

# QUEENS TIMES

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25 CENTS

## Schools Must Teach All Historical Facts

It is extremely important that history is taught in our schools. The absence of teaching a historical curriculum in schools only allows those who are hell bent on dividing and pitting Americans against each to spread misinformation that is floated on the internet. This misinformation has brought us to where we are in America today.

Large populations of Americans get their historical news often times from distorted bogus websites. There are other Americans who do not get historical information from the internet, their information is from who knows where. Then there is the rest of the population that listens to both of the aforementioned groups, the web or from who knows where, and their facts most of the time is not well-informed historical facts. Then, unfortunately, there are those who obtain knowledgeable historical facts and their truthful statements are dismissed and shut down. It is unconscionable that this is where Americans are today.

We hope that everyone is aware that America is one of the greatest experiments that the world has ever seen and everyday this 246 year old experiment is still experiencing challenges to survive. Our government was molded on the backs of all the ethnic groups that made America their home. Yes, there are

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## Assemblywoman Stacey Pheffer Amato Launches Summer Reading Challenge For Kids



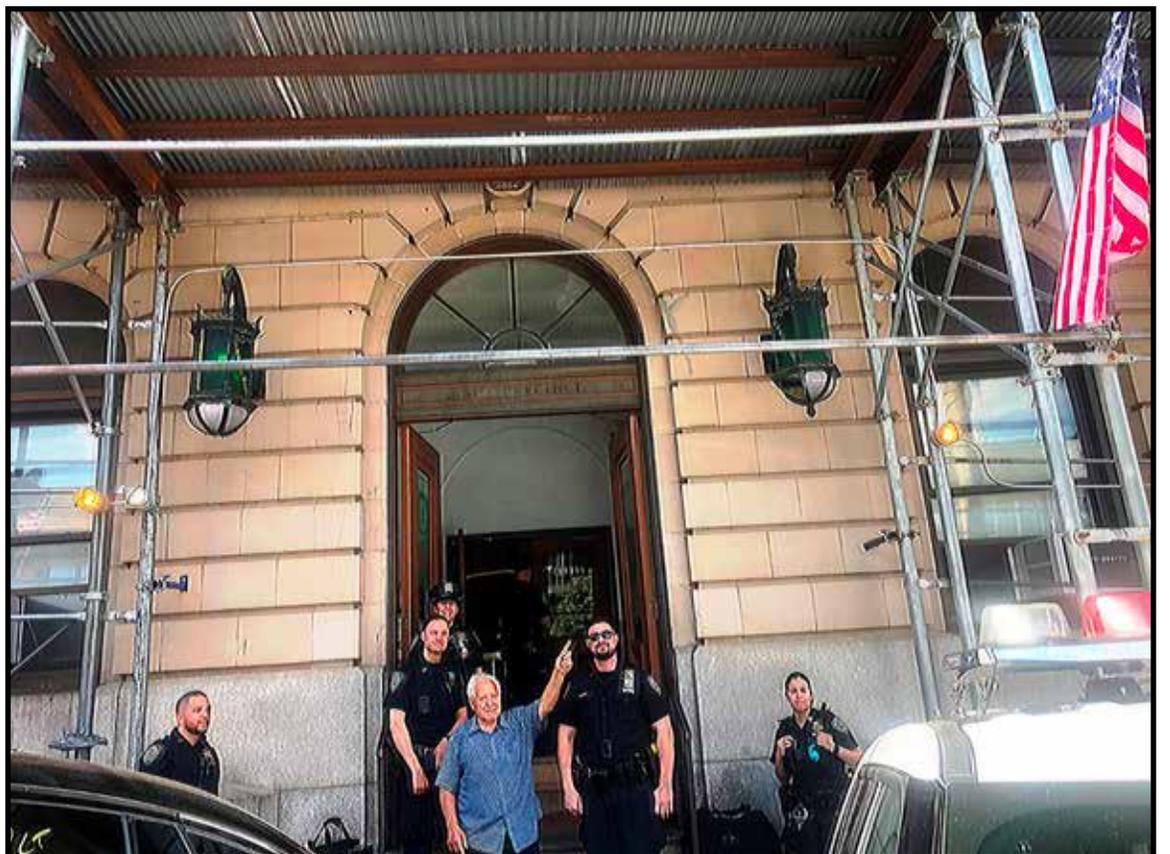
"Oceans of Possibilities" is this year theme challenge celebrating all things water and ocean-related. (Courtesy of Amato's office). See story on page 2.

## Father Diaz Promotion Celebration at Mama's Backyard Café



Pictured is Father Jose Diaz with Irene, Carmela, Pasquale, Joe and St Leo's parishioners who all told Father Jose that he will be extremely missed and congratulated him on his promotion. See story on page 2.

## USMC Vet Donates American Flags That Are Flying Outside 110th Police Precinct



The communities of Corona and Elmhurst are elated that American Flags are proudly displayed in front of the 110th Police Precinct reflecting its community pride. Police Officers are pictured in front of the 110th Pct with USMC Vet Joe Bellacicco who is pointing to one of the many American Flag that are flying outside the precinct. The American Flags were a gift from Joe Bellacicco who is a member of PFC. William F. Moore Marine Corps Association.

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# Park Side Restaurant

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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 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.

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# Schools Must Teach All Historical Facts

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times that the government of the United States of America passes laws that leave you scratching your head. Even though all Americans are not always satisfied with the government, we all can agree that America is the country that exemplifies the greatness that all ethnic groups admire.

That is why all Americans must be made aware of the true historical facts of each ethnic group's migration to America. The only way

to accomplish this is for schools to teach students these facts. If every American traced their ancestry, they would find out that everyone came from other lands. People will learn that each and every ethnic group that arrived in America had many challenges and faced very difficult times. Each group experienced discriminatory practices against them, not one group was exempt from discrimination. Unfortunately, discrimination's head is still raised and unless everyone is made knowledgeable

about what each and every group experienced on their way to becoming an American, there will never be a semblance of peace for all Americans.

America is a beautiful mosaic of the world's ethnicity proving America is the true melting pot and proving that this 246 year old experiment, even with bumps in the road for the most part, is alive and moving forward. One historical fact, that many may not know or remember, is that America is a beautiful Italian name.

## Assemblywoman Stacey Pheffer Amato Launches Summer Reading Challenge For Kids

(Continued from page 1)

Assemblywoman Stacey Pheffer Amato announced the launch of the 2022 annual Assembly Summer Reading Challenge held in partnership with New York State Libraries.

The theme for this year's challenge is "Oceans of Possibilities" celebrating all things water and ocean-related. School-aged children and young readers are encouraged to read and will be awarded the Assembly Excellence in Reading Certificate to recognize their efforts and dedication.

Assemblywoman Stacey Pheffer Amato made sure that summer reading packets that included a brochure explaining the challenge and a calendar, along with a bookmark was distributed to every public, charter and private school from Ozone Park to Howard Beach and across the Rockaway peninsula so that they could be given to students before school breaks for summer vacation.

Assemblywoman Stacey Pheffer Amato went on to say "There's no better way to help kids expand their horizons and keep their minds active than by picking up a good book. A good book can take us to new, exciting worlds, transport us back in time and introduce us to historical figures. This Summer Reading Challenge is a great way to foster a lifelong love of reading and ensure that our kids keep learning once the school year ends."

The summer reading challenge asks children to read a book for a minimum of 15 minutes a day for at least 40 days during July and August. Children can read on their own or with a partner or caregiver. The student then marks off the days they read on the calendar provided. Once the student has completed 40 days or more, they submit the calendar to the office of Assemblywoman Amato and they will receive their award at a special ceremony at each school in the fall.

Assemblywoman Stacey Pheffer Amato will be participating because she is always up for a challenge. Assemblywoman Amato is also proud to announce that students could be eligible for two additional awards. Assemblywoman Amato goes on to say, "For the first time we are creating an award for the first student to submit their calendar and will be awarding the school with the most submissions with a special prize".

Additional copies of the Summer Reading Challenge from Amato can be found at local libraries or by contacting the assemblywoman's office at 718-945-9550. Also a printout version is also available on Amato's website: [amatos@nyassembly.gov](mailto:amatos@nyassembly.gov).

Assemblywoman Stacey Pheffer Amato 95-16 Rockaway Beach Boulevard Rockaway Beach, NY 11693 718-945-9550 162-38 Cross Bay Boulevard Howard Beach, NY 11414 718-641-8755 [amatos@nyassembly.gov](mailto:amatos@nyassembly.gov). In cooperation with Summer Reading at New York Libraries [www.summerreadingnys.org](http://www.summerreadingnys.org).

## Father Diaz Promotion Celebration at Mama's Backyard Café

(Continued from page 1)

Members from the Italian Mass at St Leo's Church in Corona got together, after St Leo's Italian Mass, at Mama's Backyard Café, 46-10

104th Street, Corona, NY 11368, to congratulate Father Jose Diaz for being appointed as the new Pastor of Mary's Nativity-St. Ann Parish. Mama's matriarch Irene had Mama's baker, Leo, prepare a

wonderful cake. Irene first served antipasti, then the Coffee and cake that she donated. Irene, her sister Carmela, Pasquale Carucci and Joe Natale were responsible for arranging his Promotion Celebration.

## Attorney General James Announces Election Protection Hotline Ahead of Early Voting Period

**OAG Will Troubleshoot Voting Issues During Early Voting and on Election Day**

**Voters Experiencing Problems Can Call (866) 390-2992, Submit Complaints Online, or Email [election.hotline@ag.ny.gov](mailto:election.hotline@ag.ny.gov)**

New York Attorney General Letitia James today announced that the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) will make its Election Protection Hotline available for the upcoming June 28, 2022 election and during New York's early voting period, which runs from Saturday, June 18 until Sunday, June 26. The hotline will be available to troubleshoot and resolve a range of issues encountered by voters, including voting by absentee ballot due to the COVID-19 crisis or in-person at their polling place. Voters that

experience problems can report issues to OAG by calling the new hotline number at (866) 390-2992, submitting complaints online, or emailing [election.hotline@ag.ny.gov](mailto:election.hotline@ag.ny.gov). The OAG also created a guide to address frequently asked questions to assist voters.

"As states throughout the country try to strip communities of their fundamental right to vote, we are continuing to make sure that the polls remain accessible for voters across New York," said Attorney General James. "For years, New Yorkers have relied on our election protection hotline to address any challenges they face across the state and to provide guidance for those casting a ballot. My office remains committed to ensuring that New Yorkers are able to participate fully and meaningfully in the electoral process."

Attorney General James urges

voters experiencing problems to call OAG's new hotline at (866) 390-2992, submit complaints online, or email [election.hotline@ag.ny.gov](mailto:election.hotline@ag.ny.gov) to request election-related assistance in advance of the election. The hotline and digital forms are accessible in multiple languages. The telephone hotline will be open at any time between 9:00 AM and 5:00 PM on Saturday, June 18 through Sunday, June 26, and between 6:00 AM and 9:00 PM on Tuesday, June 28 (Election Day). Written requests for election-related assistance may be submitted at any time through the online complaint form. Hotline calls and written requests for election-related assistance are processed by OAG attorneys and staff.

The OAG has operated its

(Continued on page 3)

## Meng, Jacobs & Higgins Introduce Bipartisan Legislation to Keep Enhanced Body Armor Out of The Hands of Mass Shooters

*Congressmembers sponsor measure following massacres where gunmen wore body armor; lawmakers name the bill in memory of security guard killed in the Buffalo shooting who could not stop the assailant due to the shooter wearing body armor*

U.S. Reps. Grace Meng (D-NY), Chris Jacobs (R-NY) and Brian Higgins (D-NY) introduced bipartisan legislation in the House of Representatives that seeks to keep enhanced body armor out of the hands of mass shooters, and they named the measure in memory of Aaron Salter Jr., the supermarket security guard killed in the Buffalo massacre who was unable to stop the shooter since he was protected by enhanced body armor during the attack. The bill follows last week's House's passage of the Protecting Our Kids Act (H.R. 7910), a bill that includes common sense provisions to combat gun violence and keep our communities safe.

