



Dear Friends and Neighbors,

On the 44th Annual Legislative Disabilities Awareness Day (LDAD), we hosted hundreds of advocates at the Capitol and passed a package of bills to improve the lives of people with disabilities across New York. I am lead sponsor of a bill that passed the Assembly on LDAD to establish a Blue-Ribbon Commission to improve the service delivery system for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

More on our work in the district and in Albany is enclosed in this community update. Please join us for any of the upcoming events our office is pleased to sponsor:

- No-Cost Thursday Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Giveaway: Thursday, May 30, from 12:00pm-2:00pm at the Office of Assembly Member Rebecca A. Seawright, 1485 York Avenue (78/79 Streets).
- 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).
- **No-Cost Community Shredding:** Tuesday, June 18 from 9:00am-12:00pm at First Avenue and 67<sup>th</sup> Street. No notebooks, bindings, or x-rays.

Virtual Town Hall on Good Cause Eviction Forum on New Protections for Market Rate Tenants: Thursday, June 20 from 6:30pm-8:00pm.

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

Sincerely,

Rebecca a Securit

#### REBECCA A. SEAWRIGHT

Chair of People With Disabilities Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright Announced Passage of Legislative Disability Awareness Day Package



"As the Chair of the Assembly Committee on People with Disabilities, the package of bills that we passed for Legislative Disabilities Awareness Day is a step in the right direction for achieving full equality for millions of people living in New York with disabilities," Assembly Member Seawright said. "I commend Speaker Heastie and my colleagues for their support of the legislation passed today that will promote inclusion, dignity, and respect for New Yorkers living with disabilities."



Josh Mirsky, Designer of the Neurodiversity Flag



In addition to the resolution recognizing May 22, 2024 as Legislative Disabilities Awareness Day, a resolution was passed to recognize June 16th, 2024 as Neurodiversity Pride Day. The resolution recognizes the Neurodiversity flag, selected by the Autism Spectrum Disorders Advisory Board after they hosted a contest featuring over 40 flag designs. The design that won was created by Joshua Mirsky, a self-advocate who joined Assembly Member in the Chamber for the occasion. By establishing this flag, the state shows its continued dedication to ensuring neurodivergent individuals are treated with respect and have access to the same opportunities as all New Yorkers.



"It is our duty as lawmakers to ensure access to a good quality of life is expanded to all New Yorkers," said Speaker Heastie. "Legislative Disabilities Awareness Day is a good reminder that we need to do more than just honor those with disabilities across our state. We need to continue fighting to ensure they have equitable access to employment, healthcare and a good quality of life. This package will better the lives of millions of New Yorkers and work to make our state accessible to all."



Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright announced the passage of legislation and resolutions in honor of Legislative Disabilities Awareness Day that will both improve lives and ensure the state is doing its part to achieve equity for people with disabilities.

### Seawright's Blue Ribbon Commission Bill Passes Assembly 146-0 On Legislative Disabilities Awareness Day



Assembly Bill 9553, sponsored by Chair Seawright and passed by the Assembly 146-0, establishes a blue-ribbon commission to make recommendations for systemic reforms to the developmental disabilities service system, ensuring a sustainable set of supports and services are available in the future to meet the evolving needs of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Seawright said, "Establishing a Blue-Ribbon Commission to examine the current service delivery system for New Yorkers with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities is vital to identifying the appropriate recommendations for personcentered decision making and, ultimately, a sustainable future system."

Introducing New York Alliance for Developmental Disabilities (NYADD) and Coach Ryan Martin





Assembly Member Seawright was proud to introduce Coach Ryan Martin, the Director of Inclusive Adaptive Sports for the City University of New York. His portfolio includes a Men's and Women's wheelchair basketball teams, as well as an emerging wheelchair tennis and track program. Ryan was recognized as the 2022 College Coach of the Year by the United States Olympic & Paralympic Committee (USOPC). The CUNY Adaptive Sports program is the only intercollegiate adaptive sports program on the east coast.

