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## news from assemblywoman **SANDRA R. GALEF**

90<sup>TH</sup> ASSEMBLY DISTRICT



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### ***“Choosing New York’s Butterfly” to Air on “Dear Sandy”***

***Galef Hosts Local Student Who Initiated Butterfly Contest and Westchester Butterfly Expert***

(September 21, 2007) Karena Franke, the 9-year-old Furnace Woods Elementary School student who proposed that New York name an official butterfly, is a guest on Assemblywoman Galef’s cable TV show, “Dear Sandy,” along with Westchester County butterfly expert Brenda Freeman-Bates, a Naturalist at Ward Pound Ridge Reservation. The show airs on Peekskill/Ossining Cablevision Channel 15 on four consecutive Fridays --9/28, 10/5, 10/12, 10/19 – at 9 pm; on Yorktown Cablevision Channel 74 on Fridays at 7:30 pm (10/12, 10/19, 11/26, 11/2); and on Wappingers Falls Cablevision Channel 21 on Fridays at 8 pm (10/19, 10/26, 11/2, 11/9.)

The now-4th-grader sent a letter to Assemblywoman Galef last spring suggesting the Karner Blue be named the official Butterfly of New York State. Karena and her mother followed up with a trip to Albany to meet with Galef, representatives from the Governor’s office, and several other state representatives about naming an official NYS butterfly.

In response, Galef initiated a butterfly contest to involve 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> graders in a statewide vote to determine the New York State Butterfly. Galef has invited school principals to have their schools participate in this unique opportunity. Twenty-eight Assemblymembers are joining Galef in this initiative by inviting students to vote on five butterflies on or before Election Day. More information about the contest is available on Galef's website: [www.assembly.state.ny.us](http://www.assembly.state.ny.us). After a final tally, the winning butterfly will be put into legislation to be voted on by the Senate and Assembly to become the New York State Butterfly.

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