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## **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

[\*NY ABLE Program\*](#)

The New York ABLE program is open for enrollment. The New York Achieving a Better Life Experience was created for people with disabilities and their families as a way to contribute up to \$12,060 a year in an account without it jeopardizing their eligibility for federal funds such as Medicaid.

The program is a great way for individuals with disabilities to maintain their health, independence

and quality of life without risking their means-based benefits!

Visit [www.mynyable.org](http://www.mynyable.org) or call 1-855-5NY-ABLE to learn more about starting an account.

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## DISTRICT NEWS

### [CoLab Ribbon Cutting](#)



It was great to attend the ribbon cutting ceremony for the new CoLab co-working and events facility in the 108<sup>th</sup> Assembly District.

Collaborative thinking and working frequently leads to productivity and innovation. CoLab is a positive addition to a growing Downtown population and will draw more creative thinkers to the

community. Congratulations to Tyler for opening this space and thank you for creating this atmosphere that will allow many to come together to build success and foster collective growth.

### [City of Albany - City Hall on the Road](#)

Mayor Sheehan is bringing the City of Albany departments into the community with City Hall on the Road. This series of public open house events will allow representatives from several City departments to bring valuable information and resources to the public and give residents the opportunity to meet with the Mayor and other City officials.

They will be hosting the second in the series on **Wednesday, August 22** 5:30-7:00 p.m. at Tony Clement Center for Education, 395 Elk St., Albany, NY 12206.

### [Ukrainian- American Festival](#)

The Ukrainian- American organizations of the Capital District along with the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America – Capital District Branch will be commemorating the 27<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Ukrainian Independence on **Saturday, August 25<sup>th</sup>** with a festival from 1-10 p.m. at the Ukrainian American Club located at One Pulaski Ave Cohoes, NY 12047.

There will be traditional food, vendors, kid's activities and more. Check out [this flyer](#) for more details.

### [Albany City Hall Back to School Night](#)

Albany City Hall will be hosting their annual Back to School Night **Monday, August 27<sup>th</sup>** at 5:30pm! Stop in to pick up school supply lists and meet with school representatives to learn more about after-school programming. For more information, see [this flyer](#).

### [Karner Kids Film Festival](#)

The Albany Pine Bush Preserve Commission will be hosting the Karner Kids Film Festival on **Wednesday August 29** at 6:30pm at the Albany Pine Bush Discover Center located at 195 New Karner Road in Albany.

The Karner Kids Film Festival features Pine Bush-themed films made by kids ages 10-17. The films are original creations of 5 minutes or less and all feature the Pine Bush.

This is a free event. While reservations are not required for special events, knowing how many people are coming helps to plan. Children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Make reservations by calling 518-456-0655 or visit [www.AlbanyPineBush.org/events](http://www.AlbanyPineBush.org/events).

### [Memorial Walk and Candlelight Vigil](#)

NOpiates and Friends of Recovery will be hosting a Memorial Walk and Candlelight Vigil for Overdose Awareness Day on **Wednesday, August 29 at 6 p.m.**

The walk will begin at the West Sand Lake Elementary School and end at the Fire House.

For more information check out [this flyer](#)

### [Small Business Façade Improvement Program](#)

With the success of the Small Business Façade Improvement Program's Round 2, up to \$100,000 in matching grants will be available as part of the program's third round — applications will be made available September 4th.

Updated program guidelines will be made available as soon as feasible and applications will be accepted starting September 4th. If you have questions regarding the program, please contact staff at [Development@CapitalizeAlbany.com](mailto:Development@CapitalizeAlbany.com).

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## IN THE NEWS

### [New Exit Ramp Albany Airport](#)

Take a few moments to read [this Albany Business Review article](#) by Liz Young.

It is great to see these resources we supported in the budget come back to our region. This funding continues to support the good work that the airport does thanks to major investment over a decade ago put in place by former Senate Leader Joe Bruno and former Assembly Majority Leader Ron Canestrari.

The new parking and the exit ramp are long awaited improvements and investments and show what can happen when both sides of the aisle work together for the good of the public.