



Dear Constituent,

Below is my latest e-news, containing updates regarding legislation along with other news from the state and around the district. Please note that this will be the last e-blast you will receive from my office until after the November election; Assembly ethics rules prohibit members using Assembly-funded mass communication during the 60 days before a general election when that member is a candidate on the ballot. Our office is still open and we will continue with day-to-day individual correspondence via phone, email and appointments during regular business hours (9 AM - 5 PM Monday through Friday). I will see you out and about around the district!

Be Prepared for the 2024 General Election

Speaking of elections: November will be here before you know it. Make sure you are ready to vote!

- New Yorkers can use <https://voterlookup.elections.ny.gov/> to check voter registration and polling sites as well as the status of absentee ballot information.
- If you need to register to vote, [click here](#).
- Westchester County residents seeking an absentee ballot should [click here for instructions](#).
- Putnam County residents seeking an absentee ballot should [click here for instructions](#).



Interested in working the polls? Westchester residents can [click here to learn more about becoming a poll worker](#). Putnam County residents can [click here to learn more about being a poll worker](#).

New York State Equal Rights Amendment: There is one statewide ballot proposition on everyone's ballot, along with local ones that vary by municipality. The statewide proposition concerns the adoption of an equal rights amendment, which would add protections against discrimination on the basis of age, disability, ethnicity, national origin, and sex (including sexual

orientation, gender identity, and gender expression, in addition to pregnancy and pregnancy outcomes) to the state constitution. Be sure to flip your ballot over to consider and vote on the propositions on the back before submitting it!

Reminder: Mobile Office Hours for Fall 2024

My office hosts mobile office hours to bring the services of our district office to all corners of AD95. This fall, we will also be joined by staff from the Comptroller's Office to assist residents with retrieving unclaimed funds; [click here to read more about this effort](#). Below are the dates and locations for each event. Stop by to get help navigating state agencies, information about state programs and resources, and more!

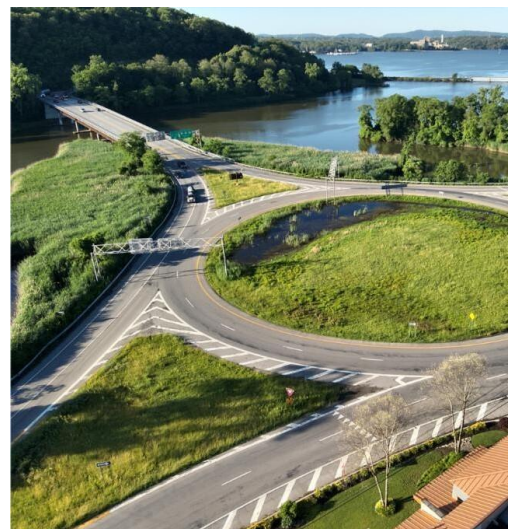
- **Monday, September 9, 1:15-4 PM:** Croton Free Library, 171 Cleveland Drive, Croton-on-Hudson, NY 10520
- **Monday, September 23, 1-4 PM:** Desmond Fish Library, 472 NY-403, Garrison, NY 10524
- **Monday, October 7, 1-4 PM:** Hendrick Hudson Library, 185 Kings Ferry Rd, Montrose, NY 10548
- **Monday, October 21, 1-4 PM:** Julia L. Butterfield Library, 10 Morris Ave, Cold Spring, NY 10516
- **Monday, November 18, 1-4 PM:** John C. Hart Library, 1130 E Main St, Shrub Oak, NY 10588
- **Monday, December 2, 1-4 PM:** Field Library, 4 Nelson Ave, Peekskill, NY 10566

