

# QUEENS TIMES

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25 CENTS

## Gov. Hochul Signs Bill to Extend NYC Mayoral Control of Schools Through 2024

NYS Gov. Kathy Hochul signed a bill to extend mayoral control of New York City schools for the next two years.

In addition to the two-year extension, the bill will expand the number of members in the Panel for Educational Policy (PEP) — a largely mayor-appointed board that makes decisions on contracts and policy decisions in New York City schools — from 15 to 23 members. Originally scheduled for August, the expansion was pushed back to January 2023.

Mayor Eric Adams commended Hochul for the extension, noting the importance of mayoral accountability for families, students and teachers across the five boroughs.

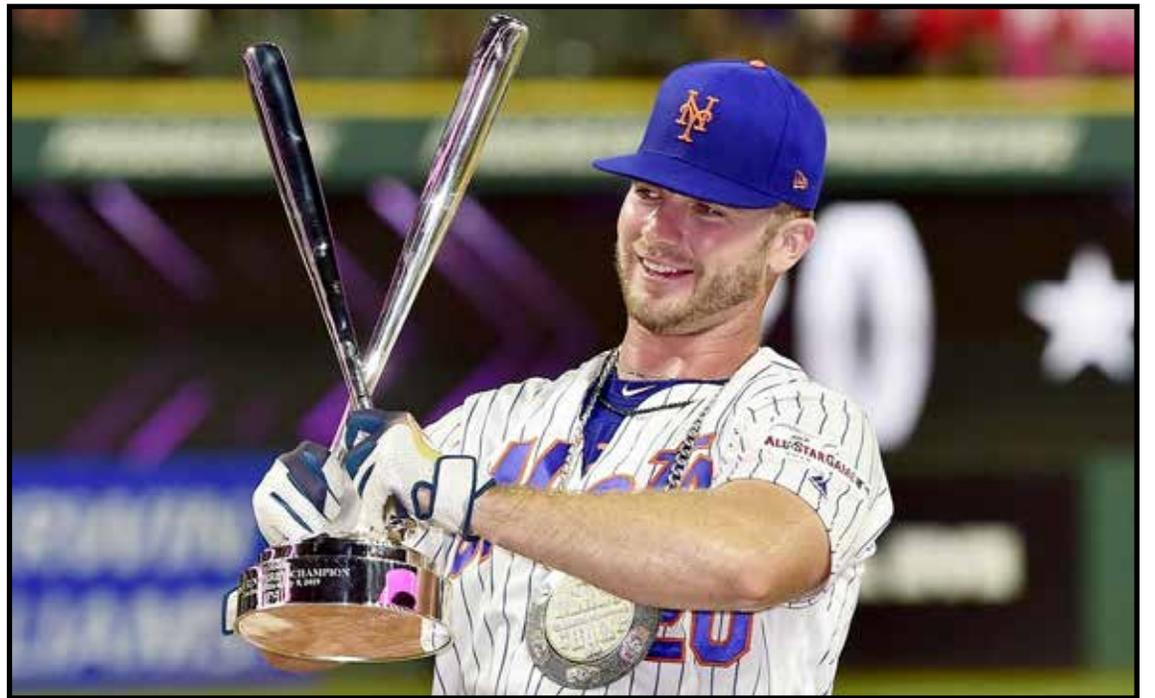
Mayoral control of New York City's schools has been on the books since 2002, when then-Mayor Michael Bloomberg got the state legislature to grant him authority for seven years.

Prior to that, local school boards had control over the approximately 1,800 schools.

Here is what you should know about the bill extending mayoral control:

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## Pete Alonso Issues Challenge to Fans Over Home Run Derby Participation



Pete Alonso would love to defend his Home Run Derby title. See story on page 3.

## Astoria's Annual 4th of July Fireworks Display



Queens Borough President Donovan Richards greeted the attendees. Also in photo: George Stamatiades; Tony Barsamian, Marie Torniali, and Queens Parks Commissioner Michael Dockett. Photo by Walter Karling

The annual 4th of July community get-together and fireworks display at Astoria Park was sponsored by the Central Astoria Local Development Coalition (CALDC). The fireworks display was in the East River by the Hell Gate Bridge. The event organizers and local politicians in attendance were George Stamatiades, President of the CALDC; Queens Borough President Donovan Richards; NYC

Councilwoman Tiffany Caban; NYS Senator Michael Gianaris; Queens Parks Commissioner Michael Dockett; Tony Barsamian, Executive Vice-President of the CALDC and Marie Torniali, Executive Director of the CALDC. As far as the eye could see a packed Great Lawn at Astoria Park where the Swingtime Big Band provided musical entertainment for a jam-packed crowd.

## Phil 'Scooter' Rizzuto Gets Street Sign



The corner of 64th Street and 78th Avenue in Glendale was co-named "Phil 'Scooter' Rizzuto Corner" at a ceremony hosted by Councilmember Robert Holden, NYS Senator Joe Addabbo, Assembly Member Jenifer Rajkumar, former Yankees players and members of the Rizzuto family were among those in attendance. See story on page 2.

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# Gov. Hochul Signs Bill to Extend NYC Mayoral Control of Schools Through 2024

(Continued from page 1)

- Mayoral control was extended to June 30, 2024
- The PEP will expand from 15 to 23 members.
- PEP members will include: one person appointed by each

borough president; five members from each borough elected by the Community Education Council (CEC) presidents; and 13 members appointed by the mayor.

- Each mayoral appointee should be a city resident, and four should be parents of a child attending a

public school — including a parent of a child with an individualized education program (IEP), a parent of a child who is in a bilingual or English as a second language (ESL) program, and a parent of a child who is attending a District 75 school or program.

# Phil 'Scooter' Rizzuto Gets Street Sign

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Phil Rizzuto, was raised in a house in Glendale near where the co-named "Phil 'Scooter' Rizzuto Corner" was dedicated and deserved the honor.

Phil Rizzuto had an illustrious career with the Yankees from 1941 to 1956 where he earned nine American League Pennants, seven World Series Championship titles and the American League

Most Valuable Player award in 1950. He was known for his exceptional fielding and base running, and the Sporting News publication voted him the top major league shortstop for four consecutive years.

Rizzuto's number 10 was retired by the Yankees in 1985 and he was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1994.

After he retired from baseball, Rizzuto spent 40 years as a radio

and television sports announcer — the longest-serving broadcaster in Yankees history — with trademark expressions and lively play-by-play broadcasts.

His popular catchphrase was "holy cow" while he also became known for saying "unbelievable!" or "did you see that?" to describe a great play. He would call somebody a "huckleberry" if the person did something he did not like.

Rizzuto died in 2007, aged 89.

# Queens District Attorney Melinda Katz Announces The Appointments of Chief Investigator And Executive Assistant District Attorney of Criminal Practice & Policy Division

District Attorney Melinda Katz has announced the appointments of two executives who will assist in streamlining inter-office processes and enhance public safety protocols within Queens County. Retired NYPD Assistant Chief Thomas Conforti has been appointed as Chief Investigator and veteran prosecutor Theresa M. Shanahan has been appointed as Executive Assistant District Attorney for Criminal Practice and Policy.

District Attorney Katz said, "Chief Conforti and EADA Shanahan have dedicated their entire careers to keeping people safe by investigating drivers of crime and seeking justice on behalf of victims. At the same time, they have each worked to improve policy development and protocol implementation to ensure better efficiency within their respective government agencies. I have no doubt that both set of skills will prove to be extremely beneficial to this Office. I look forward to working closely with Chief Conforti and EADA Shanahan on comprehensive policy and safety measures for the people of this borough."

Chief Thomas Conforti is a 30-year veteran of the New York City Police Department and began his distinguished career with the 73rd Precinct in Brownsville. Throughout his time with the NYPD, Chief

Conforti served as Commanding Officer at several Queens County precincts prior to being promoted to Inspector in 2016 and serving as Commanding Officer of the Crime Prevention Division. He was then assigned as Commanding Officer of the Office of the Chief of Detectives before receiving another promotion in 2019 to Assistant Chief, a two-star rank.

Most recently, he served as Commanding Officer of the Office of the Deputy Commissioner of Public Information and Commanding Officer of the Operations Bureau. A graduate of St. John's University and John Jay College, Chief Conforti is now tasked with leading the Queens District Attorney's Detectives Bureau. Members of the Bureau assist prosecutors in the investigation of cases ranging from gun trafficking, major economic crimes, domestic terrorism, fraudulent activity, and human trafficking, as well as the reinvestigation of cases before the Conviction Integrity Unit.

EADA Theresa M. Shanahan is a Queens native who joined the Office of the Kings County District Attorney in August 1990. Since January 1995, she served in management roles in that office, beginning as Deputy Chief of the Early Case Assessment Bureau. She later served as Chief of that bureau, as well as First Deputy Chief of both the Investigations

Bureau and the Blue Zone Trial Bureau. Ms. Shanahan served on several committees within the Office of the Kings County District Attorney, including those relating to development of discovery policies, hiring, and the implementation of a new case management system.

A graduate of Saint Vincent College and the St. John's University School of Law, Executive ADA Shanahan is now tasked with leading the Queens District Attorney's Criminal Practice and Policy Division. This Division consists of the Intake and Assessments Bureau, the Criminal Court Bureau, and the Rehabilitation Programs and Restorative Services Bureau, which includes the Diversion and Alternative Sentencing Unit and the Crime Victims Advocate Program.

Chief Conforti and EADA Shanahan join the Executive Staff for the Queens District Attorney, which also includes Chief ADA Jennifer Naiburg, Chief of Staff Camille Chin-Kee-Fatt, Counsel to the DA John Castellano, Counsel to the Chief ADA Vincent Carroll, EADA of Community Partnerships Colleen Babb, EADA of Investigations Gerard Brave, EADA of Major Crimes Daniel Saunders, EADA of Appeals & Special Litigations Johnnette Trill, and EADA of the Supreme Court Trial Pishoy Yacoub.

# Stavisky, Rozic Announce Law to Memorialize NYPD Detective Anastasios Tsakos with Highway Overpass Renaming

State Senator Toby Ann Stavisky (D-Flushing) and Assemblywoman Nily Rozic (D,WF-Fresh Meadows) announced that Governor Huchul has signed their legislation renaming of the Long Island Expressway ("LIE") overpass located at Francis Lewis Boulevard and Horace Harding Expressway as "Detective Anastasios Tsakos Memorial Bridge." The new law, which passed both the State Senate and State Assembly with bipartisan support, will now allow the Department of

Transportation to proceed with the design and installation of signage.

