

WELCOME TO THE BIG SIX TOWERS

This booklet is intended to be a handy reference and to give you a better understanding of the policies and services of our Cooperative. Big Six Towers is conveniently located near public transportation. Only four miles from Manhattan, the complex lies in the shadow of the beautiful Manhattan Skyline. This handbook contains important information about Big Six Towers and how it operates.

The business of Big Six Towers is conducted by a Board of Directors elected by all Cooperators. Our managing agent is Douglas Elliman Property Management. If you need additional information, please visit the Management office in Building 3 (59-55 47th Avenue) during business hours or call them at (718) 898-7022.

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

- Big Six Towers Management (718) 898-7022
- Big Six Public Safety (Security) (718) 335-8715
- Big Six Maintenance (718) 335-3068
- NYC Referrals/Other information 311
- NYC Metro (Transportation/Traffic) 511
- Ambulance 911
- Carbon Monoxide Detector Alarm Sounds¹ 911 (Building 3 only)
- Gas Leak Emergency ONLY- National Grid (718) 643-4050 (option 9)
- National Grid (non Emergency) (718) 643-4050 (listen for options)
- NYC Subways and Buses 718-330-1234
- Long Island Railroad 718-217-LIRR (5477)
- Police/Emergency Only 911
- Police/108 Precinct (718) 784-5411
5-47 50th Avenue,
Long Island City, NY 11101
- Fire Department 292/Rescue 4 (718) 476-6292
64-18 Queens Boulevard
Woodside, NY 11377

¹ Building 3 is the only building with Carbon Monoxide Detectors (boiler located in Building 3)

MANAGEMENT OFFICE

(Located in Building 3)

Douglas Elliman Property Management, Inc.
Big Six Towers, Inc., Management Office
59-55 47 Avenue, Woodside, NY 11377
Office: 718-898-7022
Fax: 646-843-2621

General Manager.....David Becker
E-mail: david.becker@ellimanpm.com (718-898-7022 ext 13)

Assistant Manager..... Margaret Lowery

Office Personnel

Ann Baca
Lena Dushaj-Almodovar

Douglas Elliman Property Management is responsible for the smooth running of services required for our complex. The General Manager is hired by the Board of Directors and manages all the facilities and personnel. The office staff handles administrative matters and maintenance issues.

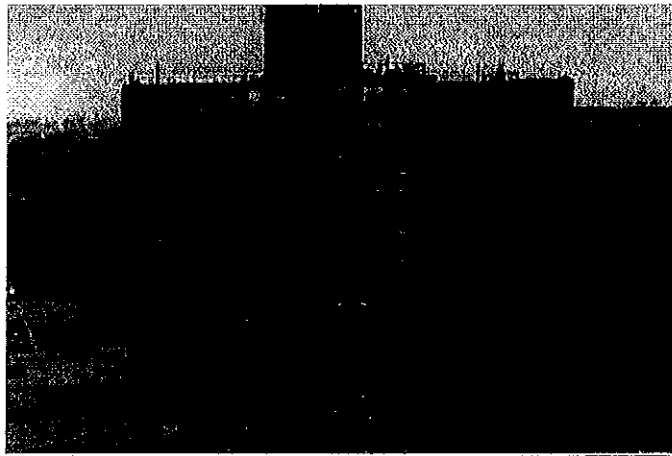
The nine member Board of Directors meets with Management at formal meetings on a monthly basis and as needed.

Office Hours

Monday – Friday	9:00 am. - 5:00 pm.
Tuesdays	9:00 am. - 7:00 pm.

During summer only--closes on Fridays at 4:00 pm
Office closed on National Holidays

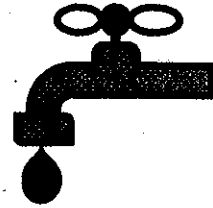
Should an emergency arise when the office is closed, please contact Security at (718) 335-8715.



MAINTENANCE STAFF

Superintendent	Murden Woods
Assistant Superintendent	Felipe Mateo
Power Plant/Heating Plant Foreman	Mike Olech

Should you require assistance with a repair or water leak, you should call the Management office at (718) 898-7022. All leaks must be reported promptly. When the Management office is closed, please contact Security for repairs or heating issues at (718) 335-8715.



