

# THE QUEENS TIMES

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25 CENTS

## 2023 Lt. Det. Joseph Petrosino Assn. Annual Wreath Ceremony



In Memory of Lt. Det. Joseph Petrosino the Lt. Det. Joseph Petrosino Assn. in America and the NYPD Columbia Association held the Annual Wreath laying Ceremony at Calvary Cemetery in Queens on the 114th Anniversary of the Assassination of Giuseppe "Joe" Petrosino. Pictured at the Annual Petrosino Wreath Ceremony is (l to r) Thomas Scarangelo Director of the NYS Office of Italian American Affairs representing NYS Gov. Kathy Hochul; Carol D'Auria, 110 Wins News Reporter; Anthony Iuliano, NYC Deputy Commissioner of Operations representing Mayor Eric Adams; Petrosino Assn President, Robert Fonti; Cav. Uff. Joseph Sciame President Sons of Italy Foundation; Cav. Uff. Joseph Scelsa, President and Founder of the Italian American Museum; Cav. Joseph Maietta; Joseph Gallo; Petrosino Assn. Chairman James Lisa; Joseph Gallo Sr.; Anthony Naccarato, NYS OSIA IPP; and Petrosino Executive Board Members Peggy and Joseph Petrosino.

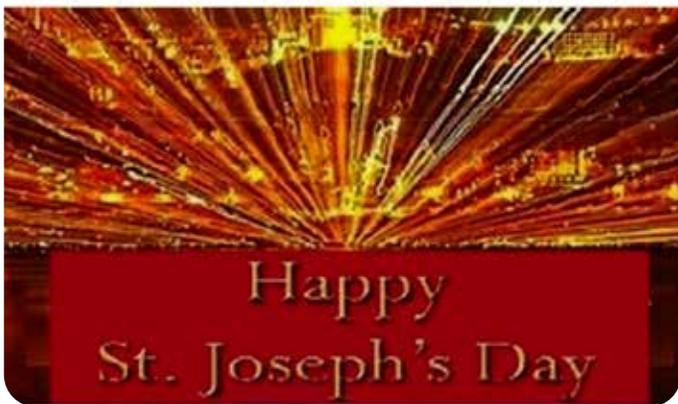
## Gov. Hochul Scraps Plans For LaGuardia AirTrain



Gov. Kathy Hochul has decided that there will not be an AirTrain to LaGuardia. Gov. Hochul is abandoning a project long championed by the former governor, with a cost that had gone from \$450 million to \$2.4 billion. See story on page 3.

The Queens Times  
Wishes All

Happy  
St. Patrick's  
Day



## U.S. Health & Human Services Secretary Xavier Becerra Visits Queens

For Community Conversation With U.S. Rep. Meng To Recognize Abortion Provider Appreciation Day



U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Xavier Becerra as he visited Queens where he and U.S. Rep. Grace Meng (D-Queens) participated in a community conversation with New York City abortion providers to mark National Abortion Provider Appreciation Day. See story on page 2.

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# U.S. Health & Human Services Secretary Xavier Becerra Visits Queens

(Continued from page 1)

U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Xavier Becerra visited Queens where he and U.S. Rep. Grace Meng (D-Queens) participated in a community conversation with New York City abortion providers to mark National Abortion Provider Appreciation Day.

This annual observance, held each year on March 10, recognizes the work of abortion providers (doctors, nurses, and other personnel) in New York and across the nation. Despite facing harassment and threats of violence, abortion providers continue to work tirelessly to ensure access to safe and legal abortion care.

The event featured local abortion providers sharing their stories and experiences of delivering reproductive health services to New Yorkers and their fight to protect reproductive freedoms, especially following the Supreme Court's overturning of Roe V. Wade last year. It also included abortion providers and leaders from the City and State Health Departments, as well as reproductive rights advocates from Queens and across New York City.

"I thank Secretary Becerra for coming to our borough to highlight National Abortion Provider

Appreciation Day, and underscoring how vital reproductive freedom is in Queens and throughout our nation," said Congresswoman Meng. "Abortion providers and our city and state government partners are on the front lines working nonstop to ensure that safe and quality abortion care is accessible to New Yorkers. As a champion of reproductive rights, I will continue doing all I can to make sure that women have the right to make their own choices for their health. With abortion rights under attack in our country, especially since the overturning of Roe V. Wade, it is more important than ever to keep up this fight."

"At HHS, we are staunchly committed to protecting and expanding access to reproductive health care, including abortion care, and we'll never stop fighting so long as these rights and freedoms are under assault," said Secretary Becerra.

The community conversation was held in Meng's district in the auditorium of NYC Health + Hospitals/Queens in Jamaica.

"NYC Health + Hospitals is committed to ensuring access to safe, legal and affordable abortion care at all of its 11 hospitals by removing barriers and raising public awareness about women's

rights and the options available for those seeking abortions," said Mitchell Katz, MD, President and CEO of NYC Health + Hospitals. "On Abortion Provider Appreciation Day, I want to recognize all of our staff who provide the highest quality care to our patients who need it."

National Abortion Provider Appreciation Day was established in 1996 to show appreciation to the doctors, nurses, and others who serve as abortion care providers. It was created after a white supremacist, anti-abortion extremist murdered Dr. David Gunn on March 10, 1993, a doctor who was an abortion provider in Florida. It was the first known instance of the murder of an abortion provider.

NYC Health + Hospitals is the largest municipal health care system in the nation serving more than a million New Yorkers annually. It has a robust network of outpatient, neighborhood-based primary and specialty care centers and anchors care coordination with the system's trauma centers, nursing homes, post-acute care centers, home care agency, and MetroPlus health plan—all supported by 11 essential hospitals. The health system treats patients regardless of immigration status or ability to pay.

# Attorney General James, Mayor Adams, Speaker Adams Offer Tips For This Tax Season

New York Attorney General Letitia James, New York City Mayor Eric Adams, and New York City Council Speaker Adrienne E. Adams have continued their efforts to protect and inform New Yorkers by offering tips and information on various resources available this tax season. With this year's Tax Day only a month away, the officials are raising awareness about tax credits that may be at New Yorkers' disposal, to ensure taxpayers receive the benefits they have earned. Additionally, Attorney General James urged New Yorkers to stay vigilant and report any suspected tax scams to her office.

"Tax season may feel overwhelming to many New Yorkers, but thankfully there are resources available to lighten the load," said Attorney General James. "I encourage all New Yorkers to take advantage of the organizations dedicated to helping out during the tax preparation process, and to utilize all of the tax breaks for which you qualify. Additionally, please stay vigilant against bad actors trying to take advantage, and you can always report concerns and complaints to my office. I am proud to partner with Mayor Adams and Speaker Adams to help raise awareness and ensure New Yorkers have all the information they need for a less stressful tax season."

"This tax season, working class New Yorkers can expect to see more cash back than ever before, but only if they claim what's theirs," said New York City Mayor Eric Adams. "Last year, we went to Albany and secured an expansion of the city's EITC

for the first time in almost 20 years, and matched that with city action. We also continue to offer our NYC Free Tax Prep program to individuals who made less than \$56,000 or families who made less than \$80,000 last year, and were proud to announce an expansion of the program to freelance workers and small businesses for the first time. With the deadline to file rapidly approaching, we encourage all New Yorkers to file their taxes as soon as possible and for those eligible to take advantage of these valuable programs."

"It is important that New Yorkers know about the resources available to assist with filing their taxes and receiving full refunds, including various tax credits that put money back into the pockets of working families," said New York City Council Speaker Adrienne Adams. "I am proud to partner with Attorney General Letitia James to help inform and empower New Yorkers to get the tax refunds and benefits they deserve, while avoiding the deception of fraudulent efforts that target tax preparers. We urge New Yorkers to take advantage of city, state, and federal government-sponsored free tax return services, and I am proud to offer these services in my own district."

As part of their ongoing efforts to help New Yorkers file their taxes safely and help reduce the stress the tax filing process can cause, Attorney General James, Mayor Adams, and Speaker Adams want to ensure New Yorkers are aware of the Internal Revenue Service's (IRS) Free Filing program. Additionally, New York state has the Taxpayer Assistance

Program (TAP) under which eligible New Yorkers can receive free virtual tax assistance from the state's Department of Taxation and Finance. New Yorkers should know that there are Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) sites where they can get their tax returns prepared free of charge. In New York City, the NYC Free Tax Prep provides free, professional tax preparation to help eligible individuals and families keep their full refund. The NYC Free Tax Prep for self-employed New Yorkers also now provides income tax services to freelance workers and small business as well. Anyone using a tax preparer is encouraged to check their qualifications and history through the Better Business Bureau and consult New York's Consumer Bill of Rights Regarding Tax Preparers.

Attorney General James, Mayor Adams, and Speaker Adams also remind New Yorkers filing their taxes to apply for tax credits, which can reduce the amount of income tax you owe. Major programs available for eligible New Yorkers include the Empire State child credit, the property tax relief credit, the earned income credit, the solar energy system equipment credit, and many more. For more information about available tax credits, please visit New York state's Department of Taxation and Finance income tax credit page.

In addition, some tax credits, such as the New York City Child Care Tax Credit (NYC CCTC) and Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), are refundable and can

(Continued on page 3)

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## District Attorney Melinda Katz Receives Endorsement of Queens Democratic Chairman Congressman Gregory Meeks And Congresswoman Grace Meng

*Congressional leaders endorse Melinda Katz as the best candidate to keep their communities safe*

District Attorney Melinda Katz's campaign for re-election proudly announced the endorsements of Democratic Leader Congressman Gregory Meeks and Congresswoman Grace Meng, two longtime representatives of Queens residents in Congress. Adding to District Attorney Katz's long list of endorsements, Meeks and Meng applauded the progress that District Attorney Katz has made over the past three years.

