

Dear Constituent,

Below please find information about upcoming events and initiatives from my office and New York State, along with a list of new laws going into effect in August.

I will also be sending out my monthly grants email soon. If you would like to be on the distribution list for that email, you can reply to this email with the word "grants." If you have already reached out to us to request inclusion on that list, you do not need to do so again.

### **Heat Advisory**

Our area is once again under a heat advisory, lasting through tomorrow, August 2, at 8 PM. Click here for heat safety tips and here to find cooling centers in your area.

If you experience a power outage during this time, here is contact information for our district's utility companies:

#### Con Edison

- To report outages, call 1-800-75-CONED (26633).
- You can text "REG" to OUTAGE (688243) to receive regular updates on the status
  of power restoration in your area. Note that you will need your Con Edison account
  number to complete registration for that service.
- If you need assistance after hours, you can call the on-duty emergency staff at 914-925-6301 or email dl-WestchesterRCA@coned.com.

#### Central Hudson

- Call the Central Hudson PowerLine at **(845) 452-2700** or **1-800-527-2714**, and please use the automated system to report or monitor your power condition.
- You can also text "REG" to 236483 to report a power outage and receive updates on repair status.

Because of the heat, today is also a GridRewards day, in which participants can earn cash rewards for reducing energy usage during peak periods. If you live in the Con Edison service area, click here to learn more about GridRewards and enroll.

### **Summer Hours Reminder**

During the summer, my offices will be open from 9 AM - 5:30 PM Monday through Thursday, and accessible remotely from 9 AM - 3 PM on Fridays. We will resume our regular schedule on Tuesday, September 3, after Labor Day.

Best,

Assemblywoman Dana Levenberg

## **Fall Internship Application**



My interns and staff with me at our Intern Appreciation Day service activity.

Thank you to everyone who has encouraged interns to apply for summer positions in my office! Our summer intern roster is full and we are now accepting applications for the fall. Click here to access the form to apply and/or share with the students in your life.

# **Unclaimed Funds in Assembly District 95**

I recently asked the Comptroller's office for a report of all unclaimed funds in Assembly District 95. This report found that residents and businesses in our district have nearly **\$48 million** in unclaimed funds waiting to be retrieved. My office is now working with the Comptroller's Office to help people claim their money.

If you would like to see if you have unclaimed funds, you can visit <a href="https://www.osc.ny.gov/unclaimed-funds">https://www.osc.ny.gov/unclaimed-funds</a> to find out online. You can also call the Comptroller's Unclaimed Funds hotline at 1-800-221-9311 during their normal business hours (Monday - Friday 8 AM - 5 PM). You can also call my office at (914) 941-1111 to see if you are on the list that the Comptroller's office provided to me. My staff will also be joined by staff from the Comptroller's office during our mobile office hours events, so that you can start the process in person and receive direct guidance on next steps.

### **Mobile Office Hours for Fall 2024**

My office hosts mobile office hours to bring the services of our district office to all corners of AD95. Here are the dates and locations for this fall. Stop by to get help navigating state agencies, information about state programs and resources, and more!

- Monday, September 9, 1:15-4 PM: Croton Free Library, 171 Cleveland Drive, Croton-on-Hudson, NY 10520
- Monday, September 23, 1-4 PM: Desmond Fish Library, 472 NY-403, Garrison, NY 10524
- Monday, October 7, 1-4 PM: Hendrick Hudson Library, 185 Kings Ferry Rd, Montrose, NY 10548
- Monday, October 21, 1-4 PM: Julia L. Butterfield Library, 10 Morris Ave, Cold Spring, NY 10516
- Monday, November 18, 1-4 PM: John C. Hart Library, 1130 E Main St, Shrub Oak, NY 10588
- Monday, December 2, 1-4 PM: Field Library, 4 Nelson Ave, Peekskill, NY 10566

**Public Comment Period for Foundation Aid Study Ends September 6** 



My colleagues and I pushed hard to ensure that this year's state budget included funding for a study of the Foundation Aid formula. The current formula is woefully out of date, and needs updating to ensure that state aid goes where it is needed most. If you were not able to make it to the public hearing in our region last month, or you prefer to write instead of speaking in front of panels, the public comment period of the study is still open and will remain open through Friday, September 6. Click on the Rockefeller Institute Web site to visit the Foundation Aid Study web page and submit your comment using their form.

