

Greetings Neighbor,

I hope you and your families have been enjoying the beautiful fall weather at sporting events and fall activities around Long Island.

October was chock full of community events throughout the district, and I enjoyed the opportunity to engage with so many constituents. Please take a look at some of the vibrant events that took place throughout October.

I attended an informative roundtable discussion at SUNY Old Westbury about addressing the Guardianship Crisis on Long Island. I thank the Nassau and Suffolk Service Providers in attendance, including the EAC Network and Guardianship Corp as well as the county court judges that hear Article 81 Guardianship cases.

I was grateful for the invitation to attend a dinner with a few colleagues and leaders in industry, energy, transportation, construction trade, technology, business and finance. We discussed common sense solutions to pressing issues on Long Island and NYS.

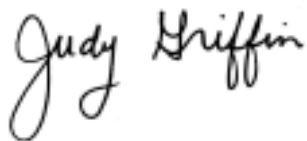
I was happy to join my colleagues at the NYS Legislative Women's Caucus Retreat. The Women's Caucus hosts a biannual retreat during the first year of each legislative session to build unity, share insights, and strategize for the future. Afterwards, I traveled to Albany to work with staff on important legislation.

I want to extend a huge note of gratitude to all those who contributed to our Thanksgiving Food and Turkey Drive. Now more than ever people are in need. Thank you to the East Rockaway, Baldwin, Lynbrook, Malverne, and Rockville Centre Libraries for collecting contributions from their patrons and thank you to Green Acres for donating 30 turkeys.

Wishing you and your families a Happy and Healthy Thanksgiving!

As always I welcome you to email griffinj@nyassembly.gov or contact my office at 516-561-8216 if I can be of assistance.

Warmly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Judy Griffin". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid, with the first name "Judy" being larger and more prominent than the last name "Griffin".

Judy Griffin

Assemblywoman, 21st District

My Latest Op-Ed - Dependability and Affordability Must Be Part of Our State Energy Policy

I've published a new Op-Ed explaining why I'm calling for a pause on New York's All-Electric Building mandate. While I strongly support our long-term clean energy goals, we must make sure any transition protects affordability and ensures our grid can reliably meet increased demand.

Governor Hochul has paused the mandate pending further review, and I believe this is the right step. Once the concerns around grid capacity, costs, and infrastructure are addressed, I'm committed to advancing clean energy in a way that is responsible, affordable, and reliable for all New Yorkers.

Upcoming Community Events Activities

Holiday Toy & Pajama Drive

Please help make the holidays special for children throughout the district.



A festive poster for a Holiday Toy & Pajama Drive. The top half has a blue background with the title "HOLIDAY TOY & PAJAMA DRIVE" in large red letters, flanked by holly leaves and bells. Below the title is a green banner with white text: "Help Assemblywoman Judy Griffin Spread Some Holiday Cheer With a Holiday Toy & Pajama Drive (AGES 2-14)". Below this is another green banner with white text: "PLEASE DROP OFF NEW UNWRAPPED DONATIONS THROUGH DEC. 19". The bottom half has a blue background with illustrations of a gift box, a toy train, a teddy bear, a rabbit, and a pair of pajamas. At the bottom left, white text provides contact information: "PLEASE CALL MY OFFICE AT 516-561-8216 OR EMAIL GRIFFINJ@NYASSEMBLY.GOV TO ARRANGE A DROP-OFF 74 N. VILLAGE AVE RVC 11570". At the bottom right is the official seal of the New York State Assembly.

**HOLIDAY
TOY & PAJAMA
DRIVE**

Help Assemblywoman Judy Griffin
Spread Some Holiday Cheer
With a Holiday Toy & Pajama Drive
(AGES 2-14)

PLEASE DROP OFF NEW UNWRAPPED
DONATIONS THROUGH DEC. 19

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ASSEMBLY
STATE OF NEW YORK

Albany Updates and Actions

For the first time ever, an American presidential administration had stopped food assistance programs during a government shutdown. Cutting these benefits takes food from people's mouths just weeks from Thanksgiving.

Seniors, children and veterans rely on SNAP for their groceries. Once again President Trump and the Republican majority in Washington used our most vulnerable neighbors as political pawns instead of governing for them and for us.