"Congressman Meeks and Congresswoman Meng are longtime advocates for the borough of Queens and I'm privileged to fight side by side with them every day. I'm honored to receive their endorsements and alongside these Members of Congress, I know that Queens County has a united lead-

ership team that they can continue to count on," said District Attorney Melinda Katz. "That team has made immense progress over the past three years, and has Queens moving in the right direction. With the continued partnership, we will continue to move Queens forward."

"There is only one option for District Attorney in Queens, and that's Melinda Katz," said Queens Democratic Leader Congressman Gregory Meeks. "Over the last three years, we have seen comprehensive leadership that's made our streets safer and our courtrooms fairer. Keeping our families safe, tackling tough issues, and not being afraid to lead from the front is what Melinda Katz has done, and what I know she will continue to do."

"Melinda Katz is a true advocate for Queens County, and her team in the District Attorney's office has done great work getting

guns off our streets and prosecuting dangerous offenders all while making our criminal justice system fairer," said Congresswoman Grace Meng. "I am proud to endorse Melinda Katz because that leadership has become indispensable to Queens families and I'm excited to continue our work together."

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

## Attorney General James Stops Gun Distributors From Shipping Ghost Gun Parts Into New York

New York Attorney General Letitia James has released the following statement after securing a court order to immediately stop 10 national gun distributors from selling and shipping unfinished frames and receivers, the key components of deadly and untraceable ghost guns, into New York:

"Today's court order will help protect New York communities and save New Yorkers' lives. Ghost guns and easy-to-assemble ghost gun kits have caused violence and devastation throughout our state. My office will continue enforcing our commonsense gun

laws, promoting public safety, and getting dangerous weapons off our streets."

In January, Attorney General James filed a motion for a preliminary injunction against those 10 national gun distributors, demanding that they immediately stop selling and shipping illegal unfinished and/or unserialized frames and receivers, or ghost gun parts, to New York consumers. Last June, Attorney General James filed a lawsuit against those 10 national gun distributors for selling and shipping ghost gun parts into New York. The case is

pending in the Southern District of New York.

The 10 gun distributors banned from shipping ghost gun kits into New York are: Brownells, Inc. (Brownells), Blackhawk Manufacturing Group (80 Percent Arms), Salvo Technologies, Inc. (80 P Builder or 80P Freedom Co), G.S. Performance, LLC (Glockstore), Indie Guns, LLC (Indie Guns), Primary Arms, LLC (Primary Arms), Arm or Ally, LLC (Arm or Ally), Rainier Arms, LLC (Rainier Arms), KM Tactical LLC, and Rock Slide USA, LLC (Rock Slide).

## AG James & Gov. Hochul Demand Answers From Major Pharmacy Chains on Medication Abortion Access

*After Major Pharmacy Chain Declined to Offer FDA-Approved Mifepristone in Certain States, AG James and Governor Hochul Urge Corporations to Offer This Medication in New York*  
*AG James and Governor Hochul Have Fought to Make New York a Safe Harbor for All Who Seek Abortion Care, Through Legislation and Litigation*

New York Attorney General Letitia James and Governor Kathy

Hochul today sent a letter to the CEOs of Walgreens (owner of Duane Reade), Rite Aid, and CVS calling on these corporations — which represent the majority of pharmacies in the State of New York — to provide answers about their plans to make the abortion medication mifepristone available. Recently, one pharmacy chain announced they will no longer dispense mifepristone, an FDA-approved medication used for abortion care and to treat

miscarriages, in certain states after receiving pressure from anti-abortion politicians.

In the wake of the leaked Supreme Court decision to overturn Roe last year, New York state took proactive steps to protect access to in-clinic care, including making a nation-leading \$35 million investment to support abortion providers across the state, and signing a comprehensive legislative package to protect both abortion providers and their patients.

## Attorney General James, Mayor Adams, Speaker Adams Offer Tips For This Tax Season

(Continued from page 2)

increase your tax refund amount if you owe less than the credit balance. The NYC CCTC is a tax benefit that help families in New York City who earn less than \$30,000 pay for childcare for children ages four and younger. This tax credit is worth up to \$1,733. The newly-expanded NYC EITC now provides greater benefits for qualifying individuals and families in New York City who are working or self-employed. New York City families with incomes below \$5,000 are eligible for the maximum expanded NYC EITC. For more information, please visit New York City's Department of Consumer and Workers Protection page.

Additionally, Attorney General James, Mayor Adams, and Speaker Adams urge New Yorkers to remain vigilant against deceptive tax preparer schemes. One scheme to be aware of is tax preparers who deceptively claim to get your tax refund quicker, but will charge high interest rates and fees in the form of Tax Refund Advance Loans. Additional schemes include tax preparers who manipulate your financials to illegally inflate your tax return, and fraudsters who make false

promises of free tax preparation services, only to deceive people into paying for those services.

Any New Yorker who suspects that they are a victim of a scam are encouraged to report it to the Office of the Attorney General by submitting a complaint online or calling 800-771-7755. Tax scams should also be reported to the U.S. Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration at 800-366-4484.

Today's action is the latest in Attorney General James' efforts to protect consumers from fraudulent tax schemes and practices. Last week, Attorney General James provided tips to protect consumers from fraudulent tax schemes. In May 2022, Attorney General James secured \$141 million for millions of Americans who were deceived by TurboTax into paying for tax services that should have been free. In March 2022, Attorney General James issued a notice to ensure New York cryptocurrency investors were informed about their tax obligations. In March 2021, Attorney General James shut down a deceptive telefunding charity and ensured that future efforts to raise money would clearly inform New Yorkers that such donations are not tax deductible.

## Gov. Hochul Scraps Plans For LaGuardia AirTrain

(Continued from page 1)

After over a year of talks, the \$2B plan to build an air train to LaGuardia airport is officially dead, with Governor Kathy Hochul putting the kibosh on those plans. Instead, a panel of transportation experts is recommending increasing public bus service to LaGuardia Airport and then adding a shuttle bus between Queens subway stations and the airport.

Hochul ordered the project to be reviewed amid community opposition. She accepted the report's recommendation on Monday, officially ending the project.

She released the following statement: "New Yorkers deserve world-class transportation to world-class airports. Shortly after taking office, I asked the Port Authority to thoroughly examine mass transit solutions for LaGuardia Airport that would reduce car traffic and increase connectivity, while meeting the demand of our customers. I am grateful to the expert panel, the technical consultants, and the Port Authority for providing a clear, cost-effective path forward with an emissions-free transit solution for customers. I accept the recommendations of this report, and I look forward to its immediate implementation by the Port Authority in close coordination with our partners at the MTA, in the City of New York and the federal government."

The MTA is pledging to work with Port Authority to provide new direct airport shuttle service and work on improvements to the Q70 service that the panel recommended.

"The MTA looks forward to continuing to work with the Port Authority as it rolls out its new direct airport shuttle service, improving connections to LaGuardia Airport. We also look forward to working cooperatively on the panel's recommendations regarding improvements to the Q70 bus service to LaGuardia from Woodside and Jackson Heights."

The new nonstop shuttle service would be between the airport and the last stop on the N/W subway line at the Astoria-Ditmars Blvd station. It would include the exclusive use of electric buses and dedicated bus lanes.

Improvements to the Q70 service would include: Transit signal priority on Roosevelt Ave and Broadway to minimize travel time. A mile-long exclusive bus lane built on the shoulder of the northbound Brooklyn-Queens Expressway between Northern Blvd and Astoria Blvd, subject to federal, state and local approvals, to increase service reliability between Jackson Heights and LaGuardia Airport. Frequency improvements, as needed, in response to increased demand. A new, specially-designated bus pick-up and drop-off area near Terminal C with direct, exclusive road access to avoid congestion on the airport frontage.

## Riders Alliance Statement on The Scrapping of The LaGuardia AirTrain

*Riders Alliance Policy & Communications Director Danny Pearlstein said:*

"It's so refreshing to see govern-

ment leaders admit a mistake and change course before it's too late. The backwards boondoggle AirTrain belongs just where it landed, on the scrapheap of his-

tory. Much better bus service is the right answer both for Queens riders and the travelers who pass through their neighborhoods on the way to the airport."

## Women's Rights Leader and CUNY Alum Pauli Murray to Appear on U.S. Coin

*The NOW Co-Founder and Hunter College Graduate Joins U.S. Mint's American Women Quarters Program*

*On International Women's Day, CUNY Honors Murray and All Women Who Strengthen Our University and World Every Day With Activism, Discovery, Art and So Much More*

Reverend Dr. Pauli Murray, a 1933 Hunter College graduate who is considered one of the most important social justice advocates of the 20th century, will be a 2024 honoree for the American Women Quarters Program, the U.S. Mint announced. Murray was a lawyer, activist, poet and the first Black woman ordained as an Episcopal priest. A co-founder of the National Organization for Women (NOW), Murray's writing inspired both Thurgood Marshall and Ruth Bader Ginsburg as they prepared landmark Supreme Court decisions arguing against segregation and sex-based discrimination.

