



Dear Friends and Neighbors,

Happy Hanukkah to all who celebrate. May this Festival of Lights bring peace, joy, and warmth to you and your loved ones.

This week, I joined U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand and senior advocates to highlight the alarming surge in financial scams targeting older adults during the holiday season. Seniors across the country lost more than \$4.8 billion last year, including over \$203 million in New York State alone—an average of \$23,200 every hour. As Chair of the Assembly Committee on Aging, I emphasized the urgent need for stronger fraud-prevention tools and coordinated action. I am proud to support legislation empowering bank tellers to intervene when suspicious transactions occur and applaud Senator Gillibrand's National Strategy for Combating Scams Act. I urge everyone to remain vigilant and to protect your personal information during this heightened season of risk.

In education news, I toured Clarke Schools for Hearing and Speech, a vital early childhood program serving infants through five-year-olds who are deaf or hard of hearing. I was inspired by the extraordinary work of Clarke's educators, therapists, and specialists, who provide life-changing early intervention services that help children build communication skills and thrive in mainstream environments. As neighbors, we are fortunate to have such a remarkable institution in our community.

It was a joy to celebrate with neighbors at our holiday open house and hear all of the legislative and community wishes for the coming year. Thank you to those who brought in a toy for a successful toy drive to make a child's holiday bright.

As always, my office is here to assist you.

Phone: 212.288.4607

Email: SeawrightR@NYAssembly.gov

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rebecca A. Seawright".

REBECCA A. SEAWRIGHT



**Rebecca
Seawright**
ASSEMBLY MEMBER

ONE GREAT WAY TO
START
2026

SHRED-A-THON!!

SATURDAY, JANUARY 10TH

82ND STREET GREEN MARKET
BETWEEN FIRST & YORK AVE

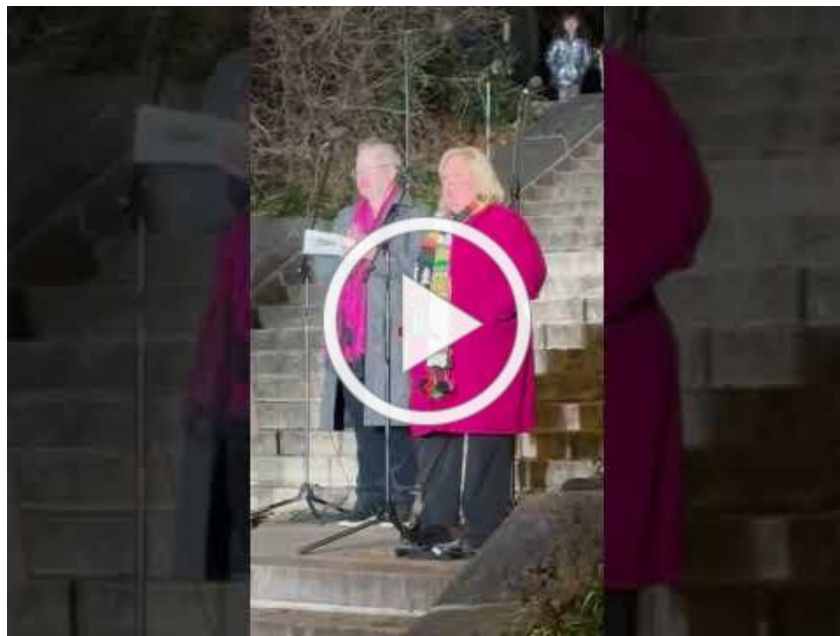
10 AM - 1 PM

NO NOTEBOOKS, BINDINGS, OR X-RAYS

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



Lighting the Carl Schurz Park Tree



LIGHT UP THE UPPER EAST SIDE!



**19TH
ANNUAL**

**KEHILATH
JESHURUN**

CHANUKAH in the park

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14

CARL SCHURZ PROMENADE

86TH ST & EAST END AVE

SECURITY PRESENCE

5:00 PM FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT
CHANUKAH DELICACIES

5:30 PM CANDLE LIGHTING



**Assembly Member Seawright Joins Senator Gillibrand to Protect
Seniors from Holiday Scams**



As financial scams spike during the holiday season, the Office of Assembly Member Rebecca A. Seawright joined U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand and senior advocates to sound the alarm about the rise in fraud targeting older adults. According to the FBI, seniors across the country lost more than \$4.8 billion last year, with losses in New York State exceeding \$203 million—an average of \$23,200 every hour.

Senator Gillibrand highlighted her bipartisan National Strategy for Combating Scams Act, which would require the FBI to lead a coordinated national response to combat increasingly sophisticated scams, including those using AI-generated voices, deepfakes, and other emerging technologies.