Although the government shutdown has ended, food insecurity is still a major issue for many in our local community. According to Island Harvest Food Bank, there has been a 400% increase in those looking for food. After the passage of the "Big Beautiful Bill" this year in Washington, Island Harvest has lost \$400 million in funding. That money would have been spent purchasing food from Long Island farmers and fed Long Island communities.

Targeting the most vulnerable among us by holding food hostage is not a political strategy, and it is not governing. I stand with communities across our state in demanding that a manufactured food crisis not be used as a bargaining tactic in federal negotiations.

Assembly District 21 is home to several dedicated food pantries working tirelessly to support families facing food insecurity. Throughout the year, these community partners open their doors to ensure no one goes without essential groceries or daily necessities. From weekly distributions to emergency support, each pantry provides compassionate, reliable assistance to residents across our assembly district. I am so grateful for their compassion and diligence and encourage anyone in need to contact the following pantries and anyone looking to give back — to connect with these local organizations and help strengthen the wellbeing of our community.







Visit— <https://otda.ny.gov/programs/snap/> – to find out how these federal cuts are impacting Nassau County and find resources to help those affected.

To find help getting food, visit:

- [Find Your Regional Food Bank](#): locate the regional food bank and Emergency Food Relief Organizations (EFRO) in your area.
- [The Food Pantries Food Connect Map](#): find local food pantries, community meals, mobile food resources and more.

- [Resources for Working Families](#) | OTDA: discover nutrition programs and resources that can help you feed your family.

Ongoing Resources to Help People Facing Food Insecurity:

 <h3>Food Bank Resources in AD21 and beyond</h3>  <p>You can access vital support through local food pantries that offer year-round groceries, essentials, and a welcoming environment for individuals and families in need. Whether seeking assistance or wishing to donate, these pantries remain a reliable resource dedicated to strengthening our community.</p> <div> <div> 1. Valley Stream <ul style="list-style-type: none"> House of Hope – 22 E Fairview Ave, Valley Stream, NY 11580 (516) 887-1708 Holy Name of Mary – 65 E Jamaica Ave, Valley Stream, NY 11580 (516) 825-0177 Long Island Cares Pantry – 241 Rockaway Ave, Valley Stream, NY 11580 Valley Stream Catholic Family – 225 N Central Ave, Valley Stream, NY 11580 (516) 561-8969 </div> <div> 2. Baldwin <ul style="list-style-type: none"> First Bethel Church – 2079 Grand Ave, Baldwin, NY 11510 Renacer Outreach – 475 N Brookside Ave, Freeport, NY 11520 St. Christopher's Parish Office – 15 Pershing Blvd, Baldwin, NY 11510 (516) 223-0723 </div> <div> 3. East Rockaway <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bethany Congregational Church – 100 Main St, East Rockaway, NY 11518 (516) 599-5768 </div> <div> 4. Oceanside <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Saint Anthony Conference – 110 Anchor Ave, Oceanside, NY 11572 (516) 764-0048 Bethany Congregational Church – 100 Main St, East Rockaway, NY 11518 (516) 599-5768 Ocean Community Service – 145 Merle Ave, Oceanside, NY 11572 (516) 678-6152 Full Gospel Church (Island Park) – 4101 Austin Blvd, Island Park, NY 11558 (516) 432-02326 </div> <div> 5. Lynbrook <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Our Lady of Peace Roman Catholic Church – 25 Fowler Ave, Lynbrook, NY 11563 (516) 599-6414 Saint Raymond's Parish Social Ministry – 12 Roosevelt St, Lynbrook, NY 11563 (516) 887-9197 </div> <div> 6. West Hempstead <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Church of the Good Shepherd – 732 Donlon Pl, West Hempstead, NY 11552 (516) 483-7922 </div> </div> <div>  <p>Office of Assemblywoman Judy Griffin Griffinj@nyassembly.gov 516-561-8216</p> </div>	 <h3>Food Bank Resources in AD21 and beyond</h3>  <p>You can access vital support through local food pantries that offer year-round groceries, essentials, and a welcoming environment for individuals and families in need. Whether seeking assistance or wishing to donate, these pantries remain a reliable resource dedicated to strengthening our community.</p> <div> <div> 7. Freeport <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Salvation Army – 66 Church St, Freeport, NY 11520 (516) 378-4557 Ladies of Hope – 87 Pine St, Freeport, NY 11520 Long Island Harvest – Freeport Long Island Cares – 21 E Sunrise Hwy, Freeport, NY 11520 (516) 442-5221 Word of Life Ministries – 80 W Merrick Rd, Freeport, NY 11520 Soup to Nuts Pantry – 61 N Grove St, Freeport, NY 11520 (844) 466-7687 </div> <div> 8. Rockville Centre <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Pantry – 525 Merrick Rd, Rockville Centre, NY 11570 (516) 766-8848 </div> <div> 9. Hempstead / Uniondale / Garden City <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Iglesia Pentecostal de Hempstead – 600 Greenwich St, Hempstead, NY 11550 Saint Martha Outreach – 546 Greengrove Ave, Uniondale, NY 11553 (516) 292-1603 Grace Lutheran Church – 311 Uniondale Ave, Uniondale, NY 11553 (516) 489-2182 Union Baptist Church – 24 Clinton C. Boone St, Hempstead, NY 11550 (516) 483-3088 Mary Brennan Inn – 100 Madison Ave, Hempstead, NY 11550 (516) 486-6243 Nassau County Office of Hispanic Affairs (CASA) – 40 Main St Suite B, Hempstead, NY 11550 (516) 572-0750 Nassau-Suffolk Coalition for the Homeless – 38 Old Country Rd, Garden City, NY 11530 </div> </div> <div>  <p>Office of Assemblywoman Judy Griffin Griffinj@nyassembly.gov 516-561-8216</p> </div>
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Need-to-know State info:

