

Assemblyman Carl E. Heastie

DISTRICT OFFICE

1351 East Gun Hill Road, Bronx, NY 10469 718-654-6539

ALBANY OFFICE:

Room 522 LOB, Albany, NY 12248 518-455-4800

Dear Neighbor(s):

As the Holiday Season approaches, I wanted to send an update to the community on what has been accomplished recently in the State and Community. It has been a very busy time for the Bronx and the City of New York.

As 2013 draws to an end, I wanted to inform you of the progress we have made to meet the needs of the people of New York State. As always, if there is any way that I can be of assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact me. My office is here to serve you.

With Love and Hope,

Carl E Heastie

Carl E. Heastie Member of Assembly

Carl E. Heastie and Facebook connect students to the Internet



Students at MS 142 were provided with free laptops from Facebook to help them bridge the digital divide and prepare for future success.

On September 23, 2013 Assemblyman Carl E. Heastie in conjunction with Facebook gave away approximately 200 laptops to be used by the students at MS 142 (John Phillip Sousa Middle School). Assemblyman Heastie, Facebook, members of the community and local officials joined forces to provide local children with a vehicle to bridge the digital divide by donating laptops they can use during their studies. The event was a huge success and the laptops are being used regularly to enhance the students' studies in many areas of the curriculum.

Assemblyman Carl E. Heastie and the Food Industry Alliance provide turkeys for Thanksgiving dinner

Assemblyman Carl E. Heastie in conjunction with the Food Industry Alliance has provided turkey dinners for seniors and families in the northeast Bronx for Thanksgiving celebrations. In the true spirit of Thanksgiving, turkey dinners with "all the fixins" were given to local families, churches, and senior centers so residents could enjoy a traditional Thanksgiving dinner.

"I would like to recognize the work of the Food Industry Alliance as they help local families enjoy the spirit of the Holiday season," said Assemblyman Heastie. "This is just another example of how New Yorkers come together in the wake of adversity to help members of the community," stated Assemblyman Heastie.

Assemblyman Heastie, with the help of the Food Industry Alliance, purchased the turkeys and provided the coordination of these events.



Check to see if you qualify for the Home Energy Heating Program

Harsh winters can be devastating if you have trouble heating your home. That's where the Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) comes in. HEAP is a federally funded program providing relief to those who would otherwise be unable to afford heat.

HEAP might be just the help Bronx families need to pay for electricity, propane, natural gas, wood, oil, kerosene, coal or any other heating fuel. The regular benefit component helps lower-income New Yorkers cover the costs of heating their homes. Eligibility for HEAP relies on numerous factors, including income, household size, the primary heating source and the presence of a household member who is under age 6, age 60 or older or permanently disabled.

For New Yorkers facing a home heating crisis, HEAP also provides emergency benefits. Emergency benefits are based on income, as well as available resources, number of household members and the primary fuel type. You may be eligible to receive HEAP emergency benefits if:

- your electricity is necessary for your heating system to work and is either shut off or scheduled to be shut off;
- your electric or natural gas heat is off or scheduled to be shut off;
- you're in danger of running out of fuel; or
- your home heating equipment is inoperable.

In addition to these direct benefits, HEAP also assists low-income homeowners with repairing or replacing any damaged or non-functioning heating equipment, including furnaces, boilers or other direct-heating components necessary to keep the home's heating source functional. HEAP benefits will cover the incurred cost of such repairs or replacements, up to \$6,500.

As the cost of heating a home continues to increase and low-income families struggle to pay to heat their homes, it's absolutely essential to ensure that families do not suffer from the harsh weather. I strongly encourage residents of the Bronx to apply for benefits if they are in need.

For information regarding HEAP benefits in New York City, dial the toll-free number at 1-800-692-0557. You can also find more information regarding the benefits by going to www.nyc. gov/html/hra/html/services/energy.shtml.

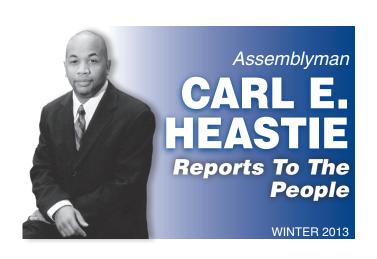
To learn more about HEAP, you can contact the New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance by calling the toll-free number at 1-800-342-3009, or you can visit the OTDA website at www.otda.ny.gov/programs/heap. You can also review your eligibility by visiting www.mybenefits.ny.gov. In addition to those resources, feel free to contact my office for any assistance by calling 718-654-6539 or via email at heastiec@assembly.state.ny.us.

STAR EXEMPTION REGISTRATION DEADLINE

Don't forget- the deadline to register for the Basic STAR exemption is December 31st.

Assemblyman Heastie wants to ensure that you receive your Basic STAR exemptions.

Everyone who receives the Basic STAR exemption must complete a one-time re-registration. Registration is easy... Go to www.tax.ny.gov or call 518-457-2036



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Independence Day

Labor Day

Columbus Day

Election Day

2014 CALENDAR

Assemblyman Carl E. Heastie

DISTRICT OFFICE:

New Year's Day

Presidents Day

Memorial Day

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

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Veterans Day

Christmas Day

Thanksgiving Day

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