Earlier in the year, Stavisky and Rozic were joined by Irene Tsakos, various units of the New York City Police Department ("NYPD"), the Police Benevolent Association of the City of New York ("NYC PBA") President Patrick J. Lynch, and members of the local community memorializing the one-year anniversary of the passing of Detective Tsakos who was killed in the line of duty.

State Senator Stavisky said:

"The designation of the 'Detective Anastasios Tsakos Memorial Bridge' will help keep the memory of Detective Tsakos alive while serving as a reminder of his tragic death in the line of duty. Detective Tsakos served our city with distinction for more than a decade before his untimely passing. He was a loving son, husband and father who is survived by his wife and two children. I am honored to have sponsored this bill to rename

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## Governor Hochul Announces Completion of \$17 Million Project to Rehabilitate Bridge Carrying Astoria Boulevard Along The Eastbound Brooklyn-Queens Expressway Exit Ramp to Eastbound Grand Central Parkway in Queens

**New Roadway Deck and Steel Beams Enhance Safety and Improve Travel on Heavily Traveled Roadway**

Governor Kathy Hochul has announced the completion of a \$17 million project that will enhance safety and improve driving conditions on the bridge carrying Astoria Boulevard over the eastbound Brooklyn-Queens Expressway (I-278) exit ramp to the eastbound Grand Central Parkway in Queens. The bridge, a well-traveled roadway that serves as important access route to LaGuardia Airport, has been rehabilitated with a new roadway deck, new rust-resistant steel beams, and upgraded lighting.

“Revitalizing our transportation infrastructure across New York to better serve our communities is one of my top priorities, which is why we invested in rehabilitating this bridge carrying Astoria Boulevard - a vital connection along a corridor that not only provides access to LaGuardia Airport but is also home to many stores and businesses in Queens,” Governor Hochul said. “This project builds on the success of our initiatives to enhance mobility and safety for

motorists while also supporting the local and regional economies for decades to come.”

The project replaces the bridge’s existing steel beams with new, rust-resistant beams to reduce the need for painting. It features stainless-steel rebar to prevent corrosion inside the roadway deck and has fewer joints in order to reduce water leakage and minimize damage to structural elements. The project also gives motorists a smoother riding surface.

Additional improvements include a new drainage system, LED lighting above and below the bridge, bridge safety barriers, fencing, and upgraded utilities including new water, electric, and gas lines. The project also features a new sidewalk on the south side of the bridge that is compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

New York State Department of Transportation Commissioner Marie Therese Dominguez said, “Under Governor Hochul’s leadership, New York is investing in the types of projects that create a more resilient transportation network and enhance the safety and integrity of our roads and bridges. This

much-needed project in Queens will improve travel on one of the borough’s most important roadways and represents our continued commitment to modernizing our infrastructure.”

State Senator Jessica Ramos said, “This bridge is a critical link between two main transit arteries in Queens, one that has proven dangerous. As the upgrades to LaGuardia Airport continue, I’m deeply appreciative for the investments in making sure the surrounding areas get the care they need to handle the expected increased traffic for the long-term.”

Queens Borough President Donovan Richards Jr. said, “This successful bridge rehabilitation project is an important step toward improving access to LaGuardia Airport and to smoothing traffic flow in the entire nearby area,” said Queens Borough President Donovan Richards Jr. “Motorists who use this section of Astoria Boulevard will soon find getting to LaGuardia and other locations in Queens to be much easier and safer. I thank Governor Kathy Hochul and State Transportation Commissioner Marie Therese Dominguez for making this work a priority.”

## New York City Council Women’s Caucus Unveils Legislative Package on Abortion and Reproductive Health Care, Announces Support for State Constitutional Amendment

In the wake of the U.S. Supreme Court’s decision to overturn *Roe v. Wade*, Speaker Adrienne Adams and the City’s first women majority New York City Council unveiled a “NYC Abortion Rights Act” legislative package to safeguard abortion and advance reproductive health care in the City. The package of laws seeks to protect women, trans, and gender non-conforming people’s access to safe abortion and reproductive healthcare in New York City, as states across the country begin to restrict access to services in response to the Supreme Court decision. The Council also announced its support, through a resolution, for a state constitutional amendment to enshrine equal rights and protection against discrimination into the state’s constitution. The state constitutional amendment would expand protected classes to include ethnicity, national origin, disability or sex including pregnancy and pregnancy outcomes, sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression, and would protect an array of civil rights, including abortion. The historic women-led Council also indicated its intention to provide funding for abortion care and support services through city budget allocations.

The Council’s proposed legislative package focuses on expanding reproductive health services across the five boroughs and protecting those seeking access to care. The bills include an expansion of language access for abortion care providers, prohibitions against abortion restrictions and interference, and increases to abortion and reproductive health-

care services. The legislative package codifies New York City’s role as a safe harbor for abortion care, protecting against attacks on reproductive health services. The various bills in the legislative package will be heard in several different Council committees over the coming days, including the Civil and Human Rights Committee, the Consumer and Worker Protection Committee, the Health Committee, and the Women and Gender Equity Committee.

In announcing its response to the Supreme Court decision, the Council, led by Speaker Adams, was represented by over a dozen of its women members, who for the first time make up the legislative body’s majority. The Council has long championed abortion access, establishing New York City’s abortion fund. The \$250,000 annual allocations have helped New Yorkers and people traveling from other states to secure safe abortions in New York City.

“The right to safe and legal abortion is a fundamental human right, and must be protected for all who seek reproductive healthcare, especially in the aftermath of the Supreme Court’s dangerous decision,” said Speaker Adrienne Adams. “This package of Council legislation will help ensure the necessary protections and expanded resources to meet New Yorkers’ reproductive health needs and those of all who come to our city in need of access to care. It is also essential that the New York State Legislature pass the Equality Amendment to support enshrining key protections into our state constitution. Leaders of this Council’s

historic women-majority are prepared to take significant action to protect women, trans, and gender non-conforming individuals, and this leadership is critical to expanding and protecting the rights that we rightfully deserve.”

“The United States Supreme Court’s cruel decision to overturn *Roe v. Wade* last week ignored nearly 50 years of legal precedent and is dangerous to the health and rights of more than 36 million Americans,” said Council Member Amanda Fariás, Co-Chair of the Women’s Caucus. “People’s lives and bodies are now at the mercy of their state governments, and we know many have already restricted access to reproductive health care due to trigger laws and more will continue to do so. The laws introduced by my colleagues today seek to expand and protect women, trans, and gender expansive people’s access to safe abortion and reproductive healthcare in our City. It focuses on protection through language access, prohibitions against restrictions and interference, increased services, and codifies New York City’s role as a destination for abortion care. Supporting abortion care will now be even more necessary than ever before as an estimated 190,000 to 280,000 people from other states, will be relying on New York. Today we express full support of the Equality Amendment to the NYS Constitution - everyone must be protected. We are here as the first Women Majority Council setting the example and tone for City’s across America by championing

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## Pete Alonso Issues Challenge to Fans Over Home Run Derby Participation

Pete Alonso would love to defend his Home Run Derby title in the City of Angels in a couple of weeks. However, the “Polar Bear’s” decision to defend his title appears to depend on whether he is named a starter in MLB’s All-Star Game.

Last week, the league announced that the Mets first baseman was named one of two finalists for the National League’s starting first baseman spot with Cardinals’ Paul Goldschmidt. Fans have the opportunity vote which player becomes a starter. Alonso didn’t

hesitate to take matters into his own hands, asking Mets fans to vote for him to be a starter in the mid-summer exhibition.

Alonso said, “Well, this is it: If you guys go out and vote and get me as a starter, I will do the Derby,” per WFAN’s Carton & Roberts show. He goes on to say “If you guys could go to MLB.com and vote The Polar Bear, I’d represent the best city in the world New York out in L.A.; New York is such a great city and I just want to be the best representation out there.”

All our reader who are Met fans go to MLB.com and vote The Polar Bear.

## AG James Statement on Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer’s Retirement

New York Attorney General Letitia James issued the following statement on the retirement of Justice Stephen Breyer from the United States Supreme Court:

“Justice Stephen Breyer has offered this country 27 years of tireless service and unwavering commitment to justice throughout his time on the Supreme Court. During times of great political division and social upheaval, he remained a beacon of legal integrity and a powerful advocate for the rule of law.

“Justice Breyer oversaw some of the most important legal issues of

our time, including decisions on abortions, guns, religion, and race — and he never failed to navigate these issues with pragmatism and great care. This country is lucky to have benefited from his legal wisdom and sensibility, and I thank Justice Breyer for his decades of service and dedication.

“I would also like to take this time to congratulate Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson on the start of her service to the Supreme Court. I join millions of Americans throughout the country in celebrating this important and historic moment.”

## Citywide Pilot Program ‘Turnout NYC’ Activates Queens Arts July 14-Aug 7

For 3 weeks only, Turnout NYC will be installing a modular performance set of temporary stage platforms and seating in Travers Park, Jackson Heights, which will be activated with a curated series of performances and arts activities free to the public. Events will be held July 14 until August 7, Thursdays through Sundays. Full schedule details are at [bit.ly/turnoutnycqueens](http://bit.ly/turnoutnycqueens).

Led by the Design Trust for Public Space and architectural practice SITU, Turnout NYC is a community-oriented initiative to give local arts organizations and artists greater agency in activating public spaces in neighborhoods citywide. Turnout NYC has selected Queensboro Dance Festival (QDF) as its Queens cultural partner to curate the Travers Park activations. In turn, QDF is collaborating with local neighborhood organizations Jackson Heights Beautification Group and 2nd Story Pilates and Yoga studio, to bring a wide-ranging series of family-friendly events which include martial arts, live bands, visual art, dance battles, sound baths, marionette theater, and stand up comedy. All of the events feature over 130 artists, the vast majority being Queens-based and many who live in Jackson Heights.

During the 3-week activation, programming will feature

Queensboro Dance Festival’s ‘Queens Dance Parties’ on Thursdays 6-8pm, a variety of programming Fridays 6-8pm and Saturdays 3-5pm, and Jackson Heights Beautification Group’s annual program ‘Summer Sundays’ live music series on Sundays 5-7pm. On the days where there are no formal events scheduled, the park public is invited to use the temporarily installed modular setup as additional park seating.

“This has been such a unique opportunity to really showcase the depth of arts & culture here and bring it directly to residents,” says Karesia Batan, Executive Director of Queensboro Dance Festival. “It’s also been a chance to bring programming here that hasn’t been here before. Turnout NYC has empowered us to connect with more local organizations and think creatively to utilize the modular stage setup in as many ways we could. This initiative has been such a great model for community collaboration, where local artists and audiences equally benefit.”