NYS's Unemployment Benefit Rate is increasing!

Starting October 6, 2025, unemployment insurance benefits increased for more than half of unemployed New Yorkers.

The maximum benefit rate is the highest benefit amount available to unemployed New Yorkers. How much an individual receives on a weekly basis is based on their previous income. The maximum benefit rate has increased from \$504 per week to \$869 per week. The increased

benefit rate was reflected in payments as of the week of October 13. Visit the Department of Labor to learn more about the [maximum benefit rate](#).

Do you want to know how the change will affect your current benefits or a future claim? Add your income information in the DOL's [benefit rate calculator](#).

Flyer in CRM already

FAFSA & TAP Applications Now Open — Don't Miss Out on Financial Aid!

The FAFSA and NYS Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) applications are officially open! Completing the FAFSA is the key to unlocking federal and state financial aid—and it's also the easiest way to apply for TAP.

Every year, millions of dollars in aid go unclaimed in New York because students don't submit the FAFSA. Last year alone, over \$200 million in federal financial aid was left on the table. We can't let that happen again.

For the 2025–2026 academic year, both the FAFSA and TAP applications must be submitted by June 30, 2026—but students are strongly encouraged to apply as early as possible, as some aid is awarded on a first-come, first-served basis.

If you're a graduating senior or know someone who is, take a few minutes to complete the FAFSA today—it could make all the difference for your future.

Flyer in CRM already

Tips For Protecting Yourself from Scammers

StateWide continues its mission to safeguard seniors by highlighting this month's Medicare fraud risks during Open Enrollment (Oct. 15–Dec. 7).

Scammers may:

- Ask for your Medicare, Social Security, or bank info
- Claim to represent Medicare or the government
- Use high-pressure tactics
- Leave unapproved flyers or door hangers.

Remember:

- You can opt out of marketing each year in writing
- Review your Annual Notice of Change carefully

- Ask for plan details in writing
- Confirm your doctors are in-network before enrolling



StateWide urges seniors to stay informed and protected from misleading marketing practices and potential scams. Health insurance companies use various marketing methods such as TV, radio, events, mailings, phone calls, and texts, but there are rules set by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) to protect Our Seniors from fraud.

The SMP urges Seniors to watch out for scammers who:

- Request Personal Information
 - Be cautious of anyone who asks for Medicare, Social Security numbers, or bank information before deciding to enroll.
- Say They Represent Medicare Plans
 - They can't claim to represent or be endorsed by Medicare or any government agency.
- Use High-Pressure Tactics
 - Take your time! The entire Annual Enrollment Period is yours to consider options.
- Leave flyers, door hangers or leaflets on cars or at home
 - There are limits on how plans can contact Seniors.

