

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

This week I sat down with Cheryl Wills, host of NY1's *In Focus* on the 50th Anniversary of the Rehabilitation Act and other important health topics. Tune in this Sunday at 10:30am and 3:30pm!

As the Honorable Senator Dianne Feinstein was laid to rest on Thursday, we remembered her iconic and indomitable leadership that inspired generations of women to lead. I was honored to talk with her at national and state conferences and during my own internship with the U.S. Senate in Washington D.C.

I was privileged to meet with members of our Manhattan Pakistani-American Community at the home of Community Board 8 member and community leader Sahar Husain with my Manhattan Assembly colleagues to provide important updates on our work in Albany and the district. Our office distributed vital information at a resource fair held on Roosevelt Island Thursday. In our community you should check out the new Lenox Hill Neighborhood House Farmstand open on Fridays throughout the year for fresh fruits and vegetables.

There is much more on new programs from NYC Small Business Services, New York State Capital Improvement Grants for arts and culture, and free COVID-19 at-home tests from the federal government enclosed in this report.

Please take precautions today and tomorrow. On Saturday, October 7, the heaviest rain is anticipated to start around 2:00 am and continue through 10:00 am, with citywide average rainfall totals ranging from 1 to 1.5 inches. Sustained winds will be at 30-35 mph. There is a possibility of flooding in low-lying and poorly drained areas, with an isolated chance of flash flooding. New Yorkers have been advised to limit travel and stay inside during periods of hazardous weather.

Our office is closed on Monday, October 9 for a legal state government holiday and will re-open on Tuesday, October 10 at 9:30am.

Please don't hesitate to reach out if we can be of assistance.

Phone: 212.288.4607 Email: SeawrightR@NYAssembly.gov Sincerely,

Relecca Q Scaution

REBECCA A. SEAWRIGHT

As Featured In...



Disability Rights Bills Sponsored by Seawright Are Signed Into Law

READ THE OUR TOWN ARTICLE HERE

Tune Into NY1 For Cheryl Wills *In Focus* Featuring Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright This Sunday at 10:30am and 3:30pm



Cheryl Wills, Host of NY1's *In Focus* sat down with Assembly Member Seawright this week to discuss important health issues, the 50th Anniversary of the Rehabilitation Act and more! Watch NY1 this Sunday, October 8 at 10:30am and 3:30pm.

Community Update

A Tribute To The Honorable Senator Dianne Feinstein



Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright authored the followign op-ed on the passing of Senator Dianne Feinstein:

The passing of California's U.S. Senator Diane Feinstein is a time for reflection and remembrance, for what she accomplished and for the formidable barriers she successfully catapulted over during her over 63 years of local, state, and national public service. I was honored to talk with her several times, originally at national and state conferences and during my own congressional internship with the U.S. Senate in Washington, D.C. I've proudly displayed her picture and autograph in my Albany office. Often asking myself

in a tough situation how would the Senator handle the matter?

Senator Feinstein was an enduring inspiration to women early in her career and then again as she won statewide, election after election. While in the California seat, she earned and achieved increasingly larger victories among both women and men. Her broad and deep electoral appeal contributed to her consistent effectiveness in getting legislation passed.

There were many firsts in her illustrious career. Here are a few examples: Senator Feinstein was the first female mayor of San Francisco, and the first female senator of California right after the November 1992 election, by two months. Concomitantly, Barbara Boxer was sworn in during January, 1993 and California had two women senators for the first time.

When Vice President Walter Mondale ran for president, she became the first woman to be considered for nomination by the national Democratic Party for vice president -a designation that later was given by Mondale to Congressmember Geraldine Ferraro of Queens.

Many years later, she was honored to be the first woman in American history to preside at Presidential Inaugural ceremonies, a designation made by President Barack Obama. The eradication of long-standing barriers to women, in place since the founding of the republic and that Senator Feinstein valiantly overcame, are taken for granted today in some quarters. As the first female Assembly Member to represent the Upper East Side, Yorkville and Roosevelt Island, I know first hand that the struggle for equality is ongoing. We must continue to advocate to obtain further substantive progress as well as vigilantly protect gains from those who would turn the clock back on social justice.

Senator Feinstein is well-known for many advances and causes, including battling for gun control legislation, civil and abortion rights, and higher fuel efficiency standards for cars. While she was always strong on national security matters, she strongly condemned Central Intelligence Agency torture tactics and fought to ban such abuses.

