

QUEENS TIMES

Published for the Borough of Queens

VOLUME 27, NO. 6

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2022

25 CENTS

Lunar Parade in Flushing Celebrates The Year of The Tiger



Attending the Lunar Parade held in Flushing, beginning at the head of the parade along Union Street, celebrating the year of the Tiger are (L to R): NYC Councilmembers Lynn Schulman and Sandra Ung; Queens Borough President Donovan Richards; US Congresswoman Grace Meng; NY State Governor Kathy Hochul; NYS Attorney-General Letitia James; Parade Grand Marshal Peter Tu of the Flushing Chinese Business Association; US Senator Chuck Shumer; NYC Councilman James Gennaro; NY State Senator Toby Ann Stavisky and NYS Assemblyman Ed Braunstein with many parade participants. Photo by Walter Karling. See story on page 2.

Queens Times wishes all a



President Biden Visits Queens School to Discuss Violence Prevention Programs



U.S. President Joe Biden, NYC Mayor Eric Adams, NYS Governor Kathy Hochul, Queens DA Malinda Katz, and local leaders listened to K. Bain, founder and executive director of Community Capacity Development, during his visit to New York public school P.S. 111 Jacob Blackwell to discuss community violence intervention programs with local leaders in Queens, NYC.

President Joe Biden arrived in New York City for a much-anticipated meeting with Mayor Eric Adams, Governor Kathy Hochul, Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, Queens DA Melinda Katz, Queens Borough President Donovan Richards and other city officials on the outbreak of gun violence in the Big Apple. After President Biden met with Mayor Adams they headed

to P.S. 111 in Long Island City, where they met with community leaders to discuss various violence prevention programs.

President Biden's visit came after his pledge to dedicate \$500 million in the 2022 spending package to community policing and intervention programs that

(Continued on page 11)

Mayor Adams, NYC Health + Hospitals Expand Access Lifestyle Medicine Services City-Wide



Announcement Represents Most Comprehensive Expansion of Lifestyle Medicine Programming in U.S. See story on page 2.



One Edition for ALL of Queens!
Visit our website at www.queens-times.com

Park Side Restaurant Queens' Finest Italian Restaurant



About Park Side Restaurant - An Italian Landmark in the heart of Corona, Queens, Park Side Restaurant is truly a destination that is worth the trip. After one visit, you will be sure to be back again and again for one of the city's Best Italian restaurants. Bring your appetite and enjoy authentic and always delicious dishes using the freshest ingredients and attention to detail served by our professional staff. Park Side is also happy to host your next function with our private dining area and flexible banquet packages.

107-01 Corona Ave. Corona Heights, NY
(718) 271-9274 • (718) 271-9871
- Reservations Suggested -

Lunar Parade in Flushing Celebrates The Year of The Tiger

(Continued from page 1)

Finally after Covid forced last year's Lunar Parade to be postponed in downtown Flushing. This year's parade with mask-wearing participants was well-attended by everyone bringing in the Year of the Tiger. The Year of the Tiger is about making big changes a year of risk-taking and adventure; again finding enthusiasm, both for ones selves and for others. Everyone is fired up, generosity is at an all-time high and social progress feels possible again.

The Chinese Zodiac dates back to the Qin Dynasty over 2000 years ago and is rooted in a system

of zoolatry (or animal worship). As the legend goes, the Jade Emperor challenged all the animals in the Kingdom to a "Great Race." Whoever arrived at his palace first would win his favor. The Tiger was sure that he had the race in the bag, but ended up placing third after the cunning Rat and workhorse Ox snuck in ahead of him. Thus, Tigers are extremely competitive people, known for their courage and ambition. Tigers are ambitious, but they're also extremely generous with a drive to help others. Tigers want to win but they're also always seeking justice.

Like their eponymous zodiac animal, people born in years of the Tiger are vigorous and ambi-

tious, daring and courageous, enthusiastic and generous, self-confident with a sense of justice and a commitment to help others for the greater good.

The following are 10 things to look out for in the year of the Water Tiger. 1- Emotional Drama, 2- Passion & Intensity, 3- Scandal, 4- Original Thinking, 5- Heightened Intuition, 6- More Luck, 7- Whirlwind Romance, 8- Increased Creativity, 9- Leadership, 10- Burn Out.

Get Ready for the Year of the Tiger! All in all, the Year of the Tiger will bring excitement, rollercoaster rides of emotion, and memories you are unlikely to forget.

Mayor Adams, NYC Health + Hospitals Expand Access Lifestyle Medicine Services City-Wide

(Continued from page 1)

New York City Mayor Eric Adams and NYC Health + Hospitals (H+H) announced the expansion of their groundbreaking lifestyle medicine services at six public health care sites across New York City — the most comprehensive expansion of lifestyle medicine programming in the U.S. Modeled off the popular and successful Plant-Based Lifestyle Medicine Program at NYC Health + Hospitals/Bellevue, the new expansion will provide patients living with chronic disease the tools to make healthy lifestyle changes, included providing them access to plant-based diet resources. The program will expand to serve qualifying NYC Health + Hospitals adult patients at Jacobi, Lincoln, Woodhull, Kings County, and Elmhurst hospitals, as well as Gotham Health, Vanderbilt. The program expansion will be implemented over the coming year.

"Today, New York City is again leading the way with the most comprehensive expansion of lifestyle medicine programming in the nation," said Mayor Adams. "This is personal to me — a plant-based lifestyle helped save my life, and I'm thrilled that New Yorkers in every zip code will have access to this critical programming. Together, we will stop feeding the health care crisis and ensure all New Yorkers can access the healthy lifestyle they deserve."

"This expanded programming won't only touch the lives of the patients served, but will extend to the families and communities of every person served," said Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services Anne Williams-Isom. "That mom with type 2 diabetes or that dad with high cholesterol now has new tools to reclaim their health through everyday choices to eat, manage stress, and sleep better, as well as find enhanced social support. These programs can change individual lives by treating, preventing, and even reversing common chronic diseases, but will also ripple through to families and communities of those at risk of or living with a chronic disease. I

want to thank Dr. McMacken, Dr. Katz, and all the staff doing this cutting-edge work and making a difference in the lives of so many New Yorkers."

"Even through the pandemic, heart disease remains the leading killer of New Yorkers, with diabetes not too far behind," said Senior Advisor for Public Health and Incoming Commissioner of Health Dr. Ashwin Vasani. "To move the needle, we will need to invest in both upstream policy reforms and downstream care and supports. Increasing access to dietitians, health coaches, and physicians through innovative approaches, like the Lifestyle Medicine Program, will help more New Yorkers with cardio-metabolic diseases live longer, healthier lives... I applaud Mayor Adams and our colleagues at NYC Health + Hospitals for their leadership and for taking a holistic approach to supporting the health of our communities."

"I have seen the benefits of lifestyle medicine for patients with chronic diseases in my own clinical practice," said Health Commissioner Dr. Dave A. Chokshi. "As we continue to fight COVID-19, scaling these services will help build a healthier city for all New Yorkers. I applaud NYC Health + Hospitals for expanding this evidence-based program."

"As a physician, I know that medicine doesn't always come in the form of a pill. Eating a diet of fruits and vegetables can help prevent and treat chronic illnesses like heart disease - the leading cause of death among New Yorkers - cancer, and type 2 diabetes," said NYC Health + Hospitals President and CEO Mitchell Katz, MD. "Low-income New Yorkers are much more vulnerable to these diseases and we want to continue offering them an alternative way of eating that works on a limited budget and is accompanied by a network of medical and nutritional professionals. NYC Health + Hospitals is grateful to Mayor Adams for his continued support and innovation as we tackle the problem of chronic illnesses."

"The expansion of our lifestyle medicine services to New Yorkers throughout the five boroughs will

be a powerful tool in addressing the burden of type 2 diabetes, hypertension, and other common chronic conditions, with benefits that could positively impact entire family units and those closest around them," said Michelle McMacken, MD, FACP, DipABLM, executive director, Nutrition and Lifestyle Medicine at NYC Health + Hospitals. "We continue to be grateful to all of our advocates and partners who have made our existing lifestyle medicine services a success and this necessary expansion a reality."

"Today's announcement that H+H's lifestyle medicine services are now available in all five boroughs is an exciting step forward for our city," said Kate MacKenzie, executive director, Mayor's Office of Food Policy. "Healthy food is essential for a healthy life, and this expansion couldn't come at a better time for New Yorkers. I am grateful to Mayor Adams for his passion and commitment to helping all New Yorkers make positive lifestyle changes and to Dr. McMacken and the team at H+H for executing on that vision."

In 2019, with the advocacy of then-Brooklyn Borough President Adams, the Bellevue Plant-Based Lifestyle Medicine Program — among the first of its kind in a safety-net health care setting — was launched. The program takes an interdisciplinary approach to reduce patients' cardiometabolic risk, where a team of physicians, dietitians, and health coaches support patients in making evidence-based lifestyle changes, including adopting a healthy plant-based diet, increasing physical activity, improving sleep habits, reducing stress, avoiding risky substances, and providing social support. The program has received national attention and there has been a high demand for services, including self-referrals from more than 850 New York City residents.

Each of the sites that will be receiving the expanded lifestyle medicine services will be equipped with a full-time dietitian and health coach, as well as physician teams. Participants will be referred by their health care pro-

(Continued on page 3)

DMV# 7103558 108 Auto Service Inc.
宏興車行
Official NYS Inspection Station
Complete Auto Repair & Tires
All Work Guarantee
ASE CERTIFIED

- NYS Approved Auto Technician
- ASE Certified Technician
- Licensed Auto Body Estimator
- ASA Member

DEE 宏
Tel.: (718) 393-3139
Fax: (718) 271-0902
55-26 108 Street, Corona, NY. 11368

Subscribe to the Queens Times

Your Local Newspaper-One Edition for All Of Queens

Just \$36.50 per year... and have the paper delivered to your door by US Mail

Please Enter my Subscription For One Year

Name

Address

City.....Zip.....

Please make check payable to: Queens Times and mail to:
11-20 154th Street, Whitestone, NY 11357



Published every week by C.T. Publishing Corp.

