

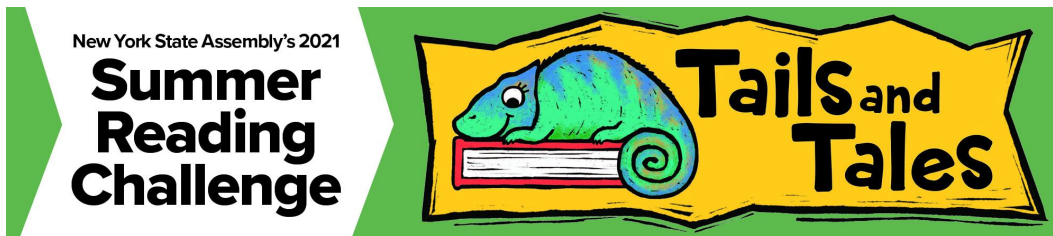


Weekly Report from Assemblyman Charles D. Fall

July 15, 2021

Summer Reading Challenge and Calendar

There is no better way to help kids expand their horizons and keep their minds active than by picking up a good book. This year I am inviting our local youth to participate in the Assembly Annual - Summer Reading Challenge, held in partnership with New York State Libraries. The challenge asks children to read a book for a minimum of 15 minutes a day for at least 40 days during July and August. Children can read on their own or with a partner or caregiver and mark off days on the calendar provided. Once they've completed 40 days or more, they submit the calendar to my office and then receive a certificate in the mail.



New York State Assembly's 2021

Summer Reading Challenge

Sponsored by Assemblyman Charles D. Fall



"I pledge to read for at least 15 minutes each day for at least 40 days during the months of July and August. I will mark the calendar below with a check mark (✓) each day that I read by myself or with my reading buddy."

July 2021						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

August 2021						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				



For a list of titles exploring the history, culture and diversity of New York State visit: www.nysed.gov/libdev/summer/explore.htm
For additional reading ideas and preschool book activities, visit: daybydayny.org

When you have marked at least 40 days on this calendar, you will earn an Excellence in Reading certificate. Just send the completed form on the back of this page to my office and your certificate will arrive in the mail.

Assemblyman Charles D. Fall
853 Forest Avenue • Staten Island, NY 10310
718-442-9932 • fall@nyassembly.gov



Starting in July, kids and teens can get free, healthy summer meals at nearby sites. Visit SummerMealsNY.org to find locations near you.

New York State Assembly's 2021

Summer Reading Challenge

Sponsored by Assemblyman Charles D. Fall



New York State Assembly Excellence in Reading Certificate

Information form

Child's name # _____

School # _____

Parent/Guardian name # _____

Address 1 # _____

Address 2 # _____

Phone # _____ Email # _____

Number of days completed # Minimum of 40 days needed to receive your certificate.

Favorite book read this summer # _____

Number of years of participation in the Summer Reading Challenge # _____

To receive your certificate, just send the completed form above to my office and your certificate will arrive in the mail.



Upcoming Events

In partnership with Assemblyman Charles Fall's office and other local sponsors, Roc-a-natural presents Free Friday Night Outdoor Films. On July 23, 30, and August 6, Snug Harbor will host this event promoting thought-provoking and empowering films. Review the flyer below for details.

ROC-A-NATURAL
Thank you for your sponsorships and support!

ROC-A-NATURAL
 rocanatural.com

SNUG HARBOR
 MUSIC CENTER

STATE ISLAND ARTS

SHELDON LEWIS

BLURRED NOISE

DMG
 DESIGN & MARKETING

CHARLES FALL
 ASSEMBLYMAN

This project is made possible (in part) by a DCA Premier Grant from State Island Arts, with public funding from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs.

Free Friday Night Outdoor Films
Taking It To The Streets

WITH MORE **Thought Provoking - Empowering And "Edu-taining" Films**
 Beginning July 16, 23, 30 and August 6, 2021

WANTED !!
 SCREENERS - SPONSORS
 ENTERTAINMENT - VENDORS &
 VOLUNTEERS

7:00 pm to 10:30 pm
 DOORS OPEN @ 6:30pm
 MOVIE STARTS @ 8:30pm

Hosted at
Snug Harbor
 Cultural Center & Botanical Garden
 1000 BUCHANAN BLVD
 NORTH MEADOWS
 (CORNER OF FRENCH ST. - TURNING RIGHT)
 STATEN ISLAND, NY 10301

RESERVATIONS ON EVENT BUT A
 MASK A MUST
 MUST TO SECURE YOUR SPOT

TO BE A PART OF THIS COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL EVENT, CONTACT

DORCAS MEYERS
 917.406.7736
 RAN@ROCANATURAL.COM

SHELDON LEWIS
 347.319.6518
 SHELDONLEWIS551@GMAIL.COM

District 61 News

July Fourth Travis Parade

It is always an honor to celebrate the Fourth of July at the Travis Parade. Seeing my colleagues and residents from all over Staten Island coming together is wonderful. I look forward to next year's patriotic event.



