

SEE YOU AT THE  
SECOND AVENUE STREET FAIR!

THIS SATURDAY, MAY 4  
VISIT OUR TABLE @ 79 STREET

SEAWRIGHT NO-COST  
PAPER SHREDDING

TUESDAY, MAY 7  
9 AM - 12 PM @ 79/YORK



**Rebecca**  
**Seawright**  
ASSEMBLY MEMBER



Dear Friends and Neighbors,

The proliferation of unlicensed cannabis shops is one of the top complaints received at our office. I called on the NYC Sheriff to inspect local retailers suspected of selling unlicensed products. With the passage of our New York State budget, New York City has new enforcement authority of cannabis businesses. I cosponsored and voted in support of the legislation to allow localities to conduct regulatory inspections of places of business not listed on OCM's directory of licensed cannabis businesses, establish a system for receiving complaints regarding businesses engaged in selling cannabis without a license, and to impose civil penalties of up to \$25,000 for unlawfully selling cannabis, seize illegal cannabis from businesses operating without a license and to padlock illegal cannabis businesses.

Governor Hochul signed legislation I cosponsored and strongly supported to crack down on organized retail theft and to protect retail workers. The legislation, signed into law, increases penalties for offenders who assault retail workers and invests \$40.2 million in retail theft enforcement and establishes a \$3,000 tax credit for business owners to invest in security resources.

Please join us for any of the upcoming events our office is pleased to sponsor:

**Second Avenue Street Fair:** Saturday, May 4, from 10am-6pm. The street fair goes from 66 to 86 Street. Visit our table at 79 Street!

**No-Cost Community Shredding Event:** Tuesday, May 7, from 9:00am-12:00pm. A shredding truck will park on York Avenue and 79 Street. No notebooks, bindings or x-rays.

**Crime Prevention Seminar:** Wednesday, May 8, at 7pm at the 19th Precinct Station House, 153 East 67 Street (Lexington/Third Avenues).

**No-Cost Thursday Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)**

**Giveaway:** Thursday, May 9, from 12:00pm-2:00pm at the Office of Assembly Member Rebecca A. Seawright, 1485 York Avenue (78/79 Streets).

**MTA OMNY Reduced Fare Information Session Presentation:**

Friday, May 10, from 1:30pm- 2:30pm at Lenox Hill Neighborhood House, 331 East 70 Street (First/ Second Avenues). Must be a member of Lenox Hill Neighborhood House to attend. Call 212-288-4607 to RSVP.

**Women of Distinction Awards Ceremony:** Thursday, May 30, at 6:30pm at the Zuckerman Auditorium, MSK Cancer Center, 417 East 68 Street (First/York Avenues).

More information on upcoming events, my work in Albany, and our community is enclosed in this report. Please don't hesitate to reach out to our community office if we can be of assistance.

**Phone:** 212.288.4607

**Email:** [SeawrightR@NYAssembly.gov](mailto:SeawrightR@NYAssembly.gov)

*Sincerely,*



**REBECCA A. SEAWRIGHT**

**Assembly Member Seawright Calls for Sheriff's Inspection and Closure of Unlicensed Cannabis Retail Shops**



Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright called for the inspection and closure of unlicensed smoke shops in the 76th District. The inspections revealed disguised cannabis products and underscored the importance of law enforcement action.

Seawright said, ***"The proliferation of these shops is endangering our community. Most of the products that were seized were marketed to children using common brand names like "Starburst" or "SweeTARTS. It is critical that we crack down on unlicensed cannabis in our neighborhood."***

In the recently passed budget, Seawright voted in support of vital measures that will strengthen cannabis enforcement and promote public safety:

- Authorizing the Office of Cannabis Management (OCM) to padlock unlawful storefronts immediately following an inspection if they are selling illicit cannabis products and pose a current threat to public safety and health.
- Cracking down on landlords who turn a blind eye to illegal activity in their tenants' establishments.
- Launching a statewide task force to carry out civil enforcement and close illegal stores.
- Expanding local authority that allows cities and counties to adopt laws regarding the regulation of unlicensed cannabis businesses.
- Granting New York City immediate enforcement powers to inspect, issue violations, seize cannabis, and padlock stores.



New York City Sheriff's Office Sergeant Craig McCosker inspects the unlicensed and untaxed products with Assembly Member Seawright.



The cannabis products seized included packaging that targets children with bright colors, sweet flavoring, and common name brands.