Here are Some Important Reminders for Medicare Recipients:

- Plans must provide the option to opt out of communications including mail, calls, and text messages about Medicare products.
 - It must be done annually and in writing.
- Review Annual Notice of Change carefully to understand any changes the provider has made to coverage.
- Before enrolling, plan representatives must explain the plan's effect on current coverage.
- Ask for everything in writing.
- Call current doctors to make sure they are in network for the plan selected.

Please let your constituents know that The NYS Senior Medicare Patrol can help all seniors with questions, concerns or complaints about Enrollment Fraud or any other Medicare issues. Its certified counselors are available to help. Call 800-333-4374 or visit www.nysenior.org.

Community Events in Assembly District 21

Thank a Cop Day in Freeport

I was happy to join community members, and the Village of Freeport Police at the No Rush Café in Freeport to mark National Coffee with a Cop Day. I thank Nom Waff for generously hosting this event at his welcoming cafe which offered a casual atmosphere for residents and law enforcement to engage in open conversation—building trust, fostering understanding, and strengthening community relationships.

It was inspiring to see neighbors and officers connect over coffee, exchange ideas, and reaffirm their shared commitment to keeping our communities safe. Events like this reflect the power of dialogue and partnership across AD21.



Jennie E. Hewitt Elementary School Fair

It was a fun-filled day for families at the Hewitt Elementary School Fair, October 4th in Rockville Centre. Students, toddlers, families and neighbors came together to enjoy this beloved community tradition which is the PTA's largest fundraiser. My children attended this school so the Hewitt Fair always brings back fond memories.



Baldwin Grand Festival

October 4th was the 5th Annual Grand Baldwin Festival. This popular community event brought together neighbors, families, local organizations, and businesses for a vibrant day of engagement.

I enjoyed connecting with Baldwin residents, the Baldwin Fire Department, the Nassau County Police, the Baldwin H.S. Key Club, the Baldwin Civic Association, the Baldwin American Legion and more. I loved seeing the entertaining performances by dancers and musicians, most of whom were students in the Baldwin School District. I appreciated my staff for tabling and offering helpful information and resources. It was good to hear from residents about the issues that matter most to them.

There were plenty of family-friendly and kid-friendly activities as well as delicious offerings from local restaurants, bakeries, and food trucks, highlighting some of Baldwin's best culinary spots.



The Langdon Social in Lynbrook

This vibrant street fair was a lovely way to celebrate this new transit-oriented development in the Village of Lynbrook on October 4th. People enjoyed viewing live mural painting, great music, delicious food from the food trucks, local vendors, community organizations, and fun activities for families. It was such a gorgeous evening to showcase all that Lynbrook has to offer.

It was great to visit with the Village of Lynbrook Police, Lynbrook Chamber of Commerce, members of Temple Am Echad, friends, local residents and view the beautiful jewelry of Jen Stock Designs.

In addition to marking the opening of the Langdon, all sponsorship dollars went to support Mount Sinai South Nassau Hospital's expanding cardiac services program — including bringing open-heart surgery to the South Shore for the first time.



MSSN Soirée “Under the Stars”

October 4th was also a gorgeous evening to attend the Mount Sinai South Nassau’s Soirée “Under the Stars” at The Lannin in Eisenhower Park. I was honored to present citations to their incredible honorees and to recognize MSSN’s incredible patient care and successful expansion of their cardiac services on the South Shore— a truly transformative initiative for our community here in AD21.

Congratulations to this year’s honorees:

✦✦ Philip J. Shuman, Honoree

✦✦ Debbie Jonason, RN, Mary Pearson Award Recipient

✦✦ Arthur Golbert, M.A., Cupola Award Recipient

✦✦ Jeffrey J. Feil, Heart of the Hospital Award Recipient

Photos courtesy of Ed Chin.



Breast Cancer Awareness Walk in Valley Stream

On October 5th, I was happy to join Assembly Member Michaelle Solages for the annual Breast Cancer Awareness Walk at Arthur J. Hendrickson Park in Valley Stream. The event brought our community together to support early detection, share vital information, and honor the strength and resilience of those impacted by breast cancer. It was incredibly moving to see survivors, families, advocates, and neighbors walking side by side in solidarity. Events like this remind us of the power of community and the importance of continued advocacy for access to screenings, education, and support services.



