

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month

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October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

Like so many others in our community, breast cancer has impacted my life and my family. My wife Mary Pat is a breast cancer survivor and while great strides have been made in the early detection and treatment of this disease, the fight is far from over.

During Breast Cancer Awareness Month, women are encouraged to consult with their health care providers to learn more about the disease, discuss their concerns, and develop an appropriate plan for breast cancer screening -- because early detection can save lives.

The Adelphi NY Statewide Breast Cancer Hotline & Support Program is a wonderful service to help find answers. For the most current and useful information and resources, visit their website at www.breast-cancer.adelphi.edu or call their toll-free number at 1-800-877-8077.

In addition, I recently supported a new law that requires the NYS Department of Health (DOH) to establish an up-to-date website devoted solely to women's health. The website will provide information on 22 preventive services now covered at no cost to patients, including breast cancer mammography screening for women over 40.

I will continue to support initiatives that focus on breast cancer prevention, early detection and community-based education and support services.