



## Weekly Report from Assemblyman Charles D. Fall

May 6, 2021

### District 61 Staff

I want to take the opportunity to thank the staff for all of their effort. Constituent service is a priority and they are making a difference on the ground.



## Upcoming Events

### Food Giveaways

Join us **Friday, May 7th** at 1:00 PM at MAS Staten Island at 180 Burgher Avenue as we deliver food to the community in celebration of Ramadan.



MAS STATEN ISLAND PACE PRESENTS

MAS Muslim American Society NEW YORK PH Project Hospitality

# FOOD DISTRIBUTION

**FRIDAY, MAY 7TH**  
12:00 - 2:00 PM

**LOCATION: 180 BURGHER AVE.,**  
STATEN ISLAND, NEW YORK 10304

SPECIAL THANKS TO PROJECT HOSPITALITY  
& ASSEMBLY MEMBER CHARLES FALLS OFFICE FOR  
SPONSORING & COORDINATING THE DRIVE

The poster features an illustration of a person in a red shirt and cap holding a large cardboard box filled with various food items like pizza, bread, and canned goods. In the background, there is a city skyline. A small circular portrait of a man in a suit is also included.

### 121st Precinct Veteran Park Cleanup

Please join us to beautify our oldest park dedicated to our Veterans, Veterans Park **May 7th** at 3 pm. Thank you to the NYPD, the 121 Precinct Community Council, Port Richmond Strong, District Attorney Michael E. McMahon, Councilmember Rose, Parks, and DSNY for your partnership on this.



**NYPD**

## 121st Precinct "Veterans Park"

**Community CLEAN DAY**

**Clean-Up Event**  
**May 7th 2021 3pm**

located on Pt Richmond Ave between Park Avenue, Herberton Avenue, Bennett Street and Vreeland Street.

**Volunteers Needed & Donations Welcome**

*"Veterans Park" is Staten Island's oldest park that is dedicated to our American Veterans and is located in the heart of Port Richmond. We are reaching out to the community and local leaders for assistance to help in this event to Revitalize one of Staten Island's greatest parks. Our goal is to brighten up and revitalize the park for a clean safe environment to enjoy and to hold future fun events for the community. Anyone who would like to donate supplies or funds can notify the 121 pct Community Council (501c-3) at Communitycouncil121pct@gmail.com or contact the 121Pet Community Affairs Div (718)697-8777 970 Richmond Ave Staten Island, Ny 10314 Donation Checks can be made out to the 121Pet Community Council, Please write Veterans Park Project in the memo section.*

Logos for NYPD, Port Richmond Strong, and various community organizations are displayed at the bottom.

## District 61 News

### **Virtual Iftar Celebration**

This past week I was honored to once again see such a positive outpour of support for my third annual Iftar Celebration. Although it was done over Zoom, I could not have asked for a better event. Community members and leaders from all across the state joined me in celebrating not only Ramadan but the honorees we awarded that night for their contributions to our borough. Our gathering was topped off with a special word from Senator Majority Leader Chuck Schumer who dropped in to congratulate the honorees.



### Muslim Sisters of Staten Island

Muslim Sisters of Staten Island is a not for profit community based organization that was founded in 2014, by Safiyyah Abdul-Qawiyah and 4 other Muslim sisters who wanted to do more in their community. They created a safe space for the creation of programs and services for black and brown Muslim women and children so they developed a mission to provide activities, resources, advocacy, and support, to promote community awareness, civic engagement and equity primarily for the underserved women and children of the community while helping to strengthen the foundation of the family. During the major part of the pandemic, they had several food distribution giveaways, including hygiene

