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New York State Senate | 28th District



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## Message from Liz...

The last couple of weeks have been particularly challenging with devastating natural disasters and policy decisions by the Trump Administration that undermine the fight for justice in our nation. I will talk a bit about the appropriate response to Hurricanes Harvey and Irma here, and discuss federal policy changes on DACA and pay disclosure in the policy spotlights below.

The first response to any natural disaster has to be to help the victims of the devastation, and residents of Texas, Puerto Rico and likely Florida as well are going to need assistance for a long time to come. New York has not yet fully recovered from Superstorm Sandy, and Harvey and Irma are unprecedented storms. We don't yet know the final tally of damage from Irma, but the cost of repairing damage from Harvey is expected to be greater than Sandy and Katrina combined.

Addressing the devastation will require the massive resources that only the federal government can provide, and I am pleased that New York's federal representatives of both parties have made it clear they will not play politics with aid and will support federal relief efforts. It is fine to point out that Ted Cruz and some other Texas officials didn't respond in kind when New York was hit by Sandy, but that doesn't justify repeating the same behavior.

The reality is that those who are suffering the most in Texas, Louisiana, Florida, Puerto Rico, and other parts of the Caribbean, will always be the poorest and seniors and people with disabilities who lack the resources to ride out the impact of the storm on their lives. If you want to donate personally, here is a list of reputable aid organizations in Texas

<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/08/28/us/donate-harvey-charities-scams.html?mcubz=1&r=0>  
and Florida and the Caribbean <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/09/08/us/hurricane-irma-help-donate.html?mcubz=1&r=0>

While addressing immediate needs is critical, these hurricanes are a particularly vivid reminder of how warped the Trump Administration's climate change policies are. Climate change alone does not

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cause hurricanes, but changes in water temperatures can increase their frequency and intensity. Within the last few weeks, the United States has experienced the most rainfall ever recorded, with Hurricane Harvey, and the strongest Atlantic hurricane ever recorded, with Irma. These hurricanes have hit regions of the country with rampant and poorly planned development in flood-prone areas that are already experiencing climate change-driven sea level rise, which has made the impact of these unprecedented storms all the worse.

Prior to the 1990s, the sea level in Florida was rising about a half an inch a decade. In the 90s that level increased to an inch a decade, and it is now over 3 inches a decade. Policies that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and other contributors to global warming could mitigate this long-term trend. If we fail to take action, the pace of this change will only increase, with major impacts on populations in coastal regions around the world, most certainly including New York City

The Trump Administration's response to scientific evidence of climate change has been to withdraw from the Paris Climate Accord, appoint climate change deniers to run the Environmental Protection Agency, repeal emission-reduction rules, and suppress scientific research. While many states, including New York, have stepped up efforts to address carbon emissions, the reversal of federal policies to address climate change is a fundamental abdication of leadership. That means it is up to states like ours to pick up the mantle of climate leadership, avoid the temptation to rest on our laurels, and continue to push the envelope for a swift transition to a clean-energy future.

## **POLICY SPOTLIGHT**

### *DACA*

The Trump administration began this month with yet another inhumane and racist policy change, announcing the phase-out of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program over the next six months. President Obama created DACA in 2012, and over 800,000 people have enrolled in the program. Under DACA, undocumented immigrants who were brought to the United States as children and meet the program's guidelines could apply for "deferred action" on their removal through prosecutorial discretion. To be eligible, a person had to meet a number of criteria, including being under 16 when they entered the U.S., being present in the U.S. before June 15, 2012, and not being convicted of a felony, significant misdemeanor, or three or more other misdemeanors, and not otherwise posing a threat to national security or public safety. The program also made DACA recipients eligible to obtain work permits.

DACA recipients often have limited or no meaningful ties to the country from which their parents originated, and have established deep roots in the United States. To throw the lives of these young people into turmoil is disgraceful.

Congress could reverse the administration's decision by implementing DACA or a similar action through legislative action. While I have been heartened that some members of both parties in Congress have called for legislation that would protect these young people, it is also clear that getting anything through Congress right now is a challenge, and there will be significant opposition to any such legislation from the right wing of the Republican Party. Congress already faces a daunting

legislative calendar over the next six months, as it deals with a debt ceiling increase, the federal budget, tax reform, hurricane relief, and health care.

