



# E-News August 2015

August 27, 2015

Volume 1, Number 13

## This Issue:

State Monitor in East Ramapo

JAMCAR 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

Equal Rights for Women

Funding to Upgrade Libraries

Support Planned Parenthood

Clifford Theatre 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Show

Dear Friends,



As summer winds down and a new school year is about to begin, I'm excited that more 3- and 4- year olds will be going to Pre-K because of increased funding in the 2015 state budget. Special congratulations to the students who are heading off to college for the first time and to the families and friends who helped them achieve this milestone. My heartfelt thanks to all of our dedicated teachers for the valuable work they perform throughout each and every

student's journey to success.

Wishing you a happy, safe Labor Day, and a productive school year.

~Ellen~

## State Monitor in East Ramapo

I am pleased with the appointment of the Monitor Team led by former NYC Department of Education Chancellor, [Dennis Walcott](#). I shared some of the history of the district with him and [Monica George-Fields](#) as they met with me in my district office this week. The Team that



the Commissioner has selected is highly-qualified and knowledgeable on all matters of education policy and finance. I am hopeful their expertise and involvement will lead the district to providing the excellent education the public school students deserve.

## Congratulations Jamaican Civic and Cultural Association of Rockland

(JAMCAR)

I was proud to be among the honorees at JAMCAR's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration and commemoration of Jamaica's 53<sup>rd</sup> year of independence. JAMCAR continues to provide

## Contact Me

### Website:

Ellen Jaffee

### Email:

jaffee@assembly.state.ny.us

### District Office:

One Blue Hill Plaza  
Pearl River, NY  
10965  
845-624-4601

### Albany:

Room 650  
LOB  
Albany NY, 10965  
518-455-5118



### Like me on

#### Facebook

www.facebook.com/  
JaffeeNY



### Follow me on

#### Twitter

@EllenCJaffee

cultural events in Rockland to promote the civic, economic, and cultural aspects of Jamaican, Caribbean, and Pan-African cultures.

## Equal Rights for Women

Women's Equality Day, August 26<sup>th</sup>, is an opportunity to recognize the Suffrage Movement that led to the ratification of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment, which legally granted American women the right to vote. However, within the Suffrage Movement women of color were frequently discriminated against. Nearly a century later, women are still fighting for access to child care, health care, housing, employment opportunities and equal pay. The wage gap for women of color in particular is even greater. I will continue to fight for women's rights because when women succeed our families succeed, our economy is strengthened and everyone benefits.

## I Support Planned Parenthood

I wrote a [Community View](#) in support of Planned Parenthood after the release of videos and the shutdown of the Planned Parenthood website that is part of an ongoing campaign by groups to prevent women from accessing health care. For nearly 100 years Planned Parenthood has done more to prevent unintended pregnancies than any other organization in the country.

## Funding to Upgrade Libraries

I was pleased to secure a total of \$137,673 in public library construction funds provided in the 2014 State Budget for the Blauvelt Free Library, the Finkelstein Memorial Library, and the Palisades Free Library. We may live in the Digital Age, in an era of I-pads and E-books, but everyone can't always afford expensive technology. Our libraries ensure that this technology is available for anyone who needs it.

## Clifford Theater Workshop 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Show

I was excited to be part of the audience in Suffern Village Hall for this special performance of RENT. The theater, founded by Suffern Trustee, Jack Clifford, and with the support of his family, continues to provide a theater learning and performance space for children.