Incorporated Village of Freeport's Annual Hispanic Heritage Celebration

On October 8th, two of my staff attended the Village of Freeport's Annual Hispanic Heritage Celebration on my behalf to recognize and present citations to the honorees: Aramis Taveras, Village of Freeport Police Department Officer Victor Reyes, Freeport Fire Department Firefighter William Villalobos, and Village of Freeport employee Jennifer Melendez.



Morrison Mentors' STEM Connections Soirée Presented by National Grid

On October 10th, I had the opportunity to attend Morrison Mentors' STEM Connections, presented by National Grid, for students at local schools in AD21 and Long Island at the Cradle of Aviation. I am so impressed with the innovative work in advancing technology education and the dynamic opportunities in STEM learning. It was great to see students exploring and participating in the array of stem projects that captured their interest.

I met students from Baldwin Middle School, Baldwin High School, Freeport High School, Uniondale High School, James A. Dever Elementary School in Valley Stream School District 13, and Holy Name of Mary in Valley Stream.

Morrison Mentors is a nonprofit dedicated to preparing the next generation for success through innovative STEM programs and workforce development initiatives. Events like this highlight the power of education, mentorship, and community collaboration in shaping brighter futures.



Backyard Players and Friends 3rd Annual Oktoberfest Fundraiser

This year's event proudly honored Tommy Montemarano and recognized Patricia Marmon as the MaryAnn Nesdill Legacy Award recipient—a meaningful tribute to individuals who embody the spirit of service, inclusion, and community. I am so grateful for the positive impact the Co-Founders of BYP & Team, Ellen White, Cristina Daly and Ryan Delaney continue to make.



Día de La Raza for Hispanic Heritage in Freeport

On October 12th, I enjoyed attending Día de La Raza for Hispanic Heritage at Our Holy Redeemer Church in Freeport for a vibrant, festive and meaningful event honoring Indigenous Peoples' Day and Columbus Day. I was honored to present citations to the families being honored for their contributions.

This multi-cultural community gathering highlighted traditions, history, and unity, bringing neighbors together in celebration of our shared heritage. Celebrations like this remind us of the strength, diversity and richness of our community's traditions.



Met with Rockville Centre Troop 214 to discuss the Constitutional Rights & Obligations of a US Citizen

On October 14th, I was honored to meet with Rockville Centre Troop 214 to discuss the constitutional rights and obligations of a US citizen to fulfill the scouts rank requirements. Engaging with scouts about our civic duties and the role of government is always inspiring. Their thoughtful questions, engagement and enthusiasm reflect the bright future of our community and our democracy.

Community Liaison Valeria Pivaral and Chief of Staff Chris Gardner also joined the conversation. Valeria discussed her experience immigrating from Guatemala with her family 6 years ago, her pride in receiving her citizenship in June 2025, and how vital her ability to speak

bilingually is in helping the constituents of AD21. This happened to be Chris' first day and he discussed being an Officer in the U.S. Navy and various aspects of our constitution.



100th Anniversary Gala of the Nassau County Village Officials Association

On October 16th, I was honored to attend the 100th Anniversary Gala of the Nassau County Village Officials Association (NCVOA) — an evening celebrating a century of service, leadership, and collaboration among our local villages.

Congratulations to Past President Bonnie Parente, Mayor of East Williston, on being this year's honoree. Her dedication and leadership embody the spirit of public service that has guided NCVOA for the past 100 years.



Nassau County Police Activity League 85th Anniversary Dinner

On October 16th, I attended the Nassau County Police Activity League's 85th Anniversary Dinner, celebrating 85 years of service, mentorship, and community building.

Founded in 1940 under Nassau County's first Police Commissioner, Abraham Skidmore, NCPAL has grown into one of the largest PALs in the nation — reaching 30,000 youth annually through sports, education, and enrichment programs in over 40 communities.

Allen Caldwell of Baldwin, was recognized as Volunteer of the Year — a well-deserved honor that reflects his dedication to uplifting local youth.

I appreciate the volunteers, coaches, Nassau County Police Officers, and the Nassau County Police Explorers for offering our children wonderful opportunities to play sports, be mentored and have fun.



