



Dear Friends and Neighbors,

The New York Supreme Court's Appellate Division has ruled to put the Equal Rights Amendment--that I sponsored in the NYS Assembly--back on the ballot this November. Now the public will get to decide on this measure in the fall.

The Rent Guidelines Board voted 5-4 to increase rents for rent-stabilized tenants. Despite my strong objection to any increase and call for a rent-freeze, the 9-person board will institute an increase of 2.75% for one-year leases and 5.25% for two-year leases for all leases beginning October 1, 2024. These increases come at an already difficult time for New Yorkers, many of whom struggle to make ends meet. While we deeply regret that the Rent Guidelines Board has chosen to ignore the needs of people with disabilities, senior citizens, middle class, and low-income New Yorkers, we continue to advocate for affordability. We are exploring alternatives to this unfortunate action.

June 21, 2024 marks the 60th Anniversary of the abduction and killing of three civil rights workers who were brutally murdered for investigating the burning of a Black church in Mississippi in 1964. Andrew Goodman, one of the activists, was from the Upper East Side and worked alongside James Chaney and Michael Schwerner to get voters registered and fight against inequality during Freedom Summer. This was a volunteer campaign in the United States launched in June 1964 to attempt to register as many African-American voters as possible in Mississippi.

On the occasion of its 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, I presented The Scholarship and Welfare Fund of the Alumni Association of Hunter College (S&W Fund) with a Proclamation on behalf of the New York State Assembly for their work in supporting and empowering students with financial assistance.

The National Weather Service has advised us that the current heat wave will extend through this Sunday, June 23rd, with heat indexes that could reach 100 degrees. Please take precautions and stay safe. Included in this report are tips on dealing with a heat emergency.

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)

**REBECCA A. SEAWRIGHT**

## Statement from ERA's Lead Sponsor Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright on Appellate Court Ruling on NYS Equal Rights Amendment: "Now the Public Will Decide!"

Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright released the following statement regarding the decision by the NYS Appellate Division to put the State Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) back on the ballot this fall:

*"The Appellate Division of the State Supreme Court has ruled to put the Equal Rights Amendment back on the ballot in the November General Election.*

*The State ERA would enact constitutional protections for equality and the prohibition of discrimination on the basis of ethnicity, national origin, disability, age, and sex, including sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, pregnancy outcomes, and reproductive healthcare and autonomy.*

*Now the public across our entire state will have the opportunity, on November 5, 2024, to decide on this measure."*

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## Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright Presents Scholarship and Welfare Fund with Proclamation on 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Supporting Students in Need



Assembly Member Seawright presented a proclamation on behalf of the New York State Assembly with her colleague Assembly Member Bores. She said, "This year marks the 75th Anniversary of the Scholarship and Welfare Fund of the Alumni Association of Hunter College and its unwavering commitment to support students of all beliefs and cultures to become critical thinkers and motivated, caring citizens. Established in 1949, when five alumnae, aware of the financial obstacles faced by students to afford basic needs, donated a hundred dollars each to help students have the resources needed for a quality college education and experience. They are still committed to its original mission."



Assembly Member Seawright, President Virginia C. Shields, Third Vice-President Helene Goldfarb, First Vice-President Joseph LoSchiavo and Assembly Member Alex Bores.

## Seawright's Resolution Commemorating the 60th anniversary of murders of heroes Goodman, Chaney & Schwerner Passed Assembly

