

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

This week in Albany, we voted to adopt the Assembly One-House Budget resolution to provide financial relief for families and small businesses, strengthen public safety, and defend our values that are under attack from a hostile federal government. The next steps are to collaborate with the governor and Senate to craft a final state budget. As Chair of the Aging Committee, I am fighting for our fair share of resources to provide vital services to the Area Agencies on Aging, the Meals on Wheels program, transportation, social adult day services, and the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program (LTCOP).

In the Well of the Legislative Office Building on Tuesday I participated in a panel discussion on the Caregiving Crisis with City & State. We know that investments in our aging services that support people to age-in-place comfortably, with dignity, and with service providers when necessary are a cost savings to the Medicaid system. It costs 30% less to take care of someone in their home than to provide institutional nursing home care; not to mention the greater comforts and independence of being in one's own home.

This week, for my Assembly colleagues with the LISMA Foundation I hosted a demo of an AI robot to help senior citizens who may be living in isolation stay safe and active in their homes.

In this special report, you will find updates on our work in Albany, helpful resources, and upcoming events. Join us for an upcoming event we are sponsoring:

Monday through Friday from 10am-12pm- **No-Cost Notary Public Service** <u>at the Community Office of Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright, 1485 York Avenue (78/79 Streets).</u>

Tuesday, March 18 at 3:30pm- **No-Cost Housing Legal Clinic** at the Community Office of Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright, 1485 York Avenue (78/79 Streets). To make a reservation please call 212-288-4607.

Wednesday, March 19 from 10:00am-12:00pm- **MetroCard Sales/OMNY Bus-** Community Office of Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright, 1485 York Avenue (78/79 Streets). Refill your MetroCard/OMNY card or apply for a reduced fare card.

Wednesday, April 9 from 10:00am-2:00pm- **Freeze Your Rent Enrollment Clinic** - Community Office of Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright, 1485 York Avenue (78/79 Streets). By appointment only. Please call 212-288-4607 or email SeawrightR@NYAssembly.gov to sign up.

Thursday, April 10 from 9:00am-4:30 pm- **No-Cost Screening Mammograms**- The Mammogram Bus will be at the Community Office of Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright, 1485 York Avenue (78/79 Streets). For an appointment, please call 212-288-4607.

Wednesday, April 16- Save the Date! The "Big Shred NY!" no-cost community paper shredding with AARP at Lenox Hill Neighborhood House, 331 East 70 Street. Time and more details to be announced!

As always, please consider our office your resource.

Phone: 212.288.4607 Email: SeawrightR@NYAssembly.gov

Sincerely,

**REBECCA A. SEAWRIGHT** 

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#### **Seawright Hosts LISMA AI Senior Care DEMO for Legislators**



Assembly Members Ed Braunstein, Chris Eachus, Ron Kim, and Rebecca Seawright (holding the robot called "Nana") with LISMA President Minsun Kim, LISMA Executive Director Albert Kim, LISMA Care & User Enrollment Manager Soodong Cho and Dreamcare USA President Anton Marchuk.

The LISMA Foundation is committed to addressing this challenge by leveraging cutting-edge AI technology to provide personalized and efficient care for seniors, particularly those who are socially isolated or have limited access to traditional care services.

# Aging Committee Chairs Assembly Member Seawright and Senator Cordell Cleare Address Caregiving Crisis at City & State Panel "Live from the Well"



City & State reporter Austin Jefferson moderated the panel, which featured Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright, state Sen. Cordell Cleare, AARP legislative representative Bill Ferris, Association on Aging Executive Director Rebecca Preve and LiveOn NY Executive Director Allison Nickerson.

Seawright pointed to the importance of the \$53 million that the Assembly's one-house budget appropriated for senior support services, noting that 2.2 million family caregivers are currently spending

an average of nearly 20% of their income on services. "It's a game changer in the long term and maybe this is the first step in creating a better foundation going forward," she said.

# Seawright stands with the E-Vehicle Safety Alliance in Support of Priscilla's Law Requiring Licensing and Registration of E-Bikes



Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright cosponsors and strongly supports Priscilla's Law requiring the registration and licensing of e-bikes. Priscilla Loke was 69 when she lost her life after being struck by an e-bike. Multiple studies have shown that our older neighbors like Priscilla are particularly vulnerable and suffer a higher mortality rate from collisions, improper usage, and malfunctions. These vehicles also pose an added risk to people with disabilities. Seawright said, "No New Yorker- especially seniors and people with disabilities-- should have to fear navigating their neighborhoods and communities."



