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25 CENTS

The Queens Times
WISHES ALL



Senator John Liu Hosts Lunar New Year Celebration



Joining Senator John Liu at his Lunar New Year celebration which begins the "Year of the Rabbit" in Flushing's Tangram is Queens District Attorney Melinda Katz, Assemblyman Edward C. Braunstein, Council Member Linda Lee, Councilwoman Sandra Ung with leaders, businesses owners and residents. See story on page 2.

Annual Lunar Parade in Downtown Flushing



Queens District Attorney Melinda Katz attended the Annual Lunar Parade, bringing in the "Year of the Rabbit", which was held in Downtown Flushing. Photo by Walter Karling. See story on page 7.

CWNY to Receive \$1 Million Grant Thanks to Congressman Tom Suozzi



The Center for the Women of New York (CWNY) gave A big, big thank you to Congressman Suozzi. See story on page 2.

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CWNY to Receive \$1 Million Grant Thanks to Congressman Tom Suozzi

(Continued from page 1)

Last year, Congressman Tom Suozzi came to CWNY to ask us what projects needed funding. We shared that the Center for the Women of New York was ready to start the programs at our new home in Bayside and funding was needed to implement many of those programs. They include

classes and services for women's career advancement and empowerment and a think tank where women leaders would gather to find solutions to the challenges women face such as equal pay, the propagation of gender equality awareness, and education on women's issues.

When received, the new grant money will substantially

improve the Center's ability to provide programs and services to New York City women and their families. It's exciting to imagine the enhancements and additions to our programs and services that the grant will make possible. We are honored by the Congressman's support and grateful for his commitment to gender equality.

Senator John Liu Hosts Lunar New Year Celebration

(Continued from page 1)

Hundreds of New Yorkers turned out in Flushing's Tangram to celebrate the start of the Year of the Rabbit during Senator John Liu's Lunar New Year celebration. The event featured free food from 25 local restaurants, musical and cultural performances and giveaways to kick off the new year.

Senator John Liu stated, "The Year of the Rabbit is off to a swift start thanks to all the local restaurants, performers,

community members and colleagues who chipped in to make our Lunar New Year celebration a tremendous success. Wishing all a peaceful, healthy, happy and prosperous start to the Lunar New Year!"

The event feature performances by Asian United & Cultural Exchange Council, SW Chinese Music Band, Ashley Dance Center and Ashley Liang Dance Company, Korean Fever-Rami Seo Group, Dream Beauty Dance Group, Yut Chia, NYBBC Taekwondo School, Kinding

Sindaw Melayu Heritage of the Philippines.

Cuisine was provided by PappaRich, Crown One, Asian Jewel, Malay Restaurant, New Mulan Seafood Restaurant, HK Cafe, Tong Hai Tung Bakery, Tiger Sugar, Corner 28/Shanghai You Garden, East Buffet, Padam Padam, SanSooKapSan, Naju GomTang, Union Street Business Association, Aritaum, Royal Queen, Shoo Loong Kan, Malaysian United Group, NYC Filipinos, Yakult, Flushing BID, Crispy Burger, and Joju.

Assemblywoman Stacey Pheffer Amato Appointed Chairwoman of New York State Governmental Employee Committee



Assemblywoman Stacey Pheffer Amato (D-South Queens) was appointed as the new Chairwoman of the New York State Governmental Employee Committee. Pheffer Amato is the second woman to be appointed Chair of this Committee in the history of New York State. The Committee serves as the leading legislative authority on all public employees in New York, including retirees. In her role she will now preside over and facilitate legislation and policies for public employees that range in pensions, retirement benefits, and health insurance. The Assemblywoman is a known advocate and champion of public employees and their unions, and has been publicly praised for her commitment and strong support of public employees.

The appointment, a historic moment in New York, came at the discretion of New York State

Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie. "I am proud to have appointed Assemblywoman Pheffer Amato to serve as chair of the Committee on Governmental Employees," said Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie. "She has always been an invaluable asset to the Assembly Majority and New Yorkers, and I know that as chair of the Governmental as Employees Committee she will be a tireless champion for the hard working men and women of this state."

Throughout the State, the Assemblywoman's appointment was supported by numerous public employee unions. Mario Cilento, President of the New York State AFL-CIO expressed his support for the Assemblywoman with, "Congratulations to Assemblywoman Pheffer Amato on her appointment as Chairwoman of the Governmental Employees Committee. It's our government workers who deliver the vital services we all rely on every day and we know Assemblywoman Pheffer Amato will be a strong advocate to help them as they continue to help all of us."

New York State Public Employee Federation President Wayne Spence said, "During her tenure in the NYS Assembly, Assemblywoman Stacey Pheffer Amato has been an extremely important and effective advocate for PEF's 50,000 members and all workers. PEF is very pleased that our long-time friend and ally has been appointed Chair of the NYS Assembly Governmental Employees Committee. We look forward to working with her and her team to advance the interests of working

people and all New Yorkers!"

The New York State Public Employee Conference joined in with the similar excitement with their Chairman Peter D. Meringolo saying, "...we now are blessed with the appointment of Assemblywoman Stacey Pheffer Amato. Having served on the Governmental Employees Committee since her first election, Stacey has demonstrated staunch advocacy for public employees. Her ascendance to the Chair reinforces our confidence in the commitment of Speaker Heastie that the needs of our more than one million active and retired members will be addressed favorably."

NYC PBA President Patrick J. Lynch said: "Assemblywoman Pheffer Amato is no stranger to the issues affecting front-line civil servants, especially the women and men who protect New York City. We look forward to continuing to work with her to ensure that New York City police officers receive fair treatment under the law and the equitable benefits we have worked for and earned."

"I am honored and thrilled to Chair this Committee and thank Speaker Heastie for his remarkable dedication to our State's public employees. I appreciate all the confidence and support from our public employee unions throughout our State, cities and countries. I look forward to leading this Committee and supporting legislation for our public employees and their families," said Assemblywoman Stacey Pheffer Amato.

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Phone (718) 592-2196 • FAX (718) 357-3682
Web Site: www.queens-times.com
email: editor@queens-times.com

James C. LisaPublisher/Editor
Lew Scala Associate Publisher/Webmaster
Lou DuroInternational Correspondent
Nicole Rescigno.....Office Manager
Joseph V. DorsaPhoto Journalist
Joseph NatallePhotojournalist

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QBP Donovan Richards Launches First Youth And Young Adult Council

The advisory body is accepting applicants through Thursday, February 23

To build a borough truly rooted in equity, it must be built with our youngest residents at the forefront. To ensure the youth of Queens have a seat at the table as we chart our path forward as a borough, Queens Borough President Donovan Richards Jr. announced today the launch of his Youth and Young Adult Council, which will introduce Queens' youngest and fiercest community advocates to both community service and community organizing.

"Our youth are the leaders of tomorrow, and as such they deserve a seat at the table as well as opportunities to be civically engaged," said Borough President RICHARDS. "I'm thrilled to engage our youngest community members in envisioning Queens' future, and working together to create the blueprints to make that a reality. I encourage youth and

young adults from all corners of Queens to apply. Your borough needs you!"

The Youth and Young Adult Council — the first of its kind at Queens Borough Hall — will serve as a voice for Queens' youngest residents, and will be reflective of the diversity found in The World's Borough. Members of the advisory body will advocate concerns through means of community engagement, advocacy and more. Applications to serve on the Council are now being accepted, and the deadline to apply is Thursday, February 23. Those interested in applying can do so here.

The Council will include two cohorts. The first cohort will be made up of high school representatives between the ages of 13 and 17, while the second cohort will be made up of young adults between the ages of 18 and 25.

The second cohort will feature advisors, who are expected to have at least five years of experience working with youth populations,

preferably in Queens, and must be dedicated to uplifting our youth. Advisors will be tasked with empowering participants to make independent decisions and will utilize their networks to introduce and connect Council members with people and organizations that will further expand their vision and borough-wide initiatives.

The cohorts will meet monthly, and each cohort will develop proposals to make Queens a more inclusive borough for our youth. Each cohort will then present those proposals to the Borough President.

Members of the Council will serve for one year. Applications will be open to new members at the end of each school year, but current members will not have to reapply until their term is up.

For more information, email Ludy Thenor, Director of Youth and Young Adult Services at Queens Borough Hall, at LThenor@queensbp.org or info@queensbp.org.

Con Edison Business Customers Reach One Million Megawatt Hours in Energy Savings

That's Enough Saved Energy to Power Times Square for Two Years

Project by project, business customers have reduced their energy consumption by more than 1 million megawatt hours through Con Edison's Small and Medium Business Program. That's a milestone equal to enough electricity to keep the lights in the theaters, restaurants, shops, and offices throughout Times Square shining brightly for two years.

When Con Edison started its Small and Medium Business Program in the five boroughs and Westchester in 2010, it focused on simple improvements such as installing LED lighting. Today, the program offers more comprehensive measures, including lighting and controls, heating, ventilation and cooling (HVAC) equipment, hot water systems, building envelope, energy management systems, and refrigeration upgrades.

The program has provided more than 33,000 business customers almost \$238 million in incentives for nearly 49,000 projects.

"Con Edison is here to help businesses reduce their energy costs and improve their bottom line," said Greg Elcock, vice president of Energy Efficiency and Distributed Resource Planning.