Harmony Day Picnic

This year's Harmony Day Picnic was a terrific accomplishment. On Wednesday, local organizers and partners came together to provide an array of resources for our community. I was excited to witness so many constituents having the opportunity to learn of these many

resources. I want to thank Josephine Marino and the Community Council Executive Board Members for helping to organize this event.



Updates From Albany

Important update on Child Tax Credit:

As part of the American Rescue Plan, important changes to the Child Tax Credit will help many families get advance payments of the credit starting this summer. The IRS will pay half the total credit amount in advance monthly payments beginning **July 15, 2021**. You will claim

the other half when you file your 2021 income tax return. These changes apply to tax year 2021 only.

- The **American Rescue Plan** delivered major **tax** relief for working families with **children** through a historic expansion of the **Child Tax Credit**. In 2021, for most families, the **Child Tax Credit** is increased to \$3,000 for each **child** between 6 and 17 years old and to \$3,600 for each **child** under age 6.
- To qualify for advance Child Tax Credit payments, you — and your spouse, if you filed a joint return — must have:
 - Filed a 2019 or 2020 tax return and claimed the Child Tax Credit on the return: **or**
 - Given your information in 2020 to receive the Economic Impact Payment using the Non-Filers: Enter Payment Info Here tool; **and**
 - A primary home in the United States for more than half the year (the 50 states and the District of Columbia) or file a joint return with a spouse who has a main home in the United States for more than half the year; **and**
 - A qualifying child who is under age 18 at the end of 2021 and who has a valid Social Security number; **and**
 - Made less than certain income limits.
- To see if you qualify and make sure you're signed up, visit <http://childtaxcredit.gov> or call 311 and say "financial counseling" or "tax preparation." You can also visit nyc.gov/talkmoney or nyc.gov/taxprep



Critical Updates, New Policies, and Testing Locations to Protect You and Your Community

1. **The Governor, in conjunction with Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams, announced a partnership with the Consortium for Worker Education as part of the Governor's ongoing gun violence prevention strategy.** CWE, the workforce development arm of the NYC Central Labor Council will provide new job training, training stipends, credentialing and placement in good-paying, long-term jobs for 2,400 young people who are out of school and live in the neighborhoods most impacted by gun violence.
2. **The Governor signed the Gender Recognition Act, removing longstanding barriers to equality under the law and ensuring expanded protections for transgender and non-binary New Yorkers.** The legislation (S.4402-B/A.5465-D) allows New Yorkers to use "X" as a non-binary sex designation on New York State driver's licenses. It also ensures that New Yorkers will be able to have their gender identity on official documents and provides protections to reduce discrimination against non-binary and transgender New Yorkers by permitting name change and sex designation changes to be sealed more easily. Finally, the legislation will provide New Yorkers the ability to amend their birth certificates and use a designation of mother, father, or parent for the first time.
3. **NYS has enacted legislation (S.4201-A/A.4063) prohibiting public employers from penalizing employees who use sick leave or compensatory time to quarantine, seek medical treatment, or for other absences related to a COVID-19 diagnosis or contact.**
4. **The Governor announced that New York State will invest an additional \$35 million in the QUALITYstarsNY program, delivering resources to improve early childhood care, including staff training. QUALITYstarsNY is New York's quality rating and improvement system, based on 5 stars, with 5 being the highest.** Early childhood programs volunteer to participate and this investment will help programs improve so they can meet the minimum requirements to qualify.
5. Eligible individuals can schedule vaccine appointments by contacting:
 - **The NYC Vaccine hotline at 877-829-4692 or clicking here**
 - **The NYS hotline at 888-364-3065 or clicking here**
 - **SOMOS, a community health provider at 833-766-6769**
 - **Eligible individuals will have to fill out a screening form and attest to being in an eligible category.** Anyone who is NOT eligible for vaccination, should not sign up for an appointment. **Click here to find updated vaccine eligibility lists, vaccine locations near you and to schedule a vaccine appointment when eligible.**