Executive Office: 108-59 49th Avenue, Corona Heights, NY 11368

Operations: 11-20 154th Street, Whitestone, NY 11357

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

The Queens Times, USPS # P127 AIC060 is published weekly by CT Publishing Corp. for an annual subscription charge of \$28.50, mail subscription request to Queens Times, 11-20 154th Street, Whitestone, NY 11357, Periodicals Postage at Flushing, NY. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Queens Times at 11-20 154th Street, Whitestone, NY 11357

Maloney, Brown, Waters Applaud Treasury Proposal to Implement Law Cracking Down on Anonymous Shell Companies

Committee Chairs Who Authored Corporate Transparency Act Offer Detailed Comments on Proposed Rule

Rep. Carolyn B. Maloney, Chairwoman of the House Committee on Oversight and Reform, Sen. Sherrod Brown, Chair of the U.S. Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, and Rep. Maxine Waters, Chairwoman of the House Financial Services Committee, wrote to

Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen and Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN) Acting Director Himamauli Das supporting and responding to FinCEN's proposed rule implementing key sections of the Corporate Transparency Act (CTA).

"As the principal authors and Democratic negotiators of the CTA, we applaud FinCEN for proposing a strong, broad, and flexible rule that hews closely to the statutory text and to congress-

sional intent," the lawmakers commented. They go on to discuss in detail key issues, identify remaining clarifications required, and provide answers to some of the questions posed within the proposed rule.

This letter follows a November letter from the lawmakers urging Treasury to take swift action to implement the CTA and a May letter on CTA implementation in response to FinCEN's Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking.

Statement by NYC Council Chair of Transportation And Infrastructure Selvena N. Brooks-Powers on MTA's Fare Program Announcement

"I am encouraged by the MTA's announcement today expanding lower-cost fare programs. These innovative pilots — including discounts on weekly and monthly passes, fare capping

with OMNY, and an expansion of the City Ticket program — are the tools to increase ridership and reduce travel times.

Affordable transportation is equitable transportation. I

look forward to working with the MTA and our other transportation partners to continue building a transit network that is safe, accessible, reliable, and affordable."

Gillibrand Applauds House Passage of Her Bill to Void And Prevent Forced Arbitration Agreements For Sexual Harassment And Assault; Urges Senate To Quickly Pass Legislation

U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand applauded the House passage of the bipartisan Ending Forced Arbitration of Sexual Assault and Sexual Harassment Act, legislation she authored to prevent perpetrators from being able to push survivors of sexual harassment and assault into the secretive, biased process of forced arbitration. In addition to ending the practice, the legislation would also invalidate existing forced arbitration clauses that prevent sexual assault and sexual harassment survivors from seeking justice and public accountability under the laws meant to protect them.

Gillibrand first introduced the bill in 2017 and reintroduced it last year alongside her Senate co-lead, Senator Lindsey Graham, House lead Representative Cheri Bustos. They were joined by former Fox News anchor Gretchen Carlson. It is widely bipartisan in the Senate, where it has ten Republican co-

sponsors, as well as in the House.

Gillibrand urged the Senate to swiftly take up and pass the legislation.

"This bill is one of the most significant workplace reforms in American history and is a major step forward toward changing a system that uses secrecy to protect perpetrators and silence survivors," said Gillibrand. "The Ending Forced Arbitration of Sexual Assault and Sexual Harassment Act will void existing forced arbitration agreements for sexual harassment and assault and end their use. It will give survivors their day in court, allow them to discuss their cases publicly and end the days of institutional protection for harassers. I urge the Senate to swiftly take up this bill, pass it and send it to President Biden's desk."

Forced arbitration clauses are buried in the fine print of everything from employment

agreements and ubiquitous terms and conditions to everyday digital click-through "agreements." For example, many patients who were sexually assaulted in a nursing home or women pervasively harassed at work are currently unable to tell their story in a public court of law because of forced arbitration.

The bill has been endorsed by American Association for Justice (AAJ), Public Citizen, the National Women's Law Center, the National Partnership for Women & Families, Futures Without Violence, Jewish Women International, Lift Our Voices, National Alliance to End Sexual Violence, National Center on Domestic and Sexual Violence, National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, National Domestic Violence Hotline, National Network to End Domestic Violence, RAINN, RALIANCE, and Sexual Violence Prevention Association.

Rep. Maloney Votes to Pass Groundbreaking Bill to End Forced Arbitration For Sexual Assault & Harassment Survivors

This bill would end forced arbitration for sexual harassment and assault survivors nationwide

Congresswoman Carolyn B. Maloney (D-NY) voted to pass bipartisan, bicameral legislation to end forced arbitration for sexual harassment and assault survivors nationwide.

H.R. 4445, the Ending Forced Arbitration of Sexual Assault and Sexual Harassment Act, would allow sexual harassment and sexual assault survivors to elect to file a case in a court of law rather than be subject to mandatory, forced arbitration provisions in cases involving sexual harassment or sexual assault disputes.

"Sexual assault and harassment at work are all too common," said Rep. Maloney. "Studies estimate that almost a quarter to more than eighty percent of women experience sexual harassment in the workplace in their lifetimes.

Yet many survivors are forced to enter into a private system of arbitration instead of resolving their claims in a court of law. Forced arbitration is a trap — one that many employees do not even know they have entered until after an incident occurs. The Senate must immediately pass this important legislation and protect workers across the country."

By voiding forced arbitration clauses in the case of sexual assault and harassment, survivors are provided the freedom to decide what legal path works best for them — that can include bringing a claim in court, discussing their case publicly, or seeking another kind of legal remedy. It will eliminate institutional protection for harassers and abusers and give survivors the chance to pursue justice.

Background
• Forced Arbitration Clauses Are Ubiquitous, Depriving Americans

of Their Rights to Hold Corporations Publicly Accountable. Over the past several decades, forced arbitration clauses have become commonplace in everyday contracts, employment agreements, and click-through clauses. Often buried deep within the fine print of employment and consumer paperwork, forced arbitration deprives millions of Americans of the right to seek judicial enforcement of their state and federal rights. According to a 2017 report by the Economic Policy Institute, 60.1 million workers—the majority of non-union employees in the private sector—have signed away their rights through forced arbitration clauses.

• Forced Arbitration Circumvents Fundamental Statutory Rights and Protections. Many survivors of systemic sexual harassment are unable to enforce their rights due

(Continued on page 4)

Mayor Adams, NYC Health + Hospitals Expand Access Lifestyle Medicine Services City-Wide

(Continued from page 2)

viders or can self-refer. Eligibility criteria for participants include heart disease, hypertension, type 2 diabetes, prediabetes, and/or health concerns related to obesity.

Patients who enroll in one of the programs will receive a full medical evaluation by a team physician, with special attention to current lifestyle behaviors and social needs. They will also meet individually with a dietitian and a health coach and will participate in group education on topics including nutrition, physical activity, sleep, stress reduction, and other lifestyle pillars. The lifestyle medicine team will individualize the behavior change approach for each patient, considering cultural traditions, socioeconomic circumstances, family situations, and other key factors.

In addition to expanding access to lifestyle medicine services, NYC Health + Hospitals will partner with the American College of Lifestyle Medicine to help provide additional lifestyle medicine training to care teams, as well as with Plant-Powered Metro New York to offer cooking demonstrations to patients at the Kings County Hospital site.

"We know that evidence-based lifestyle medicine programs deliver powerful health outcomes, so seeing the significant expansion of these NYC Health + Hospitals programs to reach more communities affected by chronic disease and health disparities is inspiring," said Dr. Catherine Collings, president, American College of Lifestyle Medicine. "This is innovative, vital, and time-sensitive work that will make a dent in the impact of chronic disease in New York City and provide a model nationwide. We applaud the leadership shown here by Dr. Katz, Dr. McMacken, and Mayor Eric Adams, and we encourage other health systems and political leaders to follow suit."

"We are thrilled to partner with NYC Health + Hospitals to support its patient community with culturally-mindful education and skill-building for healthy eating," said Lianna Levine Reisner, president and network director, Plant Powered Metro New York. "Throughout the city, people from all walks of life are being inspired by the power of food for health. They want to learn how to incorporate more fruits, vegetables, and other healthy plant foods onto their plates and into their daily routines. It's a great step forward to have the investment of the public health care system in life-changing programs and services that prioritize evidence-based nutrition and lifestyle."

NYC Health + Hospitals' expansion of lifestyle medicine services builds on its commitment to put healthy eating and other beneficial lifestyle habits at the forefront of patients' care. In 2019, the system launched Meatless Mondays at all 11 of its acute care hospitals. The program was

launched in an effort to provide a broader range of healthy, appealing meal options to inpatients and introduce them to the benefits of plant-based nutrition so that they could make important lifestyle decisions that would lead to living their healthiest lives.

"We are experiencing the worst public health crisis of our lifetime," said New York City Councilmember Lynn Schulman, chair, Committee on Health. "Contributing to that crisis was the lack of preventive and primary care services throughout the city. Today's announcement is a major step in providing accessible and essential health care services to all New Yorkers. These services will give them not only a revolutionary primary care option but also the opportunity to rethink their lifestyle. The development and expansion of innovative preventive services to address chronic conditions, like diabetes, is an important step in our recovery from COVID. I would like to thank the mayor and NYC Health + Hospitals for their commitment to better health equity for all."

"Communities of color are bombarded with unhealthy food choices and marketing, leading to poor health outcomes and racial disparities in diabetes, heart disease, and much more," said New York State Senator Zellnor Y. Myrie. "It's essential that we protect the health of New Yorkers and ensure they are able to make healthy lifestyle choices. I'm grateful to Mayor Adams and H+H for expanding these services at Kings County Hospital and the surrounding community."

"Connecting people with life altering services like these can change the course of their lives," said New York State Senator Diane Savino. "The connection between diet and disease is well documented and, sadly, far too many Staten Islanders don't know how to turn their health care crisis around. The addition of these services will be more than life altering, they will be life reaffirming."

"For years, the Bronx has lagged behind other counties in health indicators, and the COVID-19 pandemic has further exacerbated existing health issues in our borough," said Bronx Borough President Vanessa L. Gibson. "The expansion of the lifestyle medicine services program citywide, including in two Bronx hospitals, will be an important step towards providing our communities with the resources needed to use food as a tool towards leading an overall healthy life and avoiding chronic illness. I applaud Health + Hospitals, Dr. Katz, Dr. McMacken, and Mayor Eric Adams for their continuous commitment to holistic health and equity."