Governor Cuomo and Attorney General Schneiderman have promised to sue the federal government to stop the Executive from ending DACA on the grounds of “the state’s sovereign interest in the fair and equal application of the law” and other states have promised similar action.

While there is little the State legislature can do to address this decision directly, there are legislative efforts that would provide some minimal relief. I cosponsor the New York Liberty Act (S.4075-A), which would prevent State officers and employees from assisting the federal government in enforcing immigration law unless required to do so by judicial warrant or federal law. The law also ensures access to counsel for undocumented immigrants in state custody. This measure cannot shield undocumented immigrants, including DACA recipients, from deportation proceedings, but may help delay or stall deportation efforts if enacted. I also co-sponsor the long-stalled NYS DREAM Act, which would advance educational opportunities for children of undocumented immigrants within New York State.

The ultimate solution to this issue will have to come at the federal level, through either Congressional action or a federal court decision. I will be supporting the efforts of our U.S. Senators Chuck Schumer and Kirsten Gillibrand and Congressmembers Carolyn Maloney and Jerrold Nadler, who I know are committed to building bipartisan support in Congress for protecting these young Americans. Like so many of us, I am a descendant of immigrants who came to this country to build a better life – just like the Dreamers. It is outrageous to see the current administration turning its back on that legacy. I stand with the Dreamers, and will do whatever I can to fight this inhumane policy.

### *Pay Equity*

The Trump administration is also attacking efforts to address historic patterns of wage discrimination on the basis of race, gender, or other protected classes. Late last month, the administration reversed an executive order issued by President Obama in 2016 requiring companies with at least 100 employees, to provide wage information regardless of whether they are contracted with the federal government. In other words, for the first time a large range of private businesses would be required to proactively disclose employee wages to the federal government, allowing the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission to better enforce anti-discrimination laws.

The Obama-era regulation was due to take effect next month. However, last week a memo sent from Neomi Rao, administrator of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (within the federal Office of Management and Budget) to the acting chair of the EEOC effectively froze the start date of the regulation. In April the Trump administration had acted to freeze a similar regulation that applied to federal contractors.

These changes gut the significant progress toward pay equity that was made during the Obama years. While New York State has adopted a number of pay equity provisions through legislation and executive order, none go as far as President Obama’s 2016 executive order. Currently state agencies are prohibited from inquiring as to salary history before making a wage offer, which helps limit the effects of previous wage discrimination on future salaries. Large contractors with the state must also disclose salary and demographic information for employees working on state contracts. Finally, state legislation adopted in 2015 eliminated a loophole that allowed employers to prohibit

employees from discussing their salaries under threat of termination or suspension and increased the amount of damages available to an employee if an employer willfully violates the salary discrimination laws.

What New York has not done is pass the Fair Pay Act, (A4696/S4482) which would substantially strengthen existing equal pay provisions in state law. This legislation would prohibit pay differentials based on sex, race, or national origin where the work is the same – where the job requires the same skills, the same working conditions, and the same responsibilities. The bill provides the New York State Department of Labor with enforcement authority and also empowers workers to enforce their rights in court by permitting civil suits, with provisions for attorney’s fees and expert witnesses. Finally, it would protect workers who exercise their right to demand fair pay from retaliation. This legislation passed the State Assembly last year, but the Republican/Independent Democratic Conference Coalition did not allow a vote on it in the Senate.

This is an area of policy where New York State is in a position to protect our workers from the impacts of reactionary federal policies. It is more critical than every that the legislature pass the Fair Pay Act.

## COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

### **Forum on a New York Constitutional Convention on September 14th:**

On Thursday, September 14th, I am co-hosting an event with the Lexington Democratic Club titled “Opportunity or Threat? A Forum on The New York Constitutional Convention”. This year’s November 7th election will include a proposal on whether or not New York State should hold a Constitutional Convention to review potential amendments to the State Constitution. This forum will offer an opportunity to hear from both supporters and opponents of the proposal for a convention. Speakers will include:

- Evan Davis, Senior Counsel, Clearly Gottlieb
- Adriene Holder, Attorney in Charge, Civil Practice, Legal Aid Society of NYC
- Jordan Marks, New Yorkers Against Corruption
- Bill Samuels, President, EffectiveNY

The event will take place at All Souls Church, 1157 Lexington Avenue at 80th Street, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. To RSVP, go to <http://tinyurl.com/ConConForum> or call my office at (212) 490-9535.