"Armor designed for warfare has no place on our streets, and the 'Aaron Salter Jr. Responsible Body Armor Possession Act' is a common sense step to ensure that enhanced body armor is not in the hands of bad actors," said Rep. Meng, a member of the House Gun Violence Prevention Task Force. "Gun violence plagues our communities, and a gunman who is protected by enhanced body armor is even more frightening. Over the last decade, there have been 17 mass shootings where the gunman was protected by some

form of body armor. That is two and a half times more than the previous three decades. When would-be shooters are able to arm themselves with military grade equipment, our community is at increased risk. We must ensure that our law enforcement community – and everyone who is the first to respond to shootings – are not facing military grade equipment that inhibits their ability to respond to the shooter. I urge all my colleagues in the House to support this legislation to help prevent future tragedies from occurring."

"Four weeks ago, we witnessed an unspeakable tragedy here in Buffalo when ten people were massacred at a local grocery store," said Rep. Jacobs. "One of those victims, Aaron Salter, was the security guard for that store and gave his life protecting others who were inside. His heroic confrontation of the shooter undoubtedly saved lives. Unfortunately, the shooter was wearing enhanced body armor that protected him from Aaron's attempts to take him down. Had the killer not had such armor, the outcome would have been one with much less bloodshed. There is simply no reason for enhanced body armor to be used without restriction on our streets. It puts others in extraordinary danger and prevents the swift termination of a dangerous threat. We have an opportunity to make a real change here, and that is why I am proud to join Rep. Meng and Rep. Higgins in introducing the bipartisan 'Aaron Salter Jr. Responsible Body Armor Posses-

sion Act' to ensure military-grade armor cannot be used for malicious purposes. I urge every one of my colleagues to support it."

"Aaron Salter was a 30-year veteran of the Buffalo Police Department, he saved many lives, but ultimately was rendered defenseless due to the shooter's body armor, allowing a racist shooter's rampage on a neighborhood supermarket to continue," said Rep. Higgins. "This is a public safety bill named for a hero, which will protect communities as well as law enforcement dedicating themselves to answering the call in emergency situations."

The Aaron Salter Jr. Responsible Body Armor Possession Act would prohibit the sale, transfer or possession of enhanced body armor by civilians – specifically those body armor that meets or exceeds a Level III ballistic resistance level as determined by the National Institution of Justice. Presently, there are no federal restrictions on civilians' access to this level of body armor which can be legally purchased online. Law enforcement, active-duty military and other public servants whose job responsibilities require them to possess body armor would be exempted under this measure.

The legislation can be viewed here.

In addition to Buffalo, shootings by gunmen wearing body armor have taken place in Sutherland Springs, Texas; Aurora, Colorado; Boulder, Colorado; San Bernardino, California and many other communities.

## Gillibrand Leads 32 Colleagues in Push To Fight Food Insecurity

U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand is leading 32 of her Senate colleagues in a push to extend child nutrition waivers ahead of their expiration and enact a robust set of child nutrition priorities in any upcoming legislative vehicles. As school summer break is already underway in many states, it is vital that Congress extends and expands these programs as low-income families are facing a steep benefits cliff when the waivers expire on June 30, 2022. Specifically, in the letter, Gillibrand calls to extend child nutrition waivers, create a nationwide Summer EBT program, and expand community eligibility (CEP), a flexible meal service option for school districts in low-income areas. These provisions are critical to fighting child hunger and food insecurity.

"The pandemic has highlighted the importance of the child nutrition programs and the role they play in keeping hunger at bay for millions of children across the country. As schools close for summer across the country, families will soon lose access to free school meals and be faced with the prospect of increased food insecurity, weight gain, and learning disruptions," said the senators. "As Congress develops legislation to support families impacted by high food costs, we must help ease the burden of these challenges and ensure that these child nutrition programs can fully meet children's nutritional needs while they are at school, after-school and summer programs, and childcare."

"More must be done to fuel children's health and learning as millions of families continue to struggle with the fallout of COVID-19. Extending the child nutrition waivers, expanding community eligibility, and creating a nationwide Summer EBT program are surefire ways for our nation's children to have access to the nutrition they need to grow and thrive in the classroom and beyond," said Luis Guardia, president of the Food Research & Action Center (FRAC). "We call on Congress to act quickly and include these provisions in any upcoming legislative vehicle. Hungry children can't wait."

"In a typical year, Boys & Girls Clubs across the country serve 95 million meals and snacks to kids at no cost. Clubs also continually adapt to support the needs of communities during times of crisis including during the peak of the pandemic, providing more than 24 million meals to nearly a half million families nationwide," said Jim Clark, president and CEO of Boys & Girls Clubs of America. "Extending the child nutrition waivers is critical to support the essential needs of kids, families, and communities still recovering from the economic and social impacts of the last two years. We urge Congress to make child

nutrition and hunger a priority by extending the waiver authority and investing in programs that keep youth healthy, safe, and learning."

"Summer is underway and YMCAs across the country are working to get healthy meals to every child in need. This summer, only 1 in 7 eligible children will have access to these meals, and Congress' unwillingness to extend child nutrition waivers beyond June 30 is hampering our ability to provide meals when kids need them most," said Suzanne McCormick, President and CEO of YMCA of the USA. "We need to be able to use every possible tool to feed kids this summer, so the recommendations outlined by Senator Gillibrand and her colleagues cannot be passed soon enough. We are hopeful Congress works to enact these provisions, which will help ensure that every child has a summer free of hunger."

In addition to Senator Gillibrand (D-NY), this letter is signed by Senators Cory Booker (D-NJ), Elizabeth Warren (D-MA), Chris Van Hollen (D-MD), Alex Padilla (D-CA), Kyrsten Sinema (D-AZ), Dianne Feinstein (D-CA), Bob Casey (D-PA), Angus King (I-ME), Tina Smith (D-MN), Raphael Warnock (D-GA), Jack Reed (D-RI), Sherrod Brown (D-OH), Richard Blumenthal (D-CT), Ben Cardin (D-MD), Amy Klobuchar (D-MN), Jacky Rosen (D-NV), Tammy Baldwin (D-WI), Mark Warner (D-VA), Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI), Martin Heinrich (D-NM), Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH), Bernie Sanders (I-VT), Ed Markey (D-MA), Tammy Duckworth (D-IL), Mark Kelly (D-AZ), Michael Bennet (D-CO), Ben Ray Lujan (D-NM), Mazie Hirono (D-HI), Gary Peters (D-MI), Tim Kaine (D-VA), Jeffrey Merkley (D-OR), and Chris Murphy (D-CT).

This letter is endorsed by Food Research & Action Center, YMCA of the USA, Afterschool Alliance, Boys & Girls Club of America, Feeding America, School Nutrition Association, American Heart Association, Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, First Focus Campaign for Children, MomsRising, Center for Science in the Public Interest, National Parent Teacher Association, National Farm to School Network, School Superintendents Association, Save the Children, National Education Association, National Center for Health Research, Healthy Food America, Food Corps, Community Food Advocates, National CACFP Association, Society of Behavioral Medicine, Center for Food Equity & Economic Development, California Association of Food Banks, Healthy Schools Campaign, Voices for Georgia's Children, and Georgia Statewide Afterschool Network.

## Meng, Markey & Van Hollen Urge Congressional Leadership to Secure Additional Funding to Protect Student Internet Access

*Additional funding for the Emergency Connectivity Fund would prevent 'great disconnection' of millions of students from the Internet*

U.S. Rep. Grace Meng (D-NY) and U.S. Senators Edward J. Markey (D-MA) and Chris Van Hollen (D-MD) led their colleagues in a letter urging Congressional leadership to support their efforts to secure additional funding for the Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF), a crucial program created under the American Rescue Plan that has provided more than 12.5

million students access to the Internet over the past year. The Federal Communications Commission recently announced that the most recent round of applications for ECF funds totaled \$2.8 billion, nearly double the \$1.5 billion that remains available for the program. Without additional funds, the ECF will be unable to meet demand from schools and libraries that provide students with the broadband connection they need to do their schoolwork, communicate with their peers and teachers, and apply to college.

"To avoid this great discon-

nection and prevent the reversal of ECF's hard-earned gains in closing the homework gap for so many rural, low-income, Black, Brown, Hispanic, Latino, Asian American, American Indian, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander students and their teachers, we urge you to work with us to identify and seize opportunities to provide additional funding for the Emergency Connectivity Fund," the lawmakers wrote in their letter. "With the new school year just a few months away, we cannot allow millions of students to lose access to high-speed broadband."

## Attorney General James Announces Election Protection Hotline Ahead of Early Voting Period

(Continued from page 2)

Election Protection Hotline since November 2012. During previous elections, OAG fielded hundreds — and sometimes thousands — of complaints from voters across the state and worked with local election officials and others to address issues. The OAG has also taken legal action to protect against voter registration purges and to ensure that voters have adequate

and equitable access to vote early as required under the law.

Attorney General James reminds all registered voters that they have the right to accessible elections. In addition, all registered voters have the right to vote free from coercion or intimidation, whether by election officials or any other person.

The OAG will receive and respond to election complaints relating to any of the statutes

that OAG enforces. The OAG's Election Day Hotline is being coordinated by Assistant Attorneys General Nancy Trasande, Lindsay McKenzie, and Conor Duffy of the Civil Rights Bureau and led by Deputy Bureau Chief Travis England. The Civil Rights Bureau is a part of the Division for Social Justice, which is led by Chief Deputy Attorney General Meghan Faux and overseen by First Deputy Attorney General Jennifer Levy.



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## Meng, Ocasio-Cortez, And Schumer Obtain Nearly \$120 Million Provision That Would Allow Queens to Upgrade Environmental Infrastructure

**Lawmakers Secure Measure in Key Water Resources Bill and Applaud House Passage of the Legislation**

**Projects stand to include water and wastewater infrastructure including storm-water management and combined sewer overflow**

U.S. Reps. Grace Meng (D-NY), Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-NY), and Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) announced the House passage of the Water Resources Development Act of 2022 (WRDA), which includes Meng's bill to authorize the Army Corps of Engineers to spend up to nearly \$120 million to work with the City of New York in upgrading environmental infrastructure in Queens. Projects that directly address water and waste water infrastructure and improve storm-water management, including combined sewer overflows, are among those that could be considered.

"I want to thank Leader Schumer, Congresswoman Ocasio-Cortez, Mayor Adams, and Queens Borough President Richards for working with me to secure this important policy provision to help make Queens more resilient in the face of climate change," said Congresswoman Meng. "Queens was one of the hardest hit areas when Hurricane Ida struck last year; on top of billions in economic damage, people lost their lives because our infrastructure failed to withstand the onslaught of rain and flooding. We know the devastating effects that future surges of rainfall can pose if left unaddressed. The provision that we secured will help ensure that our communities are better prepared

to handle many problems that we have faced in the past."

"After the flooding from Hurricane Ida devastated so many families in Woodside, we worked with Rep. Meng and Majority Leader Schumer to authorize \$120 million in the Water Resources Development Act for water & wastewater infrastructure in Queens," said Congresswoman Ocasio-Cortez. "Now that this measure has passed the House, we urge the Senate to do the same, so that we can appropriate this funding for climate resiliency projects and mitigate costly, fatal disasters like Ida in the future."

"Hurricane Ida devastated communities across New York, and Queens in particular suffered immense damage to its roads, businesses and homes, and lives were tragically lost," said Senator Schumer. "As these extreme weather events become more frequent, it's critical that we upgrade our environmental infrastructure so communities are more resilient when confronted with future storms. I am pushing to provide as much support as possible for Queens communities through this provision, an important step towards addressing our city's water and waste water infrastructure needs."

"As extreme flooding and rainfall events become more frequent, investments in upgraded sewers and stormwater management only become more critical to keeping our roads clear and New Yorkers' homes dry" said New York City Mayor Eric Adams. "I'm grateful to our Congressional delegation for securing the authorization needed to make Queens communities safer and more resilient for generations to come."