"We're helping businesses achieve their clean energy goals with incentives and rebates offered in our Small and Medium Business, Multifamily and Commercial and Industrial programs. Incentives help businesses cover the upfront costs of energy efficient upgrades," Elcock said. "Businesses then save money every month on their energy bills giving them a better return on their investment. It's good for business and good for the environment."

Con Edison's clean energy programs play an integral role in helping business customers understand their electrification needs, and finding the right incentive to make their clean energy goals affordable. This work is an important part of Con Edison's Clean Energy Commitment.

To help achieve New York's ambitious climate goals, Con Edison is building a Clean Energy Network to advance market transformation and optimize the efforts of stakeholders, contractors, distributors, manufacturers, architecture and engineering design firms, technology providers, financiers, educators, and key industry professional organizations, to benefit New Yorkers.

Con Edison is working to help NYC businesses meet their energy efficiency requirements under Local Law 97.

That law is part of the city's ambitious plan to make NYC carbon neutral by 2050. It applies a carbon emissions limit for businesses that own a single building over 25,000 square feet, or multiple building units with more than 50,000 combined square feet. The first emissions compliance deadline is 2024.

Con Edison offers energy

efficiency saving and incentive programs for all kinds of businesses from large commercial and industrial customers to multifamily building owners to apartment dwellers and homeowners.

The company is also helping New York meet its urgent need for clean energy workers by investing in green job training, with a focus on helping residents of disadvantaged communities. The Clean Energy Academy has successfully trained more than 500 individuals for careers in the energy field.

Statements of Support

Randy Peers, President and CEO of the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce

"Long before New York State and New York City passed sweeping legislation focused on decarbonization and energy efficiency Con Edison's Small and Medium Business program was leading the way in assisting in the conversion to more sustainable energy practices. On behalf of the thousands of Brooklyn businesses that have taken advantage of the program's incentives and rebates, I want to applaud Con Edison for putting small businesses first!"

Lisa Sorin, President of the Bronx Chamber of Commerce

"Businesses in the Bronx and throughout the five boroughs will definitely benefit from the incentives put in place by Con Edison. When most small and medium businesses are still trying to recover from the pandemic, installing energy-efficient technology and equipment will help tremendously in their day-to-day operations."

Richard Yancey, Executive Director, Building Energy Exchange

"Building by building, Con Edison's energy efficiency programs are accelerating New York's transition towards a low-carbon future, enabling upgrades that improve energy performance, reduce emissions, and lower operating costs for thousands of businesses. "Con Edison's programs make it easy to save money while improving the planet and adding value to your assets."

Dr. Marsha Gordon, President/CEO of the Business Council of Westchester

"Businesses are better when they work efficiently. Con Edison's incentives help make installing energy efficiency upgrades more affordable for businesses. And, using less energy means lower bills. That's why we think Con Edison's energy efficiency programs are good for business and the environment."

Jessica Walker, President and CEO of the Manhattan Chamber of Commerce

"We applaud Con Edison's efforts to help businesses navigate the costs and complexities in the transition to clean energy. Con Edison helps businesses choose the energy efficiency technology that's right for them with incentives that make it more affordable, which is critical during this recovery phase after the pandemic."

Andrew Rigue, Executive

(Continued on page 4)

1199SEIU Endorses Melinda Katz For Re-Election

1199SEIU, a union with major political prowess and huge membership in Queens, backs DA Katz

In the first of a string of organized labor endorsements, and marking a major endorsement in the race for District Attorney, Melinda Katz announced today that she's earned the backing of 1199SEIU and its 450,000 members. With the support of 1199SEIU, one of the largest and most politically active unions in New York and Queens specifically, DA Katz is building her winning coalition which will only continue to grow in the coming weeks with already-scheduled announcements to come.

"The outpouring of support I have received from organized labor has been incredibly humbling, and to receive this major labor endorsement in this race from 1199SEIU is a true honor," said District Attorney Melinda Katz. "The work the members of 1199SEIU do on an everyday ba-

sis to keep our hospitals, nursing homes, and the healthcare sector moving has always proved truly invaluable but never more so than in the difficult times brought on the last three years - which began just as I took the reigns of the DA's office in early 2020. Keeping workers safe at work and at home is a job I am privileged to do and it will remain my top priority over the rest of this term and into the four years of my next."

"District Attorney Melinda Katz has diligently served Queens County and the 1199 members who live there as District Attorney, Borough President, and in the State Assembly and City Council. We are proud to endorse her to serve another four years in the DA's office," said 1199SEIU Downstate Political Director Dell Smitherman. "As District Attorney, Melinda Katz has broken ground on the reality that safety and justice can co-exist. She's sought to address the root causes of crime to keep our families safe at the same time as she's launched

programs that ensure fairness and justice in the courtroom, such as Queens' first-ever Conviction Integrity Unit."

One of the most significant fraud cases the District Attorney has prosecuted in her tenure led to the confiscation of 1.7 million counterfeit N95 face masks before they made their way to hospitals. This case directly impacted the lives of 1199SEIU healthcare workers.

Melinda Katz was elected District Attorney in 2019 and inaugurated in 2020. Despite taking office in the most turbulent of times, she's provided a steady hand as she's worked to keep Queens families safe and taken on crime head on. She's led the effort to take illegal and ghost guns off the streets and held human traffickers and domestic abusers accountable. DA Katz launched Queens' first-ever Conviction Integrity Unit to ensure justice for those wrongfully convicted. And she's taken a community-first approach to public safety.

Statement From Speaker Adrienne Adams And Education Chair Rita Joseph on NYC Department of Education's Changes to Fair Student Funding Formula

"The Fair Student Funding (FSF) formula has long been in need of reform to better support our students and school communities. Today's announcement that the Department of Education will adopt key recommendations from the Working Group to provide greater funding for students living in temporary housing, as well as to schools with the greatest number of students with disabilities, specialized academic needs, and living in poverty is

a welcome step. By allocating an estimated \$90 million in new funding for this support, the department has listened to the advocates for our students who participated in the Working Group. We are also encouraged by changes to the budget appeal process and commitments to improve transparency around how DOE issues school budgets, so the public and government oversight entities are not left without basic information.

"Today's announcement should be a start of efforts to ensure resources are invested in our system where they are most needed. It is critical that the voices and vital insights of parents, students, and educators guide the department to meet the needs of our school communities. We urge the DOE to continue convening this Working Group for evaluation of the funding formulas to ensure they position our schools and students to succeed."



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Meng Reintroduces Legislation to Make Lunar New Year A Federal Holiday

Measure part of legislative package the Congresswoman reintroduces as Asian Americans prepare to celebrate the Year of the Rabbit

As the Asian American community prepares to begin celebrating Lunar New Year on Sunday, January 22, U.S. Rep. Grace Meng (D-Queens), First Vice Chair of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus, today reintroduced a package of legislation to commemorate the holiday.

Meng's legislative Lunar New Year package includes the Lunar New Year Day Act which would establish Lunar New Year as the 12th federal holiday recognized across the United States. It also includes a resolution, the "Recognizing the cultural and historical significance of Lunar New Year" that commemorates the long history and explains the cultural importance of the holiday.

"Lunar New Year is one of the most significant holidays for the Asian American community. Dating back over 4,000 years, today it is celebrated by millions of Asian Americans and many non-Asian Americans in the United States," said Meng. "I have been championing efforts to celebrate and recognize this holiday since I was a member of the New York State Assembly. I was thrilled to help New York City be among the first municipalities to make Lunar New Year a public school holiday, and I am honored to continue leading this effort at the federal level. Asian Americans are the fastest growing ethnic group in our country, and it is important that our history and culture be

recognized as part of this nation's shared culture. My federal holiday bill is about more than just a day off from work or school. It is about educating people on cultural practices and expanding experiences beyond one's individual heritage. I look forward to shepherding this bill through the House and would like to wish everybody celebrating in Queens and around the world a happy, healthy, and prosperous Year of the Rabbit!"

"On behalf of the members of the National Council of Asian Pacific Americans, we thank Congresswoman Meng for her continued, exemplary leadership," said Gregg Orton, National Director of the National Council of Asian Pacific Americans (NCAPA). "Lunar New Year holds great importance to so many families within our community, so to see it uplifted in Congress, and more widely acknowledged in different spaces, is a small, but significant, sign of progress. We wish all good health and success in the year to come!"

"The Lunar New Year is a culturally-rich and family-focused celebration for many Asian Americans and Asians across the globe. For generations, it has been an opportunity for extended family members and close friends to gather to welcome a new year with traditional foods and blessings for loved ones," said Abraham Kim, Executive Director of the Council of Korean Americans (CKA). "We applaud Congresswoman Meng's effort to recognize this important holiday in the United States so that many Asian Americans can reflect on and honor their heritage, family ties, and history."

"We celebrate the reintroduction

of Rep. Meng's resolution and bill to honor and celebrate the cultural and historical significance of Lunar New Year," said Quyen Dinh, Executive Director of Southeast Asia Resource Action Center (SEARAC). "The Lunar New Year is an important celebration for many Southeast Asians. We hope that Congress will recognize the many Americans who celebrate this holiday and that this package serves as a reminder of the prosperity and strength of our nation when we embrace our many peoples and cultures."