"On International Women's Day, a day dedicated to celebrating the accomplishments of women and fighting against gender discrimination, we are delighted that Pauli Murray will be recognized in such an indelible way for being an unrelenting advocate and showing the foresight to anticipate some of the most significant issues of our time," said CUNY Chancellor Félix V. Matos Rodríguez. "I would also like to take this moment to celebrate the many women of CUNY who, throughout our 175-year history, have fought for social justice, made groundbreaking scientific advancements, wrote influential works across many fields and served the public as elected leaders."

"All of the women being



Pauli Murray

honored have lived remarkable and multi-faceted lives, and have made a significant impact on our nation in their own unique way," said Mint Director Ventris C. Gibson in a statement. "The women pioneered change during their lifetimes, not yielding to the status quo imparted during their lives. By honoring these pioneering women, the Mint continues to connect America through coins, which are like small works of art in your pocket."

The other 2024 honorees for the American Women Quarters Program are Civil-War-era surgeon Mary Edwards Walker, U.S. Congressperson Patsy Takemoto Mink, Native American activist and author Zitkala-Ša and Cuban-American singer Celia Cruz. Cruz will be the first Afro-Latina to appear on a U.S. quarter. The U.S. Mint will announce the 2024 American Women Quarters designs, as well as the sequence of their release into circulation in 2024, at a later date.

CUNY's Current Luminaries

The University proudly acknowledges its female alumni and faculty who are acting as catalysts for change in many arenas of our ever-evolving world. Here are just a few of these luminaries:

Professors Ruth Wilson Gilm-

ore and Miranda Fricker, both of CUNY's Graduate Center, were elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, one of the country's most prestigious honorary societies. Gilmore was recognized for her eminence as a scholar and activist in challenging racism and other deeply rooted political and social injustices. Fricker is one of the world's foremost authorities in social epistemology, ethics and feminist and political philosophy.

Two CUNY professors, Kimiko Hahn of Queens College and Patricia Smith of the College of Staten Island, were recently elected to the 15-member board of chancellors of the Academy of American Poets, the nation's leading champion of poets and poetry.

New York State Attorney General Letitia "Tish" James (Lehman, 1982) is the first woman of color to hold statewide office in New York and the first woman to be elected Attorney General. She also served as Public Advocate for New York City, and was the first woman of color to hold citywide office.

CUNY distinguished professor emerita Tania León is a composer, conductor and educator who

(Continued on page 9)

## Senate Committee on Banks Chairman James Sanders Jr.'s Statement on Silicon Valley Bank Failure and Department of Financial Services Taking Possession of Signature Bank

*"This action by DFS was a 'controlled burn.' Just as with a forest fire, a portion of the forest may be burnt by authorities to prevent the fire from spreading, this action seeks to prevent further financial instability."*

I commend Governor Kathy Hochul and Department of Financial Services Superintendent Adrienne Harris for their swift action in taking possession of Signature Bank amidst the current banking crisis, highlighting the type of leadership needed in times of crisis.

I am concerned about the FDIC's decision to yet again bailout the one percent. In the market meltdown of 2008, government was accused of picking winners and we seem to be engaging in similar activities. We should not be quick to bailout capitalists who endanger our financial institutions by engaging in risky behavior. We must prioritize ensuring that working people are made whole, including protecting pension funds that so many working fami-

lies depend on for their retirement.

As the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Banks, I emphasize the importance of preventing similar events from happening in the future. The failures of Silicon Valley Bank in California and Signature Bank in New York could have been avoided if legislation deregulating the banking industry and decreasing oversight of smaller banks had not been signed into law by former President Donald Trump. In New York State, we must step up and determine what types of additional oversight could prevent these types of events from occurring in the future.

In collaboration with my colleague, Assemblymember Clyde Vanel, the legislature passed legislation last year, which was unfortunately vetoed, which aimed to create a cryptocurrency and blockchain study task force. Given the current crisis, we are renewing the call to pass this legislation, S1891/A954, this year. While it has yet to be determined whether rising interest rates, a troubled cryptocurrency market, or poor

bank leadership was the decisive factor in the collapse of these banks, cryptocurrency is becoming an integral part of the financial industry and we must ensure that it is properly regulated. The task force created by this legislation would determine how to increase security and transparency within the cryptocurrency industry to ensure the safety of individual's investments and stability of our financial institutions. As Signature Bank was a major lender in the cryptocurrency industry, passing this legislation is now more important than ever.

Now more than ever, the necessity for public banks in New York State is apparent. This crisis speaks volumes to the soundness of public banking. Public banks are typically created to serve the public interests rather than shareholders and are often established to address specific social and economic goals. In 2008, we saw that public banks avoided involvement in risky and predatory behavior, the same type of behavior we are witnessing again.

## NYS Comptroller DiNapoli Writes to President Biden in Support of His Planned Veto of Anti-ESG Resolution

*Partisan Measure Seeks to Handcuff Investors' Ability to Weigh ESG Risks to Portfolios*

New York State Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli has written to President Biden in support of his planned veto of a resolution that would undo a U.S. Labor Department (DOL) rule that allows managers of retirement funds that are subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act to consider environmental, social and governance (ESG) risks as part of their investment decisions.

"Investors worldwide know that successfully managing portfolios means managing risk — including ESG risks. It's prudent, common-sense investing," DiNapoli said. "Companies that don't safeguard employees' health and safety, that don't hire and promote on a level playing field, that don't protect themselves from fires or floods or take steps to benefit the communities in which they operate, put their profits, reputations and investors at risk."

"The members of Congress attempting to undo the Department of Labor's rule are trying to impose partisan politics on what should be dollars and cents, nonpolitical investment decisions. They cannot be allowed

to play political football with the retirement security of millions of hardworking Americans. My thanks to President Biden for his assurance that he will do the right thing and veto this misguided attempt to politicize investment decisions."

In December 2021, DiNapoli wrote in support of a rule submitted by the DOL relating to "Prudence and Loyalty in Selecting Plan Investments and Exercising Shareholder Rights, RIN 1210-AC03" (Rule). In his comment letter, DiNapoli stated that the DOL's Rule would strengthen and provide greater guidance on the appropriateness of the evaluation of ESG factors—especially climate change. Additionally, DiNapoli stated there should be no doubt at this point that these factors can be material depending on the individual facts and circumstances, and that not only may fiduciaries properly consider them, but that in some instances, an evaluation of those factors may be required.

In the letter Comptroller DiNapoli thanked Pres Biden for his continuous efforts to deliver for America's workers and for protecting the DOL Rule, which will better protect the retirement security for millions of workers.

## MTA to Perform CBTC Signal Installation Work on E, F and R Lines in Queens Starting March 17

Forest Hills- R Bound Trains Will End at Queens Plaza After 9:30 p.m.; E and F Trains Will Run Local to Accommodate R Customers  
F Trains to Run Local During Overnight Hours

The Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) has issued a reminder that the next phase of Communications-Based Train Control (CBTC) signal installation work will begin on the Queens Boulevard East line this Friday, March 17. The installation work will impact service on the E, F and R lines in Queens during the evening and overnight hours.

Beginning Friday, March 17, crews will ramp up installation work between the Union Turnpike-Kew Gardens and Jamaica-179 St stations, which will require service changes on evenings and overnights seven days a week. During that time the E, F and R lines will have the following changes.

R Line to Forest Hills-71 Av, Queens, Ends Early All Nights  
After 9:30 p.m. Forest Hills-bound R trains will end at Queens Plaza. Queens-bound E and F trains will run local in Queens to accommodate train customers.

There is no change in Brook-

lyn-bound service.

Queens-bound Trains Run Local Earlier All Nights

At approximately 10:00 p.m., Queens-bound trains will run local from Queens Plaza to Forest Hills-71 Av, continuing to Jamaica Center.

There is no change in Manhattan-bound R service.

Trains Run Local in Queens During Overnight Hours on All Nights

At approximately 10:00 p.m., Queens-bound E trains will run local from 36 St, Queens, to Forest Hills-71 Av, continuing to Jamaica-179 St until 6:15 a.m.

Starting at about 10:45 p.m. Brooklyn-bound trains from Jamaica-179 St will run local from Forest Hills - 71 Av to 36 St, Queens until 5:15 a.m.

Customers are encouraged to sign up for the MTA Weekender, a weekly newsletter sent every Friday to inform customers of weekend service changes throughout the transit system. Customers can sign up here.

For those who prefer to contact the MTA by telephone, information is available by dialing 511. Connecticut customers should call 877-690-5114. Those who are deaf or hard of hearing can use their preferred service provider for the free 711 relay to reach the MTA at 511.



# H. Frank Carey High School "Truly Rocks" During Women's International Month!

H. Frank Carey High School Security Guards "Truly Rock" by helping a parent during Women's International Month.

H. Frank Carey High School in Franklyn Square is not just a school of "Academic Excellence", it also is a hub of kindness and helpfulness to others.

It was 3pm, the students coming out of school, parents waiting in their cars, however a parent was having difficulties starting the car.

A security guard rushed to help the parent, then a second, then a third, then a fourth security guard arrived. Unfortunately the car would not start. In addition to the security guards the vice principal also rushed to assist the parent.

The parent was overwhelmed by joy with the attention and kindness shown. Ultimately Gino the mechanic came to the rescue. Although the car is new, the mechanic said the problem is the battery. When the car was towed to the shop the battery needed to be replace.



The helpful security guards (l to r) Al, Roger, Vinny, Glen and Chris.