Leader of the EVSA Andrew Fine and Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright.

Social Work Students Supporting Seawright's LGBT Curriculum Legislation Hosted Legislative Education & Advocacy Day



Seawright said, "Thank you to the Association of Deans & Directors of Schools of Social Workers. Most of all, thank you, and welcome, to the social work students from around our great state. I'm proud of this legislation because I believe that education is not only our most potent countermeasure against homophobia, transphobia, and other forms of hate, it is a lifesaving one."

Gender Equality New York Executive Director Juli Grey-Owens and Assembly Member Seawright Discuss Budget Priorities for Gender Equality New York



Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism Volunteer Leaders Susan & Scott Bender Advocate for the Passage of the NY HEAT Act and the Packaging Reduction and Recycling Infrastructure Act



**SUNY Chancellor Announces the Dr. Hazel Dukes Fellowship for** 

### the Advancement of Civil Rights During Women's History Month



Assembly Members Glick, Griffin, González-Rojas, Kelles, Peoples-Stokes, Simon, Lupardo, Seawright, and SUNY Chancellor King at his residence for a Women's History Month celebration.

#### **Consider Our Office Your Resource!**

Aging Spotlight On: New York City's Rent Freeze Program





# FREEZE YOUR RENT ENROLLMENT CLINIC

WED. APRIL 9 WED. APRIL 23

10:00 AM TO 2:00 PM



1485 YORK AVENUE (78/79 ST.) TO RSVP

CALL 212-288-4607 OR EMAIL SEAWRIGHTR@NYASSEMBLY.GOV



#### Who is eligible:

- Are 62 years old +
- Live in a rent regulated apartment
- Have a household income of \$50,000 or less
- Spend more than 1/3 of your income on rent

#### **Document checklist:**

- Government issued ID
- Federal or state income tax returns with all schedules and 1099s.
- Current and prior leases, signed by you and your landlord.

## ASSEMBLY MEMBER REBECCA A. SEAWRIGHT

is seeking nominations for the

# 2025 WOMEN OF DISTINCTION AWARDS



TOGETHER, LET'S RECOGNIZE THE EXTRAORDINARY WOMEN WHO ARE MAKING OUR COMMUNITIES STRONGER.

For a nomination form or more information about this or any community issue, contact Assembly Member Seawright at seawrightr@nyassembly.gov

NOMINATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY:

3/31/25

via email to seawrightr@nyassembly.gov. Keep an eye on my website for details about the 2025 Women of Distinction Awards Ceremony.

#### **ASSEMBLY MEMBER REBECCA A. SEAWRIGHT**

1485 York Avenue, New York, NY 10075 212-288-4607 • seawrightr@nyassembly.gov

Nominate a Woman of Distinction



Monday - Friday 10am-12pm 1485 York Avenue (78/79 Streets)



# ASSEMBLY MEMBER REBECCA A. SEAWRIGHT



# HOUSING LEGAL CLINIC

Get help navigating the housing court process, responding to notices, dealing with threat of eviction, getting repairs from negligent landlords, and advocating for your rights as a tenant in New York City!



SCAN ME TO RSVP!

## **EVERY OTHER TUESDAY**

EVERY OTHER TUESDAY
AT 3:30 PM ATTORNEYS FROM
THE LAW OFFICES OF GRIMBLE
& LOGUIDICE, LLC WILL
PROVIDE ADVICE ON HOUSINGRELATED MATTERS AT NOCOST FOR CONSTITUENTS OF
THE 76TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

A VOLUNTEER ATTORNEY WILL HOST A ONE -ON-ONE SESSION WITH ATTENDEES.

RSVP REQUIRED: CALL: 212-288-4607

**EMAIL: SEAWRIGHTR@NYASSEMBLY.GOV** 

The legal clinic is solely to provide guidance and advice from attorney's experienced in landlord- tenant law. The clinic does not guarantee a desired outcome and does not establish an attorney- client relationship. Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright does not represent or advise constituents in any legal matters.

# Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright's App is Live!

Stay Up-To-Date with the latest:

- News
- Events
- Legislation
- Livestream
- Media

Available on iPhone and iPad



# Curbside Composting is Mandatory

## **Enforcement Begins April 1, 2025**

#### Avoid a Fine!

#### **Buildings with 1 to 8 Units**

\$25 for the first offense \$50 for the second offense \$100 for the third and subsequent offenses

#### **Buildings with 9 or More Units**

\$100 for the first offense \$200 for the second offense \$300 for the third and subsequent offenses

ALL NYC residents are currently required to separate yard waste, food scraps, and food-soiled paper from trash and recycling. Starting April 1, 2025, property owners will be subject to fines.

Curbside Composting is free and collected weekly in every borough on the same day as your recycling.





nyc.gov/CurbsideComposting | call 311 Follow us @NYCsanitation





CCEF-25: CURBSIDE ENFORCEMENT PLYER EN F25

#### Resources

#### **Cash Assistance Benefits Skimming Alert**

Beware of attempts to steal your EBT benefits electronically through skimming or phishing. To learn more and file an online claim for stolen Cash Assistance benefits, go to <a href="https://on.nyc.gov/on.nyc.gov/benefitreplacement">https://on.nyc.gov/on.nyc.gov/benefitreplacement</a>

#### **New York's Paid Family Leave Program**

Since first launching in 2018, New York State Paid Family Leave has provided critical benefits to improve the lives of tens of thousands of working New Yorkers and their families. In addition to ongoing enhancements, the wage replacement benefits continue to increase in line with the New York State Average Weekly Wage. Click here to learn how Paid Family Leave may be able to help you and your family in 2025. Visit: paidfamilyleave.ny.gov/2025

#### **Empire State Child Credit**

The New York State Department of Taxation and Finance is issuing supplemental Empire State Child Credit payments to over 1.5 million low- and moderate-income New Yorkers. The

2024–2025 New York State budget provides for an additional payment to eligible taxpayers based on the Empire State child credit. If you qualify for a payment, you don't need to do anything; we will automatically calculate and send you a check for the amount you're entitled to. For more details, visit the Additional Empire State Child Credit Payments.

#### **Energy Affordability Programs**

The NYS Energy Affordability Program provides income-eligible consumers with a discount on their monthly electric and/or gas bills. You may be enrolled automatically if you receive benefits from a government assistance program. For more information visit this ConEd webpage and click the "download form" button in the Energy Affordability Program box (or click this link directly to download the pdf). Or call 800-752-6633; the seniors-only direct line is 800-404-9097, M-F, 8:30 am – 5 pm.

#### **Regular HEAP Benefit**

The 2024-25 Regular HEAP benefit reopened January 25, 2025. Find out if you may be eligible to apply for programs and services. If you are eligible, you may receive one regular HEAP benefit per program year to help you pay for heating your home. Visit: otda.nv.gov/programs/heap/

#### **Health Insurance**

New Yorkers can enroll in a Qualified Health Plan by the 15th of the month for coverage starting the 1st of the following month and benefit from new cost-sharing reductions for additional savings. Visit <a href="https://nyc.gov/health/healthcoverage">nyc.gov/health/healthcoverage</a> or call 347-665-0214 to connect with an enrollment counselor and get more information.

#### HIICAP

Approximately 500 trained HIICAP counselors located in local offices for the aging across the state are available to answer New Yorkers' questions about Medicare, Medicare Advantage programs (managed care), Medicare prescription drug coverage, Medigap, and other health and long-term care insurance. Counseling is also available through a toll-free HIICAP helpline at 1-800-701-0501. Visit: <a href="https://aging.ny.gov/health-insurance-information-counseling-and-assistance-program-hiicap">https://aging.ny.gov/health-insurance-information-counseling-and-assistance-program-hiicap</a>

#### **Renters rights**

In New York City, tenants have many rights relating to the safety and quality of their housing. Tenants should expect to live in safe, well-maintained buildings that are free from vermin, leaks, and hazardous conditions. <u>Laws protect tenants from harassment and discrimination</u>. For more information on tenants' rights, please see the <u>Tenant Bill of Rights</u>.