"From Superstorm Sandy

to Hurricane Ida and beyond, Queens knows all too well the destructive and deadly impacts extreme weather can have on our borough, especially in historically overlooked neighborhoods with antiquated and ineffective sewer and storm-water drainage systems. This massive federal investment in Queens' infrastructure would not only dramatically reduce flooding from future storms, it would protect property and save lives," said Queens Borough President Donovan Richards Jr. "I am deeply grateful for the leadership of Representative Grace Meng, Representative Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez and Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer to ensure the Water Resources Development Act authorizes \$120 million in critically important infrastructure improvements for Queens. I look forward to the Senate's passage of this monumental bill, President Biden's signature and shovels ultimately hitting the dirt."

The Water Resources Development Act of 2022 provides authority for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to carry out water resources development projects and studies, provide improvements to rivers and harbors throughout the United States, and provide conservation development of water related resources. In addition, the measure also authorizes funding, yet to be allocated, for other projects in New York.

Allowing the Army Corps of Engineers to spend the money is the first step in the process. If enacted into law, Congress would still need to provide funding for the Corps to carry out the environmental infrastructure projects in Queens.

The bill now heads for a vote in the Senate.

## Attorney General James Reminds New Yorkers of Mandatory Gas Tax Suspension to Save Money at The Pump

**AG James Advises Gas Stations That They Must Comply with Tax Suspension,**

**Encourages Consumers to File Complaints with OAG if They are Wrongly Charged**

New York Attorney General Letitia James is reminding New Yorkers of efforts taken to save money at the pump as Americans across the country are facing record high fuel prices, and advised gas stations of their obligation to suspend taxes on fuel through the end of the year. The Gas Tax Holiday Act of 2022 requires gas

stations to suspend excise tax, prepaid sales tax, and state sales and use taxes on motor fuel and highway diesel motor to address the rising cost of fuel. In letters to gas station associations, Attorney General James informed gas stations of their legal obligation to comply with the statewide requirements and any local tax rate change. Attorney General James encourages any New Yorker who believes they are wrongly charged this tax to report it to her office.

"As gas prices surge nationwide, we are doing all we can to provide some financial relief for New Yorkers," said Attorney

General James. "New York's gas stations are required to suspend state and local taxes through the end of the year to help working families because every penny off will help offset the rising costs of gas. I encourage consumers who suspect that their gas station is not following the rules to contact my office."

The Gas Tax Holiday Act went into effect on June 1, 2022 and expires on December 31, 2022. Attorney General James encourages consumers to file complaints online with her office if they believe their gas stations are not complying.

## Rep. Velázquez on White House Nominations of Federal Judges in Puerto Rico

Rep. Nydia M. Velázquez (D-NY) released the following statement on President Biden's nomination of several federal judges to serve in Puerto Rico:

"I commend President Biden for moving to fill these long-vacant positions in Puerto Rico that have caused a backlog in the judicial system on the island. By putting

these three new judges on the bench, we can help to ensure that Puerto Ricans have full access to the justice system. I urge the Senate to move quickly to confirm all three judges."

## Speaker Adrienne E. Adams Calls For Lowest Possible Rent Increase in Testimony to Rent Guidelines Board Ahead of Vote

Speaker Adrienne Adams submitted testimony to the Rent Guidelines Board on its proposed range of rent increases for rent stabilized apartments ahead of its final vote on June 21, 2022. In her testimony, Speaker Adams urged the Board to adopt increases at the lowest end of its proposed range.

The Speaker's testimony states: "Allowing substantial increases in rent at this time would endanger far too many New Yorkers who are unable to pay these proposed rent increases. We cannot afford to plunge hundreds of thousands of rent-regulated New Yorkers into the chaos of a housing market that already does not have sufficient supply to meet demand, especially when our city is in the midst of demonstrating remarkable resilience in

its recovery efforts. We cannot move forward if it means leaving our most vulnerable behind. Our residents should not be turned out of their homes as we take steps to make deeper investments in affordable housing and establish a robust, comprehensive housing strategy for our city. It is imperative that New Yorkers have the reassurance and security that they can continue to live in their homes so we can make space to discuss how to progress as a city. At the same time, we recognize that any decision by this Board must be in sync with a broader housing affordability strategy that involves all stakeholders, including homeowners and landlords. Therefore, I urge the Board to vote for rental increases at the lowest end of the range."

## QBP Richards, Capital One City Parks Foundation Summerstage to Host Free "Queens Live!" Concert Featuring Action Bronson

**Saturday, June 25 from 4pm to 7pm in Flushing Meadows Corona Park**

Queens Borough President Donovan Richards Jr. and Capital One City Parks Foundation SummerStage will host "Queens Live!" a free concert in Flushing Meadows Corona Park this Saturday, June 25, headlined by popular hip-hop artist, television personality and Flushing native Action Bronson.

"Queens Live! isn't just back for a second year, but it's coming back bigger and better. I couldn't be more excited to partner with the Capital One City Parks Foundation SummerStage team to bring Queens' own Action Bronson to his home borough in what should be a fantastic free afternoon of music," said Borough President RICHARDS. "We're going to start our summer off right and I look forward to seeing all of you in Flushing Meadows Corona Park on June 25."

The free concert, hosted by famed "Video Music Box" personality Ralph McDaniels, will take place from 4pm to 7pm next to the

New York State Pavilion within Flushing Meadows Corona Park. For more information about the concert lineup or where to view the show online for those unable to attend, click here.

The "Queens Live!" concert, promotion for which is funded in part through a grant provided by the NYC & Company Foundation, is one of nearly 90 free and benefit shows hosted in a dozen neighborhoods across the city by Capital One City Parks Foundation SummerStage. Action Bronson's performance follows Borough President Richards' series of "Queens Live!" free concerts held across The World's Borough last year, from a family-friendly multilingual performance in Jackson Heights by Latin Grammy winners 123 Andres to a Biz Markie tribute concert in Springfield Gardens and beyond.

Action Bronson has released six studio albums including the critically acclaimed "Cocodrillo Turbo," which he released in April 2022. A former chef, he has also hosted a popular food and travel documentary television and web series since 2016.

## Statement from Speaker Adams on Rent Guidelines Board's Final Vote

"Authorizing significant rent increases for over one million rent-stabilized tenants in a vacuum only adds to the pressures that New Yorkers face at a time when our city's housing supply is limited. The City must ensure that

renters are protected and have the security they need to live safely in their homes, and our housing supply remains healthy. As a Council, we will continue to support all New Yorkers impacted by the housing crisis and rising costs."



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**ARIES**  
 (March 21 - April 20)  
 Try being alone it will help you sort out your thoughts. You should be raising your self esteem and confidence in order to promote your work. Your lucky numbers are 5,3,2.

**TAURUS**  
 (April 21 - May 21)  
 Don't be afraid to talk to close friends or relatives about pressing personal problems. Moneymaking opportunities will surface. Your lucky numbers are 3,2,9.

**GEMINI**  
 (May 22 - June 21)  
 Watch your bankbook you may want to spend foolishly. Make sure that all your personal documents are in order. Your lucky numbers are 3,2,9.

**CANCER**  
 (June 22 - July 22)  
 Don't be too hard on yourself. Complete those hobbies you started a long time ago. Sort all your situations out as best you can. Your lucky numbers are 6,3,1.

**LEO**  
 (July 23 - August 22)  
 Don't let individuals with wild schemes talk you into a financial deal that is not likely to be successful. Keep an eye on your current investments. Your lucky numbers are 5,8,3.

**VIRGO**  
 (August 23 - September 23)  
 You may have more fun with children this week; keep an open mind. Don't overextend yourself in order to add luxury items to your household. Your lucky numbers are 4,8,9.

**LIBRA**  
 (September 24 - October 23)  
 You may meet potential business associates, but make sure they aren't trying to "con" you. Your high interest will be inspiring to anyone around you. Your lucky numbers are 2,9,6.

**SCORPIO**  
 (October 24 - November 22)  
 Try not to do any traveling this week. Balance is required if you want stability. Use your intellectual approach to get the best results. Your lucky numbers are 7,3,1.

**SAGITTARIUS**  
 (November 23 - December 21)  
 You will be up and down emotionally. You are best to get out of the house this week. Your investments pay off this week. Your lucky numbers are 9,1,7.

**CAPRICORN**  
 (December 22 - January 20)  
 Your unique approach to life will interest others. You will easily charm members of the opposite sex. Acknowledge your lover's needs. Your lucky numbers are 1,5,9.

**AQUARIUS**  
 (January 21 - February 19)  
 You could overreact to emotional situations regarding your relationship. You should channel your efforts into getting rid of bad habits. Your lucky numbers are 2,7,9.

**PISCES**  
 (February 20 - March 20)  
 Try controlling your emotional feelings. Don't spend too much on products that promise amazing cosmetic results. Be tolerant. Your lucky numbers are 1,8,7.

**Did You Know?**

- Every year the sun loses 360 million tons
- The shell is 12% of an eggs weight
- The longest time a person has been in a coma is 37 years
- The first product to have a bar code was Wrigley's gum
- The first Lifesaver flavor was peppermint
- The longest one syllable word in the English language is 'screched'
- A squid has 10 tentacles
- The average American eats 263 eggs a year
- In 75% of American households women manage the money and pay the bills
- Hypnotism is banned in public schools in San Diego (U.S.)
- A third of Americans flush the toilet while they're still sitting on it
- You're more likely to get stung by a bee on a windy day than any other
- Your right lung takes in more air than your left
- Womens hearts beat faster than mens
- The atomic symbol for iron is Fe (the original name for iron was Ferric)
- The odds of being stuck by lighting is 280,000 to 1
- The average bank teller loses \$250 every year
- More people are killed by hippopotamuses then by lions, elephants and water buffalos combined

**Answer to Last Weeks Puzzles**

**"Sudoku"**

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

**"Crossword Puzzle"**

A	L	A	S	I	B	I	D	T	R	A	D	E	
S	O	R	I	C	A	D	E	R	E	C	A	R	
P	L	U	N	D	E	R	E	R	A	S	T	E	
S	L	I	C	E	E	A	R	L	I	E	S	T	
E	B	U	L	L	I	E	N	T					
A	L	E	R	T	L	Y	E	N	S	C	A	T	
D	I	G	E	S	T	E	R	G	M	A	D	E	
O	N	E	S	I	S	L	E	T	A	R	I	A	
R	E	S	T	M	A	D	H	U	N	G	E	R	
E	S	T	P	A	L	S	E	R	I	O	U	S	
C	A	T	A	T	O	N	I	C					
E	S	O	T	E	R	I	C	N	U	D	G	E	
S	C	E	N	E	I	T	I	N	E	R	A	R	Y
S	H	E	E	N	E	L	A	N	E	R	I	E	
W	O	R	S	T	D	E	L	E	S	E	N	D	

**"Try And Find"**

Q	U	L	E	V	O	G	K	P	A	E	I	W	O	S	M	M	A	H	E
M	D	N	U	B	Q	H	O	L	M	R	F	W	H	B	T	L	F	S	
H	Z	L	E	U	Z	W	F	C	M	G	O	O	B	E	R	S	P	U	Y
T	S	H	S	T	P	I	G	N	O	L	I	A	F	L	A	G	K	B	X
A	W	X	J	U	B	P	J	I	N	N	T	A	D	L	Z	C	T	O	F
K	C	Z	Y	M	R	M	M	E	D	W	U	R	Z	I	L	L	O	Z	
L	Z	F	X	S	B	T	I	E	M	M	T	F	C	L	E	I	M	N	
F	V	C	Y	U	F	R	A	H	G	C	A	D	S	F	P	Q	N	S	
E	W	E	N	S	E	W	S	C	Y	S	R	B	R	W	O	N	E	S	P
O	C	A	B	G	A	M	T	V	I	Z	O	W	N	R	W	O	X	C	
D	E	L	L	E	C	R	A	I	R	G	I	B	B	D	F	M	Y	E	
P	F	I	N	A	G	O	L	R	A	P	J	F	Y	P	L	T	A	M	
W	F	M	Q	P	U	O	B	B	F	S	A	P	R	W	A	C	O	R	N
A	F	F	U	O	H	G	H	F	X	N	R	I	O	R	W	C	L	H	
G	O	R	N	C	G	T	D	Z	P	E	C	A	N	N	O	P	A	L	
B	E	T	E	L	E	P	I	S	T	A	C	H	I	O	B	P	M	X	
O	G	O	S	V	W	E	B	K	W	O	T	Y	G	L	R	J	S	G	
G	O	N	V	K	G	Z	F	G	O	W	L	T	A	R	B	R	V	F	E
U	Q	H	B	I	B	X	S	X	L	M	O	A	B	Y	G	P	A	S	
D	I	M	A	C	A	D	A	M	I	A	M	W	V	H	V	Z	C	G	

