

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

I am pleased to inform that two of my bills were reported to Ways and Means Committee this week. The first, A5481, would require the Roosevelt Island Operating Corporation CEO to be a resident of Roosevelt Island. The second, A7214, would require the Commissioner of Health to conduct an air quality study on the incidence of asthma in the borough of Manhattan.

We hope you will visit us at the upcoming May 20th Shred-a-thon, the May 24th Upper East Side Garden Party, the June 1st free mammogram screening, and the June 16th Marine Corps concert on Roosevelt Island.

Please contact our community office if we can be of any assistance: 212-288-4607 or 518-455-5676.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Best wishes,

ebecca & Seal



Seawright Brings Remarks at CUNY School of Law Commencement



On Friday, May 12, Assembly Member Seawright gave encouraging advice to the to CUNY School of Law class of 2017. Seawright is an alumni of the school ('92) and Chair of the Board of Visitors.

"You all have worked so hard to find yourselves in these seats today. The bonds and connections you have formed will last a lifetime. Continue to work hard after the Bar Exam and take time to serve the public as you practice law in the service of human needs," **Seawright** said.

Congratulations to P.S. 527 East Side for Social Action for Receiving the Respect for All Award!

The NYC Department of Education initiative - Respect for All Week – started on National No One Eats Alone Day on February 10, 2017, a nationwide lunchtime event during which students were encouraged to connect and engage with their peers in order to combat social isolation. February 13-17, 2017 was Respect For All (RFA) Week in all NYC public schools to highlight and build upon ongoing diversity programs and curriculum-based instruction. Schools also had the opportunity to embark upon new initiatives that promote respect for diversity and engage students in meaningful lessons and/or other activities that focus on preventing bias-based harassment, intimidation and/or bullying.

"I extend my heartfelt congratulations to P.S. 527 East Side for Social Action in our community, which received an award for their work during Respect for All week. It is important to nurture the diversity and fight back against bullying in schools across our state. A special thank you goes out to Principal Daniel McCormick, Parent Coordinator Jennifer Ludwig, and PTA Co-Presidents Diana Perkins and Leah Harris," said **Assembly Member Seawright**.

THIS WEEK IN ALBANY

Two Seawright Bills Reported to Ways and Means Committee

Waste Transfer Station Bill

Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright introduced Assembly bill 7214 last month, which requires the New York State Department of Health to conduct a study of the incidence of asthma in the Borough of Manhattan. The bill was reported out of the Health Committee to the Ways and Means Committee this week.

"The 91st Street Waste Transfer Station in our residential community poses concerns over the impacts on public health and quality of life," **Assembly Member Seawright** said. "Air quality continues to be one of the most important and pressing issues. According to the New York City Department of Health, the community surrounding the 91st Street Marine Transfer Station has disproportionately higher rates of asthma. It is absolutely unacceptable that there is no plan to date to remediate the ill effects of such a facility. I have introduced Assembly bill 7214 which requires the New York State Department of Health to conduct a study of the incidence of asthma in the Borough of Manhattan. We must continue to fight to preserve the quality of life, safety of

Roosevelt Island Operating Corporation CEO Residency

our streets and health in our neighborhood."

Bill

This bill is an amendment to the law dating back to 1984 and requires the Chief Executive Officer of the Roosevelt Island Operating Corporation to be a resident of Roosevelt Island, or to become a resident within one year of the date of appointment. The bill moved from the Corporations, Authorities, and Commissions Committee to the Ways and Means Committee this week.

"Roosevelt Island residents are deeply committed to their community but very disenchanted with its present governance," **Seawright** said. "Presently, there are no residency requirements for RIOC board directors or for the President/Chief Executive Officer, who are entrusted with daily life operations on Roosevelt Island. This bill allows the board to appoint the CEO of RIOC, determine the term of office and requires that the CEO complies with the rules that apply to public officers. It is a pivotal step towards self-governance for Roosevelt Island residents, creating accountability and requiring greater transparency."

Congratulations to our Legislative Intern Matt Jansen on Winning the Assembly Mock Session Award for Excellence in Research!



Matt's research paper was one of the main components of his Assembly internship. Students were required to study a controversial issue and write an objective paper on it.

"Keeping in mind Assembly Member Seawright's priorities, I did my research on the Reproductive Health Act, A1748, which was introduced by Assembly Member Glick and would update New York's archaic abortion laws," Matt said.

The laws were written in 1970, three years before Roe v. Wade, so it does not provide exceptions for late term abortions in the event of a mother's health being at risk. The Intern Program has about 150 students. Only 16 papers are nominated, and only eight are actually chosen to be in the Distinguished Intern Report Book published by the Assembly.

Legislation to Protect and Support Victims of Domestic Violence

On Tuesday, May 9, Assembly Member Seawright announced that she helped pass legislation to address domestic violence and provide increased assistance and protection for victims as they seek justice and rebuild their lives.

