



Dear Friends,

**Happy New Year!**

I am pleased to share my first newsletter of 2025, following the beginning of the new legislative session on January 8th. Although this is the start of my third term, opening session was as enjoyable and exhilarating as the first day I took office in 2021. **I love the work that I do and look forward to rolling up my sleeves for another productive year.** We re-elected Carl Heastie as Speaker of the Assembly, and I was sworn in with all 150 of my colleagues in the Assembly.

Once again, **I will be serving on the Banks, Correction, Environmental Conservation, Housing, People with Disabilities, and Veterans' Affairs committees.** I will also continue to Chair the Subcommittee on Employment Opportunities for People with Disabilities and was honored to have been appointed Vice Chair of the Majority Conference.



**We've Moved!**

Our new address is:  
333 N. Bedford Road, Suite 131  
Mount Kisco, NY 10549

Our phone number remains the same:  
(914) 224-4450

*Stay tuned for details for our open house!*

 Office of Assemblymember Chris Burdick




**New year, new office!** Back at home, we finally moved offices after a brief delay. We are still in Mount Kisco, but in a space that is better configured for my staff and will make meetings with constituents and others more comfortable. **We will be scheduling an open house shortly,** so please stay tuned for those details. In the meantime, if you happen to be in the area, please stop in and say hi!

**Last Thursday, it was great to meet with Lewisboro residents at our most recent Coffee & Conversation.** Special thanks to our County Legislator Erika Pierce for organizing the evening. Town Supervisor Tony Gonçalves was also on hand to speak and take questions. Each of us provided an update on projects, budgets, initiatives, and how we are working to help the people of Lewisboro. Most importantly, we had an excellent discussion with residents regarding a wide range of issues, including infrastructure (clean water and sewer projects), affordable housing, and the need for a place for seniors to gather.



The next Coffee & Conversation will be this Saturday, January 25th @ 10:30 am at the Katonah Village Library. Legislator Pierce and I will be joined by Bedford Town Supervisor Ellen Calves. I hope you'll join us!

Your elected officials invite you to join your friends and neighbors for a casual conversation over coffee.


 County Legislator <b>ERIKA PIERCE</b>	 Assemblymember <b>CHRIS BURDICK</b>	 Town Supervisor <b>ELLEN CALVES</b>
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## COFFEE & CONVERSATION




**SATURDAY**  
January 25, 2025  
10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

**Katonah Village Library**  
Garden Room  
26 Bedford Road, Katonah

For more information,  
call (914) 995-2804.



Westchester County



Finally — before moving on to the other topics in this newsletter — a **HUGE** thank you to everyone who donated to our holiday food and toy drive supporting the Community Center of Northern Westchester, Lifting Up Westchester, and Hour Children. We are so grateful that you once again helped us to make the holidays special for those in need.



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## 2024 Legislative Update & 2025 Legislative Preview

Recently, a number of pieces of legislation that I sponsored last session were signed into law by Governor Hochul. They include:

- **Heat Mitigation Plan ([A9169A/S07781A](#)):** This legislation requires the NYS Department of Corrections and Community Supervision to establish an annual heat mitigation plan. It also directs the extreme heat action plan workgroup of the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation to assess the impact of extreme heat on incarcerated individuals and prison staff.
- **Hospital In-Take Form ([A8560-A / S8666-A](#)):** This legislation mandates that hospitals ask patients whether they have a disability that requires accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) on intake forms, and if so, what accommodations are needed.
- **Septic System Disclosure - ([A9330-A / S8506-A](#)):** This legislation requires home sellers to provide buyers with a disclosure statement regarding the property's sewage disposal system, including information on its operation and maintenance.

**Looking ahead to the 2025-2026 Legislative Session, I am reintroducing — and in some cases introducing — a number of important bills.**

Among these are:

- **Gender X ([A8241-B/S8680-A](#)):** This bill would require all municipalities to update relevant forms and data systems to include a "gender X" option wherever gender designation is requested.
- **Neurodiversity Training Pledge ([A9131-B/S8797-B](#)):** This bill directs the NYS Department of Labor to create a voluntary training and certification program for employers who commit to neurodiversity training for their employees and adopt best practices for a neurodiverse workforce.
- **Preferred Source Modernization Act Extension:** I am introducing a bill to extend the Preferred Source Modernization Act, part of New York's Finance Law. The goal is to increase employment opportunities for people with disabilities in companies that do business with the state.
- **PFAS Treatment Grant & Rebate Programs ([A09260/S07934](#)):** This bill directs the Department of Environmental Conservation to establish a one-time grant for private well users to install PFAS (perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances) removal treatment or connect to a public water system, and a rebate program to assist with the maintenance of PFAS treatment equipment.