Turnout NYC’s modular set started at a site in Brooklyn and is currently in Staten Island before coming to Queens. After its activation in Travers Park, the set will then go to Manhattan and finish in the Bronx. More about Turnout NYC can be found at [turnoutnyc.org](http://turnoutnyc.org).

## Mayor Adams Launches Nation's First Mobile Test to Treat Program, to Provide Immediate Access to Anti-Viral Covid-19 Medications at Mobile Testing Locations

**Medications Will Be Prescribed to Eligible Patients Within Minutes of Positive Rapid Test**

**Program Will Expand to More Than 30 Mobile Testing Units Through July and Soon Offer Medication on Site**

New York City Mayor Eric Adams, NYC Test & Trace Corps, NYC Health + Hospitals, and the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH) were joined by White House COVID-19 Response Coordinator Dr. Ashish Jha today to announce the launch of the country's first-ever mobile-based "Test to Treat" program. Starting today, participating mobile testing units managed by NYC Test & Trace Corps will now include a clinician on their team to provide instant access to prescriptions for no-cost, antiviral medications for eligible New Yorkers who test positive at these sites. The initial Test to Treat units are partnering with local pharmacies to provide immediate distribution of medication from the prescription. As the launch continues, the program will expand to over 30 units over the month of July. This program will also shift to be able to distribute antiviral medications in the units this summer, ensuring New Yorkers have even more immediate access to life-saving treatments.

"New York City may have been at the epicenter of the pandemic at the start, but now we are leading the way in prevention and mitigation," said Mayor Adams. "By getting lifesaving medications into the hands of New Yorkers minutes after they test positive, we are once again leading the nation to quickly deliver accessible care to those who need it. This mobile Test to Treat program will save lives today and prepares us for future waves of this pandemic, keeping more New Yorkers safe and healthy."

"We have made a lot of progress in our fight against COVID-19 — deaths are down 90 percent from when President Biden took office, and vaccines and treatments are keeping people out of the hospital and saving lives," said Dr. Ash-

ish Jha, White House COVID-19 Response Coordinator. But we know COVID isn't over, and we must ensure lifesaving treatments like Paxlovid are reaching our hardest-hit communities. That's exactly what New York City is doing with the launch of the nation's first mobile Test-to-Treat clinic."

"Today we are offering you another, faster, way to get treated, where you can walk away with an oral medication a matter of minutes after a positive test," said Dr. Ted Long, executive director, NYC Test & Trace Corps; senior vice president, Ambulatory Care and Population Health, NYC Health + Hospitals. "Working with trusted local pharmacies, and soon equipping our actual units with Paxlovid, this new mobile Test to Treat model lets us equitably bring treatment to all New Yorkers and protect our city so that we can continue to recover together."

"Health services, including for COVID-19, should be omnipresent and capable of meeting people where they are," said DOHMH Commissioner Dr. Ashwin Vasani. "We've learned during the pandemic how important it is to bring care to people, in an equitable way, prioritizing vulnerable groups and neighborhoods that have been hardest hit by COVID-19. In addition to home delivery of medications, we should be ready to hand off lifesaving medications to those who may not feel comfortable or confident using tele-visit services and deliver end-to-end services at a single point-of care. The new mobile Test to Treat model continues the city's track record of innovation in our pandemic response."

"New Yorkers trust the high-quality care they receive at NYC Health + Hospitals, and our new Test to Treat mobile vans are an extension of the four walls of our hospitals and clinics," said Mitchell Katz, MD, president and CEO, NYC Health + Hospitals. "The Test to Treat program meets patients where they are, providing access to immediate COVID-19 treatment to those eligible. I want to thank Mayor Adams and Dr. Ashish Jha for their continued support and commitment to the care of all New Yorkers."

The Test to Treat mobile program is starting with three mobile testing units, paired with local pharmacies, and will expand to more than 30 units through the month of July. In the initial phase, New Yorkers who test positive for COVID-19 will receive a prescription from a clinician at the mobile site and be able to pick up the medication at the co-located pharmacy or through the city's free home delivery program. Units will be partnered and deployed at the following locations:

- Inwood Pharmacy, 4915 Broadway, New York, New York 10034
- Burke Avenue Pharmacy, 759 Burke Avenue, Bronx, New York 10467
- Rex Pharmacy, 119-01 Rockaway Boulevard, South Ozone Park, New York 114120

As the program expands, New Yorkers who test positive at a participating mobile testing unit will be offered the chance to engage with an onsite clinician and, if eligible, walk away with a free course of Paxlovid anti-viral medication. The program builds upon the NYC Test & Trace Corps' nation-leading mobile testing and vaccination efforts, which have provided New Yorkers 1.9 million tests and 285,000 vaccinations to date.

Test & Trace will continue to work hand in hand with community partners to ensure deployments are reaching New Yorkers in neighborhoods most impacted by COVID-19 and to coordinate closely with DOHMH to make data-informed decisions.

New Yorkers can visit [nyc.gov/covidtest](http://nyc.gov/covidtest) to find a city-run testing site most convenient and accessible to them. Multiple COVID-19 treatments are available for people ages 12 and older and can be delivered to New Yorkers' homes for free. For more information on COVID-19 treatments, please call 212-COVID19 and press 9 or visit [nyc.gov/health/covidtreatments](http://nyc.gov/health/covidtreatments). Calling 212-COVID19 provides New Yorkers an immediate connection to a clinician who can refer them to monoclonal antibody treatment or prescribe antiviral medications, like Paxlovid, and arrange to have it delivered to their home that same day.

## AG James Issues Statement on SCOTUS Decision Limiting EPA Authority to Regulate Power Plant Emissions

New York Attorney General Letitia James issued the following statement in response to the U.S. Supreme Court's decision today in *West Virginia v. EPA* to restrict the ability of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to limit carbon emissions from power plants:

"Today's ruling is a dangerous and irresponsible restriction on federal agencies' ability to carry out their functions. Climate change is an imminent and indisputable threat, and EPA must be able to regulate the energy industry so that the worst consequences can be avoided. Despite this setback, my office will continue to be a champion for our environment, our future, and the health of New Yorkers. We will work to end our nation's reliance on fossil-fuel power plants that pollute our environment, and move towards clean, renewable, and affordable electricity. It's not too late to move off the path towards climate disaster, but we must take decisive action now."

Attorney General James has long been a leader in the national effort to protect the planet from the impacts of pollution and cli-

mate change. In January 2022, Attorney General James led a coalition of 30 states and local governments in submitting a brief to the U.S. Supreme Court in this case, providing a strong legal defense of the ability of EPA and states to set meaningful limits on climate change pollution from power plants under the Clean Air Act. In January 2021, Attorney General James won a lawsuit against the Trump Administration when the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit vacated the Administration's Affordable Clean Energy (ACE) rule, or so-called "Dirty Power" rule, which replaced the Clean Power Plan. The Clean Power Plan was the first-ever nationwide limit on one of the largest sources of climate change pollution — existing fossil-fueled power plants. The Trump Administration rule rolled back these limits and would have had virtually no impact on these emissions, prolonging the nation's reliance on polluting, expensive coal power plants and obstructing states' progress towards clean, renewable, and affordable electricity generation.

## QBP Richards on Supreme Court Ruling Limiting Epa's Ability to Regulate Carbon Emissions

Queens Borough President Donovan Richards Jr. stated the following in response to today's dangerous Supreme Court ruling in *West Virginia v. EPA*, limiting the ability of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to regulate greenhouse gas emissions from power plants and potentially crippling our nation's potential to curb the climate change crisis.

"Queens knows all too well the dangerous and deadly impacts climate change can have on our communities — from disasters like Superstorm Sandy to Hurricane Ida to Asthma Alley in Astoria and beyond. Families across this borough and this country have been devastated by the consequences

of unchecked greenhouse gas emissions for decades, and with our environment on the precipice of disaster, today's ruling will have grave consequences for our planet," said Borough President RICHARDS. "From abortion rights to the proliferation of guns on our streets and now to combating climate change, this Supreme Court has consistently proved it has no regard for the health and wellness of our families. That's why Queens will continue working to end New York City's reliance on fossil fuels and push for innovative energy sources like solar and geothermal. If the federal government can't lead the way, we will."

## Attorney General James' Statement on New Efforts to Protect Abortion And Strengthen Gun Control

New York Attorney General Letitia James released the following statement on the new measures passed today to protect access to abortion and strengthen gun control in New York following last week's decisions from the U.S. Supreme Court:

"Today, our state government made important progress to protect New Yorkers' rights. In the aftermath of these harm-

ful decisions from the Supreme Court, New York acted swiftly and thoroughly to preserve the right to abortion and enact common-sense measures to protect our communities from gun violence. I want to thank the governor and our legislative leaders for the opportunity to work with them on these critical issues and for getting this done. Once again, New York is leading the way."

## QBP Richards on Passage of State Legislation Regarding Concealed Carry of Firearms

Queens Borough President Donovan Richards Jr. stated the following in response to the passage of state legislation limiting where firearms can legally be carried throughout New York, as well as strengthening training requirements and other criteria an individual must meet in order to receive a concealed carry license.

"The Supreme Court has abjectly failed New Yorkers, but I applaud Governor Hochul and the state Legislature for taking immediate action in passing and signing critical legislation to keep guns out of the hands of individuals who should not own them, ensure those who receive concealed carry licenses are properly trained in handling firearms and prevent

the proliferation of weapons in our schools, subways and other sensitive locations," said Borough President RICHARDS. "From Buffalo to here in Queens and beyond, far too many families have been torn apart by gun violence. I'm confident this comprehensive, yet common sense law will help prevent even more upended futures or funerals for our loved ones."



