

# QUEENS TIMES

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25 CENTS

## DiNapoli: MTA Budget Gaps Driven By Fare Revenue Drop

MTA's Identified Savings Not Enough to Close Budget Gaps Long-Term; Implementation of Debt Reduction Plan Forces MTA to Take Actions Now

The Metropolitan Transportation Authority's (MTA) proposal to reduce budget gaps through 2028 by an average of \$915 million annually by paying down debt raises questions on how it will find additional savings and revenue to fund operations when federal aid runs out, according to a report issued by State Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli. While the MTA has identified a targeted \$100 million in unspecified efficiency savings, this will not be enough to close its projected deficit of \$1.6 billion starting in 2024 as pointed out by DiNapoli in September. DiNapoli urged the MTA to expand on these efforts, disclose specific actions and identify how they will impact fares and service delivery.

"The MTA has suggested it can reduce budget gaps by paying debt off early, but more can be done now to find cost savings and generate revenue to close gaps sooner," DiNapoli said. "No one wants to see steep fare hikes or service cuts. However, it is unclear how the MTA will avoid these outcomes unless it lays out additional options for the public and its funding partners to consider."

DiNapoli's report looked to examine the current composition of MTA revenue, analyze changes to revenue over time and provide a comparison of revenue against other transit systems. The report found that when compared to five other transit systems in similar metropolitan cities, the MTA relied

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## Anti-Hate Crimes Legislation



Governor Kathy Hochul signed new legislation last week requiring individuals convicted of hate crimes to undergo mandatory training or counseling in hate crime prevention and education. She has also established a state-wide campaign for acceptance and understanding of diversity.

Queens District Attorney Melinda Katz said "In the wake of the devastating shooting tar-

geting LGBTQ+ members in Colorado, and the foiled hate crime planned against the Jewish community right here at home, I assure you that my Office will utilize all resources to investigate and prosecute hate crimes in this county. Even if the crime is not deemed bias-based under State law, we will still prosecute the underlying crime to the fullest extent.

## "Cubs Boutique", a Free Store, Opens at P.S. 143 Louis Armstrong School



"Cubs Boutique", a Free Store, opened at P.S. 143 Louis Armstrong School, 34-74 113th St, Corona, NY 11368, in Corona. See story on page 2.

## CM Moya, Laborers, Carpenters, Community Partners And Other Organizations Distribute Turkeys And Other Food Items to Over 3,500 Families Across District 21 Queens

Councilman Moya Led Several Food Distributions in Corona, East Elmhurst, and LeFrak City including at the 5th Annual Iconic Thanksgiving Food Drive

Council Member Francisco Moya together with partners and community leaders provided more than 3,500 families turkeys and other food items including fresh produce in a series of distribution events ahead of the Thanksgiving holiday. Councilman Moya's five-event-series of Thanksgiving food distributions were hosted together with the East Elmhurst Corona Civic Association, Grow NYC, First Baptist Church of Corona, Iconic Sports Lab, and the LeFrak City Tenants Association.

The distributions were in partnership with Laborers Local 79, Laborers Local Union 1010 LECET, Vicinity District Council of Carpenters, Cement & Concrete Workers District Council, District Council No.9, IUPAT, and AFL-CIO. With additional support from Trade Fair Supermarkets, Ideal Food Basket Supermarkets, Food Bazaar Supermarkets, Goya Food, Grubhub, Zarembra and Brown PLLC, Pazer, Epstein, Jaffe & Fein, P.C., Queens Center Mall, and Hispanic Federation Inc.

"I am incredibly grateful to all our partners,

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Councilman Francisco Moya distributing turkeys and fresh food outside his District Office.

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# DiNapoli: MTA Budget Gaps Driven By Fare Revenue Drop

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more heavily on farebox revenue and less on subsidies from state and local sales tax and dedicated budget sources.