March is Women's International Month and I was able to witness kindness at work. Thank you to those five men who were kind, respectful and helpful to a woman.

Happy Women's International

Month, and Bravi to H. Frank Carey's "Gentlemen who came to the rescue". They truly schooled all setting an example in every aspect of excellence for the students to follow. Photo and story of Cav. Josephine A. Maietta.

# International Women's Day Celebration



QDA Melinda Katz attended the Girija Prasad Koirala Foundation America's annual gala which was a combined commemoration of International Women's Day, Black History Month and Mini UN Music & Cultural Festival celebration.

# Pheffer Amato Honors The Newest Lions Club in Queens

Assemblywoman Stacey Pheffer Amato (D-South Queens) helped make history last week by presenting personalized certificates to over 100 new inductees of the newly created local Lions Club - The Ozone Park Howard Beach Woodhaven Lions Club. The induction ceremony has been praised as one of the largest events in Lions history.

"Local Lions Clubs are amazing community partners who are truly dedicated to community service. I was proud to celebrate and honor each Lion with a personalized award and share this moment with their families," said Assemblywoman Pheffer Amato.

The ceremony occurred during the monthly meeting of the Ozone Park Residents Block Association, organized by Sam Esposito and the Executive Board. During the monthly meeting, the Assemblywoman also presented Certificates of Merit to officers of the 102 and 106 Police Precinct to thank them for their ongoing commitment



to public safety. "Every month the OZPKRBA organizes a great meeting where we are able to speak and come together to discuss is-

ues in our community. This is a fantastic example of community partnership and I'm proud of everyone involved," said Pheffer Amato.

# Support of Hunger-Free Campus Act at Queens College

President Frank H. Wu spoke about food insecurity among CUNY students and the importance of the Hunger-Free Campus Act on Monday, March 6, at the college's Knights Table Food Pantry in the Student Union building on campus, with (from left) Assemblymember Linda Rosenthal, State Senator John Liu and Assemblymember Daniel Rosenthal on hand.

With the expiration of the federal COVID Relief SNAP Emergency Allotment on March 1, 2023, and soaring food insecurity among students at campuses



(Continued on page 9)

*Italian American Journal*

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# Meng to Hold Second Passport Event to Help Queens Residents Apply For or Renew a Passport



U.S. Rep. Grace Meng (D-Queens) announced that she will host another event to help constituents apply for or renew a passport.

This second passport event will take place this Sunday, March 19 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the United States Post Office in Jackson Heights located at 78-02 37th Avenue. It follows Meng's successful passport event last month at the Flushing Main Street Post Office that was attended by more than 200 local residents.

To receive a passport, an in-

dividual must be a U.S. citizen or non-citizen national, and they need to complete the application form which Postal Service clerks can assist with on-site. The required supporting documents must also be submitted and details can be found here.

"The passport event I held last month was a great success that helped many constituents with their passport needs," said Meng. "It provided an easier and more convenient way to apply for or renew a passport, and I am pleased to offer this service again in my congressional district. I once again encourage constituents to take advantage of this event and look forward to seeing them on March 19. I thank the Postal Service for partnering with me again to provide this assistance to constituents."

The following is what local residents should bring:

1. If applying for a first-time passport, bring an original copy and photocopy of proof of identity AND U.S. Citizenship documents.
2. For a renewal, bring the most

recent passport and name change documents if there are any.

3. Children under age 16 must apply in person with two parents or guardians using Form DS-11. Applicant must provide U.S. citizenship evidence. Parents must show parental relationship and present ID.

4. Debit/credit card, or check/money order made payable to "Postmaster" for acceptance fees.

5. Check/money order made payable to "U.S. Department of State" for processing fees.

6. A color passport photo taken in the last six months, or a photo can be taken on-site with an additional fee.

Although appointments are not necessary, constituents can still RSVP or receive additional details and answers to questions by contacting Meng's office at Meng.RSVP@mail.house.gov or 718-358-MENG. Applications for first time passports and renewals will be accepted on a first come, first served basis. 208 transactions were conducted at Meng's event last month.

# St. Pat's For All Parade



The St. Pat's For All Parade welcomes everyone to celebrate Irish immigrant history and heritage in Sunnyside and Woodside. QDA Melinda Katz was honored to be there last weekend. It is one of the best St. Patrick's Day parades in our borough.

# QBP Richards on Withdrawal of LaGuardia Airtrain Plans



sufficiently beneficial to the communities surrounding the airport, which are in serious need of more pressing infrastructure improvements," said Borough President RICHARDS. "However, there are several other solutions in terms of connecting our city to its newly reimagined airport that are far more practical and worthy of being explored.

"In light of this decision, I renew my previous call on our government partners to conduct a more detailed, thorough study on establishing ferry service to LaGuardia while also exploring the establishment of a Bus Rapid Transit system between the Jackson Heights transportation hub and the airport, as well as the potential extension of the N/W subway line. In the short term, I look forward to discussions with the MTA and the Port Authority on improving the frequency of service along the Q70 bus line and the proposed shuttle service from Astoria to LaGuardia, respectively."

Queens Borough President Donovan Richards Jr. stated the following in response to Governor Hochul's decision to withdraw plans to construct an AirTrain to LaGuardia Airport after an independent review of the proposal.

"Governor Hochul and the Port Authority are correct in their move to scrap the LaGuardia AirTrain once and for all. It has been clear that the proposed line was both fiscally dubious and in-

Please Join Queens District Attorney Melinda Katz and Queens Borough President Donovan Richards for a celebration of

# WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

SAVE THE DATE

Thursday, March 23, 2023

6:00 - 8:00 PM

Queens College CUNY (The Music Building Choral Room)

65-30 Kissena Blvd. Queens, NY 11367

\*Additional details to follow

Registration and Proof of Vaccination required for entry. Please register at [www.queensda.org/upcoming-events/](http://www.queensda.org/upcoming-events/)

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# IT'S IN QUEENS

## It's In Queens! (March 10 to March 16)

As the upcoming nature walks demonstrate, Queens is getting warmer and the days are getting longer. Enjoy the Great Outdoors or stay in climate-controlled spots for romantic French music, Indian dance, Irish humor, Haitian percussion, and a bilingual sing-along.

- March 17, French Songs Made Famous by Women, 7 pm. Gabriele Tranchina is a Parisian chanteuse with Brazilian stylings. Her husband and she inspire the audience with romantic French songs by Edith Piaf, Jacques Prévert, Michel Fugain, and Yves de Montand as part of a Women's History Trilogy. Flushing Town Hall, 137-35 Northern Blvd.

- March 17, 40 Shades of Green, 3 pm. Celebrate St. Patrick's Day with six hours of entertainment provided by a cavalcade of local and international performers. New York Irish Center, 10-40 Jackson Ave., Long Island City.

- March 17, Architecture of a Common Man, March 26. CreArt Box presents an opera-ballet-film about a world-recognized photographer working on a documentary about his own life. While creating it, he unveils a fascinating retrospective of his life. Always at 7:30 pm, preview workshops are on March 17, 18, and 19, while shows are on March 24, 25, and 26. Culture Lab LIC, 5-25 46th Ave., Long Island City.

- March 17, Tree of Life, 7 pm. The opening reception for a visual art exhibition that explores the beauty and presence of trees. Studio 41, 27-05 41st Ave., Long Island City.

- March 17, Joel El Insuperable, 8 pm. Joel Alberto Sanchez (El Insuperable) rocks a varied show with Merengue, Bachata, Salsa, Ballads, and his infectious personality. Resorts World New York City, 110-00 Rockaway Blvd., South Jamaica.

- March 18, Musiquita, April 15. The Musiquita duo performs original and covers in English and Spanish and then gets the audience to sing along. (Noisemakers provided.) Shows are March 18 at 4 pm, April 1 at 4 pm, and April 15 at 4 pm. The Secret Theatre, 38-02 61st St., Woodside.

- March 18, Metropolitan Piano Stories, 7:30 pm. Musica Reginae's Barbara Podgurski, Carnegie Hall teaching artist Beata Moon, and guests present piano music by living women composers from New York City. The Church-in-the-Gardens, 50 Ascan Ave., Forest Hills.

- March 18, Celebrate Holi, 2:15 pm. Abha B. Roy, Srijan Dance Company, and the Apoorva Mudgal Ensemble celebrate Holi, the Hindu holiday of new beginnings. The lineup includes devotional and Hindustani classical Raga music, traditional Kathak dance, a Holi dance drama, and more. Flushing Town Hall, 137-35 Northern Blvd.



- March 18, Lucky in Love Evening Hike, 6:30 pm. Jocelyn Perez Blanco, who is the Queens Chapter Coordinator at Herbalists Without Borders, leads a night hike to see and learn about plants associated with love and luck. Alley Pond Environmental Center, 224-65 76th Ave., Oakland Gardens.

- March 18, Audio Riot, 8 pm. This experienced band provides high-quality, raw, and energetic live entertainment. Resorts World New York City, 110-00 Rockaway Blvd., South Jamaica.

- March 18, Walking Tour Series: Early Spring Bulbs & Ephemerals, 11 am. Explore early spring bulb flowers, blossoms, and other seasonal highlights with knowledgeable staffers. Queens Botanical Garden, 43-50 Main St., Flushing.

- March 18, Construction at the Manor, 1 pm. Tools & Tiaras and Rojas AP present a workshop to inspire young people to enter the construction industry as part of the ongoing Hands on History program. King Manor Museum, 150-03 Jamaica Ave.

