



July 2017

Dear Friends and Constituents,
We have been busy with a number of projects in our Kingston District Office serving the needs of our local communities. Here are updates on some of those activities. As usual you can check out more details on my [website](#) or by following me on [Facebook](#).

Summer Reading and Exercise Challenge



As school ends and summer begins, let's make sure our kids keep reading and stay on the path to a brighter future.

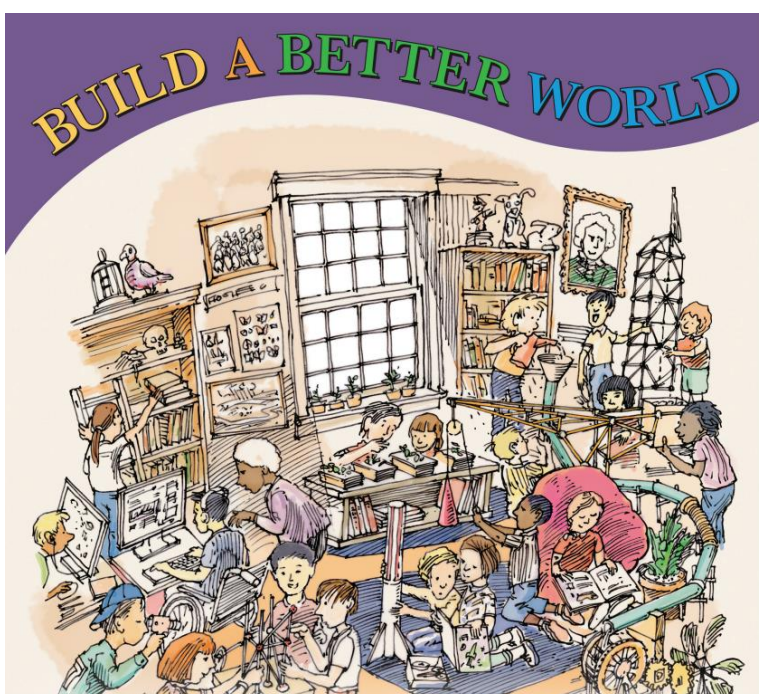
Summer has arrived and so has the fun! It's not only a time for children to play outside until the sun goes down, but also an opportunity for their imaginations to run wild as they dive into new, exciting books. That's why, in partnership with New York State libraries, I am inviting children to participate in the Assembly's Annual Summer Reading and Exercise Challenge.

My staff has delivered brochures to schools and libraries in the 103rd Assembly District. If you were unable to obtain one, contact our office at (845) 338-9610.

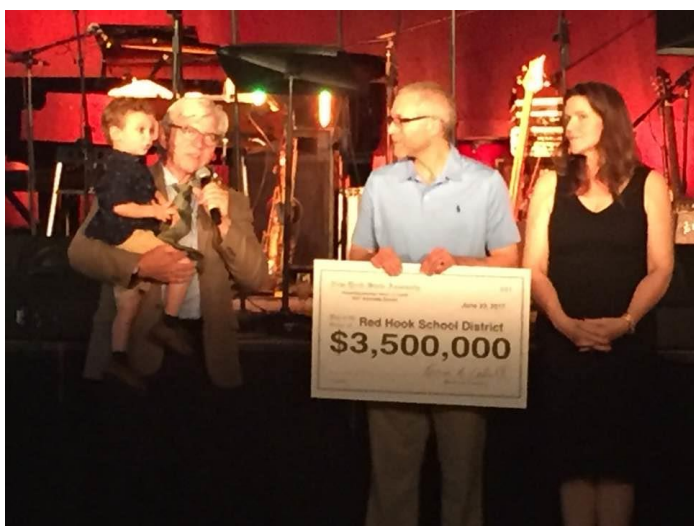
From fiction to biography, fairy tales to superhero adventures, books offer kids a chance to meet unforgettable characters, explore new times and places and learn important lessons.