## Legislation Cosponsored and Strongly Supported by Assembly Member Seawright Signed into Law by Governor Hochul

### *Retail Workers and Small Business Owners Celebrate New Landmark Protections Against Organized Retail Theft*



Assembly Member Seawright joined Governor Kathy Hochul and a coalition of frontline retail workers and small business owners for the signing of new protections against organized retail theft that were signed into law with the FY25 State Budget. The legislation puts more power in the hands of law enforcement, prosecutors and business owners – targeting every area of vulnerability. The new protections include increased criminal penalties for anyone who assaults a retail worker elevating it from a misdemeanor to a felony and includes a \$5 million tax credit to help small business owners invest in added security measures. This is a historic investment in public safety and builds on three years of progress driving down crime statewide.



Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright and Stuart Appelbaum, President of the Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union (RWDSU).



Brooklyn District Attorney Eric Gonzalez and Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright.

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## **Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright Serves as Honorary Chair of Non-Traditional Employment for Women**



Non- Traditional Employment for Women prepares women for careers in the skilled construction, utility, and maintenance trades, helping them achieve economic independence and a secure future for themselves and their families. We provide a pipeline of qualified workers to industries that build, move, power, green, and maintain New York.



Ehab Shehata, President and CEO of Bravo Construction Group, Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright, Assembly Member Jo Anne Simon, and Lorraine Grillo, Chairwoman of the Bravo Group Board of Directors.



Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright and Sandra Wilkin, CEO of Bradford Construction Corporation of New York.

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**Happy Birthday Harley!**



Team Rebecca: Flor de Maria Eilets, Barbara Selton, Jacob Plottel, Samuel Weisburst, Harley Neiditz, Madison Thomas and Barbara Mandel.

## Consider Our Office A Resource

### HEAP Application for Cooling Benefit Open

**The hot  
weather  
is coming  
soon!**

***Stay cool*** with  
the HEAP cooling  
assistance benefit.

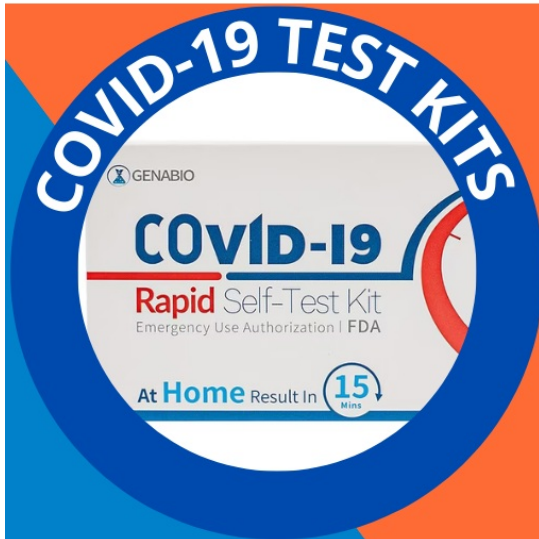
Did you know New York's Cooling Assistance benefit can help you with the purchase and installation of an air conditioner or a fan? The Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) can help eligible New Yorkers heat and cool their homes. If you are eligible, you may receive one Cooling Assistance benefit per applicant household for the purchase and installation of an air conditioner or a fan to help your home stay cool.

Before the summer months kick into high gear, check to see if you're eligible. Applications are now open! Learn more at <https://otda.ny.gov/programs/heap/>



**Rebecca  
Seawright**  
ASSEMBLYMEMBER

**NO-COST  
THURSDAY  
PPE  
GIVEAWAY**



**12:00PM-2:00PM**

**COMMUNITY OFFICE  
1485 YORK AVENUE  
(78/79 STREETS)**

**212-288-4607**

**SEAWRIGHTR  
@NYASSEMBLY.GOV**

**Upcoming Events**

# OMNY REDUCED FARE INFO SESSION

SPONSORED BY



ASSEMBLY MEMBER  
REBECCA SEAWRIGHT



ASSEMBLY MEMBER  
ALEX BORES

PRESENTED BY THE MTA



HOSTED BY LENOX HILL NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE



**FRIDAY, MAY 10, 2024**  
**1:30 PM TO 2:30 PM**

Center @ Lenox Hill Neighborhood House  
Garden Room at 343 E. 70th Street  
(1ST/2ND Aves)

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 22, 2024**  
**2:30 PM TO 3:30 PM**

Older Adult Center @ Saint Peter's Church  
619 Lexington Ave  
(S/E Corner of 54/ Lexington)

**Must be a Lenox Hill Senior Center Member to Attend**

For more information about this free event or any legislative concern please, contact the office of Assembly Member Rebecca A. Seawright at 212-288-4607.