"The expansion of this initiative will help more New Yorkers maintain healthy lifestyles by providing individualized health improvement plans and support," said New York City Council Speaker Adrienne Adams. "These

(Continued on page 4)

Schumer: Legalize Marijuana Now Across The Nation

Senator Renews Case For Comprehensive Federal Reform That Mirrors New York's Successful Legalization

Schumer, Nadler, Velázquez Show How New Yorkers Are Still Impacted by Federal Prohibition and Call for Swift Passage of Comprehensive Reform that Addresses Damage Done by War on Drugs

Senator Schumer, Members of the New York Congressional

Delegation, Cassandra Frederique, Drug Policy Alliance, and coalition organizations, who helped pass New York's Marijuana Regulation and Taxation Act, reiterated their call for comprehensive, equity-driven marijuana legalization through Congress. They highlighted the successful passage of the MRTA as a model

for how comprehensive legalization can address the harms of the War on Drugs and set up a market that allows small businesses to flourish. Senator Schumer and advocates called attention to the ways in which the federal War on Drugs continues to harm New Yorkers despite legalization in NYS.

Healthcare Infrastructure, Not Intellectual Property, is Key to Defeating Covid

By Joe Crowley

When you've made a wrong turn, pushing ahead only takes you further from your destination. It's a lesson that's apparently lost on many officials at the World Trade Organization, who are continuing to entertain a proposal to invalidate intellectual property protections on Covid-19 vaccines, long after it has become obvious that these legal safeguards aren't to blame for the low vaccination rate in many countries.

Let's back up. In the fall of 2020, a group of countries led by India and South Africa petitioned World Trade Organization members to waive intellectual property rights on all Covid-19-related technology.

The petitioners feared the United States would invent vaccines first -- and then hoard its supplies or charge extortionate prices to foreign buyers.

India and South Africa said they could solve this theoretical problem by forcing companies to hand over their patents and trade secrets, giving up the longstanding, internationally agreed IP rights that undergird so much global trade.

It wasn't a convincing argument, but, panicked by the pandemic, some gave it the benefit of the doubt. Today, though, it has

been utterly debunked by actual events.

As expected, companies in the United States developed some of the first and most effective inoculations. But fears of hoarding proved unwarranted. To date, more than 8.5 billion doses have been administered around the world.

The United States has already sent more than 300 million donated doses abroad and committed to sending a total of at least 1.1 billion.

Not only have fears of a vaccine shortage not come true, analysts actually expect a glut of doses by next summer.

In this context, the idea of waiving IP rights makes less sense every day.

And doing so would have serious downsides: Strong IP protections ensure long-term investment in pharmaceuticals and many other industries.

Yet some countries and organizations continue to press their case at the WTO and the Biden administration unfortunately still says it supports an IP waiver. Keeping this debate alive distracts from strategies that would actually deliver more jabs, at a time when we urgently need to solve distribution problems. While 58% of the global population has received at least one shot, rates vary wildly

by region. In the Americas, at least 70% of the population has received at least one dose, while in the Middle East that figure is 49% and in Africa, just 12%.

Much of the problem comes down to a lack of infrastructure.

Moderna's CEO Stéphane Bancel recently reported that 70 million doses of the company's vaccine were sitting in warehouses because destination countries could not receive, refrigerate, or distribute them. Covax reports that half the world's poorest countries have used less than 75 percent of the vaccines they have received.

As Isabelle Defourny, Director of Operations for Doctors Without Borders, recently wrote, vaccine coverage in some of the worst-hit developing countries is impeded by "the lack of a functioning healthcare system; insecurity linked to conflict; and the rejection of vaccines by some people."

These are real challenges, to be sure. But none will be solved by the continued effort to gut IP rights. It's time to move on from an argument the facts have rendered moot, and focus on tactics that will actually help defeat the pandemic.

Joe Crowley represented New York's 7th and 14th congressional districts from 1999 to 2019. This piece originally ran in the International Business Times.

Rep. Maloney Votes to Pass Groundbreaking Bill to End Forced Arbitration For Sexual Assault & Harassment Survivors

(Continued from page 3)

to forced arbitration provisions imposed on them as a condition of employment or doing business. In this respect, as Professor Myriam Gilles of Cardozo School of Law observes, "forced arbitration is not an alternative regime for resolving claims, it is a means of suppressing legal claims altogether." Judge William G. Young, who was appointed by President Ronald Reagan, likewise stated that the proliferation of

forced arbitration clauses means that "business has a good chance of opting out of the legal system altogether and misbehaving without reproach."

• Forced Arbitration is a Secretive Process Without Adequate and Enforceable Legal Safeguards. Unlike in the justice system, the results of forced arbitration cases are often secret. As a coalition of 50 state attorneys general have noted, this perpetuates "a culture of silence that protects perpetrators at the cost of

their victims." In forced arbitration, a company may limit discovery, formal civil procedure rules, access to counsel, the right to bring similar claims jointly, or increase the expense of even bringing a claim. The party imposing forced arbitration often selects the presiding arbitrator, creating a conflict of interest in which the "neutral" arbitrator may be motivated more by the prospect of obtaining repeat business from the company than by providing a fair assessment of the claim.

Mayor Adams, NYC Health + Hospitals Expand Access Lifestyle Medicine Services City-Wide

(Continued from page 3)

services are critical for the many patients suffering from chronic disease to achieve holistic and long-term lifestyle changes that reduce their health risks. I thank Mayor Adams and NYC Health + Hospitals for expanding access to this innovative program."

"Offering lifestyle medicine service to more New Yorkers is a

big step towards achieving health care equity in our city," said New York City Councilmember Mercedes Narcisse, chair, Committee on Hospitals. "With communities of color being disproportionately affected by diseases, such as hypertension, diabetes, and other chronic illnesses, broadening access to this program within the H+H system will certainly be a valuable tool in helping patients

make healthier, potentially life-saving, changes to their diet and lifestyle."

"I applaud the mayor for the attention he is bringing to the health of New Yorkers, and ultimately as an example for the nation," said New York City Councilmember Gale Brewer. "Eating more vegetables, fruits, and legumes

(Continued on page 5)

A Message From The Comptroller



Dear New Yorkers,

As we round the corner on the Omicron wave, there are many signs of a continuing economic recovery in NYC. Job creation is up and NYC's unemployment rate is trending down, though still higher than the national rate. Despite a dip between the holidays and the surge in infections, security card and mobility data show New Yorkers are once again returning to offices.

Our spotlight this month high-

lights one piece of good news for that recovery and NYC's FY23 budget: property values have recovered much more strongly than anticipated, and overall are now above pre-pandemic values.

While there's reason to be optimistic about our city's overall economy, there are serious questions about whether all New Yorkers will benefit. Persistent inflation represents a challenge for low-wage workers. Rental inventory has dropped below pre-pandemic lows, and asking rents are rising rapidly just as the eviction moratorium that has kept many in their homes expired.

We'll be watching the numbers closely over the coming months, with a keen eye on whether it will be an inclusive recovery shared across all NYC neighborhoods.

Sincerely,
Brad Lander

BUY AMERICAN



HIRE AMERICAN



SENATOR JAMES SANDERS JR. & THE AMERICAN RED CROSS

FREE

SMOKE ALARM AND CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTOR FULLY INSTALLED IN YOUR HOME



Just Fill Out the Application Online
<https://tinyurl.com/y28zx5fs>

Start Date: February 3, 2022
End Date: March 4, 2022



If you have questions, or do not have Internet access and need assistance applying, call Senator Sanders' Office at
718-523-3069 or 718-327-7017



CONCORD PEST CONTROL, LLC.

RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL
LICENSED & INSURED
516-334-1794

FOR ALL YOUR PEST PROBLEMS:
COCKROACHES
RODENTS
ANTS
WASPS
TERMITES



DEAL DIRECTLY WITH OWNER/OPERATOR
TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT CALL BUTCH AT 516-334-1794

MTA Fare Change Pilot to Begin at End of Month

More Affordable, More Flexible and More Fair: OMNY Will Offer Best Weekly Fares Automatically with New Fare Capping LIRR and Metro-North to Offer New 20-Trip Tickets and 10% Discount Off of Monthly Tickets To Encourage Commuter Rail Ridership Within New York City, MTA to Extend Weekend 'City Ticket' Pricing to Weekday Off-Peak Trains
New Fare Offerings Take Effect Feb. 25 for Commuter Railroads, Feb. 28 for New York City Transit

To encourage New Yorkers to get back on subways, buses, and trains, and to reduce the cost and worry surrounding everyday travel, the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) has announced a pilot fare program that is more affordable, more flexible and more fair.

The temporary promotional changes to fare structures will begin Feb. 28 for New York City Transit and Feb. 25 for commuter rail tickets. The pilot will last for at least four months.

"Bringing riders back to mass transit depends on three variables – reliability, safety and price. We've made it a priority to get creative on fares," said MTA Chair and CEO Janno Lieber. "Transit affordability is also an equity issue, and we are committed to providing a wide range of new discounts, while ensuring the MTA maintains a solid bottom line."

"Fare capping will save many of our riders money and give them more flexibility," said MTA Chief



Customer Officer Sarah Meyer. "At a time when New Yorkers are paying more for everyday items, the MTA is helping them save money on transportation, one of their most essential expenses. Customers no longer have to choose between buying a weekly unlimited pass or paying per ride: With OMNY, they will always get the best deal automatically. We hope riders embrace the new program, and we'll be watching to see how it affects our operations and farebox revenue. If the pilot is successful, we could extend it or make it permanent."

Fare Capping Pilot for New York City Transit – Free Unlimited Rides Achieved After 12 OMNY Taps Automatically, Monday Through Sunday

The best weekly fare will be

available to all riders who tap with OMNY, without the burden of pre-paying for the week, or having to track their progress. OMNY's technology provides enhanced flexibility to subway, local bus, and Staten Island Railway customers, so they can start accumulating the benefits weekly without having to sign up. Anybody with a device or contactless card can start tapping their way to free rides as long as they use the same device or card each time.

Customers who tap and go with OMNY will be charged the standard \$2.75 pay-per-ride fare for their first 12 trips starting every Monday. Any trips after that through the following Sunday would be free.

(Continued on page 9)

Nantasha Williams & Linda Lee Elected Queens Delegation Co-Chairs



Nantasha Williams

New York City Council Members Nantasha Williams (D- St. Albans) and Linda Lee (D- Oakland Gardens) announced their winning election by their colleagues to serve as Co-Chairs of the Queens Delegation of the New York City Council on Friday, February 4th, 2022.