Charles Fall

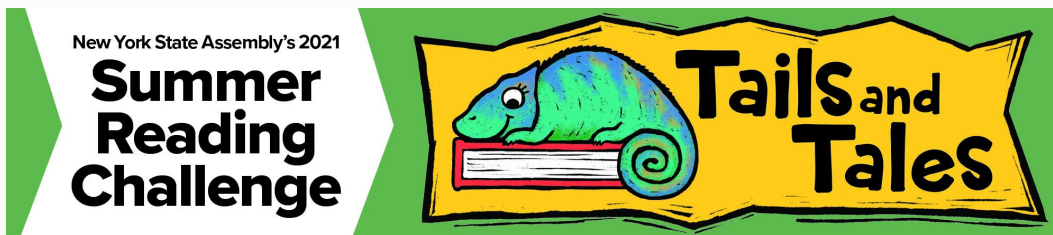
## Masjid al Ihsan Food Giveaway

I had the pleasure of not only praying at Masjid al Ihsan [last Friday](#) but also helping hand out one of two grocery giveaways last week coordinated by my office, project hospitality, and ASAAL. The beautiful mosque is located at 406 St. Marks Place and was most welcoming. I hope to be able to team up with them in the future to continue to help my brothers and sisters in the St. George community.



## Summer Reading Challenge

There is no better way to help kids expand their horizons and keep their minds active than by picking up a good book. This year I am inviting our local youth to participate in the Assembly's annual Summer Reading Challenge, held in partnership with New York State Libraries. The challenge asks children to read a book for a minimum of 15 minutes a day for at least 40 days during July and August. Children can read on their own or with a partner or caregiver and mark off days on the calendar provided. Once they've completed 40 days or more, they submit the calendar to my office and then receive a certificate in the mail.



## Updates From Albany

**This week my colleagues and I passed lifesaving legislation to require safe staffing standards in hospitals and nursing homes.**

### **A.108-B:**

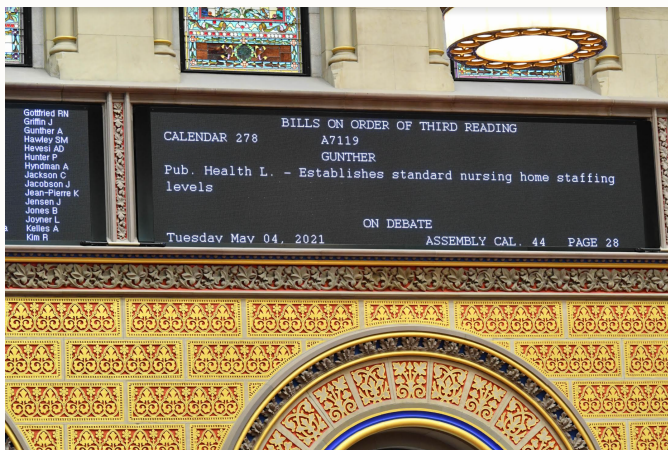
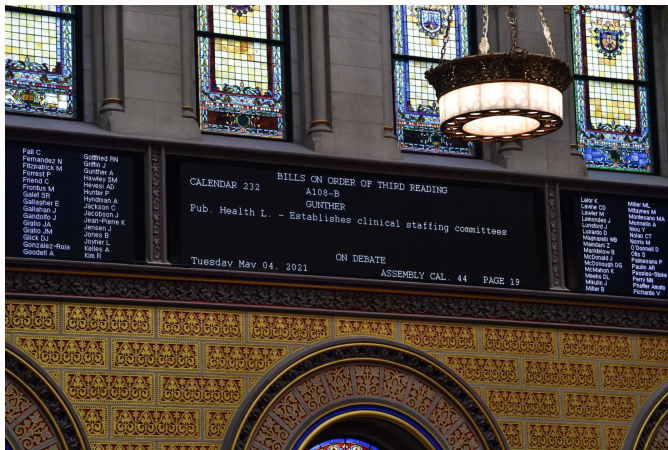
- The legislation requires hospitals to establish clinical staffing committees that would be responsible for developing and overseeing a clinical staffing plan.
- The clinical staffing plans would set nurse-to-patient ratios in hospitals as well as set guidelines for the number of ancillary staff in each unit.
- These committees would be made up of registered nurses, licensed practical nurses, ancillary staff members providing direct patient care and hospital administrators.
- Plans would be submitted to the state Department of Health (DOH) by **July 1** of each year, and these committees would be responsible for adjusting and improving these plans as need be.
- The DOH would be required to set regulations for intensive and critical care unit staffing, including at least 12 hours of registered nurse care per day.
- Plans must be made accessible to the public and posted on the DOH hospital profile website.
- The DOH is tasked with investigating any violations or complaints, and hospitals that violate these guidelines may face civil penalties; however, the DOH will consider any unforeseeable emergency circumstances when determining these matters.
- An independent advisory commission will also be created to help further improve working conditions and quality of care in hospitals.