In July, DiNapoli recommended the MTA boost ridership since farebox revenue accounts for a large portion of their budget. However, ridership has not increased enough for the MTA to balance its books, which has led the MTA to suggest it needs a greater share of subsidies as part of its funding. In 2019, prior to the pandemic, fare revenue stood at \$6.4 billion, or 42.1% of the MTA's total revenue. Today, fare revenue makes up only 24.5% of the MTA's \$15.7 billion in revenue, excluding MTA Bridges and Tunnels. The MTA projected in July that fare revenue will be the largest source of growth among all revenue sources and will rebound to make up 32.2% of total revenue by 2026. For this to happen, they've included proposed fare increases of 4% in 2023 and 2025. However, the MTA would have to raise fares by at least 19% on top of these proposed increases to reach the same level of fare revenue as in 2019. DiNapoli also noted fare revenue could rise if

the MTA exceeded the midpoint of its ridership projections, which it can do by committing resources to provide safe, reliable and frequent service.

DiNapoli also found that if the MTA received subsidies in 2019 at the same rate as Boston's Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority, it would have received another \$1.7 billion in funding, and if the MTA received subsidies at the same rate as the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, it would have received an additional \$700 million. Other comparable systems, including Chicago and Philadelphia, also received transit subsidy shares that fit within this range.

The report also highlights the MTA's greater reliance on volatile subsidies as opposed to taxes like the other transit systems. In particular, real estate transaction taxes have shown increased sensitivity during recessions. However, the MTA is currently projecting growth in real estate transaction taxes through its financial plan, despite New York City projecting a substantial decline in similar taxes received in fiscal year (FY) 2023. The city does not expect real estate transaction taxes to return to the

MTA's projected levels until after FY 2026.

Unlike the other transit systems, the MTA also receives a portion of toll subsidies from MTA Bridge & Tunnel crossings. DiNapoli noted tolls generated about \$1.1 billion in revenue this year, but surplus toll revenue is expected to decline after paying for bridge and tunnel expenses.

DiNapoli urged the MTA to continue to search for operating efficiencies and identify and expand cost-saving options in order to close its expected budget gaps. However, the magnitude of these gaps makes it unlikely that they can be closed by reducing spending alone without leading to a substantial reduction in services and hurting the regional economic recovery. The MTA will have to provide its board with options that rely on raising revenues, while recognizing its authority is limited in raising fares and tolls and enhancing other sources of operating revenue, such as advertising. Ultimately, state, city and federal leaders will also need to be a part of the discussion if the MTA is to identify and secure additional subsidies to achieve balanced budgets and maintain operations.

# "Cubs Boutique", a Free Store, Opens at P.S. 143 Louis Armstrong School

(Continued from page 1)

Teachers and staff at P.S. 143 Louis Armstrong School have converted a recreation area into the "Cubs Boutique", which is a free store where parents and kids can find everything from clothing, food, to household items for free.

The idea was born of necessity for students and their families at P.S. 143 Louis Armstrong School because of a dramatic influx in the number of students living in temporary housing during this school year, mainly driven by the arrival of families seeking asylum in the United States.

P.S. 143 Louis Armstrong School serves about 1,500 students and roughly 400 of them live in temporary housing such as city shelters and hotels. According to data collected by project Open Arms, an interagency effort to connect children of asylum seekers to public schools. More than any other school in the city P.S. 143 enrolled nearly 100 new students who were living in temporary housing this academic year.

In late September, after noticing as the weather changed an immense need for winter clothes; multiple siblings were sharing one winter jacket, a shopping

cart used as a stroller, and children wearing sandals to school in frigid temperatures. Subsequently, the "Cubs Boutique" was created; a store where parents can shop with dignity and feel really proud to come in and select items that they desperately needed.

Teachers and staff oversee the store after school and during their free periods, sorting through donated goods to meet the needs of the community. They also keep the school open for four hours on Saturdays for a special literacy program and offer classes to parents on mindfulness, yoga and how to better help their kids with work they might take home.

# USPS Operation Santa Now Open for Letter Adoption

Help Give Some Magic to Those Who Need It

Are you in a position to give a child or family some extra magic this season? If so, you can now adopt a letter written to Santa at [USPSOperationSanta.com](http://USPSOperationSanta.com). USPS Operation Santa relies solely on random acts of kindness and the generosity of strangers. The program is 110 years old this year. It allows people to help children and families have a magical holiday when they otherwise may not.