"United Chinese Americans (UCA) applauds Congresswoman Meng's legislative leadership and commitment in bringing to the floor the Lunar New Year as Federal holiday bill. UCA will work in tandem with Congresswoman Meng to advance this bill to make America a truly diverse and pluralistic democracy," said Haipei Shue, President of United Chinese Americans (UCA).

Lunar New Year celebrates the arrival of spring and the beginning of a new year on the lunisolar calendar. People often celebrate with festivals, special foods, gatherings with family and loved ones, and a variety of cultural traditions and performances. In the U.S., the day also highlights the culture, heritage, and contributions of Asian Americans. This year celebrates the Year of the Rabbit, which is considered the luckiest of the 12 animals that are assigned to the Zodiac calendar. The Rabbit symbolizes elegance, peace, and mercy. Congresswoman Meng was born in the Year of the Rabbit. For Vietnamese Lunar New Year, this year marks the Year of the Cat.

Statement From Speaker Adams on Department of Education's Withdrawal of Proposed School Co-Locations in Southeast Queens

"The Department of Education has made the right decision to withdraw its proposal to co-locate new Success Academy charter elementary schools within school buildings in Southeast Queens, including Building Q072 in School District 28. The Southeast Queens community united in opposition to the co-location plans, which would have impeded the academic progress of our students.

"Placing an additional charter school in Q072 would have undermined access to the shared facilities, including the gymnasium, cafeteria, bathrooms, and outdoor recreational space, for the existing schools. Two of those schools

received federal magnet grants that facilitate their increased enrollment over the next five years, and this co-location would have hindered the schools' growth and abilities to provide vital programs and resources to students. Students at Catherine & Count Basie Middle School 72, Redwood Middle School, and Public School 993 deserve more access to facilities and support, not less.

"Since serving as Education Chair for Queens Community Board 12 more than a decade ago, I have prioritized the needs of students and families in Southeast Queens, who have faced decades of under-investment. I have histor-

ically opposed school co-locations that set school communities back and negatively impact the education of our students, and I emphatically reject this proposal as well. I stand with the MS 72 School Leadership Team, Queens Community Board 12, Community Education Council (CEC) District 28, and the students, parents, and educators in Southeast Queens who all opposed this co-location plan. I am heartened that their voices were heard by the Department of Education, and I urge the City to search for other locations that would not result in negative impacts for our existing schools and their students."

QBP Richards on Withdrawal of Proposed Southeast Queens School Co-Locations

Queens Borough President Donovan Richards Jr. stated the following in response to the withdrawal of two proposals to co-locate Success Academy at MS 72 in Rochdale and the Springfield Gardens Educational Campus (SGEC) in Springfield Gardens.

"Students across Southeast Queens have been forced to endure years of systemic disinvestment in their schools, punctuated by a seemingly endless cycle of co-locations that further devalues the

education our children receive," said Borough President RICHARDS. "Throughout this process, it was clear that co-locating Success Academy with MS 72 and SGEC would present significant and entirely avoidable challenges for both campuses, negatively impacting the education of our public school students.

"Our unrelenting focus must be on reaffirming our promise to improving public education, especially in historically under-

served communities like Southeast Queens. That's why I'm proud to have allocated more than \$22 million to our borough's public schools over my first two years in office, including \$900,000 in funding across MS 72 and SGEC alone, and I am deeply committed to working with all our partners in government and education to further uplift these students, their families and their educators — all of whom are deserving of our support."

Con Edison Business Customers Reach One Million Megawatt Hours in Energy Savings

(Continued from page 3)

Director of the New York City Hospitality Alliance

"The restaurant and bar industry is a reflection of the economic health of New York City. Con Edison Small and Medium Business program incentives make the investment in energy efficiency upgrades more affordable, optimizing energy usage and costs while improving customers' comfort. It's good for the environment, the bottom line, and New York."

Tom Grech, President and CEO of the Queens Chamber of Commerce

"Small businesses are the lifeblood of Queens, adding unique character to our neighborhoods and creating economic opportunity in every corner of our borough. Queens Chamber members care deeply about doing well by doing good, and we applaud Con Edison for this innovative incentive and rebate program that helps small businesses reduce their carbon footprint while saving on their energy bills. This program will help ensure we continue to have a vibrant, sustainable small busi-

ness community serving Queens."

Linda Baran, President and CEO of the Staten Island Chamber of Commerce

"Small businesses are always seeking ways to reduce energy costs. As local and federal governments seek to achieve a clean energy transition by 2050, businesses of all sizes will need to develop plans to remain compliant — and programs that offer incentives to help defray costs will be essential. Con Edison's Small and Medium Business program will help small businesses manage costs and educate them on proper energy-efficient strategies. We applaud Con Edison for its continued commitment to educating and assisting NYC's small businesses."

John Mandycyk, CEO of Urban Green Council

"We're excited to see Con Edison's incentive program help small and medium businesses make a big impact on energy reduction. Their thoughtful approach to incentives and rebates for their customers helped jumpstart NYC's clean energy economy by expanding energy efficiency beyond simple lighting retrofits."

Steve Cohen Invites Fans & Community to Second Visioning Session at Citi Field

Latest in a series of sessions to hear directly from fans and community on re-imagining the area around Citi Field

Steve Cohen is inviting fans and members of the community to the next visioning session at Citi Field on Sunday, January 29, 2023 from 12:00 PM to 2:00 PM. Building off previous meetings with community leaders and earlier visioning sessions, Cohen's team will hear directly from fans and those who know what is best for their community about how to re-imagine the space around Citi Field. Cohen and his team previously hosted more than 500 people at Citi Field for the first public session. Capacity for Sunday will be limited and those interested in attending should RSVP at www.queensfuture.com.

For too long, the area around Citi Field has been 50 acres of asphalt and wasted opportunity that isn't serving the community to its full potential. This area is a barrier that divides neighborhoods from each other and the nearby communities from the waterfront.

"Since I bought the team, the community and fans have made it clear to me that we can and should do better with the area around the ballpark," said Steve Cohen. "Across the country, ballparks have been adding meaningful experiences for both fans and the entire community. Queens shouldn't be an exception."

In his first press conference as the new owner of the Mets, Cohen made it clear that he views owning the team as a civic responsibility that extends beyond the walls of Citi Field. He has made investments in the team, the ballpark and the surrounding communities his number one priority. Cohen is committed to creating a space that people can come to every day of

the year to hang out by the waterfront, enjoy green space, listen to live music and have plenty of options to eat and drink.

These sessions directly seek input from fans and community members through a series of interactive stations. As people go through the stations, they are able to share what matters most to them when it comes to improving the area around Citi Field, including preferred forms of year-round entertainment, ability to access different forms of transportation and attainable local jobs and training.

Announced in December, the vision for the area is grounded by a set of core principles:

- Putting community first
- We are and always will be good neighbors, and the community is our first and most important partner in re-imagining this space.
- Building dedicated open space for the public

Parks and public space are essential to any community. We all need dedicated green spaces to enjoy and relax and the area around Citi Field shouldn't be an exception.

- Connecting surrounding neighborhoods to the waterfront

We have an opportunity to connect the surrounding neighborhoods, create easy and safe waterfront access, increase walkability and cycling access, and improve transportation options.

- Bringing year-round entertainment to life

Entertainment is the economic engine that will make this area a destination every single day of the year — regardless of the weather

(Continued on page 9)

Queens Times Weekly ...
HOROSCOPE 
 For the Week of ... 1/26/23 - 2/1/23

For Entertainment Purposes Only

ARIES
 (Mar. 21 - April 20)
 Financial losses may be likely if you lend money. You can make new connections if you play your cards right. This is a great week for a trip. Your lucky numbers are 8,5,3/

TAURUS
 (Apr. 21 - May 21)
 Try redecorating your surroundings. Don't let people with get rich schemes talk you into a financial deal that is not likely to be successful. Your lucky numbers are 5,4,9.

GEMINI
 (May 22 - June 21)
 Your co-workers may try blaming you for work related mistakes. Exercise your talents and present your ideas to your boss. Your lucky numbers are 9,3,2.

CANCER
 (June 22 - July 22)
 Be aware that minor accidents may prevail if you are preoccupied. Be honest in your communication and don't lose your cool. Your lucky numbers are 7,3,2.

LEO
 (July 23 - Aug 22)
 Put your energy into home renovations or redecorating your surroundings. Make plans that with friends you haven't seen in awhile. Your lucky numbers are 6,7,8.

VIRGO
 (Aug. 23 - Sept. 23)
 You are best to stick to yourself this week. Friends that you're affiliated with may want you to contribute more cash than you can afford. Your lucky numbers are 2,9,1/

LIBRA
 (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)
 Money problems will get worse if you haven't been playing by the rules. You are better off visiting friends than entertaining at home. Your lucky numbers are 5,9,6.

SCORPIO
 (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)
 Don't believe everything you hear. This will be a good week to invite friend over to visit. Try to get out and socialize. Check your investments. Your lucky numbers are 1,4,7.

SAGITTARIUS
 (Nov. 23 - Dec. 21)
 Put your energy into your work project. Try joining a club to work off that excess energy. Consider ways of spending less money. Your lucky numbers are 1,9,4.

CAPRICORN
 (Dec 22 - Jan. 20)
 Financial losses are likely if you take high risks. Try to avoid issues that you think may hurt someone's feelings. You need time to relax. Your lucky numbers are 4,7,9.