**SUDOKU**

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

**CROSSWORD PUZZLE**

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

- ACROSS**
- Coarse file
  - Alliance
  - Spheres
  - Black-and-white cookie
  - Pertaining to flight
  - Electronic letter
  - Streak left by tears
  - It comes from bees
  - Our planet
  - Rejected
  - Highly offensive
  - Robber
  - Additionally
  - Animal companion
  - Exhilarate
  - Avenue (abbrev.)
  - Short run
  - Violent disturbance
  - Wall climbers
  - Being
  - Terminates
  - Atlantic food fish
  - Topic
  - Tiny
  - Buddy
  - Set free
  - Decorations
  - Art of calculating
  - Aromatic solvent
  - American symbol
  - Make drunk
  - Rubber wheels
  - Fail to win
  - Three times three
  - Peak
  - Once, long ago
  - Alumnus
- DOWN**
- Memorization method
  - District
  - Burn the surface of
  - Any likeness of individuals
  - Used in baseball
  - A person who rules
  - Bay window
  - Secret assembly
  - Backside
  - With
  - Alley
  - Told an untruth
  - Cunning
  - Beach souvenir
  - Some football officials
  - Louisiana birds
  - Scatter
  - Biblical possessive
  - Wear away
  - Noodles
  - S S S
  - Not here
  - Assist
  - Despising
  - Unstable
  - Change
  - Clergyman
  - Alcove
  - Looks at lustfully
  - Child
  - Den
  - Beast
  - Whiskers or locks
  - Europe's highest volcano
  - Marsh plant
  - And more
  - Wager

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**TRY AND FIND**

**SPORTS EQUIPMENT**

B I A T S D Q M D H N N W P E I W F W C  
 R R B A L L C B S H O A R S M C N L E E  
 N Z B B C J E F C E C T K M C V W L P D  
 U Q H K L V S U U L S C V J B Z E T U E  
 S N H E O E C R B D U Z A W I L M T C Q  
 P D K L L T E H P R B T X O W T U T T  
 S P G D D M D B Z O F I S P A N G N M X  
 A W R D M I E C O W B W E P P X N N W L  
 P U S A M Y S T U F O A C D B V T P J A  
 H I H P A H Z C R L A K F J M U E X K L  
 P O J D S Y F Y U T R T Y C S H K N Q Y  
 Y H B D S F V Z E S D C I H G K C G I B  
 T W Y B D W E F S U W I C T L G A B H H  
 O N U P Q X X L Z K Z T K I A B R T B E  
 W Z E R A K G I L J S T Y H B I S C E S  
 N M E L B D S P B T T E S F K K T S Z S  
 S M Q X X G S P A U I K K Y Z E M J H X  
 U Y J S Y A G E E S Y C B Z Z Z S T A H  
 Y R D K R Q L R Z U P I H U Y M O B V Z  
 N F A S Q C J S U F P W C L M K B F D S

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Bike	Flippers	Oars	Racket
Cesta	Glove	Paddle	Skates
Cleats	Hammer	Pads	Surfboard
Clubs	Helmet	Pole	Wicket

**Play Sudoku and/crosswords online.. Visit www.queens-times.com Click on Puzzles**

### Speaker Adrienne E. Adams, Family Members, And Community Residents Unveil 'Alex Pauline Road'

On June 18, Speaker Adrienne E. Adams, community residents, friends, and family members gathered to celebrate the life and legacy of Alex Pauline, a beloved community figure who mentored young people in the Rochdale Village community. At the street co-naming ceremony, family and friends highlighted the profound impact that Pauline, affectionately known as "Coach Al," had on neighborhood youth. The intersection of 173rd Street and 134th Road, adjacent to where he grew up in Rochdale Village, has been officially co-named "Alex Pauline Road."



Following the street co-naming ceremony, Pauline's family organized a free basketball clinic at the South Rochdale Playground. Youth participants engaged in basketball and fitness drills, were provided free shirts, and enjoyed free food. Photos of the street co-naming ceremony are attached.

own nonprofit program, Drug Free That's Me, 'Coach Al' positively influenced the lives of countless neighborhood youth. His legacy lives on through them, and will be remembered forever with the unveiling of "Alex Pauline Road." I thank the Pauline family, local elected officials, and community members for gathering to honor Coach Al's life."

"He has been recognized and received numerous awards for his commitment to our community, but today, we celebrated the biggest honor ever as NYC Speaker Adrienne Adams sponsored the co-naming of 134th Road as "Alex Pauline Road."

"Alex Pauline was a selfless community hero who dedicated his life to educating, mentoring, and supporting young people and students," said Speaker Adrienne Adams. "Through basketball and his

"Me and my family are truly blessed to have had Alex Joseph-Pauline as our king," said Aleek Pauline, the son of Alex Pauline.

"Celebrating the life and contributions to our community of Alex Pauline, 'Coach Al,' lifts up his commitment to our community and his outstanding legacy," said

(Continued on page 9)

### Assemblyman Braunstein Announces Winners of Mother's Day Essay And Poetry Contest

Assemblyman Edward C. Braunstein (D-Bayside) is proud to announce the winners of his annual Mother's Day Essay & Poetry Contest for students in grades two through five. They are:

- 2nd grader: Emily Chan, P.S. 94 in Douglaston; Titled, "My Mom is Magnificent"
- 3rd grader: Zoe Lee, P.S. 221 in Little Neck; "My Mom Deserves a Free Vacation"
- 4th grader: Divyanshi Panda, P.S. 115 in Glen Oaks; "My Mom Knows Everything"
- 5th grader: Alice Song, P.S. 79 in Whitestone; "Dandelions"



Pictured clockwise: Emily Chan, Zoe Lee, Divyanshi Panda and Alice Song pictured with their entries.

"Emily, Zoe, Divyanshi and Alice each submitted well-composed, thoughtful and creative entries to my office's Mother's Day Essay and Poetry Contest. Their families, teachers and school communities should be very proud," said Assemblyman Edward Braunstein. "I want to thank

all of the students from schools throughout Northeast Queens who took the time to participate and submit entries this year. I wish all students and their families

in Northeast Queens a safe and happy summer."

All winners will receive a gift card and a New York State Assembly Certificate of Merit.

### Assemblywoman Pheffer Amato Sponsors After School Cooking Program for Elementary School Students



Assemblywoman Stacey Pheffer Amato pictured with 4th and 5th grade students from P.S. 317 to participate in an afterschool program. See story on page 9.

### QBP RICHARDS ON DRAG QUEEN STORY HOUR NYC



talking about so much more than just math and science. To properly educate our children is to teach them to embrace the deeply human values of empathy, acceptance and respect — both for others and for themselves. This mission is at the very heart of Drag Queen Story Hour NYC, whose storytellers are as exciting and engaging as they are invaluable to the literary education and personal growth of our children," said Borough President RICHARDS. "There is so much more work ahead of us when it comes to fostering an inclusive education, like greatly expanding the teaching of LGBTQIA+ history in the classroom. But I am deeply grateful to the Queens Public Library, our schools and other community organizations across our borough that participate in the Drag Queen Story Hour NYC initiative, which I will proudly continue to fund and support every single year."

Queens Borough President Donovan Richards Jr. stated the following regarding the vital importance of the Drag Queen Story Hour NYC program, which provides critical lessons for our children around inclusivity, diversity and expression.

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### Assemblyman Kim Receives Strong Endorsement by Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie For Re-Election

Recently, Assemblymember Ron Kim received the backing and endorsement of Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie for re-election:

Speaker Carl Heastie said, "I am extremely proud to endorse my friend and colleague Ron Kim for re-election to the 40th Assembly District. As chair of the Assembly Committee on Aging, Ron has been an invaluable fighter for our most vulnerable populations as we continue to recover from the Covid-19 pandemic. I count on Ron to provide us with his guidance and good judgment so that we can confront this crisis head-on. Ron Kim has also been at the forefront of confronting Asian hate as we develop programs and policies to eradicate this scourge. Ron is an essential part of my leadership team and I look forward to continuing to serve with him for years to come. I urge the residents of the 40th Assembly District to re-elect Ron Kim, because his leadership and experience are just what we need during these challenging times."



Picture of Assemblymember Ron Kim (3rd left) and Speaker Carl Heastie (middle) greeting South Korean dignitaries and Asian American leaders on May 24, 2022.

Assemblymember Ron Kim said, "Speaker Carl Heastie trusted me when he appointed me as the Chair of the Aging Committee to give voice to the voiceless, and despite all the ups and downs of the last couple of years, we continued to work together toward strengthening and protecting the rights of older adults. This year, Speaker Heastie quietly navigated

the inner politics of Albany to help pass the Grieving Families Act, which would systemically root out abusive behavior toward workers, patients, and consumers across all industries. But we still have unfinished work for nursing home residents and home care workers, and I look forward to working with Speaker Heastie to deliver more results in the future."

### Gillibrand Statement on Senate Passage of Landmark Burn Pits Legislation

Senate votes to pass Honoring Our PACT Act; Gillibrand's War Fighters Bill is Centerpiece of Toxic Exposure Provisions

U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand issued the following statement on Senate passage of the PACT Act:

"Our service members and their families give everything for our country. And as a nation we promise to care for them when they come home. At last, we are honoring that promise and paying the price we owe them for our freedoms, our values, and our safety.

This Senate passage of the Sergeant First Class Heath Robinson Honoring Our PACT Act is an enormous victory for the service members, veterans, and their families who have been fighting for years to get the health care and benefits they have earned. By establishing a presumptive service connection for veterans exposed to burn pits and other toxins, this legislation will finally ensure our nation's finest will no longer be forced to jump through unnecessary hoops or carry the burden of toxic exposure alone.

I am proud that my bill, the Presumptive Benefits for War Fighters Exposed to Burn Pits and Other Toxins Act, formed the centerpiece of this bill and I am grateful to Majority Leader



Schumer, Senator Rubio, Congressman Ruiz, Chairman Tester, and Ranking Member Moran, as well as the veterans service organizations, Jon Stewart, and John Feal, and all who have fought tirelessly on behalf of those exposed to toxic burn pits."

Background - Gillibrand first introduced the Presumptive Benefits for War Fighters Exposed to Burn Pits and Other Toxins Act in September 2020, alongside a bicameral group that included Representative Raul Ruiz (D-CA), comedian Jon Stewart, activist John Feal, and a strong coalition of veterans service organizations. The group introduced an updated, bipartisan version in the spring of 2021 together with Senator Marco Rubio (R-FL) and Representative

Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA). In March 2022, the House of Representatives passed the Honoring Our PACT Act, an effort led by House Veterans' Affairs Committee Chairman Mark Takano and Gillibrand's House co-lead, Congressman Raul Ruiz. The War Fighters bill was included in the Honoring Our PACT Act as the centerpiece of the presumptive coverage section. Also in March, Gillibrand held a hearing in her role as chair of the Senate Armed Services Personnel Subcommittee to examine the health effects of burn pits. Later that month, Majority Leader Chuck Schumer joined the coalition to announce his support for the bill and pledged

(Continued on page 10)

### Father's Day Luncheon in Honor of Seven Distinguished Men

Queens District Attorney Melinda Katz attended a Father's Day Luncheon in honor of seven distinguished men who are considered Southeast Queens Heroes.

