

Rebecca Seawright



Photo courtesy of the Red Cross of Greater New York.

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

On Tuesday I was honored to present Governor Kathy Hochul with a "Women in Service" Award at a Veterans Day tribute hosted with Co-Chair Howard Teich at the Women's Overseas Service League Flagstaff and Grove, rediscovered in Central Park in 2019. It was a wonderful tribute to the hardworking and dedicated women in service. You can find photos and profiles of the women honorees in this report.

Two months after the devastating September 11th terrorist attacks, another tragedy took the lives of 260 people on board American Airlines Flight 587 bound for the Dominican Republic, including five people on the ground in Belle Harbor, Queens. The crash devastated the Dominican communities in New York. Two decades later, we remember those who tragically perished and keep their loved ones on our minds and in our hearts.

You may have heard about the recently passed \$1 trillion federal infrastructure bill. It is a historic investment in the foundation and future of our communities. This legislation will allow for the creation of better roads, reliable high-speed internet, improved public transportation and airports, safe and clean drinking water and the implementation of electric vehicle charging infrastructure. It includes funding to help New York repair the aging infrastructure that our families use every day while also moving us toward a greener future with additional resources to combat pollution. This boost of federal funding is critical to build on our recovery from COVID-19 and move our nation forward.

Please join us for one of the events we are pleased to sponsor:

- *Thursday, November 18 from 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm at the District Office of Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright, 1485 York Avenue (78/79 Streets) - **No-Cost Face Covering Giveaway.** [RSVP here.](#)*
- *Thursday, November 18 from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm on Zoom - **Virtual Knitting Social.** [RSVP here.](#)*
- *Sunday, November 21 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm at the 92nd Street Green Market, 1st Avenue between 92nd - 93rd Street - **Shred-a-thon: Bring on the Turkey Edition.***
- *Tuesday, November 23 from 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm at the District Office of Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright, 1485 York Avenue (78/79 Streets) - **No-Cost Housing Legal Clinic.** RSVP by calling 212-288-4607.*

Please don't hesitate to reach out to our community office if we can be of assistance.

Phone: 212.288.4607

Email: SeawrightR@NYAssembly.gov

Sincerely,



**Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright
Presents Governor Kathy Hochul with
"Exceptional Women in Service Award"**

As Featured In...

The local paper for the Upper East Side



Seawright Presents Women In Service Honor to Governor Kathy Hochul at Veterans Day Tribute



Women Who Served In World Wars I And II Honored At Seawright's Central Park Ceremony



Two days before Veterans Day, New York State Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright presented the "Women in Service Award" to Governor Kathy Hochul at the third annual women in service Veteran's Day Tribute Ceremony at the recently rediscovered Overseas Service League Flagstaff and Grove.

The occasion paid special homage to a few women, including women veterans and volunteers, who have served our country and our local communities. Honorees include Brigadier General **Loree Sutton**, US Army (Retired); **Theresa Tobin**, Chief of Interagency Operations, New York Police Department; **Michelle Fitzsimmons**, Battalion Chief, Fire Department of New York City; **Zeita Merchant**, Captain, US Coast Guard; **Yesenia Mata** – Executive Director, La Colmena; **Dottie Brier** – Disaster Mental Health Volunteer, American Red Cross in Greater NY.

The event was co-organized by the Office of Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright, The Howard Teich Network, The American Red Cross in Greater NY and community partners including the Columbus Citizens Foundation and the Eastside WWI Centennial



James Hendon, Commissioner NYC Department of Veterans Services addresses the crowd and congratulates the women in service or who he calls "this generation's giants."



Honoree Captain Zeita Merchant has dedicated more than 24 years of her life to maritime safety and emergency management, becoming a leading expert through her countless disaster response assignments across the country. Merchant is a decorated civil servant, with nineteen personal military awards, and other honors recognizing her leadership, community service, and professional achievements. Last year, she took on the role of Deputy Commander, Sector New York for the Coast Guard, overseeing hundreds of personnel and complex, large-scale operations.



Council Member-Elect Julie Menin presented Yesenia Mata, Executive Director, La Colmena with her "Women In Service" award. Yesenia Mata is a young leader in Staten Island, representing the borough on New York City's recently formed Racial Justice Commission. As a member of the U.S. Army Reserve, Mata is one of eleven representatives tasked with identifying and uprooting systemic racism. Mata advocates for low-wage immigrant workers as executive director of La Colmena, a community-led organization that provides education and legal assistance to vulnerable groups.