Since Sept. 15, the Postal Service has been receiving letters from all across the country and delivering them to Santa's workshop at 123 Elf Road, North Pole, 88888. Letters sent with accurate postage and complete return addresses have been posted on [USPSOperationSanta.com](http://USPSOperationSanta.com), and today is the day customers can begin reading and adopting them.

Instructions for letter adopters

- Visit [USPSOperationSanta.com](http://USPSOperationSanta.com), click on the registration link and follow the prompts to register and have your identity verified.

com, click on the registration link and follow the prompts to register and have your identity verified.

- If potential adopters are unable to get their ID verified online, they will be provided a code and given instructions on how to get verified in person at a local Post Office location. Once verified, the adopter will receive a welcome email with detailed information on how to participate in the program.
- Registered adopters can read letters at [USPSOperationSanta.com](http://USPSOperationSanta.com) and choose one to fulfill. Once a letter is chosen, adopters must follow the directions they received in their welcome email to ship gifts.
- Packages must be shipped via Priority Mail service, but gifts do not need to be in Priority Mail branded boxes.
- The last day to adopt letters is Dec. 19, which coincides with the Priority Mail suggested deadline.
- Letter adopters are responsible for postage fees to ship the gift

packages.

Tips for reducing shipping costs

- Postage to ship gifts is based on size, weight and distance. Smaller, lighter packages shipped in-state or to an adjacent state will be the less expensive shipping option. Here are some tips:
- Use Priority Mail Flat Rate boxes, free at your local Post Office. Take a box when shopping and only purchase items that can fit in the box.
- Adopt a letter from your state, or a nearby state.
- Look at the dimensions of the gift very carefully, paying special attention to size and weight
- Consider a gift card instead of purchasing larger, heavier items. Gift cards need to be sent in a Priority Mail envelope, 4-by-6 or larger, to accommodate the shipping label.

Information for letter writers:

- Letters must include a first

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## Gillibrand Calls For Nearly \$2 Billion in Funding For Older Americans Act Nutrition Programs For FY23

Ahead of the holiday season, U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, member of the Special Committee on Aging, held a press conference in New York City to call for \$1.93 billion in FY23 funding for the Older Americans Act (OAA) nutritional programs. Senator Gillibrand was joined by Greg Olsen, director of the New York State Office for the Aging, Lorraine Cortés-Vázquez, commissioner of the New York City Department for the Aging and Beth Shapiro, executive director of Citymeals on Wheels.

Since 1972, the OAA under Title III-C Nutrition Services has supported nutrition services for older adults across the country in a variety of ways, including by funding meals for senior centers, home deliveries, and other assistance for the success of these older adult nutrition programs. The additional funds Senator Gillibrand is seeking, in a letter sent to the Senate and House Committees on Appropriations, would enable service providers to account for rising food costs as well as shorten their waiting lists by serving more seniors and to implement plans to adequately address current and future need in their respective communities.

“As a member of the Senate Special Committee on Aging, I am committed to fighting food insecurity and ensuring that our older adults have access to healthy and affordable meals,” said Senator Gillibrand. “Bolstering the Older Americans Act nutritional programs is a vital step in addressing the unique barriers older adults face accessing food. I’m proud to lead the call for nearly \$2 billion in funding for the OAA so that everyone can have food on the table during the holiday season and beyond.”

“Food insecurity has long been a problem for older adults, and it is one of the reasons why the Older Americans Act was enacted in 1965 - to provide nutrition and support to our older population. The pandemic exacerbated food insecurity. In addition, our older American population is growing at a fast pace. Now more than ever, it’s important that cities like New York receive much-needed support for its congregate meals and home delivered meals programs,

which feed some of our most vulnerable elders,” said NYC Department for the Aging Commissioner Lorraine Cortés-Vázquez. “I am pleased to support Senator Kirsten Gillibrand’s efforts to increase funding for these critical programs. Access to food is a fundamental right and I urge the members of the Senate and House Appropriations Committees to do the right thing and invest in nutrition services for older Americans.”

