair!

JUNE 17, 2023

FROM 10:00AM - 4:00PM

THE OLDE TOWNE OF FLUSHING BURIAL GROUND

46TH AVE. & 164TH ST
FLUSHING, NY 11358

CO SPONSERS

OLDE TOWNE OF FLUSHING

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iDC Indian Diaspora Council

OLDE TOWNE OF FLUSHING
BURIAL GROUND
CONSERVANCY

1865 JUNE TEENTH

Program

9.30 AM: Conservancy Welcomes Volunteers and Members

10.00 AM: Welcome QPL Book Mobile

11.00 AM: Olde Towne of Flushing Conservancy discuss the Archives of the Burial Ground, Queens College and Queens Memory Collaboration

12PM: Quilts Display. Conversations with Quilters

1.00PM: Elected Officials

2.00PM: Paintings. Conversations with Artists in Residence

3.00PM: Discussion about the Future of the Burial Ground and Its Significance in Queens

4.00PM: Event Ends. We thank Everyone for Supporting Freedoms in these United States of America.