

Weekly Report from Assemblyman Charles D. Fall February 10, 2022

My office and the Gambian Community in collaboration with the Senegalese Association and ACASI are looking for donations to help the victims of the tragic Bronx fire. For more information about drop-offs see below or call my office at 718-442-9932.

Donations Needed

To support victims of the Bronx fire Monday - Friday. 9:00AM-5:00PM at 853 Forest Ave Accepting new clothes, new shoes, gift cards, and nonperishable foods











NYCHA has recently opened kitchens in vacant apartments at Stapleton Houses to serve as community kitchens. Those who are impacted by the gas outage can call management (718-448-5000) to schedule appointments in two-hour increments. There are 5 open kitchens with 1 being a 504/ADA accessible unit.



New York City Housing Authority

Stapleton Houses 210 Broad Street Staten Island, NY 10304 Tel # (718) 448-5000 Fax # (718) 720-8834

01/14/2022

Dear 181/197 Gordon Street Residents,

Due to the gas outage in your building (181/197 Gordon St.), NYCHA is opening a Temporary Community Kitchen to accommodate residents who are interested in sharing a stove for cooking. Residents will be allowed to book two-hour time slots to use the kitchen stove. Each resident will be responsible for their own clean-up and garbage removal.

If you are interested in using this Community Kitchen until the gas service is restored, please contact the Management Office at 718-448-5000 at your earliest convenience.

We apologize for the inconvenience this outage has caused and greatly appreciate your patience and understanding. Please be advised that NYCHA staff, along with the contractor, are working diligently to restore service to all affected apartments as soon as possible.

Sincerely,			
Philip John			
Property Manager			

District 61 News

Detective Wendell Stradford

In honor of Black History Month this week we recognize the career of Det. Wendell Stradford. During his 37 years of service, the decorated officer solved over 100 murder cases. He was also my high school basketball coach and continues to be an avid contributor to our community. Thank you for your service, coach!



To watch my video acknowledging Det. Stradford click here.

Updates from Albany

Assemblyman Charles D. Fall questions New York City Mayor Eric Adams during the Virtual/Joint 2022 Local Governments Budget Hearing.

- Assemblyman Fall first thanked Mayor Adams for his quick response to providing over 1,000 COVID Test Kits that were distributed throughout the North Shore of Staten Island during the heightened spike of the Omicron variant.
- The Assemblyman turned to asking the Mayor about the ramifications of Hurricane Ida centering on property damage, displacement and the need for catch basins to be periodically checked and cleaned.
 - o The Mayor replied that his administration is focused on "getting stuff done."
 - He will make sure that all city agencies involved will focus on cleaning all basins on a periodic basis.
 - With federal infrastructure allocations, the Mayor said that one of the primary focuses citywide, especially on Staten Island, is to have his environmental team produce assessments on roads, bridges and sewer systems. "We have to focus on retrofitting infrastructure build-outs.
- Assemblyman Fall then turned his focus and addressed other factors of concern:
 - Stapleton Houses cooking gas problem
 - o North Shore Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) City Support.
 - o Visiting the Richmond University Center.

Mayor Adams responded and stated that he plans to be on Staten Island next week. That NYCHA is facing a \$40 billion shortfall, however, this in no way should be an excuse for what is happening in the Stapleton Houses. "We shouldn't be addressing issues after the make the front pages of our newspapers."



To watch the full video click here.

Governor Hochul announced this week that the statewide indoor business mask-or-vaccine requirement will be lifted on Thursday, February 10th and will remain optional for businesses, local governments and counties to enforce.

This protocol, a temporary measure implemented on December 10 as statewide cases spiked, was an effective tool to address the winter surge and the rise of the Omicron variant. With case counts plummeting and hospitalizations sharply declining, this temporary measure is no longer needed statewide. Counties, cities, and businesses will be able to opt into the mask-or-vaccine requirement if they so choose.

Masks remain a critical tool to fight the spread of COVID-19, and mask requirements will remain in place in certain high-density settings.

- All health care settings regulated by the Department of Health and other related state agencies will continue to require masks.
- Masks will also be required in nursing homes, adult care facilities, correctional facilities, detention centers, homeless shelters, and domestic violence shelters, public transit and transportation hubs, as well as trains, planes and airports in accordance with federal regulations.

Governor Hochul also announced plans to assess the mask requirement in schools in early March, to ensure students can continue learning in-person and in the classroom.

- The assessment will be based on public health data, including key metrics like cases per 100,000 residents, hospital admission rates, vaccination rates, global trends and pediatric hospitalizations.
- Plans are already underway to distribute two tests for every K-12 student ahead of midwinter break and continue distribution the following week when students return to school. In the meantime.

• Governor Hochul has directed the Department of Health to work on preliminary guidance, with input from educators and parents, to keep students and teachers safe.