Fire – Call 911 Immediately

Gas Leaks are reported directly to National Grid at (718) 643-4050 (option 9).

Carbon Monoxide Leaks – call 911 immediately when your Carbon Monoxide Detector alarm sounds.

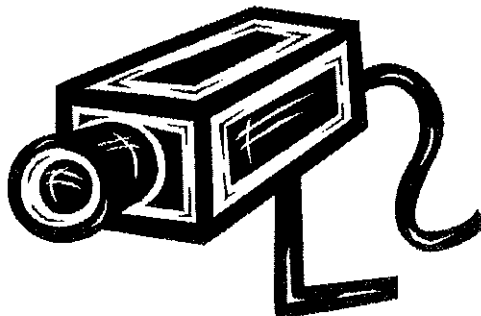
The Maintenance Department repairs, cleans, and maintains all the grounds and public spaces such as buildings, hallways, compactor rooms, stairwells, lobby windows, floors and laundry rooms in each building. Each building has its own maintenance staff member who works with Mr. Woods. For emergency repairs only, the Maintenance Department is available 24 hours/7 days a week.

Our lawns and plantings are maintained by an outside contractor. Big Six Towers has its own electrical generating system. This system provides power to the entire complex as well as the shopping center.

PUBLIC SAFETY (SECURITY)

Director	Jerry Newman
Assistant Director	Tim O'Brien
Telephone Number	(718) 335-8715

Big Six Towers maintains its own security staff located on the side of Building 3 (59-55 47th Avenue). Security patrols the hallways, laundry rooms, roofs, parks, grounds, and shopping center areas. They make rounds of the entire property in their specially marked (NYSP—New York City Special Patrol) automobile. Security cameras are installed throughout the complex.



BOARD of DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors is responsible for the financial well-being and overall management of the Cooperative. It also functions as the chief intermediary between New York City's Department of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD), Douglas Elliman Property Management and the Shareholders of Big Six Towers.

The Board consists of nine members. Members are elected for a three year term. Elections are held annually. To be eligible to become a Board Member, the candidate is required to be a shareholder of Big Six Towers and must have lived in Big Six at least one year.

Shareholders who are interested in becoming a Director should submit their résumés to the Board. Copies of the résumés are then sent to all shareholders and a "meet the Candidate" night is scheduled in September. A ballot is mailed to all shareholders; one per apartment with the candidates listed. Shareholders can mail their selections to the balloting company or submit the ballot in person at the Annual Shareholder's Meeting held in October.

The current members of the Board of Directors are listed on the bulletin board located in your mailroom. You may contact one or more of the Directors through the Management Office.



BUILDING REPRESENTATIVES

In 1998, the Board of Directors approved the Building Representative Program to broaden the base of communication between the Board, Management and the Cooperators. Building Reps volunteer their time and meet approximately ten times a year to exchange information and discuss shareholders' concerns.

Each building has two reps who hold a two-year term. A cooperator who has lived in Big Six Towers for at least one year can volunteer to become a Building Representative at the discretion of the Board.

A member of the Board of Directors serves as the Liaison at all Building Rep meetings. The Liaison will report shareholders' and Reps' issues to the monthly Board meetings. Building Reps also hold approximately four meetings a year in each of their buildings. The Building Representative Program serves at the discretion of the Board.

ANNUAL COMPLIANCE WITH CITY OF NY REGULATIONS

Income Affidavit--Big Six is a middle income development. Each year, shareholders are obliged to complete a notarized affidavit showing the income for each resident of the apartment. This ensures that the total household income remains within the guidelines set by New York City's HPD. A surcharge may be assessed to those whose total incomes are above the allowable maximum. Those not returning notarized affidavits by the deadline are subject to a fine.

Apartment Inspection--Apartments are inspected annually to ensure that cooperators are in compliance with Mitchell Lama and NYC regulations: Nothing stored on terraces; apartment has proper amount of floor cushioning; shareholder is reporting proper number of air conditioners; no serious fire hazards are present, no washing machine. Each shareholder is asked to set up a convenient time for this inspection, which takes less than 15 minutes annually.

Window Guard Survey--Window guards are required in every apartment in the City of New York where a child under 11 years of age resides. The City sends a survey to every Big Six apartment to ensure they are installed where required. Additionally, people may request them even where not required. Big Six provides window guards at no charge.

