

Assemblymember  
**Tony Simone**

Assembly District 75



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Dear friends,

Happy October!

It is officially fall in New York City, and while we've had some unexpected rain recently, I am glad that it's finally getting cooler. As we head into the colder months, many people experience issues with their landlords and need services; my office is here to help! Please reach out to us if you need assistance at (212) 807-7900 or [simonet@nyassembly.gov](mailto:simonet@nyassembly.gov), or visit my community office at 214 West 29th Street, suite #1002.

Now that fall is here, it's officially pumpkin spice latte season; I hope you're enjoying your favorite warm drink and keeping cozy!

Tony

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**Announcing a Community Town Hall!**

Join me and other elected officials for a community town hall event! I will be joined by Senator Brad Hoylman-Sigal, Manhattan Borough President Mark Levine, and Councilmember Erik Bottcher, and we will be moderated by London Terrace Tenants Association President Inge Ivchenko.

We will be discussing a variety of topics and issues facing our community, and if you have questions for your elected officials, this event will be an opportunity to bring your questions directly to them. We will also provide light refreshments.

[Please RSVP for the event here.](#) We look forward to seeing you there!

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

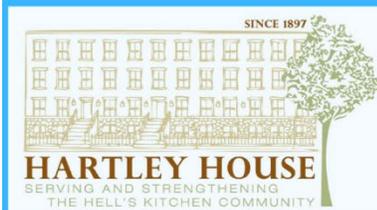
**FOR A COMMUNITY TOWN HALL  
HOSTED BY ASSEMBLYMEMBER  
TONY SIMONE**

Co-sponsored by  
**State Senator** Brad Hoylman-Sigal  
**Manhattan Borough President** Mark Levine  
**Councilmember** Erik Bottcher

Moderated by  
**London Terrace Tenants Association President**  
Inge Ivchenko

**Saturday, October 28th  
12-2pm**

**Hartley House**  
413 West 46th Street, New York NY 10036



**RSVP:  
[bit.ly/simonetownhall](https://bit.ly/simonetownhall)**

**TO GET DETAILS ON THE EVENT AS THEY ARE ANNOUNCED, FOLLOW US!  
INSTAGRAM: @TONYWSIMONE  
TWITTER: @TONYSIMONE**

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## Recent News

### Cutting the Ribbon at Ali Forney's New Drop In Center

Ali Forney has a new 24/7 drop-in center! The new location will bring Ali Forney's vital services to LGBTQ+ youth to the heart of midtown, where so many vulnerable young people end up when they arrive in New York City. Ali Forney provides transitional and long-term housing, job

readiness programs, access to healthcare, and more; life-saving services that for many will begin at the new drop-in center. I am proud to welcome the new location to my district.



*Giving remarks at the ribbon cutting for Ali Forney's new drop-in center.*

### LLC Transparency Act Rally

We all know that bad landlords will try any tactic to cheat and take advantage of their tenants and workers, and shady LLC's have been a favorite for years. That's why my colleague, Assemblymember Emily Gallagher, passed [the LLC Transparency Act](#) in our house this year, while Senator Hoylman-Sigal carried the bill through the Senate. I have been a strong supporter of this bill, which requires the beneficial owners of LLC's to identify themselves, making it possible to hold them accountable for their bad behavior. Last month, we held a rally to urge Governor Hochul to sign the bill into law, and help regulators hold these companies to account.



*Rallying for the LLC Transparency Act with Senators Brad Hoylman-Sigal and Liz Krueger, as well as Assemblymembers Emily Gallagher, Karines Reyes, Alex Bores, and Marcela Mitaynes. We were joined by the New York City District Council of Carpenters and Reinvent Albany, a good government watchdog group.*

#### Visiting the Members of Fountain House

I visited the members and staff at Fountain House, which has a clubhouse in Hell's Kitchen. The clubhouse model, which Fountain House pioneered, is a community-based system for treating

people with serious mental illness, or SMI. Members of the clubhouse work together in community and support one another, building social relationships and skills that are often missing from typical mental illness treatments. The clubhouse model recognizes that recovery is linked to social relationships, and the positive results show a clear need to expand this model throughout our city and state to serve our fellow New Yorkers. The New York State Assembly granted over \$1 billion in the current fiscal year's budget for mental health initiatives, and I'm proud to support treatment solutions for people struggling with serious mental illness.



