



Assemblymember

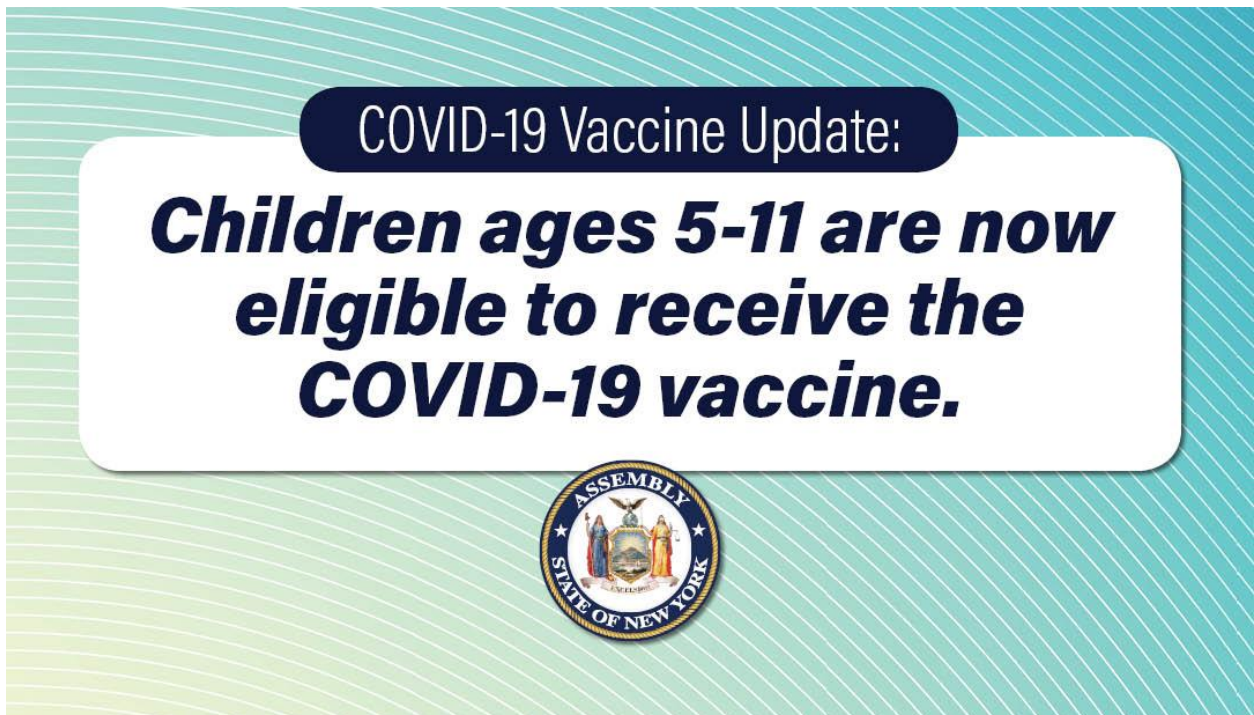
Anna Kelles

Assembly District 125



Dear Neighbors,

Good news in the fight against COVID! The CDC has approved the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine for children ages 5-11 and it's free for everyone. Together we can all do our part to stay healthy and protect ourselves and those around us. Visit www.covid19vaccine.health.ny.gov to learn more.



COVID-19 Vaccine Clinics for 5-11 Year Olds

We will keep you posted on upcoming vaccine clinics for children 5-to-11-year-old children. The Tompkins County Health Department is encouraging families who were unable to make an appointment for this weekend's clinics to watch for clinics to be announced for next weekend or to seek vaccine through a pharmacy or medical office. Future clinics for this population are being planned and will be announced once vaccine doses are available. Clinic announcements will be sent as soon as they are available by local school districts, TST BOCES, and other community partners to directly communicate to families with children 5-11 years old.

COVID-19 Town Hall

A COVID-19 Town Hall will take place on Monday, November 8 from 4:00pm – 5:00pm. The town hall can be [viewed on YouTube](#) and will be archived at the same link, questions from the public will be taken during the event. Guests will include Dr. Jeffrey Snedeker, physician at Northeast Pediatrics, and Rachel Buckwalter, Senior Community Health Nurse at TCHD. Please consider joining to hear more about the COVID-19 vaccine for children and other updates.



NEW BILL!

**Establishes the Office of Addiction and Mental Health
A8379 (Kelles)**

This bill will amend the mental hygiene law to create the Office of Addiction and Mental Health Services. Integration of care will improve outcomes for individuals suffering from co-occurring disorders.