Celebrating the Arts Council at Freeport's 50th Anniversary “Arty Party” Soirée

On October 16th, I enjoyed attending the Arts Council at Freeport's 50th Anniversary “Arty Party” Soirée to celebrate this incredible milestone with so many talented artists, community leaders, friends and residents.

I was proud to recognize the following honorees: Hugh Carroll (Businessperson of the Year), Chris Squieri (Community Service Award), Robert Bennett (Art of Structural Design Award), Chuck Fowler (Posthumously) and Tony Barboza & Laura Carrington (Alexander Schanzer Memorial “Smart with Art” Award).

Founded in 1974 with seed funding from the Village of Freeport and Freeport Public Schools, the Long Island Arts Council at Freeport (originally the Freeport Arts Council) was created to develop and support artistic talent while enriching the lives of Freeport and Long Island residents. Over the decades, the Arts Council has brought world-class performances to the community and has truly made the arts accessible to all.



Kiwanis Oceanside 80th Anniversary Charter & Installation Dinner Dance

On October 16th, I had the pleasure of attending the Kiwanis Club of Oceanside's 80th Anniversary Charter and Installation Dinner Dance, celebrating their distinguished record of service, leadership, and community impact.

I was proud to present citations to the outstanding honorees for their dedication and contributions and to Eric Abbey, President Oceanside Kiwanis to recognize their 80th Anniversary. Congratulations to Michael Puma, recipient of the Heart of Gold Award, and Dr. Allison Glickman-Rogers, recipient of the Special Service Award. Their commitment to uplifting others embodies the true spirit of Kiwanis.

I enjoyed engaging with local residents and community leaders, like Dr. Harrington, Superintendent of the Oceanside School District.



Baldwin Run for Heroes 2025

I was honored to participate in the 2025 American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars Run for Heroes at Baldwin Park on October 18th.

Hosted by American Legion Post 303, this event brought together veterans, families, runners, and supporters from across AD21 to honor those who have served and to support our local veteran halls. Proceeds from the 5K Run/Walk benefited the participating posts in Baldwin, East Rockaway, Freeport, Lynbrook, Malverne, and Rockville Centre.

It was a powerful morning filled with pride for our country, gratitude for our veterans and those actively serving in the military, remembrance, and community spirit.



Freeport Police Open House

On October 18th, I was happy to attend the Village Freeport Police Department Open House to meet some of Freeport's newest officers and connect with the dedicated team that works every day to protect residents and keep residents safe including the bicycle and motorcycle units.

The children enjoyed seeing the Nassau County Police canine and equestrian units. Adults and children enjoyed tours of the department, snacks and refreshments, and additional resources.



A Day of Community & Kindness in Oceanside “The Great Give Back”

I was grateful for the opportunity to participate in a special statewide day of service, hosted by the Oceanside Library. Community members of all ages came together to donate essential items for Kindness Kits (NP) — a student-led initiative supporting patients at Mount Sinai South Nassau Hospital.

These impressive students from Oceanside High School and Middle School asked residents to donate items to comfort children that are hospitalized or are visiting family members in the hospital. I was happy to contribute a package of activity books and markers to this wonderful endeavor. Events like this truly highlight the power of community and the positive impact we can all make when we come together.



Baldwin Civic Association Annual Oktoberfest

The Baldwin Civic Association's 7th Annual Oktoberfest brought together neighbors, friends, and local businesses for a fantastic day of culture, community, and good cheer! The guests enjoyed delicious bites from local favorites like Beach BBQ and The Irish Pub, all while celebrating in true Oktoberfest spirit with festive attire, laughter, and great company.

Events like this highlight Baldwin's incredible community pride, warm welcome and the joy of celebrating local traditions together.



Lynbrook Fire Department Annual Memorial Service

On October 19th, I was honored to attend the Lynbrook Fire Department's Annual Memorial Service. Each year they pay tribute to the brave firefighters who gave their lives in service to the community. The ceremony honored their legacy of courage and sacrifice while recognizing the dedication of those who continue to protect Lynbrook every day.



Rockville Centre Fire Department Annual Memorial Service

On October 19th, I attended the Rockville Centre Fire Department Annual Memorial Service, honoring the courageous firefighters who dedicated their lives to protecting our community.