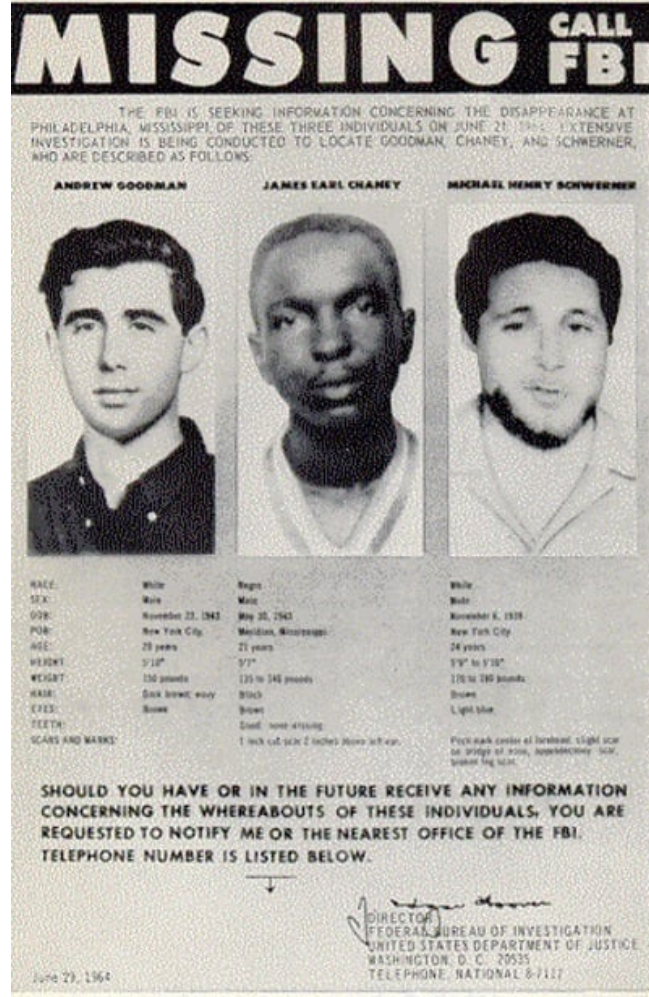
Assembly Member Seawright sponsored and passed a resolution unanimously approved by the Assembly commemorating the 60th Anniversary of the tragic murders of civil rights activists James Chaney, Andrew Goodman, and Michael Schwerner.

James Chaney, Andrew Goodman, and Michael Schwerner were members of the Congress of Racial Equity who traveled to Mississippi during the Freedom Summer in 1964 to investigate a church bombing and help Black citizens register to vote. The day after their arrival, on June 21, 1964, they were kidnapped and brutally murdered by Ku Klux Klan members. It took 41 years to bring the main perpetrator, Edgar Ray Killen to justice.

Their tragic deaths brought light to the mainstream public about voting inequalities in the Nation and helped usher in the Civil Rights Act of 1964. The legacy of James Chaney, Andrew Goodman, and Michael Schwerner encourages all eligible voters to register and participate in the electoral process, in tribute to all who gave their lives in support of voter rights.

Recently, Queens College presidential medals were presented to their family members David Goodman, Julia Chaney-Moss, and Stephen A. Schwerner. Each of these individuals has continued the legacy of their family members by working to advance civil rights. Additionally, there is a play 'The Invaders' that premiered at Queens Collrge's Goldstein Theatre—located at 153-49 Reeves Avenue—and coincides with the 60th anniversary of Freedom Summer.

NY1 News covered the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Freedom Summer [here](#). Information on 'The Invaders' play can be found [here](#).



## Statement on Rent Guidelines Board Decision for Rent Stabilized Tenants

*"The Rent Guidelines Board voted 5-4 to increase rents for rent-stabilized tenants. Despite my strong objection to any increase and call for a rent-freeze, the 9 person board will institute an increase of 2.75% for one-year leases and 5.25% for two-year leases for all leases beginning October 1, 2024. These increases come at an already difficult time for New Yorkers, many of whom struggle to make ends-meet. While we regret that the Rent Guidelines Board has chosen to ignore the needs of people with disabilities, senior citizens, middle class and low-income New Yorkers, I continue to advocate for affordability,"* said Seawright.

If you are concerned about how this increase will impact you, here are some steps you may take:

- Find out if you are eligible for the New York City Rent Freeze Program, including SCRIE for seniors or DRIE for individuals with disabilities
- Go to [access.nyc.gov](https://access.nyc.gov) and [mybenefits.ny.gov](https://mybenefits.ny.gov) to see all the city and state affordability programs you may qualify for
- Call 212-398-6565 (LiveOn NY) or 212-674-2300 (CIDNY) for a free benefits check
- Review your rent history for any overcharges by calling the New York State Department of Homes and Community Renewal's Office of Rent Administration at 833-499-0343
- Ask about our office's free, biweekly, housing legal clinic
- If you need help with housing benefits or a rent freeze, call 311 or send a message by visiting [nyc.gov/site/rentfreeze/help/help.page](https://nyc.gov/site/rentfreeze/help/help.page)