Critical Updates, New Policies, and Testing Locations to Protect You and Your Community

- 1. Governor Hochul announced that the statewide indoor business mask-or-vaccine requirement will be lifted starting Thursday, February, 10, and will remain optional for businesses, local governments and counties to enforce. This protocol, a temporary measure implemented on December 10 as statewide cases spiked, was an effective tool to address the winter surge and the rise of the Omicron variant. With case counts plummeting and hospitalizations sharply declining, this temporary measure is no longer needed statewide. Counties, cities, and businesses will be able to opt into the mask-or-vaccine requirement if they so choose. View Governor Hochul's Presentation Here
- 2. Governor Kathy Hochul today announced that state and local law enforcement agencies across New York will be stepping up patrols and targeting impaired driving during the Super Bowl weekend. The enforcement campaign will run from Friday, February 11, 2022, through Monday, February 14, 2022. This safety initiative is designed to reduce alcohol and drug-related traffic crashes. It is sponsored by STOP-DWI with funding from the Governor's Traffic Safety Committee.
- 3. Governor Kathy Hochul today announced more than \$64 million in federal funding to help struggling New Yorkers with children, multi-generational households, and survivors of domestic violence with their expenses amid the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Administered through the state Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance and the state Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence, the Pandemic Emergency Assistance Fund will provide one-time payments to help with the cost of diapers for struggling families, cover food expenses for households with both children and older adults, and provide crucial housing and relocation assistance for survivors of domestic violence.

Crucial Resources to Support and Aid Your Everyday Needs

1. The NYS Homeowner Assitance Fund is available now. You may be eligible for up to \$50,000 in financial assistance.



2. Important: The NYS Department of Labor will mail 1099-G tax forms to all Excluded Workers Fund (EWF) recipients to the address listed on their EWF application. The information from this form must be included in tax filings for the 2021 calendar year. As you may know, payments from the EWF are considered taxable income. Although payments were mailed with state taxes already taken out, they may still be subject to federal income tax. For more information click here.



3. Our children have faced many challenges throughout the pandemic. Now they're back at school and being asked to return to normalcy, but this school year is anything but normal. That's why the UFT's Positive Learning Collaborative (PLC) is offering free, confidential mental health sessions to students and to parents calling on their children's behalf. Hours of Operation: Monday-Friday: 8:30 A.M. to 12 P.M. Saturday: 9:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. Call 212-709-3222 or Text "PLC" to 43961

- 4. What is HEAP? The Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) helps low-income people pay the cost of heating their homes. How does it work? If you are eligible, you may receive one regular HEAP benefit per season and could also be eligible for an emergency HEAP benefit if you are in impending danger of running out of fuel or having your utility service shut off. Are HEAP benefits available year-round? No, the application period normally begins in early to mid-November and continues into the winter, until funding for the program runs out.
- 5. Free SNAP Assistance See the flyer below





Free SNAP (Food Stamps) Assistance ASISTENCIA GRATUITA DE SNAP

(Cupones de alimentos)

MetroPlus Health Staten Island Community Office 238A Port Richmond Ave. Staten Island, NY 10302 SNAP enroller is on site **2 DAYS a week**. Check below for our hours!

Los especialista de SNAP estan disponbile los **2 dias a la semana**. ¡Revisa a continuación nuestros horarios y ubicaciones!

Day & Time Dia y Hora	Location Ubicacion	SNAP Enroller Especialista de SNAP	How to Schedule Como Programar
Tues, Wed Martes, Miercoles 9:00am – 4:30pm	And Thurs, Fri Lunes, (Remote) Lunes, lueves, Viernes Septimized Florence Lanipekun Florence Lanipekun Florence Lanipekun Florence Lanipekun Florence Lanipekun		Walk-in or call Orden de llegada o Llamar al 929-270-2181
Mon, Thurs, Fri Lunes, Jueves, Viernes 9:00am — 4:30pm			Call Llamar al 929-270-2181

Sponsored by New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance.

SNAP.—Putting Healthy Food Within Reach. Viris www.mybenefits.nv.gov to check your eligibility. This material was funded by USDAS Supplement Munition Assistance Program - SNAP.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



6. It's important to submit an SBA Loan Application - After you apply for disaster assistance from FEMA, you may be referred to the U.S. Small Business Administration. If you are referred to SBA, you should complete and submit the application. If your application is approved, you are not obligated to accept the SBA disaster loan but failure to submit the application may disqualify you from other possible FEMA assistance, such as disaster-related car repairs, essential household items and other expenses. SBA disaster loans are the largest source of federal disaster recovery funds for survivors. In planning your recovery, give yourself the widest possible set of options. Submitting the application makes it possible for homeowners and renters to be considered for additional FEMA grants. Applicants may apply online using SBA's secure website at DisasterLoanAssistance.sba.gov or they may email DisasterLoanAssistance.sba.gov or they may email DisasterCustomerService@SBA.gov for more information on SBA's disaster assistance program. Applicants may also call SBA's Customer Service Center at 800-659-2955 or email disastercustomerservice@sba.gov for more information on SBA disaster assistance.

