

## A Message From ASSEMBLYMEMBER HARVEY EPSTEIN



Dear Neighbor,

This week we have returned to session to vote on bills that did not get finished during our legislative session earlier in the year. I am really hopeful we can pass some important bills for tenants, businesses and additional reforms on criminal justice. We need to keep pushing to make that happen. The city has entered Phase 4 this week which means low-risk outdoor arts and entertainment industries, as well as professional sports with no spectators, and media production can resume. To learn more, [click here](#).

Be sure to get tested if you haven't already. You can get a free COVID-19 test today. Text 'COVID TEST' to 855-48 to find a location near you.

See you around the district,

Harvey

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### **In this Newsletter:**

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  1. Free Hot Meal Distribution - tomorrow at 10am
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5. COVID Rent Relief Program - Deadline July 31st
6. Census Week of Action Next Week
7. Revel Scooters
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9. Local CSA Open for Produce

## Upcoming Events

***Free Hot Meal Distribution, tomorrow at 10am***



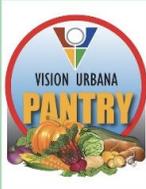
**Free Hot Meals**

DISTRIBUTION EVENT FOR RESIDENTS OF  
CAMPOS PLAZA I & II, RIIS HOUSES, HAVEN PLAZA

**THURSDAY, JULY 23, 2020**  
**10:00 AM UNTIL MEALS LAST**

**CAMPOS PLAZA COURTYARD  
EAST 13TH STREET  
BETWEEN AVENUE C & AVENUE B**

SPONSORED BY:

Tomorrow at 10am my office will be joining Vision Urbana, Mikey Likes It Ice Cream, Congress Member Carolyn Maloney, Senator Brad Hoylman, Council Member Carlina Rivera and District Leaders John Blasco and Aura Olavarria to provide hot meals. We will be in the Campos Plaza Courtyard located at E 13th Street between Avenues B and C.

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### **DOE Back to School Guidance and Information Sessions**

Recently, the DOE issued plans for a blended learning model. Blended learning means students will be taught on-site in school for part of the week, and will attend school remotely on the other days of the week. Any family can also choose all-remote learning, for any reason.

The DOE will be hosting virtual citywide Information sessions for students and families from

6:30-8:00 PM on the following dates:

- Tuesday, July 28, 2020
- Wednesday, August 12, 2020
- Thursday, August 27, 2020

[For more information on back to school guidance and to register for the information sessions, please click here!](#)

The United Federation of Teachers (UFT) is also hosting free weekly parent workshops on Thursdays. This week they are doing a presentation on blended learning. You will learn about the proposed schedules and guidelines for school principals that identify concepts for synchronous and asynchronous learning, remote instruction, and remote learning.

[This Thursday, 5pm - 6pm, register here!](#)

### **Passed ICE out of Courts Bill**



This week, the Assembly passed Assembly Member Michaelle Solages's bill (A2176A), the Protect Our Courts Act has passed. This bill is crucial for protecting immigrants from predatory tactics by ICE by keeping them out of the court system. I was very happy to co-sponsor and vote yes on this bill with Rep. Solages and I believe this is an important step to allowing all New Yorkers to have trust and feel safe in our justice system.

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## **BOE is Hiring Election Day Workers**

The NYS Board of Elections are looking for Election Day workers. Compensation is \$250 for Election Day and \$100 to go through the mandatory training. PPE and sanitizer will be supplied to workers. If you are interested, [click here](#).

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## **COVID Rent Relief Program**

Homes and Community Renewal (HCR) launched the application for the COVID-19 Rent Relief Program. While we work toward the Cancel Rent bill introduced by my colleague Yuh-Line Niou this session, please apply to this program to ensure you get the help you need. The deadline is July 31st, so please apply right away. [Apply here](#).

I have heard from numerous constituents that the online application process is a problem. I have encouraged folks to print out the form and mail it in. Please keep us informed if you need assistance.

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## **Census Week of Action - Beginning Next Week**

Currently, our Assembly District is below the New York State and National average response rate which is not good. Only 54% of people have responded to the Census so far. We need to ensure a full count to make sure our district and city gets the funding it needs! To help with outreach, Census 2020 is planning a week of activities to encourage self-response to the 2020 Census before the launch of door-to-door "enumeration" by the U.S. Census Bureau on August 11th. This week of action is timed to coincide with an burst of additional advertising from the U.S. Census Bureau and one more reminder mailing to all households that have not yet self-responded.

To participate in the Census Week of Action by texting and phone banking, and promoting the Census on social media. [Sign up here!](#)

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## **Revel Scooters**

Many of you have come to me to let me know you have been seeing more and more Revel scooters in our community. Just like you, I have many concerns regarding the safety of riders and pedestrians in the East Village. Revel scooters are prohibited from:

- Riding without a helmet
- Riding in bike lanes
- Riding in or through parks
- Crossing major bridges
- Violating traffic laws

If you see someone doing anything listed above, or riding unsafely in general please make sure that you document it by calling (855) 690-9180 or emailing [safety@gorevel.com](mailto:safety@gorevel.com).

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### **Cooling Centers are Open this Week**

Cooling centers have started to open this week with mask and social distancing measures in place. For more information on nearby cooling centers or to find out how to beat the heat, [click here](#).

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### **Local CSA Open for Produce**

As some of you may now, I participate in [Sixth Street Community Center's Community Supported Agriculture \(CSA\)](#). CSA is a great way to get fresh produce straight from local farms. I wanted to share with you that the Loisaida United Neighborhood Gardens (LUNGS) also has a CSA. Pick up is every Sunday from 1pm-3pm and runs until Thanksgiving out of DeColores Garden, 313 E 8th Street between Avenues B and C. The CSA is open to anyone and is on a week to week basis at \$10 for a bag of fresh produce.

For more information please contact Charles at [csa@lungsnyc.org](mailto:csa@lungsnyc.org).