



Assemblymember

**SHELLEY
MAYER**

**OPEN
HOUSE**

Thursday,
December 10th

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Fall 2015

Community Newsletter

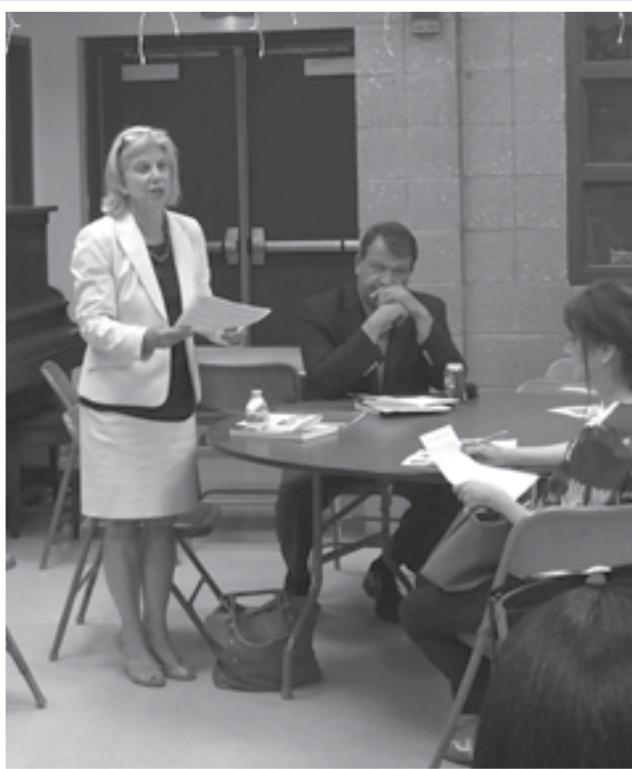
Dear Neighbor:

During the Summer and Fall, when the legislature is not in session, I have greater opportunities to meet with residents and attend community events. It has been a busy season, and I look forward to a productive legislative session starting in January. Please continue to share your ideas and upcoming events with me and my office.

Warmly,

Shelley B. Mayer

Shareholders' Rights and Responsibilities in Cooperative Ownership



At the Scotti Community Center, Senator Latimer and I hosted a forum on shareholders' rights and responsibilities in cooperative ownership.

Senator George Latimer and I hosted an informative meeting on cooperative ownership. We had three speakers who provided an overview of good co-op management. The speakers focused on the need to elect a responsive board and why shareholders must remain involved in their building's governance throughout the process. We will host a follow-up forum that will focus on potential legislative changes that can improve management and relationships between shareholders and the board.

Improving Cooperative Ownership: Legislative Opportunities for Reform

Join Senator Latimer and me for another informative discussion of cooperative ownership, including discussion of possible New York State legislation that could benefit shareholders and cooperative boards and other stakeholders.

Thursday, December 3, 2015

7:00 p.m.

**Will Library Auditorium
1500 Central Park Avenue
Yonkers, NY 10710**

If you would like to receive my e-newsletter or information about events I am organizing, please send your name and email address to: mayers@assembly.state.ny.us.

ASSEMBLYMEMBER SHELLEY MAYER

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Regional Chamber of Commerce Networking



Senator George Latimer hosted a gathering of nearly a dozen local Chamber of Commerce groups at the Port Chester Senior Center. I was pleased to represent Yonkers. Jeanne Martinelli from the Yonkers Chamber of Commerce attended, and John Ravitz from the Business Council of Westchester spoke about the benefits of an organized voice for business. There was a productive discussion of strategies for increasing communication among local businesses, growing businesses and encouraging residents to support local businesses through Chamber membership.

At the Port Chester Senior Center participating in a productive meeting of local Chambers of Commerce hosted by Senator George Latimer.

Working with Mayor Spano to Secure Important New York State Assembly Grant for Repairs and Improvements to the Samuel H. Dow Post American Legion 1017

I was joined by Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano and veterans from The Samuel H. Dow Post American Legion 1017 in announcing we have secured a \$125,000 New York State Assembly Grant to support new electrical wiring, roof repair, plumbing work, and construction of a monument in memory of deceased veterans. It has taken many years and a lot of hard work and collaboration to get this funding for much needed repairs to the Samuel H. Dow Post, but we were able to see this through. This grant was initiated in 2009 when Mayor Spano served as Assemblyman, but has taken many years to complete and was finally secured in 2015 under my leadership. The Post provides important services and a community for our deserving U.S. veterans.



