



Dear Friends,

With the Supreme Court's recent decisions demonstrating a clear and present threat to democracy, New York will always fight to protect our communities and uphold human rights. To that end, the NYS Legislature held an Extraordinary Session last week in response to the Court's recent rulings overturning New York's century-old law restricting concealed weapons, and its devastating ruling overturning *Roe v. Wade* after nearly 50 years.

Protecting New Yorkers from Gun Violence

There is an epidemic of gun violence in this country. This past weekend's mass shooting in Highland Park, IL is just the most recent tragedy. Among the seven lives lost were a husband and wife, who left behind a 2-year-old son.

After every mass shooting, we hear calls for reform, but it feels like nothing ever happens. I am happy to say, that's not the case here in New York.

Here, we are committed to keeping guns out of the wrong hands. As I discussed in my [last newsletter](#), after the tragedy in Buffalo, the Assembly acted quickly to pass groundbreaking laws to keep families safe. And after the Supreme Court struck down our state's long-standing common-sense law on concealed weapons, even though the legislature had adjourned in June, we almost immediately reconvened and passed a new bill in an Extraordinary Session.

To help protect New Yorkers from gun violence, the legislature passed – and Governor Hochul signed – a new law that:

- Prohibits the carrying of concealed weapons in sensitive public locations such as schools, stadiums, childcare centers, hospitals, and subways.
- Establishes that concealed weapons are prohibited by default on private property unless expressly authorized by the owner by the posting of a sign.
- Expands eligibility requirements for concealed carry permit applications, including character references, firearm training courses, and background checks; applicants with documented instances of violent behavior will be disqualified.
- Requires permit applicants to undergo training on the handling of guns, establishes state oversight of background checks (including regular checks on permit holders for criminal convictions), and creates a statewide license and ammunition database.

You can read more about the legislation, including additional provisions, [here](#).

[Taking Action to Protect the Right to Choose](#)

During this Extraordinary Session, the legislature also took the first step to enshrine *Roe v. Wade* in the NYS Constitution with an equality amendment. This concurrent resolution expands equal protection to several new identity classes, and the amendment's passage would ensure that the NYS Constitution protects individuals against discrimination on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, national origin, age, disability, creed, religion or sex, including sexual orientation, gender identity or expression. Most notably, in light of the U.S. Supreme Court's devastating decision to overturn *Roe v. Wade*, this amendment also protects New Yorkers from discrimination based on pregnancy, pregnancy outcomes, and reproductive healthcare decisions.

To become law, the measure must pass both houses of the Legislature again in the next legislative session before it goes before the voters as a ballot referendum.

It was a proud day for New York. and I am honored to have had the opportunity to play a role in the passage of this legislation.

[Helping Those Who Help Our Communities](#)

Working with colleagues in the NYS legislature and collaborating with the Governor's office, the 2022-2023 NYS budget provides grant funding opportunities for nonprofits and municipalities.

I am delighted to announce that I have secured grant funding for several nonprofits in my district. These organizations have been doing an exemplary job in helping their communities. I will continue to seek funding opportunities for those who serve the people of our district so well.

- [Girls Inc. of Westchester County](#)
- [Harrison Children's Center](#)
- [Harrison Public Library](#)
- [Holocaust & Human Rights Center](#)
- [Lifting Up Westchester](#)
- [Northern Westchester Hospital](#)
- [PACE Women's Justice Center](#)
- [TRA/Westfair](#)
- [Women's Enterprise Development Center](#)

Some of the grants are specifically for capital projects. I am at the start of this process for 2022 and am excited at the wide array of wonderful capital projects which the towns, cities, and nonprofits in my Assembly district are planning or have launched. These projects improve or expand physical assets, provide jobs, and will provide significant benefits to the communities they serve.

For instance, **I have recently begun to secure funding for the Town of North Salem in the amount of \$125,000 for critical electrical upgrades to the Schoolhouse Theater building.** The building, which was recently acquired by the town, will serve as a center for live performances and for senior programs. This upgrade will allow the building to integrate into the growing arts community in the hamlet of Croton Falls, which the town has been working to revive (and it shows!). The current electrical capacity is barely more than serves a single-family house, so if the building is to fulfill the town's visionary plans, that capacity must be upgraded significantly.