### **A.7119:**

- A.7119 would direct the Department of Health commissioner to establish minimum nurse staffing levels for nursing homes in order to promote the highest standards of resident health and well-being.
- The DOH would also be tasked with creating penalties for noncompliance and reviewing compliance through quarterly federal staffing documentation; however, the DOH will take into account factors, such as unforeseeable disasters or emergencies, the nature of the violation and labor-supply shortages, when issuing penalties.
- The minimum nursing home staffing standard must include a minimum of 3.5 hours of nursing care per resident per day.

- Of that 3.5 hours, at least 2.2 would need to be provided by nursing assistants and at least 1.1 would need to be provided by licensed practical nurses (LPNs) or registered nurses (RNs).

I want to commend and congratulate my colleague, Assemblymember Aileen Gunther for her dedicated persistence in getting these important measures finally passed. Even before the pandemic hit our communities, the problems with nurse staffing were evident. The COVID-19 pandemic shined a light on how important nurses and other direct care workers are to our society. Rest assured, I along with my Assembly and Senate colleagues will continue to fight for policies that protect essential workers and put our families first.



**This week the Assembly passed legislation to extend residential and commercial eviction moratoriums**

- The State 2021-22 Budget included approximately \$3 billion in combined federal and state dollars for rent and homeowner relief.
- This included a rental relief program to aid eligible tenants with up to 12 months of rent and utility arrears assistance, plus up to three months' prospective rent assistance for rent burdened households to maintain housing stability.
- The rental relief has not yet been distributed.
- Legislation that was passed this week would allow New Yorkers to remain in their homes while they await this relief by extending the COVID-19 Emergency Protect Our Small Business Act of 2021 and the COVID-19 Emergency Eviction and Foreclosure Protection Act of 2020, both of which were set to expire [May 1](#), retroactively through [August 31](#), 2021
- In a separate piece of legislation, the Assembly also passed legislation that will ensure landlords qualify for \$100 million in funding to assist in back rent due to COVID-19.

Just as important it is to extend protections for our tenants, we also need to backup our landlords and property owners. We need to keep in mind that by protecting our tenants from eviction, if landlords foreclose, those same tenants would be pushed out into the streets.



**I sent a letter to the Governor urging Mosques throughout New York State to fully reopen in acknowledgment of Eid-al-Fitr.**

On behalf of my fellow Muslim brothers and sisters, this week I wrote a letter to Governor Cuomo urging him to allow Mosques to fully reopen – starting next week – in acknowledgment of Eid-al-Fitr which begins in the evening of [May 12th](#) and ends on the evening of [May 13th](#). To have the state recognize this Muslim holiday by allowing Mosques to fully reopen is an important message that we are viewed fairly and equally here in New York State.



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**Critical Updates, New Policies, and Testing Locations to Protect You and Your Community**

1. The Governor announced this week that large-scale outdoor event venues will only be limited by the space available for patrons or parties of patrons to maintain the required social distance of 6 feet starting [May 19](#). This will apply to outdoor sports, performing arts and live entertainment, and horse and auto racing venues statewide. Appropriate social distancing, masks and other applicable health protocols will still apply.