- March 19, Mini-Global Mashup: Spain Meets Haiti, 1 pm. Eclectic Galician accordionist Victor Prieto and dynamic Haitian percussionist Gaston Jean-Baptiste, also known as "Bonga," bring a range of sounds to the stage. A Q&A follows. Flushing Town Hall, 137-35 Northern Blvd.

- March 19, Bix on the Big Screen, 2:30 pm. The Queens Historical Society screens Oscar winner Bri-

gitte Berman's documentary BIX. The rarely seen 1981 film informs on Leon "Bix" Beiderbecke, a talented Jazz cornetist who lived in Sunnyside before his 1931 death. Kingsland Homestead, 143-35 37th Ave., Flushing.

- March 19, Americana, 3 pm. Barbara Rosene sings the best of the 1940s and 1950s as part of Bayside Historical Society's ongoing Passport Concert series. The Castle, 208 Totten Ave., Fort Totten.

- March 19, Welcome Spring, 1:30 pm. Instructor Phyllis Ger offers tips on design and techniques for making an indoor or outdoor decorative planter. Make it intricate, stylish or bold. Voelker Orth Museum, 149-19 38th Ave., Flushing.

- March 22, Sunnyside Restaurant Week, April 3. Participating restaurants offer a three-course dinner for \$35, while some offer a special lunch or combo menu. Neighborhood restaurants serve cuisines from Colombia, Italy, Japan, Philippines, Turkey, and other countries.

- March 23, Literary Thursdays, 6 pm. Remica Bingham-Risher talks about Soul Culture: Black Poets, Books, and Questions That Grew Me Up as part of Queens Public Library's ongoing virtual Literary Thursdays program. Her new book explores identity, joy, love, and the artistic process via personal essays and interviews with 10 distinguished Black poets, including Lucille Clifton, Sonia Sanchez, and Patricia Smith.

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## Women's Rights Leader and CUNY Alum Pauli Murray to Appear on U.S. Coin

(Continued from page 4)

taught at Brooklyn College for more than 25 years. In 2021 she won the 2021 Pulitzer Prize for Music and last year became the first CUNY-affiliated faculty to receive a Kennedy Center Honor, one of the nation's most prestigious awards for lifetime achievement in the performing arts.

Marilyn Zayas (City College, 1987) is currently the first and only Latino person elected to a court of appeals in Ohio, and has sat in on cases on Ohio's Second, Sixth, Eighth and Tenth District Courts of Appeals, as well as the Ohio State Supreme Court, where she is currently campaigning for a seat.

CUNY's Female Icons Throughout History

In 1869, the New York City Board of Education created the Female Normal and High School to train young women of all races, religions and backgrounds to become teachers. Later renamed Hunter College, the school was the first in the city to offer free public higher education for girls. Since then, CUNY and its 25 colleges have been incubators for some of New York's most celebrated women trailblazers. Below are few examples of alumni and faculty who broke barriers that helped transform perspectives about women's roles in society:

Bella Abzug (Hunter College, 1942) was president of the student council during her time at Hunter, and went on to serve three terms as a New York Congressperson, where she was known for her feminist insight and also for being one of the first members of Congress to support gay rights. She established the Women USA Fund and the Women's Environment and Development Organization, two advocacy groups that worked to promote women's issues on the United Nations' agenda, and chaired the New York City Mayor's Commission on the Status of Women during the Dinkins administration.

Shirley Chisholm (Brooklyn College, 1946) was the first Black woman elected to Congress in 1968. Four years later, she declared her candidacy for the presidency, making her the first African-American from either major political party to mount a campaign for the White House. She also held leadership roles in the League of Women Voters,

the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and the Democratic Party Club in Brooklyn.

Mildred Dresselhaus (Hunter College High School, 1947; Hunter College, 1951) was a Professor Emerita of Physics and Electrical Engineering at MIT and recipient of the Obama Presidential Medal of Freedom. In 1968, she became the first woman to attain full tenured rank at MIT, and would go on to passionately advocate for the advancement of women in STEM fields.

Ruby Dee (Hunter College, 1945) was an award-winning actress who appeared in more than 50 films, including "A Raisin in the Sun," "Do the Right Thing" and "American Gangster," for which she received an Oscar nomination. She was also an iconic civil rights and social justice activist, and won a 2005 lifetime achievement award from the National Civil Rights Museum in Memphis. She and her husband, the writer, actor, producer and director Ossie Davis, were lifelong collaborators and shared accolades like the Kennedy Center Honors and the Screen Actors' Guild Lifetime Achievement Award.

Betty Lee Sung (Queens College, 1968) was an activist and scholar known for challenging the stereotypes that affected Asian American and immigrant communities. She founded the Asian-American studies program at City College, the first offering of its kind in the eastern United States, and taught there for 22 years before retiring as the program's chairperson. Her research focused on issues such as bigotry and employment rights that often affect Chinese immigrants and Chinese Americans.

Audre Lorde (Hunter College High School, 1951; Hunter College, 1959) was a New York State Poet Laureate, impactful prose writer and passionate activist. A self-described "Black, lesbian, feminist, mother, warrior, poet," Lorde, who is considered one of the 20th century's most influential writers, lectured throughout the United States, Europe, and Africa, and was also a Distinguished Professor of English at Hunter College.

Antonia Pantoja (Hunter College, 1952) was an advocate and scholar who founded important organizations such as the non-profit ASPIRA, which focuses on

the empowerment of Puerto Rican and Latinx youth in New York City and won a landmark 1974 lawsuit that helped bring bilingual education to city public schools. She also helped establish the current Boricua College in New York City and the Puerto Rican Research and Resource Center in Washington, D.C. In 1996, she was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom from Bill Clinton for her work providing economic and educational advancement to Puerto Ricans. The Pantoja Centennial is being celebrated this year.

Myriam Sarachik was a trailblazing physicist who taught at City College for more than 50 years. She is known for her pioneering work on the physics of electronic transport in solids and molecular magnetism, and won many awards throughout her life, including the 2020 Medal for Exceptional Achievement in Research from the American Physical Society. The Myriam Sarachik Professorship Fund for a visiting physics professor in CCNY's Division of Science was established by a \$1.5 million dollar gift she made to the college before her passing.

The City University of New York is the nation's largest urban public university, a transformative engine of social mobility that is a critical component of the lifeblood of New York City. Founded in 1847 as the nation's first free public institution of higher education, CUNY today has seven community colleges, 11 senior colleges and seven graduate or professional institutions spread across New York City's five boroughs, serving over 243,000 undergraduate and graduate students and awarding 55,000 degrees each year. CUNY's mix of quality and affordability propels almost six times as many low-income students into the middle class and beyond as all the Ivy League colleges combined. More than 80 percent of the University's graduates stay in New York, contributing to all aspects of the city's economic, civic and cultural life and diversifying the city's workforce in every sector. CUNY's graduates and faculty have received many prestigious honors, including 13 Nobel Prizes and 26 MacArthur "Genius" Grants. The University's historic mission continues to this day: provide a first-rate public education to all students, regardless of means or background.

## New York Department of State's Division of Consumer Protection Offers Job Seekers Tips to Avoid Employment Scams

*Employment Scams Continue to Rise, Targeting Job Seekers to Steal Money and Personal Information*

Secretary Robert J. Rodriguez: "To minimize the risk of falling victim to an employment scam, I encourage you to follow our tips, take precautions during your job search and learn the warning signs so you can recognize the difference between a real employment opportunity and a scam."

For this week's "Tuesday's Tips," the New York Department of State's Division of Consumer Protection (DCP) is warning job seekers to avoid common employment scams. Job scams have been a growing problem in recent years. According to the Federal Trade Commission, the number of reported scams for business and job opportunities quadrupled from 2018 to 2022, and in 2022 consumers lost 75% more money from business and job opportunity fraud compared to the prior year. Examples of what a job scam can look like are available here. Follow the New York Department of State on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram and check in every Tuesday for more practical tips that educate and empower New York consumers on a variety of topics. Sign up to receive consumer alerts directly to your email or phone here.

"Employment scams are becoming more and more of a problem as nefarious scammers continue to leverage pandemic and economic stress to take advantage of job seekers," said Secretary of State Robert J. Rodriguez. "To minimize the risk of falling victim to an employment scam, I encourage you to follow our tips, take precautions during your job search and learn the warning signs so you can recognize the difference between a real employment opportunity and a scam."

As you navigate the job market, use the following tips to avoid job scams and fraud.

Be wary of potential employers who:

- Want personal information prior to an interview.
- Offer to hire you without an interview or meeting.
- Only communicate via text message or messaging app.
- Charge up-front placement fees or impose other charges or fees as a condition of your employment.
- Ask you to transfer, receive and/or deposit money or receive/send packages (especially from outside the United States).
- Ask you to download any applications.
- Do not provide a job description or cannot describe the position about which you are inquiring.

Protect your personal information: Never give out personal information (such as your social security number, date of birth or bank account information) to potential employers until you know

the opportunity is legitimate.

Research organizations before applying: Scammers often promote non-existent job opportunities. To verify a job posting is legitimate, go to the company's official website to confirm the employment opportunity exists. If you don't see the job posting on their site, call the company directly to confirm.

Watch out for "too good to be true" offers: Be wary of postings for high-paying and fully remote jobs requiring "no resume" or "no experience." Always ask questions about the role and take the time to ask questions and confirm details outlined in the job description. Scammers often dodge questions or provide vague answers to pressure you to comply with their requests.

