

November 8, 2019

# Rebecca Seawright



Dear Neighbor,

*This week, I was honored to stand beside veterans and families of deceased veterans who served during WWI. We gathered in Central Park at the rediscovered Women's Overseas Service League Flagstaff and Grove in Central Park at 69th Street dedicated to the service and role played by women in the Great War. It is not without the service and dedication of service men and women that we enjoy the freedoms we have today.*

*New York State is proudly home to more than 800,000 veterans, some of whom may have difficulty transitioning back to civilian life. This year, I helped pass a state budget that restores \$1.6 million to programs such as the NYS Defenders' Association, Helmets to Hardhats, Clear Path for Veterans, Veterans of Foreign Wars and the SAGE Veterans Project.*

*Please join us at any of the upcoming events I am pleased to sponsor:*

**Medicare Matters with AARP**

Wednesday, November 13, at 2:00pm  
Community Office of Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright  
1485 York Avenue (78<sup>th</sup>/79<sup>th</sup> Streets)

**NYCHA Town Hall Sponsored by the Manhattan Delegation of the New York State Assembly**

Wednesday, November 20, at 6:00pm  
Boys and Girls Republic  
888 East 6th Street (Between Avenue D and FDR)

**Upper East Side Shred-a-Thon**

Sunday, November 24, 10am - 2pm

92nd Street Greenmarket on 1st Avenue  
(Between 91st and 92nd Streets)

**Holiday Party**

Tuesday, December 17

Brown Gardens

225 East 93rd Street

(Between Second and Third Avenues)

If our office may be of service, remember that we are just a call, email or visit away!

Sincerely,

Rebecca



[Click to Visit Our Website](#)

## Seawright Hosts Central Park Ceremony For Women In WWI As Featured On...



**Rediscovering a Memorial for Women**

**Who Died in WWI**



## Watch Here

For years, a tribute to fallen women from World War I went largely unnoticed by virtually everyone who walked by. But a historian did some research, and learned the trees in the area were planted as a tribute to women who died while serving. NBC...

[Read more](#)

[www.nbcnewyork.com](http://www.nbcnewyork.com)

## A Tribute Ceremony at Newly Rediscovered Women's Overseas Service League Flagstaff and Grove in Central Park Honors Women Serving America in WWI and Beyond



Assembly Member Seawright, Co-chair of the East Side World War I Centennial Commemoration, American Red Cross, and the NYC Department of Veterans' Services hosted a Tribute Ceremony to the Women Who Have Served America on Wednesday, November 6 at the newly rediscovered Women's Overseas Service League Flagstaff and Grove, Central Park at 69th Street Walk.

In 1925 a Central Park memorial grove of 24 trees and flagstaff were conceptualized as a tribute to American women who died overseas during World War One. Today the living memorial of thriving trees spans the walk along Fifth Avenue from 69th to 71st Streets. In 1932 hundreds of leading New Yorkers gathered on a "smooth green plot set aside by the Parks Department for a ceremony in bugle sounds, song, and words." Today this grove--almost lost to history--is the only memorial in Manhattan to women veterans.

To remember and honor these brave women and others who have served America as veterans and in support roles up and until today, we bring attention to this Flagstaff and Grove in Central Park.

### Participating organizations included:

Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright and Howard Teich, Co-chairs ESWWICC;  
Susan Rounds, Regional COO, American Red Cross;

Cassandra Alvarez, Associate Commissioner, NYC Department of Veterans Services;  
Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer;  
French Deputy Consul General Eric Bayer;  
State Senator Liz Krueger;  
Historian Kevin C. Fitzpatrick;  
The Eleanor Roosevelt Val-Kill Chair Manuela Roosevelt;  
Civically Re-Engaged Women CEO Sharon Nelson;  
Knickerbocker Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution  
BG(R) Thomas Principe, President, Veterans of the Seventh Regiment;  
Marian Pardo, President, Columbus Citizens Foundation



*Alain Dupuis (right), President of the Federation of French War Veterans*



***East Side WWI Centennial Commemoration (ESWWICC) Committee:***

*Co-Chairs: Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright and Howard Teich; Borough President Gale Brewer; Carnegie Council for Ethics in Intl Affairs; Federation of French War Veterans; Lycee Francais de New York; Mt. Vernon Hotel Museum & Garden; NY-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical College; Park Avenue Armory, The Knickerbocker Grays, Rockefeller University; Sergeant York Patriotic Foundation; Society of Illustrators; Squadron A Association; Veterans of the Seventh Regiment; Webster Library – NYPL; Weill-Cornell Medicine; Logos Bookstore; The Mansion Diner; Beanocchio's; Joel Iskowitz; John Phillips; David Williams*

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**Join Us for the Next ESWWICC Lecture**