BIG SIX ANNUAL UPDATES

Emergency Contact Information -- It is important for the office to know whom to contact in case of emergency. The information will be updated annually and will ask for telephone contact information and the name of someone who has access to your apartment, if any.

OTHER INFORMATION

Apartment Alterations

Any apartment alterations, such as flooring, cabinetry, tiles, must be reported to the office. A plan and a deposit must be provided before alterations must begin. Contractors are required to have a license and insurance. Pick up an alteration agreement at the office for a complete explanation of the rules.

Mailboxes

Every building has its own mail room. The Management office will give you two (2) keys to the box. Your name should be put in the slot on the front of your mailbox with a neat legible sticker.

Intercom System

Every Building lobby has its own intercom system. It is connected to your apartment telephone. If a visitor buzzes from the lobby, the code number he/she dials for your apartment will ring on your phone, enabling you to talk to the visitor and decide whether or not to admit.

Note: Many people are giving up landline phones in lieu of their cellular phones in order to save money. You may ask the phone company to disconnect your landline, but you **must** leave a phone hooked up to the wall jack in order to use the intercom. (It is not necessary to have a landline phone with a dial tone.)



Key Fobs

Key Fobs are used to gain entry to the front and side doors of the building. Each apartment is initially provided with a key fob for each resident aged 12 and over, but at least two key fobs. Each fob has a unique number that should be written down for your records. If a key fob is lost or stolen, immediately report it to the Public Safety Office in Building 3 so they can deactivate it and issue you a new one. You may purchase additional key fobs for your building for \$10 each.

Parking Spaces

Spaces are available for Big Six shareholders only for a monthly fee. Side parking next to the shopping center is available for rent from 9 pm–9 am for a reduced monthly fee. The Management office maintains a waiting list for spaces. Parking is for residents listed on the income affidavits only. Vehicle registrations must match the Big Six address of the shareholder assigned the parking space. Annual updates are required.

Dog Policy

Dogs up to 80 pounds must be registered for a one-time fee of \$100 and a registration form that includes a photo of the dog and a current license issued by the ASPCA. Pick up a dog registration form in the office. It is not permitted to leave animals out on the terrace unsupervised. Owning two dogs is no longer permitted.

Smoke Detectors/Carbon Monoxide Detectors

It is mandatory that each apartment have a smoke detector. For Building 3 shareholders only, because of the furnace in the basement, Management will install a carbon monoxide detector in your apartment.

Cable TV and Cable Modem

Cable service is available and even non-cable users can view network TV stations linked up to cable at no cost. Satellite dishes are not permitted. The companies also provide telephone and cable modem service. The providers are:

RCN 1 (800) RING-RCN (1-800-746-4726)

Time Warner 1 (866) 924-8209

Verizon provides telephone service only (*not* cable TV or Cable Modem at this time).

Air Conditioners

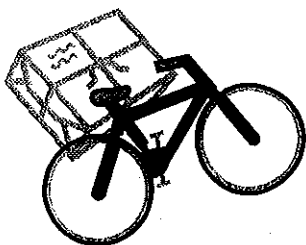
Before units can be installed, cooperators must notify the Management office. All air conditioners must fit properly into their sleeves. Their cost for each air conditioner is included in your maintenance fee and is amortized over the year in order to keep costs level each month. Covers are available at a nominal fee to help prevent winter drafts.

Laundry Rooms

Each building has its own laundry room located in their basement, accessed by the "B" elevator. The hours are 6:00 am to 11:00 pm. The last wash may be started no later than 9:00 pm. The washers and dryers use a swipe card system, not coins. Money can be added to the card using the machines provided in the laundry room. Cards and replacement cards cost \$5 and can be purchased by calling the Management office.

Storage Rooms

Personal storage rooms are available through the Management office. Storage rooms are located in buildings 2, 4, 5, 6 and 7. Storage room prices vary according to the size of the room. Locks are advised.



Bicycle Rooms

These bicycle rooms are available to all cooperators. The room is located off the side entrance of each building. This room is for bicycles only, not storage. A key is available for purchase through the Management office. Bicycles must be locked and tagged with your names.

Exterminator

This service is offered through the Management office free of charge. The Exterminator comes every other Wednesday and every other Saturday. Call the office at (718) 898-7022 to schedule an appointment.