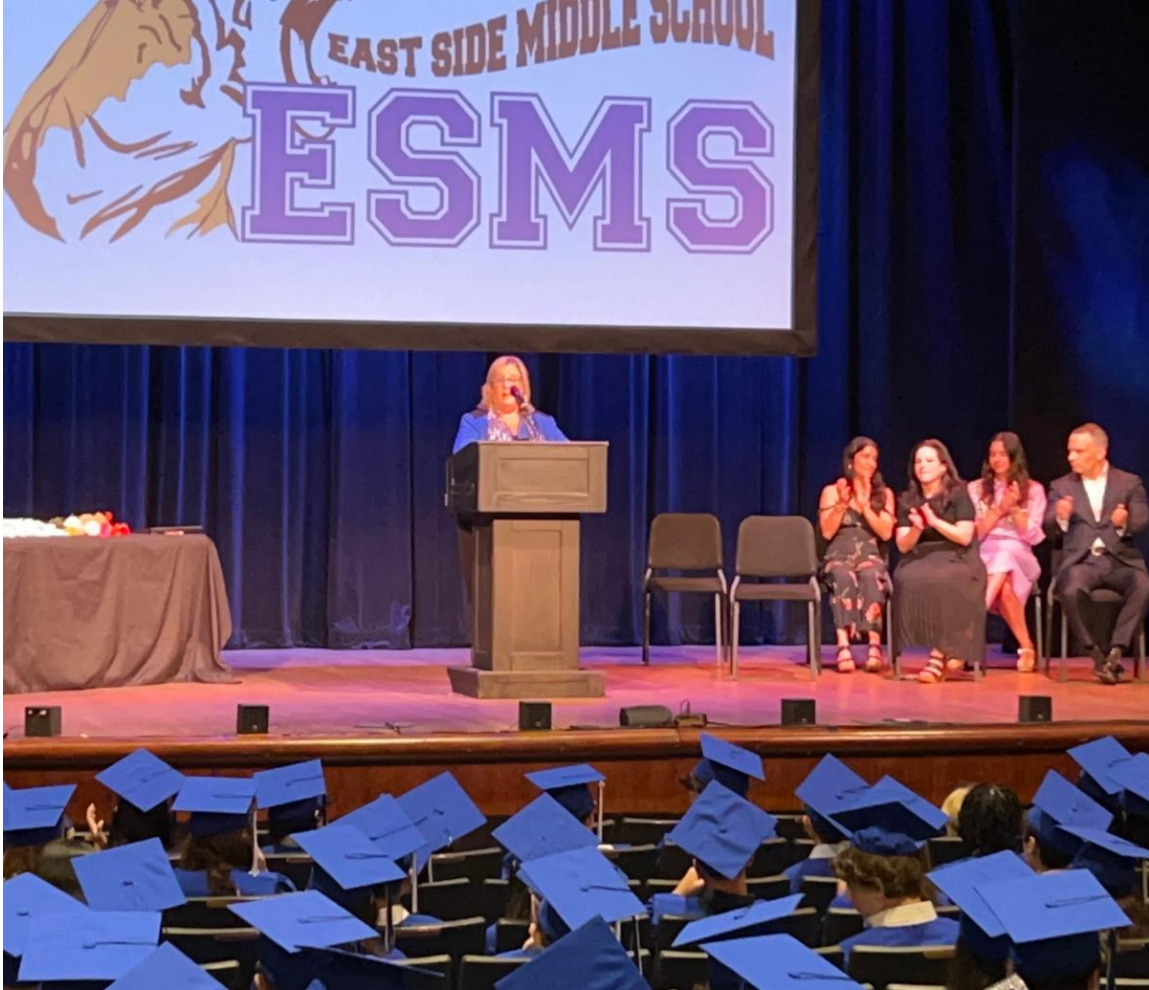
## A Shredding Success!



The Office of Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright sponsored a no-cost shredding event on Tuesday at St. Catherines Park. The next scheduled community shredding event is Thursday, August 22 from 9am-12pm on Roosevelt Island.