*Discussing Fountain House's clubhouse model with staff and members.*

### The Inaugural West Side Fest

Last weekend the West Side Cultural Network kicked off the inaugural West Side Fest: a thrilling day-long festival of performances, exhibitions, and other programming. The festival had more than 20 participating institutions from the west side, including Hudson River Park, the High Line, the Joyce Theater, the Shed, the Rubin Museum of Art, and more! The day included free admission to the Whitney Museum, a poetry reading on the High Line, and activities for kids at

Little Island. The festival was a fantastic success, and I'm looking forward to it becoming an annual event for the west side to celebrate our unique cultural institutions.



*Giving remarks at the kickoff breakfast for the inaugural West Side Fest.*

### Seven Stories of New Rehearsal Space for the Joyce Theater!

The Joyce Theater, a mainstay of dance on the west side, has expanded to a beautiful new building in the East Village. Formerly the Boys Club, the building is seven floors of gymnasiums, dance and recording studios, and even a pool! (It's empty for now, but Councilmember Chi Ossé and I had to try it out anyway - see photo below!) The Assembly gave \$1 million towards the renovation of the building in this year's budget, so that the Joyce can install critical infrastructure, including an elevator, and improve the heat and plumbing in the building. The new building is a fantastic resource to artists, providing affordable rehearsal space and expanding the Joyce's ability to foster the art form across the city.



*Checking out the pool on the 7th floor with Councilmember Chi Ossé.*

### Muhlenberg Library Progress

The Muhlenberg Library in Chelsea has served the Chelsea neighborhood for over a century, and was closed in April 2022 to accommodate several improvement projects for the library. The projects include HVAC (heating, ventilation, and air conditioning) replacement, elevator replacement, sidewalk improvements, and an upgrade to the fire alarm system. The New York City Department of Design and Construction provided me and other colleagues with an update on the work, and I can share that the renovations are expected to be completed in mid-2024. Groovy!



*Reading is groovy!*

### 50 Years of Hip-Hop

This summer, the music industry celebrated an incredible 50 years of Hip-Hop, and I joined Assemblymember Catalina Cruz in sponsoring a proclamation celebrating Universal Music Group's contribution to the rich and diverse culture and history of Hip-Hop. Senators Jamal Bailey and Brad Hoylman-Sigal sponsored the proclamation in the Senate, and we presented it to UMG at Republic Records, a flagship division of UMG that is located in Chelsea, and represents artists like Drake, Kid Cudi, Lil Wayne, Metro Boomin, and Nicki Minaj.



*Seeing one of the recording studios with Senators Brad Hoylman-Sigal and Jamaal Bailey, and Assemblymember Catalina Cruz.*

### Urging President Biden to Act on Climate Change

I joined many colleagues from the State Legislature in a letter to President Biden calling on him to declare the climate crisis an emergency under the National Emergencies Act. July 2023 was the hottest month ever recorded on Earth according to the World Meteorological Organization, and temperatures are expected to continue to rise. The 2023 United Nations Climate Change Conference or Conference of the Parties (COP28) is quickly approaching, where global climate policy will be determined, and President Biden should declare a climate emergency ahead of that conference to make it clear to our global partners that the United States is leading the way in this crisis.

### The Longest Table

Nearly 500 hundred neighbors and friends came together last weekend to have lunch together at Chelsea's annual Longest Table event! The afternoon was filled with joy and community, as neighbors from around Chelsea gathered to get to know each other and share a meal. The

model of the Longest Table is a beautiful one that encourages the community to come together and enjoy each other's company, and it's an event that I look forward to every year.



*Eating lunch with hundreds of neighbors!*

### Penn South Groundbreaking

I joined neighbors and residents from Penn South to break ground on a brand new building that is being added to the complex. The new building will include 188 units in the heart of Chelsea, 30% of which will be affordable; providing a new stream of accessible, affordable housing for dozens of middle-class families. We must take action to address the affordable housing crisis in New York City with every tool in the toolbox, and creating new supply is an important step for the Chelsea community.



*Breaking ground with Senator Hoylman-Sigal and Councilmember Bottcher.*

### Urging DOE to Act on Facial Recognition Technology

I joined Assemblymember Monica Wallace and other colleagues on a recent letter to the Commissioner of the New York State Department of Education urging her to continue the existing prohibition on facial recognition technology (FRT) in public and nonpublic elementary and secondary schools in New York State. I'm proud to sponsor A.7625 with Senator Brad Hoylman-Sigal which would prohibit the use of biometric surveillance in any place of public accommodation.

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### **Community Resources + Events**

#### London Terrace Tenant Association Street Fair

The London Terrace Tenant Association Street Fair was postponed as a result of last

weekend's rain. The new date is this Saturday, October 7th, from 10am-5pm, on 24th Street between 9th and 10th Avenues.