"I am so proud to be chosen by my colleagues to serve as Co-Chair for the Queens Delegation alongside Council Member Nantasha Williams," said Council Member Linda Lee. "In Queens, we find strength in our unity and our diversity. Throughout the borough we have so many different communities, priorities, and needs, yet we recognize that we can only achieve these things by working together. As Co-Chair of this delegation, I promise to lead with fairness, open-mindedness, and equity for all, and will cherish the trust placed in me by my colleagues."

"It's with great honor to serve as Co-Chair for the Queens Delegation alongside my neighbor



Linda Lee

and colleague Council Member Linda Lee," said Council Member Nantasha Williams. "Working together will strengthen our district bonds and showcase the importance of partnership and diversity presented in our districts. I believe in an equitable distribution of funds for all districts and finding common ground within the delegation while respecting our differences and respective decisions. I am committed to collaboration to help bring change to our communities and eager to foster relationships with my colleagues in government as Co-Chair of the Queens Delegation."

Williams and Lee will succeed former Council Member Karen Koslowitz who chaired the delegation from 2015-2021. They will lead the delegation's budget negotiations during the City's discretionary budget process for Fiscal Year 2023. In FY 2022, the Queens Delegation

(Continued on page 10)

TAKE CONTROL OF YOUR ENERGY

With the new Smart Meters installed across Queens, you have more control over your energy than ever before. Now, you can monitor your energy usage in 15-minute intervals, set up high bill alerts, and receive personalized energy-saving tips. See how you can take control of your energy today.

Learn more at conEd.com/MyAccount

Community Launches Hate Free Zone to Combat Anti-Asian Violence

Organizers Proclaim Flushing is "Open to All" and "Hate Has No Place Here" As Neighborhood Reopens Amidst Pandemic

The Minkwon Center for Community Action in partnership with The Greater Flushing Chamber of Commerce and other community organizations, launched the Hate Free Zones initiative today to create safe spaces in Flushing and host Know Your Rights sessions on immigration, community safety, and housing to address the recent surge of attacks on Asian American community members.

"As the pandemic recedes and our community reopens, it's important to welcome people of all backgrounds and emphasize that 'Flushing Is Open to All,'" stated John Choe, Executive Director of the Greater Flushing Chamber of Commerce. "Since the 1657 Flushing Remonstrance, when residents and business owners fought for religious liberty, our community has been a beacon for inclusion and freedom for people from around the world. As we celebrate the Year of the Tiger, we must redouble our efforts to bring people together, fight against bigotry and violence, and proclaim to the world that 'Hate Has No Place Here!'"

The Hate Free Zones will work alongside small businesses in Flushing and civic groups that provide support to the AAPI community to create safe spaces and begin conversations about what it means to re-open Flushing "the right way" after the COVID-19 pandemic devastated many small businesses. As it is Lunar New Year, which focuses on new beginnings, this is especially important. The project aims to create an inclusive, welcoming Flushing as a direct counter to the xenophobia that has been directed towards the



AAPI community members.

Speakers at today's event included John Park, Executive Director of the Minkwon Center; Jennifer Sun, Co-Executive Director of Asian Americans for Equality (AAFE); Ikhwan Rim, President of the Union Street Small Business Association; Jessica Park, Immigrant Justice Organizer of the Minkwon Center; and, Tasnia Muskan, Student of the Macaulay Honors College at the City University of New York (CUNY).

"We at AAFE are proud to stand with dedicated community organizers in support of a Hate Free Zone in Flushing," said Jennifer Sun, co-executive director of Asian Americans for Equality (AAFE). "Nothing could be more important than protecting our seniors and other vulnerable community members who are struggling to overcome the health and economic impacts of the pandemic. Our staff and volunteers are looking forward to working together with the

Flushing community to create safe spaces, provide desperately needed resources and begin a constructive neighborhood-wide dialogue to further greater understanding and unity."

Event organizers were also joined by business leaders and community partners Sang Ho Lee, President of the Korean-American Nail Salon Association of New York; Eun Kyung Kim, Executive Director of the Young Women's Christian Association of Queens; and, representatives from the Office of the New York City Public Advocate Jumaane Williams and New York State Senator John C. Liu.

The MinKwon Center for Community Action empowers the Korean American community and works with the wider Asian Pacific American (APA) and immigrant communities to achieve economic and social justice for all. For more information, visit minkwon.org.

QBP Richards on President Biden's Visit to Queens



Queens Borough President Donovan Richards Jr. stated the following in response to President Biden's visit to Queens today, February 3, and the Biden Administration's efforts to combat gun violence and support community intervention programs.

"Less than 24 hours ago, Queens came together for a powerful vigil honoring Detectives Jason Rivera and Wilbert Mora — two young men of color who dedicated their lives to inclusive, community-first policing. Queens knows our response to their murders and the continued spate of gun violence across our city must mirror the inclusivity these two heroes practiced every single time they put on their uniform," said Borough President RICHARDS.

"As he demonstrated today in his visit to The World's Borough, President Biden wholly believes in striking that necessary balance between firmly cracking down on those who traffic often untraceable guns into our city via the Iron Pipeline and addressing the root causes of violence in our city, while empowering our networks of community violence interrupters who save lives every day. I am deeply grateful to the President for not only his presence here in Queens today, but his pledge of close partnership.

"It is abundantly clear that much more work needs to be done on every level of government, from passing common-sense gun violence prevention measures in Congress to dramatically increasing funding for our cure violence movement here at home," continued Borough President RICHARDS. "Lives are on the line. Lives continue to be lost. The White House understands this scourge requires holistic and urgent action, and I am ready to work with all our partners, from President Biden on down, to keep Queens families safe."

Italian American Journal



To read GIA online in English and Italian
Visit www.giamondo.com

Servicing The Tri-State Area and Long Island, Florida and Italy

Bilingual Live Wax Museum Project Highlights Catholic School's Week Celebration at Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Academy

Fourth-grade students at Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Academy, located in the Forest Hills section of Queens, presented a Live Wax Museum as they concluded their celebration of Catholic Schools Week. Academy students and parents had the opportunity to tour the student-created "museum."

The display featured 22 figures from the past and present that come from Hispanic countries, including: baseball great Alex Rodriguez, the "Queen of Salsa" Celia Cruz, singer Bruno Mars, politician, and activist Evita Peron, United States Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor, and famed artist Pablo Picasso.

As part of this Catholic Schools Week special project, students have studied the lives of these famed figures, created costumes, and prepared special presentation boards. The students posed and waited until visitors pushed the red button. Then they came alive and relayed important facts about their lives in both English and Spanish.

"This exhibit showcased who we are as a school community,



Wax_Museum_Paloma_Picasso

with a group effort of parents, teachers, and students. The students were able to utilize their research and public speaking skills to make these figures come to life. The students were so proud, and so was I, in what we accomplished today," said Dana McCann, Principal of Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Academy.

"This is a project that helps the students understand the real-world connection, that Spanish is not just a vocabulary list in a classroom. With this experience, our students learned that anyone from any part of the world can aspire to be a leader in their field," said Sandra Paz, the Spanish teacher at Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Academy.

God Bless America

Vallone & Vallone Attorneys at Law



Over
80 Years
Of Legal Excellence

Estates & Elder Law Planning - Wills & Trusts
Family Home and Asset Protection
Full Real Estate Representation
Personal Injury - Civil & Criminal Litigation

WWW.VALLONELAW.COM

Three Convenient Locations

22-45 31st Street
Astoria, NY 11115
(718) 284-2929

at Central
Sacco & Filizis LLP
42-40 Bell Boulevard, Suite 301
Bayside, NY 11361
(718) 428-7285

233 Broadway, Suite 638
New York, NY 10279
(212) VALLONE

A FAMILY
TRADITION OF
LEGAL AND
COMMUNITY
SERVICE
SINCE 1932

IT'S IN QUEENS

(Feb. 10 to Feb. 16)

The Super Bowl is in California, but super fun is in Queens this week. A musical, a dance-in-the-house performance, blind dates, a romantic hike, and purple comedy will make people forget about the NFL.

- Feb. 10, *Man of La Mancha*, Feb. 26. This 1965 musical is inspired by the 17th century novel "Don Quixote" by Miguel de Cervantes. This time, the protagonist awaits a hearing with the Spanish Inquisition. Hilarity ensues along with some great music and wacky plot twists. Shows are on Thursdays and Saturdays at 7 pm and on Saturdays and Sundays at 3 pm. Astoria Performing Arts Center, 44-01 23rd St., Long Island City.

- Feb. 10, *Louis Armstrong and Civil Rights in America*, Feb. 26. Celebrate Black History Month with the Black and Blue tour, which takes a deep look at Satchmo's music, character, and values. Louis Armstrong House Museum, 34-56 107th St., Corona.

- Feb. 10, *Thursday Night Jazz: Emma Frank*, 8 pm. Emma Frank's last album, "Ocean Av," combines modern jazz sensibilities and folk songwriting. Jamaica Center for Arts & Learning, 161-04 Jamaica Ave.

- Feb. 10, *Portraits of Café Society in 1930s*, 1 pm. Isamu Noguchi expert Alex Ross discusses the artist's involvement with the NYC Café Society in the 1930s during this zoom.

- Feb. 11, *The Legend of Woody Strode*, March 6. Woody Strode was one of the first African Americans to play in the NFL in 1947. Afterward, he had a long career in Hollywood with roles in the "Tarzan" movies, Stanley Kubrick's "Spartacus," and Valerio Zurlini's "Black Jesus," his first top billing. This program screens Strode films with the following schedule: "Sergeant Rutledge," Feb. 11, 7 pm; "Sergeant Rutledge," Feb. 12, 3:30 pm; "The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance," Feb. 12, 6 pm; "Pork Chop Hill," Feb. 13, 1 pm; "The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance," Feb. 18, 7 pm; "The Last Voyage" + "Tarzan's Fight For Life,"

- Feb. 19, 12:30 pm; "Pork Chop Hill," Feb. 19, 4 pm; "The Professionals," Feb. 19, 6 pm; "The Last Voyage" + "Tarzan's Fight For Life," Feb. 20, 12:30 pm; "The Professionals," Feb. 20, 1:30 pm; "Once Upon a Time in the West," Feb. 25, 6:30 pm; "Black Jesus," Feb. 27, 1 pm; "Once Upon a Time in the West," Feb. 27, 3:30 pm; "Keoma," March 4, 3:30 pm; "Black Jesus," March 4, 7 pm; "Posse," March 5, 6 pm; "Keoma," March 6, 1:30 pm; and "Posse," March 6, 4 pm. Museum of the Moving Image, 36-01 35th Ave., Astoria's Kaufman Arts District.