Seawright Introduces American Author, Activist, and Feminist Health Care Innovator Merle Hoffman to the Assembly Floor



Upper East Side Community Leader Sahar Husain Honored in Albany at Celebration of Asian American and Pacific Islanders (AAPI) Heritage Month



Assembly Member Alex Bores (Left) and Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright (right) present Sahar Husain (center) with a Proclamation from the Assembly for her work in our community. Sahar is a proud mother of two teenagers and co-founded Muslim Volunteers For New York 9 years ago.



### Susan Kohlmann, President of the New York City Bar Association



Susan Kohlmann, President of the New York City Bar Association visited the Assembly Chamber in Albany to rally in support of the No Cap Act, legislation to lift the limits on the number of Supreme Court Justices in our courts.

Seawright Rocks the Block with PS290, The Manhattan New School





Seawright interns Adam and Charlotte helped to distribute the summer reading challenge to students and families.

**Consider Our Office A Resource** 



### **Small Business Month - Shop Your City**

Celebrate NYC Small Business Month with Small Business Services In May 2023, Mayor Eric Adams and NYC Department of Small Business Services (SBS) Commissioner Kevin D. Kim announced the launch of "Small Business Month" to promote New York City's diverse small businesses throughout the month of May, expanding on "National Small Business Week" recognized each year.

Read More



NYCHA will be accepting applications for its Housing Choice Voucher Program, also known as Section 8, beginning on June 3rd at 12 AM

NYCHA will be accepting applications for its Housing Choice Voucher Program, also known as Section 8, beginning on June 3rd at 12 AM and ending on June 9th at 11:59 PM. Questions? Check out the frequently asked questions here.

Read More



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**

**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 - seawrightr@nyassembly.gov



For more information about this or any other community issue, contact Assembly Member Rebecca A. Seawright at 212-288-4607 or seawrightr@nyassembly.gov.

Visit our Website

Community Board 8 Manhattan's Women & Families
Committee Hosts A Public Forum on Crime Prevention

### **CRIME**

# On the NYC Streets How You Can Protect Yourself

A public forum focused on women

Wednesday

MAY 29, 6:30 pm on Zoom

#### Expert Speakers:

Dr. Mangai Natarajan, Professor, John Jay College of Criminal Justice;

Meg Reiss, Chief Assistant District Attorney, Manhattan District Attorney's Office;

Beverly Gilchrist, Chief, Survivor Services Bureau, Manhattan District Attorney's Office;

Anthony Nuccio, Detective, Manhattan's 19th Police Precinct;

Tsahi Shemesh, Founder and CEO, Krav Maga Experts.

To attend this free public forum, use the Zoom link.

https://forms.gle/rpMWLrAg3KjU4J7r5 or the QR code below.

Sponsored by Community Board 8 Manhattan's Women & Families and Health, Seniors & Social Services Committees.



**RSVP Here** 



An Evening of Songs and Stories
by Matt Katz
for the benefit of the MSTDA Scholarship Fund

Roosevelt Island Main Street Theatre & Dance Alliance Presents: The Fire Is Still Burning - An evening of songs and stories by Matt Katz

Tickets are available now! Fri. May 31st 2024, 7:00 pm

RSVP Here





### **SUNDAY, JUNE 2, 2024**

11:30am - 4pm • 62nd-74th St. on Fifth Ave.

Join us at the world's largest gathering in support of Israel LIVE on FOX's My9 and CelebrateIsraelNY.org starting at Noon EDT. A project of JCRC-NY.

Limited spectator areas - first come first served.

No backpacks permitted.



CelebrateIsraelNY.org

CelebratelsraelParade



A special thanks to our partner:









### NO-COST COMMUNITY SHREDDING

2024 UPCOMING DATES:

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

**RSVP Here** 



**RSVP Here** 



### **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

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

Community Update: May 10, 2024

Community Update: May 3, 2024

Community Update: April 26, 2024

Community Update: April 19, 2024



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