

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

As Chair of the Aging Committee, I was pleased to sponsor and pass legislation reauthorizing a critical oversight tool, the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program, which passed the Assembly unanimously.

This weekend, New Yorkers will be volunteering to beautify our community at "It's My Park Day." Visit Ruppert Park or Andrew Haswell Green to support their clean-up and beautification efforts on Saturday, May 17.

Please join us for a community event our office is pleased to sponsor:

- **No-Cost Notary Public Service** at the Community Office of Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright, 1485 York Avenue (78th/79th Streets)
  - Mon, Wed, Fri from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm
  - Tues, Thurs from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm
- Tuesday, May 20 at 3:30 pm:**No-Cost Housing Legal Clinic** at the Community Office of Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright, 1485 York Avenue (78th/79th Streets). To make a reservation, please call 212-288-4607.
- Wednesday, May 21, from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm:**MetroCard Sales/OMNY Bus** at the Community Office of Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright, 1485 York Avenue (78th/79th Streets). Refill your MetroCard/OMNY card or apply for a reduced fare card.
- Thursday, May 29, from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm:**No-Cost Community Shredding** at 1495 York Avenue (NW corner of York Ave./79 Street).

As always, please consider our office your resource.

Phone: 212.288.4607 Email: <u>SeawrightR@NYAssembly.gov</u>

Sincerely,

**REBECCA A. SEAWRIGHT** 

Rebecca a Sayuth

Seawright Passed Bill Unanimously to Reauthorize Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program to Advocate for Managed Care Participants



Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright announced the unanimous passage of her legislation in the Assembly to reauthorize the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program (LTCOP) in New York State. Under the federal Older Americans Act (OAA), the state ombudsman is charged with the duties to resolve problems individual residents face and to implement changes to improve the quality of life and care within Long-Term Care facilities.

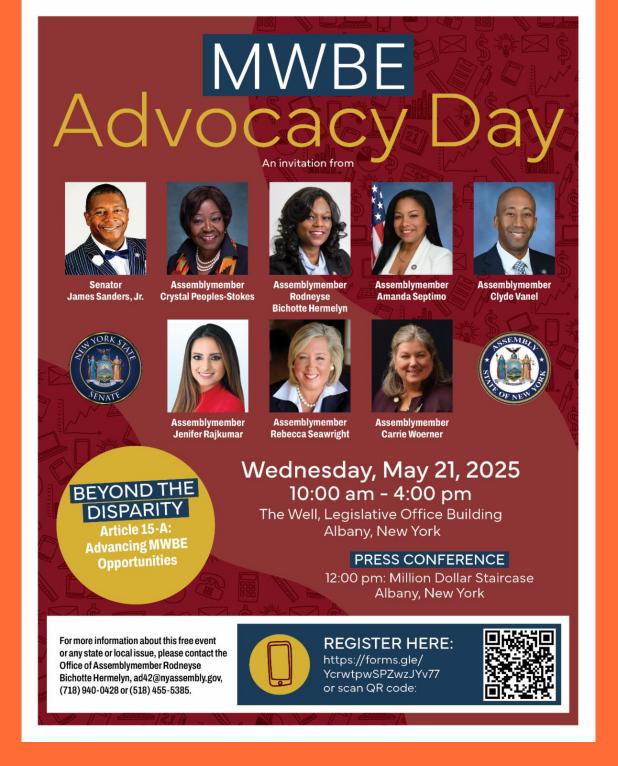
"As Chair of the Aging Committee, I am pleased to renew our commitment to long-term care patients by reauthorizing a critical oversight tool, the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program," said Assembly Member Seawright, who chairs the Assembly's Aging Committee.





There is active federal, state, and local legislation being pushed that aims to censor and erase the LGBTQ+ community. Equality New York advocated in Albany to ensure our state is a safe and supportive place for all LGBTQ+ New Yorkers. Seawright spoke to advocates about legislation to prohibit the State from banning books in schools and libraries, and to protect sex workers and survivors of sex trafficking.

Seawright Cosponsors MWBE Advocacy Day to Advance MWBE Opportunities and Advocate for the Extension and Expansion of Article 15-A



**Consider Our Office Your Resource!** 



#### NO-COST NOTARY PUBLIC SCHEDULE

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

# 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



#### Resources

At <u>GoodCauseNYC.org</u>, a brand-new website, NYC tenants can enter their address and answer a short set of questions about their apartment to determine if their unit is eligible for protections, and access resources to fight back against an unjust rent hike or lease nonrenewal. The site also includes a rent increase calculator to help renters determine if their rent hike is considered "unreasonable" by the law.

**The Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP)** can cover the cost of fans and air conditioners for eligible New Yorkers. To find out if you qualify, visit: otda.ny.gov/programs/heap/#cooling-assistance.

#### **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://nyc.gov/site/hra/help/benefitreplacement.page">nyc.gov/site/hra/help/benefitreplacement.page</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 <a href="this ConEd">this ConEd</a> 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.ny.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="mailto:aging.ny.gov/health-insurance-information-counseling-and-assistance-program-hiicap">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 <a href="https://homeownerhelpny.org/handbook">homeownerhelpny.org/handbook</a>.

