

community star of queens **Mike Sidell**

Job: "Everybody knows me as the 'Mayor' of Kew Gardens Hills." Mike Sidell is one of fifty non-salaried members of Community Board 8. Sidell sits on the Sanitation Committee, Parks Committee and Transportation Committee and is dedicated to "improving the quality of life," within his community.

Residence: Sidell has lived in Kew Gardens Hills since the age of 12.

Affiliations: He is currently the Secretary for the Board of Directors of Queens Independent Living Center, which is an Advocacy Organization to help disabled people mainstream independently. He is also Vice president of the Central Queens Historical Association, where he is involved with walking tours, provides the history of neighborhoods and compares them to today. He is also a Coordinator for the Board of Elections for P.S. 165 and Vice President of the Concerned

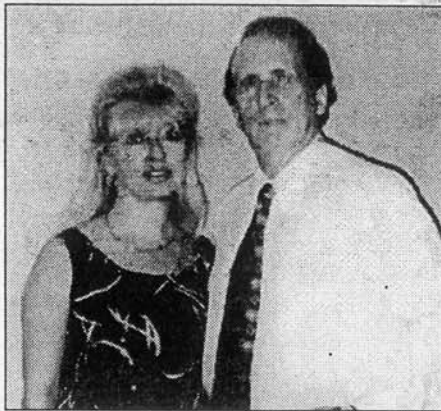


Photo courtesy Mike Sidell

Patti and Mike Sidell.

Citizens Council of Queens.

Rewards of the Job: "Satisfaction of helping people."

Favorite Memory: One time in Kew Gardens Hills, a development off 75th Avenue and Kissena Boulevard had 40 recycled dumpster bins in the

back of the buildings. Sidell said, "I made several calls and the Department of Sanitation attested they wouldn't take them away. Sidell did not stop there and eventually a waiver was signed "and sanitation did take them out." Another accomplishment Sidell recalls was when a man who works for the Department of Justice couldn't get a street light on in Harlem. He was told to "Call Mike." As a result, Sidell contacted Con-Ed and DOT and within three days, the light was fixed. The man sent him a tie with a map of New York City "that I wear occasionally," Sidell said.

Hobbies: "Photography and I am very computer savvy." He also does "head shots for models and actresses."

Gripes: "Graffiti is an ongoing thing." He even did a documentary on Channel 1 news a few years ago about anti-graffiti.

Sterling Glen Hosts Vision Seminar

Sterling Glen of Forest Hills recently hosted an educational seminar focusing on macular degeneration, featuring guest speaker Mark Fromer, M.D., Medical Director of Fromer Eye Centers. The lecture addressed the importance of maintaining one's vision and notable warning signs of this serious disease which can occur at any age. Symptoms include blurring of central vision, difficulty seeing detail, distortion of lines and shapes and diminished color vision.

For more information about upcoming health awareness programs open to the public, please call Sterling Glen of Forest Hills at (718) 261-5300.



Photo courtesy Sterling Glen of Forest Hills

Pictured at the program, which is part of Sterling Glen's on-going health education series, is Dr. Fromer with Sterling Glen resident Pearl Gordon.