### **Medicare Information Session on September 28th:**

On Thursday, September 28th, I am hosting an event titled “Medicare Information for New Enrollees and Experienced Users.” Michelle Berney from the NYC Department for the Aging’s Health Insurance Information Counseling and Assistance (HIICAP) Program and a representative from Medicare Rights Center will present. The event will take place from 3:00 p.m to 5:00 p.m. at Bellevue Hospital, 462 First Avenue at 27th Street, in the Rose Room, 12th Floor. To RSVP, go to <http://tinyurl.com/MedicareInfoSession> or call my office at (212) 490-9535.

### **Upcoming Radical Age Movement Events:**

On Wednesday September 13th from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., the Radical Age Movement will hold its quarterly members only salon in their lobby at 1 East 53rd Street. This will be a delightful after-

summer opportunity for members to get together over wine and light refreshments and meet new friends who share your concerns about older persons in our society. New members can join at the event or online at <https://www.nycharities.org/app/radicalagemovement/member.aspx>. To RSVP visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/members-only-summer-salon-tickets-37385782883>.

Then on Thursday, September 14th from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. they will hold an event titled “Why Ageism Needs a Movement” with Ashton Applewhite, author of *This Chair Rocks: A Manifesto Against Ageism*. The event will include a viewing of Ashton’s TED talk followed by a discussion, and will take place at Senior Planet, 127 W 25 Street, between 6th and 7th Avenues. To RSVP, visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/why-ageism-needs-a-movement-tickets-37418664232>.

### **Presentation on Rheumatoid Arthritis September 14th:**

On Thursday, September 14th, the Hospital for Special Surgery is offering a lecture titled “I’ve Just Been Diagnosed with RA...Now What?” The lecture by physicians and a social worker will cover issues such as dealing with your diagnosis, choosing a treatment team and plan, and self-care strategies. The event will take place from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Hospital for Special Surgery, 535 East 70th Street, at the Richard L. Menschel Education Center on the 2nd floor. For more information, contact Claudia Zurlini at 212-606-1613 or [zurlinic@hss.edu](mailto:zurlinic@hss.edu). You can register online at [www.hss.edu/pped](http://www.hss.edu/pped).

### **Access Benefits online or Using a Mobile App on your Phone:**

If you want to apply for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, commonly called Food Stamps) or Cash Assistance (CA) benefits, or if you already receive these benefits, you can connect with HRA your way with the ACCESS HRA website and mobile app:

- Go to [nyc.gov/accesshra](http://nyc.gov/accesshra) to create an account. You can submit an application for SNAP, or submit a recertification for SNAP or CA.
- Download the ACCESS HRA app, available free in the Apple App Store and Google Play Store, or at [nyc.gov/accesshramobile](http://nyc.gov/accesshramobile) on your mobile browser. Use it to send requested documents to HRA digitally.
- Your account works on both the website and mobile app — and you can use both to track your application, check your EBT balance and case details, receive important alerts, and much more.

### **Update on Higher Income Limits for SCHE and DHE Property Tax Exemptions:**

The Mayor signed local authorizing legislation implementing a state bill that will increase the income eligibility to qualify for the Senior Citizen and Disabled Homeowners’ Exemption programs. The new income threshold is \$58,399.

Homeowners with annual income of \$58,399 or less are now eligible to receive the Senior Citizen Homeowners’ Exemption (SCHE) or Disabled Homeowners’ Exemption (DHE).

Who may be eligible: Seniors 65+ or disabled New Yorkers with annual income of \$58,399 or less. How it works: SCHE and DHE exempt 5 to 50% of the assessed value of your home from taxation. How to apply: Visit [www.nyc.gov/sche](http://www.nyc.gov/sche) or [www.nyc.gov/dhe](http://www.nyc.gov/dhe) and submit an application by January 16, 2018.

