

Rebecca Seawright



RAMADAN MUBARAK

APRIL 23 - MAY 23



Dear Neighbor,

Ramadan Kareem to those who are observing. Please welcome this auspicious month of Ramadan with a heart filled with joy, peace and harmony.

This week, we held a virtual town hall on the issues of cyber security and scam prevention, and we delivered more meals to seniors with the Isaac's Center. There are thousands of seniors who rely on a daily meal delivery, especially during the COVID-19 crisis. **Please consider volunteering to help those who are homebound to get their meals.** Email SeawrightR@NYAssembly.gov for more information. Our next Virtual Tuesday Town Hall will be held on April 28 at 7pm livestreaming on Facebook! Please register here if you plan to tune in and would like a question answered on the issue of education and distance learning during COVID-19.

Today, it was announced that the State will provide all New Yorkers a postage paid envelope and an absentee ballot application to have the option of staying home from the poll sites.

The state will take a regional approach to reopening and will make decisions on which counties and regions to open and when to open them based on the facts and data specific to that area. The preliminary results of phase one of the state's antibody testing survey are in. The survey developed a baseline infection rate by testing 3,000 people at grocery

stores and other box stores over two days in 19 counties and 40 localities across the state. **The preliminary results show 13.9 percent of the population have COVID-19 antibodies and the rate is over 20% in New York City.**

As the state continues its work to flatten the curve, large-scale contact tracing is critical to safely and responsibly reopening communities while preserving the public health. **We will employ contact tracing to prevent the spread of a virus by using testing to confirm if someone has COVID-19.** Contact tracing is a proven public health tool which can profoundly help “box in” the virus. Several countries, such as Germany, Singapore and South Korea, have used contact tracing effectively amidst the COVID-19 outbreak. As a result, those countries have been able to re-open for business quicker and have experienced fewer deaths and lower rates of infection.

We continue to fight against COVID-19 by practicing social distancing and wearing face coverings. The virus continues to pose a threat to the elderly, especially those in nursing homes. **The State Department of Health is partnering with Attorney General Letitia James to investigate nursing homes who violate Executive Orders** requiring these facilities to communicate COVID-19 test results and deaths to residents’ families.

If you are in need of information or assistance, please don't hesitate to contact our office. We regretfully have suspended in-person appointments and meetings, due to public health considerations. **We are eager to continue assisting constituents by telephone and email.** Please leave a message on our voicemail with your name, address and phone number and our staff will return your call:

Phone: [212.288.4607](tel:212.288.4607)

Email: SeawrightR@NYAssembly.gov

Sincerely,

Rebecca

**ASSEMBLY MEMBER
REBECCA SEAWRIGHT**



VIRTUAL TOWNHALL TUESDAYS

**CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) UPDATES
ON EDUCATION**

**TUESDAY, APRIL 28
7:00PM**



Adrienne Austin

THE ACTING DEPUTY
CHANCELLOR FOR
COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT,
PARTNERSHIPS, AND
COMMUNICATIONS



Maud Maron

PRESIDENT
OF COMMUNITY EDUCATION
COUNCIL D2 (CEC D2)

JOIN US!

WATCH LIVE ON FACEBOOK:
www.facebook.com/RebeccaASeawright/

REGISTRATION REQUIRED: CLICK HERE

**OR CALL 212.288.4607
EMAIL SEAWRIGHTR@NYASSEMBLY.GOV**

REGISTER TO THE TOWN HALL HERE!

**CLICK HERE TO WATCH ON FACEBOOK LIVE @ 7PM
ON 4/28**

**In Case You Missed It (ICYMI): This Week's Tuesday Town
Hall on Cyber Security & Scam Prevention**



NYT Coverage of COVID-19 Fraud



'Pure Hell for Victims' as Stimulus Programs Draw a...

Trillions of dollars in stimulus funds have created a rush among criminals to take the money from those who need it the most.

[Read more
www.nytimes.com](http://www.nytimes.com)

Seawright Delivers Meals to Homebound Seniors
From Isaac's Center



Housing and Tenant's Rights

ASSEMBLY MEMBER

REBECCA A. SEAWRIGHT



HOUSING LEGAL CLINIC

TUES. APRIL 28

**EVERY OTHER TUESDAY
AT 4:00 PM ATTORNEYS FROM
THE LAW OFFICES OF GRIMBLE
& LOGUIDICE, LLC WILL
PROVIDE ADVICE ON HOUSING-
RELATED MATTERS AT NO-COST
FOR CONSTITUENTS OF THE
76TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT**

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!

**DUE TO THE COVID-19 CRISIS, A
VOLUNTEER ATTORNEY WILL
HOST A ONE -ON-ONE PHONE
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.

