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91st Assembly District

Larchmont - Mamaroneck - New Rochelle - Port Chester - Rye Brook and Rye

August 18, 2023

Dear Friends,

August has brought site visits and community meetings. This newsletter brings some local updates and information on new homeowner flood damage assistance, how you can help the Hawaii relief efforts, and information on some local not-for-profits serving communities here on the Sound Shore.

This newsletter also shares today's news that Governor Kathy Hochul has signed the "Save our Hudson" legislation to block the dumping of radioactive water into the Hudson River from Indian Point. Thank you, Governor Hochul, for working with the legislature and environmental and business groups on this issue.

I have also included important drug overdose resources including naloxone training and other information to help save lives. Notice of the upcoming Excelsior Scholarship application deadline is also included.

As always, do not hesitate to contact me on issues in this e-mail or any matter in which I can be helpful. My office number is 914-939-7028.

Warm regards,

New Rochelle's HOPE Community Services



Last week I visited HOPE Community Services in New Rochelle to tour the site of their future home at 81 Union Avenue. HOPE has been an outstanding provider of essential services to individuals in need of food, housing, and human services since the 1980's. For decades HOPE has been an indispensable provider of services to families in need. The future location is one block away from HOPE's current home at 50 Washington Avenue, and it will help maintain services for area families already served by their important programs. I am pictured here with Executive Director Sylvia Hamer.

I am working with state officials and my Senate and Assembly colleagues to find ways to assist HOPE with the renovation project required to make the move possible.

There are many ways you can volunteer and support HOPE. Please visit their website and follow upcoming events and projects.

New State Emergency Flood Relief Repair Assistance for Homeowners

Westchester Homeowners Eligible for Grants of Up to \$50,000

Program Information Available [Here](#)

New York State is offering new grant funding for homeowners who have suffered flood damage to their primary residence to assist with emergency housing repairs necessary to make the home safe, sanitary, and functional. The program is limited to homes not eligible for other flood relief assistance programs.

Governor Hochul has announced the availability of up to \$3 million in emergency assistance for eligible homeowners in eight counties impacted by flooding and recent storm damage. The State funds will provide emergency repair grants to homeowners who suffered damage to their primary residence in Clinton, Essex, Hamilton, Ontario, Dutchess, Putnam, Rockland, and Westchester counties. This funding is in addition to the \$3 million announced by Governor Hochul last month to assist homeowners affected by historic flooding.

The program opened on August 11th. The state program is being administered through regional not-for-profits already under contract with NYS Housing and Community Renewal.

For the regional application information assigned to Westchester visit their Web site.

Port Chester Unity Day



I enjoyed attending the annual Port Chester Unity Day event in Columbus Park where local not-for-profits, local leaders, and students of all ages enjoyed youth basketball, food, crafts, and community companionship.

I am pictured here with Hattie Adams, President of Westchester County CSEA, Tony Grier, film director and producer, Gary Zuckerman, Supervisor of the Town of Rye, Lou Larizza, founder of Lazz Development, an affordable housing company active in Westchester. Tony Grier's compelling documentary, "The Last Teardrop", was released in July. The focus of the film is professional musician Bobby Brooks Wilson and tells his story as foster child of famed entertainer Jackie Wilson. Lou Larizza's most recent local project was the 34 senior affordable housing project at 25 South Regent St. in Port Chester.

Advocating Against Indian Point Dumping into the Hudson River



On Tuesday I joined Assemblywoman Dana Levenberg (D-Ossining) and advocates at a White Plains rally to support state legislation to stop the dumping of radioactive wastewater into the Hudson River from the decommissioned Indian Point Nuclear Power Plant. I am a co-sponsor and active supporter of the legislation on which Dana is the lead sponsor. Decommissioning companies should be required to take the time to find safer solutions. Massachusetts recently came to a similar conclusion regarding a similar dumping application in their state from the same company in charge of decommissioning Indian Point.

Today we received good news. Governor Hochul signed the bill. In approving the legislation Governor Hochul said, “The Hudson River is one of New York’s landmark natural treasures, and it’s critical we stand together to protect it for generations to come. My administration remains committed to protecting the economic vitality of the region and working closely with local communities who have advocated so passionately for this cause.”



Rally on the bill at Croton Point Park in June.



Support Hawaii Relief Efforts

We have had our share of natural disasters and the need to help our neighbors on the Sound Shore and in Westchester. The devastation in Lahaina on the island of Maui has shocked the world and relief efforts are underway. There are a variety of Hawaii-based relief organizations that have been vetted. If you are in a position to help, please visit the websites listed below and consider providing assistance to the group of your choice.