“Access to nutrition is the cornerstone to good health and maintaining independence,” said Greg Olsen, Director for the New York State Office for the Aging. “The New York State Office for the Aging administers the largest nutrition program in the country, providing high quality meals in the home or a community setting while meeting federal nutrition guidelines. The pandemic created significant additional demand for nutritious meals and that need is ongoing. We applaud Senator Gillibrand for recognizing the value of nutrition providers and requesting this additional federal funding, which would bring nearly \$130 million to New York State to help those in need put food on their tables.”

“Nearly 3 years since the start of the pandemic, which highlighted the particular vulnerability of older adults, relief funding has run out and the skyrocketing costs of food and fuel are presenting an insurmountable challenge both for older New Yorkers and the providers who serve them,” said Beth Shapiro, Executive Director of Citymeals on Wheels. “Fixed incomes can’t stretch as far as they did to supplement the one meal a day they receive through the home-delivered meals program, rendering even more homebound seniors food insecure. Meanwhile, food and fuel costs are pushing meal providers to the brink. Citymeals on Wheels served 18,000 older New Yorkers before the pandemic, and today we serve about 20,000—a number that may increase by up to 3,000 by the end of the fiscal year and will continue to grow as the City’s population ages. Inflation is compounding the strain of this rapidly increasing need, making it much more expensive to provide the same level of service, let alone to expand

it. For example, our fuel costs doubled from FY21 to FY22 and in one Staten Island district, food costs increased by 16%. This is not sustainable, and ultimately will endanger the wellbeing of older New Yorkers. We can and must make a significant investment in OAA Home-Delivered Nutrition Services (Title III-C-2) to ensure that homebound older adults do not go hungry.”

About 5.2 million older adults in the United States, including an estimated 7.6 percent of older adults in New York, were food insecure in 2020. As the American population continues to age rapidly, with more than 75 million Americans aged 60 years and older, it’s vital to supply nutritional programs with the resources needed to create a pathway for social connection and meal deliveries for the older adult community.

The OAA is a major federal vehicle for delivery of social and nutrition services for more than 11 million older Americans and their caregivers. These programs include congregate nutrition services, home-delivered nutrition services, transportation services, activities to promote socialization and wellness, employment and community service programs, and family caregiver support. Specifically, Gillibrand is calling for \$1.93 billion for OAA Title III-C Nutrition Services in the final FY23 appropriations bill.

In addition to Senator Gillibrand (D-NY), the letter was signed by Senators Bernie Sanders (I-VT), Amy Klobuchar (D-MN), Ron Wyden (D-OR), Richard Blumenthal (D-CT), Jacky Rosen (D-NV), Alex Padilla (D-CA), Robert P. Casey, Jr. (D-PA), and Mark Kelly (D-AZ); and Representatives Suzanne Bonamici (D-OR-1st), Lloyd Doggett (D-TX-35th), Susan Wild (D-PA-7th), Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA-1st), Danny K. Davis (D-IL-7th), Seth Moulton (D-MA-6th), Peter Welch (D-VT-AL), Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC-AL), Jan Schakowsky (D-IL-9th), Peter A. DeFazio (D-OR-4th), Dwight Evans (D-PA-3rd), Gwen S. Moore (D-WI-4th), Jamaal Bowman, Ed.D. (D-NY-16th), Tony Cardenas (D-CA-29th), Debbie Dingell (D-MI-12th), Andy Kim (D-NJ-3rd), and John Katko (R-NY-24).

## Queens Museum Screens Seven Shorts on World AIDS Day

Seven short films on HIV and AIDS from the perspective of artists living with the virus will run on a continuous loop at Queens Museum on Friday, Dec. 2, from noon to 4 pm.

The videos, dubbed “Being & Belonging,” explore the emotional realities of living with HIV via such topics as sex, intimacy, stigma, support, belonging, and isolation.

General admission to Queens Museum is \$8.