If you have any questions about these or any other pieces of legislation, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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## Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie Visits the District



Last month, my colleague **Assemblywoman Dana Levenberg** and I were delighted to host **Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie** for a visit to Neighbors Link's newly-leased space in Mount Kisco. Neighbors Link — which serves northern Westchester and beyond and works to help integrate immigrants into the community — has outgrown its existing space.



**Executive Director Carola Otero Bracco** was presented with a **\$1.2 million symbolic check** from **Assemblywoman Levenberg** and myself to **cover the cost of the extensive renovations needed in the new space**, which will allow the organization to provide additional classroom spaces, children's play areas, and upgraded technology infrastructure for their workforce development program. The space will also allow for the continuation of the organization's other critical programs such as English as a Second

Language, adult education, community law practice, and crisis support.

Following the visit to Neighbors Link, **Speaker Heastie and I visited the Boys & Girls Club of Northern Westchester** to tour the facility and meet with participants in their Teens Program to discuss the critical need for additional space.



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## New Laws in Effect Beginning January 2025

This month, many important laws went into effect, **including an increase in the minimum wage, the requirement that employers provide 20 hours of paid prenatal leave per year, and the elimination of co-pays for insulin.**

Among the new laws are:

[A.3006-C](#) - Increases the minimum wage to \$16.50 per hour in NYC, Long Island, and Westchester County and \$15.50 per hour for employers in the rest of the state.

[A.8721](#) - Prohibits hotels with more than 50 rooms from providing guests with small plastic bottles containing hospitality personal care products.

[A.8502](#) - Requires health insurance policies and Medicaid to cover biomarker precision medical testing for diagnosis, treatment, or appropriate management and monitoring of a covered person's disease or condition when the test has recognized efficacy and appropriateness for such purposes.

[A.6291-A/A.8483](#) - Requires owners of high rise buildings to work in conjunction with advocacy organizations to develop an emergency evacuation for the evacuation of individuals with disabilities. Hospitals, assisted living facilities, and adult care facilities are exempt. I was proud to sponsor this legislation along with Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, who sponsored it in the Senate.

[An amendment to New York State's Labor Law](#), enacted in the FY2024-25 Budget, requires employers to provide 20 hours of paid prenatal personal leave per year.

[A.8806-C](#) - part of the FY2025 Budget, requires the use of project labor agreements for large scale construction projects under the State University Construction Fund.

[In that same provision of the budget \(A.8806-C\)](#), a law allowing the MTA to impose a fine of up to \$150 per violation for repeat fare evasion.

[A.8808-C](#) - Provides that covered prescription insulin drugs shall not be subject to deductible, copayment, coinsurance or other cost sharing requirements.

[A.5729-A](#) - Requires insurers to provide coverage for tattooing of the nipple-areolar complex pursuant to or as part of breast reconstruction surgery if such tattooing is performed by a physician or other health care practitioner working within their scope of practice.

[A.9935](#) - Requires that when a judgment is made regarding a person's inability to perform their employment duties due to a disability, that a copy shall be provided to the employee or their authorized representative.

[A.2656](#) - Clarifies that pregnancy is a qualified life event for the purposes of a special enrollment period and that pregnant women may enroll in the state health insurance exchange at any time without penalty.

[A.3865-A](#) - Requires health insurers to provide coverage for prescribed prenatal vitamins.

[A.7167](#) - Prohibits motor vehicle leases from charging the lessee a turn-in fee at the expiration of the term which constitutes solely an additional fee for administrative, handling or clerical charges.

[A.8138-B](#) - Establishes legal requirements for contracts involving the creation and use of digital replicas of an individual's voice or likeness.

[A.7079](#) - Allows patients to register in the donate life registry through their electronic health records.

[A.2882](#) - Requires firearms dealers to post and provide purchasers with a written warning of dangers posed by access to weapons in the home.

[A.5790-B](#) - Requires scoring, reporting and posting by assisted living facilities including quality measures and information concerning rates, rent, and service fees.

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## CCNW Breaks Ground

It was a long time coming! **The Community Center of Northern Westchester broke ground this past Thursday on their project to renovate and nearly double the size of their center in Katonah.**

It was an honor to be present with Executive Director Clare Murray, members of the CCNW Board, Bedford Town Supervisor Ellen Calves, County Legislator Erika Pierce, and my fantastic colleague Assemblywoman Dana Levenberg. Assemblywoman Levenberg and I were pleased to have helped close the project's funding gap with \$2 million from New York State.

*Note: While the renovations take place, CCNW will be in its temporary location at 669 Bedford Road, Bedford Hills.*



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](mailto: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/X](#), and [Instagram](#) for continued up-to-date information.

Miss any of our previous newsletters? You can [find them here](#).

Sincerely yours,

*Chris Burdick*