AQUARIUS
 (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)
 You need to find something constructive to do with your spare time. Someone may confide in you. You must keep it a secret. Your lucky numbers are 9,1,7.

PISCES
 (Feb. 20 - Mar. 20)
 You should be open-minded to a family member's view of religious ideas. Children may pose a problem if they don't like suggestions. Your lucky numbers are 6,4,7.

Did You Know?

- if you add up all the numbers from 1 to 100 consecutively (1 + 2 + 3...) it totals 5050
- sponges hold more cold water than hot
- lightning strikes the Earth 6,000 times every minute
- fire usually moves faster uphill than downhill
- cats have over 100 vocal chords
- camel's milk doesn't curdle
- elephants sleep between 4 - 5 hours in 24 period
- it's possible to lead a cow up stairs but not down
- frogs can't swallow with their eyes open
- elephants are the only mammal that can't jump
- a 1/4 of your bones are in your feet
- your tongue is the fastest healing part of your body
- on your birthday you share it with 9 million others
- 1 googol is the number 1 followed by 100 zeros
- a 1 minute kiss burns 26 calories
- you burn more calories sleeping than watching TV
- frogs don't usually swallow water (they absorb most of the moisture they need through their skin)
- at birth dalmations are always white
- hummingbirds are the only bird that can fly backwards
- a duck can't walk without bobbing its head

Answer to Last Weeks Puzzles

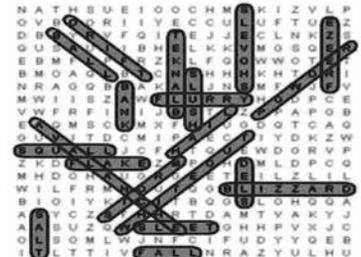
"Sudoku"

1	7	9	5	6	3	2	8	4
8	5	2	4	7	9	3	6	1
6	3	4	8	1	2	5	7	9
7	9	3	6	2	4	8	1	5
2	8	1	7	3	5	9	4	6
4	6	5	9	8	1	7	2	3
9	4	7	1	5	8	6	3	2
3	1	6	2	9	7	4	5	8
5	2	8	3	4	6	1	9	7

"Crossword Puzzle"

BLADE	RASP	PEER
LOVER	ETNA	RALE
OCEAN	STOW	EVES
CORRECTION	DEME	
	SHOCK	VISIT
VETO	ARSENIC	
ELEVATE	ROTATOR	
ESSENE	MATURE	
RETREAD	SILENCE	
	BLUEFIN	DEAD
ARGUE	CONES	
DOUR	PERCEPTION	
DIAD	LIME	LARGE
LAVE	OVER	ALERT
ELAN	WERE	YESES

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TRY AND FIND

NATHSUEIOOCHMSKIZVLP
 OVBDORIIYECCULUFTUEZ
 DBBYRVFQITEJJECLNKZS
 QUSAU IIBHELKKVMGSOER
 EBMFLPFRZKLFQOWWOTET
 BRMOAQLBZTCNSHHKHTDRI
 N RAGQBBAKALJNSMFWJFV
 MWIISZAWFLURRYHODPCE
 VWFRFINIJBSTLZPPAPGB
 EAQMSCKMXFHUIGDOTCAQ
 GUVITDCMIPAECTIYDKZW
 SQUALLJCFHTQUEWDGRVP
 ZKDFLAKEZMPOHDMLDPCQ
 MHDOHAUGRGEETEILZLIL
 WILFRMNOUTQGBLIZZARD
 BIOIYKTCITBQGSLOHQA
 ASYCZSFHHRTDAMTVAKYJ
 AASUZQWSLEETGHPVXJC
 OLSOMLWJNFCIFUDYYQEB
 I T L T T I V F A L L N R A Z Y U L H U

Avalanche	Drift	Hail	Sleet
Ball	Fall	Powder	Slush
Bank	Flake	Salt	Squall
Blanket	Flurry	Shovels	Storm
Blizzard	Freeze	Sled	Whiteout

SUDOKU

8	2	9	6	4				
		7						
			7					6
	9			6	3		1	
			4					2
		4					7	
	3			9				
	6	8		3				7
							1	

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14					15				16				
17					18				19				
20					21				22				
				23				24	25				
26	27	28	29		30			31					
32					33			34		35	36	37	38
39				40				41	42				
43					44	45				46			
				47	48			49			50		
51	52	53						54		55			
56					57	58				59	60	61	62
63					64					65			
66					67					68			
69					70					71			

- ACROSS**
- Not at any time
 - Mental keenness
 - Turn on a pivot
 - Gentry
 - Nitpicky to a fault
 - Baton
 - Perpendicular to the keel
 - Story
 - Against
 - Plague
 - Person's manner of walking
 - Rubber wheel
 - Night watches
 - Biblical garden
 - Cobbler's tool
 - East northeast
 - Opera star
 - Negative responses
 - It surrounds a painting
 - Superimpose
 - Averted
 - Compassion
 - Rescue
 - Aromatic ointment
 - Anger
 - Dung beetle
 - Between black and white
 - Let up
 - Rear end
 - Ages
 - Distasteful
 - African sheep
 - Memorization method
 - Red Sea peninsula
 - Male offspring
 - Nights before
 - Run off to wed
 - Streetcar
 - Fathers
 - Hermit

- DOWN**
- Half-moon tide
 - River to the North Sea
 - Contends
 - French for "State"
 - Send, as payment
 - Canals and creeks
 - In a silly way
 - After-bath powder
 - Record protector
 - Haughty
 - Hawaiian veranda
 - Up to
 - Rewrites
 - Tropical vine
 - Data
 - Ancient Dead Sea kingdom
 - Enter the water headfirst
 - At any point
 - Self-love
 - Lacking taste
 - Jewish month
 - Nothing more than
 - Countercurrent
 - Stringed instrument
 - Line of poetry
 - Adjusted
 - Accustomed
 - Minimal
 - Mistake
 - A Finnish steam bath
 - Artist's stand
 - Exploded star
 - Storage site
 - Any minute
 - Back of the neck
 - Stratum

Play Sudoku & Crossword Puzzles online. Visit www.queens-times.com

Lunar New Year Parade in Flushing

Council Member Vickie Paladino had the pleasure and honor of marching in the Lunar New Year parade in Flushing. Paladino Thanked the Flushing Chinese Business Association for organizing this spectacular event. The enthusiasm among the crowd was incredible.



Statement From Senator John Liu On Mass Shooting At Monterey Park Lunar New Year Celebration



today. We are not helpless, and there are steps we can take to combat ignorance, fear and hatred. Asian Americans proudly share our heritage, culture and traditions on Lunar New Year not only for our benefit, but with great hope and expectation that we may help to bridge cultural divides and ultimately erode the stereotypes and racism that too often prevents our country from reaching the dreams of our forefathers, one that MLK so fittingly reiterated when he said 'I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal.'

State Senator John Liu today stated the following about the mass shooting in Monterey Park, California.

"As New Yorkers celebrate the start of the Lunar New Year, yet another mass shooting took the lives of 10 people across the country in Monterey Park, California, and injured 10 others. As we await more details of this horrific massacre in a majority Asian community, we are reminded of the incessant barrage of hate and constant state-of-alert Asian Americans are forced to live by

"In some ways, Americans did rise up, from ending slavery to the civil rights movement; we have baby stepped our way toward our country's greatest ideals, but many long, rough roads lay forked before us. We may stay the course and allow for the status quo of hatred to continue, or we choose a path that includes the education necessary to teach our children to learn our shared histories, cultures and traditions as a means to stomp out ignorance, fear and senseless gun violence. "For now, our hearts are with Monterey Park."

Rent Scam Victims Get Restitution



Queens District Attorney Melinda Katz was able to return more than \$40,000 to victims of a rent deposit scam last week thanks to the hard work of the Housing and Worker Protection Bureau



Homeowners Benefit & NOPV Information Session

Thursday, March 2, 2023 | 5:30 p.m – 7:30 p.m.

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State Senator John Liu



Assembly Member Ron Kim



Council Member Sandra Ung

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Thursday, March 2, 2023

5:30 p.m – 7:30 p.m.

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Annual Lunar Parade in Downtown Flushing



(Continued from page 1) Behind the banner of the Flushing Chinese Business Association, the parade organizer of the Annual Lunar Parade held in Downtown Flushing, celebrating the "Year of the Rabbit", was US Senator Senator Chuck Schumer, Congresswoman Grace Meng, Queens Borough President Donovan Richards, NYS Senator John Liu, NYS Senator Toby Stavisky, NYS Assemblywoman Nily Rozic, NYS Assemblyman Ron Kim, Comptroller Tom DiNapoli, Queens District Attorney Melinda Katz, Assemblyman Edward C. Braunstein, NYC Council Member Linda Lee, NYC Council Member Lynn Schulman, NYC Councilwoman Sandra Ung with other politicians and dignitaries in the parade. Photo by Walter Karling



Attending the Annual Lunar Parade, the "Year of the Rabbit", held in Downtown Flushing, is NYS Senator Toby Stavisky, Assemblywoman Nily Rozic, NYS Comptroller Tom DiNapoli, and NYC Councilwoman Sandra Ung. Photo by Walter Karling

St. Michael's in Flushing Kicks Off The Lunar New Year With Prayers And Celebration

In celebration of the Lunar New Year on Sunday, January 22, more than 400 members of the St. Michael's Roman Catholic Church parish, located in the Flushing section of Queens, hosted a special afternoon of prayer, remembrance, and cultural activities. This year celebrates the Year of the Rabbit.