This year this heartfelt ceremony honored a very special member of the RVC FD and community. Sadly, Ex-Captain Jeff Wohlfarth, passed away on June 20, 2025. His loving wife, sister, children, grandchildren and more attended and were part of the ceremony. Jeff was a dedicated member of Reliance Hose Co. 3 for over 51 years and was known for his willingness to help, his friendly demeanor and his tireless service. His warm and kind presence will be missed by many. It was a moving tribute to the service and sacrifice of the Rockville Centre Firefighters that have passed, and a reminder of the strength and unity that define Rockville Centre.



Baldwin Fire Department Health and Wellness Fair

On October 19th, I was grateful to attend the Baldwin Fire Department Health and Wellness Fair. This was an ideal opportunity for volunteer members of local fire departments and residents to learn about the array of services to promote healthy living, get help recovering from injuries, access vital resources and find support for medical and mental health challenges.

Paws of War tabled the event to show how veterans and first responders could benefit from adopting service dogs. Mary Jo Stuprich, an 18 year member of the Fire Department and Secretary to the Dept. did a fantastic job planning this event. It was nice to offer congratulation to Ex-Chief Donald J. Spatz, SHFD for his retirement as an employee of the Baldwin Fire Department.



Meeting with Baldwin's New Superintendent and Meadow's Character Counts Club

On October 20th, I had the pleasure of meeting with Baldwin's new superintendent, Mr. Anthony Mignella, along with the dedicated staff at Meadow Elementary School. I was interested to hear about their dynamic plans for Meadow. I loved meeting with Meadow's Character Counts Club, facilitated by Ms. Naggar. I enjoyed a lively discussion with these enthusiastic and compassionate students. The staff and students were grateful to receive the school supplies that I donated, which will be given to students throughout the year.



Proclamation Presentation Honoring the Valley Stream Centennial Parade & Community Block Party

On October 20th, I was privileged to present a framed New York State Assembly Proclamation on behalf of Assemblywoman Michaelle Solages and I, at the Village of Valley Stream Board Meeting, in recognition of their Centennial Parade and Community Block Party.

Congratulations to Mayor Fare, Trustees and all the residents in the Village of Valley Stream on celebrating 100 years of history, community, and progress. Their initiative in bringing residents together to celebrate this important milestone throughout the year reflects the pride and spirit that makes Valley Stream such a wonderful place to live.



DMV Mobile Outreach at the Sandel Center in Rockville Centre

On October 22nd, I was happy to coordinate the New York State DMV Mobile Outreach event at the Sandel Senior Center in Rockville Centre so local seniors could conveniently get their REAL IDs and access other DMV services. I also coordinated with Nassau Libraries to present the array of services they offer in their mobile van.



Welcome Reception and Student Art Show at the Cornell Cooperative Extension of Nassau County.

On October 29th, I attended the welcome reception to meet Sunday Coward, the newly appointed Executive Director of Cornell Cooperative Extension of Nassau County.

Talented student artists were recognized during the event and their exceptional award-winning artwork was displayed. I had the pleasure of meeting Afrin Ahmed from Valley Stream and Maria Topis from Oceanside along with their families and art teachers, Ms. Jamshad and Ms. Sullivan. I loved viewing their art work and presenting citations to honor their achievement.



MLK Community Center Halloween in Rockville Centre

On October 31st, the MLK Community Center hosted a Halloween Pizza Party in the Village of Rockville Centre. Most of the children were eager to get to Harvard Avenue which is always the place to be for Halloween festivities in Rockville Centre. I was happy to bring some candy and enjoyed seeing the creative costumes of kids and parents.



Celebrating Businesses in AD21

Malverne Chamber of Commerce Ribbon Cutting -Achievement Behavior Services

On October 3rd, the Malverne Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon cutting for Achievement Behavior Services (ABS). It was nice to stop by to present a citation, tour the facility and learn about their expanding business.

