



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR  
Jen Metzger

## Community Conversations: A COVID-19 Online Series with Senator Metzger & Local Experts

JEN METZGER May 30, 2020

| ISSUE: **COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS, COVID-19**



Senator Metzger's Community Conversations series streams live on Thursdays at 5:00 PM on her [Facebook page](#), engaging local experts in discussions on COVID-19 topics important to Hudson Valley and Catskills communities.

**\*Those who would like to tune in on Thursdays can [CLICK HERE](#) beginning at 5:00 PM.\***

A list of upcoming episodes can be viewed below.

### WEEK ONE

**Tuesday, April 28:** Regional Medical Overview

**Guest:** Kenneth Steier, Executive Dean of Touro College of Osteopathic Medicine

**Thursday, April 30:** Food Insecurity and How to Help

**Guests:** Michele McKeon, Regional Economic Community Action Program (RECAP) and Dr. Shelly L. Bartow, Delaware Opportunities, Inc.

## **WEEK TWO**

**Tuesday, May 5:** Domestic Violence during COVID-19

**Guests:** Kellyann Costyal-Larrier, Fearless! Hudson Valley, Inc.

**Thursday, May 7:** Education Resources for Students, Teachers, and Families

**Guests:** A high school teacher and elementary special education teacher from Sullivan County

## **WEEK THREE**

**Tuesday, May 12:** COVID-19 Mental Health Awareness

**Guests:** Amy Nitza and Karla Vermeule, The Institute for Disaster Mental Health at SUNY New Paltz

**?Thursday, May 14:** Paying Your Bills and Preventing Shut-Offs

**Guests:** Laurie Wheelock, Esq., the Public Utility Law Project

## **WEEK FOUR**

**Tuesday, May 19:** Preventing Senior Scams and Sharing Legal Resources

**Guests:** Jaime Samarel and Jenny Turpin, Legal Services of the Hudson Valley

**Thursday, May 21:** The Food Supply Chain and NY Agriculture

**Guest:** Maire Ullrich, Cornell Cooperative Extension Orange County

## **WEEK FIVE**

**Thursday, May 28:** Best Practices for Reopening Your Business

**Guests:** Roberta Byron-Lockwood, President & CEO of the Sullivan Catskills Visitors Association, and Lisa Berger, Director of the Ulster County Department of Economic Development

## **WEEK SIX**

**Thursday, June 4:** Mitigating Opioid and Substance Use During COVID-19

**Guests:** John Ewanciw, City of Middletown Police Chief, and Dean Scher, CEO of Catholic Charities of Orange, Sullivan, and Ulster.

## **WEEK SEVEN**

**Thursday, June 11:** Tackling Food Insecurity through Community Innovation

**Guests:** Amanda LaValle, Director of Ulster County Department of the Environment and facilitator of Project Resilience, and Sims Foster, Co-Founder of Foster Supply Hospitality.

## **WEEK EIGHT**

**Thursday, June 18:** Our Local EMS System Amid COVID-19

**GUESTS:** Doug Foster, Chief of Wallkill Volunteer Ambulance Corps Inc., Doug Foster Jr. Board Chairman and Treasurer of Wallkill Volunteer Ambulance Corps Inc., Matt Goodnow, Chief of New Paltz Rescue Squad, and Scott Woebse, President & CEO of Mobile Life Support Services.

## **WEEK NINE**

**Thursday, June 25:** Veterans Resources During COVID-19 & Beyond

**GUESTS:** Larry Neumann, Program Supervisor of the Orange County Vet2Vet program, and Staff Sergeant Doug Sandberg, host of Let's Talk Vets on WJFF Radio Catskill.

*Additional topical events in the series will be announced as New York State continues to grapple with the novel coronavirus global pandemic.*