Garden Club

The Garden Club digs, seeds, and plants to help beautify the property in addition to the work performed by our landscaping company. The Club is open to all residents. Please contact the Management Office if you are interested in joining.

Playgrounds

Big Six Towers has two playgrounds. The playground located between buildings 6 and 7 has swings, a sprinkler system and a jungle gym. The playground located between buildings 1 and 4 has a small jungle gym. The hours are 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Daycare Center - Towers Play 'N Learn

Outside Entrance at Back of Building 6 - Phone: (718) 478-3885; hours 7:30 am – 6:00 pm.
Nursery and Pre-school ages 2.5 through 6 years old; full and half days are available.

Library



Big Six has its own free lending library, located on the side entrance of Building 4 (59-40 Queens Boulevard)-- staffed by NORC Volunteers

Hours are:

Mondays 10:00 – 11:00 am

Tuesdays 6:30 – 7:30 pm;

Thursdays 6:30 – 7:30 pm

The Library is closed during July and August and reopens after Labor Day.

Donations of books are welcome, but no textbooks.

Community Rooms-Activities & Parties

Two rooms are available for parties and social gatherings. One room is located on the side of Building 2 (59-15 47th Avenue) and the other room is located on the 2nd floor of the Shopping Center. Each room is equipped with a kitchen and a bathroom. These rooms may be rented at a fee through the Management office. A deposit is required.

Bridge

Duplicate Bridge is held on Wednesday afternoons from 1:00–3:00 pm in the new Community room on the 2nd floor of the shopping center. The cost is \$3.00. Call Henry Schoenfrank at (718) 898-7271 or Kay Lisanti at (718) 335-4606 for further information. All are welcome.

Maintenance Payments.

Residents may elect to pay maintenance charges via eCheck (Electronic funds transfer or EFT). You may select a one-time payment or auto pay that allows you to have the funds transferred each month. eCheck payments are free. Other options include paying by phone or by credit card which come with a service fee. Listen carefully to the operator who will inform you of the charges when calling the number provided.



Shopping Center

Dan's Key Food Supermarket, Hunan-K Chinese Restaurant, Big Six Shoe Repair, Big Six Dry Cleaners, Big Six 99¢ Store, Gina's Pizzeria, Violet's Hair Salon, Big Six Bagels, Queens County Savings Bank, Big Six Fitness, Visiting Nurse Services, and the Child Guidance Center.

Weight Watchers®

Every Saturday morning at 9:00 am – 12:00 pm in Building 2 Community Room.

Visiting Nurse Services

3rd Floor in the Shopping Center

718 397 2000

Doctors & Dentists Offices

Professional offices located on Big Six property are:

Eliseo Asencio, MD Internal & Geriatric Medicine
59-55 47th Avenue (side entrance of Building 3)
(718) 426-6400

Paul Kesselman, DPM Foot Specialist, Podiatrist
59-55 47th Avenue (side entrance of Building 3)
(718) 651-6155

Creceer Inc. Psychotherapy/Psychiatry Services
46-10 61 Street Apt. #1H (side entrance of Building 5)
(347) 642-4086

Michael Weiss, DDS Dental Offices
59-40 Queens Blvd. (side entrance of Building 4)
(347) 642-4086



Move ins/Move outs & Furniture Deliveries



All moving and bulk deliveries should take place through the side door between the hours of 8:00 am and 4:00 pm, Monday through Saturday. Padding is required on the "A" elevator to prevent damage. Please notify the Management office at least 24 hours prior to all moving and deliveries of large items to allow time to install the pads.

Website

The Big Six Website is www.big6towers.big6towers.com. There, you will be able to view and print the latest approved Board of Directors minutes and Big Six policies. To gain access the first time, go to the website and register by entering your email address and account number from your bill. Within a week, you will be approved.

Elections—Board of Elections

Each year, you can vote in the national and statewide elections in Building 2 Community Room. If this is a new voting district for you, call the Queens County Board of Elections at (718) 730-6730 to find out how to register in person or by mail.

Big Six Towers is in State Assembly District #30, State Senatorial District #14, City Council District #26, Community Board #2 and School District #24.