Sincerely,

Assemblywoman Dana Levenberg

Roads & Infrastructure Update

Important changes are coming to Annsville Circle and Routes 202 and 6 in Cortlandt. Our U.S. Senators, Chuck Schumer and Kirsten Gillibrand, have secured funding through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to raise the circle and nearby sections of Route 202 and Route 6 to make the area more resilient in the face of storms and increased flooding. In addition to making the travel network in this area more reliable, improved landscaping and lighting will make the site safer and more attractive. Crosswalks and a shared use path will also be installed to connect Paddlesports Park with the Jan Peeck Bridge over Annsville Creek, permitting easy access for recreational users seeking entry into Annsville Preserve Park and the Hudson River. [You can click here to read more about the project.](#)



I also have a brief update regarding the start of 9A repaving in Croton and Ossining. We have heard from NYSDOT that work should begin next week. You may have already begun seeing signage to that effect.

The road infrastructure in our area is in major need of repair, and I am always thrilled to see new projects get underway. With construction projects comes traffic and the need to be mindful of the crews of workers who risk their lives to ensure the functioning and safety of our roadways. Please be mindful and drive with caution in work zones, and leave extra time in your commute and other daily trips to account for the increased traffic.

I continue to hear from constituents that roadways throughout the district require repaving, infrastructure upgrades, or other improvements. I communicate these concerns to NYSDOT, and will continue to advocate for more projects to be included in future capital plans. My office can help route concerns about specific maintenance needs to NYSDOT and other jurisdictions. Please do not hesitate to reach out to my office with further questions or concerns.

School Funding Update



Greeting students on the first day of school

Happy first week of school! If school funding is on your mind, there is still a bit of time to submit written comments about the Foundation Aid formula as part of this year's Foundation Aid study. The public comment period for the study will close tomorrow, September 6; [click here to visit the Foundation Aid Study web page and submit your comment using their form.](#)

My colleagues and I in the Westchester Assembly delegation have submitted a joint letter to the study group based on feedback we have received from local schools and superintendents as well as our own observations. As a former school board member in Ossining, I am very familiar with the shortcomings of the current formula, and our letter lays out recommendations to address the unique ways in which the current formula disadvantages school districts in our area. I will provide an update at the conclusion of the study, which I hope will enable the state to right-size education funding, ensuring that aid goes where it is needed most.

Comment on Upcoming Utility Rate Cases

Utility bills, and delivery charges in particular, are a frequent topic of phone calls to my office, and several of you have asked about how you can be more active in fighting rate hikes. If you would like to be updated when Con Edison or Central Hudson is seeking to raise rates, you can [click here to review pending rate cases](#) and [follow the instructions on this page to sign up to receive updates via email](#).

Please know that I advocate for keeping utility costs low. My office receives updates when rate cases arise, which I review and comment upon as indicated. Last year, my Westchester colleagues and I sent a joint letter objecting to the rate increases proposed in the most recent Con Edison electric rate case, and I submitted a letter of my own opposing increases in the most recently concluded Central Hudson rate case. I will also be submitting a comment in the pending Central Hudson case. Moreover, I am a strong proponent of the New York HEAT Act, which would cap residential utility bills at 6% of a household's income. I am also a co-sponsor of legislation, [A.7502](#), that would help reform the ratemaking process and give the Public Service Commission more information and authority to protect ratepayers and constrain cost increases. Affordability is a top concern of mine, and I will keep pushing on issues like this.

School Year Internship Application



Interns from my office meeting U.S. Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer during an event this summer

Our summer interns have returned to college, and we are now accepting applications for school year internships on a rolling basis. Internships are very valuable learning opportunities, so please encourage the students in your life to apply! [Click here to access the form to apply and/or share it.](#)

Additional Reminders

Public Comment Period for New Social Media Regulations Ends September 30: Governor Hochul [recently signed legislation I co-sponsored that aims](#) to protect young people from harmful aspects of social media. Attorney General Letitia James is tasked with creating the rules to operationalize this legislation, and she has opened a 60-day public comment period during which all members of the public are encouraged to share their thoughts on what new regulations might look like. Click here to read more about the new legislation and share your thoughts. You may also email your comments directly to ProtectNYKidsOnline@ag.ny.gov (for comments on the SAFE For Kids Act) and ChildDataProtection@ag.ny.gov (for comments on the Child Data Protection Act). The public comment period will close on Monday, September 30.