# THE HEBERDEN SOCIETY

*promoting interest in the history of medicine*

2019-2020 Lecture Series

Supported by the Office of the Dean

**NOVEMBER 21, 2019 | 5 PM**



## **So Comes the Sacred Work: Disabled Soldiers and the Humanitarianism of John Galsworthy during the Great War**

**Jeffrey S. Reznick, PhD**

*Chief, History of Medicine Division,  
National Library of Medicine*

**Weill Cornell Medicine, 1300 York Avenue  
Uris Faculty Room (A-126)**

John Galsworthy (1867-1933), recipient of the 1932 Nobel Prize for literature, was one of the best-selling authors of the twentieth century. While his name has become synonymous with *The Forsyte Saga*, the epic sequence of novels and “interludes” about the upper-middle-class Forsyte family, his literary reputation belies his humanitarianism during the Great War supporting British and American soldiers disabled in combat.

This lecture will address the personal and ethical circumstances which motivated Galsworthy to take up what he called “the sacred work,” and the relevance of this history to scholarly and popular dialogue about the immediate and future care of soldiers disabled in war.

*Co-sponsored with the Weill Cornell Division of Medical Ethics, this lecture is free and open to the public! Registration is not required.*



**GENDA Goes Into Effect**

**Upholding the Rights of Transgender and  
Gender-Nonconforming Individuals**

# GENDA IS NOW FULLY IN EFFECT

TRANSGENDER RIGHTS

*are*

HUMAN RIGHTS

Transgender and gender-nonconforming individuals waited far too long for their rights to be recognized. Discrimination and bigotry stood in the way of opportunities that should never have been denied. That ended earlier this year with the passage of the Gender Expression Non-Discrimination Act (GENDA) (Ch. 8 of 2019).

GENDA protects the rights of transgender and gender-nonconforming New Yorkers and makes gender identity or expression one of the state's protected classes. No one should ever be denied basic needs like housing and health care or employment opportunities because of another's narrow-mindedness. Today, the provisions of GENDA that make it a hate crime to harm a person based on their gender identity or expression go into effect, providing more protection from discrimination.

As the Supreme Court struggles to decide whether a federal civil rights law protects gay and transgender employees and the federal administration continues to perpetuate intolerance, New York is taking a stand against hate. The Assembly Majority fought for this legislation for more than a decade, and with new Senate leadership this year, we were finally able to make it law and show that here in the Empire State everyone deserves to be treated with fairness and respect.

To that end, we also passed a law this year that bars the 'gay and trans panic' defense, which had allowed a victim's sexual orientation or gender identity to be used as an affirmative defense to reduce a murder charge (Ch. 45 of 2019). This abhorrent defense blames the victim's identity for their tragic death instead of calling the murder what it is – a hate crime.

Our fight against bigotry is far from over, but we won't stand idly by while people are discriminated against for being themselves. GENDA is a victory for all transgender and gender-nonconforming New Yorkers.

## New Law Ensures Non-Resident Gun Owners Face Background Checks

### Closing the Gun License Loophole

New law now in effect

## **CLOSES** GUN LICENSE LOOPHOLE

Strengthens background checks

We passed a full slate of commonsense gun safety legislation in 2019. One of these new laws – which went into effect on Nov. 2 – requires out-of-state citizens who also have homes in New York to waive the confidentiality of their home state mental health records when applying for a firearm license in New York (Ch. 242 of 2019). This law makes clear that if you want to own a gun in New York, you must follow the same rules and regulations as New Yorkers.

In the Assembly we continue the fight to protect families from the horrors of gun violence. Earlier this year, we passed laws that create an extreme risk protection order, ban undetectable firearms and bump stocks, require safe storage of guns and ensure thorough background checks (Ch. 19, 134, 130, 135 and 129 of 2019).

“While this is a big step forward, I know that our work is far from finished. I’ll continue fighting to advance additional legislation that helps keep guns out of the wrong hands and protects our families from senseless violence,” said Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright.

## Update on 90th Street Ferry Landing

Following much delayed construction, the long-awaited path at East 87<sup>th</sup> Street to the Upper East Side ferry landing will be open to the public on Saturday, November 9<sup>th</sup>. This path, along with the path at East 96<sup>th</sup> Street, will be fully ADA-accessible.

On Monday, November 11<sup>th</sup>, the temporary path (with stairs) at East 90<sup>th</sup> Street will close and EDC will work on restoring it to its original condition in the coming weeks.

## Seawright Snapshots



### Seawright Celebrates The Memoir of Edie Windsor at SAGE

Constituent Helene Goldfarb, Co-author of Windsor's memoir Joshua Lyon, Judith Kasen- Windsor, and Rebecca Seawright celebrate "*A Wild and Precious Life*," the life story of Edie Windsor at Sage, an organization providing services to LGBT elders.