The package contains the Domestic Violence Escalation Prevention Act, which prevents certain perpetrators of domestic violence from owning a firearm (A.5025). To further keep guns out of the hands of these criminals, an additional measure requires convicted abusers to surrender their firearms, closing a potentially deadly loophole in state penal law (A.980). While individuals convicted of domestic violence felonies are prohibited from owning guns, current law doesn't apply to those convicted of misdemeanor crimes of domestic violence.

"Partnership and companionship between two people should always be marked by respect, safety and understanding, and victims of domestic violence and sexual assault should know that they are never alone," said **Seawright**.

Help and support are always available. New York's toll-free hotline is open 24 hours a day at 1-800-942-6906. For additional information, visit the New York State Office of Victim Services' website at ovs.ny.gov or the New York State Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence website at opdv.ny.gov.

Seawright Co-Sponsors Conservation Amendment, Pet

Rescue Awareness Month Resolution, and Two MTA Bills to Improve Transit

Environmental Conservation Law Amendment (A.3945)

This bill introduced by Assembly Member Colton would amend the environmental conservation law to prohibit any solid waste polluter from soliciting solid waste contracts. Currently, there is no law in place to prevent violators of the pollution provisions of the ECL from making bids for public solid waste contracts. This policy would eliminate environmental violators from the solid waste removal and disposal industry who are rewarded for the violation of pollution laws.

Pet Rescue Awareness Month Resolution

Seawright signed onto Assembly Member Dean Murray's resolution memorializing Governor Cuomo to proclaim October 2017 as Pet Rescue Awareness Month in the State of New York. More than seven million animals enter shelters nationwide every year, of which 3.9 million are dogs and 3.4 million are cats. Approximately 2.7 million dogs and cats are killed every year because shelters are too full. It is vital that we provide a voice for those who cannot speak for themselves.

<u>Free Ride Transfer Bill (A.3439)</u>

This bill introduced by Assembly Member Dinowitz would require the MTA to allow customers two free ride transfers between any subway and bus or between busses. The transfers would have to be within two hours of the MTA redeeming a fare from a customer. As a result of closed bus and subway lines, many New Yorkers are forced to purchase two fares to make their daily commute. This financial burden of two fares should not fall onto riders, many of which already have difficulty paying for one fare.

Transportation Service Report Bill (A.3777)

This bill introduced by Assembly Member Dinowitz would direct the New York City Transit Authority and the MTA to report to the Governor and Legislature on all transportation service cuts, reductions, and eliminations since 2010. This will provide a clear picture of the service cuts in the last seven years and will highlight the extent of their impact on all New York City commuters. The report would be due by the end of 2018 and must include:

- Revenue savings compared to anticipated savings for each route
- The cost to fully restore each change
- A detailed plan for full restoration or equitable restoration of subways and busses that mitigate the impacts of the cuts and eliminations and fairly restores services through all neighborhoods and regions

Bipartisan Pro-Choice Legislative Caucus Meeting



(From left)Assembly Member Ellen Jaffee, Senator Liz Krueger, Garin Christensen, Erika Christensen, and Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright discussed measures to advance the BPCLC agenda in the Legislature.

Seawright attended the Bipartisan Pro-Choice Legislative Caucus Meeting to discuss the status of the Reproductive Health Act, a bill that has passed the Assembly. Senator Liz Krueger Co-founded the BPCLC with Assembly Member Ellen Jaffee. Although we are more than four decades after the Roe V. Wade decision, New York's laws have failed to keep pace with the Constitution. New York does not have a law recognizing a woman's affirmative right to make reproductive health care decisions. It continues to regulate abortion as part of the penal code rather than the public health code.

"My mentor Sarah Weddington, the attorney who successfully argued the landmark Roe v. Wade case, would be pleased to see that we are working to ensure a woman's right to choose. A woman's constitutional right to make decisions about her own body must always be protected," said **Seawright**.

During the BPCLC breakfast, guest speakers Danielle Castaldi-Micca, Director of Political and Government Affairs, NIRH and Katharine Bodde, Policy Counsel, NYCLU gave a status report on the Reproductive Health Act. Seawright also heard from guest speakers Erika and Garin about their experience with late-term abortion and why passing the Reproductive Health Act is imperative.

Seawright Fights to Increase Voter Turnout

Earlier this year, Assembly Member Seawright supported a measure in the state budget proposal to establish a period of early voting beginning eight days before a special, primary, or general election. Our democracy thrives when as many citizens as possible participate in the electoral process. The plan did not make it into the final budget, but now, legislation has once again been introduced to provide voters with more options, such as early voting including evening and weekend hours (A.2064), and allowing qualified New Yorkers to register to vote or update their registration from any computer, tablet, or phone (A.5382). Seawright is continuously working to bring election law reform to the forefront, and earlier this year, she introduced her own Electron Reform Package.