If you applied and were previously denied because your income was too high but now meet the income requirement, the Department of Finance will apply the benefit to your account automatically, beginning with your January 2018 property tax bill—with a retroactive credit to July 1, 2017.

### **Medicare Scam Calls:**

Scammers are taking advantage of an upcoming change to Medicare cards and seniors and families should be on alert. Starting in April, the cards no longer will use Social Security numbers. Instead, Medicare will generate a random 11-character string of numbers and letters. These cards will start going out in April. People on Medicare don't have to do anything — the card will show up. However, scam artists may try to get your current Medicare number and other personal information by contacting you about your new Medicare card. They often claim to be from Medicare and use various scams to get your Medicare Number including:

- Asking you to confirm your Medicare or Social Security Number so they can send you a new card.
- Telling you there's a charge for your new card and they need to verify your personal information.
- Threatening to cancel your health benefits if you don't share your Medicare Number or other personal information.

If someone calls you and asks for your Medicare number or other personal information, hang up and call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227).

### **Changes to Heat, Bedbug and other Housing Regulations:**

A number of important changes in the Housing Maintenance Code will be taking place within the next few months.

#### **CHANGE TO HEAT REGULATIONS BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2017:**

Beginning October 1, 2017, pursuant to Local Law 86 of 2017, the regulations regarding the provision of heat during the nighttime hours have changed. During the Heat Season (October 1 – May 31), property owners must maintain an indoor temperature of 62 degrees. THERE IS NO LONGER A NIGHTTIME OUTDOOR TRIGGER TEMPERATURE. This means that heat needs to be provided as needed to maintain an indoor temperature of 62 degrees. If the inside temperature falls below 62 degrees, tenants may file a complaint about inadequate heat with 311. Please take necessary action to ensure that your heating system will provide heat according to the law beginning October 1st. Daytime heat must still be provided at a minimum of 68 degrees once it is below 55 degrees outside and hot water must be maintained at 120 degrees.

#### **REPORTING ON BED BUGS**

Pursuant to Local Law 69 of 2017, effective November 6, 2017, multiple dwelling property owners must attempt to obtain the bedbug infestation history from the tenant or unit owner, including whether eradication measures were employed for a bedbug infestation. During December 2018, owners will be required to report information for each dwelling unit to HPD for the previous year (from November 2017 through November 2018). Such reporting will be required every December for the previous year.

#### **ORDER TO REPAIR/VACATE ORDER**

Pursuant to Local Law 14, effective August 14, 2017, when HPD issues an Order to Repair/Vacate Order, owners:

- must ensure that a copy of the Order to Repair/Vacate Order remains posted on the entrance door of the building/unit until it is revoked by the Department. If the posted Order to Repair/Vacate Order is removed, the owner will be subject to a violation and civil penalties. Beginning August 14, 2017, a copy of the Order to Repair/Vacate Order will be available via HPDONLINE through HPD's website ([www.nyc.gov/hpd](http://www.nyc.gov/hpd)), or contact HPD at our Borough Office to obtain an additional copy of the Order to Repair/Vacate Order.



- must ensure that any building/unit vacated by the Order to Repair/Vacate Order is not re-occupied unless the Order has been revoked by the Department. If the vacated building or unit is re-occupied, the owner will be subject to a violation and a civil penalty of not less than \$5,000 for each re-occupied unit.

When all conditions listed on the Vacate Order/ Order to Repair have been corrected or a unit is restored to legal unit, an owner is required to apply to HPD for a Dismissal Request inspection to have the Order revoked. There is a fee for this inspection.

You can report violations of these regulations to 311.

**Changes to Open Enrollment for Healthcare Marketplace Coverage:**

The Open Enrollment Period for the Healthcare Marketplace in New York will run from November 1, 2017 to January 31, 2018. Although the Trump administration decided to significantly shorten the Open Enrollment Period (November 1st - December 15th) New York has its own marketplace, and therefore is able to determine the length of its Open Enrollment Period. If you want to enroll for health insurance through the individual marketplace for coverage in 2018, or switch plans, the upcoming Open Enrollment Period will run from November 1, 2017 to January 31, 2018.

