Dear Friends,

It is hard to believe that next week is the final week of the legislative session. For legislators like myself, this period is a sprint to get your sponsored bills across the finish line. I am working hard to do just that, and I look forward to providing a legislative update in the next newsletter.

Before moving on to today's topics, I want to start by sharing my sadness over the passing of former NYS Assemblyman Bob Castelli. Bob, who was succeeded in office by my direct predecessor David Buchwald, represented the 93rd Assembly District from February 2010 through December 2013. A Vietnam veteran, Bob was well-regarded and widely liked by his colleagues on both sides of the aisle.

I knew Bob from my days on the Bedford Town Board. After leaving the Assembly, he'd still visit us occasionally at the town hall. I always enjoyed our conversations, catching up about goings-on in the community.

My thoughts and prayers go out to his wife, Jeanette, his children Christian (Sharon) Castelli and Paul (Jourdan) Castelli, and his grandchildren Sarah, Keegan, Katelynn, Eric, and Payton. He will be deeply missed.



John Jay High School Veterans Memorial Highway

Memorial Day weekend was the perfect time for the dedication of the John Jay High School Veterans Memorial Highway, in Cross River. The Route 121 designation, which required legislation carried by Senator Pete Harckham in the Senate and myself in the Assembly, was the result of efforts by recent John Jay graduate Grant Vialardi, as well as the Lewisboro Veterans Advisory Committee.

The designation was made in commemoration of six fallen veterans who attended John Jay High School: Pfc. Kenneth Richard Jaconetti, Lt. Cmdr. George Russell Matthews, Pfc. Philip Grant Chipchase, Lance Cpl Howard J. Alaimo, Cpl. James J. Jackwoski, Cpl. Bert D. Corcoran. Shortly before last weekend's ceremony, we learned of a seventh alumnus killed in action, Pfc. Anthony Joseph Pettignano.

It was wonderful to join the community for the dedication, which included speakers John Lemke, Chair of the Lewisboro Veterans Advisory Committee, Grant Vialardi, and some of my colleagues in government. All seven of the alumni were remembered during the ceremony

While we owe these heroes a debt of gratitude we can never repay, with the dedication of this road we help to ensure that their sacrifice will never be forgotten.











AAPI Summit & Celebration of AAPI Month

As a member of NYS Assembly Asian Pacific American (APA) Task Force, I was so pleased to have the opportunity to participate in two wonderful Albany events in honor of Asian American and Pacific Islanders (AAPI) Month.

Inaugural AAPI Summit

On May 9, the Legislative Office Building was buzzing with activity as **hundreds of members and friends of the AAPI community attended the first NYS AAPI Summit.** The event was hosted by the APA task force.

The summit theme was Empowerment through Representation. I hosted and moderated a workshop on "Social Isolation: The AAPI Suburban Experience." We discussed the aging AAPI population, mental health, mental health among AAPI youth, and government action in regard to the suburbs, where the cultural infrastructure is severely lacking compared to NYC. (Click here to view the PowerPoint presented at the workshop).

My deep gratitude goes to the superb panelists: Senator Kevin Thomas of Nassau County, the first Indian-American in New York history to serve in the State Senate; Legistor David Imamura, the first Asian-American on the Westchester County Board of Legislators; Dr. Theresa Hsu, a licensed clinical psychologist and Founder and Executive Director of SPEAK (A Supportive Place for Empowering Asian Americans and Kin); and Dr. Bhavana Pahwa, a licensed clinical social worker with more than 30 years experience.

Special thanks to my Chief of Staff Heather Mieko Lackey for her amazing work in organizing the workshop from its inception through to its conclusion, enlisting the panelists and ensuring its success.











AAPI Day

May 21st was officially AAPI day in Albany. It was a joyous occasion, celebrating the AAPI community and honoring remarkable individuals who are making great contributions not only to the AAPI community, but to New York State as a whole.

I had the pleasure of presenting a NYS Assembly Proclamation to one of the honorees (and my constituent), Koji Sato, who I also had the opportunity to introduce on the Assembly floor. Koji is a highly regarded leader in the Japanese American community, currently serving as President of the Japanese American Association of New York and Council Leader of the U.S.-Japan Council. In addition to these roles, he serves on the Board of Governors of the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles and is Co-Chair of the Asian American Advisory Board of Westchester County.

My district office staff members Heather Mieko Lackey, Denise Parker, and Christina Rae joined us in Albany for the day, as well as one of our interns, Horace Greeley sophomore Emma Tong, who I also was able to introduce on the floor.