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*Queens Times Weekly ...*  
**HOROSCOPE**   
 For the Week of ... 7/7/22 - 7/13/22

*For Entertainment Purposes Only*

**ARIES**  
 (Mar. 21- April 20)  
 Don't agree to make any of those cosmetic alterations you've been considering. Don't push your luck with authority figures. Your lucky numbers are: 6,2,4

**TAURUS**  
 (Apr. 21- May 21)  
 You need to be active and spend time with friends you enjoy. Don't push your opinions or ideas on others. Your lucky numbers are: 8,5,1

**GEMINI**  
 (May 22-June 21)  
 You need to do something energetic and different. Try to do something outside if the elements permit. Your lucky numbers are: 9,3,2

**CANCER**  
 (June 22-July 22)  
 Things at work have been moving quickly and you may be feeling a little uncertain about the changes taking place. Your lucky numbers are: 5,7,6

**LEO**  
 (July 23-Aug 22)  
 Let others know what your intentions are and be honest in your approach. Look out for yourself this week. Your lucky numbers are: 9,2,5

**VIRGO**  
 (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23)  
 Your disciplined attention to your job will enhance your position. You need a day to rest and relax with the ones you love. Your lucky numbers are: 8,1,3

**LIBRA**  
 (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23)  
 You need to be careful not to make promises that you can't fulfill. Mishaps due to preoccupation will be upsetting. Your lucky numbers are: 6,3,7

**SCORPIO**  
 (Oct. 24 -Nov. 22)  
 Things at home may be somewhat rocky. Travel will entice you; however, a tendency to overspend is quite possible. Your lucky numbers are: 9,2,4

**SAGITTARIUS**  
 (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21)  
 You should be looking at ways to spoil yourself. Get back to the comforts of cottage or home. Not everyone will be pleased with your plans. Your lucky numbers are: 7,9,1

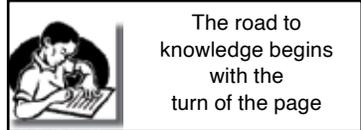
**CAPRICORN**  
 (Dec. 22 - Jan. 20)  
 Changes in your residence may be financially beneficial. You will be emotional about family matters. Your lucky numbers are: 6,3,5

**AQUARIUS**  
 (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19)  
 Take time to find out if anyone has a better suggestion before you make arrangements for the whole family. Your lucky numbers are: 3,2,6

**PISCES**  
 (Feb. 20-Mar. 20)  
 Travel and entertaining conversation will be informative and uplifting. You need a break from your daily routine. Your lucky numbers are: 9,8,7

**Did You Know?**

- Giant tortoises can live in captivity longer than any other animal
- Snakes can't bite in rivers or swamps (they would drown otherwise)
- A blue whale can go up to 6 months without eating
- Pelicans consume around a 1/3 of its body weight in a single meal
- Gorillas can't swim
- House cats have 18 claws
- Giraffes can't cough
- The Giant Pacific Octopus can squeeze its entire body through a hole the size of its beak
- Deers don't like hay
- Shrimps are all born male but slowly grow into females
- The average elephant produces 22kg (50 pounds) of dunn each day
- There are more than 50 different kinds of kangaroos
- The average lifespan of a squirrel is 9 years
- A platypus can eat its weight in worms every day
- Fleas can accelerate 50 times faster than a space shuttle
- Spiders have transparent blood
- Mosquitoes prefer children to adults and blondes to brunettes
- Only 4 out of 20,000 species of bees produce honey
- March 14 is 'save a spider day'



The road to knowledge begins with the turn of the page

[www.queenstimes.com](http://www.queenstimes.com)

**Answer to Last Weeks Puzzles**

**"Sudoku"**

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

**"Crossword Puzzle"**

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

**"Try And Find"**

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

**SUDOKU**

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

**CROSSWORD PUZZLE**

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

- ACROSS**
- Record company
  - Bounce back
  - Anagram of "Care"
  - Excuse
  - Fella
  - Murres
  - Approaches
  - Period of discounted prices
  - Wacky
  - Devastation
  - Small island
  - Distinctive flair
  - Ease up
  - Enclosed conduit
  - East southeast
  - Sweet potato
  - African sheep
  - Fair attraction
  - Absorbs written material
  - Wood eater
  - Nose hole
  - Consumer of food
  - Ego
  - Anagram of "Seen"
  - Fifty-two in Roman numerals
  - Ignited
  - Marsh plant
  - A behavioral syndrome
  - Affirm
  - Fiber source
  - Faded
  - Bicycle
  - Smile
  - Tally
  - Roof overhang
  - Not those
  - Anagram of "Sent"
  - Didn't dillydally
  - Affirmatives

- DOWN**
- Territory
  - Away from the wind
  - Partiality
  - River in Spain
  - Fine thread
  - Raptures
  - Fettered
  - Angelic headgear
  - Candidly
  - Hearing measurement device
  - Uncouth
  - A shoulder firearm
  - Consumed
  - Ready for anything
  - Paddles
  - Day, month and year
  - Component used as fertilizer
  - Abrupt
  - Being at the right time
  - Jazzed up
  - Rear end
  - Banquet
  - Sleigh
  - Colored part of the eye
  - Frequently
  - The absolute superlative
  - Pictures
  - Monastery head
  - Pee
  - Spoken for
  - Out of practice
  - Snare
  - Dull pain
  - Foot digits
  - Celtic language
  - D D D

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**TRY AND FIND**

**INSTEAD OF WATCHING**

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

**Bake**      **Fair**      **Outings**      **Shows**  
**Ballet**    **Fish**      **Parties**      **Sing**  
**Cards**     **Games**    **Picnic**      **Sports**  
**Checkers**   **Hobby**    **Plays**      **Study**  
**Cook**       **Knit**      **Puzzles**    **Talk**  
**Dance**      **Models**   **Radio**      **Theater**  
**Dominoes**   **Movies**   **Read**      **Visit**  
**Drama**      **Opera**     **Sew**        **Walk**



## Holy Cow! Councilman Holden Co-Names Street for Phil Rizzuto

Councilman Holden said, “Holy cow, what a great turnout! I was proud to get this street co-naming for the legendary Phil Rizzuto the “Phil ‘Scooter’ Rizzuto Corner”. Many thanks to everyone involved, including the Newtown Historical Society, Queensboro Chapter of Unico National, Liberty Park Homeowners Association, Rolo’s, the NYPD 104th Precinct and the New York Yankees.” In attendance were NYS Senator Joe Addabbo, Assemblymember Jenifer Rajkumar, Anthony Nunziato, former Yankees players and members of the Rizzuto family attended.



**Pictured at the corner of the street co-naming “Phil ‘Scooter’ Rizzuto Corner”, near the house Phil Rizzuto lived, are NYC Councilman Robert Holden, members of the Rizzuto family and NYS Senator Joe Addabbo. (Part of story from page 1.)**

## Domestic Violence Awareness



The Queens District Attorneys Office of Community Engagement team was on-site for the Queens Defender’s community Domestic Violence Awareness event, complete with free BBQ for Far Rockaway residents.

The QDA Katz says “If you or someone you know is a victim

of domestic violence, call our Helpline at 718.286.4410.” The line is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and you will have the options of connecting to an Assistant District Attorney or a service provider for assistance. You are not alone. We’re here to help.

## The Jazz Jam All-Stars Concert is in Flushing on July 16

For a little more than 10 years, music lovers have flocked to Flushing Town Hall on the first Wednesday of every month. They basically get together — and get down — with the house band led by saxophonist Carol Sudhalter.

Some are professionals or students (especially from Queens College’s Aaron Copeland School of Music) looking to hone their skills. Others play instruments just for fun. Still more have no talent. They just like the scene. (The on-site Steinway grand piano is a draw, too.)

These informal sessions provide the base for the Jazz Jam All-Stars Concert at FTH on Saturday, July 16, at 7:30 pm.

In contrast to the regular sessions, Sudhalter has invited 10 stellar musicians, including 15-year-old drummer Ezra Kessler who’s been part of the jams since he was 12. Attendees can expect to hear a lot of songs that Louis Armstrong made famous. (Ever since Sudhalter took over the monthly jams in 2016, the sessions have paid homage to the Jazz legend who lived in Queens.)

The concert will begin with



a Satchmo diddy played by the house band, which includes Joe Vincent Tranchina (piano), Scott Neumann (drums), and Eric Lemon (bass). Then, each All-Star will perform two songs with the band. The evening will close via a finale with everyone on stage to blast out another tune by—you guessed it—Armstrong.

General admission is \$25, but students with proper identification can attend for \$15. The concert, which is supported by

the Louis Armstrong Educational Foundation, will also be available for free via livestream on FTH’s YouTube and Facebook channels.

“The musicians joining us on July 16th are all incredibly talented, dedicated, and part of our wonderful community,” Sudhalter stated. “I am honored to share the stage with them.”

Located at 137-35 Northern Blvd., FTH is a few blocks from the 7 train’s Main Street station. There’s on-street parking.

## Governor Signs Into Law Assemblywoman Jenifer Rajkumar’s Bill to Support Crime Victims In Their Time of Need

### The New Law Aids Victims Of Crimes Of Gross Reckless Endangerment

Governor Kathy Hochul signed into law A7502, a bill Assemblywoman Jenifer Rajkumar (D-AD 38) passed with bipartisan support that aids victims of the crimes of gross reckless endangerment. Under this new law, victims of these crimes will be eligible for the costs of mental health counseling, lost wages, healthcare and other crime-related expenses.

Currently, the state Office of Victim Services focuses on reimbursing victims of crimes that physically harm the victim. Non-physical crimes are not covered. Rajkumar’s bill changes that so that crime victims who suffer trauma from the non-physical crime of gross reckless endangerment are also covered. Specifically, the bill will expand eligibility to those without physical injuries who are the victims of reckless endangerment in the first or second degree. For example, crime victims such as those who



narrowly avoided being struck by a bullet or speeding car – who are not injured but nonetheless suffered from a traumatic incident – will be eligible for benefits. The bill also adds the costs of cleaning and securing a crime scene as reimbursable expenses.

With the expansion of eligibility to non-physical crimes, New York state sets a national trend, with its victim compensation program becoming similar to those of Pennsylvania, Connecticut, New Jersey, and Vermont, among other states.

Governor Kathy Hochul stated, upon signing the bill: “In New York we believe strongly in protecting and uplifting all victims. This legislative package allows victims that have not been physically injured to still obtain compensation for other impacts of various crimes - taking an important step to help victims seek the justice they deserve.”

Assemblywoman Rajkumar stated: “New York State will now empower crime victims, giving

(Continued on page 11)

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## City Hosted First in Person Roundtable on Resources Available For Immigrant Survivors of Domestic And Gender-Based Violence

The Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs (MOIA) Commissioner Manuel Castro and the Mayor's Office to End Gender-Based Violence (ENDGBV) Commissioner Cecile Noel hosted the City's first in-person Community and Ethnic Media Roundtable, since the COVID-19 pandemic to discuss the resources available for immigrant survivors of domestic and gender-based violence. The roundtable was hosted at the Queens Family Justice Centers. Both Commissioners answered questions from the press in attendance and addressed concerns of the additional resources that the community needs. The roundtable was followed by a brief tour of the Queens Family Justice Center. See pictures below.

The safety and wellbeing of immigrant communities, including



those who have experienced sexual violence, remains our top priority. If you, or someone you know, is seeking support regarding sexual violence, free and confidential help

is always available. Find resources and support in NYC by searching the NYCHope Resource Directory, or call 311 to be connected to the nearest NYC Family Justice Center.