Health insurance providers will make 2018 plan details available by November 1st. If you would like to consult with a trained representative at no charge prior to selecting your health insurance plan, Navigator Sites are an excellent resource. The following is the contact information for a local Navigator Site:

Community Service Society of New York  
633 Third Avenue, 10th Floor  
New York, NY 10017  
888-614-5400

Please make sure to call and schedule an appointment for November 1st through December 15th to ensure health care coverage in 2018.

Before selecting your plan, it is important to check the following:

- Will your primary physician, ob/gyn, and any specialists accept the insurance? This is important to verify, even if you are not changing plans. Health insurance companies are using narrower provider networks than before, which may cause reductions to their list of in-network providers. Please note that a new search tool has been added to the New York State of Health marketplace website: <https://pndslookup.health.ny.gov/>. This tool allows you to search by medical provider to see what health insurance plans s/he accepts. It also allows you to search by health plan to see which medical providers are in-network.
- Will any regularly prescribed medications be covered under the plan? Each health insurance plan has a list of pharmaceuticals that are covered. If you are concerned about prescriptions being covered, this is important to verify before you enroll in the plan. Navigator Site representatives can provide assistance with this.
- Which plan will be the most affordable while providing the amount of coverage you need? Research has shown that many people do not take the time to comparison shop before selecting a health insurance policy. It is worth taking the time to consider your healthcare needs and assess which plan will give you the greatest savings based on premiums charged,

co-pays, and deductibles. Navigator Site representatives can also provide assistance with doing a comparison of plan costs.

### **Request a Bench for Your Street:**

The CityBench program is an initiative to increase the amount of public seating on New York City's streets. DOT installs attractive and durable benches around the city, particularly at bus stops, retail corridors, and in areas with high concentrations of senior citizens. These benches make streets more comfortable for transit riders and pedestrians, especially for those who are older and disabled. Anyone can request a bench, and anyone can use one. If you know of a good location that meets the requirements below, visit <http://www.nyc.gov/html/dot/html/pedestrians/citybench.shtml> to download an application and see additional details on siting requirements.

### **New Appointment System for Sanitation Pickup of Large Items:**

The Department of Sanitation has introduced a new appointment system designed to help more efficiently collect large non-recyclable bulky items such as sofas, mattresses, and large wooden furniture. New Yorkers can now arrange for timely bulk pickup appointments online at [nyc.gov/bulk](http://nyc.gov/bulk) or by calling 311. The new service is designed for items that are larger than four (4) feet by three (3) feet, such as sofas and bulky wooden furniture that can be lifted by two workers and be able to fit inside a Sanitation collection truck. This service does not apply to items that require special handling, such as air conditioners, refrigerators, TVs, computers, and other electronics. To learn how to properly recycle or dispose of those items, visit [nyc.gov/dsny](http://nyc.gov/dsny) or call 311. Also, metal, glass and rigid plastic items, including bedframes, patio furniture, and filing cabinets, should still be placed out for recycling collection after 4 p.m. the night before your scheduled recycling day.

Some helpful tips:

- Do not block foot traffic or place items in the street or in front of another property.
- If you have more than six (6) large items for collection, schedule additional appointments.
- Place your large items curbside after 4 pm the night before your appointment.
- Mattresses/box springs should be placed in a plastic bag before setting out at curbside to prevent the spread of bed bugs and avoid a \$100 fine.

### **Upcoming Pet Adoption Events:**

Animal Care Centers of NYC (ACC) is sponsoring several Pet Adoption events around the district in December. Upcoming dates and locations are:

Sunday, September 17, 12-5PM, Adoptapalooza  
Petco Union Square, 860 Broadway at East 17th Street

Saturday, September 23, 11-3PM – Dogs only  
Biscuits & Bath Sutton Place, 1064 1st Avenue at East 58th Street

Sunday, September 24, 12-4PM  
Petco Union Square, 860 Broadway at East 17th Street

Upcoming events are also listed at <http://nycacc.org/Events.htm>.