2. It was announced this week that Broadway will fully reopen its doors this September, in accordance with the State's health and safety guidance. Beginning May 6, and throughout May, tickets for Broadway shows - which begin September 14, 2021 - will be made available for sale at 100 percent of theater capacity. This announcement builds upon the reopening of performing arts and live entertainment venues at limited capacities last month and further sets the stage for Broadway shows to return to theaters throughout the fall.
3. The curfew will be removed for outdoor dining areas beginning May 17 and indoor areas beginning May 31. The curfew for catered events where attendees have proof of vaccination status or negative COVID test result will be lifted beginning May 17 and curfew for all catered events lifted May 31. It was also announced that the 1 a.m. curfew for catered events where attendees have provided proof of vaccination status or a recent negative COVID-19 test result will be lifted beginning May 17, with the curfew for all catered events set to be lifted May 31.
4. Tax Day for individuals extended to May 17: Treasury, IRS extend filing and payment deadline. The Treasury Department and Internal Revenue Service announced that the federal income tax filing due date for individuals for the 2020 tax year will be automatically extended from April 15, 2021, to May 17, 2021. The IRS will be providing formal guidance in the coming days.
5. Eligible individuals can schedule vaccine appointments by contacting:
  - **The NYC Vaccine hotline at 877-829-4692 or clicking here**
  - **The NYS hotline at 888-364-3065 or clicking here**
  - **SOMOS, a community health provider at 833-766-6769**
  - **Eligible individuals will have to fill out a screening form and attest to being in an eligible category.** Anyone who is NOT eligible for vaccination, should not sign up for an appointment. **Click here to find updated vaccine eligibility lists, vaccine locations near you and to schedule a vaccine appointment when eligible.**
  - **Click here for a COVID-19 vaccine fact sheet.**

6. **Veterans enrolled in the VA Care system can call and schedule an appointment to get the COVID-19 vaccine. Call 1-877-877-9267. If you are not yet eligible call 877-222-8387 to enroll.**

**Attention NYC Veterans**

VA New York Harbor Healthcare System is working closely with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and other federal partners to provide COVID-19 vaccines to Veterans and VA health care personnel.



At this time, VA New York Harbor is offering the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine to **Veterans 65 years of age and older currently enrolled in VA Healthcare.**

The vaccine is being administered at the following locations by appointment only:

- Manhattan VA Medical Center
- Brooklyn VA Medical Center
- St. Albans Community Living Center
- Staten Island Community VA Clinic

Eligible Veterans must schedule an appointment by calling  
**1-877-877-9267**

Veterans who are not yet enrolled in VA Healthcare may visit [www.va.gov/health-care/how-to-apply/](http://www.va.gov/health-care/how-to-apply/) or call 877-222-8387 for more information on how to apply.

  U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

7. **Review the State guidelines for travelers arriving in New York State.**
- View the Test-and-Trace corps **COVID-19 Wait Times Dashboard** for estimated wait times for NYC Health + Hospitals COVID-19 testing locations. This wait time information is updated by site staff every two hours.
    - **Use the DOH map to find all State-run testing sites.**
    - **Click here for a full list of NYC Health + Hospitals walk-in testing sites available at no cost to you on the North Shore.**
    - Use the Phone-a-Clinician program with Health + Hospitals, by calling (844) NYC-4NYC. Call to connect with a medical provider free of charge seven days a week from 9 AM - 9 PM.
    - Individuals that are unable to safely isolate at home may be afforded a free temporary hotel room. **Click here to learn more** or call (844) 692-4692. **Please click here if you have any further questions.**
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## Crucial Resources to Support and Aid Your Everyday Needs

1. **Want your voice to be heard about property taxes? Register now** to attend the hearing on the 10 initial recommendations to reform the property tax system that you can share with your constituents. The hearing will be hosted by the NYC Advisory Commission on Property Tax Reform. The zoom hearing for Staten Island is scheduled for **May 11** at 6pm. Please feel free to share.
  
2. SCORE Staten Island is a nonprofit association dedicated to helping both aspiring and established entrepreneurs get off the ground, grow and achieve their goals through cost-free education and confidential mentorship. The organization is Chapter 476 of the nationwide SCORE. As a resource partner with the U.S. Small Business Administration, SCORE is funded in part through a cooperative agreement with the SBA. It has both local mentors, who have proved to be successful in their fields, and a network of 10,000 volunteer mentors across the country providing web-based seminars and resources. It can provide:
  - Volunteer mentors who share their expertise across many different industries
  - Free, confidential business mentoring in person, via email, phone or by video
  - Free business tools, templates and tips online
  - Inexpensive or free business workshop (locally) and webinars (online 24/7)
  - For additional information, or to schedule an appointment, SCORE-Staten Island may be visited here. Or you call them at **718-727-1221**; email at [info@scoresi.org](mailto:info@scoresi.org) and visit on Facebook and LinkedIn.
  
3. **Staten Island Legal Services wants to help you.** If you need **free legal help** during the COVID-19 crisis, for matters of immigration, foreclosure, small business advice and more **call them at 718-233-6480**.