New MWBE Enterprise Programs

On Wednesday, May 10, the creation of two new minority and women-owned business enterprise programs was announced. A Request for Proposals has been issued for the creation of the MWBE Business Growth Accelerator and Certification Assistance programs, which are designed to increase capacity and ensure MWBE participation in State contracting. The new initiatives will support the growth and momentum of MWBEs across the state, and will be overseen by Empire State Development's Division of Minority and Women's Business Development.

- May 12th: pre-bid meeting, 11 am via webinar on the MWBE BGA program
- May 19th: Questions on the Certification Assistance Program are due to ESD
- June 5th: Proposal submissions for both RFPs are due

The full RFP can be accessed on the links below:

NYS MWBE Certification Assistance Program

The NYS MWBE Business Growth Accelerator (BGA)

ROOSEVELT ISLAND

Seawright Partners with New York State Comptroller's Office of Unclaimed Funds



Community Liason Courtney Ferrissey and Alfred Gryszkiewicz from the New York State Comptroller's Office offered screening to Roosevelt Islanders for unclaimed funds during Health and Wellness Day at the Carter Burden Senior Center.

Celebrate Mother's Day with Assembly Member Seawright on Roosevelt Island

The Roosevelt Island Residents' Association, Carter Burden Network, The Roosevelt Island Disabled Association

Proudly invite you to celebrate

Mother's Day

THE SENIOR CITIZENS AND THE DISABLED ARE INVITED TO WITNESS OUR ISLAND'S YOUTH HONORING MOTHERHOOD, MATERNAL BONDS, AND THE INFLUENCE OF MOTHERS IN SOCIETY.

SATURDAY MAY 13TH, 2017 11AM - 2PM @ SENIOR CENTER (546 MAIN STREET)

EVENT WILL INCLUDE: MUSICAL, DANCE AND THEATRICAL PERFORMANCES, SPOKEN WORDS, SPECIAL MOTHER'S DAY PRESENTATION, LIGHT MASSAGE. WARM BRUNCH AND COFFEE SERVED



Also in Our Community...

Events and Announcements



ASSEMBLY MEMBER REBECCA SEAWRIGHT BRINGS YOU THIS MONTH'S COMMUNITY EVENTS!



MAY 2017							
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
7	8 THANK YOU, EDUCATORS! HAPPY TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK!	9 6:30 PM Weill Cornell Talk on Healthy Hearts @ Uris Auditorium	10	11 10 AM - 2 PM Seawright's Mobile Hours for Health and Wellness Day @ RI Senior Center	12 Check your inbox for Seawright's weekly e-newsletter every Friday!	13 10 AM - 5 PM Visit Seawright's Table @ the Second Ave. Community Benefit Festival 11 AM - 2 PM Mother's Day @ RI Senior Center	
14 HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY! 2 PM Tap City Youth Ensemble @ Lenox Hill Neighborhood House	15 11:30 AM - 5:30 PM Blood Drive @NYP/Weill Cornell Cayuga Room	16 6:30 PM Weill Cornell Talk on Hearing and Ear Health @ Uris Auditorium	17 MARRIAGE EQUALITY ANNIVERSARY	18 2 PM - 6 PM Senior Day @ Riverside Memorial Chapel 6 PM DC 37 Lecture Series: Why Unions Matter @ 125 Barclay Street	19 7 PM Annual Roosevelt Island Shabbat @ Manhattan Park Theater Club	20 10 AM - 2 PM SEAWRIGHT'S SHREDATHON @ 82nd Street Greenmarket	
21 10 AM AIDS WALK NEW YORK @ Central Park	22 1: 30 PM Healthy Eating Presentation @ RI Senior Center	23 9 AM - 1 PM NYP/Weill Cornell Domestic Worker's Health Fair @ St. Catherine's Park	24 6 PM - 8 PM GARDEN PARTY HOSTED BY SEAWRIGHT @ Mount Vernon Hotel	25 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM NYP/Weill Cornell CPR Class @ Greenberg Pavilion	26 10 AM - 12:30 PM DFTA's Free Orientation to Medicare @ 2 Lafayette Street Room 624	27	
28 Reminder: Sign your child up for Seawright's Summer Reading Challenge!	29 MEMORIAL DAY	30 12 PM Senior Week Kickoff Lunch @ RI Senior Center	31 WORLD NO TOBACCO DAY	JUNE 1 9 AM ScanVan FREE MAMMOGRAMS @ Seawright's Office	2	3 10 AM - 5 PM Visit Seawright's Table @ the First Avenue Stree Festival 1 PM - 2:30 PM Seawright's Computer Comfort @ Lenox Hill Neighborhood House	







PROJECT RENEWAL SCANVAN

Mobile Mammography Free Screening Mammograms

For Eligible Women



Thursday, June 1, 2017

Hosted by:

New York State Assembly Member Rebecca A. Seawright

Funded by: Cancer Services Program of Manhattan and Judges and Lawyers Breast Cancer Alert

78th Street (Between York and First Avenues)

Appointments are necessary and start at 9 a.m.