### **Art Course for People with Memory Impairments:**



Lenox Hill Neighborhood House is offering a program for individuals with memory impairments entitled Sparking Wellness and Creativity through Art. This five-session course designed for individuals with mild to moderate cognitive impairments, including dementia, will explore the use of art to spark creativity, expressive outlets, and cognitive stimulation. The person-centered process will focus on each individual's strengths and the development of their own creative style. No previous art experience required! The course will take place over 5 Tuesdays from September 19th to October 17th from 3:00pm-4:30pm at 331 East 70th Street between 1st and 2nd Avenues, Room 1A. There is a fee of \$150. Pre-registration required at <http://www.lenoxhill.org/arttherapy>. For More Information Contact Leah Gable at 212-218 0481 or <http://www.lenoxhill.org/careprogram/>.

### **Financial Empowerment Workshops at Lenox Hill Neighborhood House:**

In partnership with Neighborhood Trust Financial Partners, Lenox Hill Neighborhood House is offering free Financial Empowerment Workshops. These classes will provide an opportunity to see your credit report, meet one-on-one with a financial advisor, plan to reach your financial goals and open a free savings account. These classes are open to everyone. There are two sessions being held in the fall and each session will be four weeks long. Participants can elect to attend either session, as they are the same.

Session 1: Wednesday, Sept. 20 – Oct. 11 @ 6-8 pm

Session 2: Wednesday, Oct. 25 – Nov. 15 @ 6-8 pm

Registration is required. Space is limited. To enroll, please contact Lauren Bernstein: 212-218-0413 or [lbernstein@lenoxhill.org](mailto:lbernstein@lenoxhill.org). Please specify which session you would like to attend.

### **Legal Advocacy Clinics At Lenox Hill Neighborhood House:**

The Lenox Hill Neighborhood House Legal Advocacy Center Offers assistance on a number of different issues. Here is a list of their ongoing programs and clinics:

- SNAP (formerly Food Stamps) Clinics: Wednesdays from 10am to 1pm at Lenox Hill Neighborhood House, 331 East 70th Street. First come, first served. Bring proof of identity, income information, utility bill, proof of housing costs, information on any dependents and if you are 60 or over or on SSI/SSD, information on medical costs. For more information, call [212-218-0431](tel:212-218-0431).
- SCRIE Clinics: call [212-218-0503 ext. 6](tel:212-218-0503) for assistance in applying or recertifying for the Senior Citizens Rent Increase Exemption (SCRIE) program. The SCRIE clinic is open to tenants city-wide. Please note that due to the volume of calls, it sometimes takes up to two weeks for staff to respond to messages.
- Tenants Rights Advice Clinic: Walk-in clinic, first Thursday of the Month, starting November 2. From 10am to 1pm at 331 East 70th Street, First come-first Served. Please bring all relevant housing-related documents with you.
- End-of-Life Planning/Advance Directives: volunteer attorneys may be able to assist you with one-on-one counseling and individualized drafting of Advance Directives including Health Care Proxies, Living Wills, Powers of Attorney, and simple, low-asset Wills. If you are interested in being screened for a possible appointment, call the intake hotline at [212-218-0503 ext 4](tel:212-218-0503).
- Health Care Access/Medicare/Medicaid: call [212-218-0503 ext 3](tel:212-218-0503). Find out about Medicare Savings Programs, Medicaid home care, Medicare Part D, Medicaid Spend-down, EPIC and if you are eligible for Medicaid.
- Health Insurance Enrollment: call [212-218-0432](tel:212-218-0432). Assistance with finding and enrolling in an affordable health insurance plan.

### **VOLS Legal Clinics for Low-Income Residents Over Age 60:**

The Volunteers of Legal Services (VOLS) Elderly Project provides pro-bono legal services to low-income people over age 60 who live in Manhattan. VOLS conducts legal clinics each month at senior centers where seniors can discuss their legal concerns in confidence, receive legal advice and, where appropriate, obtain referrals to a volunteer lawyer for representation. Areas of legal assistance include wills, medical directives, powers of attorney, housing, consumer matters and Medicaid. Over 150 lawyers serve on their Elderly Project volunteer attorney roster.