- Feb. 11, *Blind Date: Who's Behind the Curtain?*, 7 pm. A blind date game show hosted by comedian Katie Boyle that ends in couple matching. New York Irish Center, 10-40 Jackson Ave., Long Island City.



- Feb. 11, *Three Nights of Dance*, Feb. 13. Robert Mark Dance and Gabriella Carmichael perform as part of the ongoing Take Root program on Feb. 11 and Feb. 12 at 8 pm. Various artists present new works as part of the ongoing Fertile Ground program on Feb. 13 at 7 pm. Green Space, 37-24 24th St., Long Island City.

- Feb. 11, *Muppet Treasure Island*, 3 pm. This swashbuckling adventure is Brian Henson's musical adaptation of Robert Louis Stevenson's novel. Celebrate the film's 26th anniversary – the 25th was cancelled due to Covid last year -- in Muppet fashion. Museum of the Moving Image, 36-01 35th Ave., Astoria's Kaufman Arts District.

- Feb. 12, *Sweetheart Sunset Hike*, 5 pm. Jocelyn Perez is a naturalist, conservationist, and the Queens Chapter Coordinator of Herbalists Without Borders. She explains local flora during this walk. Plus, participants are entered into a raffle to win three Valentine's Day prizes. Alley Pond Environmental Center, 224-65 76th Ave., Oakland Gardens.

- Feb. 12, *Black History Trilogy: A Tribute to Jimi Hendrix*, 7 pm. Jimmy Blue, who has been a Hendrix tribute artist since 1968, performs with Moby Medina on bass and Ted Edwards on drums. Flushing Town Hall, 137-35 Northern Blvd.

- Feb. 12, *Tribute to Peter Bogdanovich*, Feb. 18. The recently deceased Peter Bogdanovich left a robust legacy of more than 50 years of filmmaking, publishing, acting, and storytelling. This tribute showcases two of the director's underappreciated works from the latter half of the 1970s. "At Long Last Love" is on Feb. 12 at 1 pm and Feb. 18 at 3 pm. "Saint Jack" shows on Feb. 13 at 4 pm. Museum of the Moving Image, 36-01 35th Ave., Astoria's Kaufman Arts District.

- Feb. 12, *Meet the Artist*, 2 pm. Angela Hugenschmidt meets people and discusses her Chinese calligraphy and paintings that are on view until Feb. 26. Maple Grove Cemetery, 127-15 Kew Gardens Rd.

- Feb. 13, *Mini-Global Mashup 6: Korea Meets Armenia*, 1 pm. Renowned violin player Sita Chay and multi-instrumentalist Ara Dinkjian jam with percussionist

Satoshi Takeishi. Flushing Town Hall, 137-35 Northern Blvd.

- Feb. 13, *Year of Uncertainty Closing*, 2 pm. A public reception to celebrate Year of Uncertainty exhibitions and projects, including solo shows by YoU Artists-In-Residence Gabo Camnitzer, Tecumseh Ceaser, Utsa Hazarika, Mo Kong, Julian Louis Phillips, Alex Strada, and Tali Keren. Presentations by YoU community partners, too. Queens Museum, NYC Building, Flushing Meadows Corona Park.

- Feb. 13, *Science on Screen: Extinction and Otherwise*, Ongoing. This long-term series, which examines species survival, kicks off with "The World, the Flesh, and the Devil" at 3 pm and Hiroshi Teshigahara's "Woman in the Dunes" at 5 pm. These films highlight how people of different backgrounds are impacted by disasters. Museum of the Moving Image, 36-01 35th Ave., Astoria's Kaufman Arts District.

- Feb. 13, *Purple Park Comedy: Valentine's Day Special*, 7 pm. NYC-based comedians put on a show to rival the Super Bowl. QED, 27-16 23rd Ave., Astoria.

- Feb. 13, *Flushing Freedom Mile*, 11 am. Celebrate Black History Month with Urban Park Rangers on a walk of the Flushing Freedom Mile. Learn about historic landmarks including the Bowne House, Lewis Latimer House Museum, and Friends Meeting and their connection to the Underground Railroad. Meet at Northern Boulevard and Linden Place in the Daniel Carter Beard Mall.

- Feb. 13, *Victorian-Inspired Treasure Boxes*, 1 pm. Create a special treasure box in a lavish Victorian-inspired style during this workshop. Decoupage with gilded touches, velvet or brocade. Voelker Orth Museum, 149-19 38th Ave., Flushing.

- Feb. 16, *Dream A Little Dream*, 6 pm. This surreal dance-and-music film swirls through the garden and exquisitely decorated rooms of the Louis Armstrong House Museum in Corona. It features signature Jazz tunes made famous by Satchmo and performed by the Queens College Jazz Repertoire Ensemble. Queens College, LeFrak Concert Hall, 153-49 Reeves Ave., Flushing.

A & F Auto Repairs, Inc.

General Auto Repairs
(Foreign and Domestic)
Accessories
• Tires • Batteries
• Electronic Tune-ups
• Inspection Station
• Towing

ARIS & FRANK

43-05 111th Street • Corona Heights, NY
Greek, Spanish and Italian Spoken

(718) 592-7470 (718) 699-2499

Choose **Citibus** for EXPERIENCE, Reliability & Safety!

SERVING YOUR COMMUNITY

Bus service to:
Bronx High School of Science
High School of American Studies

Check our website for service contracts
www.citibusnyc.com
(718) 767-0353
CitibusCorp.
151-19 Sixth Road
Whitestone, NY 11357
(718) 767-0353
www.citibusnyc.com

Licensed Insured

ROCCO
CONSTRUCTION GROUP

Kitchens-Bathrooms-Roofs-Custom Tile Installations
Tel: 718-314-7474

rvr@RoccoConGroup.com www.RoccoConGroup.com

Mayor Adams, NYC Health + Hospitals Expand Access Lifestyle Medicine Services City-Wide

(Continued from page 4)

most certainly will improve our immune system and keep New York strong. If this effort is coupled with training on how to prepare meals made from real, whole, delicious foods and not just swapping out one processed food for another. I am 100 percent on board.”

“I applaud Mayor Adams’ holistic approach to medicine and the overall health and wellness of New Yorkers with the expansion of the Plant-Based Lifestyle Medicine Program to six more New York City hospitals,” said New York City Councilmember Amanda Farias. “I know that the neighborhoods and patients served by Jacobi Hospital will greatly benefit from the opportunity to have services to make healthier lifestyle changes to help with chronic disease and illness. Public health needs to be a constant priority for our communities. Thank you, Mayor Adams and NYC Health, + Hospitals, for your leadership in prioritizing the health and wellness of New York City.”

“As a lifelong vegetarian, I know that lifestyle choices have a direct impact on health. I’m excited that NYC Health + Hospitals will expand their lifestyle medicine program to Elmhurst Hospital, so that our community can access the life-saving expertise of physicians, dietitians, and health coaches,” said New York City Councilmember Shekar Krishnan.

“NYC Health + Hospitals is leading the way in offering health care services that affect patients’ everyday lifestyle habits,” said New York City Councilmember Julie Menin. “Proper and effective nutritional guides and services are most important for our vulnerable populations, like those with chronic conditions. Expanding the reach of these services citywide provides access to dietary resources that individualizes its patients and offers an equitable approach for contemporary lifestyle needs.” “A healthy lifestyle is the cornerstone of any person’s well-being,” said New York City Councilmember Chi Osse. “It is wonderful to see the city taking these steps to elevate this important component of health care, as well as to know that this program will be carried out in a culturally-mindful manner.”

“There is no question that Mayor Eric Adams and NYC Health + Hospitals have embarked on a winning strategy to provide the most powerful patient-centric health and healing services to their communities,” said Dr. Dexter Shurney, senior vice president/ chief medical officer, Adventist Health Wellbeing, president, Blue Zones Well-Being Institute. “Lifestyle medicine is a proven model for the prevention, treatment, and reversal of disease. As a result of NYC Health + Hospitals’ commendable expansion of their lifestyle medicine services, patients will benefit from improved health outcomes and well-being. This is truly a model to inspire

the nation.”

“Today we face not just a pandemic of COVID-19, but also a pandemic of cardiovascular disease—which scientific literature demonstrates could be dramatically improved with the nutrition and lifestyle behaviors that Dr. McMacken has championed for years,” said Kim Allan Williams, Sr., M.D., MACC, FAHA, MASNC, FESC, James B. Herrick professor and chief, Division of Cardiology, Rush University Medical Center; past-president, American College of Cardiology. “I applaud Mayor Adams, Dr. Katz, and Dr. McMacken for supporting the expansion of lifestyle medicine programs across NYC Health + Hospitals. This is timely if we expect to improve outcomes, extend lives, reduce health care costs and sustain the planet.”

“Investing in affordable, accessible, science-backed ways to use lifestyle as medicine for preventing and managing chronic diseases is the future of medicine,” said Sharon Horesh Bergquist, MD, FACP, Rollins senior distinguished clinician and associate professor of Medicine, Emory School of Medicine; founding director, Emory Lifestyle Medicine & Wellness. “I believe the expansion of lifestyle medicine services at NYC Health + Hospitals combined with Dr. Michelle McMacken’s leadership are a giant step toward addressing epidemic rates of diabetes, cardiovascular disease, and obesity.”

“The American Heart Association supports efforts designed to make New Yorkers healthier. Better dietary habits, as well as increasing access to physical activity, improved sleep, stress reduction, and tobacco cessation are all needed to improve health outcomes in our city, especially in under-resourced communities,” said Rafael Ortiz, M.D., president, American Heart Association Board of Directors in New York City, and chief of Neuro-Endovascular Surgery, Lenox Hill Hospital. “The American Heart Association applauds the mayor and his administration’s efforts to make health a priority for all New Yorkers.”

“We cannot transform health care without addressing unhealthy lifestyle behaviors, the root cause of our chronic disease burden. Even though we know that the single greatest opportunity to improve health and reduce premature deaths lies in personal behavior, we have not addressed this major health determinant,” said Padmaja Patel, MD, FACLM, DipABLM, medical director, Lifestyle Medicine Center, Midland Health in Midland, Texas. “It is so encouraging to see NYC Health + Hospitals leading the nation in bringing about real change in health care under the leadership of Dr. Katz, Dr. McMacken, and Mayor Eric Adams. It is time lifestyle medicine becomes foundational to all health and health care.”