#### **Homeowner Handbook**

Homeowner Help NY offers a comprehensive guide to help New York homeowners navigate the responsibilities of homeownership and access available resources in their time of need. To view the handbook, visit https://homeownerhelpny.org/handbook.

#### **Property Tax Exemptions**

It's time to renew property tax exemptions, including SCHE, DHE, and the Clergy Exemption, for the 2025-26 tax year. The deadline to renew is March 15, 2025. Visit nyc.gov/contactdof or call 311 for details.

#### **Mental Health Hotline**

There's a three digit phone hotline, 988, for mental health. Call 911 for mental health emergencies.

#### **Mobile ID**

Ever forget your wallet and wish you had your ID on you? Now you can with New York Mobile ID! Just download the app, and a highly secure digital version of a state-issued driver license, learner permit or ID will be on your smartphone whenever you need it. <a href="Moreinfo here">More info here</a>.

#### **NYCDOT Street Work Permit Maps**

The NYC DOT provides a street work permit map for our district so New Yorkers can have access to any active street work information in real time. You can view the map here: <a href="https://dmv.ny.gov/id-card/mobile-id-mid">https://dmv.ny.gov/id-card/mobile-id-mid</a>

#### **Attention MTA Reduced-Fare customers**

Your half-fare benefit is moving to OMNY! Look for your new Reduced-Fare OMNY card in the mail soon and <u>check this page for updates</u>. Continue to use your Reduced-Fare MetroCard in the meantime.

#### **MTA Mobile Sales**

Services offered at mobile sales vehicles

- Get help with a Reduced-Fare application
- Get more information about OMNY and sign up
- Transfer MetroCard balances (full-fare and Reduced-Fare to OMNY account)
- Report a lost/stolen Reduced-Fare MetroCard
- Ask our team about any OMNY-related issues

Note: Mobile sales buses and vans are making credit card transactions for OMNY only. You can still buy a MetroCard using cash. Check this site for the sales bus schedule: www.mta.info/fares/mobile-sales

#### **Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits**

New changes include providing a simplified one-page application form, allowing older New Yorkers to re-certify their benefits for 36 months instead of 24 months and eliminating the interview requirement for re-certification. To learn more about SNAP and apply for benefits, click here.

#### **Unclaimed Funds**

Check to see if you or someone you know may have unclaimed funds via this tracker by NYS Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli: <a href="https://www.osc.ny.gov/unclaimed-funds?">https://www.osc.ny.gov/unclaimed-funds?</a> <a href="https://www.osc.ny.gov/unclaimed-funds?">fbclid=IwAR2JRsSjGd4zt7CdT5aw5NQiBqIoud2O141dOUbqPWOjooIlaO8Qi7xxTFw">https://www.osc.ny.gov/unclaimed-funds?</a>

#### **COVID-19** resources

You can order four COVID tests (for free, including shipping!) at <a href="mailto:this website">this website</a>! To see the latest data and key metrics on COVID-19 in New York City, check out the <a href="mailto:NYC Department">NYC Department of Health's website</a>. Vaccine shots are also available in pharmacies, clinics, hospitals and doctors' offices.

#### **Community Service Society of New York**

Need healthcare assistance or an advocate on your side when dealing with a medical bill, insurance denial, or a confusing notice? Call the Community Health Advocates hotline at 1-888-614-5400 and receive help today!

#### **Congestion Pricing discounts and exemptions**

Vehicles entering Manhattan streets at or below 60th St will be tolled. Most E-ZPass users will pay \$9 during peak hours or \$2.25 overnight, once daily. Discounts and exemptions, such as the Low-Income Discount or Disability Exemption plans, are available—learn more at <a href="mailto:mta.info/discounts">mta.info/discounts</a>. Update your E-ZPass account to ensure accurate toll rates and credits. For details, visit <a href="mailto:congestionreliefzone.mta.info">congestionreliefzone.mta.info</a>.

#### **Animal Care Centers of NYC need your help!**

Due to a temporary suspension of dog intake, they're calling on the community to step up and adopt. If you're ready to welcome a furry friend into your home visit a local ACC Center or check out their website for more details.