Some of her positions thankfully changed during her over three decades in the Senate, including on gay marriage. And while she vigorously opposed the nomination of Brett Kavanagh by Donald Trump to the U.S. Supreme Court, he was confirmed by a vote of 50-48. We are still living with the negative impact of that terrible appointment.

None of this, however, diminishes in any way her historic breakthroughs, commitment to needed reforms, and the enduring legacy a woman of such unquestionable stature represents. Even when she ran for governor and lost early in her career, she picked herself up from the canvas and won for the Senate in a special election. As the longest serving female senator in U.S. history, she demonstrated the power of combining persistence, vigor and talent, in the best interests of her state and our nation.

We remember her as an indefatigable fighter, as the successful sponsor of the last assault weapons ban that became law and then expired. Yes, we still all have more work to do, to build on her legacy, and to learn from Senator Diane Feinstein that giving up is never an option.

May she rest in power and peace and know that, with deep gratitude, she remains in our hearts, in our history books, and in our thoughts and prayers. Senator Diane Feinstein's enduring impact and commitment to the positive transformation of the quality of life for women everywhere will be felt for generations to come.

'Meet and Greet' for the NYS Assembly Members with the Pakistani-American Community of Manhattan



Seawright addresses the vibrant Pakistani-American community of Manhattan and updates them on her work in Albany, the status of the Equal Rights Amendment to appear on the statewide ballot in November 2024, her bills signed by the Governor for people with disabilities and internship opportunities with the district office.



Assembly Member Eddie Gibbs, host and Community Board 8 Member Sahar Husain, Assembly Member Grace Lee, Mubeen Siddiqui, Assembly Member Alex Bores, and Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright at the home of Sahar Husain.

Seawright Cosigns Amicus Brief



As a Member of the Bipartisan Pro-Choice Legislative Caucus, Assembly Member Seawright signed onto an Amicus Brief arguing that The Fifth Circuit's decision improperly curtails state legislators' authority over abortion access, contrary to the federalism principles invoked in Dobbs. Amicus curiae ("friend-of-the-court") briefs are briefs written by individuals or groups who are not directly involved in a legal case, but have

expertise or insight to offer a court to assist in making its decision. Medication abortion is the most common form of abortion care. It often is the quickest, lowest cost option, especially for people who must travel out of their home state to get abortion care. Mifepristone is 1 of 2 medications commonly used in medication abortion. The FDA approved mifepristone more than 20 years ago in 2000. Telemedicine has also expanded dramatically since the fall of Roe. Removing access to mifepristone would limit telemedicine options for millions of people.

NYC Health + Hospitals Offering Telehealth Abortion Access

New York City Mayor Eric Adams and NYC Health + Hospitals today launched telehealth abortion access through Virtual ExpressCare – becoming the first public health system in the nation to do so – and further expanding New Yorkers' access to abortion care while Americans' reproductive rights remain under attack across the nation. Beginning this week, patients in New York City seeking abortion care will be able to schedule a Virtual ExpressCare appointment to speak with a New York state-licensed health care professional by video or phone, on-demand, for an assessment and counseling. If clinically appropriate and prescribed, patients will be able to receive a medication abortion kit at their New York City address within a few days.

"We are pleased that Mayor Adams and NYC Health + Hospitals have secured telehealth access for New Yorkers seeking abortion care," said New York State Assemblymember Rebecca Seawright. "Virtual ExpressCare will increase accessibility so patients can speak with licensed medical professionals on-demand and obtain medication upon approval. Together, we will ensure no one in New York faces barriers to reproductive health care."

This service will be available seven days a week, between 9:00 AM and 9:00 PM, and will provide patients with access to safe, legal abortion care. NYC Health + Hospitals offers access to a full spectrum of medication and procedural abortion services at their hospital-based clinics, and this launch will expand care to include telehealth medication abortion. Patients can access telehealth abortion care online or by calling (718) 360-8981. Patients wishing to make an in-person appointment for obstetric and gynecologic services, including abortion care, should call (844) NYC-4NYC.



Roosevelt Island Carter Burden Network Senior Resource Fair

Intern Wendy and Special Assistant Jacob tabled at the fair with voter guides, legal resources and information on the upcoming November 19 Shred-a-thon.



Roosevelt Islanders browsing the information table at the Carter Burden Senior Fair this Thursday.