**Rebecca**  
**Seawright**  
ASSEMBLYMEMBER



# NO-COST COMMUNITY SHREDDING

2024 UPCOMING DATES:

**TUESDAY, MAY 7 - YORK AVE & 79TH ST**

**TUESDAY, JUNE 18 - FIRST AVE & 67TH ST**

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 22 - ROOSEVELT ISLAND**

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 29 - YORK AVE & 91ST ST**

**9AM TO 12PM**

**NO NOTEBOOKS, BINDINGS, OR X-RAYS**

**OFFICE OF NYS ASSEMBLY MEMBER REBECCA A. SEAWRIGHT**  
**1485 YORK AVENUE**  
**212-288-4607**  
**SEAWRIGHTR@NYASSEMBLY.GOV**

**Rebecca  
Seawright**  
ASSEMBLYMEMBER



# CRIME PREVENTION SEMINAR

**CRIME PREVENTION OFFICERS FROM THE  
LOCAL NYPD 19TH PRECINCT**



**NYPD 19Pct**  
New York City Police Department

**WEDNESDAY MAY 8  
7:00 PM  
19TH PRECINCT  
153 EAST 67TH STREET**

**RSVP: SEAWRIGHTR@NYASSEMBLY.GOV  
212-288-4607**



Assembly Member Rebecca A. Seawright

# 2024 WOMEN OF DISTINCTION AWARDS

Together, let's celebrate **Women's History Month** by recognizing the extraordinary women who are making our communities stronger.

## Women of Distinction Awards Ceremony

**Thursday**  
**May 30 at 6:30 PM**  
Zuckerman Auditorium  
MSK Cancer Center  
417 E 68 Street  
*Between 1st and York*



**Assembly Member Rebecca A. Seawright**  
1485 York Avenue  
New York, NY 10075  
212-288-4607 • seawright@nyassembly.gov



For more information about this or any other community issue,  
contact **Assembly Member Rebecca A. Seawright** at 212-288-4607  
or [seawright@nyassembly.gov](mailto:seawright@nyassembly.gov).



PRIDE

# OPEN CALL FOR ARTISTS

MAY 30 - JUNE 8, 2024 AT RIVAA GALLERY

THEME: SAFE SPACE

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE:**  
THURSDAY, MAY 9, 2024

**SUBMIT YOUR ART TO:**  
RIVAAPRIDE@GMAIL.COM

**rivaa**  
Riverdale Island Visual Arts Association

RIVAA GALLERY: 527 MAIN ST, NEW YORK, NY 10044

# OUTDOOR ART SHOW

Submission  
deadline  
MAY 17

# open call for NYC ARTISTS



## SHOW DATE

June 22, 2024

Rain date: June 23, 2024

**Location:** James Cagney Place;  
(E. 91st St. between 2nd & 3rd Aves.)

Submit a photo of paintings, photography, or sculptures by **May 17** to [info@cb8m.com](mailto:info@cb8m.com) using “Art Show Submission” in the subject line.

No drop-ins at the show!



**Sponsored by Community Board 8 Manhattan**

 [www.cb8m.com](http://www.cb8m.com)

 [@CB8M](https://twitter.com/CB8M)

  [@CB8Manhattan](https://www.facebook.com/CB8Manhattan)



## Manhattan Community Board 8 Calendar

The Manhattan Community Board 8 (CB8M) represents the Upper East Side of Manhattan and Roosevelt Island. CB8M is comprised of 50 volunteer members who serve as advocates and service coordinators for the community and its residents, as well as help citizens resolve municipal service delivery complaints.

CB8M reviews and makes recommendations on various issues, including applications for Zoning Text Amendments, building variances and special permits, liquor licenses, sidewalk cafes and street fairs, changes to landmarked buildings or buildings in historic districts, traffic and transportation issues, and more.

Each month, CB8M committees meet to discuss and resolve issues in the community.

Full Board Meeting - 3rd Wednesday  
Land Use Committee - 2nd Wednesday  
Street Life - 1st Tuesday  
Transportation - 1st Wednesday  
Housing - 1st Thursday  
Parks - 2nd Thursday  
Landmarks - 3rd Monday  
Social Justice - 4th Monday  
Zoning and Development - 4th Tuesday  
Youth and Education - 4th Thursday

[Read More](#)

## In Case You Missed It: Past Editions Of Our Community Update

[Community Update: April 26, 2024](#)

[Community Update: April 19, 2024](#)

[Community Update: April 12, 2024](#)

[Community Update: April 5, 2024](#)





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