QDA Katz said "As the District Attorney, I am aware of how important it is to have a strong and supportive father figure or mentor in the lives of our youth, to help put them on a positive path forward and guide them through challenges that they face as they become adults.



She also extended her gratitude to every father and father figure for raising your children and providing security and love to your families.

### FDNY Columbia Association Annual Bocce Tournament



The FDNY Columbia Association held their annual bocce tournament in Francis Lewis Park in Whitestone Queens, NY which has been running for 12 years. This year there were 75 players and each team had 4 players on a teams. The Teams were made up of friends, brothers, cousins, fathers and sons, grandparents and grandsons. All had a wonderful time.

Every year you can find the FDNY Columbia Association

marching in the Columbus Day Parade.

The Columbian Association gives College and High School Scholarships yearly for their members children helping members of FDNY families in need.

The FDNY Columbia Association wants to give a special thank you to our sponsors Grimaldi's Pizzeria of Douglaston and Legacies Financial Advisors. By John Signorile, FDNY Columbia Association 3rd V.P.

### Tribute to a Local Hero



We owe Deputy Chief Steven Silks a debt of gratitude for the decades of service - 39 to be exact - he put in with the NYPD in protection of this Borough and City.

Throughout his career, Deputy Chief Silks served in many capacities within the boroughs of Bronx,

Brooklyn, and eventually Queens where he was appointed as Chief of Queens Patrol North.

The honorary plaque which now hangs at the entrance of Forest Hills Stadium is a fitting tribute to the life and career of this local hero.

**ELDER FRAUD & ABUSE RESOURCES**

We are committed to ensuring a safe and secure environment for our senior citizens. If someone 60 years or older becomes a victim of fraud, financial exploitation, abuse, neglect, or sexual misconduct, contact the Office of the Queens District Attorney.

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ElderAbuse@queensda.org

# IT'S IN QUEENS

(June 24 to June 30)

The hits just keep coming this week. Especially great outdoor events. Opera. Brazilian carnival. Action Bronson and other rappers. There are also opportunities to run around in Citi Field, learn to surf, and meet zombies.

- June 24, The Scooches, 7 pm. This lively band cranks out folk music with plenty of scats, jam sessions, and banjo picking. The Church-in-the-Gardens, 50 Ascan Ave., Forest Hills.
- June 24, You & Me: An Improvised Theatrical Experience, 7:30 pm. Award-winning improvisation specialist Katha Cato weaves audience suggestions into stories, characters, jokes, and adventures. The Local, 13-02 44th Ave., Long Island City.
- June 24, Sonia de los Santos, 4 pm + 7:15 pm. This Latin Grammy nominee performs family-friendly bilingual songs with uplifting messages that focus on culture and community pride. Flushing Town Hall, 137-35 Northern Blvd.
- June 25, Queens Rises Higher, noon. More than 50 local vendors sell a wide array of edible and non-edible products along with live music and dance performances. Kaufman Astoria Studios Backlot, the vicinity of 36th Street and 35th Avenue, Astoria's Kaufman Arts District.
- June 25, Living with the Walking Dead, Jan. 1, 2023. AMC's The Walking Dead depicts survivors in a post-apocalyptic world plagued by flesh-eating zombies. This exhibition includes Walking Dead production material such as costumes, props, concept art, storyboards, scripts, and prosthetic makeup. Museum of the Moving Image, 36-01 35th Ave., Astoria's Kaufman Arts District.



Valerie Green



Scooches



FTH DeLos Santos

- June 25, Action Bronson, 4 pm. Rapper/artist Action Bronson, who grew up in Queens, takes the stage alongside other local music legends to kick off the SummerStage series. Festival Lawn near the Unisphere, Flushing Meadows Corona Park.
- June 25, The Actor in His Labyrinth, 8 pm. A screening and Q&A related to this short film on Simón Bolívar, who led revolutions against Spanish rule of the Americas in the 1800s, and Sebastián Ospina, a modern day Colombian actor whose ancestors tried to kill Bolívar. Learn the fascinating ways their lives intertwine. Terraza 7, 40-19 Gleane St., Elmhurst.
- June 25, AmpSurf Learn to Surf Clinic, 7 am. The nonprofit AmpSurf offers surfing lessons to veterans, first responders, and people living with disabilities. Beach 67th Street and the water, Rockaway Beach.
- June 25, Jamaica Dance Festival Finale, 7 pm. This weekly series ends with Ballet Nepantla, White Wave Young Soon Kim Dance Company, and Earl Mosley's Diversity of Dance. Rufus King Park, 150-29 Jamaica Ave.

- June 25, Historic Flushing Walking Tour, 2:30 pm. Queens Historical Society Executive Director Jason D. Antos leads a stroll to various historically significant sites. Meet at QHS, 143-35 37th Ave., Flushing.
- June 25, Queens International Children's Festival, June 26. A two-day, family-friendly event with great performances, live music, games, arts, crafts, and more. Noon to 5 pm both days. Jamaica Center for Arts & Learning, 153-10 Jamaica Ave.
- July 26, Live at the Gantries, Aug. 9. Zikrayat, an ensemble dedicated to the Arab world's classical music and dance traditions, performs as part of this ongoing Kupferberg Center for the Arts series. Gantry Plaza State Park, 4-09 47th Rd., Long Island City.
- June 26, Climb to the Top: NYC, 8 am. Hundreds of participants will run (or walk) in a serpentine style up and down the stadium's stairs in a challenge-fundraiser for the National MS Society. Citi Field, 41 Seaver Way, Flushing.
- June 26, Queens Symphony Orchestra, 5:15 pm. The borough's historical ensemble plays music by Gershwin, Dvorak, and others. George Seuffert Bandshell, Forest Park, Woodhaven.

- June 26, Monobloco, 4 pm. This Brazilian street band leads a Carnival-like celebration as part of the ongoing SummerStage series. Festival Lawn near the Unisphere, Flushing Meadows Corona Park.
- June 26, Queens World Film Festival, 4:30 pm. A viewing of seven short films celebrating pride followed by a Q&A session. Flushing Town Hall, 137-35 Northern Blvd.
- June 26, Dance Entropy: Home, 2 pm. Valerie Green/Dance Entropy presents an international cross-collaborative featuring choreographers from Burkina Faso, Colombia, India, Lebanon, Sweden, and the United States. They explore what "home" means to them. Flushing Town Hall, 135-35 Northern Blvd.
- June 27, Metropolitan Opera Summer Stage, 6 pm. Met Opera returns after a two-year hiatus with Brittany Olivia Logan, Cierra Byrd, and Vladyslav Buialskyi. Socrates Sculpture Park, 32-01 Vernon Blvd., Long Island City.
- June 28, Welcome Summer, 1 pm. Children engage in nature discovery and creative activities, observe birds, grow herbs, make wind chimes, draw, and read. Voelker Orth Museum, 149-19 38th Ave., Flushing.

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## Council Votes to Extend Rent Stabilization Laws

The Council voted on legislation to extend the rent stabilization laws and determine that a public emergency requiring rent control in New York City continues to exist and will continue to exist on and after July 1, 2022.

The legislation, sponsored by Council Member Pierina Sanchez, declares the Council's determination that there is an ongoing housing emergency, and that the emergency will continue after the current expiration of the Rent Stabilization Law, July 1, 2022. Resolution 247 makes the City Council's determination of an ongoing housing emergency. Introduction 558-A allows for the continuation of residential rent regulation and would also amend the expiration date of the New York City Rent Stabilization Law from July 1, 2022 to April 1, 2024, which would put the Housing and Vacancy Survey (HVS) and renewal of rent regulation back on its ordinary triennial cycle.

"Safe, stable, and affordable housing remains a top challenge for New Yorkers," said Speaker Adrienne Adams. "Extending the rent stabilization laws protects New Yorkers in rent-stabilized homes who are still struggling with the lasting impacts of the pandemic. The Housing and Va-

cancy Survey demonstrated the dire circumstances of the city's housing emergency, underscoring the urgency of today's legislation. I thank Council Member Sanchez for her leadership and advocacy in support of New Yorkers seeking stability and affordability."

"Today I am proud and excited to sponsor Intro. 558-A and Reso 247. These bills, which passed in the Housing and Buildings Committee and is slated to be voted on at today's Stated Meeting, is critical to ensuring rent stabilization can continue in New York City, following the findings in the City's Housing Vacancy Survey," said Council Member Pierina Ana Sanchez. "Over the last month, the Council digested and reviewed the findings of the survey, and today, the City Council will vote on continuing the state of emergency in this city. The most recent findings of the Housing Vacancy Survey represents to us what is truly one of the most economically difficult times for renters in this city, where one would need to earn at least \$110,000 to move into the median rental in NYC. The findings are also corroborated by the daily experience of speaking to neighbors visiting our office in the Bronx, with a vacancy rate lower than 1%. Rent stabilized apartments

have provided a critical source of affordable housing and stability in the City of New York for decades. I am proud to carry this bill for the one million stabilized households in this City."

Pursuant to State law, to maintain rent stabilization laws, the Council must periodically determine whether there is an ongoing housing emergency, defined as a vacancy rate of not more than 5% of the City's rental housing stock. If an emergency continues to exist, the Council may pass legislation extending the City's Rent Stabilization Law until the following determination is due. This determination is based on data and findings from a triennial survey, known as the HVS, which is sponsored by the New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD) and conducted in collaboration with the United States Census Bureau. HPD completed the most recent HVS in 2021, which was delayed twice: once by one year because of the 2020 decennial census, and then again by another three months because of COVID-19 related delays. The 2021 HVS showed a net rental vacancy rate of 4.54%, which is below the requisite 5% threshold for a finding of an ongoing public emergency.

## Attorney General James Secures \$58.5 Million From Top Opioid Manufacturer Mallinckrodt For Fueling Opioid Crisis

**AG James Secures More Than \$1.5 Billion Total from Opioid Manufacturers and Distributors to Combat Opioid Crisis**

New York Attorney General Letitia James today announced that her office secured up to \$58.5 million from one of the largest drug manufacturers of opioids in the country, Mallinckrodt plc (Mallinckrodt), for its role in fueling the opioid crisis. Mallinckrodt used deceptive and misleading marketing tactics to encourage use of its highly addictive opioids that harmed communities across the country. Mallinckrodt entered into bankruptcy proceedings shortly after Attorney General James filed a lawsuit against the company in March 2019. Today's agreement resolves those claims and raises the total amount secured by Attorney General James from opioid manufacturers and distributors to more than \$1.5 billion to combat the opioid crisis.

This is the second agreement that Attorney General James has reached with Mallinckrodt related to harm it caused New Yorkers. Earlier, Attorney General James announced that Mallinckrodt would pay \$26.8 million for Medicaid fraud.

"For years, Mallinckrodt pumped millions of addictive and harmful opioid pills into communities, and today they are being held accountable for the harm they caused," said Attorney General James. "As Mallinckrodt grew its profits from its opioid business year over year, New York's public health crisis worsened, addictions grew, and lives were lost. This agreement can't reverse the devastation, but the \$1.5 billion in funds we have already recovered for New York will help us combat the opioid

crisis that these companies helped create and get us closer to ending this public health crisis."

In 2019, Attorney General James filed a landmark lawsuit against opioid distributors and manufacturers, including Mallinckrodt, for their role in the opioid epidemic. In her lawsuit, Attorney General James detailed Mallinckrodt's egregious conduct that caused widespread harm. Shortly after, Mallinckrodt entered into bankruptcy proceedings, because of an onslaught of lawsuits against the company. Mallinckrodt emerged from bankruptcy proceedings today and will have 18 months to determine whether it will prepay claims worth approximately \$41.1 million or pay the state \$58.5 million over eight years for fueling the opioid crisis.