Assembly Member Jenifer Rajkumar (Right) presented Retired Brigadier General Loree Sutton with her award for her dedication of nearly four decades to public service. As a veteran, she has received recognition for her role in Operation Desert Storm and her experience as a psychiatrist developing specialized veterans' programs to empower and improve veterans' lives after service. In this role she has created holistic health programs to fulfill veteran's psychological needs, including treating PTSD symptoms. She calls this work the most important in her lifetime.



FDNY Commissioner Dan Nigro presents FDNY Battalion Chief Michelle Fitzsimmons with her award.



Honoree Theresa Tobin, Chief of Interagency Operations, New York Police Department. Deputy Chief Theresa Tobin comes from a family of police officers, with a father and three siblings having also served with the NYPD. During 9/11, Tobin was on duty at the towers and sustained serious injuries, later saying the experience deepened her commitment as a police officer. Ten years later, Tobin earned her doctorate in criminal justice, working steadily throughout her recovery. She has been honored for her heroism with the NYPD Medal of Valor, and since rose to become a two-star Assistant Chief, one of just four women leading the department who have been promoted to the role.



Honoree Dottie Brier, Disaster Mental Health Volunteer, American Red Cross in Greater NY. Dottie Brier is a retired social worker, has dedicated the past 29 years of her life helping individuals cope with trauma after disaster. As a Red Cross volunteer since 1992, she has provided emotional support following some of the biggest tragedies of our time, including 9/11, Hurricane Andrew, Superstorm Sandy, the Oklahoma City bombing, the crash of TWA flight 800, and the "Miracle on the Hudson," just to name a few emergencies.



Community Activist Helene Goldfarb, Founder of the Feminist Press at CUNY and Governor Kathy Hochul.



You can view the full ceremony [here](#).

Statement on the Blood Center Vote

On Wednesday the Land Use and Zoning committees of the City Council voted to approve the rezoning for the New York Blood Center/Longfellow commercial tower. The applicant made some concessions including 100 feet shaved off the original proposal for an adjusted height of 233 feet, and a promise of funding for St. Catherine's Park and the Julia Richman Education Complex.

"I am disturbed to hear that for the first time in our city's land-use history, our local Council Member was not given "member deference" in Committee, therefore bypassing his objections and setting a new and dangerous precedent of ignoring the pleas of a local

community. I will continue to stand with my East Side colleagues Council Member Ben Kallos, Council Member-elect Julie Menin, Senator Liz Krueger and Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney in opposition to this project, and with our neighbors against powerful interests," said Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright.

The revised plan heads to the Department of City Planning for a review of the changes, which could take up to 15 days. After that, the plan moves to a final vote of the full City Council, where a supermajority vote will be required in order to pass the project.

Seawright Hosts 5th Booster Clinic

Pharmacist Ilana Aminov gives constituent David Hochberg his booster of protection against COVID-19.



Seawright Cosponsored Legislation Signed into Law This Week

IMPROVING PUBLIC SAFETY

with new laws that support data-driven research to stop gun violence:



Creates the Firearm Violence Research Institute within SUNY to lead gun violence research efforts statewide (Ch. 595 of 2021)

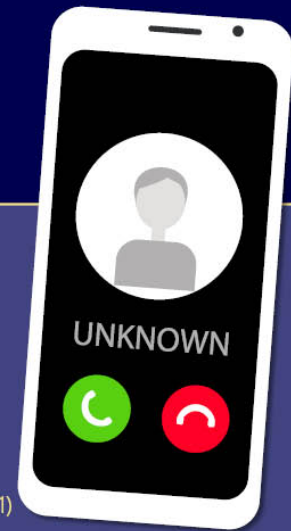


Creates the Gun Violence Research Fund and allows taxpayers to contribute to gun violence research (Ch. 589 of 2021)

Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright cosponsored new laws that will enable us to further study the root causes of gun violence and craft new legislation to improve public safety.

The Assembly Majority championed new laws to help combat unwanted robocalls

- Require telecommunication companies to ***proactively block calls from invalid or unused phone numbers*** (Ch. 582 of 2021)
- Require providers to ***implement a more robust authentication program to better identify spoofed or illegitimate calls*** (Ch. 585 of 2021)



"I am proud to have cosponsored and supported the robo-call bills to both screen and block unwanted callers to protect New Yorkers from the nuisance of robo-calls," said Assembly Member Rebecca A. Seawright.

**Seawright Presents Her Majesty
The Queen Diambi Kabatusuila
Tshiyoyo Muata
of the Democratic Republic of Congo
A New York State Assembly Citation**



Chancellor Felix Matos Rodriguez, Former Senator Ruth-Hassell Thompson, Queen Diambi Kabatusuila Tshiyoyo Muata, and Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright.