“We applaud the expansion of this powerful Lifestyle Medicine program throughout the NYC Health + Hospitals system,” said Robert Ostfeld, MD, MSc.,

director, Preventive Cardiology, Montefiore Health System. “In our aligned Cardiac Wellness Program at Montefiore, we encourage patients to embrace a plant-based diet with the goal of preventing disease and improving cardiovascular risk. In our experience, such interventions can lead to profound health benefits. This NYC Health + Hospitals initiative is an inspiration to health care systems worldwide, a boon for New Yorkers, and we are proud to share a similar vision.”

“NYC Health + Hospitals’ groundbreaking lifestyle program, supported by Mayor Eric Adams, is designed to incorporate plant-based diet resources, evidence-based nutrition, and lifestyle changes, and dietitians—everything New York City needs,” said Theresa Gentile, MS, RDN, CDN, New York City media representative, New York State Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. “Science has long shown that lifestyle improvement aids in the management of chronic medical conditions and now New York City residents can receive culturally-minded skill building for healthy eating at six public health care sites citywide.”

“Broader access to lifestyle medicine services are needed now more than ever to address the epidemic of chronic diseases, like diabetes, obesity, and heart disease,” said Dr. Kristi Artz, medical director, Lifestyle Medicine program, Spectrum Health in Grand Rapids, Michigan. “The leadership shown by Mayor Eric Adams and Dr. McMacken is an inspiring example of how a city and a health system can come together to reach communities at scale for positive health impact using evidence-based lifestyle approaches. My hope is this will provide a framework for other cities to follow.”

“I am thrilled to hear about the expansion of this groundbreaking evidence-based Lifestyle Medicine program to more of NYC Health + Hospitals patient care sites—this is truly a game changer,” said Mahima Gulati, MD, MSc, ECNU, FACE, FACLM, DipABLM, director, Lifestyle Medicine Program, Middlesex Health; attending endocrinologist, Middlesex Health Multispecialty Endocrinology; assistant professor, Frank H. Netter MD School of Medicine, Quinnipiac University. “Dr McMacken and her team at NYC Health + Hospitals/Bellevue have done trailblazing work empowering patients with simple, powerful, scientific tools that not only add years to their life, but also add life to their years. The six pillars of Lifestyle Medicine have been consistently shown to decrease blood sugars in patients with diabetes and in some cases, even reverse type 2 diabetes. I am hopeful that NYC Health + Hospitals’ leading plant-based program will set off ripple effects across health systems all over the country and inspire creation of similar programs nationwide, to help alleviate chronic disease burden and suffering among all communities.”

Maloney Votes to Pass America COMPETES Act of 2022

Legislative Package Includes Rep. Maloney’s Women and Minorities in STEM Booster Act

Congresswoman Carolyn B. Maloney (D-NY) released the following statement after House passage of H.R. 4521, the America COMPETES Act of 2022.

“I am delighted to be a co-sponsor of and vote for the America COMPETES Act, a bold legislative package which will make necessary new investments in research, innovation, and American manufacturing. This package will accelerate the production of critical semiconductor chips in the United States, strengthen the supply chain by making more goods at home, turbocharge our research capacity to lead the technologies of the future, and advance our global competitiveness, all while supporting strong labor standards and human rights.

“I’m especially proud that this package includes my Women and Minorities in STEM Booster Act, which encourages the recruitment and retention of women and minority students into science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields. Women and minorities are under-represented in STEM jobs and in the educational pipelines necessary to gain the skills and training needed to enter these growing career fields. As we continue to recover from the economic crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, investing in our skilled workforce, especially in STEM fields, is more important than ever.

“The America COMPETES Act also includes H.R. 4469, a bill I co-lead to ensure the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board has the authority and resources it needs to protect civil liberties through oversight of artificial intelligence use by executive branch agencies.

“Now is the time to boldly and strategically invest in our nation’s future—to promote America’s economic strength, national security, and leadership in the world. This transformative legislation will ensure that America can out-compete any nation, for decades

to come.”

Background - The America COMPETES Act includes bold, smart, and strategic investments to power the success of America’s workers, businesses, and economy based on bipartisan bills including:

- Supercharging investments in semiconductor chips: with \$52 billion to support U.S. production of semiconductors—a key component in consumer electronics, cars, defense systems, and other key products—address supply chain disruptions that push up costs for families, bring back chips production to America and ensure that the U.S. leads the way on semiconductor fabrication.

- Strengthening supply chains and manufacturing at home: with \$45 billion to support the manufacture and acquisition of critical goods or industrial equipment that are essential for national security and economic vitality—including public health and biological preparedness, information and communications technology, the energy and transportation sector’s industrial base, and agricultural commodities and food product supply chains. COMPETES reduces our reliance on critical goods from countries of concern and encourages the relocation of manufacturing facilities out of these countries.

- Advancing American scientific research and innovation excellence: ensure that we lead the technologies of the future with a suite of bipartisan science, research and technology bills to turbocharge American innovation, focused squarely on producing solutions and results. COMPETES also maximizes the American talent pool by strengthening and diversifying our nation’s STEM workforce.

- Promoting U.S. global leadership: positioning the interests and values of the United States, not China, to win on the world stage, including with strong action to hold the PRC accountable for its trade abuses, which hurt U.S. workers, and for its human rights violations, including the genocide against the Uyghurs.

MTA Fare Change Pilot to Begin at End of Month

(Continued from page 6)

As a result, no OMNY customer would pay more than \$33.00 per week, which is the current price of a seven-day unlimited-ride MetroCard. This way customers receive the benefits of a seven-day unlimited-ride card without having to decide to pay upfront.

Free transfers between subways and buses will continue to be offered to all customers under this pilot. Two-part trips that are linked by a free transfer between subway and bus are considered one trip toward the 12 needed to reach the free-fare threshold each week.

Three Big Fare Changes for the Long Island Rail Road and Metro-North Railroad

The MTA recognizes the evolving transportation needs of

our customers with flexible work hours, and the fare pilot offers new, more affordable ticketing options for Long Island Rail Road and Metro-North Railroad customers.

- The pilot also offers promotional fares designed to encourage railroad ridership within New York City. The MTA will offer three major changes to railroad fares.

- A new 20-trip ticket will offer 20% off comparable 20 peak one-way fares when purchased through MTA eTix, or at a ticket window. These tickets are valid for 60 days.

- Monthly tickets, which are currently discounted between 48% and 61% of the price of a comparable number of one-way peak

(Continued on page 10)

Attorney General James Secures Reimbursements For Consumers Charged For COVID-19 Vaccine Administration Fees

Embassy Pharmacy and Fulton Drugs Were Found to Have Improperly Charged Hundreds of COVID-19 Vaccine Recipients a Fee when Administering the Vaccine

New York Attorney General Letitia James has announced that her office secured refunds for New Yorkers who were wrongfully charged administration fees from two pharmacies when they received their COVID-19 vaccine. The Office of the Attorney General (OAG) found that Embassy Pharmacy, in Manhattan improperly charged a vaccine administration fee of \$25 to approximately 275 consumers that received a COVID-19 vaccination. Similarly, Fulton Drugs, in Brooklyn, charged a vaccine administration fee of \$20 or \$25 to approximately 175 consumers. In accordance with the agreements, the pharmacies have reimbursed all improperly charged vaccine recipients and will implement stronger training programs for staff.

“Make no mistake: COVID vaccines are free to all who seek them,” said Attorney General James. “New Yorkers should not be charged fees to receive the vaccines. If they are, my office will work to ensure they are reimbursed for the charges.”

The OAG first launched its investigation in March of 2021, following reports from New Yorkers who were charged for vaccines. While vaccination providers are allowed to seek appropriate reimbursement from a vaccine recipient's health plan or for those who are uninsured, from the Health Resources and Services Administration's COVID-19 Uninsured Program, providers are not allowed to charge a vaccine recipient. By imposing a vaccine administration fee directly to consumers, Embassy and Fulton engaged in deceptive acts and practices that violated

Executive Law § 63(12) and General Business Law § 349. The agreements reached by Attorney General James ensure that all who paid the vaccine administration fee have been reimbursed and the pharmacies have immediately changed their practices to eliminate the vaccine administration fee to consumers. Additionally, the pharmacies have agreed to institute new requirements that strengthen training for all staff involved with the administration of COVID-19 vaccines, as well as signage requirements associated with vaccine administration.

If New Yorkers are aware of providers improperly charging consumers a fee for administration of the COVID-19 vaccine, they should contact the Office of the Attorney General's Health Care Bureau online or call 1-800-428-9071.

“New York City's free vaccination program is a vital part of our city's response to the pandemic. We must eliminate every barrier to getting vaccinated against COVID-19, including misinformation that recipients will be charged for getting the vaccine,” said Manhattan Borough President Mark Levine. “If you were wrongfully charged for a shot you are entitled to reimbursement. I applaud Attorney General James for investigating these wrongful charges and ensuring that New Yorkers who were responsible by getting vaccinated are fully and rightfully reimbursed.”

“During these difficult times, we must continue encouraging people to get vaccinated to keep themselves and their communities safe,” said State Assemblymember Al Taylor. “Falsely charging fees for a free, essential vaccine will only drive people away. I applaud Attorney General James for swiftly reaching an agreement with the pharmacies in question and for looking out for the people of New York.”

“Today's announcement by Attorney General Letitia James illustrates New York state's commitment to consumer protection,” said State Assemblymember Stefani L. Zinerman. “I applaud her quick response to recover the wrongfully charged administrative fees for the COVID-19 test kits sold by Embassy and Fulton pharmacies. The self-advocacy of the residents from the 56th Assembly District who reported these deceptive acts coupled with a responsive government agency is how we effectively prevent future fraud in our community.”

“New Yorkers put a tremendous amount of trust in their local pharmacies to serve them with honesty and compassion. That's why it is so disturbing and damaging when these same businesses exploit our most vulnerable during a pandemic,” said Council Member Shaun Abreu. “Thanks to Attorney General James, 275 of my constituents are getting restitution from Embassy Pharmacy. As a member of the Council's Consumer and Worker Protection Committee, I look forward to fighting fraud side by side with her.”