- **[Click here for a COVID-19 vaccine fact sheet.](#)**
 - 6. **Review the State guidelines for travelers arriving in New York State.**
 - View the Test-and-Trace Corps **COVID-19 Wait Times Dashboard** for estimated wait times for NYC Health + Hospitals COVID-19 testing locations. This wait time information is updated by site staff every two hours.
 - **Use the DOH map to find all State-run testing sites.**
 - **Click here for a full list of NYC Health + Hospitals walk-in testing sites available at no cost to you on the North Shore.**
 - Use the Phone-a-Clinician program with Health + Hospitals, by calling (844) NYC-4NYC. Call to connect with a medical provider free of charge seven days a week from 9 AM - 9 PM.
 - Individuals that are unable to safely isolate themselves at home may be afforded a free temporary hotel room. **Click here to learn more** or call (844) 692-4692. **Please click here if you have any further questions.**
-

Crucial Resources to Support and Aid Your Everyday Needs

1. SCORE Staten Island is a nonprofit association dedicated to helping both aspiring and established entrepreneurs get off the ground, grow and achieve their goals through cost-free education and confidential mentorship. The organization is Chapter 476 of the nationwide SCORE. As a resource partner with the U.S. Small Business Administration, SCORE is funded in part through a cooperative agreement with the SBA. It has both local mentors, who have proved to be successful in their fields, and a network of 10,000 volunteer mentors across the country providing web-based seminars and resources. It can provide:
 - Volunteer mentors who share their expertise across many different industries
 - Free, confidential business mentoring in person, via email, phone, or video
 - Free business tools, templates, and tips online
 - Inexpensive or free business workshops (locally) and webinars (online 24/7)
 - For additional information, or to schedule an appointment, SCORE-Staten Island may be visited here. Or you call them at 718-727-1221; email at info@scoresi.org and visit on Facebook and LinkedIn.

2. **Staten Island Legal Services wants to help you.** If you need **free legal help** during the COVID-19 crisis, for matters of immigration, foreclosure, small business advice, and more, **call them at 718-233-6480.**



DO YOU NEED FREE LEGAL HELP DURING THE COVID-19 CRISIS?

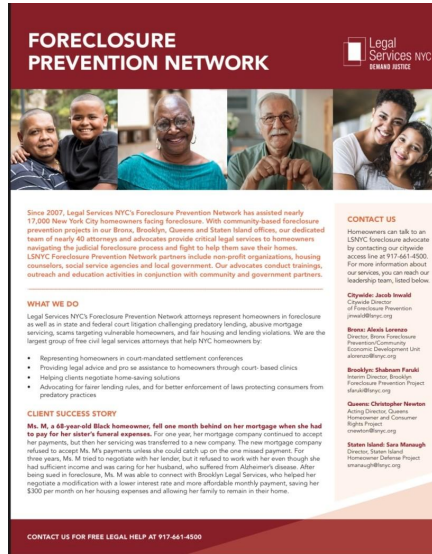
Staten Island Legal Services is here to help you and your family get through this together.

- Unemployment Benefits & Employment Issues
- Food Stamps (SNAP), Public Assistance, Medicaid
- Eviction/Illegal Lockouts
- Mortgage Relief & Foreclosure Prevention
- Small Business Advice
- Immigration
- Bankruptcy and Consumer Help
- Student Loan and Debt Collection
- Domestic Violence, Orders of Protection, & Child Support
- Education
- LGBTQ/HIV+

CALL STATEN ISLAND LEGAL SERVICES

Monday - Friday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
We speak your language and serve all 5 boroughs of NYC.
718-233-6480

Legal Services NYC
SERVING JUSTICE
legalservicesnyc.org



FORECLOSURE PREVENTION NETWORK

Legal Services NYC
SERVING JUSTICE

Since 2007, Legal Services NYC's Foreclosure Prevention Network has assisted nearly 12,000 New York City homeowners facing foreclosure. With community-based foreclosure prevention projects in our Bronx, Brooklyn, Queens and Staten Island offices, our dedicated team of nearly 40 attorneys and advocates provide critical legal services to homeowners navigating the judicial foreclosure process and fight to help them save their homes. LSNYC Foreclosure Prevention Network partners include non-profit organizations, housing counselors, social service agencies and local government. Our advocates conduct trainings, outreach and education activities in conjunction with community and government partners.

CONTACT US
Homeowners can talk to an LSNYC foreclosure advocate by contacting our citywide advice line at 718-641-4500. For more information about our services, you can reach our leadership team, listed below.