CUNY's Associate Vice Chancellor Dolly Martinez, Queen Diambi Kabatusuila Tshiyoyo Muata, Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright and CUNY Trustee Sandra Wilkin.

COVID-19 Updates

Additional COVID-19 Related Updates

COVID-19 Vaccine Update:

Children ages 5-11 are now eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine.



COVID-19 Vaccines Are Available for Children Ages 5 to 17!

- Children can get vaccinated at their doctor's office, pharmacies and vaccine sites across the city.
- Vaccines are safe, effective and free! You do not need to have health insurance or share your immigration status to get vaccinated.
- Children receiving their first-dose at City-run vaccination site are eligible for incentives, including a \$100 pre-paid debit card.
- Parents or guardians must give permission to get vaccinated and children ages 5 to 15 must have an adult with them.
- Children ages 5 to 17 can get the Pfizer vaccine. The Pfizer vaccine requires two doses, three weeks apart. People are considered fully vaccinated two weeks after their second dose.

Make an appointment or visit a walk-up vaccination site

To find a vaccination site, go to nyc.gov/vaccinefinder or call 877-VAX-4-NYC (877-829-4692).

Schedule an in-home vaccine appointment

To make an appointment, go to nyc.gov/homevaccine or call 877-VAX-4-NYC (877-829-4692).



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.

Governor Hochul signed into law a new moratorium on COVID-related residential and commercial evictions, which is in effect until January 15, 2022.

The Open Enrollment Period for health insurance for uninsured New Yorkers has been extended through December 31, 2021. New Yorkers can apply for coverage through NY State of Health or directly through insurers.

Health care workers can text NYFRONTLINE at 741-741 to access 24/7 emotional support services.

Any New Yorker can call the COVID-19 Emotional Support Hotline at 1-844-863-9314 for

mental health counseling.

COVID-19 Small Business Resource

If you have questions about program changes, eligibility requirements, or applying for COVID-19 relief, contact the Pace SBDC and meet one-on-one with a business advisor at no cost.

Vaccines and booster shots:

Certain New Yorkers are now eligible to receive their COVID-19 booster shot. See who's eligible and where to get your booster dose.

Young New Yorkers Are Encouraged to Get Vaccinated Today!

Governor Hochul announced a #VaxandWin football sweepstakes in partnership with all three New York professional football teams to support vaccinations among currently unvaccinated New Yorkers.

NYC COVID-19 and Flu Vaccine Finder: Call 877-829-4692 or [schedule here](#)

City-run vaccine sites: Call 877-829-4692 or [schedule here](#)

State-run vaccine sites: Call 833-697-4829 or [schedule here](#)

CVS Pharmacy: Call 800-746-7287 or [schedule here](#)

Rite Aid Pharmacy: Call 800-748-3243 or [schedule here](#)

Walgreens Pharmacy: Call 800-925-4733 or [schedule here](#)

Testing is available to all New Yorkers statewide [find a test site near you.](#)

Excelsior Pass provides a free, fast and secure way to present [digital proof of COVID-19 vaccination or negative test results.](#)

Free Transportation and In-Home Vaccinations

City residents 65 and older can get free transportation to and from a vaccination appointment. This service is also available for those with disabilities who have no other way to get to a vaccination site.

To schedule free transport by either ambulette or taxi (including wheelchair accessible vehicles), call 877-VAX-4NYC (877-829-4692). If you are younger than 18, you must have your parent or guardian call to book the trip on your behalf.

You can also [sign up online for an in-home vaccination](#) or by calling 877-VAX-4NYC (877-829-4692). Anyone 12 and older is eligible for in-home vaccination.

In-Home Vaccination Information

NYC FAST FOOD WORKERS' RIGHTS

Under NYC's **Fair Workweek Law**, employers must give workers predictable schedules and the chance to work more hours. **The law now prohibits wrongful discharge.** Specifically, employers cannot fire or lay off workers or reduce their hours by more than 15% without just cause or a legitimate economic reason. Employers must post this notice where employees can easily see it at each NYC workplace.

Fast Food Workers Covered by the Law

Employees who perform at least one of the following tasks at a fast food establishment in NYC:

- cleaning
- cooking
- customer service
- food or drink preparation
- off-site delivery
- routine maintenance duties
- security
- stocking supplies or equipment

The law applies regardless of immigration status.



Your Rights



No firing or reduction of hours without just cause (Effective 7/4/2021)

Except for illegal or dangerous behavior, employers:

- Must give workers who passed their probation period retraining and an opportunity to improve.
- Can only fire underperforming workers after giving them multiple disciplinary warnings in a year.