### Seawright Supports LGBT Elders

Governor Cuomo recently signed two of



Seawright's bills to support the rights of the LGBT community including Assembly Bill 8033 regarding the equitable treatment of parents and legal guardians in family court and Assembly Bill 316 updating the Equal Employment Opportunities section of the laws governing the Roosevelt Island Operating Corporation to include sexual orientation.



*Patricia Martone, Rebecca Seawright, and Barbara Rosen supporting the LGBT Center Gala*

## Upcoming Events



Congresswoman  
**CAROLYN MALONEY**



State Senator  
**LIZ KRUEGER**



Assembly Member  
**REBECCA SEAWRIGHT**



Assembly Member  
**DAN QUART**



Council Member  
**BEN KALLOS**



Council Member  
**KEITH POWERS**

# HOLIDAY *Party*

**Tuesday, December 17, 2019**  
**6:00 pm - 8:00 pm**

## **Brown Gardens**

225 East 93rd Street (between 2nd and 3rd Avenues)

Join us for food and wine to celebrate the holiday season and learn what we have all been up to this year.



**RSVP: (212) 860-1950, [rsvp@benkallos.com](mailto:rsvp@benkallos.com), [BenKallos.com/Events](http://BenKallos.com/Events)**

For questions about accessibility, please call (212) 860-1950 or email [BKallos@benkallos.com](mailto:BKallos@benkallos.com).  
To request additional accommodations, please contact us at least three business days before the event.



# SHRED-A-THON

## 2019 FALL EDITION



Assembly Member  
Rebecca Seawright



Council Member  
Keith Powers



Council Member  
Ben Kallos

**Sunday, November 24**

**10:00am - 2:00pm**

**92nd Street Greenmarket  
(on First Avenue Between  
91st and 92nd Streets)**



Office of Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright, 212-288-4607

Office of Council Member Keith Powers, 212-818-0580

Office of Council Member Ben Kallos, 212-860-1950

# Roosevelt Island Operating Cooperation

Invites you to attend a

# TOWN HALL



to discuss the details of the  
**Nellie Bly Memorial**  
 with Award Winning Artist  
**Amanda Matthews**  
 CEO/Partner of Prometheus Art



Tuesday, Dec. 3, 2019  
 5:00 pm  
 Good Shepherd  
 Community Center  
 Upper Level  
 543 Main Street



**FATHER TIME**  
 Even Imagination's Rec  
 the Performance of "Globe-Circ"  
 HER TIME: 72 DAYS, 6 H!  
 Thousands Cheer The  
 at Nellie Bly's  
 WELCOME SALUTES IN NEW  
 The Whole Country Aglow  
 Greetings.  
**NELLIE BLY TELLS**



## A Workshop for Roosevelt Islanders



**Nicole  
Grossberg**

Freelance Content Creator  
& Zero Waste Practitioner



**Sandra  
Noonan**

Founder, ZeroWasteNYC Meetup, & Chief  
Sustainability Officer, Just Salad

**THURSDAY NOV. 14th 2019 - 6:30 PM - 8 PM**

Cornell Tech Campus  
Tata Innovation Center  
11 East Loop Road

No matter what level of zero waste you practice, there is always more to learn, more people to meet and more ideas to share. Learn how to avoid single use plastic, cut down on food waste, where and how to shop in New York City, and so much more.

An Opportunity Grant from Cornell University's Office of Engagement Initiatives funded this community-engaged workshop as part of an on-going effort to support sustainability and environmental practices on Roosevelt Island. RSVP on [Eventbrite](#) or email: [Jane.Swanson@cornell.edu](mailto:Jane.Swanson@cornell.edu) or call 646-220-1505



**CORNELL  
TECH**



Cornell University  
Cooperative Extension  
New York City



Roosevelt Island  
Operating Corporation



# How to Decide Which High Schools Are Good Fits



A workshop on how to select NYC public high schools for 8<sup>th</sup> grade families

7<sup>th</sup> grade families are welcome to attend

**Date:** Monday, November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019

**Time:** 6:00 – 8:00 PM

**Place:** PS 397 Spruce Street School, 12 Spruce Street, Manhattan

**Subway:** A/C/2/3 to Fulton St; 4/5/6 to Brooklyn Bridge; R/W to City Hall

**Bus:** M9/M103/M22 to Park Row

Come find out:

- What factors to consider
- How to narrow down the choices
- How to select appropriate schools

The event is FREE and open to all.

Register at:

<https://tinyurl.com/HSWorkshop2019>



For questions contact Shino Tanikawa at [stanikawa@cecd2.net](mailto:stanikawa@cecd2.net).

Hosted by the Community Education Council District 2 and NYC Department of Education