New York was instrumental in negotiations with Mallinckrodt prior to its bankruptcy filing and during the bankruptcy process, resulting in significant economic recovery, robust injunctive relief with a monitor, and a historic commitment by the company to make its internal documents related to its opioids business available to the public.

As part of today's agreement, Mallinckrodt is funding a repository with the company's records to make public the role it led in the opioid epidemic. Thus far, 1.4 million documents have been released.

Mallinckrodt is one of five drug manufacturers to settle claims made by Attorney General James against the companies for their role in the opioid epidemic. The manufacturers named in the complaint included Purdue Pharma and its affiliates, as well as members of the Sackler Family (owners of Purdue) and trusts they control;

Janssen Pharmaceuticals and its affiliates (including its parent company Johnson & Johnson); Mallinckrodt LLC and its affiliates; Endo Health Solutions and its affiliates; Teva Pharmaceuticals USA, Inc. and its affiliates; and Allergan Finance, LLC and its affiliates. The distributors named in the complaint were McKesson Corporation, Cardinal Health Inc., Amerisource Bergen Drug Corporation, and Rochester Drug Cooperative Inc.

Late last year, Attorney General James won an opioid trial against Teva Pharmaceuticals USA. In December 2021, Attorney General James reached a \$200 million agreement with Allergan. In September 2021, Attorney General James secured \$50 million from Endo to combat the opioid crisis. In July 2021, McKesson, Cardinal Health, and Amerisource Bergen agreed to pay \$1 billion to New York for their role in the opioid epidemic. In June 2021, Attorney General James announced a \$230 million settlement that ended Johnson & Johnson's sale of opioids nationwide.

Pursuant to the opioid settlement fund, all funds collected by the state from opioid settlements or litigation victories will be allocated specifically for abatement efforts in communities devastated by the opioid epidemic and will not go towards the state's general fund.

This matter was led by Senior Advisor and Special Counsel M. Umair Khan and overseen by First Deputy Attorney General Jennifer Levy. The settlement was also brought about by the work of Senior Enforcement Counsel John Oleske and Special Counsel

(Continued on page 10)

## Speaker Adrienne E. Adams, Family Members, And Community Residents Unveil 'Alex Pauline Road'

(Continued from page 6)

Senator Leroy Comrie. "Co-naming 'Alex Pauline Road' serves as a testimony to the lives he touched, the young people 'Drug Free That's Me' impacted, and his lifetime of public service. Thanks to Speaker Adams, the Pauline family, and all who gathered to share the occasion."

About Alex Pauline - Mr. Alex Pauline was a well-known figure in Rochdale Village. As a child of "Circle 4," he grew up playing basketball in South Rochdale Playground with his brothers and friends. This playground and the adjacent school, Public School 80Q, meant everything to Mr. Pauline. His entire extended family attended PS 80Q and as an adult, he never left the area. Mr. Pauline worked as the school custodian, a teacher, and the basketball coach at the school. His workdays began at 7 a.m. in the classroom and ended at 10 p.m. with his custodial work.

In 1988, Mr. Pauline created a nonprofit basketball program called "Drug Free That's Me," which was held on the weekends on the basketball court at South

Rochdale Playground. "Drug Free That's Me" was formed to provide alternatives to drug abuse and crime for young people. The program not only taught basketball and all aspects of the game, but also elevated the importance of education and informed participants of the detrimental effects of drug use. "Coach Al" was a father figure to his students, neighborhood kids, and his basketball players.

Nine months after Mr. Pauline's passing in 2019, organized hosted the first annual "Drug Free That's Me Day in Memory of Al Pauline." Several players who participated in his program when they were kids attended the event. A local summer basketball tournament, known as B.A.C.E., later presented the "Al Pauline Award" to the player who averaged the most points throughout the tournament. Additionally, Mr. Pauline's program was featured in the TV One series "Uncensored," which featured NBA star Lamar Odom, who had participated in Coach Al's program. Many community members still say when they look at PS 80Q, they think of "Coach Al."

## Assemblywoman Pheffer Amato Sponsors After School Cooking Program for Elementary School Students

(Continued from page 6)

Assemblywoman Stacey Pheffer Amato (D-South Queens) dawned an apron, hairnet and rolled up her sleeves with a group of 4th and 5th grade students from P.S. 317 to participate in an afterschool program. Common Threads, a national non-profit, provides children and families cooking and nutrition education to encourage healthy habits that contribute to wellness while also bringing people together to celebrate traditions and culture.

Each student directly participates in making the food. They start by chopping and stirring the ingredients, followed by learning about the country where the food is from, and the program ends by having a healthy meal together. The theme of that week's class was Italy and the students learned not only about the food, but some fun facts about the country and culture. The students were broken up into different stations and mixed the sauce, chopped the onions and carrots, washed the lettuce - taking the lead on most of the critical steps in creating this delicious meal.

"You could see the joy and fun each kid was having," said Assemblywoman Pheffer Amato. The Assemblywoman had been responsible for bringing the program to P.S. 317 by allocating funding. "This shows why after

school activities are critical and the impact it has on students. Education can occur not just in the classroom, but through alternative routes like after school programs and hands-on activities. At such a young age they are learning how to cook healthy options, work together and learn about another culture. These are life skills that will stick with them as they continue to grow and that is truly wonderful to see," the Assemblywoman said.

"We are so grateful to receive funding from Assemblywoman Pheffer Amato. The impact from those dollars allows us to continue servicing children within the Queens community. Our Cooking Skills and World Cuisine classes provide cooking and nutrition education as life skills that encourage our students to adopt healthier habits," said Abby Batista, NYC Senior Program Manager for Common Threads. She went on to say that "without the support from Assemblywoman Pheffer Amato, these classes simply would not be possible."

Common Threads NYC serves all 5 boroughs and is currently in 59 schools/community-based organizations. The Assemblywoman stands committed and continues to work on bringing amazing extracurricular programs to the students of Ozone Park, Howard Beach and across the Rockaway Peninsula.

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## Attorney General James Recovers \$26.8 Million From Drug Manufacturer Mallinckrodt For Medicaid Fraud

*Mallinckrodt to Pay \$26.8 Million for Years of Underpaying Medicaid Drug Rebates to New York's Medicaid Program*

New York Attorney General Letitia James has announced that her office recovered \$26.8 million from drug manufacturer, Mallinckrodt PLC, and its U.S. subsidiary Mallinckrodt ARD, LLC (Mallinckrodt), for cheating Medicaid requirements that help offset rising drug prices. For years, Mallinckrodt underpaid rebates to federal and state Medicaid programs for its drug, H.P. Acthar Gel (Acthar), which treats numerous conditions, including multiple sclerosis. The company failed to pay millions in required rebates that protect Medicaid programs from price surges. This agreement resolves claims against the company on behalf of all 50 states, Washington D.C., Puerto Rico, and the federal government.

"Mallinckrodt ran its business on deception at the expense of everyday New Yorkers," said Attorney General James. "Low-income communities depend on Medicaid programs to access affordable, lifesaving healthcare and when companies cheat Medicaid programs, they hurt New Yorkers. Mallinckrodt is paying the price for years of defrauding Medicaid programs in every state out of millions of dollars. Skirting the law for corporate gain is illegal, and we are determined to protect New Yorkers from companies that cheat the system."

In 2020, the federal government and 26 states, Puerto Rico, and the District of Columbia, filed complaints-in-intervention against Mallinckrodt after a whistleblower filed a lawsuit against the company for cheating Medicaid programs. In the multistate complaint-in-intervention, New York alleged that Mallinckrodt defrauded the state's Medicaid program and violated the New York State False Claims Act.

Under the Medicaid Drug Rebate Program, the Medicaid program is protected from certain drug price increases because manufacturers are required to

repay those increases in the form of rebates. When a manufacturer increases the price of a drug faster than the rate of inflation, it must pay the Medicaid program a per-unit rebate of the difference between the drug's current price and the price of the drug if its price had gone up at the general rate of inflation since 1990, or the year the drug first came to market, whichever is later.

The governments alleged in their complaints that starting in 2013, Mallinckrodt and its predecessor, Questcor, misrepresented Acthar's approval history with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). In 2013, Mallinckrodt began to pay Medicaid rebates for Acthar as if the drug had just been approved rather than as a drug that was first introduced to the market in 1952. In particular, Mallinckrodt took advantage of the FDA's assignment of an administrative tracking number to Acthar when that drug was submitted to the FDA for approval of an efficacy supplement in 2006 to suggest to the federal government that Acthar was a new drug with a new FDA number. Mallinckrodt's practice meant it ignored all pre-2013 price increases when calculating and paying Medicaid rebates for Acthar from 2013 until 2020, when Mallinckrodt revised its Medicaid reporting to pay the correct rebate. Acthar's price had already risen to more than \$23,269 per vial from \$1,650 per vial in August 2007. By ignoring all pre-2013 price increases for Acthar, Mallinckrodt significantly lowered its Medicaid rebate obligations.

This agreement resolves allegations that from January 2013 through June 2020, Mallinckrodt knowingly failed to report and return hundreds of millions of dollars in overpayments it received from the Medicaid Program for Acthar because it knowingly underpaid rebates owed to the program.

Under the agreement, Mallinckrodt admitted that Acthar was not a new drug as of 2013, but rather was approved by FDA in 1952, and represented that it revised its reporting to the Centers for

Medicare & Medicaid Services accordingly. Mallinckrodt agreed to refrain from changing the relevant date giving rise to its rebate obligation for Acthar in the future.

As part of the settlement, New York will receive \$16.1 million in restitution and the federal government will receive \$10.7 million for New York's Medicaid Program. The Medicaid Fraud Control Unit (MFCU) receives 75 percent of its funding from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services under a grant award totaling \$59,918,216 for the fiscal year (FY) 2022. The remaining 25 percent, totaling \$14,979,552 for FY 2022 is funded by New York state. Through its recoveries in law enforcement actions, MFCU regularly returns more to the state than it receives in state funding.

The settlement, which is based on Mallinckrodt's bankruptcy proceedings, required final approval of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware, which approved the settlement on March 2, 2022. Mallinckrodt made its first settlement payment today.

A team from the National Association of Medicaid Fraud Control Units participated in the litigation and conducted settlement negotiations on behalf of the states. The team included representatives from the offices of the attorneys general for New York, California, Florida, Massachusetts, Michigan, Nevada, Texas, and Wisconsin.

Principal Auditor-Investigator Meghan Collins and Special Assistant Attorney General Ting Ting Tam of MFCU's Civil Enforcement Division were on the national team, with assistance from MFCU Civil Enforcement Division Deputy Chief Diana Elkind. MFCU's Civil Enforcement Division is led by its Chief Alee Scott and Chief Auditor Stacey Millis. MFCU is led by Director Amy Held and Assistant Deputy Attorney General Paul J. Mahoney, and is a part of the Division of Criminal Justice. The Division of Criminal Justice is led by Chief Deputy Attorney General José Maldonado and overseen by First Deputy Attorney General Jennifer Levy.

### Statement From Speaker Adrienne E. Adams

Speaker Adrienne E. Adams released the following statement following Council Member Vickie Paladino's transphobic comments on social media:

"New York City is the birthplace of the modern LGBTQ+ movement and the Stonewall rebellion. We are a bastion of diversity, acceptance, and inclusion, and take pride in it. Our city must remain a welcoming place that champions justice and equality for all. What makes our city so unique is that despite the diversity of backgrounds,

identities, expressions, beliefs, and customs, we are all unified in our shared identity as New Yorkers. An attack against one New Yorker is an attack against all of us. In the Council, we take pride in our mutual respect for one another as colleagues, even in the face of disagreements. But a disagreement stemming from a place of hate and intolerance is where we draw the line.

"I stand with all of my Council colleagues, LGBTQ+ communities, and New Yorkers in un-

equivocally denouncing Council Member Paladino's repugnant views and statements against specific members of the Council and the trans community. A New Yorker's choice of dress, gender expression or identity must be not only protected legally, but also against vile, hateful attacks.