Burden Center for the Aging, 1484 First Avenue (between 77th & 78th Streets) — 2 pm —October 13. Call Margaret Reiff at 212-879-7400, ext. 204 for information.

Stanley Isaacs Senior Center, 415 East 93rd Street (east of 1st Avenue) — 10 am September 15, October 27. Call Khristel Simmons at 212-360-7620 ext, 158 for information.

Encore Community Services Senior Center, St. Malachy's Church - 239 West 49th Street (between Broadway and 8th Avenue) — 10 am, 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the Month—(September 25, October23). Call Narobe Arias at 212-581-2910, ext 125 for information.

### **Affordable Housing Opportunities in Manhattan:**

**2211 THIRD AVENUE** is now accepting applications for 22 affordable studio, 1- and 2- bedroom apartments newly constructed at 2211 Third Avenue in the East Harlem neighborhood in Manhattan. Rents for these apartments range from \$913 to \$1,183 depending on unit size. To be eligible, applicants must have incomes between \$33,189 and \$57,240 depending on unit and family size. Preference will be given to Community Board 11 residents for 50% of units, mobility-impaired persons for 5% of units, visual- and/or hearing-impaired persons for 2% of units, and City of New York municipal employees for 5% of units. A full description of the building and application process is available at

<https://a806-housingconnect.nyc.gov/nyclottery/AdvertisementPdf/344.pdf>.

Households may elect to submit an application by one of two methods: EITHER online OR by mail. To submit your application online now, please visit NYC Housing Connect at [www.nyc.gov/housingconnect](http://www.nyc.gov/housingconnect) and select "Apply for Housing." To request an application by mail, mail a self-addressed envelope to: 2211 THIRD AVENUE, c/o Housing Partnership Development Corporation, 242 West 36th Street, 3FL, New York, NY 10018.

Completed applications must be submitted online or returned by regular mail only to the post office box that will be listed on the application. Applications must be submitted online or postmarked by September 12, 2017. Applicants who submit more than one application may be disqualified.

**STARDOM HALL PHASE II** is now accepting applications for 13 affordable single room occupancy (SRO) units newly renovated at 332 West 51st Street in the Clinton/Hell's Kitchen neighborhood in Manhattan. Rents for these apartments are \$714. To be eligible, applicants must have incomes between \$24,480 and \$40,080. Preference will be given to Community Board 4 residents for all units, mobility-impaired persons for 5% of units, visual- and/or hearing-impaired persons for 2% of units, and City of New York municipal employees for 5% of units. A full description of the building and application process is available at

<https://a806-housingconnect.nyc.gov/nyclottery/AdvertisementPdf/387.pdf>.

Individuals may elect to submit an application by one of two methods: EITHER online OR by mail. To submit your application online now, please visit NYC Housing Connect at [www.nyc.gov/housingconnect](http://www.nyc.gov/housingconnect) and select "Apply for Housing." To request an application by mail, mail a self-addressed envelope to: Stardom Hall c/o Arete Management LLC, 42 West 39th Street, 14th Floor, New York, NY 10018.

Completed applications must be submitted online or returned by regular mail only to the post office box that will be listed on the application. Applications must be submitted online or postmarked by September 13, 2017. Applicants who submit more than one application may be disqualified.

**VIA 57 WEST** is now accepting applications for 36 affordable studio, 1-, 2- and 3- bedroom apartments newly constructed at 625 West 57th Street in the Clinton/Hell's Kitchen neighborhood in Manhattan. Rents for these apartments range from \$1,448 to \$2,902 depending on unit size and income. To be eligible, applicants must have incomes between \$51,532 and 132,840 depending on income and unit and family size. Preference will be given to mobility-impaired persons for 5% of units, and visual- and/or hearing-impaired persons for 2% of units. A full description of the building and application process is available at <https://a806-housingconnect.nyc.gov/nyclottery/AdvertisementPdf/382.pdf>.

Households may elect to submit an application by one of two methods: EITHER online OR by mail. To submit your application online now, please visit NYC Housing Connect at [www.nyc.gov/housingconnect](http://www.nyc.gov/housingconnect) and select "Apply for Housing." To request an application by mail, mail a self-addressed envelope to: VIA 57 West c/o The Wavecrest Management Team, 87-14 116<sup>TH</sup> Street Richmond Hill NY 11418.