Suggestion Box

If you have a suggestion, you are encouraged to call the Management office or you can always slip a note with your name in the "Suggestion Box" located in each mail room. Your Building Rep will bring "your suggestion" to the monthly Building Rep meeting.

NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES/FACILITIES

Banks

Astoria Federal Savings and Loan Bank
60-20 Woodside Avenue
(718) 335-6100

Chase
59-26 Woodside Avenue
(718) 935-9935

New York Community Bank/Queens County Savings Bank
60-10 Queens Boulevard (Big Six Towers Shopping Center)
(718) 565-1200

Hospitals/Care Facilities

Elmhurst General Hospital
79-01 Broadway (between 81st-82nd streets off Roosevelt Avenue), Elmhurst

North Shore University Hospital / LIJ
102-01 66th Road, Forest Hills

Queens Boulevard Extended Care Facility
61-11 Queens Boulevard (across from Big Six Shopping Center), Woodside

Library-Public

Queensborough Public Library / Woodside Branch
54-22 Skillman Avenue - (718) 429-4700
Queensborough Public Library / Sunnyside Branch
43-06 Greenpoint Avenue - (718) 784-3033

Post Office

39-25 61 St, Woodside, (718) 803-8529 – General Information (800) 275-8777.

Schools

Academy of American Studies (High School 9-12)
28-01 41st Avenue, Long Isl City - (718) 361-8786

Adventureland Preschool & Afterschool (ages 2-6)
41-31 58 St - (718) 274-4769



Aviation HS (9-12)
36 St & Queens Blvd, LIC - (718) 361-2032

Bryant (William Cullen Bryant) HS (9-12)
4810 31st Ave - (718) 721-5404

Public School 11 (PK-6)
54-25 Skillman Ave - (718) 779-2090

Public School 152 (PK-6 & Sp Ed)
33-52 62 St - (718) 429-3141

Public School 229 (PK-6)
69th Street and Maurice Ave - (718) 446-2120

Intermediate School 5 (6-8)
50-40 Jacobus Street/Queens Blvd - (718) 429-6518

LaGuardia Community College (Junior College)
Thomson Ave & 31st St, LIC - (718) 482-7200

Lexington School for the Deaf (Deaf Children ages 0-21)
75th Street & 30 Ave, East Elmhurst - (718) 350-3170

Razi Islamic School (K-8)
55th Street and Queens Boulevard - (718) 779-0711

St. Sebastian's Catholic School (K-8)
58th Street and Woodside Ave - (718) 429-1982

Towers Play 'N Learn (ages 2 ½ to 6)
Outside/Back Entrance to Building 6 - (718) 478-3885

School for Language and Communication Development
(Middle School for Special-Ed Students)
70-24 47 Ave - (718) 476-7163

PLACES OF INTEREST IN WOODSIDE & QUEENS

Museums

American Museum of the Moving Image 35th Avenue at 36th Street
The Noguchi Museum (sculpture) 9-01 33rd Road/Vernon Boulevard, LIC
PS 1/Contemporary Art Center 22-25 Jackson Avenue, LIC
Queens Museum of Art--Flushing Meadows Corona Park

Parks

Bush Park 61st Street, N/S Brooklyn-Queens Expwy
Windmuller Park 52nd St/39th Ave – behind PS 11
Forest Park (Visitor Center) Woodhaven Boulevard/Forest Park Drive

Theaters

Center Theater 43rd Street and Queens Boulevard
Queens Theater in the Park – Flushing Meadows Corona Park
Kupferberg Center for Performing Arts @ Queens College, Flushing
Thalia Spanish Theater, 41-17 Greenpoint Ave

Airports

LaGuardia Airport – short taxi ride – 94th St & Astoria Blvd, Astoria
John F. Kennedy International Airport, Jamaica – via LIRR or E “train to the plane”

Stadiums

Citi-Field (718) 507-METS (6387) (via #7 subway line)
National Tennis Stadium – Flushing Meadows Corona Park

Carousels

Flushing Meadow-Corona Park, 111th St
Forest Park, Historical Carousel—one of the last surviving creations of famed wood-carver Daniel Carl Muller—is over 100 years old.

Other

New York Hall of Science-Flushing Meadows Corona Park
Queens Zoo-Flushing Meadows Corona Park
Queens Botanical Garden-43-50 Main Street, Flushing
Playground for All Children – (PAC) Flushing Meadows Corona Park 111th St, for children with special needs and challenges.

