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For Immediate Release

**QUEENS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ANNOUNCES THE**

**FORT TOTTEN PARK INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION,**

**SPONSORED BY COUNCIL MEMBER VICKIE PALADINO**

***For event flier and free parking and free shuttle service map,*** [***click here***](https://www.dropbox.com/sh/wzgq39rkq8sk0ku/AACDoPD6-4wpxEdjyT-KazFaa?dl=0)

(QUEENS, NY) May 30, 2023 -- New York City Council Member Vickie Paladino, the Queens Chamber of Commerce, and the Bayside Historical Society invite the whole community to the Annual Independence Day Fireworks Show and Concert on Tuesday, June 27th at Fort Totten. The gates open at 5 pm. This annual event draws thousands to celebrate a night of fireworks, food and family fun. This year’s celebration promises to be another incredible night with fireworks provided by “Fireworks by Grucci”.

“The Independence Day fireworks show and concert is finally returning to Fort Totten! My office has worked tirelessly with the Queens Chamber of Commerce and the Bayside Historical Society to see its return. I could not be more proud to be the Councilwoman who delivers the event back to the community. Now more than ever, the community desperately needs a strong event to celebrate and rally around. The fireworks show and concert at Fort Totten could not have been brought back at a better time. I can’t wait to see the event come together on June 27th ,“ said **Councilwoman Vickie Paladino.**  ”Thank you to the Queens Chamber of Commerce, Bayside Historical Society, Parks Department, NYPD, FDNY, US Army, CITIBUS Corp., Fireworks by Grucci, Office of Emergency Management, Borough President Richards, and countless others who worked together to help my office organize the event.”

“The Queens Chamber of Commerce is excited to partner with Council Member Vickie Paladino to bring this great event to Fort Totten once again,” said **Tom Grech, President and CEO of the Queens Chamber of Commerce.** “Year after year, it has proved to be a fun day for families along one of Queens’ beautiful waterfronts. We are grateful to all our partners and sponsors for helping us make it a great evening.”

“With funding provided by Council Member Paladino and the Queens Chamber of Commerce, we are proud to announce the return of the BHS annual concert and fireworks show in Fort Totten,” said **Paul DiBenedetto, President of the Bayside Historical Society**. “BHS at the Castle serves as a cultural destination within the Fort Totten Historic District, and hosting an Independence Day Celebration right outside our front door is a great way for the community to link the past with the present. We look forward to this year’s event being even bigger and better than it’s been in the past.”

Admittance to Fort Totten will begin at 5:00pm. There will be fun activities for kids and

food trucks on site. The evening will feature musical performances by *Chicken Head Rocks*, *Phil Costa and the Something Special Big Band*, the *380th Army Band* and DJ Russell Targove. Guests are encouraged to bring their own blankets and lawn chairs. The fireworks will begin promptly at 9:15pm and attendees must enter the park by 8:30pm.  
  
Guests are encouraged to walk or bus to the event. Limited parking will be available at

Little Bay Park, with additional free parking available at the Clearview Golf Course and the Bay

Terrace Shopping Center. Free shuttles provided by CITIBUS Corp. will begin at 5:30 pm and will bring guests to and from the offsite parking locations until 10:15 pm.   
  
Alcohol is not permitted at the event. All bags, coolers, backpacks, etc. will be inspected by the NYPD upon entrance.

**About the Queens Chamber of Commerce:**The Queens Chamber of Commerce is the oldest and largest business association in Queens, representing more than 1,400 businesses and more than 150,000 Queens-based employees. Its mission is to foster connections, educate for success, develop/implement programs and advocate for members’ interests. [www.queenschamber.org](http://www.queenschamber.org/).

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