SIGN UP FOR THE LEGAL CLINIC HERE

Getting Essential Repairs

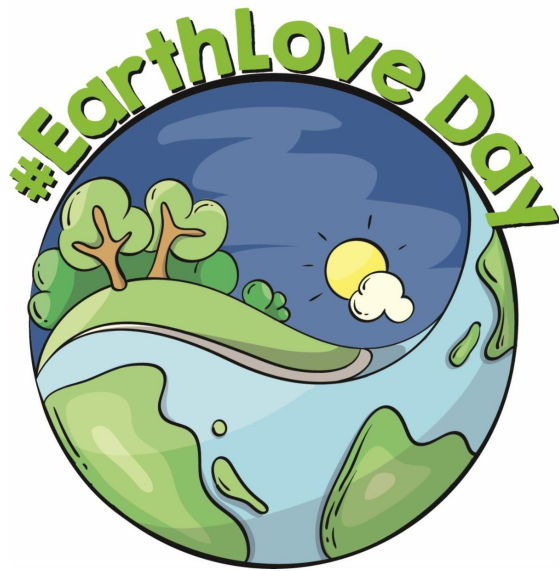
JustFix.nyc has announced *Emergency HP Action*, a new tool empowering tenants against landlords who are neglecting essential repairs or harassing tenants. Emergency HP Action allows tenants to sue landlords from any device that connects to the internet-- saving a trip to Housing Court. [Learn more here.](#)

Earth Week

Roosevelt Island Celebrates Earth Day Online

Join RI as we celebrate Five for Fifty 5 days for 50 years

This year's second annual Roosevelt Island #EarthLove Day event had to be cancelled. However, through Sunday, April 26th, RIOC and partners iDig2Learn, the Roosevelt Island Garden Club (RIGC), Green Roosevelt Island Neighbors (GRIN), and more upcoming partners, present five days of interactive activities to show your #EarthLove for Roosevelt Island:
<https://rioc.ny.gov/480/EarthLove-Roosevelt-Island>



Neighbors Fighting For Composting Service Restoration During Pandemic

Neighbors have reported to our office that many essential waste reduction initiatives are going by the wayside.

On the UES and on Roosevelt Island, residents have worked to rally neighbors to participate in the food scrap drop off and compost program. The program saves on trucking to landfill and avoids placing methane gas producing organics in the waste stream to the tune of over 300,000 pounds a day according to DSNY.

[They are asking for neighbors support on this petition: Sign here.](#)

Unemployment Insurance Updates

The New York State Department of Labor is continuing to work through a backlog of calls. You may continue to file for unemployment benefits online and a DOL representative will call you within 72 hours to complete your application only if additional information is required. The online system is available daily, 7:30 am - 7:30 pm.

Previously, those eligible for federal Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) were required to apply for regular unemployment benefits through the State and have their application denied before being allowed to apply for PUA. An improved application has been installed, and it will determine to which program one should apply. You may now submit one application and you will automatically be submitted for PUA if you are not eligible for regular UI benefits. Apply here: <https://www.labor.ny.gov/home/>

Applicants who need to speak to DOL to complete the process will be called within 72 hours by DOL call center employees. Those who have already filed before the new system do not have to call.

The day you file for new unemployment claims is based on the first letter of your last name.

- Last names beginning A - F should file on Monday
- Last names beginning G - N should file on Tuesday
- Last names beginning O - Z should file on Wednesday
- If you've missed your day, you may file Thursday, Friday or Saturday.

Unemployment benefits have been extended an extra 13 weeks, from 26 to 39 weeks, and an additional \$600 from the federal stimulus will be given to filers.

Your benefits will be retroactive to the first day of your unemployment, regardless of when you apply and even if you could not complete your application within the deadline.

Please contact our office if you continue to experience delays qualifying for unemployment insurance.

Small Business Resource Center

Office of the New York City Comptroller Maintains a List of Private Loans

Small businesses are the backbone of New York City. They employ us, feed us, serve us, and help us meet our day-to-day needs. This page has information about programs and assistance available to small businesses to help them navigate this crisis.

Keeping Calm In Quarantine

Red Cross Offers Virtual Emergency Preparedness Education for Kids and Adults

The American Red Cross is encouraging families to rethink their disaster plans during the coronavirus. To help families, the Red Cross Greater New York Region adapted its preparedness education programs for adults and children to deliver this training virtually.

KIDS: The Pillowcase Project – The Pillowcase Project is an interactive preparedness education program, typically taught in a classroom setting, for children in grades 3 through 5 that teaches children how to prepare for emergencies, practice what they have learned, and share their knowledge with family and friends. The Pillowcase Project virtual classes are offered via Webex weekly:

- Virtual classes are offered every Wednesday at 4pm
- To register visit: www.redcross.org/gnypprep
- Organizations can plan special groups sessions.
Email Olga.Wallace@RedCross.org to coordinate.

ADULTS: Prepare, Respond, Recover: What to do When Disaster Strikes – In partnership with New York State, the Red Cross is providing this free emergency preparedness training. The training gives a comprehensive overview on how to prepare for natural and man-made disasters and how to respond to and recover from them. The training also provides information on types of common disasters, ways to prepare as an individual, family and community member, what to do when disaster strikes and what actions you can take afterwards to aid in your recovery. Virtual classes are offered via WebEx weekly.

- Virtual sessions are offered Tuesdays at 1pm and Thursday 4pm
- To register visit: www.redcross.org/gnypprep
- Organizations can plan special groups sessions.
Email Olga.Wallace@RedCross.org to coordinate.