Dog Parks

Doughboy Park – 52nd Street/39th Avenue – behind P.S. 11
Sherry Park - 65th Place off of Queens Boulevard/BQE

Horseback Riding

The Bridle Path is located in Forest Park where you can rent horses by the hour



Doughboy Statue

Golf Courses - Public

Flushing Meadows Corona Park – Par 3 Course & 18-hole miniature golf
Forest Park – Standard 18-hole Course

Swimming

Take Me to the Water – Aquatics – 106-16 Queens Blvd, 888-794-6692
LaGuardia Community College – Thomson Ave & 31st St, LIC - 718-482-5038
YMCA – Long Island City Branch - 3223 Queens Blvd, LIC - (718) 392-7932

Tennis Courts - Public

Astoria Park – 21st St & Hoyt Ave, Astoria, (718) 626-8622
Forest Park - Park Lane So & 89th St, Wdhvn (718) 846-4946
Maurice Park-Maurice Ave, LIE Service Rd, Maspeth
(718) 326-2877

Tennis Courts - Private

Billy Jean King National Tennis Center - Flushing Meadows-Corona
Park, (718) 760-6200
Bumble Bee Tennis 1027 46th Ave, LIC, (718) 361-6307
The West Side Tennis Club - Forest Hills, 1 Tennis Place,
(718) 268-2300



US Open Tennis Tournament is held each year in Flushing-Meadows Corona Park.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

BUS LINES:

Q60: at 60th Street on Queens Boulevard in both directions
(runs between Jamaica and Second Avenue and 60th Street in Manhattan)

Q32: at Roosevelt Avenue and 61st Street
(runs between 81st Street and Northern Blvd. in Jackson Heights and 32nd Street near Penn Station in Manhattan).

Q18: at Woodside Avenue and 60th-61st Sts. (between Maspeth and Astoria).

Q53: at 61st Street and Roosevelt Avenue (to Rockaway Park-Beach 116th Street)

SUBWAY LINES:#7: 61st Street and Roosevelt Avenue

#7 connects with E, F, G, and R at 74th St and Roosevelt Ave; and with N and Q at Queens Plaza.

LONG ISLAND RAIL ROAD: Located at 61st Street and Roosevelt Avenue
travels between Penn Station in Manhattan and Queens/Long Island.

NORC PROGRAM
SELFHELP BIG SIX TOWERS NORC PROGRAM

Selfhelp Big Six Towers NORC Program is a supportive service program for Big Six cooperators aged 60 years and older. NORC stands for Naturally Occurring Retirement Community, which means that a significant percentage of people residing in Big Six are over the age of 60. Many of these seniors moved in when they were younger and have "aged in place."



NORC MISSION STATEMENT

Selfhelp NORC programs are dedicated to maintaining seniors in their homes and community by providing a continuum of social services, health and wellness, educational, recreational, intergenerational programs, as well as volunteer opportunities in collaboration with our community partners.

NORC has two office locations within Big Six:

1. Office at 59-55 47th Avenue, Apt. #2G (Building 3) -- (718) 565-6569
2. Office and Activity Space in the New Community Room, Big Six Shopping Center (61-10 Queens Blvd, 2nd Floor) -- (718) 452-8579

Look for your **NORC Activity Calendar** delivered to each apartment door at the beginning of every month.

NORC offers a range of valuable services²:

- Professional Social Workers on staff provide all social services. This includes case management³ and case assistance services, assistance with quality of life issues, information and referral, advocacy, supportive counseling, and assistance in applying for entitlements and benefits.
 - Health and nursing services consist of nurses on site, health screenings, flu shots, health and education lectures, exercise classes, subsidized housekeeping, home health aide services, subsidized grab bars, and memory assistive devices.
 - Education and recreation programs include discussion groups, games, knitting and crafts, coffee house, lectures, parties, and intergenerational programs.
 - Volunteer opportunities include office and clerical functions, fundraising, advisory council participation, event planning, lecturing, group-leading, and recreational instructing.
- Transportation program⁴ provides bus trips to supermarkets, banks, shopping malls, theaters, luncheons, and cultural places of interest, and reduced fare transportation to medical appointments.
- Technology is centered on the needs of seniors and includes computer classes, sensor technology, such as Personal Emergency Response Systems (PERS), assistive devices, cognitive stimulation programs, and telehealth medicine.