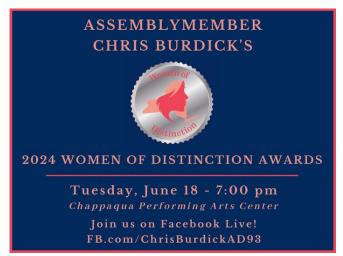






Congratulations to our Women of Distinction

For those of you who may have missed our email from earlier this week, I am excited to announce our 2024 Women of Distinction!



<u>Honoring</u>		
Monica Andralliski	Mary Kane	Karen Roach
Kathryn Blough	Marcy Kelly	Cristina Lee Shih
Valerie Cancro	Shanna Krizan	Valerie Simmons
Allison Chernow	Elizabeth Lashua	Rachel Simon
Cynthia Curtis	Shauna Rae Long	Nicole Sorgi
Amy Dickan	Nora Kanze Manuele	Angela Sour
Jennifer Mebes Flagg	Stephanie McCaine	Amy Spadafino
Lisbeth "Boo" Fumagalli	Mary Molina	Adele Stanley
Jennifer Gold	Sherri Owles	Roslyn Stone-Pollock
Amanda Hufnagel	Gina Picinich	Catherine Tammaro

I hope you will join me on June 18th for the awards ceremony, which will take place at 7 pm at the Chappaqua Performing Arts Center, 480 North Bedford Road in Chappaqua. Alternatively, we will be live-streaming the ceremony on <u>Facebook</u>.

The LVAC Ambulance Has Arrived!

I was delighted to attend the May 18th Open House of the Lewisboro Volunteer Ambulance Corps (LVAC), during which they cut the ribbon on their new ambulance. Thanks to the generosity of the residents of Lewisboro, who donated almost \$250,000 – as well as a \$125,000 NYS grant I was pleased to be able to secure – LVAC purchased the much-needed ambulance to better serve the community.

Lewisboro is incredibly fortunate to have the selfless service of the volunteers of LVAC.





Pride Month & Juneteenth Celebrations Throughout the District

The month of June is a busy one, with both Pride Month and Juneteenth celebrations throughout the 93rd Assembly District. **Below please find a list of upcoming events**, many of which I am looking forward to participating in!

Pride Events

Saturday, June 1

- Town of Bedford Pride Ceremony, 11 am @ Bedford Town Hall, 321 Bedford Rd in Bedford Hills
- New Castle Pride Flag Raising Ceremony, 12:30 pm @ New Castle Town Hall, 200 South Greeley Avenue in Chappaqua





Sunday, June 2nd

- <u>Pound Ridge Color Run</u>: 5K Road Race & Fun Run, 9 am @ Pound Ridge Elementary School <u>REGISTRATION DEADLINE TODAY!</u>
- Westchester Pride Hosted by The LOFT Flag raising @ 11:30 am at the Michaelian Office building (148 Martine Avenue, White Plains), followed by an afternoon street festival beginning at 12:00 pm, spanning Court Street between Martine and Main, with the addition of Renaissance Plaza in downtown White Plains.







Saturday, June 22

4th Annual Lewisboro Pride in the Park - beginning at 2 pm @ the Lewisboro Town Park, 1079 NY-35 in South Salem.



Saturday, June 29-Sunday, June 30

The Katonah Museum of Art (KMA) - Families are invited to participate in a special Pride-themed art project in The Pollack Family Learning Center. Free admission all day (10 am-5 pm). Click here for more information.

Juneteenth Celebrations

Saturday, June 8th

• White Plains Juneteenth Parade and Festival, 11 am-5 pm in Downtown White Plains. The parade along Mamaroneck Avenue kicks off at 11 am.



• Lewisboro: Let's Celebrate Juneteenth Together! 12 pm-4 pm @ the Lewisboro Town Park, 1079 NY-35, South Salem.

Sunday, June 16th

• Juneteenth @ Caramoor, beginning at 7 pm, featuring Charles Turner & Uptown Swing. Click here for more information and to RSVP for this free event.

Wednesday, June 19th

• Juneteenth in Pound Ridge, beginning at 7 pm on the Green in Scotts Corners. Click here for more information.

Saturday, June 22nd

• Mount Kisco's Annual Juneteenth Celebration, 12:30 pm-5 pm @ the Mount Kisco Train Station Parking Lot.



So many wonderful events. I hope to see you out there!

As always, please do not hesitate to reach out to my office with any questions or if there is any assistance we can provide. You can always reach me at burdickc@nyassembly.gov or by calling (914) 244-4450. My staff and I are always ready to help. Please also follow me on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram for continued up-to-date information.

Miss any of our previous newsletters? You can **find them here**.

Sincerely yours,

Chris Burdick

DISTRICT OFFICE

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