Assembly Member Seawright, Chair of the Assembly Committee on Aging, underscored the urgency of action and the need for vigilance: ***“As we enter the holiday season, attempted scams***

will surge—and we need to make sure scammers end up exactly where they belong: on the naughty list. Elder financial exploitation is a global epidemic robbing older adults of their hard-earned savings. In New York, I’m proud to sponsor legislation empowering bank tellers to halt suspicious transactions, and I applaud Senator Gillibrand’s National Strategy for Combating Scams Act, which will finally bring the multi-agency coordination we urgently need. Last year alone, older New Yorkers lost more than \$203 million to scams—about \$23,200 every hour. This is shocking and absolutely unacceptable. I urge everyone to remain vigilant: Stop. Think. Delete. Report. And above all—Educate.” — Assembly Member Rebecca A. Seawright, Chair of the Assembly Committee on Aging

The Office of Assembly Member Seawright encourages all New Yorkers to stay alert for suspicious calls, texts, emails, and unexpected requests for money or personal information during the holiday season and throughout the year.



Seawright Hosts Holiday Open House Collecting Toys for Children in Our Community



Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright, Manhattan Borough President and Comptroller-elect Mark Levine, and Barbara Schwartz.



Santa Claus (The Honorable Judge Jim Clynes) and Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright.



Seawright celebrated with our neighbors spreading holiday cheer.



Department for the Aging Commissioner Lorraine Cortés-Vázquez and Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright.



Thank you to our generous neighbors on the Upper East Side and Roosevelt Island for making our toy drive a huge success!

Assembly Member Seawright Visits Clarke Schools for Hearing and Speech



Assembly Member Rebecca A. Seawright visited Clarke Schools for Hearing and Speech on December 10 to tour their early childhood program and meet with educators, specialists, and families. Clarke, located just around the corner from the Assembly Member's district office, serves infants through five-year-olds who are deaf or hard of hearing and supports them in developing listening and spoken-language skills.

During the visit, Assembly Member Seawright had the opportunity to see classrooms in action, observe speech and auditory therapy sessions, and learn more about Clarke's innovative approach to empowering young learners. Staff shared how early intervention and specialized instruction help children build confidence, communication skills, and readiness for mainstream educational settings.

"As neighbors and community partners, Clarke Schools plays a transformative role in giving our youngest New Yorkers the tools they need to thrive," said Assembly Member Seawright. "I was inspired by the dedication of the educators and the remarkable progress of the children. Their work reflects the very best of early childhood education, inclusion, and support for families."

Real Property Tax Exemptions for New York Seniors

Legislation supported by Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright has been signed (S5175A/A3698A), expanding real property tax exemptions for senior homeowners across New York State. The new law allows localities to provide a property tax exemption of up to 65 percent of a home's assessed value for eligible seniors—an increase from the long-standing 50 percent cap that had not been updated in decades.

This measure strengthens the Governor's broader affordability agenda and offers meaningful relief at a time when rising costs pose challenges for seniors living on fixed incomes. For many older New Yorkers, this enhanced exemption can result in savings of up to \$300 annually, helping them remain in the homes and communities they cherish.

Assembly Member Rebecca A. Seawright, Chair of the Assembly Committee on Aging, praised the legislation, stating: ***"This long-awaited expansion of the senior property tax exemption is a victory for older New Yorkers who simply want to age in place with dignity and financial security. As Chair of the Aging Committee, I applaud Governor Hochul and my colleagues in the legislature for advancing real, practical relief that will help seniors stay in the communities they helped build."***

New CitizensNYC Grant Opportunities

Have an idea to improve your neighborhood, but not sure how to make it happen? Own a small business and need funding for a new project? Curious about ways you can get involved with your community? We can help.

CitizensNYC has been providing grants and support to community groups, small businesses, and individuals with big ideas for 50 years. And applications are currently open for community grants, and small business grants of up to \$5,000.

Over the years, CitizensNYC has helped thousands of organizations, businesses, and individuals build projects and start businesses. They want to help you next.

If you have questions, you can email CitizensNYC at grants@citizensnyc.org for community grants and businessgrants@citizensnyc.org for business grants. You can learn more about CitizensNYC at <https://www.citizensnyc.org/>.

Prohibiting Cashless Stores Law

Banning cashless businesses eliminates financial barriers and protects New Yorkers



Businesses that refuse to accept cash create an inconvenience for consumers and leave vulnerable New Yorkers behind. That's why Assembly Member Seawright helped pass a new law prohibiting food stores and retail establishments from refusing to accept payment in cash (Ch. 548 of 2025). In addition to preventing discrimination against those without access to banking or credit, this law helps save consumers money by lowering costs and eliminating hidden fees.

Consider Our Office *YOUR* Resource

**ASSEMBLY MEMBER
REBECCA A. SEAWRIGHT**



HOUSING LEGAL CLINIC

EVERY OTHER TUESDAY

**EVERY OTHER TUESDAY
AT 3:30 PM ATTORNEYS FROM
THE LAW OFFICES OF GRIMBLE
& LOGUIDICE, LLC WILL
PROVIDE ADVICE ON HOUSING-
RELATED MATTERS AT NO-COST
FOR CONSTITUENTS OF THE
76TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT**

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!

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



**SCAN ME TO
RSVP!**

**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.



NO-COST NOTARY PUBLIC SCHEDULE

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
10AM-1PM	10AM-12PM	10AM-1PM	10AM-12PM	10AM-1PM

Upcoming Events



In Case You Missed It: Past Editions of the Community Report

[Community Update: December 5, 2025](#)

[Community Update: November 25, 2025](#)

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