Auxiliary Bishop James Massa of the Diocese of Brooklyn led a bilingual Mass (English and Chinese) to begin the parish celebration of the Chinese New Year. At the conclusion of the Mass, there was an Ancestors Veneration Ritual.

The ceremony is a Chinese New Year's tradition where people give thanks to their ancestors and pay tribute to their family's past. The rituals include nine bows to God, the offering of fruits, flowers, and incense, and the exchange of New Year greetings among the faithful.

A Lunar New Year party and celebration followed the Mass in



the parish hall. The event featured cultural music and dancing, including the Fan Dance and the Umbrella Dance, as well as food and raffles.

Father Vincentius Do is the Pastor of St. Michael's Roman

Catholic Church in Flushing. Father Do also serve as the Chinese Apostolate for the Diocese of Brooklyn.

Photo courtesy of St. Michael Roman Catholic Church/Diocese of Brooklyn.

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City

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Meng Statement on Mass Shooting in Monterey Park,



issued the following statement about the massacre in Monterey Park, California.

"I am horrified and deeply saddened to learn about the attack in Monterey Park following a Lunar New Year festival. It is a truly devastating way to ring in the new year, and I condemn this terrible and senseless act of violence against the Asian American community. My heart goes out to all who are impacted.

U.S. Rep. Grace Meng (D-Queens), First Vice Chair of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus, this morning

with the White House and Rep. Judy Chu (D-CA) to help monitor the situation and see how we can help in any way possible."

Italian American Journal



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Happy Lunar New Year

IT'S IN QUEENS

It's In Queens!
(Jan. 27 to Feb. 2)

Lunar New Year fun continues this week, while mixing with Motown, local films, traditional and re-imagined Irish music, romantic crooning, and some Sanitation Department art.

- Jan. 27, The Consequences, 7 pm. This new Irish traditional band boasts Jake James, an All-Ireland fiddle champion and stand-out step dancer; Ryan Ward, a piano accordion virtuoso and champion piano accompanist; Lexie Boatright, a concertina and harp player; and Cara Wildman, a progressive bodhrán percussionist. New York Irish Center, 10-40 Jackson Ave., Long Island City.

- Jan. 28, WHQ+1, 7 pm. This group re-imagines the music of U2 in other genres. The crowd experiences songs like "Gloria" and "Pride" in a completely new way. The Church-in-the-Gardens, 50 Ascan Ave., Forest Hills.

- Jan. 28, From Here, 2 pm. A screening and conversation about a documentary with the director, Christina Antonakos-Wallace, and Tania Mattos, a Queens-based activist who's in the film. Set in Berlin and New York and shot over 10 years, From Here interweaves the stories of Tania, Miman, Sonny and Akim – artists and activists raised in the Global North to parents from the Global South. Queens Museum, NYC Building, Flushing Meadows Corona Park.

- Jan. 28, Lunar New Year Celebration, noon. Celebrate the Year of the Rabbit with lion dance performances, zodiac-themed crafts, storytime, and other activities. Queens Botanical Garden, 43-50 Main St., Flushing.

- Jan. 28, Art Opening, 1 pm. A reception to launch an exhibition of paintings, sculpture, and wall-mounted assemblage boxes by guest artist James Seffens. The display runs to Feb. 26. Studio 41, 27-15 41st Ave., Queensboro Plaza.

- Jan. 28, Artist in Conversation: sTo Len, 4 pm. Artist sTo Len discusses remixing media archives and his residency at the NYC Department of Sanitation with Assistant Curator of Public Programs Tiffany Joy Butler. Museum of the Moving Image, 36-01 35th Ave., Astoria's Kaufman Arts District.

- Jan. 28, The Priceless Band, 8 pm. This Motown group performs music by Janet Jackson, Michael Jackson, Prince, Whitney Houston, and other legends as well as music by such new artists as Beyoncé and Rihanna. Resorts World New York City, 110-00 Rockaway Blvd., South Jamaica.

- Jan. 28, Triborough Film Festival, Jan. 29. The chance to watch movies at the historic Zukor Theater (35-01 35th Ave.) on Jan. 28 at 11 am and the Local NY (13-02 44th Ave.) on Jan. 29 at noon.

- Jan. 28, Mississippi Land, 6:30 pm. This play explores an African American matriarch and emotional issues surrounding land ownership, race, and family



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NYIC The Consequences

dynamics in Mississippi in 1945. Jamaica Performing Arts Center, 153-10 Jamaica Ave.

- Jan. 29, Chinese Theatre Works, 1 pm + 3 pm. Two performances of Budaixi-style puppetry with live music. This year's production stars a rabbit that presides over puppet skits, dances, popular songs, and well-known Chinese sayings celebrating the wit and wisdom of the 12 Zodiac animals. Flushing Town Hall, 137-35 Northern Blvd.

- Jan. 29, Lunar New Year at the Museum, 1 pm. Three hours of folk and lion dance, Kung Fu demonstrations, and hands-on activities for all ages (i.e. calligraphy, puppets, lanterns). Queens Museum, NYC Building, Flushing Meadows Corona Park.

- Jan. 31, Brigid, 7 pm. A staged reading of a new play by Maura Mulligan featuring songs from the Grammy-winning vocalist Susan McKeown. Plus, the Cuala Foundation presents a post-reading panel, "Reflections on Modern-Day Brigid Connections," followed by a reception. (St. Brigid's Feast Day is Feb. 1.) New York Irish Center, 10-40 Jackson Ave., Long Island City.

- Feb. 1, Author Talk, 7:30 pm. Sergey Kadinsky talks about his book, Hidden Waters of New York

City, which surveys 101 hidden lakes, creeks, inlets, ponds, and reservoirs within New York City. These minor waterways -- including Fort Totten Pond, Crocheron Pond, Oakland Lake, and Alley Pond -- serve a vital role in promoting sustainability. Bayside Historical Society, The Castle, 208 Totten Ave., Fort Totten.

- Feb. 2, The Dragon King, 10 am + 11:30 am. The Tanglewood Marionettes troupe offers an underwater puppetry fantasy based on Chinese folklore. A drought has turned the world brown and lifeless, and people wonder why the Dragon King, who rules the waters, has not brought rain. An intrepid grandmother journeys to the bottom of the sea to talk to the monarch. Flushing Town Hall, 137-35 Northern Blvd.

- Feb. 2, Señor Bolero, Feb. 26. A comedic musical about love in the times of the bolero, a slow, danceable genre that arose in Cuba at the end of the 19th century. A famous 1960 singer is hired to perform a concert without imagining that fate will lead her to find the love of her life in the least expected way. Shows are Thursday, Friday, and Saturday at 8 pm and Sundays at 4 pm. Thalía Spanish Theatre, 41-17 Greenpoint Ave., Sunnyside.

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Public Service Commission Enhances Protections For Telephone And Cable Customers

Regulatory Improvements Stem from Customer Outages After Isaias in 2020

Telecommunication Customers Eligible for Reimbursement in the Event of Prolonged Communication & Cable Outages

The New York State Public Service Commission has announced that major telephone and cable companies are now required to implement enhanced emergency contingency plans to protect and safeguard their operations in the event of a severe storm. In addition, the newly adopted regulations require customer credits when telephone and cable service is not available to customers following an outage caused by storms and power outages.

“Telephone and cable companies are often our front line of communication during storm and power outages.” Commission Chair Rory M. Christian said. “New York State’s emergency contingency plans will play a crucial part in our emergency response efforts and today’s decision will hold more companies accountable.”

Under the new rules adopted by the Commission, when a service outage affecting 100 or more subscribers exists due to a particular

service interruption cause, the service provider shall issue a credit allowance to residential customers and certain commercial customers as follows:

- If a service interruption continues for 24 hours or more, 1/30th of the monthly rate for all services and facilities furnished and billed by the service provider that are rendered useless or substantially impaired for each 24 hours (or a portion thereof);
- If a service interruption is for less than 24 hours, and if credit is requested by the subscriber on the grounds that service for the day was substantially impaired by such interruption or interruptions, then, a credit allowance will be issued for that day at 1/30th of the monthly rate; and
- If the service provider reasonably determines that the interruption was in part caused by the loss of commercial power to the service provider’s network, the credit allowance period will begin 24 hours after commercial power is restored.

On August 4, 2020, Tropical Storm Isaias struck New York, bringing strong winds and heavy rain that particularly impacted the Mid-Hudson Valley, New York City, and Long Island regions. That storm caused extensive damage to electric distribution and

telecommunication infrastructures that, in turn, led to lengthy outages for a substantial number of New York utility customers.

In response to the storm, the Department of Public Service (Department) investigated New York State’s major electric utilities, telephone corporations and cable television companies following their slow and inadequate response to the storm resulting in new rules.

The Department’s report evaluated the preparation and restoration efforts of the service providers in affected areas and includes input from, and consideration of, recommendations by municipal leaders, emergency response agencies and customers.

