

General News

\$3.5 Billion For Emergency Rental Assistance

Program Covers Unpaid Rent To Make Landlords And Property Owners Whole

Submitted by the Office of Assemblyman Ashby

Assemblyman Jake Ashby is pleased to announce the launch of a \$3.5 billion Emergency Rental Assistance program which marks the first true relief for landlords and property owners who have suffered tremendous financial hardship over the course of the COVID-19 pandemic. The program has allocated \$2.7 billion for eligible residents & landlords and \$800 million to eligible small businesses. Online applications will be accepted starting June 1 for the rental assistance program and on June 10 for the small business assistance program.

"This is truly great news for countless landlords and property owners across Upstate New York," said Ashby. "Landlords and property owners have been overlooked again and again in terms of the policies and aid issued during the COVID-19 pandemic, resulting in countless local landlords being owed thousands in past rent. This program provides a real opportunity for these landlords to receive the money they are owed so they continue maintaining their

properties and provide much-needed housing for our community."

If eligible, the rental assistance program will cover up to one year of back-rent and, in some cases, provide an additional three months' worth of rent. Additionally, the program could provide assistance to cover up to a year of owed utility payments.

For more information on the rental assistance program, applicants and rental property owners are encouraged to visit: otda.ny.gov/erap. There, the program and eligibility requirements are explained in detail. Applications will be accepted beginning June 1.

Ashby also highlighted that the Emergency Rental Program also has dedicated funds for small businesses. The minimum grant award to small businesses will be \$5,000 with a maximum of \$50,000. The grants could cover operating expenses, payroll, rent or mortgage payments, taxes, utilities, personal protective equipment and other expenses incurred during the pandemic.

"Our local small businesses are the backbone of our community and have endured so much hardship over the past year – I am proud to announce this important opportunity for meaningful relief to help our small businesses get back on their feet," said Ashby.

Small businesses seeking assistance should visit NYSBusinessRecovery.ny.gov. There, business owners may also find other assistance for which they may qualify.

Tilden Plaza Flea Market Is Now Open!

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NEW LEBANON

June Food Giveaways

These food giveaways, sponsored by the New Lebanon Central School District and the Town of New Lebanon, are completely free and open to all families in the New Lebanon and surrounding communities.

Food items will include produce, dairy products, frozen meats (chicken, ham, pork, lunch meats, frozen fruit, etc.) and non-perishable products. Free masks and hand sanitizer are also available.

The food was donated and the event made possible through a partnership with the Regional Food Bank of Northeastern New York.

The next events take place on Monday, June 7 and 21 at 9 am in the Town Hall parking lot. Please enter through Shatford Park by the baseball fields. COVID-19 restrictions will be in place.



Rebecca June is joined by her older brother Christopher as they place flags on the graves of veterans buried in the Pleasant Valley - Meadowlawn Cemetery in Petersburg. Photo provided by Troop 222.

PETERSBURGH

Scouts Place Flags On Veterans' Graves

Members of Boy Scout Troop, Crew and Pack 222 recently gathered once again at the Pleasant Valley-Meadowlawn Cemetery in Petersburg to mark the final resting place of area veterans with the placing of an American flag. This is an annual event for the Scouts.

Don't miss the

**Car
Cruise**

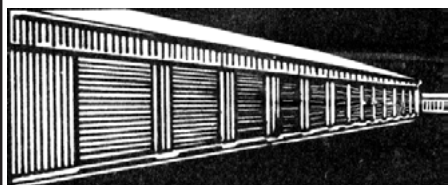


at
Gardner's Ice Cream & Coffee Shoppe
Friday, May 28, 6 - 9 pm
(rain date is June 4)

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