Don't pay for the promise of a job: Never send money for the promise of landing a job. Legitimate employers or recruiters will never ask candidates to pay to get a job or for a background check. Beware of check cashing scams: If a potential employer sends you a check instructing you to deposit it and send part of the money back to them, do not deposit that check. This is a scam.

Confirm contact methods: Make sure email communications match the company's official website and domain. Scammers often pose as a real company using unaffiliated or personal phone numbers and emails.

Use secure and reputable sites when searching for jobs online: The following links include some reliable sources to start or continue your job search.

- New York State Department of Labor includes resources for job seekers in New York including training opportunities, job openings, and civil service exam information.
- USAJobs.gov includes job openings nationwide.
- CareerOneStop lists job openings and employment training programs in each state. The United States Department of Labor sponsors this site.
- USA.gov includes links to county and local government websites which can list any local open positions or civil service exams available.

About the New York State Division of Consumer Protection - The New York State Division of Consumer Protection provides resources and education materials to consumers, as well as voluntary mediation services between consumers and businesses. The Consumer Assistance Helpline 1-800-697-1220 is available Monday to Friday from 8:30am to 4:30pm, excluding State Holidays, and consumer complaints can be filed at any time at [www.dos.ny.gov/consumer-protection](http://www.dos.ny.gov/consumer-protection). For other consumer protection tips and consumer alerts, consumers can visit the DCP website or follow DCP on social media via Twitter at @NYSConsumer or Facebook at [www.facebook.com/nysconsumer](http://www.facebook.com/nysconsumer).

## Support of Hunger-Free Campus Act at Queens College

(Continued from page 6)

citywide, Wu, state legislators from Queens and Nassau, members of the college administration, and student leaders gathered to highlight the work of the school's food pantry and voice support for the Hunger-Free Campus Act. The president and lawmakers met one-on-one with student leaders, toured the pantry and learned about its services. Now under debate in Albany, the Hunger-

Free Campus Act—which has already passed in eight states, including Pennsylvania and New Jersey—would provide funding to grow and sustain basic needs programs, like the Knights Table Food Pantry. Linda Rosenthal and John Liu are primary sponsors of food insecurity legislation to fund pantries at CUNY and SUNY campuses.

While CUNY schools were mandated to establish food pantries in 2019, the majority of pan-

tries receive no funding support from their institution. Even before the pandemic, the Knight's Table Food Pantry was a vital resource for City University of New York (CUNY) students—up to nearly half of whom were considered food insecure. Because of inflation and the rising cost of food and basic care items, the pantry's services are even more critical now. To date, the Knight's Table Food Pantry has served just over 2,600 students and their families.

# Gillibrand Statement on President Biden's Executive Order to Reduce Gun Violence



Senator Kirsten Gillibrand issued the following statement on President Joe Biden's Executive Order to reduce gun violence and make our communities safer:

"Our nation is in the midst of a gun violence epidemic, and President Biden's executive order will help keep these weapons out of dangerous hands and speed up implementation of the historic bipartisan gun safety law Congress passed last year, including the measures I helped pass to criminalize gun trafficking," said U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand. "I have worked hard alongside my colleagues to protect our communities from gun violence, having pushed for expanded background checks, legislation to classify gun trafficking as a federal offense, and greater access to records of gun purchases. I want to thank President Biden for taking

these steps that will not only help local authorities keep deadly weapons away from those who should not have them, but will also potentially help prevent mass shootings."

Senator Gillibrand has consistently fought to protect communities from gun violence, having joined Senator Bob Menendez (D-NJ) this month in urging Congress to pass the Gun Records Restoration and Preservation Act, which would require the Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to collect, preserve, and disclose gun records and gun tracing data. The Gun Records Restoration and Preservation Act would give local law enforcement agencies an important tool to investigate and solve gun crimes, crack down on gun trafficking and negligent gun dealers, and give researchers access to gun tracing data to help them study gun violence and its impact on communities across the nation.

Last month, Senator Gillibrand joined Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) and Senators Chris Murphy (D-CT), Dick Durbin (D-IL), and Richard Blumenthal (D-CT) to reintroduce the Background Check Expansion Act, which would expand federal background checks to all gun sales,

requiring unlicensed sellers to conduct background checks, whether they do business online, at gun shows, or out of their homes.

In 2022, Senator Gillibrand called for the Department of the Treasury and the Department of Justice to work toward the full implementation of the International Organization for Standardization's (ISO) merchant category code (MCC) for gun and ammunition retailers, which would help law enforcement monitor suspicious firearm purchasing patterns that could constitute illegal gun trafficking.

Senator Gillibrand's continued push for stronger gun safety measures complements her anti-gun trafficking provisions from the Hadiya Pendleton and Nyasia Pryear-Yard Gun Trafficking and Crime Prevention Act that were included in the historic gun safety bill signed by President Joe Biden – the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act. These measures crack down on individuals who engage in gun trafficking and those who sell or deal trafficked firearms, making gun trafficking a stand-alone federal crime. These provisions have brought about immediate results, after four gun traffickers were charged in January with illegally selling over 50 firearms in Brooklyn.

# Reps. Velázquez & Jacobs Call on DEA to Act to Mitigate ADHD Medication Shortage

Rep. Nydia M. Velázquez (D-NY) and Rep. Sara Jacobs (D-CA) led 20 members of Congress seeking information from the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) on agency plans to alleviate the nationwide shortages of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) medication.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, diagnoses for ADHD and related prescription rates exploded, due in part to prescriptions from telehealth providers who helped meet the need for care. This growth sent demand for ADHD medication skyrocketing. However, the supply has not yet increased accordingly, due to recent supply chain issues, and the maintenance of the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA)'s aggregate production quotas for these medications.

Consumers and manufacturers have reported that prescriptions have been unfilled for months and have called on the DEA to respond. The shortage has created difficult situations for patients as they have been forced to navigate delayed care, alternate prescriptions, potential lapses in medication stock, and dosage rationing to conserve medication.

"In recent weeks, my office has consistently heard from constituents that can't properly treat their ADHD due to the ongoing medication shortage. This lack of access to medication has very real consequences for the people I represent and has severe implications for peoples' professional and personal lives," said Congresswoman Velázquez. "It's vital that the federal government is doing all we can to ensure that the millions of Americans with ADHD have access to the medication they need.

That's why I'm working to ensure the DEA is doing all it can to address this issue."

"For months, millions of Americans, especially teenagers and young adults, have struggled to fill their ADHD prescriptions because of supply chain issues and DEA's red tape," said Congresswoman Sara Jacobs. "As a result, many have been forced to go weeks without their medication, affecting their performance at school and at work. That's why I'm pushing the DEA for answers with Congresswoman Velázquez – so we can ensure that all relevant agencies and industries are working together efficiently and effectively to get the American people the medication they need."

The signatory list of Members includes Reps. Velázquez (NY-7), Jacobs (CA-51), Beyer (VA-8), Bowman (NY-16), Clarke (NY-11), Cleaver (MO-5), Cohen (TN-9), Espaillat (NY-13), Higgins (NY-26), Larson (CT-1), Meng (NY-6), Morelle (NY-25), Nadler (NY-12), Pocan (WI-2), Raskin (MD-8), Ryan (NY-19), Smith (WA-9), Soto (FL-9), Torres (NY-15), and Trone (MD-6).

In the letter, the lawmakers requested updates from the DEA on the following topics:

- 1) How the DEA remains updated on consumer demand for ADHD medication, and maintains responsiveness to this demand in setting aggregate production quotas,
- 2) Any existing or new mitigation plans to respond to any future economic, supply chain, or other disruptions to ADHD medication,
- 3) How the DEA considered consumer demand for ADHD medication in formulating new telemedicine and prescription rules.

# Riders Alliance Statement on NYS Legislative One-House Budgets

Riders Alliance Executive Director Betsy Plum said:

"The legislature's budget ignores millions of riders stranded 12, 15, 20 minutes or more on subway platforms and at bus stops. We're the ones losing pay, missing school and medical appointments, and arriving late to pick up our kids, all because of infrequent, inequitable transit service. By neglecting the long waits that discourage people from riding transit, the proposal also fails in its attempt to fix the

MTA.

"Governor Hochul, who controls the MTA, must now negotiate a final budget that provides City riders, who delivered her historic election victory, the frequent subway and bus service we deserve. With the state now subsidizing the Long Island Rail Road more heavily than ever to connect exclusive suburbs to Grand Central, our governor owes workers, students, parents and caregivers, seniors, and everyone else who relies on subways and buses a \$300 million measure of equity."

# Riders Alliance Statement on Formation of Congressional 'Defund Transit' Caucus

"The 'defund transit' caucus is a slap in the face to millions of hardworking New Yorkers and New Jerseyans who depend on our region's buses and trains each and every day. Congestion pricing is the largest source of funds for the MTA capital program and the only one to address the \$20 billion wasted annually by families and firms due to traffic congestion.

"Without congestion pricing, the representatives' constituents will be stuck on gridlocked buses, delayed by unreliable subways, and shut out of inaccessible stations for decades to come. Rather than pursue better infrastructure, these supposed public servants today pander to a handful of their constituents and foment a harmful transportation culture war for private gain."