For the purposes of this regulatory change, a major telephone company is defined as any incumbent local exchange company or any facilities-based telephone company with over 500,000 access lines, or a certificated 911 service provider. A major cable company is defined as a company with 1,000 or more cable television subscribers.

There are 39 telephone companies subject to these regulation changes including: affiliates of Verizon New York Inc., Wind-

(Continued on page 10)

Steve Cohen Invites Fans & Community to Second Visioning Session at Citi Field

(Continued from page 4)

or if it’s baseball season.

- Creating good-paying local jobs and economic opportunity for local small businesses

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music, restaurants and bars will create thousands of good-paying jobs throughout the construction process and for years to come. We are committed to hiring local, supporting minority and women owned businesses, and providing on-going workforce training programs.

AG James Seeks Information From Madison Square Garden Regarding Use of Facial Recognition Technology to Deny Entry to Venues

MSG’s Use of Facial Recognition Technology to Deny Entry to Adversaries Could Violate Human Rights Law

New York Attorney General Letitia James has sent a letter to Madison Square Garden Entertainment Corporation (MSG Entertainment) requesting information from the company and its affiliates regarding its use of facial recognition technology to prohibit legitimate ticketholders from entering their venues. MSG Entertainment owns and operates several large venues in New York, including Madison Square Garden and Radio City Music Hall, and the company has reportedly used facial recognition technology to identify and deny entry to all lawyers who are affiliated with law firms representing clients in pending litigation related to MSG Entertainment. In the letter, Attorney General James raises the concern that preventing individuals from accessing their venues because of ongoing litigation against the company could violate local, state, and federal human rights laws, including laws prohibiting retaliation. The letter also questions whether the facial recognition software used by MSG Entertainment is reliable and what safeguards are in place to avoid bias and discrimination.

“MSG Entertainment cannot fight their legal battles in their own arenas,” said Attorney General James. “Madison Square Garden and Radio City Music Hall are world-renowned venues and should treat all patrons who purchased tickets with fairness and respect. Anyone with a ticket to an event should not be concerned that they may be wrongfully denied

entry based on their appearance, and we’re urging MSG Entertainment to reverse this policy.”

MSG Entertainment owns and operates several venues in New York, including Madison Square Garden, Radio City Music Hall, the Hulu Theater, and the Beacon Theatre. In recent weeks, reports have alleged that MSG Entertainment has used its facial recognition software to identify all lawyers from firms representing clients engaged in litigation against the company and forbid them from entering their venues. This policy is estimated to impact all lawyers at more than 90 law firms. In the letter sent today, Attorney General James warns that preventing people from entering their venues may violate New York’s civil and human rights laws and may dissuade lawyers from taking on legitimate cases against the company, including sexual harassment or employment discrimination claims, in order to avoid the alleged ban and continue attending events at MSG Entertainment venues.

Attorney General James is calling on MSG Entertainment to report to her office the steps the company is taking to comply with New York’s civil and human rights laws and ensure that its facial recognition technology will not lead to discrimination.

This matter is being handled by Assistant Attorney General Kyle S. Rapiñan of the Civil Rights Bureau, under the supervision of Deputy Bureau Chief Travis England. The Civil Rights Bureau is a part of the Division for Social Justice, which is led by Chief Deputy Attorney General Meghan Faux and overseen by First Deputy Attorney General Jennifer Levy.



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The New York State Department of Labor Receives \$9.1 Million Grant to Break Barriers to Unemployment Insurance For Underserved Communities

The New York State Department of Labor (NYSDOL) has announced that it was awarded a \$9.1 million grant from the U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL) to promote equitable access to New York's Unemployment Insurance (UI) program. The equity grant, part of the American Rescue Plan Act, will fund projects designed to break down barriers to UI services. Potential barriers to be addressed specifically include those related to race, ethnicity, language proficiency, literacy, disability status, socioeconomic status, geographic location, or other systemic barriers. The funding will help NYSDOL continue its ongoing effort to make sure all New Yorkers, especially those in underserved communities, are able to tap into critical support and

have access to UI benefits.

"I thank the Biden Administration for providing this equity grant to help us ensure that every New Yorker is able to access the services they need during tough economic times," said New York State Department of Labor Commissioner Roberta Reardon. "This grant will provide critical funding to advance our ongoing efforts to modernize our Unemployment Insurance system and enhance the customer experience to ensure we break down potential barriers to benefits."

NYSDOL will use the funding to build on its ongoing equity and accessibility projects to make it easier for New Yorkers to discover, learn about, and access UI services. NYSDOL will also review application instructions

and simplify language to reduce confusion and prevent improper payments. There will also be a focus on improving access for those who are hearing and visually impaired. NYSDOL continuously strives to be inclusive and accessible for all New Yorkers.

This grant was administered by USDOL's Employment and Training Administration and corresponds with USDOL's August 2021 announcement of the availability of up to \$260 million in grants for states to promote equitable access to unemployment insurance benefits. To date, USDOL has announced \$166 million in funds awarded to 32 states and the District of Columbia.

For more information, visit USDOL's Employment and Training Administration webpage.

Public Service Commission Enhances Protections For Telephone And Cable Customers

(Continued from page 9)

stream New York Inc., Frontier Communications, Consolidated Communications, TDS Telecom; 22 other small telephone companies, and Time Warner Cable Information Services (New York), LLC, a competitive local exchange carrier.

There are 15 cable companies subject to these regulation changes including: Adams CATV, Inc.; Atlantic Broadband (Penn), LLC; Altice; Catskill Mountain Cablevision, Inc.; Charter Communications; Comcast of New York, LLC; DTC Cable Inc. d/b/a Delhi Long Distance; Empire Video Services Corporation; Haefele TV, Inc.; Han Cel, Inc.; Heart of the Catskills Communications, Inc. dba MTC Cable; Mid-Hudson Cablevision, Inc.; Midtel Cable TV, Inc.; SLIC Network Solutions, Inc.; and, Verizon New York, Inc.

The report highlighted the need for modification to existing stat-

utes or regulations to require the filing and annual updating of more robust emergency contingency plans, similar to those required of electric utilities, in order to improve the preparedness and response to future storms and other emergencies by major telephone corporations and cable television companies.

The enhanced emergency contingency plans will ensure that detailed plans and pre-storm actions are taken by certain telephone and cable television companies, including conducting storm drills and testing of critical equipment, and places an emphasis on enhanced communications with electric utilities and government emergency response agencies operating within a territory impacted by a storm or other emergency affecting event.

The amendments will also help maintain, to the extent practicable and reasonable, continuous operation of service in the event of

a commercial power outage or other emergency event, and to effectuate the timely restoration of service to customers.

These new regulations will hold certain telephone and cable television companies more accountable for their respective storm preparedness.

This decision may be obtained by going to the Commission Documents section of the Commission's Web site at www.dps.ny.gov and entering Case Number 22-M-0180 in the input box labeled "Search for Case/Matter Number". Many libraries offer free Internet access. Commission documents may also be obtained from the Commission's Files Office, 14th floor, Three Empire State Plaza, Albany, NY 12223 (518-474-2500). If you have difficulty understanding English, please call us at 1-800-342-3377 for free language assistance services regarding this press release.

New York State Department of Civil Service Announces Application Period Now Open to Pursue Public Service Careers as Investigators

Applicants Can Apply Online to Take the Exam Through February 22

The New York State Department of Civil Service (DCS) announced that the application period is now open for New York's entry-level investigative civil service exams.

The exams, which are used to fill titles in several state agencies, will be held as in-person written exams in April 2023. Qualified candidates can apply online until 11:59pm EST on Wednesday, February 22, 2023. Department of Civil Service Commissioner Timothy R. Hogue said, "The Department of Civil Service is pleased to offer these investigator exams, which are used to fill a number of different investigative titles throughout the state. Under Governor Hochul's leadership, we are focused on building a diverse and inclusive workforce that can best serve all New Yorkers, and these entry level investigative positions represent an excellent opportunity to start a career in public service. Working for New York State not only offers the chance to serve the greater public, but also provides the opportunity to work with dedicated public servants, in addition to the great health benefits and compensation packages. I encourage all interested and qualified to apply for these exams today."

New York State Department of Labor Commissioner Roberta Reardon said, "Civil service exams are a great way for New Yorkers to gain access to well-paying and fulfilling government careers. I encourage all New Yorkers to apply to have the opportunity to not only work for The Department of Labor, but many other incredible state agencies that are dedicated to serving New Yorkers."

New York State Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) Commissioner Mark J.F. Schroeder said, "We thank Civil Service for administering this investigative exam because we are always looking for people to join our ranks. DMV investigators are hard at work on a daily basis across the state, getting illegally registered vehicles off the road, working to deter and prevent identity theft-based crimes and otherwise insure the safety of the people of New York State."

Acting State Health Commissioner Dr. James McDonald said, "Are you a curious soul who cares deeply about others? Applying to become an investigator with the State Department of Health is a fantastic way to enter the field of public health, prevent the spread of disease, and maintain the health of our fellow New Yorkers. These examinations will assist New York State in finding talented and motivated workers, while helping achieve our goal of hiring a more diverse and equitable workforce."

New York State Liquor Authority Chairman Vincent G. Bradley said, "A primary responsibility of the SLA is the protection of public health and safety, and this can only be achieved through the hard work and dedication of the professionals who serve in our Enforcement Bureau. SLA investigators are an

integral part of our team, working on the front lines with state and local law enforcement agencies to ensure compliance with the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law and safety the health and safety of our communities. I join my colleagues in encouraging those considering a career as a state investigator to apply for the exam today."