## Council Member Krishnan, NYC Parks Launch Dog Run in Jackson Heights

On June 30, City Council Member Shekar Krishnan and Michael Dockett, Queens Borough Commissioner at NYC Parks unveiled a brand new dog run at Travers Park in Jackson Heights, in response to a surge in dog ownership over the last several years. Under the guidance of NYC Parks, local volunteers will operate and maintain the dog run, which is the first in the neighborhood to be open to all members of the public at no cost, and includes a storage locker, "mutt mitt" bag dispenser, and water supply. The dog run will operate as a pilot program for one year, and if successful, will be made permanent.

"Every member of our community deserves access to a restorative public space, and that includes our dog owners. For so many of them, their dogs are more than just pets, but are family members and companions. And for too long, they have been without a place of their own. That changes today, as we launch this



new dog run in Travers Park, in the heart of Jackson Heights," said Council Member Shekar Krishnan, Chair of the Committee on Parks and Recreation.

"We want everyone to be able to enjoy our wonderful greenspaces -- those on two legs and four legs alike," said Queens Parks Commissioner Michael Dockett. "We thank Parks Chair Krishnan for his advocacy for this run, and we're proud to launch this pilot here in Travers Park to explore expanding recreational access for the

Jackson Heights dog-owning community."

"The dog owners of Jackson Heights are thrilled that the Travers Dog Run will open on June 30th, and we are grateful to Councilmember Krishnan and NYC Parks Commissioner Dockett for listening to our collective voices and creating a safe and fun space for our beloved family pets to run and play," said Layna Patel, Communications Lead for Canine Social Club of Jackson Heights

## NYC Health + Hospitals/Queens Introduces "Faith At Work" Initiative to Meet The Challenge of Food Insecurity

Members of the church Bethlehem Assembly of God visited NYC Health + Hospitals/Queens to hand out 160 bags of groceries to eighty patients affected by food insecurity and to provide the hospital with an award for providing screening services at a recent health fair sponsored by the church. The food distribution activity was part of the hospital's "Faith at Work" initiative, a brand new endeavor that makes it possible for hospital employees who are members of local churches and religious organizations to partner with the hospital to distribute health information to the members of their respective organizations. The objective of the initiative is to improve their health literacy. NYC Health + Hospitals/Queens is working to engage congregational leaders throughout the borough of Queens to provide them with the



information they need to improve the health outcomes of their members. Organizations interested in

participating in the Faith at Work program can call 646.772.5724 for additional information.

## Council Member Linda Lee Holds Oversight Hearing to Track The Opioid Settlement Fund and its Related Programs



On Thursday June 30, 2022 the New York City Council Member Linda Lee Chaired an oversight hearing of the New York City Council Committee on Mental Health, Disabilities, and Addictions regarding the initial \$286 million that Attorney General Letitia James has secured for New York City through historic settlements with manufacturers and distributors of opioids. At the hearing the committee also discussed Lee's bill (Int. 0404) to track the use of funds and their impact on New Yorkers. The committee heard testimony from Dr. Ashwin Vasani, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Council Members, community advocates, and families of opioid victims.

"Every four hours, someone dies of a drug overdose in New York City. 85 percent of these deaths involve an opioid, including prescribed opioid pills, heroin, or synthetic opioids," said Council Member Linda Lee, Chair of the Committee on Mental Health, Disabilities, and Addictions. "In New York City and nationally, opioid overdose is the leading cause of accidental death, surpassing motor vehicle deaths, homicides, and suicides combined. Though today's hearing focuses on the imminent crisis that is opioid addiction in New York City, I sit here today cautiously optimistic. For the first time in decades, New York City has an opportunity to address a massive public health crisis with a tremendous amount of resources, with the utmost transparency for our communities, and to maximize coordination between the City and the State, between various City agencies, and between the City and community-based providers. I am hopeful that we can accomplish these things. And I am incredibly appreciative to the Commissioner, Dr. Ashwin Vasani, for being with us today, to demonstrate the Department's commitment to these values of coordination, transparency, and communication. I am confident that the Council and the Administration can be true partners in fighting this fight, and I look forward to working together on this."

"2020 was the deadliest year for overdose deaths in New York City since reporting began in 2007," said Dr. Ashwin Vasani, Commissioner of the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. "Every 3 hours now according to most recent data someone dies of an overdose in New York City. If not for the Covid-19 pandemic

the ongoing overdose crisis would be recognized as the five-alarm public health emergency that it is. It's my duty to drive an equitable distribution of opioid settlement funding in New York State to directly support the jurisdictions and communities most impacted by the overdose epidemic. Thank you Chair Lee and the entire Council for your continued partnership and commitment to the health and wellbeing of New Yorkers. I share your optimism that this is what good governance looks like."

Nearly \$89 million are due to be distributed to New York City this year out of the approximately \$1.5 billion that Attorney General James has secured for the state from the historic settlements with manufacturers and distributors of opioids. These funds will fund opioid prevention and treatment programs in all five boroughs. New York City is due to receive \$88,943,457 in 2022, and up to \$286,137,783 over the course of the payout of the different settlements.

On Wednesday Mayor Adams outlined his Administration's plans for the initial sum of \$150 million secured from the opioid settlement fund. These funds will go towards strengthening existing services, boosting workforce capacity, and supporting families who have lost loved ones. This planned \$150 million investment will build on New York City's \$60 million annual allocation for HealingNYC, the City's existing plan to address the opioid overdose epidemic, as well as other baselined investments to support overdose prevention, harm reduction, and treatment initiatives.

Council Member Linda Lee represents the 23rd Council District in Eastern Queens and serves as Chair of the New York City Council's Committee on Mental Health, Addictions, and Disabilities, the co-Chair of the Queens Delegation, and the Vice Chair of the Black, Latino, and Asian Caucus. She was elected to the Council in November 2021, becoming the first Korean-American ever elected to the City Council, and the first woman and person of color to hold the seat.

Prior to taking office, Linda was the President/CEO of Korean Community Services (KCS) of Metropolitan New York, Inc., New York's first community-based social service organization focused on the Korean community. KCS' mission is to be a bridge for Korean immigrants and the wider

(Continued on page 9)

# IT'S IN QUEENS

(July 1 to July 7)

The Great Outdoors and the Great Indoors join hands this week in Queens. En plen aire fun includes films, puppets, hawks, concerts, and comic books. Climate-controlled activities include theater, literature, and Tango.

- July 8, Looking Back Through Stained Glass, July 9. This play is set in a post-apocalyptic Long Island City overrun by religious zealots. Nancy Nogood and Rose Ritz have a weekly drag show that mega church leader Tina Featherbottom is threatening to shut down. One night, a cockroach bite infuses Nancy's performance with new manic energy. Soon, no one can stop her. Performances at 8 pm both nights. Astoria Performing Arts Center, 44-02 23rd Street, Long Island City.

- July 8, Spider-Man: No Way Home, dusk. A free outdoor screening of a film during which Peter Parker's identity as Spider-Man is revealed. In a way, he likes it, but problems follow. Playground Ninety, vicinity of 90th Street and Northern Boulevard, Jackson Heights.

- July 9, Kiss Me Kate, July 24. Maggie's Little Theatre presents this 1948 Cole Porter musical that is basically an adaptation of the Shakespeare romantic comedy "The Taming of the Shrew." Performances are July 9, 16, and 23 at 8 pm; July 15 at 8 pm; and July 10, 17, and 24 at 2:30 pm. St. Margaret Parish Hall, 66-05 79th Pl., Middle Village.

- July 9, WINC x King Manor Comic Book Festival, noon. The Women in Comics Collective hosts a comic book festival with a light saber demonstration, workshops, music, vendors, and a live model drawing session. King Manor Museum, 150-03 Jamaica Ave.

- July 9, New Agora, morning to sunset. The Jazz Foundation of America presents a day of music, improvisation and experimentation. Take in the debut of "Trumpet Echoes," an adaptive and ambient soundworld by musician Greg Hammontree, and experience the music experiment "soundfulness" by pianist Nicole Brancato and Douglas Paulson. Socrates Sculpture Park, 32-01 Vernon Blvd., Long Island City.

- July 9, Gustavo Casenave Trio, 7 pm. Two-time Grammy winner Gustavo Casenave presents an evening of Jazz infused with Classical, Tango, and other Latin American elements with master bassist Ricky Rodriguez and Argentine drummer guru Franco Pinna. Flushing Town Hall, 137-35 Northern Blvd.

- July 9, Flushing Bay Clean-Up, 9 am. Volunteer to remove litter, reeds, and the remnants of a failed planting project that's been wreaking havoc among horseshoe crabs on the shore along Flushing Bay Promenade. Representatives from the Billion Oyster Project will be there to teach about oysters and other sea creatures that live in the body of water abutting LaGuardia Airport.

- July 9, Hawk Watch, 9 am. Walk with Urban Rangers and learn about hawks. Meet at the Unisphere, Flushing Meadows Corona Park.

- July 9, A Bug's Life, 7:30 pm. Watch this Pixar/Walt Disney production about an ant that deals with hilarity and incompetence while trying to save his colony from greedy grasshoppers. The event is paired with a children's craft activity. Queens Botanical Garden, 43-50 Main St., Flushing.

- July 9, Queens Book Fair, 11 am. The nonprofit Beyond The Abuse presents this fourth annual event with in-person authors, poets, and artists along with plenty of literature. The Harvest Room, 90-40 160th St., Jamaica.

- July 9, Encanto, 8:30 pm. The Madrigals are an extraordinary Colombian family living in a charmed place called "Encanto." Every child has a unique gift, except Mirabel. However, she soon may be the family's last hope when the magic surrounding Encanto is in danger. Athens Square, vicinity of 30th Avenue and 30th Street, Astoria.