**DO YOU NEED FREE LEGAL HELP DURING THE COVID-19 CRISIS?**

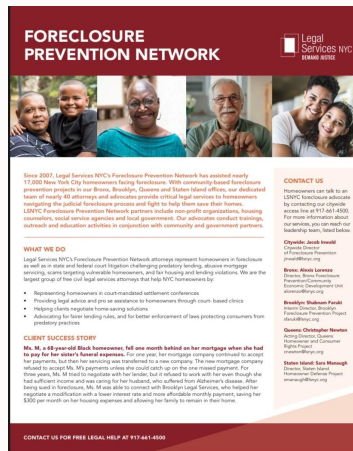
Staten Island Legal Services is here to help you and your family get through this together.

- Unemployment Benefits & Employment Issues
- Food Stamps (SNAP), Public Assistance, Medicaid
- Eviction/Legal Lockouts
- Mortgage Relief & Foreclosure Prevention
- Small Business Advice
- Immigration
- Bankruptcy and Consumer Help
- Student Loan and Debt Collection
- Domestic Violence, Orders of Protection, & Child Support
- Education
- LGBTQ/HIV+

**CALL STATEN ISLAND LEGAL SERVICES**

Monday - Friday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
We speak your language and serve all 5 boroughs of NYC.  
**718-233-6480**

Legal Services NYC  
legalservicesnyc.org



**FORECLOSURE PREVENTION NETWORK**

Legal Services NYC

Since 2007, Legal Services NYC's Foreclosure Prevention Network has assisted nearly 17,000 New York City homeowners facing foreclosure. With community-based foreclosure prevention projects in our Bronx, Brooklyn, Queens and Staten Island offices, our dedicated team of nearly 80 attorneys and advocates provide critical legal services to homeowners navigating the judicial foreclosure process and fight to help them save their homes. LSNYC Foreclosure Prevention Network partners include non-profit organizations, housing counseling, social service agencies and local government. Our advocates conduct strategic outreach and education activities in conjunction with community and government partners.

**WHAT WE DO**

Legal Services NYC's Foreclosure Prevention Network attorneys represent homeowners in foreclosure as well as pre and post-foreclosure (strategic) predatory lending, abusive mortgage servicing, unfair negative credit reporting, and fair housing and other violations. We are the largest group of free-of-charge legal services attorneys that help NYC homeowners by:

- Representing homeowners in court-mandated settlement conferences
- Providing legal advice and pro se assistance to homeowners through court-based clinics
- Helping clients negotiate home saving solutions
- Advocating for fair lending rules, and for better enforcement of laws protecting consumers from predatory practices

**CLIENT SUCCESS STORY**

**Ms. M., a 68-year-old Black homeowner, fell one month behind on her mortgage when she had to pay for her sister's funeral expenses.** For one year, her mortgage company continued to accept her payments, but her payments were forwarded to a new company. The new mortgage company notified Ms. M. to pay arrears (over \$10,000) or face foreclosure. She was unable to pay. For three years, Ms. M. tried to negotiate with her lender, but it refused to work with her even though she had sufficient income and was eager to be helped. She contacted our attorneys through their being used in foreclosure. Ms. M. was able to connect with Brooklyn Legal Services, who helped her negotiate a modification with a lower interest rate and more affordable monthly payment, saving her \$300 per month on her housing expenses and allowing her family to remain in their home.

**CONTACT US FOR FREE LEGAL HELP AT 977.461.4500**

**CONTACT US**  
Homeowners can talk to an LSNYC foreclosure advocate by contacting our client service line at 977.461.4500. For more information about the services we offer, visit our website or contact the leadership team, listed below.