### NYSHCR Climate Friendly Homes Fund

The Climate Friendly Homes Fund, a \$250M fund launched by the New York State Homes and Community Renewal and administered by the Community Preservation Corporation, is now offering 0% interest, forgivable loans and technical assistance for building upgrades that prepare existing small rental buildings to operate on clean energy.

Retrofit Scope of Work items eligible for funding include:

- Electrical service upgrades
- HVAC systems replacement with high-efficiency heat pumps
- Domestic Hot Water replacement with high efficiency heat pumps
- Additional energy conservation measures to optimize new system performance
- Systems commissioning

If your building is eligible, you can apply today! [Find more information and apply here.](#)

### Affordable Connectivity Program

The Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) gives a discount on your household's monthly broadband internet service, if you are eligible. Participating broadband providers will apply this discount to your broadband plan.

If eligible, your household can receive:

- Up to a \$30/month discount on your internet service
- A one-time discount of up to \$100 for a laptop, tablet, or desktop computer (you will need to pay a copay between \$10 and \$50)
- Only one monthly service discount and one device discount is allowed per household

How to Apply:

- Go to [GetInternet.Gov](https://www.getinternet.gov) to submit an application or print out a mail-in application.
- Contact your preferred participating provider to select an eligible plan and have the discount applied to your bill.

Note: Enrollment is not complete until the provider confirms your plan.

[Find more information here.](#)

### West 44th Block Association Garage Sale

The West 44th Block Association Garage Sale was postponed after last weekend's rain, and it's been rescheduled for this weekend! I hope to see you there!

# **THE WEST 44<sup>TH</sup> ST ANNUAL GARAGE SALE!**

***NEW DATE!!!!***  
***SUNDAY, OCT 8<sup>TH</sup>***  
***9:00 am TO 5:00 pm!***

**OVER 75 VENDORS OFFERING GIFTS, CLOTHES,  
HOUSEHOLD GOODS, PAINTINGS, ART OBJECTS,  
JEWELRY, TOYS, ON AND ON!**

**ANTIQUES, VINTAGE, BRAND-NEW!**

**FIND TREASURES THAT YOU DIDN'T  
KNOW YOU NEEDED!**

**WANT TO BE A LAST MINUTE VENDOR?  
CONTACT US AT [WEST44NYC@GMAIL.COM](mailto:WEST44NYC@GMAIL.COM)**

***SEE YOU AT THE GARAGE SALE!***

**THE WEST 44<sup>TH</sup> ST BETTER BLOCK ASSOCIATION/  
FRIENDS OF PIER 84**



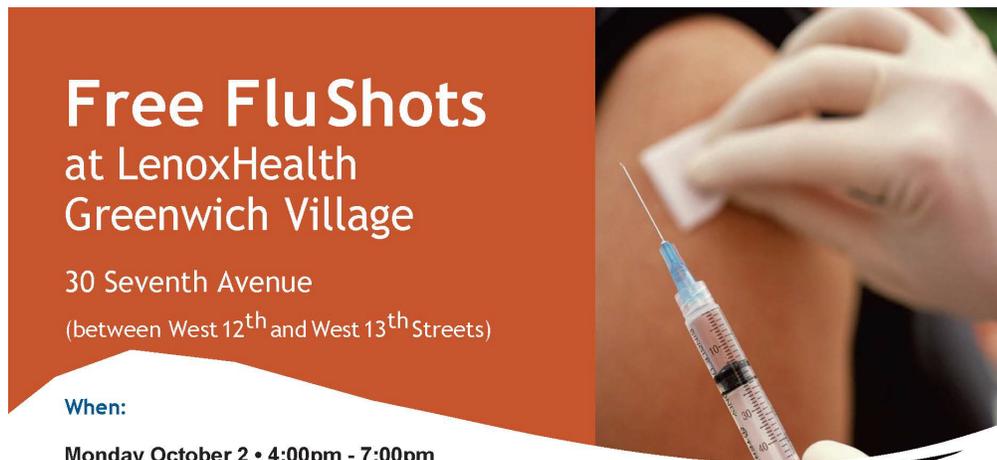
## SAFE Disposal Event from DSNY

The New York Department of Sanitation is hosting a SAFE disposal event on Sunday October 15th from 10am-4pm in Union Square. At these SAFE disposal events, NYC residents can drop off chemical products, medical waste, and electronics. Proof of NYC residency is REQUIRED

(such as a NYS driver license, utility bill, etc). The event will take place on the south side of 17th Street between Park Avenue South & Broadway. [You can find more disposal events here.](#)

### Free Flu Shots!

Haven't gotten your flu shot yet this year? You're in luck! I am co-sponsoring a series of free flu shot events at Lenox Health in Greenwich Village; you can head there to get a free shot. There are several dates remaining; head to Lenox Health at 30 7th Avenue for your vaccine!