**Man and woman assaulted in anti-Asian attack in New York**

**Police data shows antisemitic incidents in NYC more than doubled over last 2 years**

*The New York Times*  
**Buffalo Shooting Highlights Rise of Hate Crimes Against Black Americans**

**As hate crimes surge, most are going uncounted**

**New York City faith leaders counter extremist "day of hate" with "day of resolve"**

**COMMUNITY FORUM**

The Simon Wiesenthal Center invites all community members for a critical forum to explore the impact of hate on our communities.

**SUNDAY, MARCH 19, 2023**  
11am to 1pm  
Commonpoint Queens  
Sam Field Center, 58-20 Little Neck Parkway, Little Neck, NY 11362

*The forum will feature*

- presentation by Simon Wiesenthal Center's Research Department's experts on Digital Terrorism and Hate, and the impact on our young people.
- a unique presentation by a former neo-Nazi, who will share his story about his entry and exit from the world of extremism, and the powerful lessons that can be learned.
- Q&A with the audience

Participants will receive copies of materials from the Simon Wiesenthal Center's Digital Terrorism and Hate project and the Museum of Tolerance.

Light kosher refreshments will be served.

*This forum is presented in collaboration and with funding from the offices of NY City Council Speaker Adrienne E. Adams, and Council Member Linda Lee who represents the 23rd Council District in Queens.*

*Co-sponsored by NYS Senator Toby Ann Stavisky and NYS Assembly Member Ed Braunstein.*

Registration:  
<https://www.museumoftolerance.com/combat-hate-community-forum-ny.html>  
This event is provided **free of charge**.  
Reservations are strongly recommended as space is limited.

For more information email: [ifundo@wiesenthal.com](mailto:ifundo@wiesenthal.com), or call: (917) 459-8912

**LEGAL NOTICES**

Notice of Formation of PVNX, LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 01/08/2023. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 45-14 30th Avenue, Suite 1R, Astoria, NY 11103. Purpose: any lawful activities. 2/9,16,23,3/2,9&16/2023

TWINS 2588 LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 02/08/23. Office: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 35-08 30th Avenue, 2nd Floor, Astoria, NY 11103. Purpose: Any lawful purpose. 2/16,23,3/2,9,16&23/2023

AMERICAN BANGLADESHI COMMUNITY HUB LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 02/09/23. Office: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, c/o Abul H Bhuiyan, 15626 95th Street, Howard Beach, NY 11414. Purpose: Any lawful purpose. 2/16,23,3/2,9,16&23/2023

DB4116 LLC, Arts of Org. filed with Sec. of State of NY (SSNY) 9/17/2018. Cty: Queens. SSNY desig. as agent upon whom process against may be served & shall mail process to 213-38 40th Ave., Bayside, NY 11361. General Purpose. 2/23,3/2,9,16,23&30/2023

Notice of Formation S Family Dream, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 2/7/23. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Luis Salazar, 7-28 124th St., College Point, NY 11356. Purpose: any lawful activity. 2/16,23,3/2,9,16,&23/2023

Notice of Formation of CATEGORY 1 MUSIC, LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 02/18/2023. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: P.O. Box 8532, New York, NY 10150. Purpose: any lawful activities. 2/23,3/2,9,16,23&30/2023

Notice of formation of SONG MEDICAL PLLC Arts of Org. filed with the Secretary of State of New York SSNY on 5/5/2022. Office location: QUEENS. SSNY design. agent of PLLC upon whom process may be served and shall mail copy to 3808 UNION ST UNIT 2A, FLUSHING, NY 11354. Purpose: any lawful activity. 2/9,16,23,3/2,9&16/2023

**LEGAL NOTICES**

Notice of Formation of DESIGNERRX SOLUTIONS, LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 10/24/2022. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 17718 Wexford Ter. Apt 202, Jamaica, NY 11432. Purpose: any lawful activities. 2/23,3/2,9,16,23&30/2023

Notice of Formation of Samson Milwaukee LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 1/25/23. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o Samson Management, 1180-5 Queens Blvd, Ste 1710, Forest Hills, NY 11375. Purpose: any lawful activity. 2/9,16,23,3/2,9&16/2023

JLEMM 50th St, LLC filed w/ SSNY on 2/1/23. Office: Queens Co. SSNY designated as agent for process & shall mail to: 2565 34th St., Astoria, NY 11103. Purpose: any lawful. 2/9,16,23,3/2,9&16/2023

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK – COUNTY OF QUEENS INDEX # 700483/2020 FILED 2/15/2023

SUPPLEMENTAL SUMMONS Plaintiff designates Queens County as the Place of Trial. Designation of Venue is based upon the situs of the Subject Property. Subject Property: 34-17 101st Street a/k/a 3417 101st Street, Corona, New York 11368.

DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY, AS TRUSTEE OF THE HOME EQUITY MORTGAGE LOAN ASSET- BACKED TRUST SERIES INABS 2007-B, HOME EQUITY MORTGAGE LOAN ASSET-BACKED CERTIFICATES SERIES INABS 2007-B, UNDER THE POOLING AND SERVICING AGREEMENT DATED JUNE 1, 2007, Plaintiff, JESUS ANTONIO PELAEZ, if living, and if dead, the respective heirs at law, next of kin, distributees, executors, administrators, trustees, devisees, legatees, assignors, lienors, creditors and successors in interest and generally all persons having or claiming under, by or through said defendant who may be deceased, by purchase, inheritance, lien or otherwise of any right, title or interest in and to the premises described in the complaint herein, and their respective husbands, wives or widow, if any, and each and every person not specifically named who may be entitled to or claim to have any right, title or interest in the property described in the verified complaint; all of whom and whose names and places of residence unknown, and cannot after diligent inquiry be ascertained by the Plaintiff, ALMA NORA PELAEZ AS ADMINISTRATOR TO THE

**LEGAL NOTICES**

ESTATE OF ISOLINA PELAEZ A/K/A ISOLINA A. PELAEZ, GLORIA POMARICO AS ADMINISTRATOR TO THE ESTATE OF ISOLINA PELAEZ A/K/A ISOLINA A. PELAEZ, MARIA ARCINIEGAS AS HEIR AT LAW AND NEXT OF KIN TO THE ESTATE OF ISOLINA PELAEZ A/K/A ISOLINA A. PELAEZ, NEW YORK CITY ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL BOARD, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA O/B/O INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION AND FINANCE, Defendants. To the above-named defendants: YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer the complaint in this action and to serve a copy of your answer, or, if the complaint is not served with this summons, to serve a notice of appearance, on the plaintiff's attorneys within twenty (20) days after the service of this summons, exclusive of the day of service (or within thirty (30) days after the service is complete if this summons is not personally delivered to you within the State of New York); in the event the United States of America is made a party defendant, the time to answer for the said United States of America shall not expire until sixty (60) days after service of the Summons; and in case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the Complaint. NOTICE YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME If you do not respond to this summons and complaint by serving a copy of the answer on the attorney for the mortgage company who filed this foreclosure proceeding against you and filing the answer with the court, a default judgment may be entered and you can lose your home. Speak to an attorney or go to the court where your case is pending for further information on how to answer the summons and protect your property. Sending a payment to your mortgage company will not stop this foreclosure action. YOU MUST RESPOND BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF (MORTGAGE COMPANY) AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT. McCabe, Weisberg & Conway, LLC, Attorneys for Plaintiff, 1 Huntington Quadrangle, Suite 4N25 Melville, NY 11747. 631-812-4084. 855-845-2584 facsimile HELP FOR HOMEOWNERS IN FORECLOSURE New York State requires that we send you this notice about the foreclosure process. Please read it carefully. SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT You are in danger of losing your home. If you fail to respond to the Summons and Complaint in this foreclosure action, you may lose your home. Please read the Summons and Complaint carefully. You

**LEGAL NOTICES**

should immediately contact an attorney or your local legal aid office to obtain advice on how to protect yourself. SOURCES OF INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE The State encourages you to become informed about your options in foreclosure. In addition to seeking assistance from an attorney or legal aid office, there are government agencies, and non-profit organizations that you may contact for information about possible options, including trying to work with your lender during this process. To locate an entity near you, you may call the toll-free helpline maintained by New York State Department of Financial Services' at 1-877-BANK-NYS (1-877-226-5697) or visit the Department's website at WWW.BANKING.STATE.NY.US. RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS YOU ARE NOT REQUIRED TO LEAVE YOUR HOME AT THIS TIME. You have the right to stay in your home during the foreclosure process. You are not required to leave your home unless and until your property is sold at auction pursuant to a judgment of foreclosure and sale. Regardless of whether you choose to remain in your home, YOU ARE REQUIRED TO TAKE CARE OF YOUR PROPERTY and pay your taxes in accordance with state and local law. FORECLOSURE RESCUE SCAMS Be careful of people who approach you with offers to "save" your home. There are individuals who watch for notices of foreclosure actions in order to unfairly profit from a homeowner's distress. You should be extremely careful about any such promises and any suggestions that you pay them a fee or sign over your deed. State law requires anyone offering such services for profit to enter into a contract which fully describes the services they will perform and fees they will charge, and which prohibits them from taking any money from you until they have completed all such promised services. File# 272-5697 3/2,9,16&23/2023

Notice of Formation of JD AVERY DEVELOPMENT LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 01/19/2023. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 1568 Union Turnpike, #3701, New Hyde Park, NY 11040. Purpose: any lawful activities. 2/23,3/2,9,16,23&30/2023

Notice of Formation of YIGA DESIGN STUDIO LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 02/13/2023. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 97-45 Queens Blvd, Unit# 502, Rego Park, NY 11374. Purpose: any lawful activities. 3/9,16,23,30,4/6&13/2023