**Chiyoko, Sarah Howell**  
Attorney  
chihoyko@lsnyc.org  
sarahh@lsnyc.org

**Renee, Heidi Lawrence**  
Attorney  
reneelaw@lsnyc.org  
heidilaw@lsnyc.org

**Reynold, Ruben Roldan**  
Attorney  
rubenr@lsnyc.org  
reynoldr@lsnyc.org

**Quiana, Christopher Norwood**  
Attorney  
quiana@lsnyc.org  
norwoodc@lsnyc.org

**Staten Island Legal Services**  
Homeowner and Consumer Rights Division  
legalservicesnyc.org

#### 4. Small Business Resources:

- **Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) provides loans to help businesses keep their workforce employed during the Coronavirus crisis.** The PPP application for all lenders is now open. There are limited funds, so applicants are advised to apply early! **Click here for more information and to find the right application for your business.**
  - In preparation for your application, gather your documentation. For a complete list of required documents and additional PPP information, **click here.**
  - **List of participating lenders:**
    - Lower East Side People's Credit Union- North Shore Branch, for PPP inquiries, email [lending@lespfcu.org](mailto:lending@lespfcu.org) or apply directly online on their **website.**
    - TruFund, **click here for an application** or email Mark Brazier (English) at [MBrazier@trufund.org](mailto:MBrazier@trufund.org) or Marcos Reyes (Spanish) at [mreyes@trufund.org](mailto:mreyes@trufund.org).

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### Useful Events and Opportunities

1. **District Attorney Michael E. McMahon is hosting a secure shred event on [May 15th](#) from 12pm-3pm at 30 Manor Road**



District Attorney  
Michael E. McMahon  
Invites you to a

## SECURE SHRED EVENT!

**LIMIT 3 BOXES OR BAGS PER PERSON:**

Remember the **ONLY** way to keep your identity and personal information safe from thieves is to **SHRED** those documents, including but not limited to:

- BANKING AND CREDIT CARD STATEMENTS
- OLD ID CARDS
- MEDICAL RECORDS AND BILLING STATEMENTS
- OLD TAX RETURNS (7 YEARS OR OLDER)

**DATE & TIME:**  
MAY 15, 2021  
12PM - 3PM

**LOCATION:**  
BLESSED SACRAMENT CHURCH  
30 MANOR ROAD  
ENTER THE PARKING LOT LOCATED  
ON GREENLEAF AVENUE

FOR MORE INFORMATION  
CALL MARCI BISHOP (718)876-5716  
OR EMAIL  
[MARCI.BISHOP@RCDA.NYC.GOV](mailto:MARCI.BISHOP@RCDA.NYC.GOV)

**STAY CONNECTED**  
[@StatenIslandDA](#)



MICHAEL E. MCMAHON  
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

2. Join Brothers Care **today** at 5:00 PM at 685 Henderson Ave for a food giveaway.



3. The JCC is hosting a virtual hiring event! **Thursday, May 13th** from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM. Interviews will be held in 15 minute intervals. please send your resume to the email provided below for your time slot. **Hiring will be done on the spot.**

*We're*  
**HIRING!**

IF YOU HAVE A PASSION FOR WORKING WITH YOUTH  
THEN JCC BEACON IS THE JOB FOR YOU!

PLEASE SEND YOUR RESUME TO THE EMAIL BELOW  
FOR YOUR TIME SLOT. INTERVIEWS WILL BE HELD IN 15  
MINUTE INTERVALS FROM 10-12PM

*Send your resumes to:*  
Jjobian@sijcc.com

5/13/2021  
**10AM-12PM**

J  
Joan & Alan Bernikow  
Jewish Community Center  
of Great Neck

NYC  
Department of  
Youth & Community  
Development

PROUD PARTNER  
UNION FEDERATION

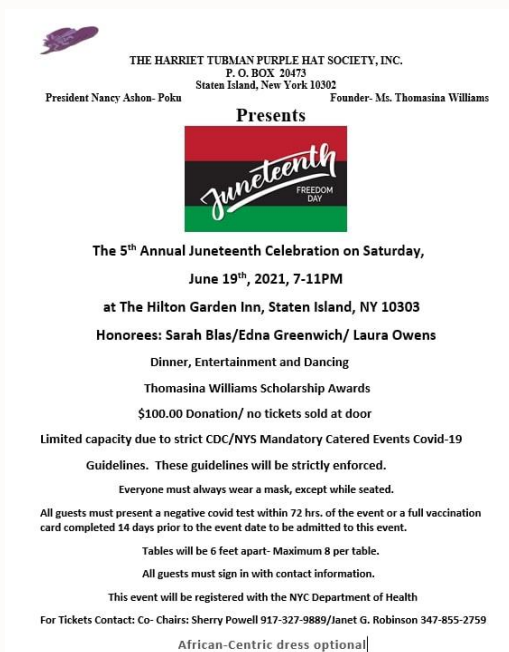
Beacon

4. SIBOC and SBA will be hosting a webinar on the Restaurant Revitalization fund [next Tuesday](#) at 1:30pm. Register [today](#) and bring your questions! [Register here](#).