The Maui Strong Fund

Hawai'i Red Cross

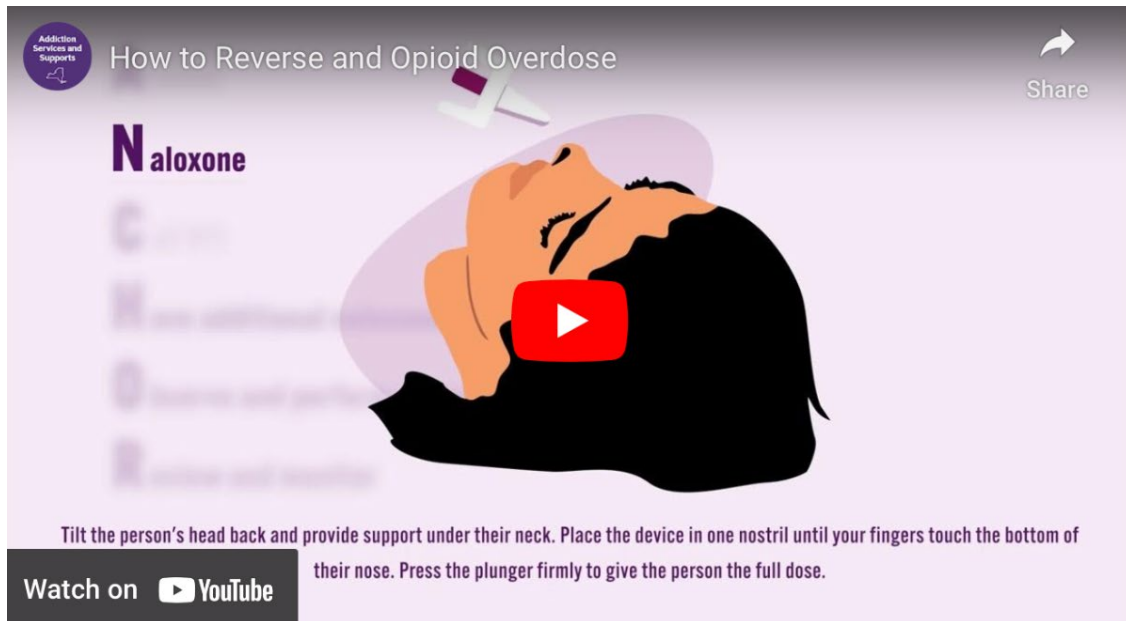
Maui Rapid Response

Maui Humane Society

New Life Kahuku Inc.

Maui Food Bank

Free Harm Reduction Training and Supplies from NYS OASES



With opioid and fentanyl use and overdoses on the rise, the NYS Office of Addiction Services and Supports (OASAS) offers free in-persons and webinar trainings as well as free naloxone, fentanyl test strips and xylazine test strips by mail.

How to recognize and respond to the signs of an opioid overdose.

Learn more at [Project COPE: Community Overdose Prevention Education](#)

Order free supplies in New York State:

<https://oasas.ny.gov/form/order-supplies>

Calendar of upcoming WebEx Overdose Prevention and Naloxone Trainings open to the public:

www.oasas.ny.gov/search/events

RESOURCES

Information on xylazine "tranq"

<https://oasas.ny.gov/xylazine>

Certified Recovery Peer Advocate (CRPA) general information:

www.asapnys.org/certified-recovery-peer-advocate-crpa

Upcoming CRPA trainings at their Web site

CRPA scholarship program (limited funding available) at their Web site

New York's 24/7 substance use and problem gambling HOPEline:

Call 1-877-8-HOPENY (877-846-7369) or Text HOPENY (467369)

To get help specifically about finding a doctor to begin medication treatment for opioid addiction, or help navigating health insurance claims for medication, call the OASAS CHAMP Helpline at 888-614-5400 (M-F 9am-4pm) or email ombuds@oasas.ny.gov

You can find more information about the CHAMP

program: www.oasas.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2019/07/CHAMP-Brochure.pdf

A blue-tinted photograph showing several black graduation caps with tassels falling through the air. In the bottom right corner, a person's hand is visible, reaching up towards the caps. The background is a clear, light blue sky.

The deadline to apply for
the Excelsior Scholarship is
Aug. 31!

Most New Yorkers in households earning under \$125,000 qualify to attend SUNY or CUNY colleges tuition-free thanks to the Excelsior Scholarship. If you're pursuing a college degree, this scholarship can help you chart a course to a brighter future! Visit www.hesc.ny.gov/excelsior to learn more and apply today.

The Sharing Shelf



BACKPACKS TO SCHOOL

**Help us provide 1,500 children
with school supplies and new backpacks**

\$35 Fills a backpack with school supplies

\$105 Provides 3 backpacks

\$175 Fills 5 backpacks

\$3,500 Sponsors 100 backpacks

Count me in!

I want to provide backpacks to children in need.



SCAN ME





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