“Cost barriers for vaccination are incredibly dangerous, even when applied by mistake,” said Council Member Chi Ossé. “It is encouraging to see the Attorney General's Office securing these reimbursements, as well as to know that stronger training and other measures will prevent this mistake from being repeated in the future.”

This matter was handled by Special Counsel Sara Haviva Mark and Deputy Bureau Chief Leslieann Cachola of the Health Care Bureau, under the supervision of Bureau Chief Darsana Srinivasan. The Health Care Bureau is a part of the Division for Social Justice, led by Chief Deputy Attorney General Meghan Faux and overseen by First Deputy Attorney General Jennifer Levy.

Statement by NYC Councilwoman Selvena N. Brooks-Powers on Winter Outages at NYCHA Carleton Manor

“NYCHA tenants deserve basic housing services, and the persistent interruptions of those services are the unacceptable result of decades of divestment and neglect. Rockaway is a coastal community, and when it is cold in New York City, it's even colder on the peninsula.

Heat and hot water outages throughout the winter are particularly dangerous for our residents.

My office has been closely monitoring the systemic issues at Carleton Manor and other NYCHA residences in our district. We are working with our govern-

ment partners at NYCHA to ensure that outages are flagged and resolved as quickly as possible and that our residents remain warm and safe.

I will not rest until our residents in public housing are treated with the dignity they deserve.”

Flu Season is Underway in New York; How You Can Protect Residents Who Are Most Vulnerable

American Lung Association and Empire BlueCross BlueShield Foundation offer guide to keep adults 65 and over healthy this flu season New York, NY (February 1, 2022) – Flu season is officially here in New York, with the New York State Department of Health reporting ten consecutive weeks of widespread flu diagnoses. To help prevent the flu in people who are at high risk for severe complications, the American Lung Association and Empire BlueCross BlueShield Foundation, released a toolkit specifically for caregivers of adults 65 and over through their “Fend Off Flu” campaign.

Influenza (flu) is a serious and highly contagious disease that can have severe health consequences for all, and especially for vulnerable adults 65 and older, and those with chronic health conditions. The new toolkit is a resource to educate caregivers including healthcare providers and personnel in long-term care settings about the flu and the importance of vaccination to protect adults 65 and older.

“Nationally, 50-70% of flu hospitalizations were in patients over 65. Flu shots are especially important for healthcare workers and caregivers of vulnerable adults,” said David Ackman, M.D., Medicaid Medical Director from Empire BlueCross BlueShield. “Not only will getting a flu shot help reduce the chance of catching the illness, but it will also help reduce the severity if it's contracted. Especially for people with underlying health conditions, the flu can turn into a serious, even deadly, illness.”

During the 2019 – 2020 flu season, it is estimated the flu sent approximately 380,000 people to the hospital with related complications and caused an estimated 20,000 deaths in the United States, which is why getting vaccinated should be a priority. The flu vaccine is the best protection against contracting and spreading the illness.

“Especially during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, routine vaccination is more important than ever,” said Erica Masin, executive director for the

American Lung Association in metro New York. “Flu vaccinations have been in use for more than 50 years, with hundreds of millions of Americans safely receiving them. It's recommended that everyone over six months of age receive a flu vaccine, but they are especially important for the 3,026,000 people in New York with lung disease, as well as their family members and caregivers.”

In addition to vaccination, the CDC recommends these everyday preventive actions.

- Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Don't touch your eyes, nose or mouth.
- Cover your cough and sneeze with a tissue or your elbow.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.

The “Caregiver Flu Toolkit” is a comprehensive guide to educate caregivers of adults 65 and over about flu and the importance of vaccination to help protect them from contracting the flu. The free downloadable guide is available at Lung.org/Fend-Off-Flu.

Nantasha Williams & Linda Lee Elected Queens Delegation Co-Chairs

(Continued from page 6)

tion secured and distributed \$540,000 in discretionary funding to various non-profit, community-based organizations for the betterment of Queens as part of the City's Boroughwide Needs Initiative. These funds provided neighborhood beautification and sanitation projects, entrepreneurial and technological training programs, and educational programs for Queens schools. The Delegation also allocated \$1.1 million to over 50 organizations to support individual food pantry programs. In total in FY 2022, the Queens Delegation helped secure over \$20 million in funding for capital projects across Queens.

Linda Lee represents the twenty-third Council District in Eastern Queens and was recently appointed as Chair of the New York

City Council's Committee on Mental Health, Addictions, and Disabilities. She was elected to the New York City Council in November 2021, becoming the first Korean-American ever elected to the City Council and the first woman and Asian-American to hold the seat. Prior to taking office, Linda was the President/CEO of Korean Community Services, New York's first community-based social service organization dedicated to serving the Korean-American community. KCS provides workforce development, senior care, healthcare, mental health, immigration, and other social services to thousands of clients daily, and since the pandemic began, KCS has been on the frontlines helping community members receive unemployment benefits, PPP loans, COVID tests, and vaccinations. Under Linda's leadership, the

White House named KCS as a Champion of Change in 2014 for its work around the Affordable Care Act. Linda also spearheaded the creation of the only State-licensed Article 31 Mental Health Clinic serving the Korean-American community operating in New York. Linda received her Master in Social Work from Columbia University's School of Social Work, and her Bachelor of Arts from Barnard College. Lee also serves on the Committees on Aging, Contracts, Education, General Welfare, Parks and Recreation, Transportation and Infrastructure, and the Subcommittee on Senior Centers and Food Insecurity.

Council Member Williams was recently appointed as Chair to the committee on Civil and Human Rights. Her previous ap-

(Continued on page 11)

MTA Fare Change Pilot to Begin at End of Month

(Continued from page 9)

tickets, will be discounted by an additional 10%.

- CityTicket, which offers a reduced, flat fare for rail travel within New York City on weekends, will be extended to all weekday off-peak trains at a fare of \$5.
- This is a \$2.25 or 31% discount from Metro-North's current weekday fare between the Bronx and Manhattan, which is \$7.25. (CityTicket must be purchased and activated

before boarding the train. Metro-North's off-peak fare between the Bronx and Manhattan remains \$13 when purchased on board the train.) City Ticket is valid at these Metro-North stations: Botanical Garden, Fordham, Grand Central Terminal, Harlem-125th Street, Marble Hill, Melrose, Morris Heights, Riverdale, Spuyten Duyvil, Tremont, University Heights, Wakefield, Williams Bridge, Woodlawn and Yankees-E. 153rd Street.

- This is a \$2.75 or 35% discount from the LIRR's current weekday fare between eastern Queens and Manhattan or Brooklyn, which is \$7.75. (CityTicket must be purchased and activated before boarding the train. The LIRR's off-peak fare between eastern Queens and Manhattan or Brooklyn remains \$14 when purchased on board the train.) City Ticket is valid at these LIRR stations: Atlan-

(Continued on page 11)

LEGAL NOTICES

Notice of Formation of REHUB LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 01/06/2022. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 7535 31st Avenue, Ste 202, East Elmhurst, NY 11370. Purpose: any lawful activities. 1/13,20,27,2/3,10&17/2022

Notice of Formation of IY TING REALTY LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 07/19/2021. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 41-50 Little Neck Pky, Little Neck, NY 11363. Purpose: any lawful activities. 1/13,20,27,2/3,10&17/2022

Notice of Formation of STELLAR DISTRIBUTION LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 01/13/2022. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 4307 Murray St, 1st Fl, Flushing, NY 11355. Purpose: any lawful activities. 1/20,27,2/3,10,17&24/2022

Notice of formation of C & T REAL ESTATE MANAGEMENT, LLC. Art. Of Org. filed w. Secy of State of NY (SSNY) on 5/4/2007. Office loc: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: C & T REAL ESTATE MANAGEMENT, LLC., 39-14 103rd Street, Corona, NY 11368. Purpose: Any lawful activity. 1/27,2/3,10,17,24&3/3/2022

Notice of Formation of VENTI LOGISTICS, LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 01/20/2022. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 3 Ryan Ct, Pooler, GA 31322. Purpose: any lawful activities. 1/27,2/3,10,17,24 &3/3/2022

Notice of Formation of MKAY KITCHEN LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 01/03/2022. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 11620 198th St, Queens, NY 11412. Purpose: any lawful activities. 1/6,13,20,27,2/3&10/2022

J&R 164TH STREET LLC, Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 01/03/2022. 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, 36-21 164th Street, Flushing, NY 11358. Purpose: Any Lawful Purpose. 1/6,13,20,27,2/3&10/2022

LEGAL NOTICES

Notice of Formation of Nurun Realty LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 12/15/21. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 8127 Liberty Ave, Ozone Park, NY 11417. Purpose: any lawful activity. 1/6,13,20,27,2/3&10/2022

Lypia LLC filed Arts. of Org. with the Sect'y of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/29/2021. Office: Queens County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to: c/o The Delorio Law Group PLLC, 800 Westchester Ave, Ste S-608, Rye Brook, NY 10573. Purpose: any lawful act. 1/6,13,20,27,2/3&10/2022

Bad Ass Academy Whitestone, LLC filed Arts. of Org. with the Sect'y of State of NY (SSNY) on 6/1/2021. Office: Queens County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served and shall mail process to: The LLC, 150-65 Cross Island Pkwy, Whitestone, NY 11357. Purpose: any lawful act. 1/6,13,20,27,2/3&10/2022

Notice of Formation of BLUEGRASS EQUITIES LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 01/06/2022. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 138-53 Jewel Ave., Flushing, NY 11367. Purpose: any lawful activities. 1/13,20,27,2/3,10&17/2022

59-49 54TH STREET, MASPETH LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 12/28/21. 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, 10 Melody Lane, Middletown, NJ 07748. Purpose: Any lawful purpose. 1/20,27,2/3,10,17&24/2022

WELO MANAGEMENT 86, LLC, Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 01/24/2022. 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, 4 Incline Place, Aberdeen, NJ 07747. Purpose: Any Lawful Purpose. 1/27,2/3,10,17,24&3/3/2022

Notice of Formation of NYC CARE ADC0923 LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 01/06/2022. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 120-30 196th Street, Saint Albans, NY 11412. Purpose: any lawful activities. 1/27,2/3,10,17,24 &3/3/2022

LEGAL NOTICES

Notice of Formation of 21 SOUNDBEACH DRIVE LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 01/11/2022. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 233-39 39th Avenue, Douglaston, NY 11363. Purpose: any lawful activities. 1/20,27,2/3,10,17&24/2022