- July 10, World's Fair History Walk, 11am. Docent Linda Fisher leads a free stroll through Flushing Meadows Corona Park while discussing the public space's history. Meet

(Continued on page 9)

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## WARNING FOR SENIORS DON'T BE A VICTIM

**TYPES OF SCAMS TARGETING OLDER ADULTS**

- Grandparent Jail/Bail Scam
- Lottery winner
- Government or Utility Impostor
- Family/Caregiver Scam
- Romance Scam
- Homeowner Scam

**HOW SCAMS TAKE PLACE**

- Telephone - most common way to connect without ever meeting the person
- Internet/Emails - opening an email, clicking on a link gives the scammer access to your computer
- In person - burglary, home improvement contractor, real property expert
- Regular Mail - fake lottery letter, foreclosure/mortgage assistance

**SIGNS OF A SCAM**

- Unknown person is asking for cash
- Payments must be in cash, gift card or wiring to a stranger
- Sense of urgency and secrecy
- Request for Personal Information

**HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF FROM A SCAM**

- Be aware of signs of a scam
- Avoid unsolicited offers for help
- Ask yourself, "Does this sound too good to be true?"
- NEVER act immediately, always confer with a trusted person

**AGENCIES TO CONTACT IF YOU ARE A VICTIM**

- Local police precinct
- Queens District Attorney's Office Elder Fraud Unit (718) 286-6578 or ElderFraud@queensda.org
- FBI Internet Crime Complaint Center WWW.IC3.GOV
- FTC - ReportFraud.FTC.GOV or 1-888-382-1222

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## MTA to Connect With Riders on The Queens Bus Network Redesign New Draft Plan Via MetroCard Mobile Sales Vehicles

**Pop-Up Sites Provide In-Person Opportunity to Collect Feedback from Community**

**Mobile Vans Scheduled Across Fifteen Locations**

**Five Additional Outdoor Outreach Events to Be Announced Soon**

The Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) recently announced a partnership with MetroCard mobile sales vehicles throughout Queens to expand ongoing outreach efforts to gather feedback from customers on the Queens Bus Network Redesign New Draft Plan. The mobile vans will be located across different neighborhoods with members of the team on-site to speak with bus customers about the plan and the route proposals in their neighborhood.

The first mobile site was held today in the Rockaways at 114-12 Beach Channel Drive from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The mobile vans present an opportunity for the Queens Bus Network Redesign project team to expand an existing service that connects with local communities on MetroCard related questions, to collect feedback on the Queens Bus Network Redesign New Draft Plan.

"It is important that we reach as many Queens riders as possible for input on how to improve bus service in the borough," said MTA Bus Company Acting President and New York City Transit Department of Buses Senior Vice President Frank Annicaro. "The redesign aims to speed up service and streamline routes, and the community's feedback is critical to making this redesign successful. The mobile vans help us expand our in-person outreach and gather additional feedback on the New Draft Plan."

Information about the five additional outdoor outreach events the MTA will be hosting in Queens this summer will be available on the main project page.

Below are the dates, times, and locations of future mobile van sites. Customers are advised to check the MetroCard Mobile Sales Vehicles homepage for the most updated information, in the event of any schedule changes.

- The first one took place at Forest Hills at 71 Ave.-Continental Ave & Queens Blvd., Friday, July 1, 2022 from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
- Sunnyside at 41-02 Queens Blvd., Tuesday, July 12, 2022 from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
- Glen Oaks Shopping Center at Union Turnpike & 260 Street, Wednesday, July 13, 2022 from 1 p.m. – 3 p.m.
- Flushing at Main Street & Roosevelt Ave, Friday, July 15, 2022 from 10 a.m. – 3p.m.
- Astoria at 31 St. between Ditmars Blvd. & 23 Ave., Monday, July 25, 2022 from 10 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
- Bay Terrace Shopping Center at Bell Blvd. & 24 Ave. Monday, July 25, 2022 from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
- Maspeth at Grand Ave. & 69 Street, Tuesday, July 26, 2022 from 1 p.m. – 3 p.m.
- Windsor Park at 73 Ave. & Bell Blvd. Wednesday, July 27, 2022 from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
- Allen Community Center at 166-01 Linden Blvd. Friday, July 29, 2022, from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
- Rego Park at Queens Blvd. & 63 Road (at the mall near Marshalls) Friday, August 5, 2022 from, 1 p.m. – 3 p.m.
- Fresh Meadows Shopping Center at Horace Harding Expressway & 188 Street. Monday, August 8, 2022 from, 1p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
- Jackson Heights at 41-40 Junction Blvd. Monday, August 29, 2022 from, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
- College Point at Angelo Petromelis Senior Center at 13-28 123 Street. Tuesday, August 30, 2022 from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
- JASA Brookdale at 131 Beach 19th Street. Wednesday, August 31, 2022 from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

The MTA recently concluded a series of 14 virtual workshops for the New Draft Plan, in which

customers were able to learn about the plan, ask questions, and provide comment via Zoom. The workshops were held in English, with additional languages offered including Bengali, Simplified Chinese, Korean, and Spanish, each night. Additional language interpreters, captioning and ASL were available at the virtual workshops upon advance request. The first part of the New Draft Plan is published in all five languages and can be found online, along with a slideshow presenting key points of the plan, also in all five languages.

Additionally, route profiles for the New Draft Plan are available online. These profiles pages provide a detailed description of the proposed route changes, including proposed subway and bus connections, a stop list showing which stops the route would serve and which are proposed to be removed, and a map of the proposed route showing exactly where proposed service is added or discontinued, along with callout boxes explaining which routes would replace discontinued segments.

Online resources and informational material about the Queens Bus Network Redesign is available on the project's main website, including links to the New Draft Plan, an interactive map that allows users to post comments directly on proposed bus routes and stops, and a link to the comment portal to submit feedback.

About MetroCard Mobile Sales Vehicles - MetroCard mobile sales vehicles offer customers a convenient option to ask an MTA team member about any MetroCard-related issue for those who may have difficulty making it to a customer service center or managing services online. Mobile sales vehicles offer assistance on matters such as Reduced-Fare applications, transferring MetroCard balances (Full Fare and Reduced-Fare), and reporting a lost or stolen Reduced-Fare MetroCard. For more details on location, schedules and services offered, see here.



(Continued from page 8)

- at the green tent at the Unisphere.
- July 10, Sonica, 6 pm. This vocal trio performs Jazz as part of an ongoing weekly music series. Travers Park, 35th Avenue and 78th Street, Jackson Heights.
- July 10, Fused Glass Workshop, 2 pm. Legendary local artist and jewelry designer Naomi Rabinowitz teaches how to make fused glass jewelry. Alley Pond Environmental Center, 224-65 76th Ave., Oakland Gardens.
- July 10, Long Island Motor Parkway, 10 am. Urban Park Rangers guide participants on a stroll through history via the Long Island Motor Parkway, a beautiful roadway built by a Vanderbilt family scion. Meet at Alley Pond Park Parking Lot, Winchester Boulevard and Union Turnpike, Queens Village.
- July 10, Encanto, 8:30 pm. The Madrigals are an extraordinary Colombian family living in a charmed place called "Encanto." Every child has a unique gift, except Mirabel. However, she soon may be the family's last hope when the magic surrounding Encanto is in danger. Yellowstone Park, vicinity of Yellowstone Boulevard and 68th Avenue, Forest Hills.
- July 11, Puppet Time Variety

Show, 11 am + 1 pm. This family-friendly variety show features songs from past Swedish Cottage Marionette Theatre performances, including "Pippi," "Peter Pan," and "The Duck." Elmhurst Park, vicinity of Grand Avenue and 74th Street.

- July 12, Brass Queens, 7 pm. This eight-piece, all-female brass band kicks off the Kupferberg Center for the Arts Live at the Gantries series. Weekly concerts follow until Aug. 9. Gantry Plaza State Park, 4-09 47th Rd., Long Island City.

- July 12, The Loneliest Whale, 8:30 pm. Watch this documentary about the quest to locate the iconic 52 Hertz Whale. Due to its unique and singular sonic signature (a frequency that other whales cannot hear), scientists and the general public believe it has spent its entire life in solitude. Beach 30th Street Playground, Far Rockaway.

- July 14, A Farmer's Dinner, 5 pm. A 325th anniversary celebration featuring a Farm-to-Table dinner with menu items grown at Queens County Farm Museum. Live music, guided tours, and special activities showcase the venue's history and its place in New York City today. Queens County Farm Museum, 73-50 Little Neck Parkway, Glen Oaks.

## Council Member Linda Lee Holds Oversight Hearing to Track ...

(Continued from page 7)

Asian community to fully integrate into society and overcome any economic, health and social barriers to becoming independent and thriving members of the community. KCS serves over 1,300 members daily through culturally competent programs in the areas of Aging, Education, Immigration, Workforce Development, Public Health, and Mental Health. KCS has been on the frontlines of

the COVID-19 pandemic helping members receive unemployment benefits, PPP loans, COVID tests, and vaccinations. Under Linda's leadership, the Obama White House named KCS as a Champion of Change in 2014 for its work around the Affordable Care Act. Linda also spearheaded the creation of the only State-licensed Article 31 Mental Health Clinic serving the Korean-American community operating in New York.

## NYC Police Commissioner Sewell Safety Announcement Now Playing Throughout Subway System

The Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) has announced that for the first time, a New York City Police Commissioner has recorded an announcement to play in the subway system. As part of the collaborative effort between the MTA and NYPD to enhance subway safety, Commissioner Keechant Sewell's public safety announcement will play throughout the subway system

during the month of July. The message follows Mayor Eric Adams' and Police Commissioner Sewell's renewed commitment to assign more officers to patrol the system, both on subway trains and platforms, as the City moves to the next phase of Mayor Adams' Subway Safety Plan. Transcript of Commissioner's announcement:

*Hello New York, this is Police*

*Commissioner Sewell from the NYPD, reminding everyone if you see something, say something. We have increased officers on trains and platforms, so you can ride safely, knowing we are here to help.*

The announcements will play every 15 minutes around-the-clock at indoor stations, and from 8:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. at outdoor stations. They can be heard through July 30.

## New York City Council Women's Caucus Unveils Legislative Package on Abortion and Reproductive Health Care, Announces Support for State Constitutional Amendment

(Continued from page 3)

the first ever abortion fund that is paid with municipal dollars and pushing our state constitution to expand its protective language to include ethnicity, national origin, disability or sex including pregnancy and pregnancy outcomes, sexual orientation, gender identity,

and gender expression, and would protect an array of civil rights, including abortion."

The proposed legislative package is as follows:

- Introduction 458 (Sponsored by Speaker Adrienne Adams): Requiring the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH) to maintain language access services

for abortion providers.

- Introduction 465 (Sponsored by Council Member Tiffany Cabán): Requiring DOHMH to report on the provision of medical services related to reproductive health care.
- Introduction 466 (Sponsored by Council Member Tiffany Cabán,

(Continued on page 10)

## Stavisky, Rozic Announce Law to ...

(Continued from page 2)

this overpass as a small gesture of gratitude for his sacrifice."

Assemblywoman Rozic said: "This new law and signage will help memorialize Detective Tsakos and his heroism by renaming the Francis Lewis Boulevard LIE overpass in his honor. I thank Governor Kathy Hochul for signing this legislation expeditiously and getting this done."