"Any form of hate, including transphobia, has no place in this city, and certainly not in this Council. The Council is looking into what further action may be warranted."

### Attorney General James Secures \$58.5 Million From Top Opioid Manufacturer Mallinckrodt For Fueling Opioid Crisis

(Continued from page 9)

Monica Hanna, as well as Assistant Attorneys General Conor Duffy, Carol Hunt, Diane Johnston, Leo O'Toole, Jeremy Pfetsch, Noah Popp, Michael Reisman, and

Lois Saldana; Project Attorneys Wil Handley, Stephanie Torre, and Eve Woodin; Paralegal Ketty Dautruche; Legal Assistant David Payne; Director of Research and Analytics Jonathan Werberg; Data Scientist Gautam Sisodia; Data

Analyst Anushua Choudhury; Information Technology Specialists Hewson Chen and Paige Podolny; E-Discovery Document Review Specialist Kristin Petrella; and former Counsel for Opioids and Impact Litigation David Nachman.

## The Buffalo News: Sen. Gillibrand's Crackdown on Gun Trafficking Included in Compromise

The Buffalo News published a story highlighting the inclusion of the core of Senator Gillibrand's Hadiya Pendleton and Nyasia Pryear-Yard Gun Trafficking and Crime Prevention Act in the recently announced bipartisan gun reform package.

Senator Gillibrand's proposal would make trafficking in firearms a federal crime, establish penalties for those who knowingly transfer firearms across state lines to individuals not legally allowed to possess a gun, and go after those who sell or deal trafficked firearms. Gillibrand has introduced the bill every Congress since 2009.

Read the full article below:

The Buffalo News: Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand's crackdown on gun trafficking included in compromise  
Jerry Zremski | June 14, 2022

A bipartisan gun safety compromise continued to gain momentum in the Senate on Tuesday, and that's good news for Sen. Kirsten E. Gillibrand because the deal includes a federal crackdown on gun trafficking that she's been pushing since 2009.

Gillibrand was not among the 20 senators from both parties who struck the compromise on Sunday, but its framework nevertheless makes gun trafficking a federal offense, establishing criminal penalties for anyone who transfers firearms across state lines to individuals not authorized to possess them.

Those are changes that Gillibrand called for in legislation now called the Hadiya Pendleton and Nyasia Pryear-Yard Gun Trafficking and Crime Prevention Act, which she has introduced in every Congress since she was first appointed to the Senate.

"Just like my bill, this framework would make gun trafficking a federal crime and hold accountable those who transfer guns to individuals they suspect will use them for illegal purposes," Gillibrand, a New York Democrat, told reporters on a conference call. "This is so important because as things currently stand, guns from states with lax gun laws are flooding into states with strong gun laws. And as a result, law enforcement and prosecutors are having to rely on a patchwork of state regulations to crack down on criminal networks, and that make prosecutions difficult and convictions nearly impossible."

The change is especially important in New York, where, according to the Bureau of Justice Statistics, nearly 75% of the guns

used in crimes and recovered by law enforcement originate from out of state. According to the Office of New York Attorney General Letitia James, about 15% of those guns originate in Virginia, while 13% come from Georgia and another 13% come from Pennsylvania.

Gillibrand named her legislation after Hadiya Pendleton, a 15-year-old student at King College Prep in Chicago who was killed in 2013 when a gang member shot at a rival in a crowd, and Nyasia Pryear-Yard, who was killed at the age of 17 in 2009 by a man with an illegally trafficked weapon.

The Senate compromise has not yet been written into legislation, so it's not yet possible to know exactly how closely that bill will track with Gillibrand's. But she said the compromise "does the same thing as this bill."

The emerging compromise would be the first major gun legislation Congress has passed in nearly three decades. The compromise also calls for tightening background checks for gun purchasers, encouraging states to enact "red flag" laws that would allow law enforcement to remove weapons from dangerous individuals, and increasing funding for mental health efforts and school safety.

Ten Republican senators helped negotiate the deal, and that's key, given that 10 GOP lawmakers are needed for the 60-vote majority required to even begin debate on major legislation in the Senate.

Asked if she was worried that some Republican senators might back out of the deal once the details are fleshed out, Gillibrand said: "No, I think there is so much consensus in Congress right now that we want to find whatever common ground exists and move forward with that."

After the recent mass shootings in Buffalo and Uvalde, Texas, "people are hurting, families have suffered," she added. "It's become a crisis that everyone can understand. And even constituents in very red states are begging their members of Congress to do something."

The deal appeared to pick up an important new supporter on Tuesday: Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, a Kentucky Republican.

"I'm comfortable with the framework and if the legislation ends up reflecting what the framework indicates, I'll be supportive," McConnell told reporters on Capitol Hill.

### Gillibrand Statement on Senate Passage of Landmark Burn Pits . . .

(Continued from page 7)

to give it a vote in the Senate.

In May 2022, Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee Chairman Jon Tester and Ranking Member Jerry Moran announced a bipartisan deal on toxic exposure legislation. Their package, the

Sergeant First Class Heath Robinson Honoring Our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics (PACT) Act of 2022, is an amended version of the House-passed Honoring Our PACT Act and retains Gillibrand's bill as the cornerstone of the presumptive care section.

**LEGAL NOTICES**

Ober Sarf PT, OT PLLC, Arts of Org. filed with Sec. of State of NY (SSNY) 4/2. Cty: Queens. SSNY desig. as agent upon whom process against may be served & shall mail process to Chaviva Sarf, 829 Empire Ave., Far Rockaway, NY 11691. Purpose: Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy. 6/2,9,16,23,30,7/7/2022

Notice of Formation of DIVERSITY SERVICES LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 08/25/2021. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 105-01 53rd Avenue, Apt 1F, Corona, NY 11368. Purpose: any lawful activities. 6/2,9,16,23,30,7/7/2022

Notice of Formation of TEKNIFI LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 03/14/2022. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 17004 Pidgeon Meadow Rd., Fresh Meadows, NY 11365. Purpose: any lawful activities. 6/16,23,30,7/7,14&21/2022

Notice of Formation: KCJZ2022 LLC Art. Of Org. filed with Sec. of State of NY (SSNY) on 04/04/2022. Office Loc: QUEENS COUNTY. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 53-16 190TH ST, FRESH MEADOWS, NY, 11365. Purpose: Any lawful activity. 5/19,26,6/2,9,16&23/2022

Mehemethi Taxi LLC, Arts of Org. filed with Sec. of State of NY (SSNY) 4/28/2022. Cty: Queens. SSNY desig. as agent upon whom process against may be served & shall mail process to Md Monir, 10920 108th St., S Ozone Park, NY 11420. General Purpose. 6/9,16,23,30,7/7&14/2022

Notice of Formation of QUALITY INSPECTION SERVICES LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 05/1. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 8424 Lefferts Blvd, Apt 4, Kew Gardens, NY 11415. Purpose: any lawful activities. 6/9,16,23,30,7/7&14/2022

BABA ESTATE 2 LLC filed Arts. of Org. with the Sect'y of State of NY (SSNY) on 2/2/2022. 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, 71-05 Myrtle Ave., Glendale, NY 11385. Purpose: any lawful act. 5/26,6/2,9,16,23&30/2022

**LEGAL NOTICES**

GREENPORT BOAT LLC Articles of Org. filed NY Sec. of State (SSNY) 4/26/22. Office in Queens Co. SSNY design. Agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to Aris Kourkoumelis 3214 30th Ave Ste 202 Astoria NY 11102. Purpose: Any lawful activity. 5/19,26,6/2,9,16&23/2022

Better Homes & Estates Realty, LLC, Arts of Org. filed with Sec. of State of NY (SSNY) 4/2. Cty: Queens. SSNY desig. as agent upon whom process against may be served & shall mail process to Mohammad Kamal, 65 Skelter Ln., Roslyn Heights, NY 11577. General Purpose. 5/19,26,6/2,9,16&23/2022

Notice of Formation of 609 FIFTH PARTNERS LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 05/26/22. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to RJ Capital Holdings, PO Box 660007, Fresh Meadows, NY 11366. Purpose: Any lawful activity. 6/16,23,30,7/7,14&21/2022

Notice of Formation of 3H Highland Ave LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 05/11/22. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 10 Yorktown Rd., Setauket, NY 11733. Purpose: any lawful activities. 6/16,23,30,7/7,14&21/2022

Notice of formation of R & R BROTHERS PROPERTIES LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 03/29/2017. Office located in Queens County. SSNY has been designated for service of process. SSNY shall mail copy of any process served against the LLC to 107-17 77TH STREET. OZONE PARK NY 11417. Purpose: Any lawful activity or purpose. 6/16,23,30,7/7,14&21/2022

JD Collectibles 11 LLC, Arts of Org. filed with Sec. of State of NY (SSNY) 5/18/2022. Cty: Queens. SSNY desig. as agent upon whom process against may be served & shall mail process to 1745 125th St., South Ozone Park, NY 11420. General Purpose. 6/16,23,30,7/7,14&21/2022

Notice of Formation of MATTHEW WELT OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY PLLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 05/10/2022. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 45-02 Ditmars Blvd., Apt 340, Astoria, NY 11105. Purpose: Occupational Therapy. 6/16,23,30,7/7,14&21/2022

**LEGAL NOTICES**

Notice of Formation of PREMIERLEADS SERVICES LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 05/0. 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 1222, Manhasset, NY 11030. Purpose: any lawful activities. 5/19,26,6/2,9,16&23/2022

Prevail Physical Therapy, LLC, Arts of Org. filed with Sec. of State of NY (SSNY) 12/3/2021. Cty: Queens. SSNY desig. as agent upon whom process against may be served & shall mail process to Nick Hondros, 2818 Ditmars Blvd., Astoria, NY 11105. Purpose: Physical Therapy 6/9,16,23,30,7/7&14/2022

CMJ Lynbrook LLC filed Arts. of Org. with the Sect'y of State of NY (SSNY) on 2/24/2022. 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, 139-19 109th Ave, Jamaica, NY 11435. Purpose: any lawful act 6/16,23,30,7/7,14&21/2022

Notice of Formation of CASTRO CANE, LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 05/11/22. Office location: Queens County. Princ. office of LLC: 133 Beach 116th St., #3C, Rockaway Park, NY 11694. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to Thomas Adorno Castro, 1032 Beach 20th St., Far Rockaway, NY 11691. Purpose: Any lawful activity. 5/26,6/2,9,16,23&30/2022

Notice of Formation of KONDOR PRIMARY CARE PLLC Articles of Organization. filed with Secretary of State of NY. ("SSNY") on 04/29/2022. 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: 142-10B Roosevelt Ave, STE P24, Flushing, NY 11354. Purpose: any lawful activity. 6/23,30,7/7,14,21&28/2022

Notice of Formation of 21 ST VENTURES, LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 01/12/2022. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 3366 Farrington Street, Suite 200, Flushing, NY 11354. Purpose: any lawful activities. 6/23,30,7/7,14,21&28/2022

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**Rep. Maloney Holds Press Conference on The Scourge of Gun Violence in Nation's Schools**

Congresswoman Carolyn B. Maloney (NY-12) was joined by gun safety reform advocates to call on immediate action to address the scourge of gun violence in schools across the nation. Following the tragic mass shootings in Buffalo, NY and Uvalde, Texas, the House passed the Protecting Our Kids Act. Key pieces of Maloney's Bipartisan Gun Trafficking and Crime Prevention Act, legislation that would crack down on gun trafficking and straw purchasers, were included in the final bill and in the recently announce Senate bipartisan framework on gun reform.