People interested in being considered for these investigator positions within state government must first meet the minimum qualifications for the title or titles of interest and register for the civil service exam by submitting all the required information by February 22 here. The exams are multiple-choice tests and will be offered in April 2023. All candidates who are qualified to take the exam will receive an admission notice via mail approximately two weeks prior to the date of the written test. The admission notice will provide the candidate with details about when and where they are scheduled to appear, along with other pertinent information. Candidates will also receive a reminder email in advance of the exam.

The exams are used to fill the following titles at multiple agencies:

- Investigator I
- Investigative Officer Trainee
- Investigative Officer 1
- Investigative Specialist Trainee 1
- Investigative Specialist 1

For many of the titles, the exams will also be used to hire individuals to work in Motor Vehicles, Cannabis and Beverage Control investigation. In addition, the exams will be used to hire individuals with proficiency in other languages. While the exam is in English, those with proficiency in other languages will be required to pass a language proficiency exam at the time of hire for certain titles.

To take the Trainee exams, individuals must have:

- Either 1. four years of investigative experience;
- Or 2. an associate's degree and two years of investigative experience;
- Or 3. a bachelor's degree or higher.

The entry-level investigative positions perform investigations or investigative activities. These positions require knowledge of a variety of laws, rules or regulations, organized criminal activity or fraud. Investigative positions may use a variety of techniques to obtain information, evidence and prepare written reports.

All positions include generous benefits including paid leave, health benefits, and retirement plans, and telecommuting options may be available to employees in this title who meet certain criteria.

It is estimated that approximately 200 investigative positions will be filled over the next year.

To learn more about working for the State of New York and how to take the next step in pursuing a rewarding career in public service, please visit the Department of Civil Service website and follow the Department on Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn.

Attorney General James Sues Google For Monopolies in Digital Advertising

AG James, U.S. Department of Justice, and Bipartisan Coalition of States Sue Google To Break Up Monopolies that Harm Website Publishers, Businesses, and New York Consumers

New York Attorney General Letitia James has sued Google LLC (Google), for monopolizing the digital advertising industry. Together with the United States Department of Justice (DOJ), a bipartisan coalition of eight states allege that Google has engaged in a 15-year, organized campaign so it could obtain outsized influence at all levels of the ad tech industry, and has used its power to reduce competition and innovation, harming website publishers, advertisers, and consumers. Through this lawsuit, Attorney General James, DOJ, and the coalition of states are seeking to stop Google's anticompetitive practices and order it to sell off various ad tech tools to restore a competitive balance in digital advertising and

end Google's unfair advantage in the industry.

"New York consumers and small businesses are paying the price of Google's actions," said Attorney General James. "When website publishers get less ad revenue because of Google's monopolies, they have to either lower the quality of their website, or pass on costs to consumers. I am proud to partner with the Department of Justice and fellow attorneys general in pushing back against Google's illegal actions. I will not allow companies, no matter how large or powerful, to take advantage of New York consumers or small businesses."

While Google is best known for its search engine, it has expanded its products to include online advertising technologies that allow website publishers to sell their available space on digital ad exchanges. Google has used its market power to dictate the terms on which publishers and advertisers may do business, prioritizing

its own financial gain ahead of the quality of its products and its customers' best interests. The ads at issue are called "display ads," the banners and sidebars that appear at the top and margins of websites. Google built itself monopolies in three ad tech markets and is able to control nearly every aspect of these sales, extracting higher-than-competitive fees at multiple stages of the transactions it handles.

By monopolizing the components of ad tech, Google has raised advertising costs for businesses while simultaneously lowering the revenues website publishers receive for their ad space, keeping unfairly high fees for itself. This conduct hurts consumers because as publishers make less money on advertising inventory, fewer publishers are able to offer internet users content for free, without subscriptions, paywalls, or alternative forms of monetization. The components of the ad

(Continued on page 11)

LEGAL NOTICES

Legal notice of formation of Bluejacket Strategies, LLC. Art. Of Org. Filed with the SSNY on 12/22/2022. Office loc: Queens County. Corporation Service Company is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served at 80 State St., Albany, NY 12207. Purpose: any lawful act or activity. 1/12,19,26,2/2,9&16/2023

Notice of Formation of MADAM SARA(H) CHARCUTERIE & GRAZING, LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 10/27/2022. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 92-19 190th Street, Apt 3, Hollis, NY 11423. Purpose: any lawful activities. 1/12,19,26,2/2,9&16/2023

Notice of Formation of SAVAGE SAGE LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 10/21/2022. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 341B Park Cres. College Point, NY 11356. Purpose: any lawful activities. 12/22,29/2022,1/5,12,19&26/2023

Notice of Formation of HEATING & COOLING DOCTOR, LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 12/30/22. Office location: Queens County. Princ. office of LLC: 90-17 Corona Ave., Elmhurst, NY 11373. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC, c/o Lawrence H. Schoenbach, Esq., Law Offices of Lawrence H. Schoenbach, 111 Broadway, Ste. 901, NY, NY 10006. Purpose: Construction. 1/12,19,26,2/2,9&16/2023

Notice of Formation of NY IT SERVICE LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 01/17/2023. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 8150 102nd Road, Ozone Park, NY 11416. Purpose: any lawful activities. 1/19,26,2/2,9,16&23/2023

QB138 LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 01/11/23. Office: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 140-25 Queens Boulevard, Briarwood, NY 11435. Purpose: Any lawful purpose. 1/19,26,2/2,9,16&23/2023

LEGAL NOTICES

Notice of Formation of 41-04 159th Street LLC amended to 41-04 & 41-08 159th Street LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 8/26/22. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 29 West Main St, Oyster Bay, NY 11771. Purpose: any lawful activity. 12/29/2022,1/5,12,19,26&2/2/2023

182 JMC LLC, Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 12/21/2022. Office loc: Queens County. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 18230 Jamaica Ave, Hollis, NY 11433. Reg Agent: Fuqun CPA, P.C., 94 Oxford Blvd., Great Neck, NY 11023. Purpose: Any Lawful Purpose. 12/29/2022,1/5,12,19,26&2/2/2023

162ND STREET FRESH MEADOWS, LLC, Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 12/21/2022. Office loc: Queens County. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 14-26 136th Street, College Point, NY 11356. Purpose: Any Lawful Purpose. 12/29/2022,1/5,12,19,26&2/2/2023

Notice of Formation of HORIZON MAINTENANCE INC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 09/18/2022. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 23-64 92nd Street, Flushing, NY 11369. Purpose: any lawful activities. 12/29/2022,1/5,12,19,26&2/2/2023

2467 CAMBRELENG NY LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 01/24/22. Office: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 144-20 69th Ave, Flushing, NY 11367. Purpose: Any lawful purpose. 1/5,12,19,26,2/2&9/2023

Notice of Formation of HERRERA DISTRIBUTORS LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 09/09/2022. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 14825 89th Avenue, 30, Jamaica, NY 11435. Purpose: any lawful activities. 1/12,19,26,2/2,9&16/2023

LEGAL NOTICES

Notice of Formation of ERIC ONLINE, LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 01/08/2023. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 13543 95th Street, Ozone Park, NY 11417. Purpose: any lawful activities. 1/19,26,2/2,9,16&23/2023

Notice of Formation of KORALI 194 LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with NY Dept. of State on 11/2/22. Office location: Queens County. NY Sec. of State designated agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served, and shall mail process to 72-08 243rd St, Douglaston, NY 11362. Purpose: any lawful activity. 1/26,2/2,9,16,23&3/2/2023

Notice of Formation of BREADBOX PICTURES LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 01/13/2023. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 57 Larkin Street, Staten Island, NY 10302. Purpose: any lawful activities. 1/26,2/2,9,16,23&3/2/2023

Notice of Formation of SSGM LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 01/10/2023. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 84-12 265th Street, Floral Park, NY 11001. Purpose: any lawful activities. 1/26,2/2,9,16,23&3/2/2023

Square Street Capital Management, LLC Auth. filed w/ SSNY 11/17/22. Off. in Queens Co. Cert. of Form filed w/ SSDE 7/28/21. SSNY desig. as agt. of LLC whom process may be served & shall mail process to Zaiqing Zhu, 56-27 2nd St, Apt. 2803, Long Island City, NY 11101. The reg. agt. is Zaiqing Zhu at same address. Add. maintained in DE: 3500 S. Dupont Hwy, Dover, DE 19901. Name & add. of auth. officer in DE where Cert of Form filed: DE Sec. of State, Div. of Corp, 401 Federal St, Ste. 4, Dover, DE 19901. Any lawful purpose. 1/26,2/2,9,16,23&3/2/2023

Prime Podiatry PLLC Filed 7/29/22 Office: Queens Co. SSNY designated as agent for process & shall mail to 5718 Woodside Ave #2101, Woodside, NY 11377 Purpose: Podiatry. 1/26,2/2,9,16,23&3/2/2023

Attorney General James Sues Google For Monopolies in Digital Advertising

(Continued from page 10)

tech market, and Google's actions to monopolize each one, include:

- The Publisher Ad Server Market: Website publishers — the content creators or owners — use a tool called a “publisher ad server” to handle the process of selecting ads to fill available ad slots when a user opens a web page. The tool rapidly evaluates potential ads from different sources and applies a set of rules to decide which ad will be displayed, considering data about the user viewing the page and bids from ad exchanges. Publishers cannot reasonably integrate with more than one such tool, and switching is cost- and resource-prohibitive. Since 2008, Google has owned the industry's leading publisher ad server, Google Ad Manager (aka DoubleClick for Publishers, or DFP). Google restricts publishers' power to transact with rival exchanges on their preferred terms.
- The Ad Exchange Market: An ad exchange is a software platform that receives requests to fill ad space on publishers' web

pages, and solicits bids on each impression from advertiser buying tools like ad networks. It chooses the winning bid and transmits that information to the publisher ad server. Google owns the industry's leading ad exchange, called AdX, now packaged as part of Google Ad Manager. Google provides advantageous bidding techniques exclusively to AdX, and restricts real-time access to AdX to DFP, as part of Google Ad Manager.