**When:**

**Monday October 2 • 4:00pm - 7:00pm**

**Thursday October 5 • 1:00pm - 4:00pm**

**Wednesday October 11 • 4:00pm - 7:00pm**

**Sunday October 22 • 11:00am – 4:00pm**

**Thursday October 26 • 2:00pm -5:00pm**

**For more information**  
please contact Wayne Kawadler  
at [wkawadler@northwell.edu](mailto:wkawadler@northwell.edu)

This event is funded by Lenox Health Greenwich Village and co-hosted by the following:

- US Congressman Daniel Goldman
- Manhattan Borough President Mark Levine
- NYS Senator Brad Hoylman
- NYS Assemblymember Deborah Glick
- NYS Assemblymember Tony Simone
- NYC Councilmember Erik Bottcher
- Manhattan Community Board 2
- Manhattan Community Board 4

Influenza (flu) is a contagious respiratory illness that can cause mild to severe illness. Some people, such as older people, young children and those with certain health conditions, are at high risk for serious flu complications. We will screen those who might be allergic to the vaccine.

**The best way to prevent the flu is by getting vaccinated each year.**



 **Lenox Health Greenwich Village**  
Northwell Health<sup>SM</sup>

God's Love We Deliver Celebrates 30 Years of the Race to Deliver

God's Love We Deliver does critical work to improve the health and well-being of people living

with HIV/AIDS, cancer and other serious illnesses by alleviating hunger and malnutrition, and on November 19th they are celebrating 30 years of their Race to Deliver, a 4-mile run/walk to support the organization. Interested in running to support their work? You can register at their Web site today!

### NYCSBS Emergency Preparedness Tools

The New York City Department of Small Business Services provides many free resources to small businesses to prepare for a variety of emergencies. For instance, the Emergency Response Unit can:

- Provide businesses with the latest emergency information on street closures, utility disruptions, security, and demolitions.
- Once the business location is declared safe by the NYC Department of Buildings and Fire Department of New York (FDNY), we can help business-owners regain access to their business location and recover their salvageable items.
- Coordinate with the NYC Police Department and other emergency responders to make sure their business location is secure and prevent losses.
- Connect businesses to local business organizations for possible relocation assistance.
- Help accelerate re-inspections, applications, and permit processes to restore business operations.
- Connect businesses to an attorney for free legal advice.

[You can find more information on the resources at the NYCSBS website.](#) For assistance, contact the Emergency Response Unit through the SBS Hotline at 888-SBS-4NYC (888-727-4692) or via email at [eru@sbs.nyc.gov](mailto:eru@sbs.nyc.gov).

### No Trash Collection on Monday, October 9th

The New York City Department of Sanitation announced that in observance of Italian Heritage Day/Indigenous Peoples' Day on October 9, 2023, there will be NO trash, compost or recycling collection.

Residents who normally receive Monday trash or composting collection may place their material at the curb Monday evening for collection starting Tuesday, October 10. Residents should anticipate some collection delays, as is common after holidays. We appreciate patience as we work to collect the backlog of material.

Residents who normally receive Monday recycling collection should hold their material and place recycling out at the curb, Sunday, October 15 for pick up on Monday, October 16.

For questions about Sanitation services and holiday schedules contact 311 or [visit the New York City Department of Sanitation website.](#)

### Happy Adopt a Shelter Dog Month!

October is Adopt a Shelter Dog Month, and to celebrate, Animal Care Centers of NYC is waiving their adoption fees! If you have been thinking about adding a furry friend to your family, October is a great time to do so - and ACC is even expanding their hours to help you do it! My rescue dog Radar is a beloved member of my family, and I encourage you to experience the

love a dog can bring to your life by adopting a rescue.  
[Take a look at dogs \(and cats!\) that are available for adoption here.](#)

# WE'RE EXPANDING OUR ADOPTION HOURS!

Manhattan and Brooklyn ACC  
are open for adoptions longer!

***Manhattan & Brooklyn Care Centers  
Expanded Adoption Hours***

**Monday - Friday: 12pm - 6:30pm**  
*(last entry at 6pm)*

**Saturday - Sunday: 11am - 5:30pm**  
*(last entry at 5pm)*