**ANNA
KELLES**
Assemblymember for the 125th

The graphic features a white torn-paper background with several interlocking blue gears. Each gear contains a white medical icon, such as a heart, a microscope, a pill, a stethoscope, a wheelchair, and a caduceus. To the right of the gears is the logo for Anna Kelles, Assemblymember for the 125th, which includes the name "ANNA KELLES" in large letters and a small yellow outline of the state of New York.

I recently introduced a bill ([A8379](#)) to amend the mental hygiene law, in relation to creating the office of addiction and mental health services. For too long the state had provided one door for individuals suffering with Substance Use Disorder, and another for mental health issues. Lives have been lost, and outcomes have fallen short when we are not treating the whole person. Integration of care from the Office of Mental Health and the Office of Addiction, Supports, and Services will improve outcomes for individuals suffering from co-occurring disorders.

All savings realized will be reinvested in the new agency. The creation of a stakeholder standing advisory committee will provide the transparency needed and guarantee a seat at the table for those most impacted. This committee will protect the workforce, and ensure we attain the legislative intent to integrate care.



Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP)

The Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) can help income-eligible New Yorkers pay the cost of heating their home. To apply or learn more, visit: www.ny.gov/services/apply-heating-and-cooling-assistance-heap

A graphic with a light green background and a dark green footer. The top part features the text "HEAP can help you stay warm this winter!" in large, bold, dark green letters. Below this, on the left, is the text "New Yorkers can now apply for the regular HEAP benefit and the emergency benefit application opens on Jan. 3, 2022." On the right is an illustration of a house with icicles hanging from its roof. The bottom part of the graphic is a dark green bar with white text: "The Clean and Tune Benefit can also provide eligible households with up to \$400 to clean or repair primary heating equipment."/>

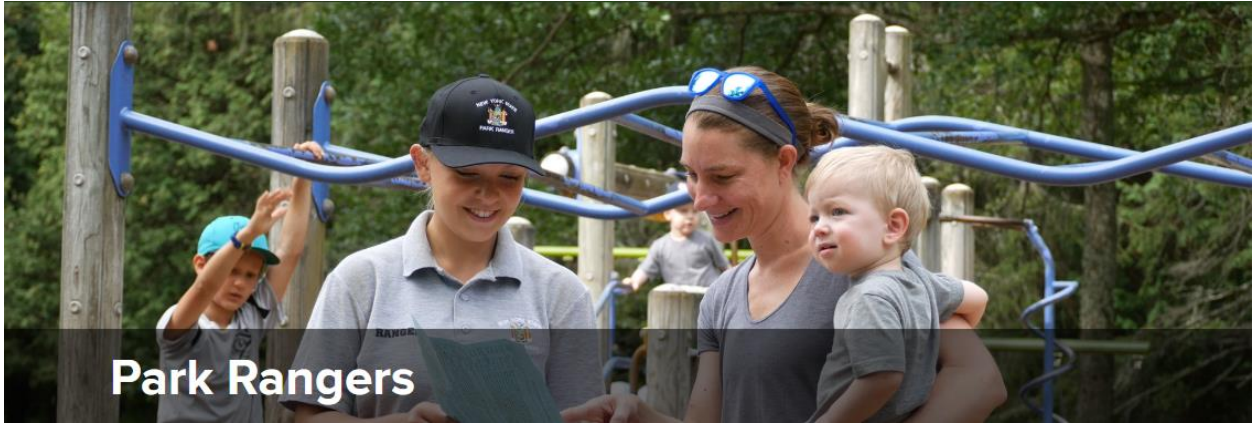
HEAP can help you stay warm this winter!

New Yorkers can now apply for the regular HEAP benefit and the emergency benefit application opens on **Jan. 3, 2022.**

*The **Clean and Tune Benefit** can also provide eligible households with up to \$400 to clean or repair primary heating equipment.*

Employment Opportunity!

The Office of New York State Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) is currently recruiting for seasonal Park Ranger candidates for the 2022 Summer season.



Duties & Responsibilities

Park Rangers assist and guide patrons, as well as enforce park rules and regulations through voluntary compliance where possible. Park Rangers patrol campgrounds, beaches, cabin areas, marinas, trails, gorges, picnic areas, and park buildings. Park Rangers are generally hired to work from mid-May through Labor Day, although some assignments may be extended. Park Rangers act as security guards for NYS Parks and are neither police nor peace officers.

For further information, visit: <https://parks.ny.gov/employment/park-ranger/default.aspx>.

In good health,

Anna Kelles, Ph.D.

Assemblymember, 125th A.D.

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