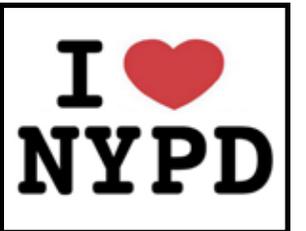
**LEGAL NOTICES**

NOTICE FOR FORMATION of a limited liability company (LLC). The name of limited liability company is DUZIL 3180 36TH STREET, LLC. The date of filing of the articles of organization with the Department of State was February 7, 2023. The County in New York in which the office of the company is located Queens. The Secretary of State has been designated as agent of the company upon whom process may be served, and the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against the company served upon him or her to The LLC, 18 Andrew Road, Manhasset, New York 11030. The business purpose of the company is to engage in any and all business activities permitted under the laws of the State of New York. 3/9,16,23,30,4/6&13/2023

Notice is hereby given that a license, Serial No. 1353657, for liquor, wine, and beer has been applied for by the undersigned to sell at retail in a under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at 88-18 Liberty Avenue, South Ozone Park, New York 11417 for on-premises consumption. Hydra NYC, LLC. 3/9&16/2023

Notice of Formation of GREEN WOOD & DUFF, LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 02/28/2023. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 3111 33rd St., Apt 2R, Astoria, NY 11106. Purpose: any lawful activities. 3/9,16,23,30,4/6&13/2023

Notice of Formation of HB KNIGHT SERVICES, LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 06/09/2015. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 3519 100th Street, Corona, NY 11368. Purpose: any lawful activities. 3/9,16,23,30,4/6&13/2023



**LEGAL NOTICES**

Goodfellas Detailing LLC, Arts of Org. filed with Sec. of State of NY (SSNY) 2/22/2023. Cty: Queens. SSNY desig. as agent upon whom process against may be served & shall mail process to Vincenzo Castelli, 7103 Central Ave., Glendale, NY 11385. General Purpose. 3/16,23,30,4/6,13&20/2023

Notice of Formation of YI TONG LLC Articles of Organization. filed with Secretary of State of NY. ("SSNY") on 03/14/2023. Office location in QUEENS COUNTY. SSNY has been designated for service of process. SSNY shall mail copy of any process served against the LLC to: 1129 127TH ST, COLLEGE POINT, NY 11356. Purpose: any lawful activity. 3/16,23,30,4/6,13&20/2023

Notice of Formation of O.R.O CATERING AND EVENTS LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 02/22/2023. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 4111 40th Street, Apt 3K, Sunnyside, NY 11104. Purpose: any lawful activities. 3/16,23,30,4/6,13&20/2023

Notice of Formation of ROYALTY TRUCKERS LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 01/12/2023. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 448 Beach 65th Street, Averno, NY 11692. Purpose: any lawful activities. 2/9,16,23,3/2,9&16/2023

105-47, LLC Articles of Org. filed NY Sec. of State (SSNY) 3/15/23. Office in Queens Co. SSNY desig. agent of LLC whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 102-10 66th Rd., Unit 24D, Forest Hills, NY 11375. Purpose: Any lawful purpose. 3/16,23,30,4/6,13&20/2023

MTA Alliance LLC Articles of Org. filed NY Sec. of State (SSNY) 3/6/2023. Office in Queens Co. SSNY design. Agent of LLC whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to PO BOX 313243, JAMAICA, NY, 11431. Purpose: Any lawful activity. 3/16,23,30,4/6,13&20/2023

**Prayers for peace and justice  
in Ireland  
Happy St. Patrick's Day To All!**  
**Joseph P. Addabbo, Jr.**  
New York State Senator  
District 15



**District Offices:**

84-16 Jamaica Avenue  
Woodhaven, N.Y. 11421  
(718) 738-1111

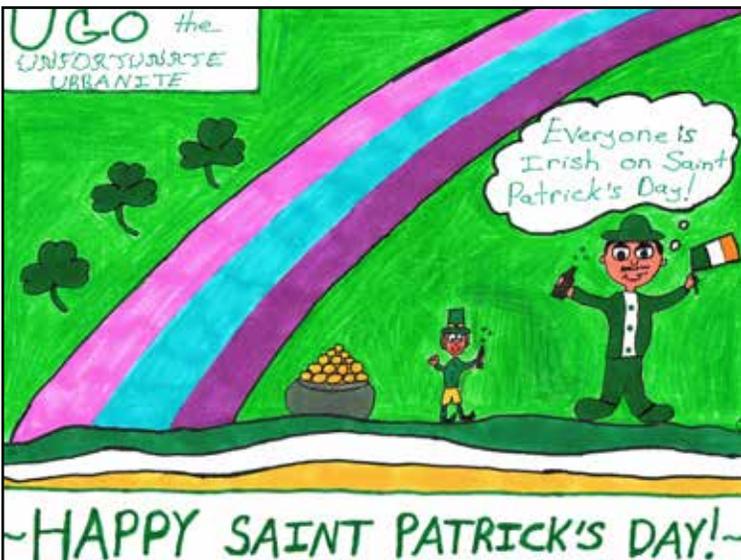
66-85 73rd Place  
Middle Village, N.Y. 11379  
(718) 497-1630

[addabbo@nysenate.gov](mailto:addabbo@nysenate.gov)

**Rosedale Jets 61st Annual Black-Tie  
Awards Banquet**

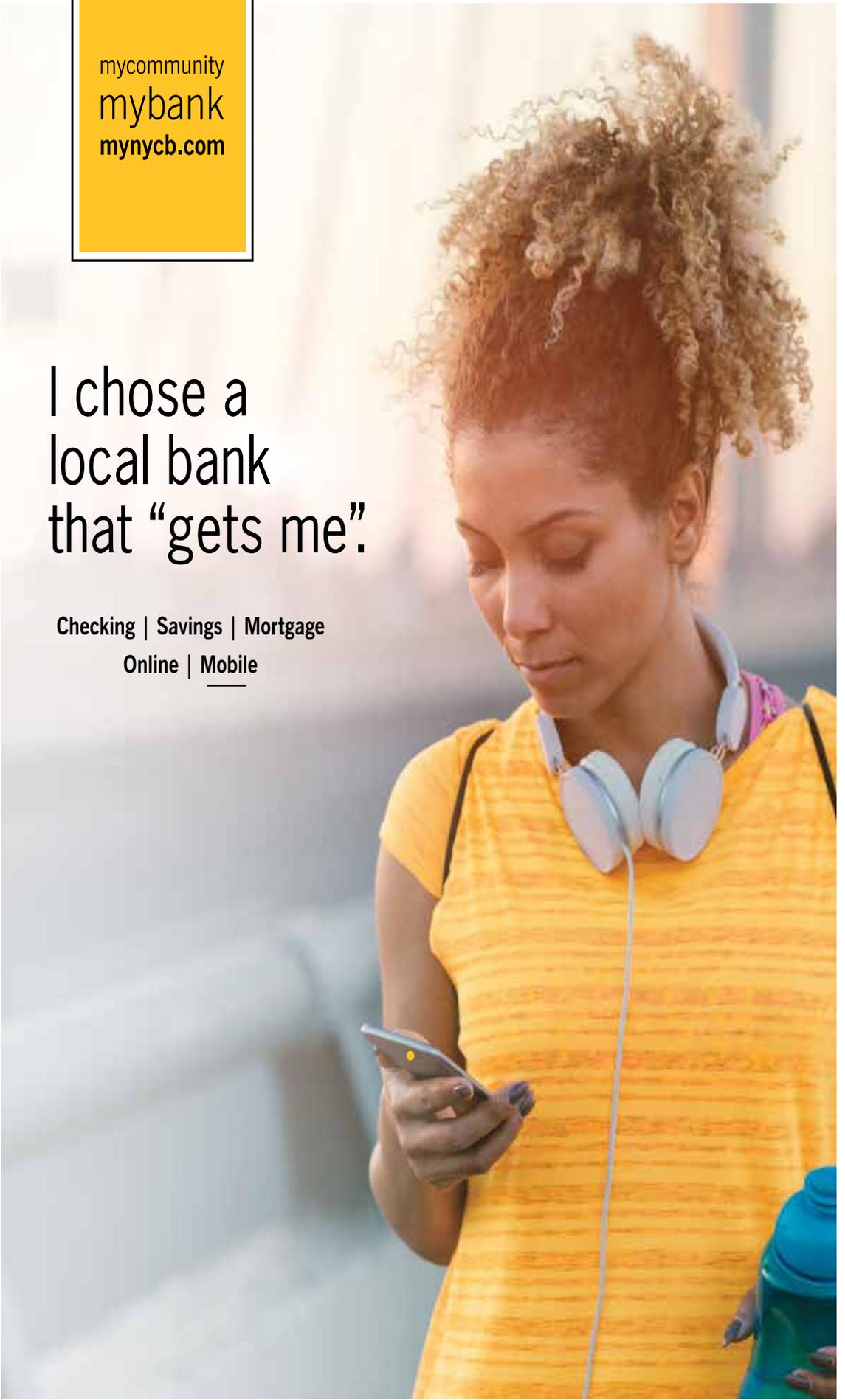


Queens District Attorney Melinda Katz recently attended the Rosedale Jets 61st Annual Black-Tie Awards Banquet. This organization has been connecting generations of young people with positive role models and developing their leadership potential. QDA Katz said "I am happy to support their efforts with a Queens DA Youth Development and Crime Prevention grant."



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