ABS provides comprehensive Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) therapy to children with autism and related developmental disorders, offering both center-based and home-based programs designed to help each child reach their fullest potential. Their team of dedicated professionals focuses on fostering communication, social skills, and independence in a warm, supportive environment



Rockville Centre Chamber Ribbon Cutting- Natural Choice Health Market

Even though the Natural Choice Health Market has been in the Village of Rockville Centre for decades, on October 17th, owner Richard Kahn joined the RVC Chamber of Commerce. I was happy to celebrate this business, as I have been a customer for decades, along with Deputy Mayor Kathy Baxley, Trustee Greg Shaughness, and RVC Chamber of Commerce leaders Donna O'Reilly Eineman and Susan Gatti.

Be sure to check out the Natural Choice Health Market on 287 Merrick Rd, Rockville Centre.



Feil Ribbon Cutting MSSN

On October 21st, I was honored to attend and celebrate the ribbon cutting for the new Feil Family Pavilion at Mount Sinai South Nassau Hospital (MSSN).

This incredible addition will enhance patient care and expand access to top-quality medical services for families across our community. This multi-million dollar investment will positively impact the health care of residents living on the South Shore for decades to come. I join the community in gratitude for the generosity of the Feil Family who to date have donated over \$10 million to MSSN.



Lynbrook Ribbon Cutting- The Hot Spot Studios

I enjoyed attending the ribbon cutting for The Hot Spot Studios in Lynbrook on October 21st. This vibrant new business welcomes the community to experience creativity, art and connection.



Lynbrook Ribbon Cutting-- Exit Mold & Flood

It was great to attend the Ribbon Cutting for Exit Mold & Flood in Lynbrook. Their diligent work helping families and businesses recover from water and mold damage is an important service for our community.



Economic Development on Long Island

Belmont Park Redevelopment Announcement

On October 15th, I was proud to join the Governor, colleagues, and the men and women in the Nassau Suffolk Building Trades Association to celebrate the ongoing progress in the innovative redevelopment for Belmont Racetrack and enhancements to the surrounding community. The Governor's Belmont Park Redevelopment Announcement unveiled bold plans to transform this historic venue into a modern, world-class sports and entertainment destination. Construction is already underway, and completion is targeted for Fall 2026.

The project is expected to generate thousands of jobs, billions in economic activity, and new tax revenue for Nassau County and Long Island. Our local union members of Nassau Suffolk Building Trades have been contracted for this massive project with a Project Labor Agreement at prevailing wage. Not only has this ensured that this immense project will be built with expertise by reliable and skilled workers, it is providing local jobs for local residents which boosts our local economy.

\$455 million was spent replacing the old 1.25 million-sq-ft grandstand with a sleek new ~275,000 sq ft facility featuring hospitality spaces, premium amenities, and enhanced fan experience. The expanded green space and new infield access for the first time via tunnels, designed to reconnect the community with the venue. Upgrades to racing surfaces — including turf, dirt, and a new synthetic track — to support year-round racing and safer conditions. This redevelopment isn't just about racing — it's an investment in our economy, infrastructure, and community.



Legislative Events

Legislative Breakfast – Faces of Medicaid

On October 3rd, I attended the 30th Annual Legislative Breakfast—*Faces of Medicaid*, hosted by the Long Island Family Support Services Advisory Council.

This significant event brought together legislators, advocates, families, and service providers to discuss pressing issues affecting individuals with developmental disabilities and the future of Medicaid services. With more than 500 attendees, the gathering underscored the critical need to protect and strengthen support systems for some of our most vulnerable community members.



Legislators Forum on Nursing & Health Policy at Molloy University

On October 23rd, I was proud to be a panelist at the Nurses Association of the Counties of Long Island Legislators Forum on Nursing & Health Policy at Molloy University.

This insightful event brought together nurse leaders, educators, students, and policymakers for an engaging discussion on the most pressing healthcare challenges facing our communities. Topics included the environmental impacts on public health, nursing workforce development, mental health resources, and expanding access to quality care for all New Yorkers.

Thank you to Molloy University for hosting such a thoughtful, engaging and collaborative conversation. I am grateful to all the dedicated healthcare professionals who diligently care for all of us while continuing to advocate for stronger, more resilient systems of care. It is so inspiring to field questions and learn about the perspectives from students aspiring to be healthcare professionals



¿Le gustaría recibir mi E-NEWS en otro idioma? Por favor, envíe un correo electrónico con su solicitud para recibir este boletín en español u otro idioma.