- 7. If you're a renter having trouble paying your rent, utilities, or other housing costs or if you're a landlord trying to stay afloat with tenants in this situation help may be available. State and local programs are distributing billions of dollars in rental assistance to help renters stay housed during the pandemic. Visit the CFPB's Rental Assistance Finder to find out what this means for you and what you can do. The CFPB's site also includes resources to help renters and landlords understand other resources to help navigate various financial hardships related to the pandemic.
 - 8. **Staten Island Legal Services wants to help you**. If you need **free legal** help during the COVID-19 crisis, for matters of immigration, foreclosure, small business advice, and more. **call them at 718-233-6480.**



9. Project Hospitality provides a wide range of services to our communities. From vaccinations to mental health guidance to help applying for rental assistance. See flyers below for more information.



Feeling uncertain, overwhelmed, anxious during COVID?



Here to talk | Here to listen | Here to support

- Information
 Education
- Emotional support Links to resources

We can provide virtual presentations on:

- Recognizing common reactions on:
 Building coping skills for the recovery process
- Managing COVID-related stress
 Identifying and meeting children's needs

Contact Us! (718)608-7900 HOPE@ProjectHospitality.org

We are here for YOU.

Free, anonymous & confidential

A program of the NYS Office of Mental Health Funded by FEMA



Necesitas Te sientes incierto, agobiado, ansioso durante COVID?

Aquí para hablar | Aquí para escuchar | Aquí para apoyar

Nosotros Proporcionamos...
Información
Educación

- Apoyo emocional
 Enlaces a recursos

- Proporcionamos presentaciones virtuales sobre:

 Reconcociendo las resciones comunes de COVID

 Desarrollando habilidades de afrontamiento para el proceso de recuperación

 Manejando estritis relacionada con COVID

 Identificando y satisfaciendo las necesidades de los niños

¡Contáctanos Hoy! 718-608-7900 HOPE@ProjectHospitality.org

Estamos aqui para USTED.

Gratis, anónimo y confidencial

A program of the NYS Office of Mental Health Funded by FEMA









10. The BJ House Community - Mobile Pantry will come right to your door. Every first Wednesday of each month, every Tuesday, and every 3rd Saturday of each

month.



11. This robust 6-week communitytraining program informs NewYorkers about NYPD policies, activities, and authorities.



12. The Y is now offering new rounds of FREE lifeguard training and certification this spring, including at the Broadway Y. Pre-tests are required for this opportunity and are currently underway, with lots of times and dates at Ys across the city. Experienced swimmers should see here for details and scheduling.







TO REGISTER OR LEARN MORE, SCAN THIS OR CODE OR CONTACT AQUATICS@YMCANYC.ORG

13. St. Ann's Creative Learning Center has open enrollment right now. Call 718-273-5371 for more information



14. Small Business Resources:

- For counseling and help services through SBS click here.
- Procurement Center Representatives (PCRs) help small businesses win federal contracts. PCRs view many federal acquisition and procurement strategies before they're announced. This enables them to influence opportunities that should be set aside for small businesses. PCRs also conduct market research, assist small businesses with payment issues, provide counseling on the contracting process, and more.
- <u>Subcontracting Program Assistance (SPA)</u> can help you with subcontracting questions after a contract is awarded. SPA can help you with tools to match prime contractors and subcontractors, help small businesses market their services to prime contractors, and more.
- SBA Learning Center. The SBA offers free online courses to help small businesses understand government contracting. You can find these video classes in the SBA Learning Center.

Useful Events and Opportunities

1. Help support your neighborhood schools - For more information click her

Interested in Subbing for the NYC DOE?





Help support your neighborhood schools!!!

- \$200 a day! (\$199.27 to be exact)
- This could be your chance to see if teaching is the career for you
- · Requirements:
 - · Interest and commitment to helping kids and a school
 - · Bachelors Degree and authorization to work in the US

For more information: https://www.schools.nyc.gov/careers/substitute-teaching

*Please pass this information on to anyone you know who meets the requirements and might be interested.

Lamson Lam can help answer questions and get you nominated. Please reach out him at lam@schools.nyc.gov

2. The Department of Transportation is hiring - Apply by 2/15



3. Put your swimming skill to the ultimate test. Become an NYC Lifeguard – help keep New York's beaches and pools safe and develop skills that will last a lifetime.



Earn your whistle! Become an NYC lifeguard.