Lenox Hill Farm Stand Supported By Seawright Funding Opened October 6 To Continue Year-Round



This location will be open on Fridays, starting October 6th (then will continue year-round on 70th Street & 1st Avenue). Cash, SNAP/EBT, Debit/Credit, Healthfirst OTC Plus and Humana Healthy Options insurance members (select plans), WIC & Senior FMNP coupons, and Greenmarket Bucks accepted. <u>*Read more.*</u>

New Louis Armstrong Center at Queens College Sustains and Promotes the Cultural, Historical, and Humanitarian Legacy of "Satchmo"



The Louis Armstrong House Museum (LAHM) sustains and promotes the cultural, historical, and humanitarian legacy of Louis Armstrong by preserving and interpreting Armstrong's house and grounds, collecting and sharing archival materials that document Armstrong's life and legacy, developing programs for the public that educate and inspire, and engaging with contemporary artists to create performances and new works. <u>Learn</u> <u>more.</u>



Field of Light Project is Seeking Volunteers

<u>Field of Light</u>, an immersive art experience created by artist Bruce Munro, is looking for volunteers to help mount its installation on the East Side waterfront. Scheduled to open this winter, it will feature 17,000 lowlight, fiber-optic stemmed spheres, which will illuminate with a slow and subtle change of hue. Sign up to volunteer <u>here</u>.

Weather Alert

A rain storm is forecasted to arrive in New York City on Friday, October 6, 2023.

Storm Details:

On Saturday, 10/7, the heaviest rain is anticipated to start around 2:00 am and continue through 10:00 am, with citywide average rainfall totals ranging from 1 to 1.5 inches. Sustained winds will be at 30-35 mph. There is a possibility of nuisance flooding in low-lying and poorly drained areas, with an isolated chance of flash flooding.

Precautions to Take:

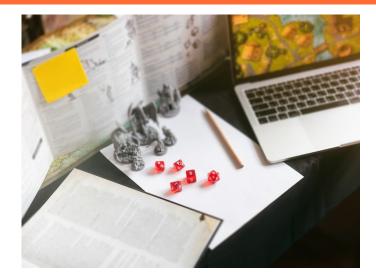
Stay informed: Monitor local news for weather updates <u>here</u>. Prepare an emergency kit with essential supplies, including water, non-perishable food, flashlights, batteries, a first-aid kit, and any necessary medications. <u>Emergency</u> <u>Preparedness Tips Here.</u>

Secure outdoor objects and bring pets indoors. Pets & Service Animals Tips Here.

Reporting Weather-Related Impacts: If you experience any weather-related impacts or need assistance, please report it to 311, New York City's non-emergency service hotline. They are here to help with information and support during the storm. <u>NYC 311</u>

In case of an emergency or if you require immediate assistance, please call 911. First responders are ready to assist you.

Stay Informed: For up-to-date information and additional storm-related resources, visit <u>NYC Severe Weather</u> or follow on <u>Notify NYC</u> on social media.



News You Can Use

UES Hex & Co. Cafe Owners Refuse To Recognize Union, Call For Election

Across the city, elected officials have already thrown their support behind the workers, including Public Advocate Jumaane Williams, Congressman Jerry Nadler, Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright, State Senator Liz Krueger and City Council Members Carlina Rivera and Julie Menin all signed a letter urging management to voluntarily recognize the Hex & Co union.

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Con Ed is issuing new 11-digit account numbers to customers

on their next statement

Con Edison is introducing a new customer service system to better serve customers. As a result, all customers will receive new account numbers, effective October 10, 2023. This also means our online portal – My Account- and other services will be down October 5th through October 9th. Customers started receiving information about this change over the summer.

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'Feminist approach' to cancer could save lives of 800,000 women a year

Gender inequality and discrimination impede timely diagnoses and quality care for women around the world, says report.

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Panel weighs MTA's congestion pricing tolls and carve-outs

Commuter buses and certain government vehicles should be exempt from the tolls, according to a transportation panel.

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Consider Our Office A Resource!

Governor Hochul recently announced that up to \$37 million is available to support capital projects for arts and cultural organizations through the New York State Council on the Arts' FY2024 Capital Projects Fund. Guidelines and details are available on the NYSCA website at <u>arts.ny.gov</u>.