1022 WYCKOFF AVENUE REALTY LLC, Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 01/14/2022. Office loc: Queens County. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Gary Schoer, Esq., 6800 Jericho Turnpike Suite 108W, Syosset, NY 11791. Purpose: Any Lawful Purpose. 1/20,27,2/3,10,17&24/2022

BRM DESIGNS LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 01/06/22. 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, 146-01 17th Avenue, Whitestone, NY 11357. Purpose: Any lawful purpose. 1/27,2/3,10,17,24&3/3/2022

48-15 92ND STREET LLC Articles of Org. filed NY Sec. of State (SSNY) 1/13/22. Office in Queens Co. SSNY desig. agent of LLC whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 61 Pawnee Dr., Commack, NY 11725. Purpose: Any lawful purpose. Principal business loc: 48-15 92nd St., Elmhurst, NY 11373. 1/27,2/3,10,17,24&3/3/2022

Notice of Formation of SUNNYSIDE ARTS LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 12/28/2021. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 47-52 44th St, #4C, Woodside, NY 11377. Purpose: any lawful activities. 1/6,13,20,27,2/3&10/2022

Notice of Formation of DJ TRST PRODUCTIONS LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 01/24/2022. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 13909 84th Drive, Apt. 211, Briarwood, NY 11435. Purpose: any lawful activities. 2/3,10,17,24,3/3&10/2022

Notice of Formation of KHAN GROUP USA LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/10/2021. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 146-09 111th Avenue, 1St Floor, Jamaica, NY 11455. Purpose: any lawful activities. 2/3,10,17,24 ,3/3&10/2022

LEGAL NOTICES

NIKKI MINDA MINDY LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 07/02/21. 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, 13923 34th Ave, Apt 103, Flushing, NY 11354. Purpose: Any lawful purpose. 2/3,10,17,24 ,3/3&10/2022

Notice of Formation of 7 SEVEN LOVE LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 10/12/2021. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 39-15 Main Street, Suite 502, Flushing, NY 11354. Purpose: any lawful activities. 2/10,17,24,3/3,10&17/2022



MTA Fare Change Pilot to Begin at End of Month

(Continued from Page 10)
tic Terminal, Auburndale, Bayside, Broadway, Douglaston, East New York, Flushing-Main Street, Forest Hills, Hollis, Jamaica, Kew Gardens, Laurelton, Little Neck, Locust Manor,

Mets-Willets Point, Murray Hill, Nostrand Avenue, Penn Station, Queens Village, Rosedale, St. Albans and Woodside. All LIRR and Metro-North fares will remain off peak through Feb. 28, 2022. Next Steps

The MTA will evaluate the new fares' impact on operations, the customer experience and fare-box revenue. If the pilot proves successful, the new fare structures could be extended or become permanent.

Nantasha Williams & Linda Lee Elected Queens Delegation Co-Chairs

(Continued from page 10)
pointments include being the Executive Director of the New York State Black, Puerto Rican, Hispanic, and Asian Legislative Caucus, one of the largest and most influential political entities in the State of New York. As Executive Director, Nantasha fought for millions of citizens to ensure that the policies being drafted by the New York Legislature were inclusive

and aimed at improving the well-being and future advancement of people of color in low-income communities across the state. She also was Chair of the Special Initiatives Committee for Community Board 13, addressing unique community issues and increasing board participation. Council Member Williams served as a leader for the SEQ Wellness Ambassador Initiative, leading her team during

the first wave of COVID-19 to provide wellness checks in lieu of senior center closures. Nantasha helped lead operations and organizing efforts for one of the largest demonstrations in American history, the Women's March on Washington, D.C., and served as the Project Manager for Minority Women Business Enterprise Compliance and helped initiate community outreach efforts for the JFK Redevelopment Program.

President Biden Visits Queens School to Discuss Violence Prevention Programs

(Continued from page 1.
have proven effective in NYC. Biden also released comprehensive plans to reduce gun violence, which includes curtailing the flow of illegal weapons into affected communities. At the meeting, leaders discussed the success of programs already in place, like the Cure Violence Program which partners the NYC Health Department

and local nonprofits in providing community-based outreach to prevent crime. P.S. 111 Principal Dionne Jaggon spoke highly of the program in successfully preventing violence in their district. Cure Violence organizations provide services that tackle the root causes of crime, which stem from inequity, inaccessibility to resources or a lack of support. Some services

provided include the following: free self-defense courses for youth; substance abuse prevention; addiction recovery services; financial literacy support; conflict mediation strategies; after-school programs; and more. Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney joined the meeting as well and thanked Biden for treating the spike in gun violence as a public health crisis.



In Loving Memory MARIO POLITO

August 15, 1977 – January 29, 2022



The Whitestone community is mourning the loss of a longtime neighborhood resident who befriended everyone with his infectious laughter, love and kindness, Mario Polito.

Mario Polito, 44, of Tony's Beechhurst Deli, passed unexpectedly of a massive heart attack on Saturday, Jan. 29.

Mario a co-owner of Tony's Beechhurst Deli, located at 11-18 154th St., is where Mario and the Polito family have been serving Italian deli food like no other for the past 30 years. Mario's Italian-born parents, Emilio and Josephine, worked tirelessly making Tony's the neighborhood centerpiece of food that it is today and along with their three sons Tommy, Mario and Angelo made the Deli a special food experience for all who walked through their doors.

Mario is survived by his wife, Tania Carucci-Polito, and his 7-year-old daughter, Gianna Marie. His Mother Josephine, father Emilio, brothers Tommy and Angelo and in-laws Pasquale and Carmela Carucci.

Mario was friends with everyone, no matter where they were from.

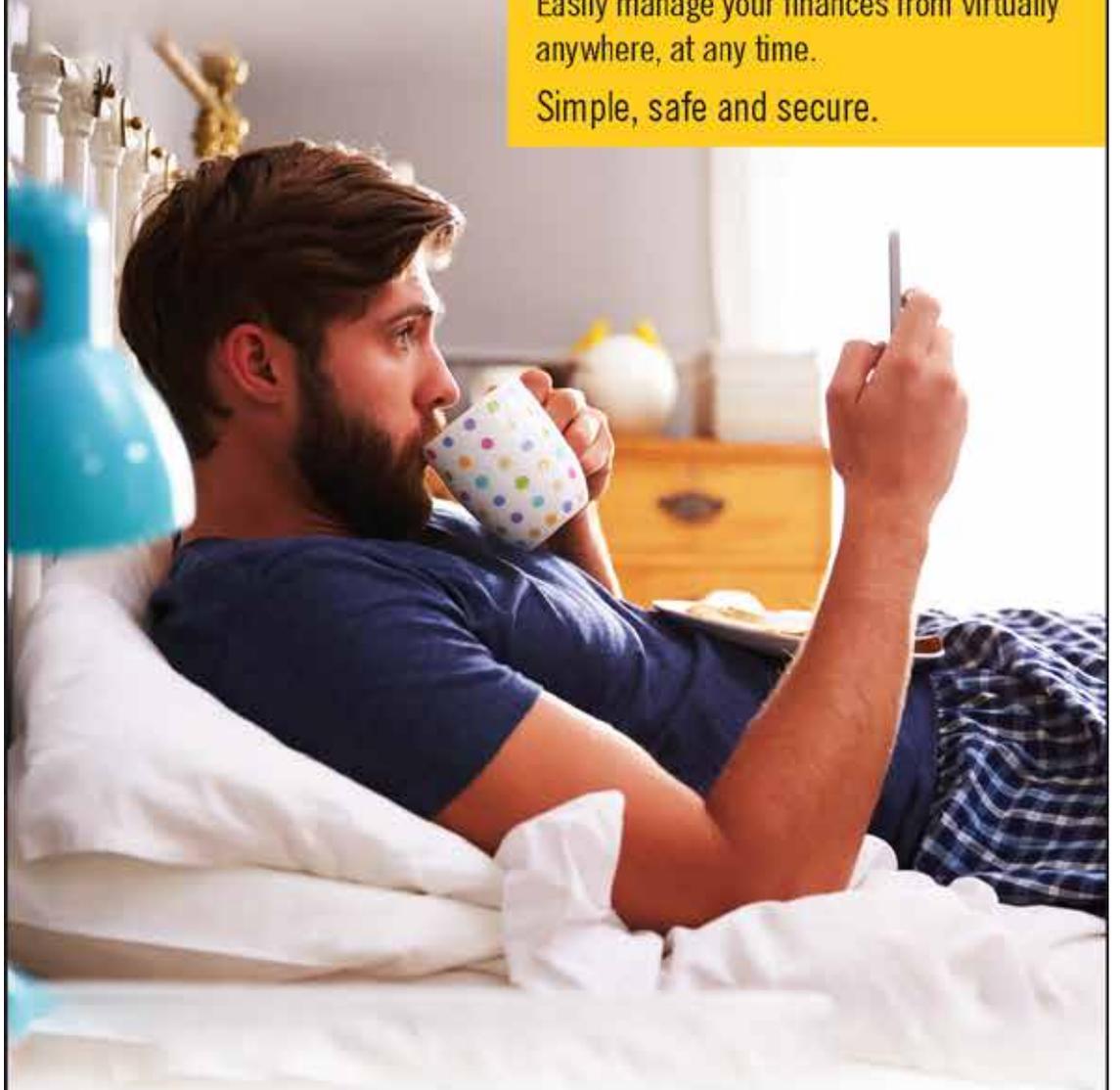
BANK FROM THE CONVENIENCE OF YOUR HOME



**NYCB Mobile,
Online Banking &
Bank by Phone**

Easily manage your finances from virtually anywhere, at any time.

Simple, safe and secure.



myNYCB.com • (877) 786-6560



Queens County Savings Bank

A Division of New York Community Bank • Member FDIC



© 2022 New York Community Bank

THANK YOU Health Care Workers EVERYWHERE

EGRESS PROS
KEEPING YOUR FAMILY SAFE

516.224.7576 EgressPros.com

**Act Now!
SAVE
\$1,000***

Visit www.EgressPros.com to get a coupon for up to \$1,000 OFF the installation of an egress window system

What is Egress? **This is Egress.**

* On select installed models. Offer not to be combined with any other offer.

UGO the UNFORTUNATE URRANITE

LOVELY FLOWERS

CUPID'S ROSES \$12 A DOZEN

OPEN

~ HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY ~

LOVE CONQUERS ALL