Help keep New York City's beaches and pools safe and develop skills that will last a lifetime. As a lifeguard,

- Develop job skills
- Become part of a team
- Earn NYC Lifeguard certification and learn CPR, first-aid, and rescue techniques

you'll have the chance to:

Practice your swimming

Lifeguards work five to six days each week, and first-year lifeguards earn a minimum of \$16 an hour, for a weekly salary of about \$800.

HOW TO JOIN

All potential lifeguards must pass the Lifeguard Qualifying Test, a series of vision and swim exams. To qualify, you must:

- Be at least 16 years of age by the start of employment.
- Have at least 20/30 vision in one eye and 20/40 in the other - without corrective lenses. Glasses and contact lenses may not be worn during the eye exam.
- not be worn during the eye exam.

 Be able to swim 50 yards in 35 seconds or less, with proper form.

Individuals must be vaccinated to take the qualifying test.

Sign up today at nyc.gov/parks/lifeguards.



4. Community Conversation on Smoking & Vaping being held on Wednesday, Feb 9th and is open to all Staten Islanders ages 13+



5. Urban Faries of S.I.C.O., Beautiful Heartbeats Inc, and Free It Forward Host their 1st Annual Community Baby Shower. February 17th, 6:00PM-8:00PM

Urban Fairies of S.I.C.O., Beautiful Heartbeats Inc. & Free It Forward Host Our 1ST Annual Community BAS **SHOWER**

We are looking for donations of new or like new baby, new mom items, gift cards and or in kind donations of the following, cribs, bassinets, pack and plays, strollers, carseats, tummy time mats, teethers, sippy cups, baby wash diaper creme, diapers, wipes, clothing, gear, bottles O, pacifiers, unexpired formula, food, etc. Please contact us to donate, or collaborate

WE WILL BE ACCEPTING DONATIONS SATURDAY 1/22/2022

11am to 2pm 266 Wild ave 10314 Please text to confirm drop-off 646-568-5094

Urban Fairies of S.I.C.O., Beautiful Heartbeats Inc. & Free It Forward Host Our 18T Annual Community BAR **SHOWER**

SPACE IS LIMITED admittance with tickets preferred walkins accepted but limited masks mandatory vaccines preferred get tickets @

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/ufosico-beautiful-heartbeats-inc-free-it-forward-community-baby-shower-tickets-240117577137

Or scan the Barcode for tickets limited to mom and plus 1 2 ticket maximum



Pajama Program

6PM - 8PM



















Staten Island



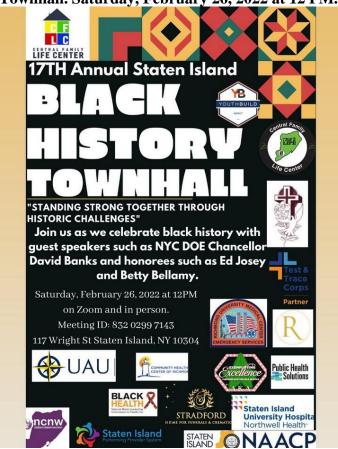








6. Central Family Life Center presents their 17th Annual Staten Island Black History Townhall. Saturday, February 26, 2022 at 12 PM.



7. The Forest Ave. Comeunity Fridge is a group from Mariners Harbor looking to help out our community with Food Insecurity.

@FORESTAVECOMEUNITYFRIDGE

WHO ARE WE?

We are a collaborative group, born and raised on the North Shore, who are passionate about addressing the health food disparity in our neighborhood of Mariners Harbor. The foundation of our initiative is "take what you need, leave what you don't" and "we keep us fed and healthy!" – in hopes of creating a culture of unity, interdependence, community restoration and empowerment in Mariners Harbor.

WHAT IS A COMMUNITY FRIDGE?

A Community Fridge is a fridge that provides free and healthy food for community members. The fridges offer access to fresh produce, healthy grains and perishable items to communities that do not have a lot of access to healthy food options.



HOW CAN MY BUSINESS HELP?

Your business can help by donating surplus food to our fridge or allowing us to purchase food at reduced costs.

WHY SHOULD MY BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION CARE ABOUT A COMMUNITY FRIDGE?

In recent political and racial events, many businesses and organizations are looking for ways to fight against racial inequity. Community fridges represent mutual aid – the idea that solidarity not charity is what communities need in order to become fairer and stronger. By donating food to our fridge, your business will be taking part in our ongoing movement for creating justice – first within our communities

Sincerely,

Charles D. Fall Member of Assembly ALBANY OFFICE: Room 534, Legislative Office Building, Albany, NY 12248. 518-455-4677, FAX 518-455-5946
DISTRICT OFFICE: 853 Forest Avenue, Staten Island, New York 10310. 718-442-9932,

FAX 718-442-9942