These grants are recommended for organizations that are in advanced planning stages of capital projects such as the construction of new facilities, the renovation or restoration of existing buildings, and the



permanent installation of new, complete equipment systems. Applicants must be nonprofit 501 (c) 3 arts and cultural organizations in New York State with control of the building site in the form of a deed or lease.



The federal government relaunched its free COVID-19 at-home tests program. Households can receive four free rapid tests delivered directly to their home. For more information and to place an order, visit <u>https://www.covid.gov/tests</u>.

New Small Business Services Program



careers businesses neighborhoods

NYC Funds Finder

Meet NYC Funds Finder, NYC's first-ever online funding marketplace for small

businesses.

The NYC Department of Small Business Services (SBS) has partnered with Next Street to make affordable financing more accessible to all NYC entrepreneurs, including women and minority-owned businesses.

Check out NYC Funds Finder to get:

• Custom lists of funding opportunities, including loans and grants, for your business through our Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) partners and other lenders

- Free one-on-one financial counseling
- Help with documentation preparation

Learn more *here*.



October is Adopt a Shelter Dog Month, and Animal Care Centers is teaming up with Adopt a Pet to waive adoption fees* for dogs all month long! <u>View all available dogs here!</u>

Upcoming Events



MSK Women on the Move and MSK Radiology present

What Does It Mean To Be At High Risk for Breast Cancer?

A special virtual education event for the community



Friday, October 13, 2023 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. | Zoom



Point your smartphone camera at this QR code to register.



Screening and Breast Density: What You Need to Know Now Kerri L. Vincenti, MD Associate Attending



How Does Nutrition Impact Your Risk? Karla Giboyeaux, MS, RDN, CDN Clinical Dietitian Nutrition



Talking With Your Family About Risk & Getting Screened Michelle Anderson-Benjamin, MHA Fearless Warrior Project









N O - C O S T C O M M U N I T Y S H R E D D I N G

UPCOMING DATES:

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14 FIRST AVE/ 92ND ST

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19 ROOSEVELT ISLAND MOTORGATE TURNAROUND

10AM TO 2PM

NO NOTEBOOKS, BINDINGS, OR X-RAYS

OFFICE OF NYS ASSEMBLY MEMBER REBECCA A. SEAWRIGHT 1485 YORK AVENUE 212-288-4607 SEAWRIGHTR@NYASSEMBLY.GOV



Let's Go Birding Sunday, October 8, 10 am Meet at 84 St & the East River Esplanade

Join EsplanadeFriends with an experienced representative from NYC Audubon guides to identify our fleeting, feathered friends during their fall migration!

Great fun for kids and parents to learn together and for anyone who loves birds or just wants something different to do outdoors!

RSVP: ExecutiveDirector@EsplanadeFriends.org



LIVE MUSIC at Andrew Haswell Green Park Saturday, October 14, 1-4 PM (weather permitting) 60th St & East River Waterfront

Come watch the phenomenal musical stylings of Gene Casey and the Lone Sharks Band with FREE Ice Cream, Children's Craft and Fitness Activities Co-Sponsored by Memorial Sloan Kettering Ralph Lauren Center Provided by EsplanadeFriends



NO-COST Flu Vaccinations Available

Friday, October 13, 11 AM - 6 PM





Community Office, 1485 York Avenue (78/79 Streets)

> Appointments required: Call 212-288-4607 or email SeawrightR@NYAssembly.gov to reserve your appointment



Manhattan Community Board 8 Calendar

The Manhattan Community Board 8 (CB8M) represents the Upper East Side of Manhattan and Roosevelt Island. CB8M is comprised of 50 volunteer members who serve as advocates and service coordinators for the community and its residents, as well as help citizens resolve municipal service delivery complaints.

CB8M reviews and makes recommendations on various issues, including applications for Zoning Text Amendments, building variances and special permits, liquor licenses, sidewalk cafes and street fairs, changes to landmarked buildings or buildings in historic districts, traffic and transportation issues, and more.

Each month, CB8M committees meet to discuss and resolve issues in the community.

Full Board Meeting - 3rd Wednesday Land Use Committee - 2nd Wednesday Street Life - 1st Tuesday Transportation - 1st Wednesday Housing - 1st Thursday Parks - 2nd Thursday Landmarks - 3rd Monday Social Justice - 4th Monday Zoning and Development - 4th Tuesday Youth and Education - 4th Thursday

Read More

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