Call or come by either office to say hello. We look forward to meeting you!

² Subsidies and cost reductions are contingent upon government grant availability, and may change with economic conditions.

³ Case management is provided with a formal plan in place with a professional Social Worker on a long term basis and to seniors who need professional Social Work assistance on a short-term basis.

⁴ Ask about transportation for wheel-chair-bound seniors.

HISTORY OF BIG SIX TOWERS

The Big Six Towers Cooperative complex was the brainchild of Frank Barrett. Mr. Barrett was the former President of the New York Typographical Union Local No. 6 (the "6" in the Big Six Towers), and builder I.D. Robbins. They sought to create affordable housing for hard-working New Yorkers by getting favorable tax consideration through the City's Mitchell-Lama Housing Program. Big Six has 7 buildings on 12 acres between Queens Boulevard and Laurel Hill Boulevard and 59th and 61st Streets. In August 1963, the first families moved in, and by January 1964, the last apartment was occupied. A number of major changes have occurred since Big Six Towers opened. The shopping center was built and our own power-generating plant was created.

HISTORY OF WOODSIDE

Woodside is in the western portion of the NYC borough of Queens. It is bordered on the south by Maspeth, on the north by Astoria, on the west by Sunnyside and on the east by Elmhurst and Jackson Heights. Woodside was settled in the late 17th century by Joseph Sackett, but did not grow substantially until the 1800s. Benjamin W. Hitchcock and journalist John Andrew Kelly were among the first developers in the 1860s. Kelly built a home called "Woodside" after the nearby forests. In 1867, Hitchcock purchased a 115-acre farm, divided it into more than 1,000 building lots, and sold them in 1869, generating the first massive building in the new village of Woodside.

With large scale residential development in the 1860s, Woodside became the largest Irish American community in Queens. In the early 1930s, the area was approximately 80% Irish. Even as the neighborhood has seen growth in ethnic diversity today, the area still retains a strong Irish American presence. There are a number of Irish pubs and restaurants scattered throughout Woodside.

In 1847, cholera epidemics and a shortage of burial grounds in Manhattan created the need for non-profit organizations to operate commercial cemeteries. Calvary Cemetery, only blocks from Big Six Towers, is one of the earliest of these and is run by the Catholic Archdiocese of NY. The first burial in Calvary was in 1848 and by 1852 there were 50 burials a day, half of them the Irish poor under seven years of age. By the 1990s there were nearly 3 million burials in Calvary Cemetery including those of many famous and infamous people. The cemetery was used in the film, *The Godfather*, for the funeral of Don Corleone.

A series of major events changed the look of Woodside. The construction of the Queensboro Bridge and subway tracks over the East River allowed easy access of cars and trucks to and from Manhattan. Urbanization had begun. 1907 saw the first trolley car. Shortly after the bridge opened in 1909, the population of Woodside started increasing tremendously, reaching 6,000 people in 1910.

Today, Woodside is an ethnically diverse neighborhood that remains filled with working class people. In the early 1990s, many Asian American families moved into the area, particularly east of the Woodside-61st Street. Woodside has a large population of Korean-Americans, Chinese-Americans, and Filipino-Americans with their own respective ethnic enclaves. There are also South Asian Americans, particularly Indian-Americans, Bangladeshi-Americans, and Pakistani-Americans. Woodside is also home to a large Latino population, mostly from Puerto Rico, Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico, and the Dominican Republic. Reflecting its longtime diverse foods and drink, the neighborhood is filled with many cultural restaurants and pubs.

History buffs will enjoy a fascinating glimpse of Woodside's past and present on the web sites:

<http://www.forgotten-ny.com/NEIGHBORHOODS/woodside/woodside.html> and

<http://www.nycsubway.org/articles/steinwaytunnels.html>.

<http://www.maxhome.netfirms.com/historical%20background.htm>

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Calvary_Cemetery_\(Queens,_New_York\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Calvary_Cemetery_(Queens,_New_York))



This marker, located across the street from Big Six Towers on 58th Street and Queens Blvd, denotes Woodside as the (disputed) geographic center of the City of New York.

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