The Summer Reading and Exercise Challenge is my favorite event of the year because it inspires children to make reading and physical activity part of their routine. Starting healthy habits now while they are young will have a great impact on their personal growth and overall well-being. The Program reinforces the idea that education and regular exercise do not have to end when school is out. More importantly, it helps establish that learning and having an active lifestyle are not only essential but also an enjoyable part of daily life.

As you may know, students who complete the Program will be part of a terrific awards celebration hosted by my office in early fall. Our long-standing tradition includes refreshments, entertainment, complimentary goody bags filled with a variety of prizes from local merchants and a certificate of recognition for having completed the Challenge.



Grant for Red Hook Schools Auditorium



Assemblymember Kevin Cahill appeared at the Red Hook Education Foundation event with his grandson Johnny Cahill Ziegenfuss to announce the grant with Foundation leaders and Superintendent Paul Finch.

On Friday June 23rd I announced that \$3.5 million dollars in State funding was made available to the Red Hook Central School District for construction of a new auditorium at the High School. I secured this allocation through a \$3 million commitment in the 2016-2017 State Budget and with a separate \$500,000 grant. The award was announced at the Red Hook Education Foundation's Gala, a fundraiser that supports educational opportunities in the school system. One of the Foundation's dedicated projects is the development of a new auditorium.

For far too long the Red Hook community has been without an auditorium. It's a place where folks could gather for performances, community meetings and large student events. It is also an important part of education.

In speaking with leaders of the community it is clear that this is a priority for the Town. Residents know the importance of this project, but recognize that some might not be able to handle the financial burden it would place on the local taxpayers. With this State assistance and existing State construction aid, the project can now be presented to voters for their consideration of a significantly reduced local debt. I thank Speaker Carl Heastie, who displayed a deep interest in this issue and whose leadership helped make this investment possible. Thanks also go to our partners in the school system and local advocates who have shepherded the initiative through its planning phase and will ultimately be responsible for its development.

Local Outreach

Setting up office hours in our local libraries offers an opportunity for people who may not live near the District Office to meet my staff and ask any questions they may have so that we can offer support and assistance. Numerous residents of the 103rd Assembly District took advantage of these events.

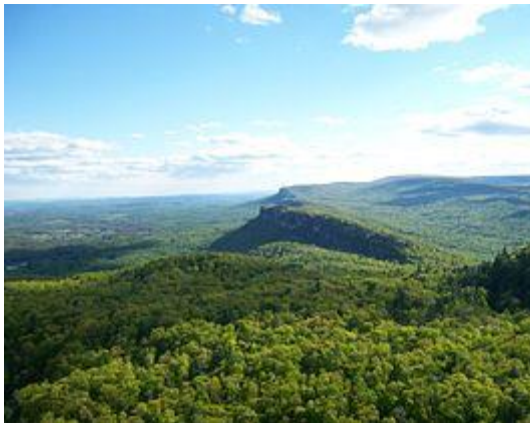
As always, the District Office in Kingston remains open from 9am to 5pm, Monday through Friday. Whether in our community outreach efforts or in our Kingston District Office, we offer a wide range of constituent services, news on upcoming legislation and advice on the best way to deal with State agencies. If we cannot address a concern immediately, we strive to find the resources needed to reach a resolution.

We always welcome your voice, your opinions and your needs and invite you to stop by, even just to say hello and introduce yourself.



Residents of Olivebridge meet with our staff.

Hudson River Valley Greenway



Shawangunk Ridge.

Both houses of the Legislature passed a measure continuing the Hudson River Valley Greenway and assuring that localities are indemnified for their participation for the next five years. I sponsored this bill in the Assembly that preserves our region's natural resources and environmental treasures.

The indemnity clause has been the key in getting every municipality in the Hudson Valley to sign on to the Greenway Compact, one of the greatest accomplishments in the State's environmental legacy.