- The Advertiser Ad Network Market: Advertisers receive and respond to bid requests from ad exchanges using advertiser buying tools, which include ad networks. These tools assist advertisers in connecting to ad exchanges, selecting impressions to bid on, submitting bids, and tracking campaign goals. Ad networks are tools typically used by smaller advertisers, or advertisers that must rely on the network's targeting data to make ad buying effective. The ad network is a “black box” to advertisers, giving them little or no control over or visibility into the process by which it bids for impressions. Google offers

the industry's leading ad network, Google Ads, and makes its demand available only through AdX.

Through this lawsuit, Attorney General James, DOJ, and the coalition of states seek to restore a competitive, innovative marketplace and benefit consumers by asking the court to require Google to sell off certain key ad tech assets that it has amassed as part of its monopolization efforts. The coalition also asks the court to counter any unfair advantages that Google gained as a result of its anticompetitive conduct.

Joining Attorney General James and DOJ in today's lawsuit are the attorneys general of California, Colorado, Connecticut, New Jersey, Rhode Island, Tennessee, and Virginia.

This matter is being handled by Assistant Attorney General Morgan J. Feder of the Antitrust Bureau and Antitrust Bureau Chief Elinor Hoffmann. The Antitrust Bureau is a part of the Division of Economic Justice, which is overseen by Chief Deputy Attorney General Chris D'Angelo and First Deputy Attorney General Jennifer Levy.

Record-Setting Mega Millions Jackpot Delivers More Than \$70.6 Million to New York

New York's Lottery sales for run generate \$60.3 million in aid to education; \$10.3 million for retailers

Even though the record-setting \$1.35 billion Mega Millions jackpot was won in Maine, ticket sales leading up to the January 13, 2023 draw generated more than \$70.6 million combined for New York's public schools and Lottery retailers.

The Mega Millions jackpot began rolling to its record amount in October 2022, resulting in 26 drawings held until it was won this month. In New York State, Mega Millions ticket sales totaled \$172.4 million during the run. All of New York's profits from the sales are constitutionally dedicated to New York's K-12 public schools, totaling \$60.3 million. Commissions on Mega Millions sales paid to retailers across the state totaled \$10.3 million.

“As the numbers show, the New York Lottery provides entertainment for

millions of responsible New Yorkers and delivers real money for public schools and small businesses across the state,” said New York State Gaming Commission Chairman Brian O'Dwyer. “The Gaming Commission remains committed to supporting the Lottery's goal of generating revenue for schools and retailers.”

The January 13 prize was the third multistate jackpot to climb beyond \$1 billion in the last year.

- On November 7, 2022, a \$2.04 billion Powerball jackpot was won in California after 41 drawings. New York Lottery sales totaled \$244.5 million, Aid to Education totaled \$85.6 million and retailer commissions totaled \$14.7 million

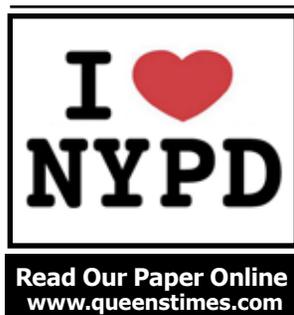
- On July 29, a \$1.34 billion Mega Millions jackpot was won in Illinois after 30 drawings. New York Lottery sales totaled \$126.6 million, Aid to Education totaled \$44.3 million and retailer commissions totaled

\$7.6 million. Multiple New Yorkers won prizes during the Mega Millions roll up between October and January 13:

- 12 second prize winners totaling \$12 million
- 1 second prize Megaplier winner totaling \$3 million
- Lower tier prizes totaling more than \$10.5 million

The New York Lottery continues to be North America's largest and most profitable Lottery, contributing \$3.6 billion in Lottery Aid to Education for FY2021-2022 to help support education in New York State.

The New York Lottery is committed to providing players with a range of fun, entertaining games in a socially responsible manner. Those seeking help can visit NYProblemGamblingHelp.org or call New York State's confidential HOPEline at 1-877-8-HOPENY (1-877-846-7369) or text HOPENY (467369). Standard text rates may apply.



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God Bless America

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day



Queens District Attorney Melinda Katz joined State Sen. Leroy Comrie and Boy Scout Troops 144B and 144G of St. Albans to celebrate Martin Luther King, Jr. Day and commemorate his life of commitment and service.

CM Paladino Meets With The Bayside Volunteer Ambulance Corps



Council Member Vickie Paladino visited with the dedicated men of the Bayside Volunteer Ambulance Corps. The history and services here are amazing. Teaching life saving first aid skills and servicing the community are

some of the important things that Bayside Volunteer Ambulance Corps does each day. I'm very excited for our new partnership and to work with them in the new year to provide funding for their facility.



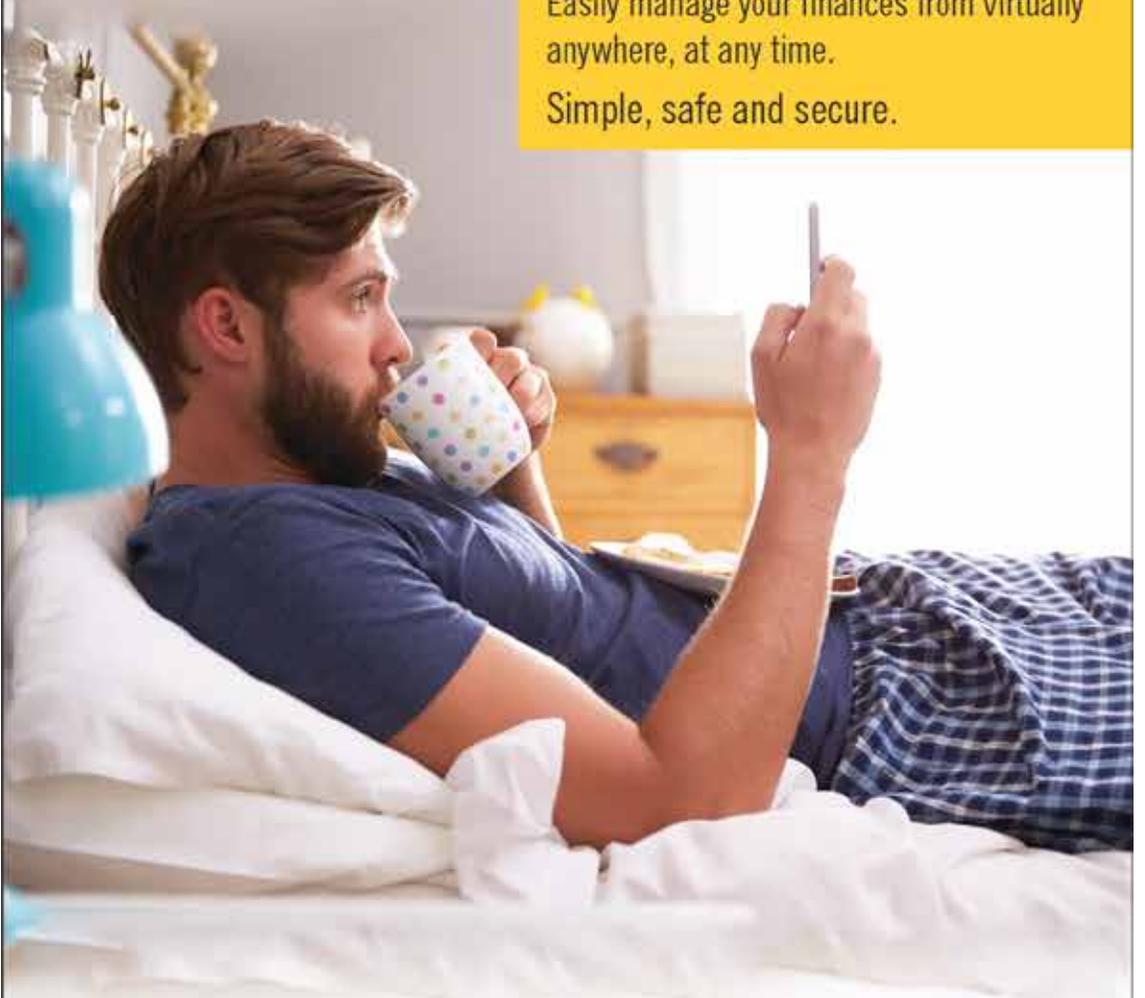
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