**Congratulations to East Side Middle School Class of 2024!**



Seawright offered words of congratulations and encouragement to the class of 2024 at the MS114 East Side Middle School graduation ceremony.

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## Seawright Supports Nursing Mothers in the Workplace with New Workplace Protection



A new law is now in effect that Assembly Member Seawright cosponsored and strongly supported requiring 30 minutes of paid break time for an employee to express breast milk during the workday.

Consider Our Office A Resource



**EXTREME  
HEAT  
WARNING**



The National Weather Service has warned that New York City and the surrounding areas



will experience extreme heat this weekend.

New York City defines extreme heat events as periods when the heat index is 100 degrees or higher for one or more days, or 95 degrees or higher for two or more days. Extreme heat poses a life-threatening danger to the health and safety of all New Yorkers. Those who are pregnant, newborn babies, children, the elderly, and people with chronic illness should take extreme caution.

**Safety Tips:**

- Set your air conditioner no higher than 78 degrees
- Drink water even when you don't feel thirsty
- Stay in the shade
- Minimize caffeine and alcohol intake
- Limit strenuous outdoor activity
- Check in on your neighbors and family members, especially those who are elderly and sick
- Wear loose-fitting light-colored clothing
- Identify Cooling Centers near you by visiting this map of NYC Cooling Centers, or calling 311 (VRS: 212-639-9675 or TTY: 212-504-4115).
- Learn the warning signs of heat illness, including
  - Hot, dry skin
  - Confusion, hallucinations, and disorientation
  - Loss of consciousness or being unresponsive
  - Nausea or vomiting
  - Trouble breathing
  - Fast, strong pulse
  - Weakness
  - Dizziness

For more safety tips, visit [NYC.gov/SevereWeather](https://nyc.gov/SevereWeather) and sign up for Notify NYC, visit [NYC.gov/NotifyNYC](https://nyc.gov/NotifyNYC), call 311, or download the free app for your Android or Apple device. You can also follow @NotifyNYC on Twitter.

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## Primary Early Voting and Election Day

There are no primary election contests in the 76th District on Tuesday, June 25, 2024.

Check that you are registered to vote for the general election day, Tuesday, November 5, 2024: <https://www.nycvotersearch.com/>

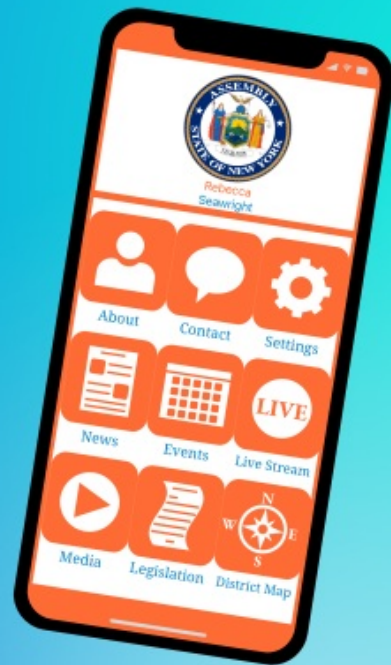
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# Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright's App is Live!

Stay Up-To-Date with the latest:

- News
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- Legislation
- Livestream
- Media

Available on iPhone and iPad



**Rebecca**  
**Seawright**  
ASSEMBLYMEMBER

# NO-COST NOTARY

Monday - Friday

10am-12pm

1485 York Avenue (78/79 Streets)



Upcoming Events

 [cb8m.com](http://cb8m.com) @CB8M  @CB8Manhattan

Postponed to 2024  
September 21st  
Rain Date: June 11th

# ART SHOW

## on the East Side

James Cagney Place  
East 91st Street, Between 2nd and 3rd Avenues  
Presented by **Community Board 8 Manhattan**



**JULY 12TH**

**JULY 19TH**

**JULY 26TH**

**AUG 2ND**

**Rain dates: Friday, August 9th and Saturday, August 17th**

**OUTDOOR SUMMER MOVIE SERIES**

NEW YORK STATE OF OPPORTUNITY | Roosevelt Island Operating Corporation

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

[Community Update: June 7, 2024](#)

[Community Update: June 3, 2024](#)

[Women of Distinction Special Report](#)

[Community Update: May 24, 2024](#)

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