## **Public Comment on New Social Media Regulations**

I'm so pleased that Governor Hochul <u>recently signed legislation I co-sponsored that aims</u> to protect young people from harmful aspects of social media. Attorney General Letitia James is now tasked with creating the rules to operationalize this legislation, and she has opened a 60-day public comment period during which all members of the public are encouraged to share their thoughts on what new regulations might look like. Click here to read more about the new legislation and share your thoughts. You may also email your comments directly to <a href="mailto:ProtectNYKidsOnline@ag.ny.gov">ProtectNYKidsOnline@ag.ny.gov</a> (for comments on the SAFE For Kids Act) and <a href="mailto:ChildDataProtection@ag.ny.gov">ChildDataProtection@ag.ny.gov</a> (for comments on the Child Data Protection Act). The public comment period will close on Monday, September 30.

## "Old Traditions, New Beginnings"



Cora Silvestri performing an original song at my recent Senior Forum

My office is collaborating with two local seniors, Cora Silvestri and Judith Shangold, on the "Old Traditions, New Beginnings" project. This initiative aims to give seniors the opportunity to connect with others by sharing their stories and wisdom in writing. The contributions will be collected for sharing online and possible print publication in an anthology (all not for profit). We have extended the deadline for inclusion in the first volume of the project to **Friday, September 6, 2024.** If you are interested in contributing your own writing (250-1000 words) or volunteering to help others share their contributions, please email **district95@nyassembly.gov.** 

**New Laws for August 2024** 



New state laws go into effect every month. Of particular interest this month are laws improving support for birthing women by promoting doulas and their services, increasing FAFSA participation, and establishing new protections for tenants, and for freelance workers. I was proud to vote for the passage of these legislation. Here is a list of laws going into effect in August 2024:

Effective Date	Chapter	Summary
8/1/2024	Ch. 755 of 2022	Requires a ".gov" domain name for websites maintained by a county.
	<u>A.9276-A</u>	
	S.8561-A	
8/1/2024	Ch. 59 of 2024 Part Q	Changes the computation of tax on little cigars to 26 ¾ cents per cigar.
	<u>S.8309-B</u>	
	<u>A.8809-B</u>	

8/6/2024	Ch. 607 of 2023  A.5435-A  S.1867-A  Ch. 18 of 2024  S.8080  A.8529	Requires the Department Of Health to establish a directory for doulas on its website for the purposes of Medicaid reimbursement and promoting doula services to Medicaid recipients.
8/15/2024	Ch. 56 of 2024 Part C S.8306-C A.8806-C	Requires school districts to obtain documentation that the student or the parent or guardian of such student complete and submit the Free Application For Federal Student Aid or complete a waiver form.
8/16/2024	Ch. 672 of 2023  A.4504-A  S.5069-A  Ch. 68 of 2024 §§1 and 2  S.8037  A.8543	Clarifies that additional voting members can be recommended as the transit dependent individual for purposes of complying with the requirement that the MTA Board include a transit dependent individual as a voting member; and clarifies the process for filling vacancies if there is otherwise no transit dependent individual on the Board.
8/18/2024	Ch. 56 of 2024 Part HH, §§2-5 S.8306-C A.8806-C	Enacts provisions of the Good Cause Eviction Law.
8/28/2024	Ch. 98 of 2024 S.8039 A.8535	Provides oversight and enforcement authority to the Office of the Attorney General for the Freelance Isn't Free Act.