WHAT WE DO
Legal Services NYC's Foreclosure Prevention Network attorneys represent homeowners in foreclosure as well as in state and federal court litigation challenging predatory lending, abusive mortgage servicing, scams targeting vulnerable homeowners, and fair housing and lending violations. We are the largest group of free civil services attorneys that help NYC homeowners by:

- Representing homeowners in court-mandated settlement conferences
- Providing legal advice and pro se assistance to homeowners through court-based clinics
- Helping clients negotiate home-seeing solutions
- Advocating for fairer lending rules, and for better enforcement of laws protecting consumers from predatory practices

CLIENT SUCCESS STORY
Ms. M, a 68-year-old Black homemaker, fell one month behind on her mortgage when she had to pay for her sister's funeral expenses. For one year, her mortgage company continued to accept her payments, but then her servicing was transferred to a new company. The new mortgage company refused to accept Ms. M's payments unless she could catch up on the one missed payment. For three years, Ms. M tried to negotiate with her lender, but it refused to work with her even though she had sufficient income and was caring for her husband, who suffered from Alzheimer's disease. After being sued in foreclosure, Ms. M was able to connect with Brooklyn Legal Services, who helped her negotiate a modification with a lower interest rate and more affordable monthly payment, saving her \$300 per month on her housing expenses and allowing her family to remain in their home.

CONTACT US FOR FREE LEGAL HELP AT 917-641-4500

Citywide: Jacob Inwald
Citywide Director of Foreclosure Prevention
jinwald@lsnyc.org

Bronx: Alexis Lereaux
Director, Bronx Foreclosure Prevention/Community Economic Development Unit
alexis@lsnyc.org

Brooklyn: Shannon Parkhi
Branch Director, Brooklyn Foreclosure Prevention Project
shannon@lsnyc.org

Queens: Christopher Newton
Branch Director, Queens Rights Project
cnewton@lsnyc.org

Staten Island: Sara Henneghy
Director, Staten Island Homeowner Defense Project
sarahenneghy@lsnyc.org

3. **Advance Planning Seminar. Join this free session to learn more about your options to ensure that your choices are carried out. Monday, July 26th at 6:30 PM**



ADVANCE PLANNING SEMINAR

MONDAY, JULY 26TH 6:30PM
Join us for a virtual introduction to advance planning

If you have not yet made legal arrangements, join this free session to learn more about your options to ensure that your choices are carried out.

Who will make your health care decisions if you're unable?
Who will receive your property after your death?

TOPICS INCLUDE:
HEALTHCARE PROXIES
LIVING WILL
POWER OF ATTORNEY
LAST WILLS & TESTAMENT

PRESENTED BY
AUDRA BARROW, ESQ.
OF BARROWS LAW GROUP

HON. EDWINA F. MARTIN, ESQ.
RICHMOND COUNTY PUBLIC ADMINISTRATOR

This event is free and will be on **zoom**

Register at sicherheitevent.com
Any questions email: signmeupforthisevent@gmail.com

Disclaimer: The information contained herein is for informational purposes only and is not legal advice or substituted legal counsel, nor does it constitute advertising or solicitation.

Fellowship Baptist Church
Standing on the Word

POWER CENTER

4. **Small Business Resources:**

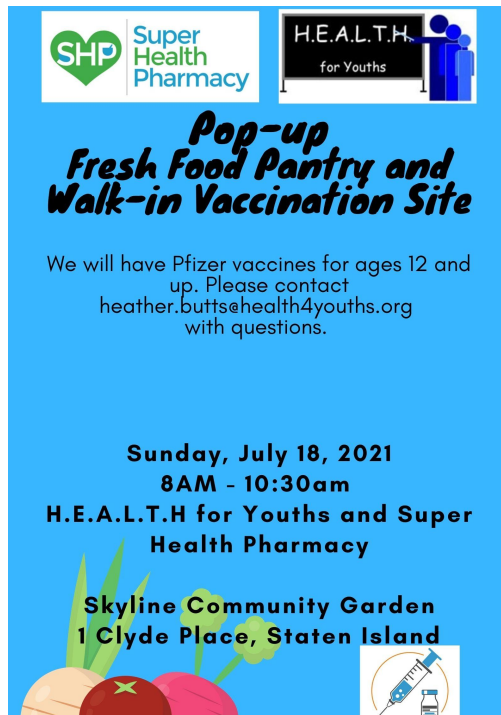
- **Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) provides loans to help businesses keep their workforce employed during the Coronavirus crisis.** The PPP application for all lenders is now open. There are limited funds, so applicants are advised to apply early! **[Click here for more information and to find the right application for your business.](#)**
 - In preparation for your application, gather your documentation. For a complete list of required documents and additional PPP information, **[click here.](#)**
 - **List of participating lenders:**
 - Lower East Side People's Credit Union- North Shore Branch, for PPP inquiries, email lending@lespcu.org or apply directly online on their **[website.](#)**
 - TruFund, **[click here for an application](#)** or email Mark Brazier (English) at MBrazier@trufund.org or Marcos Reyes (Spanish) at mreyes@trufund.org.