On April 21, 2021 while responding to a collision that occurred on the LIE to assist with directing traffic, Detective Tsakos was struck and killed by an intoxicated driver. The driver fled the scene but was later apprehended and later charged by a Queens grand jury with a 13-count indictment including aggravated manslaughter and vehicular manslaughter.

Detective Tsakos had served 13 years with the NYPD as a highway

officer assigned to Highway Unit 3. He was posthumously promoted to the rank of detective. From East Northport, he is survived by his wife, Irene, and their two children.

To honor his memory, the lawmakers introduced legislation in their respective houses to rename the LIE overpass located at Francis Lewis Boulevard and Horace Harding Expressway as "Detective Anastasios Tsakos Memorial Bridge." Over the past few months, several gatherings have occurred to honor the late Detective Tsakos including a plaque and motorcycle sidecar dedication and renaming of the wellness center and gym at Highway Unit 3.

NYPD Chief of Transportation Kim Royster said: "The heartbreaking loss of Detective Anastasios Tsakos has left a void in our hearts that neither words nor time can ever fill. However, we

(Continued on page 11)

## 2022 Summer Reading Program Provides Children & Families “Oceans Of Possibilities” For Summer Fun And Learning

**State Education Department and State Library Encourage Summer Reading to Reinforce Continuity of Learning and Help Reduce Summer Slide**

The New York State Education Department and New York State Library are again partnering with 1,100 public libraries and neighborhood branches statewide to launch the 2022 Summer Reading at New York Libraries program, Commissioner Betty A. Rosa announced today. This year’s slogan, “Oceans of Possibilities,” is meant to connect students of all ages to the theme of oceanography and water resources. New York’s public libraries will host exciting activities, events, and fun and enriching programs like reading challenges throughout the summer.

Chancellor Lester W. Young, Jr. said, “Improving access to reading and exposure to educational opportunities in the summer is vital to keeping students engaged in learning and helps them develop reading proficiency. These safe, creative, and stimulating summer programs can open the door for families to discover how much local libraries have to offer.”

Commissioner Rosa said, “Our libraries offer free, fun, and enriching reading programs to ensure that the joy of learning does not end with the school year. Children who participate can enhance their reading skills, prevent summer learning loss, and go back to school better prepared for a successful year. I encourage all families to check out what their local libraries are doing this summer and dive into summer reading.” Research shows summer reading habits can combat summer learning loss and provide a foundation for academic success. Studies found that, on average, students lose two months of grade-level mathematical computation skills over the summer, and low-income students can lose up to two months of reading achievement.

In addition to program support and resources, the State Library provides a fun online app called READSqured. Using the app, students and families can track their favorite books and activities during the summer and all year. Additionally, kids, teens,

and families can visit local public libraries and websites to explore and sign up for summer reading events and programs, register to track recreational reading of books and e-books and, earn prizes and badges. Many libraries also bring summer reading and learning activities to summer school and community sites to reach even more students and families.

This year, the Summer Reading program received \$150,000 in funding from the current state budget from the Love Your Library Special Revenue Fund. The money will be allocated by formula to New York State’s 23 public library systems to strengthen and support Summer Reading activities. The Love Your Library program webpage has information about a license plate and tax check-off.

Senate Education Committee Chair Shelley B. Mayer said, “I am proud to support NYSED and NYSL’s annual summer reading program. Continuing to read during the summer months is an excellent way for our students to stretch their imaginations while practicing and reinforcing the skills they learned during the school year. I encourage children and families across the state to take advantage of the wonderful programs their local libraries have to offer and to explore the ‘Ocean of Possibilities’ available to them.”

Senator John Liu, Chair of the Senate New York City Education Committee, said, “New York’s vast network of community libraries offer endless opportunities to discover and enjoy new books and activities outside of the regular school-year curriculum. Through Oceans of Possibilities, students will have access to fun programs and events that will stimulate the imagination and prevent learning loss during the lazy days of summer.”

Senator Sean Ryan, Chair of the Senate Libraries Committee, said, “Each year, the Summer Reading Program draws students to our great public libraries and keeps them engaged during summer break. Learning loss during the summer is a real problem for students and educators. That’s why we worked to release \$150,000 of funding from the Love Your Library Fund to support this year’s Summer Reading Program

— encouraging summer reading is a proven way to ensure our children are well prepared for the upcoming school year and improve educational outcomes.”

Assemblywoman Kimberly Jean-Pierre, Chair of the Assembly Committee on Libraries and Education Technology, said, “I’m thrilled that NYSL and NYSED’s summer reading program is back and better than ever. It’s wonderful that students have the opportunity to thrive inside and outside of the home following several years of restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and this is really why summer reading is so critical. Reading is a simple, effective way to help children’s and students’ minds stay active and critical, especially when they’re so keen on making up for lost time! It’s more important, now more than ever, to ensure that we foster a love of reading and learning and that they are prepared for the upcoming school year and beyond. This program has helped to foster a lifelong love of reading amongst our kids and encourages them to explore community resources like our local libraries and the programs and services they offer.”

In addition to partnering with local libraries and the State’s 23 public library systems to offer Summer Reading at New York Libraries, the State Education Department and the State Library partner with the School Library Systems Association of New York State, New York State Senate, and Assembly, Hunger Solutions New York, the New York State Reading Association, the New York Library Association, 4-H, the New York State Museum, and New York Council for the Humanities to bring summer reading to communities throughout the state. Students who are unable to use standard print materials due to a visual, physical, or reading disability obtain summer reading material through the New York State Talking Book & Braille Library or the Andrew Heiskell Braille and Talking Book Library.

The New York State Library is a program of the State Education Department’s Office of Cultural Education. Further information may be obtained by visiting the Library’s website. [www.nysl.nysed.gov/](http://www.nysl.nysed.gov/)

## Attorney General James Calls on Google to Address Dangerous Amplification of Fake Pregnancy Centers

New York Attorney General Letitia James has called on Google to correct search results that direct individuals seeking abortions to dangerous and misleading anti-abortion clinics in New York. In a letter to Google, Attorney General James expressed grave concerns regarding the failure of Google Maps to distinguish between facilities that offer abortion services and those that do not, which could lead individuals seeking abortions to visit crisis pregnancy centers (CPCs) for care. The CPCs’ websites often misrepresent that they provide reproductive health care services — including abortion — but in reality, they do not provide abortion or any health care services, and frequently do not have any licensed medical providers on staff. Because of their misleading sites, CPCs are often included in Google Maps search results for “abortion” when in fact they exist solely to discourage pregnant individuals from having an abortion. Attorney General James’ urged Google to take immediate action to ensure that results for abortion providers in New York are accurate.

“Given the Supreme Court’s decision overturning *Roe v. Wade*, it is more important than ever that New York stands strong in providing safe access to abortion,” said Attorney General James. “New Yorkers, and others traveling to the state, should trust that Google Maps will provide accurate information and direct them to real and safe care. My office will do whatever is necessary to work with Google to make these changes and ensure that people can locate the reproductive health care facilities that they need.”

Due to the U.S. Supreme Court decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization* laws banning abortions in states across the nation, pregnant individuals seeking abortions will be forced to travel to states where abortion remains legal, including New York. Individuals often rely on search engines like Google to find abortion providers and facilities but currently, Google Map search results don’t distinguish between clinics that offer abortion services and anti-abortion entities like CPCs. By relying on Google’s search results in these cases, individuals are unknowingly directed towards dangerous situations and harmful experiences.

Google is aware of these issues and has previously promised to address them. In 2018, Google agreed to investigate reports of CPCs included in abortion searches on Google Maps. In 2019, the company stated that human analysts were working on deciphering which facilities offer abortion and those that work to interfere with a pregnant persons’ decision. However, the issue is continuing to interfere with access to accurate abortion information in New York. For example, the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) recently tested Google Maps in Binghamton, New York and found that a search for local abortion clinics generated a list which included several CPCs located in the area.

Attorney General James warned

Google to immediately address the misinformation and work to provide accurate direction to abortion clinics. The OAG is requesting that Google implement measures so that abortion-related search results show local facilities that are confirmed to provide abortion services.

If New Yorkers have questions, concerns, or incidents to report on this matter they should contact OAG’s Health Care Bureau online or call 1-800-428-9071.

“All people deserve access to safe, legal abortion — regardless of where they live,” said Georgana Hanson, interim president and CEO, Planned Parenthood Empire State Acts. “Now that the Supreme Court has overturned *Roe*, it’s critical that people seeking abortion aren’t subject to misinformation and can find the closest trusted provider for care as soon as possible. Crisis Pregnancy Centers (CPCs) don’t provide abortion or offer a full range of health care, and they won’t give you honest facts about sexual health and your pregnancy options. When companies like Google don’t distinguish between CPCs and medically-licensed facilities, that harm is directly felt by patients. We are grateful that the attorney general is working to ensure that online information is accurate.”

“With the constitutional right to abortion overturned by the Supreme Court and state lawmakers in a growing number of states racing to put bans in place, being able to access timely and accurate information about abortion care has never been more important,” said Mini Timmaraju, president, NARAL Pro-Choice America. “Google is the first place many people will turn to find out what care they have available to them, and the company must do everything in its power to ensure it is providing accurate information. We thank New York Attorney General James for leading this effort to ensure everybody looking to access care in the Empire State can find that information without being misled by dangerous fake health centers.”

This action is the most recent that Attorney General James has taken to support and expand access to abortion care. This week, Attorney General James’ Pro Bono Task Force on Reproductive Health launched a legal hotline that will provide legal guidance and resources to patients, healthcare providers, and supporters seeking information about their legal rights to access and provide abortions. Also this week, Attorney General James joined national coalition of 22 attorneys general in reaffirming their commitment to fighting for the rights of pregnant people nationwide.

This matter was handled by Health Care Bureau Chief Darsana Srinivasan and Assistant Attorney General Jennifer Simcovitch. The Health Care 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.

## New York City Council Women’s Caucus Unveils Legislative Package on Abortion and Reproductive Health Care, Announces Support for State Constitutional Amendment

(Continued from page 9)

Public Advocate Jumaane Williams and Council Member Shahana Hanif): Prohibiting the use of City resources to enforce abortion restrictions.

- Introduction 474 (Sponsored by Council Member Shahana Hanif): Requiring the Commission on Human Rights (CCHR) to conduct a public information and outreach campaign about the Access to Reproductive Health Care Facilities Law (LL 24 of 2009) as well as the protections available in the Human Rights Law (HRL) and right to bring a civil action under the HRL.