[Join Us to Celebrate the 32nd Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act](#)

On Saturday, July 16th, please join me and Westchester Disabled on the Move, Inc. (WDOMI) for a celebration of the 32nd Anniversary of the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act. The celebration will go from 1-3 pm at the Ebersole Ice Rink in White Plain's Delfino Park.

We hope to see you there!

 <p>Westchester Disabled on the Move, Inc. WWW.WDOM.ORG Improving the quality of life and the rights for all people with disabilities since 1984.</p>	 <p>New York State Assemblymember Chris Burdick</p>
<p>Join us for a celebration! The 32nd Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)</p>	
<p>Saturday, July 16 - 1:00-3:00 pm Ebersole Ice Rink, Delfino Park 110 Lake St, White Plains, NY 10604 Also streamed live at facebook.com/ChrisBurdickAD93</p>	
<p>Featuring Maria Samuels, MHA, MS. Ed, Executive Director of WDOMI Geri Mariano, Inspirational Speaker & Inclusion Consultant Annie Chiappetta, Author & Activist Amit Patel, Health Advocate, Greenburgh Disability Advisory Committee Member</p>	
<p>-with- NYS Assemblymember Chris Burdick, NYS Senator Shelley Mayer, County Executive George Latimer, Deputy County Executive Ken Jenkins, County Legislator Ben Boykin, County Legislator Jewel Williams Johnson & White Plains Mayor Tom Roach</p>	
<p>Enjoy an afternoon with light refreshments and entertainment by <i>Visioned by Sound</i> from Scarsdale High School!</p>	
<p>For more information, email info@wdom.org, lackeyh@nyassembly.gov or call (914) 244-4450</p>	

Congratulations to...

In 2020, New York State established the [Historic Business Preservation Registry](#), administered by the Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation. This registry highlights businesses that have been in operation for at least 50 years and have contributed to their communities' history.

Nominations to the registry must be sponsored by an elected state official and it was my honor to nominate Thomas Fox and Son of Mount Kisco, which has been in business since 1919. Yesterday I had the pleasure of meeting Ed Reilly, great grandson of founder Thomas Fox, who now runs the business with his sons Ian and Dustin. From the [registry](#):

“Thomas Fox was an Irish immigrant who arrived in New York City in 1905. He and his large family lived in a Manhattan tenement until he secured a job as a butler on the E. N. Potter Estate in Mt. Kisco. By 1919, when his family had grown to include eleven sons, he established Thomas Fox and Son, Inc., a local catering company, with his oldest son, Edward J. Fox. The rarity of catering businesses in that era allowed the business to prosper, and Fox not only provided employment for numerous local citizens, but its success generated the family’s continued involvement for the next five generations. Management is now in the hands of great grandson Edward J. Reilly and great great grandsons Ian and Dustin Reilly, who run an expansive and still-thriving catering business. Civic engagement also played a large part in the Foxes’ idea of being good business owners and citizens, as every Fox family member was required to join and participate in an outside organization. At least two served as mayor of Mount Kisco, and three were named citizen of the year for their contributions. This large family business has contributed to the Mt Kisco community on multiple levels for well over a century.”

Congratulations to this historical and greatly esteemed business!



Reminder: Summer Reading Program

Finally, a reminder that I am inviting the children of the 93rd Assembly District 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 at least 15 minutes a day, for a minimum of 40 days, during the months of 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, please submit the completed materials to me at burdickc@nyassembly.gov and I will send your child an **Assembly Excellence in Reading certificate**, to recognize their efforts and dedication. The (optional) theme for the 2022 challenge is "Oceans of Possibilities" to encourage children to explore strange and new worlds and to fall in love with exciting characters and stories.

(Please note this challenge can be done in concert with other reading challenges... so if your child has already signed up for a challenge at school or the library, the reading completed for those challenges can count towards the requirements of this challenge as well.)

Take part in the New York State Assembly's 2022 **Summer Reading Challenge**



You can find the calendar and other materials needed to complete the challenge [by clicking here](#). And if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to me at (914) 244-4450 or burdickc@nyassembly.gov.

As always, if there are any issues that you would like to see covered in a future newsletter, please don't hesitate to reach out to me at burdickc@nyassembly.gov (or simply reply to this email). **Please also follow me on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#) for the most up-to-date information.**

Miss any of our previous newsletters? You can [find them here](#).

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chris Burdick". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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