Completed applications must be submitted online or returned by regular mail only to the post office box that will be listed on the application. Applications must be submitted online or postmarked by October 11, 2017. Applicants who submit more than one application may be disqualified.

**555 10 PHASE 2** is now accepting applications for 90 affordable studio, 1-, 2- and 3- bedroom apartments newly constructed at 555 Tenth Avenue in the Hudson Yards neighborhood in Manhattan. Rents for these apartments range from \$613 to \$2,875 depending on unit size and income. To be eligible, applicants must have incomes between \$22,903 and 132,840 depending on income and unit and family size. Preference will be given to Community Board 4 residents for 50% of units, mobility-impaired persons for 5% of units, visual- and/or hearing-impaired persons for 2% of units, and City of New York municipal employees for 5% of units. A full description of the building and application process is available at <https://a806-housingconnect.nyc.gov/nyclottery/AdvertisementPdf/386.pdf>.

Households may elect to submit an application by one of two methods: EITHER online OR by mail. To submit your application online now, please visit NYC Housing Connect at [www.nyc.gov/housingconnect](http://www.nyc.gov/housingconnect) and select "Apply for Housing." To request an application by mail, mail a self-addressed envelope to: 555 TEN c/o Breaking Ground, PO Box 3620937, New York , NY 10129.

Completed applications must be submitted online or returned by regular mail only to the post office box that will be listed on the application. Applications must be submitted online or postmarked by October 23, 2017. Applicants who submit more than one application may be disqualified.

### **Metrocard Bus and Van Schedule:**

The MTA offers MetroCard-related services throughout New York City through mobile buses and vans. Buses provide a full range of services, including applying for or refilling a Reduced-Fare MetroCard, buying or refilling a regular MetroCard, or getting answers to a MetroCard-related question. Vans sell Unlimited Ride MetroCards and Pay-Per-Ride MetroCards, and they refill MetroCards and Reduced-Fare MetroCards. Buses and vans will be in my district on the following dates and locations:

September 12, 9 - 10:30 am, 92 Street & Lexington Avenue – Bus  
September 12, 11:00 am - 12:30 pm., 86 Street & Lexington Avenue – Bus  
September 12, 1:30 - 2:30 pm, 68 Street & Lexington Avenue – Bus  
September 20, 11 am - 1 pm, 79 Street & York Avenue – Bus  
September 20, 1:30 - 2:30 pm, 72 Street & York Avenue – Bus  
September 20, 9 - 10:30 am, 92 Street & Lexington Avenue – Bus  
September 21, 8:30 - 10:30 am, 47 Street & 2 Avenue – Van  
September 21, 1:30 - 3:30 pm, 28 Street & 2 Avenue – Van  
September 21, 9 - 10:30 am, 79 Street & 3 Avenue – Bus  
September 26, 9 - 10:30 am, 92 Street & Lexington Avenue – Bus  
September 26, 11:00 am - 12:30 pm., 86 Street & Lexington Avenue – Bus  
September 26, 1:30 - 2:30 pm, 68 Street & Lexington Avenue – Bus  
October 4, 9 - 10:30 am, 79 Street & 3 Avenue – Bus  
October 4, 11 am - 1 pm, 79 Street & York Avenue – Bus  
October 4, 1:30 - 2:30 pm, 72 Street & York Avenue – Bus  
October 5, 7 – 9 am, 91 Street and York Avenue - Van  
October 5, 8:30 - 10:30 am, 47 Street & 2 Avenue – Van  
October 5, 1:30 - 3:30 pm, 28 Street & 2 Avenue – Van  
October 6, 9 - 10 am, 57 Street and 1 Avenue – Van  
October 6, 10:30 - 11:30 am, 57 Street and 3 Avenue – Van  
October 6, 12:30 - 2:30 pm, 68 Street and 1 Avenue – Van

The full mobile MetroCard schedule is available at <http://mta.info/metrocard/mms.htm>. Please note that MetroCard buses and vans do not take credit cards.