Written explanation for firing, reduction of hours, or layoff (Effective 7/4/2021)



Written long-term regular schedule

Your regular schedule must be stable week to week so you know when you are expected to work. Your employer must give you an updated regular schedule if there are changes.



No layoffs except for economic reasons (Effective 7/4/2021)

Layoffs must be in reverse order of seniority, with longest-serving workers laid off last.



2 weeks' advance notice of work schedule

Work schedules must show all shifts for at least 7 calendar days and reflect your regular schedule, unless you requested or agreed to any changes.



Priority to laid-off or current workers to work newly available shifts

- Your employer must advertise open shifts on posters in the restaurant and by text or email.
- Your employer may only hire new workers if no laid-off or current NYC workers accept the shifts by the posted deadline.



\$100 premium to work "clopening" shifts and the right to say no

A clopening involves closing and opening a restaurant on back-to-back shifts. You can agree to work and get premium pay or you can refuse.



Premium pay for schedule changes by employer with less than 14 days' notice and the right to say no to additional hours

Amount of notice	Rate for additional hours	Rate if no impact on hours	Rate for reduced hours
Less than 14 days' notice	\$10 per change	\$10 per change	\$20 per change
Less than 7 days' notice	\$15 per change	\$15 per change	\$45 per change
Less than 24 hours' notice	\$15 per change	\$15 per change	\$75 per change

You do not give up your right to premium pay when you agree to a schedule change.

Premium pay is not required when:

1. Your employer closes due to: threats to worker safety or employer property; public utility failure; shutdown of public transportation; fire, flood, or other natural disaster; government-declared state of emergency.
2. You request a schedule change to a shift in writing.
3. You trade shifts with another employee.
4. Your employer must pay overtime for a changed shift.

No Retaliation

It is illegal to punish or fire employees for exercising their rights under the law. Workers should immediately contact DCWP about retaliation.

File a Complaint

The Department of Consumer and Worker Protection (DCWP) enforces the law. For more information or to file a complaint:

- Visit nyc.gov/workers
- Contact 311 (212-NEW-YORK outside NYC) and ask for "Fair Workweek Law"
- Email OLPS@dca.nyc.gov

DCWP will keep your identity confidential unless disclosure is required by law.

You can also file an action in court. However, you cannot have a complaint with DCWP and a claim in court at the same time.



06/2021

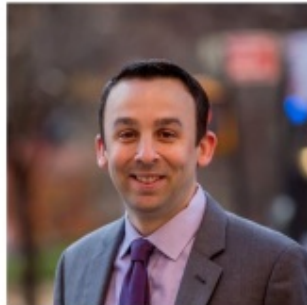
Upcoming Events

SHRED-A-THON

BRING ON THE TURKEY EDITION
92ND STREET



Assembly Member
Rebecca Seawright



Council Member
Keith Powers



Council Member
Ben Kallos

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21

10:00AM-2:00PM



92ND STREET GREENMARKET

(1ST AVENUE BTWN 92ND AND 93RD STREETS)



UPPER GREEN SIDE

Office of Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright
1485 York Avenue (78/79 Streets)
212-288-4607 SeawrightR@NYAssembly.gov



E72NA

E72NA LOVE YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD DAY



E72NA

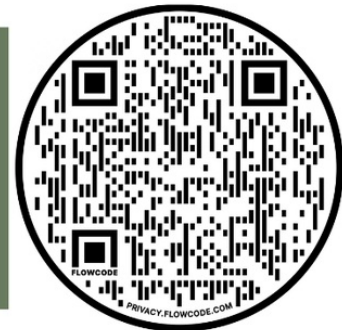
E72NA invites you to our second Love Your Neighborhood Community Service Day. We will be spending the morning giving back to our community by picking up trash and handing out masks on 72nd Street.

Please join us in our day of community actions! This is a great opportunity to give back to our neighborhood and to meet your neighbors!

WHEN: Saturday, November 13th

TIME: 10am - 11:30am

RSVP THROUGH QR CODE OR BY EMAILING
e72na10021@gmail.com



- TRASH CLEAN UP SQUAD ON EAST 72ND STREET BETWEEN LEX AND THE EAST RIVER
- TRASH CLEAN UP SQUAD ON EAST RIVER ESPLANADE WITH FRIENDS OF THE ESPLANADE
- HAND SANITIZER HANDOUT ON EAST 72ND STREET AND SECOND AVENUE
- ALL SOULS SOUP KITCHEN FOOD DRIVE



NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL MEMBER
BEN KALLOS



NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL MEMBER

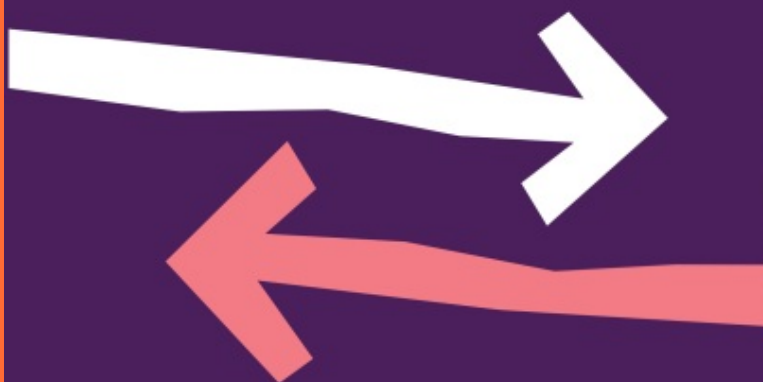
KEITH POWERS



**FRIENDS
OF THE
EAST
RIVER
ESPLANADE
60TH - 120TH STREETS**

STOP'N' SWAP®

Face covering required regardless of vaccination status



Saturday, Nov 13
12pm – 3pm

PS/IS 217 - Outdoor Schoolyard
645 Main Street, Roosevelt Island

It's free!

Give away items you no longer need or take home something new-to-you! You don't have to bring something to take something.

What to bring:

✓ Yes

Clean, reusable, portable items such as clothing, housewares, electronics, books, and toys.

⊘ No

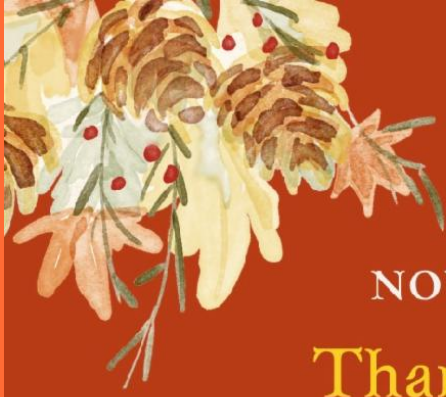
Furniture, large items, expired or open food, unsealed personal care products, medicine, dirty or ripped clothing, fabric scraps, incomplete toys and games, non-working electronics, tube TVs, magazines, or sharp objects.

GROW NYC | zero waste programs
funded by
NYS sanitation



NEW YORK
STATE OF
EDUCATION
Roosevelt Island
Operating Corporation

recycle@grownyc.org
212-788-7900 ext. 277
grownyc.org/swap



NOVEMBER 24, 2021

Thanksgiving Food Distribution

.....

Distribución de alimentos para el Día de Acción de Gracias

Register now to receive a turkey, pie, and assorted
goods

.....

Regístrese ahora para recibir un pavo, pastel y
productos variados

Register using this link | Regístrese utilizando este enlace
tinyurl.com/pasthanksgiving



Park Avenue Synagogue
50 E 87th St, New York, NY 10128

Kosher turkeys available





METROCARD BUS

STOPS HERE (79/York):

WED. 11/17, 12/1

10:00AM- 12:00PM

REFILL YOUR
METROCARD

APPLY FOR
REDUCED FARE

CASH ONLY

Rebecca
Seawright
 **ASSEMBLYMEMBER**

NO-COST NOTARY

1485 York Avenue (78/79 Streets)



COMMUNITY ADVISORY

PROJECT NAME: RECONSTRUCTION OF YORK AVE. COMBINED SEWERS & WATER MAINS

PROJECT#: SEN002169

BOROUGH: Manhattan

ADVISORY ISSUED: November 11, 2021

Updates to Construction Work Schedule.

**Beginning Monday, November 15th, 2021
Through Sunday, January 2, 2022.**

8:00am - 4:00pm (Sunday as needed)

The NYC DDC Contractor will continue construction's activities during the NYC DOT Holiday Construction Embargo. These work operations will facilitate and assist the project's progress.

If you have any questions, concerns, or would like to learn more about this DDC Project, please call the Community Construction Liaison:

**Laura Rivera at 646-838-7942 by
E-mail YorkAvecc1@gmail.com or
visit the NYC DDC web site at
www.nyc.gov/ddc.**

During non-construction hours please contact 311 for non-emergency city services.

PLEASE NOTE: Due to unforeseen conditions (weather, field conditions, etc) it may become necessary to change some scheduled work locations and operations.

The NYC Department of Design and Construction is managing this project on behalf of the NYC Department of Transportation and the NYC Department of Environmental Protection.

Bill de Blasio
Mayor

Jamie Torres-Springer
Commissioner

[View as Webpage](#)



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facebook.com/RebeccaASeawright/



instagram.com/seawrightforny