#### **Emergency Preparedness**

NYC Emergency Management (NYCEM) will keep you informed and prepared during emergencies through the Notify NYC alert system. Sign up at <a href="nyc.gov/notify">nyc.gov/notify</a> or by calling 311.

## **Upcoming Events**



**NO-COST SCREENING MAMMOGRAMS** 

# The Mammogram Bus



CANCER FOUNDATION

will be at our Community Office 1485 York Avenue

THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 2025 9:00am to 4:30pm

For an appointment please call

212-288-4607

#### **Eligibility:**

Women age 40 to 75
Currently living in New York City
No Mammogram in the past 12 months

- No co-pays required and deductibles are waived
- Uninsured patients also welcomed
- Medical Services provided by Multi-Diagnostic Services

Funded by a grant from the NYS DOH Cancer Services Program
Additional funding provided by the generous support of the JALBCA, NBCF,
NYC Council, NYC DOHMH, NYS Senate, MCHF,
RAR Foundation, and individual patrons.



## **Health Advocates for Older People**

invites you to our upcoming

## **Equipment Fair**

Monday, March 24, 2025 10:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Church of the Holy Trinity 316 East 88 St. (bet 1st & 2nd Ave.), Lower Level

Increase your mobility and comfort!
Stop by for a selection of useful items, all free of charge such as:

Canes
Crutches
Shower chairs
Raised toilet seats & commodes
Post surgical boots
Rollators
Wheelchairs
Chucks disposable bed covers, and more!

#### All items are subject to availability and are in as is condition.

For more information, or to inquire about a specific item, contact info@hafop.org or 212-980-1700, ext. 201 or 212-831-1700.

Health Advocates for Older People promotes safe and healthy aging for New Yorkers. Health Advocates Equipment Donation is supported through public and private grants and donations. Visit www.hafop.org to learn more and get involved.

> Health Advocates for Older People 420 Lexington Ave., suite 300 | New York, NY 10170 | 212-980-1700 | www.hafop.org

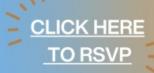
A TD Bank SAFE Event

# Fraud Risk Prevention 101

Protect Yourself, Prevent Fraud

IN THE AGE OF AI, DIGITAL AND ONLINE FRAUD HAS BECOME MORE AGGRESSIVE AND SOPHISTICATED

LEARN WHEN TO SPOT IT AND HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF!







SCAN TO RSVP

Wednesday, March 26th | 2:00-4:00pm Edie Windsor SAGE Center

**Presented By** 

In Collaboration with

**Hosted By** 











**COMMUNITY BOARD 8 MANHATTAN presents** 

# Open Call for Spring Art Show on the Upper East Side



## **Show Date:**

May 31, 2025 Rain date: June 1, 2025

### Location:

**James Cagney Place** E. 91st Street between 2nd and 3rd. Ave

Submit a photo sample of your paintings, sculpture, photography, or crafts by April 21st to info@cb8m.com using "Art Show Submission"

> FREE to apply and participate No drop-ins at the show!



www.cb8m.com



@CB8M





(a) @CB8Manhattan

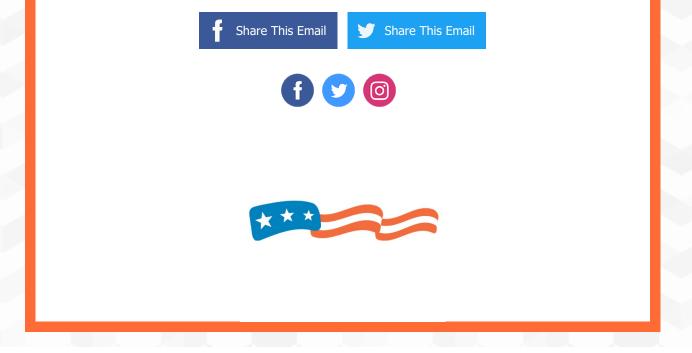
Community Update: March 7, 2025

Community Update: February 28, 2025

Community Update: February 21, 2025

Community Update: February 14, 2025

Did someone forward this email to you? Sign up for our e-news here.



Office of Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright | 1485 York Avenue | New York, NY 10075 US

<u>Unsubscribe</u> | <u>Update Profile</u> | <u>Constant Contact Data Notice</u>



Try email marketing for free today!