



Dear Friends,

Memorial Day dates back to the Civil War when flowers and flags were first placed on the graves of fallen soldiers. As we enjoy our families, good friends, good food and the official start of summer, let us be mindful of those who gave up their lives for our freedom and grateful for the service men and women we are so fortunate to have with us.

Wishing you a safe, happy holiday weekend.

~Ellen~

**Commemorating Hillburn School**



On May 15<sup>th</sup> the [community gathered](#) at the site of what was once the Main School, one of the last formally segregated schools in New York State, to honor, commemorate, and bring to life the historic activism of the brave women, men and students of Hillburn, NY as they fought alongside future Supreme Court Justice, Thurgood Marshall, and to celebrate the listing of the Hillburn School in both the National and the State

Registry of Historic Places. Two days following the event marked [Thurgood Marshall Day in New York State](#) which was designated to honor the former Supreme Court Justice's work on this case and his incredible work and advocacy on civil rights.

**Safe Staffing for Quality Care Act**

I co-sponsored [A6571](#) because safe staffing in hospitals and nursing homes is a [public health issue](#) we cannot ignore. Research has consistently demonstrated that when nurses are assigned more patients than they can adequately care for, those patients—our loved ones, our friends, our neighbors are at greater risk of death, infection, complications, falls and re-admission to the hospital. Nurses are the key to improving patient outcomes.



**Congratulations to Dr. Deborah Wortham, East Ramapo Superintendent**

[Assemblymember Kenneth Zebrowski](#) and I congratulate Dr. Deborah Wortham on her [appointment as permanent superintendent](#) in East Ramapo. As Interim Superintendent her experience and expertise have served her well in establishing positive working relationships with students, parents and the Board. We are hopeful that she will continue to address the complex challenges facing the District and to respond to the serious concerns that have been raised.

**Nyack Center Recording Studio**



I couldn't be more excited to have the opportunity to assist in cutting the ribbon on the [new digital multi-track recording and media studio](#) at the Nyack Center. So many people made this dream a reality. Congratulations to Executive Director, Kim Cross, members of the community, and the Board who made it all happen. I supported Nyack Center's grant proposal and helped to secure the funding because I knew the studio would be a powerful magnet to so many of the youth and young adults in the community. Capitol Projects funding in the State Budget can be so helpful to improving our communities and our quality of life.

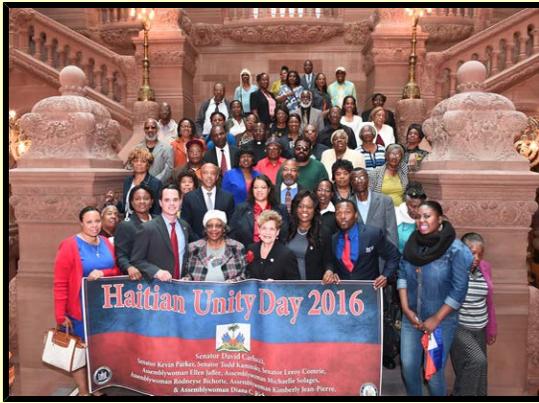
**Haitian Unity Day**

On May 23rd about 20 residents came up to Albany to witness the introduction of the Haitian Unity Day Resolution dedicating May 23rd as Haitian Unity Day in the State of New York. This resolution commemorates Haiti's

legacy of liberty and justice throughout the world and the significant contributions of Haitians in New York State.

### Women's Lung Health

I introduced a [resolution proclaiming](#) the week of May 8-14, 2016 as Women's Lung Health Week in New York State. Women's Lung Health Week celebrates and honors the power of women who stand united to [fight lung cancer](#), the #1 cancer killer of women in the United States.



Like me on  and Follow me on 