Please call 1-800-564-6868

ALL insurance plans accepted. Co-payments and deductibles are waived. FREE for uninsured women 40 and older who have not had a mammogram in the past year.

For more information about this or any state or local issue, contact Assembly Member Seawright's District Office at 212-288-4607 or SeawrightR@nyassembly.gov



Seawright's Third Annual Summer Reading Challenge in Partnership with Local Public Libraries

The challenge asks children to read a book for a minimum of 15 minutes a day for at least 40 days during July and August. Children can read alone or with a partner or caregiver and mark off days on the calendar provided. Once they've completed 40 days or more, they submit the calendar to Assembly Member Seawright and then receive a certificate in the mail.

"Encouraging reading is so important to our kids, and summer is a time when they can really follow their own interests," said **Seawright**. "The memories made getting lost in a good book will stay with them forever."

Contact the District Office at 212-288-4607 to receive the Summer Reading Challenge materials.

Summer with Seawright:

Meet us at Upcoming Community Fairs!



POSTPONED to August 20th!!

Second Avenue Community Benefit Festival

See you on:

Saturday, June 3rd

First Avenue Festival

First Avenue, 68th - 79th Streets

10:00 am-5:00 pm



Community Board 8 Manhattan

May 2017 Calendar, Agenda, and Bulletin

Calendar: <u>https://www.cb8m.com/calendar/2017-05/</u> Agenda: <u>https://www.cb8m.com/2017/04/may-2017/</u> Bulletin: <u>https://www.cb8m.com/whats-new/news-bulletin/</u>



Free Classes for Newcomers to Medicare:

If you are new to Medicare or soon will be eligible, join one of DFTA's upcoming monthly orientation classes. The class includes information on Medicare Part A and Part B, Medigap insurance, Medicare Advantage plans, Medicare Part D drug coverage and the Medicare Savings Programs. Orientation is held at 2 Lafayette Street, room 624 once a month throughout the year. Here is the current schedule of classes – each class covers the same material.

Friday, May 26: 10:00 AM to 12:30 PM

Monday, June 26: 10:00 AM to 12:30 PM

Space is limited so please register in advance by emailing <u>ehausman@aging.nyc.gov</u>.

Summer is Almost Here!

Apply Today for the Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP)

The HEAP Cooling Assistance program provides for the purchase and installation of air conditioners or a fan to eligible households. (If an air conditioner cannot be safely installed, a fan will be provided.) Only one air conditioner or fan, not to exceed \$800 with installation, will be provided per dwelling.

To begin an application, call HRA at (212) 331-2126



TRANSPORTATION UPDATES



To find subway service advisories, as well as travel directions during a diversion and a listing of all bus and subway service changes, visit <u>www.mta.info</u>

CONSTRUCTION UPDATES

East 81st Street Pedestrian Bridge

anhattan	treet Pedestrian Bridge		Project#HBPED100 F riday, May 5, 20 1	
		ming two weeks. However, due to unforeseen field ar ns, operations and dates. Please note, parking may be		
Date	Location	Operation	Work Hours	
5/8/17 to 5/12/17 (night)	East 81st Street Pedestrian Bridge	Fence Installation & Esplanade Work	10:00pm – 6:00ar	
5/15/17 to 5/19/17 (night)	East 81 st Street Pedestrian Bridge	Fence Installation & Esplanade Work	10:00pm – 6:00ar	
	INFORMATION: Contact Christopher Esposito ccl@gmail.com.	- Bernard , Community Construction Liaison, by phone a	at 646-781-8265 or by em	
	We thank you in advance fo	or your cooperation during this construction project.		

East 91st Street Marine Transfer Station



From Monday, 5/15 through Friday, 5/19:

There will be After Hours work starting from 6:00 AM and

Night work from 2AM – 10AM

Memorial Sloan Ketter Cancer Center & CUNY/Hunter College Construction Advisory

East 73rd/74th Street and FDR Drive site

Necessary construction activity will take place at the site on Saturday, May 13, 7:00 am - 6:00 pm.

We have **<u>APPLIED</u>** for a permit from the NYC Department of Transportation for a road closure on 74th Street on the dates below. This is required to safely install oversized curtain wall panels on the north side of the building:

- Saturday, 5/20/17
- Sunday, 5/21/17
- Saturday, 5/27/17
- Sunday, 5/28/17

Please call the project's Construction Information Line at **212-639-4444** with any questions or comments.