



A New Chapter EAC Network's Monthly Newsletter

January 2024

IT'S COLD OUTSIDE!
But at EAC Network we're
setting winter ablaze.



We're heating up the new year by offering you a chance to win a Summer 2024, 6-day stay in 1 of 5 Ocean Beach, Fire Island premium summer rentals. One even has a pool.

All proceeds go to support New Yorkers in need and the communities we call home. There's no reason you can't do something nice for yourself while empowering others. The winner will be announced on January 23, 2024, @12:30 PM during a live-streamed virtual drawing on EAC's [Facebook page](#). [Visit our website](#) to learn more, purchase ticket(s), and enter to win. Check out the pictures below for a sneak peek at the summer rentals.

**ENTER TO
WIN**

Inside January's Chapter

FIRE ISLAND HOUSE
FUNDRAISER

HIGHLIGHTS:
EAC's 3rd ANNUAL
BUILDING BRIDGES
GALA

TEEN DRIVING ON
LONG ISLAND

UPCOMING EVENTS:
COHALAN CARES
FOR KIDS

**Help EAC
Network Make
an Impact!**

Sneak Peak

Ocean Beach, Fire Island Summer Homes



Thank you, Dana and Rodney Ragen of [334 Walk LLC](#) and [Double R Contracting](#) for donating amenity-rich, summer rentals and making the Fire Island House Fundraiser possible.

Highlights from EAC's 3rd Annual Building Bridges Gala

Just a little something to keep you entertained until our next one.

Thank you to the many 2023 Building Bridges Gala sponsors and guests, including Corporate Honoree Sponsor [Sands, New York](#); Public Service Honoree, [Suffolk County Executive Steve Bellone](#); and Keynote Speaker, [Brooklyn District Attorney Eric Gonzalez](#). Due to your collective and continued dedication, EAC raised over \$295,000 to support our mission of Empowering, Assisting, and Caring for New Yorkers and communities in need.

Watch the 2023 Gala Video



2023 Gala Highlights: The Slideshow



For more unforgettable Gala Moments....
Visit [EAC Network's website](#) and view the
3rd Annual Building Bridges Gala album.

Distracted Driving

Long Island teens need EAC's driving programs.

Car crashes are a [leading cause of death for 16–17-year-olds](#) in New York State. Lives could be saved if new, teen drivers and their parents participated in EAC Network's driver education programs:

Teen Driving Equation enforces positive driving skills, develops safe habits early on, and emphasizes the importance of responsibility, parental liability, and the collaboration of parents, teens, and the community in the prevention of motor vehicle crashes.

Second Chances in Occupant Protection for Everyone (SCOPE) educates defendants on

distracted and aggressive driving, occupant protection, the danger of unlicensed motorists and DWI/DWAI.

Contact EAC Network's [Second Chances in Occupant Protection for Everyone \(SCOPE\)](#) or [Teen Driving Equation](#) at 631-648-7100 ext. 210.

Resources for Parents and Guardians

- The New York Department of Motor Vehicles' [Parent/Teen Contract](#) helps parents and new teen drivers set and instill safe driving rules, together.
- [The CDC's Eight Danger Zones](#) informs on the leading causes of teen crashes.
- [MotoSafety](#) is a teen driving GPS that allows parents to monitor safe driving behavior.
- NY State's [Graduated Driver License \(GDL\)](#) delays licensure while teens gain experience and decreases teen crashes by 80%.

A Holiday Spirit Shopping Spree

*Bethpage Federal Credit Union & EAC Network
Bring Chance to Advance Youth Holiday Cheer*



EAC STAFF helps children shop for a new bike at Walmart in Farmingdale.



Volunteers and Walmart team members gathering around a cart full of toys donated to Chance to Advance children by Walmart in Farmingdale.



Demishia Owens, Chance to Advance's Program Director, welcomes teens as they embark upon their holiday spree.

This past holiday season, on Wednesday, December 13, 2023, EAC Network and [Bethpage Federal Credit Union](#) uplifted Long Island's vulnerable youth and teens in foster care through their annual 2023 Holiday Shopping Spree benefiting EAC's [Chance to Advance](#) program participants.

"Bethpage is thrilled to support this most important holiday initiative for the children," says Linda Armyn, President & CEO of Bethpage Federal Credit Union. "Every child should have the opportunity to enjoy the holidays and what could be better than this Holiday Shopping Spree! Bethpage is honored to partner with EAC Network."

[Bethpage Cares Charitable Giving](#), led by Linda Armyn, President & CEO along with Katie Bielawski, Assistant Vice President, Community & Corporate Engagement, provided support by generously donating \$10,000 and volunteering their time to enrich young lives, gifting each with a \$100 gift card to shop at Walmart in Farmingdale, NY.

"We thank Bethpage Credit Union for their generosity and continued support of children in need during the holiday season. BFCU understands the importance of providing support, care, and comfort to kids in foster care. This is just one example of that care and comfort,"

SAVE THE DATE!

Celebrating & Supporting Cohalan Cares for Kids



Save the date for *Cohalan Cares for Kids*, our annual fundraising event that supports [EAC Network's Suffolk County Children's Center at Cohalan Court](#) on March 16, 2024, at the Suffolk County Bar Association.

[The Children's Center at Cohalan Court](#) offers children an alternative to crowded courtrooms and waiting areas, enabling parents who face challenges paying for childcare to attend to their court business. The services are free and rely on private donations to supplement operating costs. [Visit our website for more program information](#). Keep an eye out for event registration updates.



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