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Dear Neighbor,

The dog days of summer are upon us. It is important to stay cool especially older adults. [Here is a list of cooling centers in Rockland.](#)

The New York Alliance for Donation (NYAD) is teaming up with New York patients and legislators to recognize August 1-7 as National Minority Donor Awareness Week.

This week long observance aims to educate minorities about the desperate need for organ, eye and tissue donors in New York. NYAD encourages people from all racial and ethnic groups to become donors. You can register [here.](#)

I hope you're enjoying your summer.

~Ellen~

Desal Update: Water, Water Everywhere

Amy Vickers, a renowned water conservation and efficiency expert retained by the [Rockland Water Task Force](#) found that there was never a valid basis for United Water's proposed desalination plant, and that repairing a leaky system and boosting customer conservation could add millions of gallons a day to our local water supply. The Taskforce has submitted key findings in Vicker's report to the Public Service Commission. To learn more click [here.](#)

New Oak Tree Road Bridge

I joined Orangetown Supervisor Andy Stewart, Superintendent of Highways Jim Dean, and residents to celebrate the opening of the new [Oak Tree Road Bridge in Tappan](#). More than half of the roughly \$1.9 million project was paid for with funding I secured from N Y State to replace an unsafe structure that contributed to flooding on the Sparkill Creek.



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Assembly Office in the Neighborhood



I held a community meeting at the Finkelstein Library to update you on the legislative



session, answer questions, and listen to your concerns. I also enjoyed meeting with you when I held Community Office Hours at the Nyack and Spring Valley Farmers Markets. Stay tuned for more upcoming opportunities and mobile office hours this fall.

Fighting to Close Indian Point

I joined with those who live within 50 miles of the Indian Point Nuclear Power Plant, including elected officials and signed on to a letter to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission requesting that public hearings on relicensing the aging plant take place in White Plains, not Washington, D.C., to allow for community participation on this critical issue.

Seeking New Operator to Reopen Tallman Pool for Summer 2016



[The Palisades Interstate Park Commission](#) is hoping to identify a competent operator to renovate and operate the Pool at Tallman Park for the 2016 season. After six dormant seasons, the PIPC is releasing a new [Request for Proposals](#) in search of a new operator under a public-private partnership. The spectacular complex includes ample parking, one large adult and one separate kiddie pool, all with a picturesque view of the Hudson River that is unrivaled.

Pay Fast-Food Workers \$15 an Hour

I applaud the [NYS Wage Board's recommendation to raise the minimum wage](#) for the working poor who are struggling to provide for their families, many of whom are single parents. However, *no one* who works full time should have to live in poverty. That's why I co-sponsored and the Assembly passed legislation ([A.7257](#)) that would have raised the minimum wage for every worker.