Alzheimer's Foundation of America's Toll-Free Helpline

With many care facilities, adult day care centers and other services closed for the time being, we are one of the only sources of information, support and guidance available. This is especially important because the outbreak is causing many people, particularly higher

risk individuals such as senior citizens, to break from their normal routines and isolate.

Our Toll-Free Helpline (866-232-8484) is open seven days a week and staffed entirely by licensed social workers who are trained in dementia care.

We are able assist callers with topics/questions about combating isolation, keeping engaged, washing tips, caregiver stress, whether family members should visit during this time, items to have in the home, etc.

Families can connect with the AFA Helpline in any of the following ways:

- Via phone by calling 866-232-8484
- Web chat by visiting www.alzfdn.org and clicking on the blue and white chat icon on the lower right hand corner of the page
- Sending a text message to 646-586-5283

The web and text chat features are available in more than 90 languages.

In The News...

In Our Community: Cornell Tech Students Helping Seniors Connect with Tech



Students Guide Quarantined NYC Seniors Through Tech Issues

UPPER EAST SIDE-ROOSEVELT ISLAND, NY - Tech-savvy students at Cornell Tech's Roosevelt Island campus are using their skills to help New York City seniors struggling with tech issues while quarantined as a precaution against the spread of new...

[Read more](#)
patch.com

Mayor de Blasio Announces New Partnership to Manufacture 400,000 Hospital Gowns

As New York City's health care heroes fight COVID-19 despite a shortage of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), Mayor Bill de Blasio today announced a public-private partnership with the White House, the New York City Economic Development Corporation (EDC), and Owens-Minor (OW), a healthcare logistics company, to provide New York City with one million square yards of American-made medical gown fabric. This supply will allow local New York City manufacturers to produce up to 400,000 hospital gowns for frontline health care workers.

Alert: COVID-19 Sufferers Should Look for Symptoms of Stroke



Coronavirus can increase stroke risk in young adults:...

Doctors at Mount Sinai Health System in New York are warning the public of another risk associated with coronavirus: the possibility that the virus can cause sudden strokes in patients under the age of 50, even those who only seem to have a mild...

[Read more
www.nydailynews.com](http://www.nydailynews.com)

Attorney General to Investigate Nursing Homes



As Nursing Homes Come Under Fire, State to Probe Who Is...

After numerous reports of underreporting and poor practices in nursing homes, Governor Andrew Cuomo announced on Thursday that the state will be launching an investigation into these long-term care facilities. NEW: State Department of Health is...

[Read more](#)
nystateofpolitics.com

Events in June Cancelled



Large June Events in NYC May Be Cancelled Because of...

The coronavirus may silence some of the most familiar sounds of spring and summer. The organizers of the Puerto Rican Day Parade told NY1 that with each passing day, the June 14 event looks less and less likely, especially after Mayor de Blasio...

[Read more](#)
www.ny1.com

Other Announcements

Parks Gatherings Cancelled Through June 30

As recently announced by the Mayor, in an attempt to continue to mitigate the spread of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19), all public gatherings in our parks are cancelled through **June 30**. In the interest of the health and safety of all of our patrons, NYC Parks is not accepting or reviewing event applications for any Special Events or Field and Court Permits until further notice.

FEMA Public Notice

The Federal Emergency Management Agency ("FEMA") within the U.S. Department of Homeland Security is giving public notice of its intent to provide financial assistance to the State of New York, local governments, and private nonprofit organizations under the

[national emergency and the disaster declarations issued by the President for the State of New York on March 13 and March 20, 2020, respectively, as a result of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(“COVID-19”\). FEMA is also giving public notice that, in some cases, it may provide financial assistance for activities that may affect historic properties, may be located in or affect wetland areas or the 100-year floodplain, and/or may involve critical actions within the 500-year floodplain.](#)

Stay informed about the CORONAVIRUS



Important Numbers and Links

- Price Gouging hotline: 800-697-1220
- 24-Hour Coronavirus hotline: 1-888-364-3065
- NYS DOH website regarding Coronavirus: <https://www.health.ny.gov/diseases/communicable/coronavirus/>
- NYS COVID-19 Email Alert Sign Up- <https://now.ny.gov/page/s/coronavirus-updates>
- To file a complaint with the NYS Department of Human Rights- <https://dhr.ny.gov/complaint#file>
- NYS Mental Health Hotline: 1-844-863-9314 (to schedule a free appointment)

ICYMI: In Case You Missed It

Previous Editions of Our COVID-19 Special Report

[MARCH 19, 2020 SPECIAL REPORT](#)

[MARCH 25, 2020 SPECIAL REPORT](#)

[MARCH 27, 2020 SPECIAL REPORT](#)

[MARCH 31, 2020 SPECIAL REPORT](#)

[APRIL 3, 2020 SPECIAL REPORT](#)

[APRIL 7, 2020 SPECIAL REPORT](#)

[APRIL 14, 2020 SPECIAL REPORT](#)

[April 17, 2020 SPECIAL REPORT](#)

[APRIL 21, 2020 SPECIAL REPORT](#)