Useful Events and Opportunities

1. **19th Annual Harmony Day.** West Brighton is hosting their annual Harmony Day filled with music, games, and entertainment. See the flyer below for more information.



- H.E.A.L.T.H. for Youths is holding a **pop-up fresh food pantry and a walk-in vaccination site this Sunday, July 18, 2021 from 8:00 AM - 10:30 AM. Located at Skyline Community Garden, 1 Clyde Place.**



- Port Richmond Food Festival. Free Event for kids, families, and seniors. Saturday, July 31, 2021. 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM. Veterans Park. See flyer for more information.**









4. **Stapleton Saturdays beginning June 12 - August 28. 11:00 AM - 5:00 PM, Van Duzer St will be closed to traffic for summer activities.**


Public Notice:
 → **Stapleton Saturdays!** ←




On Saturdays from June 12 - Aug 28, 11 AM to 5 PM, Van Duzer Street will be closed to car traffic between Wright St and Beach St! Why?...

 Live Music	 Yoga and meditation
 Face Painting	 Art classes
 Balloon Animals	 And more!

Questions? Comments?
 info@vanduzercivic.org
 or
 PO Box 40666, SI, NY, 10304




5. [NYC will pay youth \\$1,200 to take online courses this summer. Visit NeON's official site for more information.](#)
6. **Meditation on the lawn at Clear Comfort. August 16 at 1:00 PM** you can attend free meditation sessions. Bring a yoga mat, water, and towel. See flyer for more information.



MEDITATION on the Lawn
 at Clear Comfort

Join us this summer for FREE meditation sessions on the lawn of Clear Comfort at 1PM. Please bring a yoga mat, water and a towel.

Monday 1PM | June 14 • July 12 • Aug. 16

 **Alice Austen House**
 2 Hylan Boulevard
 Staten Island, NY 10305

NO PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED

In case of inclement weather, cancellations will be posted on the Hugs & Donuts's social media. #HUGSANDDONUTS
 For more information, contact the Hugs & Donuts via email (hugsanddonuts@gmail.com) or call (718) 945-0202

7. NYC Parks is looking for volunteers to join Monday morning clean-up projects. See the flyer below for more information.

Show your park some love and join a **Monday Morning Pitch-In!**

New York City's parks are being used more than ever before as a result of the pandemic, which often means more litter. You can help!

NYC Parks is looking for volunteers to join Monday morning clean-up projects to help pick up trash after a busy summer weekend. Projects typically last three to four hours and NYC Parks provides all supplies.

Your invaluable help will make parks cleaner, safer, and greener for our families, pets, friends, and neighbors. To sign up, visit nyc.gov/parks/stoplitter.

JOIN A MONDAY MORNING PITCH-IN AT:

Clove Lakes Park, Staten Island
Meet at the parking lot. Dates: June 1, June 21, July 12, August 2, and August 23.

Willowbrook Park, Staten Island
Meet at the comfort station. Dates: June 7, June 28, July 19, August 9, and August 30.

Bloomingdale Park, Staten Island
Meet at the comfort station. Dates: June 14, July 6, July 26, August 16, and September 7.

Time: 9a.m.-12p.m.

Please note: Monday Morning Pitch-Ins will take place on the Tuesday following a Monday holiday.

For more information contact ItsMyPark@cityparksfoundation.org



8. Attention working parents. The District 31 Parent Working Group recently created a Parent/Guardian Survey pertaining to the current school year and plans for the 2021-2022 school year. They are interested in hearing from everyone, so all voices are heard. [Click here to take the survey.](#)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Charles D. Fall". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Charles D. Fall

Member of Assembly

**ALBANY OFFICE: Room 534, Legislative Office Building, Albany, NY 12248.
518-455-4677, FAX 518-455-5946**

**DISTRICT OFFICE: [853 Forest Avenue, Staten Island, New York 10310](#). 718-442-9932,
FAX 718-442-9942**

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