The poster features a red and blue megaphone at the top. Below it are the logos for SIBOC (Staten Island Business Outreach Center) and SBA (U.S. Small Business Administration). The main title is "RESTAURANT REVITALIZATION FUND WEBINAR" in bold, blue, uppercase letters. The text below reads: "Join this webinar for information on the \$29 Billion funding program exclusive for restaurants and bars." The date and time are "DATE: Tuesday, May 11th, 2021 Time: 1:30PM". The registration link is "Register at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/restaurant-revitalization-fund-webinar-tickets-153678525607>". At the bottom, there is a small logo for "boc v bnc" and a disclaimer: "We are pleased to host through a Cooperative Agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration. All trademarks are the property of their respective owners. All rights reserved. © 2021 SIBOC. All rights reserved. Contact: NYC Director, siboc@nyc.gov, 347-855-2759".

5. The Harriet Tubman Purple Hat Society presents The 5th Annual Juneteenth Celebration on [Saturday, June 19th, 2021](#), 7-11 PM at The Hilton Garden Inn, Staten Island, NY 10310.



The poster features a purple hat icon at the top left. The text reads: "THE HARRIET TUBMAN PURPLE HAT SOCIETY, INC. P. O. BOX 20473 Staten Island, New York 10302 President Nancy Ashon-Poka Founder- Ms. Thomasina Williams". Below this is the word "Presents" followed by a logo for "Juneteenth FREEDOM DAY" which has a red, white, and green background. The main text of the poster is: "The 5th Annual Juneteenth Celebration on Saturday, June 19th, 2021, 7-11PM at The Hilton Garden Inn, Staten Island, NY 10303 Honorees: Sarah Blas/Edna Greenwich/ Laura Owens Dinner, Entertainment and Dancing Thomasina Williams Scholarship Awards \$100.00 Donation/ no tickets sold at door Limited capacity due to strict CDC/NYS Mandatory Catered Events Covid-19 Guidelines. These guidelines will be strictly enforced. Everyone must always wear a mask, except while seated. All guests must present a negative covid test within 72 hrs. of the event or a full vaccination card completed 14 days prior to the event date to be admitted to this event. Tables will be 6 feet apart- Maximum 8 per table. All guests must sign in with contact information. This event will be registered with the NYC Department of Health For Tickets Contact: Co- Chairs: Sherry Powell 917-327-9889/Janet G. Robinson 347-855-2759 African-Centric dress optional".

6. **Citizens Committee for New York City is offering** grants of up to \$10,000 to grassroots organizations responding to the immediate needs of struggling New Yorkers to open food pantries, distribute surgical masks, arrange elderly check-ins, or design other projects to meet their neighborhoods' urgent needs amid the COVID-19 crisis. Applications are open and there is a rolling deadline. **[Click here to learn more.](#)**
7. **During these difficult times, the Northfield Bank Foundation is offering a grant opportunity for COVID-19 emergency related requests for health and wellness and feeding the hungry initiatives.** The mission of the Northfield Bank Foundation is to promote charitable purposes within the communities in which Northfield Bank operates - Staten Island, Brooklyn and Central New Jersey. **[Click here to learn more about the grant process.](#)**
8. **Richmond County Savings Foundation - Nonprofit organizations may request funding for program or project support, journal ad or event sponsorship.** Grant requests are reviewed throughout the year for amounts up to \$5,000. **[See here for more information.](#)**

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Charles Fall". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "C" and "F".

Charles D. Fall

Member of Assembly

**ALBANY OFFICE: Room 534, Legislative Office Building, Albany, NY 12248.  
518-455-4677, FAX 518-455-5946**

**DISTRICT OFFICE: 853 Forest Avenue, Staten Island, New York 10310. 718-442-9932,  
FAX 718-442-9942**