- Introduction 475 (Sponsored by Council Member Shahana Hanif, Council Member Tiffany Cabán, Public Advocate Jumaane Williams, Council Member Farah Louis, Council Member Carlina Rivera, Council Member Crystal Hudson and Council Member Amanda Farías): Creating a private right of action related to interference with medical care.
- Introduction 506 (Sponsored by Council Member Carlina Rivera, at request of Bronx Borough President Vanessa Gibson): Requiring the Department of Consumer and Worker Protection (DCWP) to report information on pregnancy services centers in the city and

implement an information campaign on such centers

- Introduction 507 (Sponsored by Council Member Carlina Rivera, Council Member Jennifer Gutiérrez and Council Member Rita Joseph): Requiring DOHMH to make mifepristone and misoprostol available free of charge at its health centers, health stations, health clinics and other health facilities.

- Resolution 195 (Sponsored by Council Member Gale Brewer and Council Member Julie Menin): Calling upon the New York State Legislature to pass, and the Gov-

(Continued on page 11)

**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 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

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

TEYANG LLC, Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 06/28/2022. Office loc: Queens County. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Lobsang Yeshe, 45-45 48th St, Apt 2G, Woodside, NY 11377. Purpose: Any Lawful Purpose. 6/30,7/7,14,21,28&8/4/2022

**LEGAL NOTICES**

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

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

**LEGAL NOTICES**

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 Queens Village Dry Cleaners LLC. Art of Org filed with the Sec State NY on 5/10/2022. Located in Queens. SSNY has been designated for services of process. For any lawful purpose mail copy of process to LLC: 3612 34th Ave, Astoria, NY 11106. 6/30,7/7,14,21,28&8/4/2022

29-13 21st Avenue LLC filed w/ SSNY on 6/9/22. Office: Queens Co. SSNY designated as agent for process & shall mail to: 29-13 21st Ave., Astoria, NY 11105. Purpose: any lawful. 6/30,7/7,14,21,28&8/4/2022

5761 HOLDING LLC Articles of Org. filed NY Sec. of State (SSNY) 5/26/22. Office in Queens Co. SSNY design. Agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to The LLC 25410 Northern Blvd Little Neck NY 11362. Purpose: Any lawful activity. 6/30,7/7,14,21,28&8/4/2022

127 HALE AVE LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 05/26/22. Office: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, c/o Hunzah Ahmad, 1437 30th Road, Astoria, NY 11102, which also serves as the registered agent address. Purpose: Any lawful purpose. 6/30,7/7,14,21,28&8/4/2022

Notice is hereby given that a license, serial number 1345752 for beer, wine and cider has been applied for by the undersigned\* to sell beer, wine and cider at retail in a restaurant under the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law at 141-41 Northern Blvd., Flushing, NY 11354, County of Queens, for on premises consumption. \*CHEN XI RESTAURANT NY INC D/B/A LINGLONGXUAN RESTAURANT 6/30 & 7/7/2022

**LEGAL NOTICES**

Notice of Formation of ROQUE MFG LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 06/28/2022. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 117-15 142nd Place, Jamaica, NY 11436. Purpose: any lawful activities. 7/7,14,21,28,8/4&11/2022

47-24 41st Street, LLC (the "LLC") filed Articles of Organization with the New York Department of State on 6/16/2021. Office location: Queens County. Tatiana Morales is designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served and is directed to forward service of process to 47-20 41st Street, # 1R, Sunnyside, NY, 11104. Purpose: any lawful activity. 7/7,14,21,28,8/4&11/2022

**Stavisky, Rozic Announce Law to . . .**

(Continued from page 9) overpass where Detective Tsakos was killed, is one way we fulfill our promise that we make to all members of the NYPD the moment they step foot inside the halls of the police academy; a promise that we will never forget those officers who made the ultimate sacrifice."



**Governor Signs Into Law Assemblywoman Jenifer Rajkumar's Bill to Support . . .**

(Continued from page 6) ensure no technicalities stand in the way of a victim of a traumatizing crime receiving the aid they need." She added, "We also recognize that there is a moral obligation to help a crime victim with mental health counseling, lost wages, and the costs of cleaning and securing a crime scene, which can total in the tens of thousands of dollars. Being the victim of a crime incurs so much pain that we cannot allow the additional pain of crippling debt." The bill continues Assemblywoman Rajkumar's record of legislative achievements in the 2021-22 session. She also passed bills expanding worker protections to domestic workers, as well as creating the first ever New York Asian American and Pacific Islander Commission to address issues facing the AAPI community.

**New York City Council Women's Caucus Unveils Legislative Package on Abortion and . . .**

(Continued from page 10) erior to sign, The Reproductive Freedom and Equity Program (S.9078/A.10148A), which would establish a grant program to provide funding to New York abortion providers and non-profit organizations to increase access to abortion care. • Resolution 196 (Sponsored by Council Member Selvena Brooks-Powers): Calling upon the New York State Legislature to pass, and the Governor to sign, S.9137/A.10357, which would allow out of state physicians to provide reproductive health services in this state while awaiting full licensure. • Resolution 197 (Sponsored by Council Member Tiffany Cabán, Council Member Marjorie Velázquez, Public Advocate Jumaane Williams and Council Member Crytal Hudson): Declaring New York City a safe city for all those in need of abortion-related care. • Resolution 200 (Sponsored by Council Member Julie Menin): Declaring January 22, 2023 as Roe v. Wade Day in the City of New York to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the landmark United States Supreme Court decision. • Resolution 242 (Sponsored by Council Mem-



### Detective Keith Williams Day



Detective Keith Williams was assigned to the Queens District Attorney's Squad for eight years before he was tragically killed by a prisoner in 1989. He was a dedicated officer, known for his generosity and commitment to mentoring

young people.

QDA Katz said "To this day, we continue to honor his life and service by participating in the annual Detective Keith Williams Day filled with engaging youth programming in his native Southeast Queens."

### Annual Rockaway Paper Shredding Day



Assemblywoman Stacey Pheffer Amato (D-South Queens) and Senator Joseph P. Addabbo invite everyone to safely and securely shred their unwanted documents on the annual Rockaway Paper Shredding Day. The Assemblywoman has hosted a paper shredding with Senator Addabbo for years and this year on Sunday, July 17 from 10am-2pm at St. Camillus-St. Virgilius Parish parking lot located at 99-15 Rockaway Beach Boulevard, neighbors and residents of the 23rd Assembly District can bring their documents and shred them for free.

are protecting our most sensitive information."

"Not everybody has a personal shredder in their home and do not want to risk throwing their sensitive documents in with the trash," State Senator Joseph P. Addabbo, Jr. said. "These paper shredding events allow our constituents the ability to safely and securely dispose of their documents and papers at a convenient location in their own neighborhood. My thanks to Assemblywoman Pheffer Amato and USA Shred for partnering on this wonderful community event."

There is a limit of three (3) boxes per person during the event to ensure that everyone who arrives has the ability to shred their paper.

Cardboard, magazines, file folders, and pre-shredded paper will not be accepted during this event.

For more information on this event please reach out to Assemblywoman Pheffer Amato at 718-945-9550.



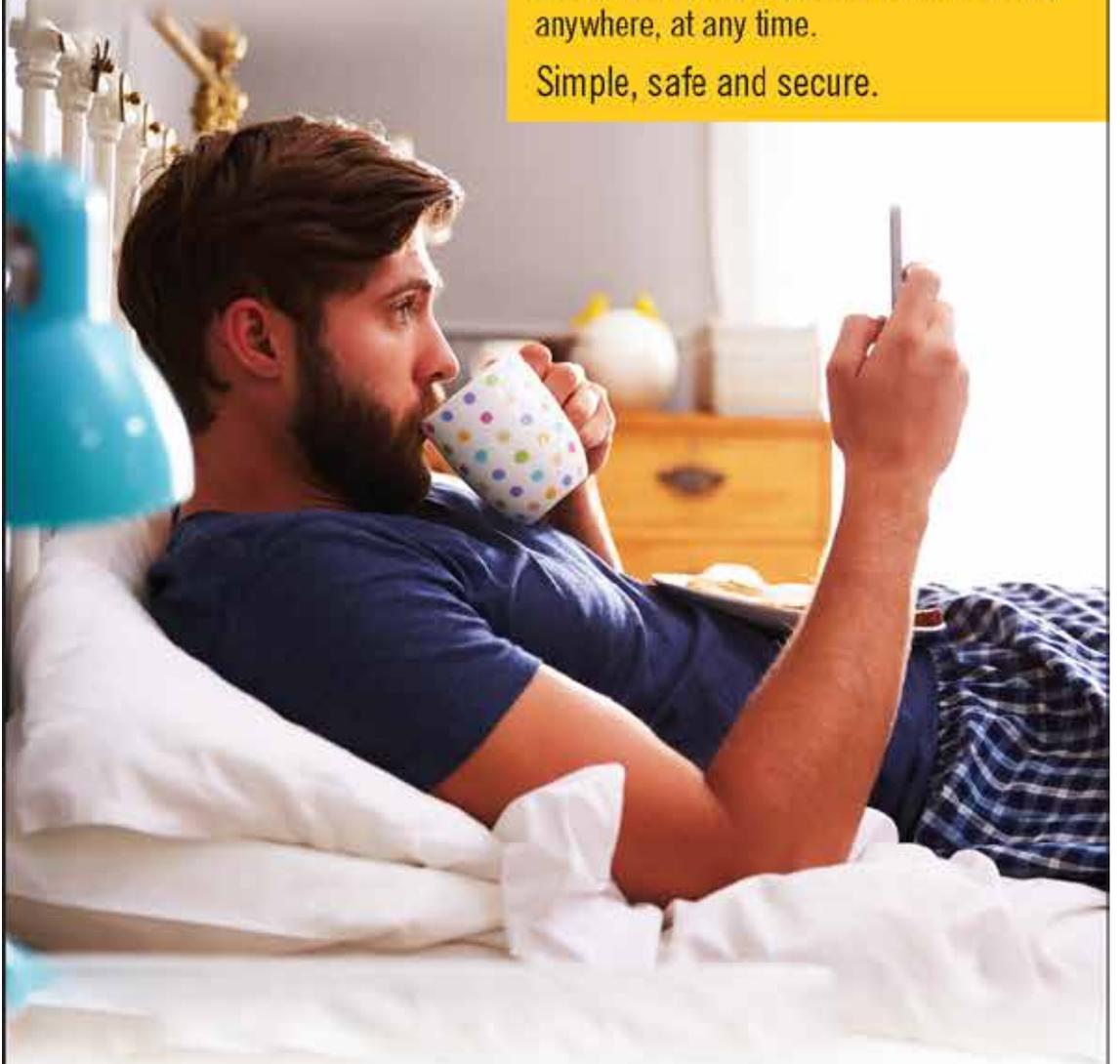
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