Mayor Spano and I, along with veterans from The Samuel H. Dow Post American Legion 1017, announcing an important New York State Assembly Grant that will provide for repairs and improvements to the local post.

Fire Ops 101



Firefighters from across the County hosted a “Fire Ops 101” program for elected leaders at the Westchester County fire training center in Valhalla. The program allowed us to get a glimpse of the challenges firefighters experience each day. I am particularly appreciative of the Yonkers Firefighters, Local 628 and Yonkers UFOA and all my friends from the Yonkers Fire Department for their help.

Thank you to Yonkers Firefighters, Local 628 and Yonkers UFOA for leading me through some of the difficult work you do every day. Here I was guided by Firefighter Alan Jackson from Yonkers Fire Station 13.



MTA Capital Funding

Governor Cuomo and Mayor de Blasio have an agreement about the responsibility for funding the MTA's capital plans, which includes significant improvements for Metro-North Railroad. Just recently, I circulated a letter, which many of my Assembly colleagues signed, which we sent to Governor Cuomo, supporting a fully-funded MTA capital plan. Many Yonkers residents rely on the MTA's Metro-North Railroad and NYC Subways for work and recreation, but my colleagues and I stressed the *statewide* benefits of a sound capital plan. When the MTA orders new railcars, buses, and other infrastructure components, it is Kawasaki in Yonkers or other manufacturers throughout the state that will begin production and provide good-paying manufacturing jobs. Although the details of the capital plan are still unclear, I am pleased an agreement has been reached, and I look forward to getting additional details.



It was a beautiful day at the 5th Annual McLean Ave. Fall festival with my friends RJ Puma and Senator George Latimer!

Periodically, I have the pleasure of hosting volunteers and interns. This summer I was fortunate to host Jamika Holmes. She is now a senior at Roosevelt High School Early College Studies. She was a terrific intern and a fantastic young woman! Here, she shares her experience:

Jamika's Story

"Internship." Hearing the word, my name, and "required" all in the same sentence was somewhat frightening. Where I am from, there seems to be this stereotype associated with politicians of any sort. A lot of people assume that elected officials do not actually care about the community, but I will soon be 18 years old, and that means I will have a say in who represents me in the government. If I want to be represented by a leader who seeks prosperity, whether that be in my city, my state, or my country, I must understand their motives, their reasoning, and the person behind the title.



With Senator Stewart Cousins and Jamika Holmes, an intern in my office and senior at Roosevelt Early College Studies at YPIE, Yonkers Partners in Education's, annual fundraiser.

I cannot say I entered Assemblymember Shelley Mayer's office open minded. I did not. Before I came to the office, I assumed everyone would find me childish and unnecessary. I was quickly proven wrong. From the start, I was welcomed. No one minded giving me direction in the office or helping me understand government.

I was particularly involved with one assignment looking at American Sign Language Licensing and Regulations. Although deaf or hard of hearing people are only a small portion of the American population, they deserve proper representation. Seeing that issues affecting a small portion of the population are being attended to shows how involved the office of Assemblymember Mayer is.

Although I only spent two months in Assemblymember Mayer's office, I feel like I have built lasting relationships with the people who work in the office. Coming into the office a stranger and being welcomed as though I had been there for a while was an amazing feeling. Not only was everyone helpful, they took an interest in me, offered their assistance, and I left the office having learned a lot. Yes, there is so much more that I can and need to learn about my government, but I could not have asked for a better start.

Appointment of Jane T. Feldman as Executive Director of New Assembly Office of Ethics and Compliance

I was fortunate to serve on the Assembly Search Committee that recommended Jane Feldman as Executive Director of the New Office of Ethics and Compliance. When Speaker Carl Heastie took office, he committed himself to strengthening ethics and introducing greater transparency and accountability in the New York State Assembly. He created a bipartisan committee of Assembly members who conducted a nationwide search for candidates, and we unanimously recommended Jane T. Feldman to the position. She will be a valuable resource, providing education and guidance, to members and staff of the Assembly.

Please join me for a holiday open house!

**Thursday, December 10th
4:00 – 6:00 p.m.**

**35 East Grassy Sprain Road, Suite 406B
Yonkers, NY 10710**

**Questions or to RSVP: 914-779-8805
mayers@assembly.state.ny.us**

**We will be collecting canned goods, as well as
diapers and personal care items, to be donated to local organizations.**



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*Hosted by Catholic Charities in Yonkers,
residents embroidered the beautiful
cloths and table coverings that were used for
Pope Francis' visit to New York.*