The Greenway has been the most successful inter-municipal cooperative agreement in the history of the State of New York. This bill has been a priority since the beginning of Session and now it will be going to the Governor's desk. The action taken by the Legislature reaffirms our commitment to protecting open space and green space and further facilitates community development in the Hudson Valley.

Our Interns



L-R: Assemblymember Cahill, Elsayed Osman and Matt Garcia.

Our Albany Office was fortunate this year to host two wonderful student interns who were an invaluable part of keeping our team focused and effective! Elsayed Osman and Matthew Garcia helped Legislative Director Laurie Wheelock and Committee Clerk Joseph Theall. Laurie and Joe had no trouble keeping the interns busy - whether with research, bill preparation, tracking memos or answering the high volume of incoming calls.

We wish our two friends the best as they continue their education and career pursuits and hope that they find time to keep in touch with us!

Additionally, our staff in Albany was boosted with two wonderfully helpful part-time college interns: Toa Ran Lui and Al-Baraa Al-Hemyari. They were both generous in sharing their experiences and backgrounds from China and Yemen. This enriched our work and expanded our perspectives.



Assemblymember Cahill and Al-Baraa Al-Hemyari.



Tyler Williams hard at work.

The Assembly Session Internship is an academic program that gives qualified students the chance to work in the New York State Assembly. The program is not just for political science majors. If you're interested in learning more about the program visit <http://assembly.state.ny.us/internship/>.

Our Kingston Intern Tyler Williams has come to us from the Political Science Program at the State University of New York at New Paltz. Tyler assists with many activities including legislative research and keeping our emails up-to-date and organized. He has helped us get the Summer Reading Program brochures out the door and accomplished those periodic organizing tasks that are so essential to a well-run office.

While he comes to us a few days a week, he also holds down a job in Highland. Tyler will be with us through the summer, so if you are in the area, please stop by and say "Hi."

Water Infrastructure Presentation



Assemblymember Cahill held an informational event regarding the Clean Water Infrastructure Act of 2017 in Kingston at the District Office. Officials from several local governments - mayors, supervisors, grant writers and their staff - attended. The Clean Water Infrastructure Act is a \$2.5 billion initiative that will begin to address many of the concerns raised across New York about water contamination. This amount will be available for repairs to the integrity of the infrastructure used in the delivery of drinking water and the treatment of wastewater. Funding is set aside for municipal undertakings that would have trouble qualifying for State support or may need additional funding to complete a specific project.

The informational portion of the event was presented by Sabrina Ty and her staff from the Environmental Facilities Corporation at the Department of Environmental Conservation whose organization assists localities in finding and applying for clean water grants and also aids in the re-application process for maintaining grants.



During the course of the presentation there was a lot of back and forth conversation between the attendees and Sabrina and her staff. Questions were asked about grant specifics as well as how this could potentially impact current and future infrastructure projects in the District.

Assemblymember Cahill has long been a champion of the environment and, in particular, he has called for significant investments to protect our local water systems and aquifers. This program represents a dramatic step in that direction.

Autonomous Cars

Assemblymember Cahill took a spin in Audi's A7 piloted driving prototype, also known as "Jack." While the vehicle had a human engineer piloting it during the travel through the City of Albany, once on the Thruway, the self-driving controls took over the task of navigating.

Driverless technology is an initiative that may promote safer driving conditions by eliminating accidents that



As the Chair of the Assembly Insurance Committee, Assemblymember Cahill will oversee the regulation of numerous issues that will accompany this technology.

could result from human error.



District Office
Governor Clinton Building
1 Albany Avenue, Suite G4,
Kingston, New York 12401
845-338-9610 9am-5pm


If you have a comment or suggestion about what you would like to see in the next newsletter, please send me an email or contact me through my [Facebook](#) page.

Albany Office
716 Legislative Office Building
Albany, New York 12248
518-455-4436

If you would like to unsubscribe and stop receiving emails from this Assemblymember [click here](#).