"No other country even comes close to the number of school shootings we have. Between 2009 and 2018, the U.S. had 288 school shootings. All other G7 countries combined had just five," said Rep. Maloney. "As a mother and a former teacher, I was horrified by the news of the unimaginable attacks on our schools, our grocery stores, and churches, and I was saddened that doing something as simple as going to school now invokes fear in our nation's children. Equally troubling is the fact that the victims who experienced these shootings will forever have to live with the trauma of gun violence for the rest of their lives. It is clear that the gun violence epidemic is a uniquely American phenomenon – but it doesn't have to be. I have worked for years to pass commonsense gun safety reforms. Since 2011, I have introduced a series of 6 bills in every single Congress. These bills would enhance background checks, close the gun show loophole, require gun owners to purchase liability insurance, and crack down on gun trafficking. Making gun trafficking a federal offense will help us combat the "Iron Pipeline"

that has facilitated the flow of weapons into our state, undermining the strength of our state's gun laws. But we are starting to finally see movement, and I am hopeful this momentum will continue. I am so proud that language from my Gun Trafficking and Crime Prevention Act was included in the Protecting Our Kids Act that recently passed in the House. And I am thrilled to see my colleagues act in unison to prioritize this important issue of safety and common sense."

"There is nothing more important than the safety of our children – in schools and in their communities," said Schools Chancellor David C. Banks. "Gun violence in our city has taken too many of our loved ones, and every effort must be taken to keep these weapons out of our schools. As Chancellor, I am committed to doing everything I can to keep our youngest New Yorkers safe and protected. I thank the Congresswoman for hosting this event which highlights the importance of federal efforts to bring an end to the gun violence epidemic impacting our country. We'll continue to work in partnership with our New York congressional delegation and community stakeholders to keep violence out of the classroom and bring healing to those who are impacted."

"In order to succeed in school, children need a feeling of safety and security. Our representatives in Congress could provide that, if they had the political will. Sadly many of them do not, and I shudder to think how many more children's lives will be at risk before those representatives do their jobs," said Michael Sill, Assistant Secretary, Director of Personnel, Payroll, and Special Projects, United Federation of Teachers.

"The gun violence we now see in our schools and

on our streets is attributable to choices made by the gun industry. For decades, the industry has innovated not to make guns safer but rather to make them more lethal," said Gary Klein, Research Fellow, Violence Policy Center.

"The fact that guns are the number one cause of death for children in this country is a national disgrace," said Brady New York City Leader Natalie Mishkin. "In New York City, we have some of the strongest gun safety laws in the country at both the state and local level, but our streets are filled with guns trafficked from states with less comprehensive laws. These weapons are killing out kids, particularly Black and Brown children and communities in our city. We cannot accept this reality - we stand with Rep. Maloney in her clear call for action to end the violence."

"The grim reality in this country is that parents still have to fear for their children's lives when they send them to school each morning, and we have to change that," said Laura House, a volunteer with the New York chapter of Moms Demand Action. "The passage of the Protect Our Kids Act was a transformative step taken by the House to safeguard future generations, but more can and must be done. As our grassroots movement continues to gain momentum, we look forward to working alongside Congresswoman Maloney and other gun sense champions to pass laws that will save lives and keep our children safe."

"I am outraged by our country's 'leaders'. It makes no sense to claim to be pro-life and not protect our children from gun violence. There is no reason for anyone to possess an AR 15," said Catherine Marino-Thomas, Gays Against Guns.

**Uber: Shared Rides Are Back in NYC**

Share a ride, get savings: Riders will receive an upfront discount if they choose UberX Share, and could get up to 20% off the total fare, if matched with a co-rider along the way.

Stay on schedule: To prevent pickups and drop-offs from causing unexpected delays, we'll only match riders heading in the same

direction. We've designed UberX Share so that riders arrive no more than 8 minutes later than an UberX ride.

• Make a sustainable choice: By helping to match more people in fewer cars faster, we can help cut gas use, vehicle-miles and emissions per passenger, and make transportation

more affordable.

UberX Share is available in 9 cities across the U.S. including: New York City, Los Angeles, Chicago, San Francisco, Phoenix, San Diego, Portland - Oregon, Indianapolis and Pittsburgh. Uber plans to expand UberX Share to even more cities in the coming weeks and months.

**Take 5 Top-Prize Winner Sold in Fresh Meadows**

The New York Lottery has announced one top-prize winning ticket was sold for the June 19 TAKE 5 MIDDAY drawing. The ticket, worth \$18,156.50, was purchased at GRAND SUCCESS TRADING

CORP, located at 164-14 69TH AVE in FRESH MEADOWS.

TAKE 5 players with midday and evening draws on the same ticket must check their numbers at [nylottery.gov](http://nylottery.gov) to determine if they

have the winning numbers for the corresponding midday or evening drawing.

TAKE 5 numbers are drawn from a field of one through 39. The drawing is televised twice daily at 2:30 p.m. and 10:30 p.m.

### Forest Hills Gardens Corp. Hosted Flag Day



Queens District Attorney Melinda Katz took the opportunity to commemorate Flag Day with community members and elected officials during a patriotic family event at Forest Hills. This annual tradition reminds us

of the freedoms and the rights we enjoy in the U.S.

QDA Katz thanked Tony Barsamian and the Forest Hills Gardens Corporation for hosting this important event each year.



**New York State Senator James Sanders Jr. Presents**

### Active Shooter / Mass Shooting Defense Training

Join Us For this FREE Event That Could Save Your Life

- Columbine High School Shooting - April 20, 1999  
13 Dead, 20 Wounded
- Virginia Tech Shooting - April 16, 2007  
32 Dead, 17 Wounded
- Aurora Movie Theater Shooting - July 20, 2012  
12 Dead, 70 Wounded
- Sandy Hook Elementary School Shooting - December 14, 2012  
26 Dead, 2 Wounded
- Charleston Church Shooting - June 17, 2015  
9 Dead, 1 Wounded
- Pulse Orlando Nightclub Shooting - June 12, 2016  
49 Dead, 53 Wounded
- Buffalo Supermarket Shooting - May 14, 2022  
10 Dead, 3 Wounded
- Robb Elementary School Shooting - May 24, 2022  
21 Dead, 17 Wounded

Top Defense Experts Will Teach You How To Protect Yourself

- Identifying a Dangerous Situation
- How to Escape a Mass Shooting
- Learn About the Types of Weapons Used
- Fighting Off An Attacker as a Last Resort

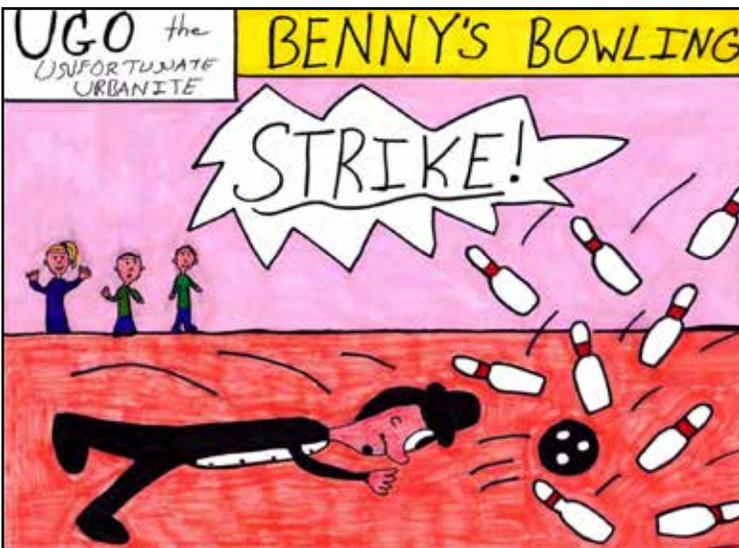
Featuring  
NYPD Shield  
Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)  
Red Dawn Combat Club

**Saturday, June 25, 2022**  
1 p.m. - 3 p.m.  
Rockaway YMCA  
207 Beach 73rd Street, Arverne, NY 11692

**Could You Be Next?**

For more information or to RSVP, contact Senator Sanders' District Office at 718-327-7017 or 718-523-3069 or email [costella@nysenate.gov](mailto:costella@nysenate.gov)

COMMUNITY PARTNERS: TRI-MED HOME CARE SERVICES, FAR ROCKAWAY NAACP, REGIONAL READY ROCKAWAY, 149TH STREET SOUTH OZONE PARK CIVIC ASSOCIATION AND UNITED NEIGHBORS CIVIC ASSOCIATION (UNCA)



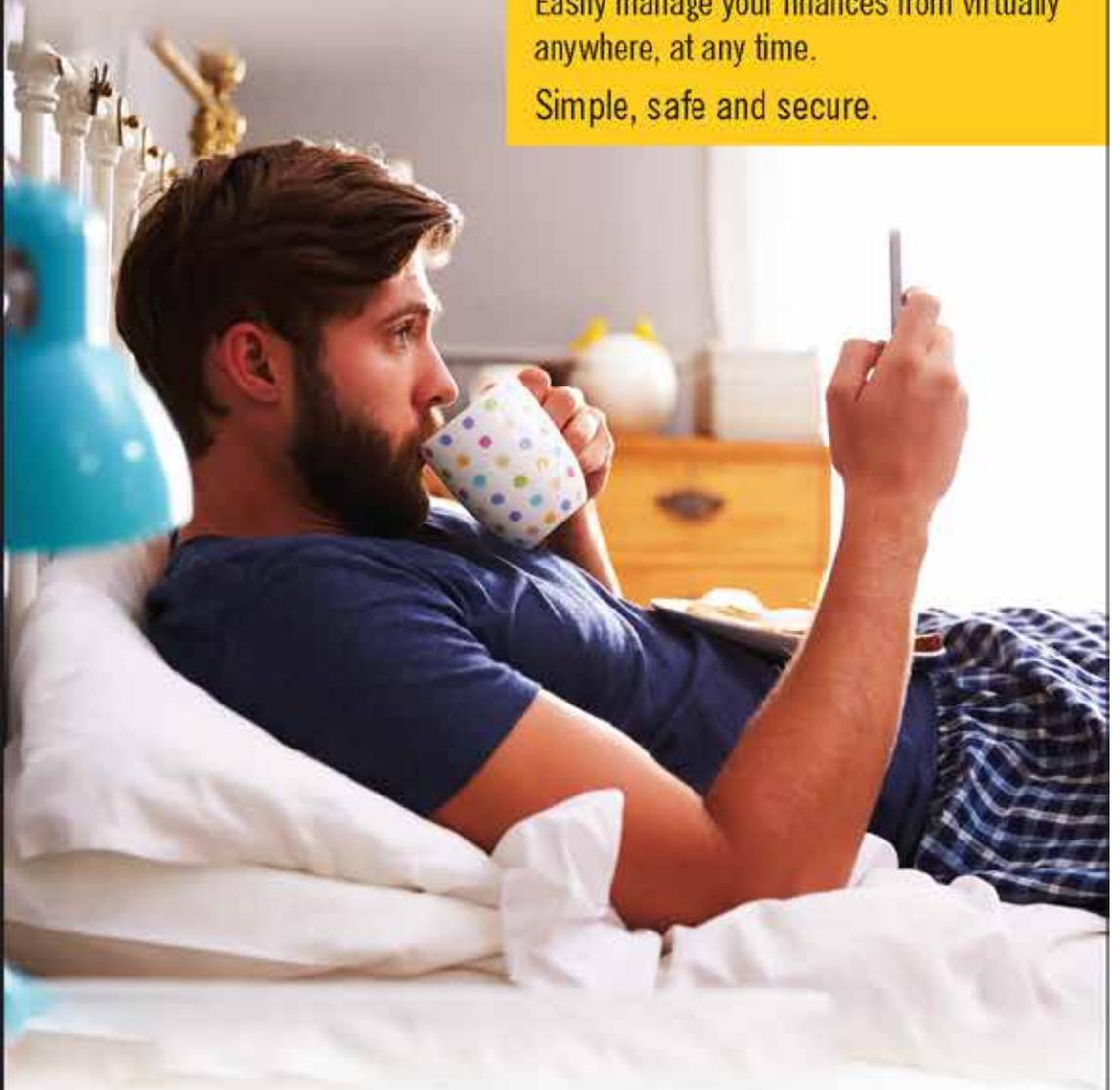
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