#### **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's license, learner's permit, or ID will be on your smartphone whenever you need it. More info here.

#### **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: https://nycdot.info/

#### **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 recertify their benefits for 36 months instead of 24 months, and eliminating the interview requirement for recertification. 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="mailto:osc.ny.gov/unclaimed-funds?">osc.ny.gov/unclaimed-funds?</a> fbclid=IwAR2JRsSjGd4zt7CdT5aw5NQiBqIoud2O141dOUbqPWOjooIlaO8Qi7xxTFw

#### **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="MYC Department of Health's website">MYC 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.

#### **Curbside Composting**

Curbside Composting service is now available to ALL NYC residents citywide. Compost is picked up every week on your recycling day.

Visit: www.nyc.gov/site/dsny/collection/residents/curbside-composting.page

#### **Upcoming Events**

## UNBANNED

Exploring Censorship in Books, Art & Media

# ART CENSORSHIP IN AMERICA



## FREE EVENT!

ELIZABETH LARISON DIRECTOR, ARTS & CULTURE ADVOCACY PROGRAM, NCAC



**SATURDAY MAY 17, 2025**1:00 PM



FDR Four Freedoms State Park Explore recent cases of art censorship in the U.S. and gain insight into how censorship is defined, how it operates, and what drives artists and institutions to self-censor.







## NO-COST COMMUNITY SHREDDING 2025

THURSDAY, MAY 29TH 9 AM - 12 PM

1495 YORK AVENUE NW CORNER OF YORK AVE & 79TH ST

NO NOTEBOOKS, BINDINGS, OR X-RAYS

OFFICE OF NYS ASSEMBLY MEMBER REBECCA A. SEAWRIGHT

1485 YORK AVENUE

212-288-4607

SEAWRIGHTR@NYASSEMBLY.GOV



NYS ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN TASK FORCE INVITES YOU TO THE

## *NEW YORK STATE* AAPI SUMMIT

May  $29^{th} - 30^{th}$ , 2025Albany, NY

#### WELCOME RECEPTION

Thursday, May 29th 6:00pm - 9:00pm

Hudson Ballroom, Hilton Albany 40 Lodge Street, Albany, NY

#### WORKSHOP DAY

Friday, May 30<sup>th</sup> 9:00am - 4:00pm

Legislative Office Building 198 State Street, Albany, NY

#### IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:



#### THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS:









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REGISTER: NYSAAPISUMMIT.COM

The NYS AAPI Summit returns for a second year on May 29th-30th, 2025! Registration is now open and required in order to attend the event. Tickets are free, but space is limited so secure your ticket today!

Schedule of Events

Welcome Reception Thursday, May 29th 6:00pm - 9:00pm Hudson Ballroom, 40 Lodge Street, Albany NY

> Workshop Day Friday, May 30th 9:00am - 4:00pm

Legislative Office Building 198 State Street, Albany NY

#### **RSVP for Summit**

#### Sign-up for FREE Round-Trip Transportation!

Complimentary buses are also being offered from Manhattan, Queens and Brooklyn, leaving at 5:30am on Friday, May 30th, and returning in the evening. Buses will depart from the following locations:

- Lower Manhattan/Chinatown
- Bronx/Upper Manhattan
- South Brooklyn
- Queens

Seats are limited, so it is first come, first serve.

Reserve Your Seat

Coming to Albany the night before? ☐ Room Blocks are available.

There are discounted room rates available for Wednesday, May 29th at the following hotels in Albany. Use group code:1AAPI.

• Hilton Albany: \$169/night

• Call to reserve: (518) 462-6611

Hampton Inn & Suites: \$150/night

• Call to reserve: (518) 432-7000

Visit the Summit website for the most up-to-date information on the conference.

If you have any additional questions or concerns, please contact Liya Thachil at thachill@nyassembly.gov.

We look forward to seeing you!

Generously Supported by:











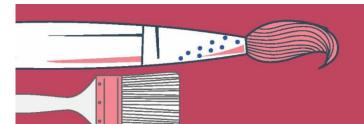


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Saturday, May 31, 2025 11 am to 4 pm Rain Date: June 01, 2025

# ART SHOW

on the East Side

**James Cagney Place** east 91st Street, Between 2nd and 3rd Avenues **Presented by Community Board 8 Manhattan** 







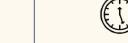
Celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Residents Living on Roosevelt Island!

Games | Inflatables | Kids Activities Food | Music | Community Booths Giveaways | And More!

SATURDAY, JUNE 7TH



Rain Date: June 8th



11AM-4PM



FIREFIGHTERS FIELD



Roosevelt Island Operating Corporation

Community Update: May 9, 2025

Community Update: May 2, 2025

Community Update: April 25, 2025

Community Update: April 17, 2025

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