Open Surveys: If you have not already done so, please be sure to complete my open surveys. Many of you have already responded to the Issues survey that was included in my recent print newsletter; it is also available [here](#) and among the buttons on [my home page](#) if you have not yet seen it. I also recently opened a survey inquiring about constituent experiences with the healthcare system; [you can click here to take that survey.](#)

New Laws for September 2024



New state laws go into effect every month. Of particular interest this month are laws to protect voting rights and survivors of sexual assault. I was proud to vote for the passage of these pieces of legislation. Here is a list of laws going into effect in September 2024:

Effective Date	Chapter	Summary
9/1/2024	Ch. 357 of 2023 S.1732 A.6091	Establishes student governments in secondary schools.
9/1/2024	Ch. 32 of 2024 §§1 and 2 A.8519 S.8046	Extends the effective date for the study by the State Office For The Aging on the number of older adults residing in Naturally Occurring Retirement Communities or Neighborhood Naturally Occurring Retirement Communities who are suffering from social isolation and loneliness.

9/1/2024	<p>Ch. 23 of 2024</p> <p>S.8008</p> <p>A.8558</p>	<p>Enacts the Rape Is Rape Act, redefining rape in New York's penal law to include nonconsensual vaginal, oral and anal sexual contact.</p>
9/1/2024	<p>Ch. 56 of 2024</p> <p>Part WW</p> <p>S.8306-C</p> <p>A.8806-C</p>	<p>Strengthens penalties related to obstructed or obscured license plates and clarifies the tolls by mail program.</p>
9/1/2024	<p>Ch. 220 of 2024</p> <p>S.9837</p> <p>A.10541</p>	<p>Requires the board of elections to provide a domestic postage paid return envelope which a voter may use to return a cure affirmation in paper form by mail; provides that a cure affirmation may be delivered in person, by mail or in electronic form as an attachment to an email.</p>
9/12/2024	<p>Ch. 119 of 2024</p> <p>S.9241</p> <p>A.10399</p>	<p>Provides for the annual inspection of any vessel operated on privately or publicly owned underground non-navigable waterways with no navigable inlet or outlet that carry passengers for compensation.</p>
9/22/2024	<p>Ch. 216 of 2024</p> <p>A.10357</p> <p>S.9687</p>	<p>Enacts amendments to the John R. Lewis Voting Rights Act.</p>

Attorney General Spotlight

Lastly, please be aware of the following investor alert issued by our State Attorney General, Letitia James, warning New Yorkers about AI-enabled scams to trick people into investing into fraudulent schemes.

News from New York State Attorney General Letitia James

New York Attorney General Letitia James issued an investor alert, warning New Yorkers about scams that are luring potential investors with fake videos created with artificial intelligence (AI) that show celebrities and business leaders touting fraudulent investment schemes. These AI-manipulated videos, known as deepfakes, often appear in social media feeds, digital ads, and messaging apps and are expected to fuel billions of dollars in fraud every year.



The Office of the Attorney General (OAG) is urging New Yorkers to follow tips to protect themselves and to report this misleading content to law enforcement and the social media platforms on which they appear.

Attorney General James urges potential investors to look out for red flags including promises of guaranteed returns on investments and demands to invest immediately or warning that you will miss out on the opportunity. The Attorney General also urges New Yorkers to do their own due diligence by doing things such as searching the internet for reviews about the salesperson and by verifying any physical address provided by the salesperson. She also reminds everyone not to provide any personal or financial or log-in information to anyone that you have only met online.

Attorney General James encourages anyone who may have been a victim of a scam to report it to the OAG by filing an online complaint at ag.ny.gov or calling (800) 771-7755.