The lineup features newly commissioned work by Camila Arce (Argentina), Davina “Dee” Conner and Karin Hayes (USA), Jaewon Kim (South Korea), Clifford Prince King (USA), Santiago Lemus and Camilo Acosta

Huntertexas (Colombia), Mikiki (Canada), and Jhoel Zempoalteca and La Jerry (México).

Here’s a short description of the filmmakers.

- Arce has been living with HIV since she was born. The 27-year-old writes about her daily life and publishes poetry and social, political, and economic commentary @sidiosa.
- Conner is an HIV educator and international speaker who’s been living with HIV since 1997. She hosts the Pozitively Dee Discussions podcast.
- Hayes is an award-winning documentary director and producer whose work has shown everywhere from the Sundance Film Festival to HBO to PBS.

Based in Seoul, Kim primarily works with video, photography, and installation to discuss the lives of queer people and people living with HIV/AIDS. Much of his work considers how the disease affects personal relationships.

Living and working in New York and Los Angeles, King documents his intimate relationships in traditional, everyday settings that speak on his experiences as a queer black man. He has recently exhibited work at Los Angeles County Museum of Modern Art, Jeffrey Deitch Gallery (LA), Higher Pictures (NYC), and Leslie Lohman Museum (NYC).

Huntertexas focuses on au-

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## USPS Operation Santa Now Open for Letter Adoption

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and last name and a clear, legible, complete return address, including apartment number, if applicable.

- Envelopes must contain a First-Class Mail Forever stamp — or other First-Class Mail stamps that equal 60-cents in postage. See the online graphic for more information.
- Letters can only be sent via First-Class Mail service in small, business-size or greeting card-size envelopes. They cannot be sent using Priority Mail service.
- Letters must be postmarked by Dec. 12.
- There is no guarantee that letters submitted to the program

will be adopted.

Accept no imitations  
There is only one USPS Operation Santa program, sanctioned by the Postal Service. Fulfilling wishes through the official program is voluntary, and any organization asking you to give them money to adopt letters is in violation of the laws under which the Postal Service operates and is not condoned by, or affiliated with, the Postal Service.

More information can be found at [USPSOperationSanta.com](https://usps.com/operation-santa) and [usps.com/holidaynews](https://usps.com/holidaynews).

The Postal Service generally receives no tax dollars for operating expenses and relies on the sale of postage, products and services to fund its operations.

## Lifeguard Recruitment Starts Now For Summer 2023 Beach And Outdoor Pool Season

Qualifying exams begin on Friday, December 2, 2022

NYC Parks is looking for all New Yorkers who have the physical and the mental discipline to become part of our lifeguarding team for summer 2023! Qualifying tests begin on Friday, December 2, and will be held at 10 pools around the city, returning to pre-pandemic levels (compared to 6 locations last year) including recreation centers and local high schools. Register for an upcoming qualifying exam on the NYC Parks Lifeguard information page.

The NYC Parks lifeguard corps make summer happen for NYC! Becoming a lifeguard is a rewarding experience: our staff have the opportunity to work outdoors in some of New York City’s most iconic locations, and play a critical role in helping New Yorkers of all ages and abilities have safe access to beaches and pools. Lifeguards work five or six days each week.

New this year: past NYC Parks Lifeguards get a reward for referring a friend! This year, we’re encouraging everyone who worked as a lifeguard with NYC Parks last summer to tell their friends to join the team! Lifeguards who refer a friend to join the corps can receive a gift for a successful referral.

Steps to Becoming a Lifeguard  
1. Try out! Pass the Qualifying Test

Taking the qualifying test is the first step toward becoming a lifeguard. These tryouts take place in our indoor pools over the winter before the upcoming summer sea-

son. All potential lifeguards must pass the Lifeguard Qualifying Test – a vision and swim exam.

To pass the qualifying test, you must:

- Be at least 16 years of age by the start of employment.
  - Have at least 20/30 vision in one eye and 20/40 in the other - without corrective lenses. Glasses and contact lenses may not be worn during the eye exam.
  - Be able to swim 50 yards in 35 seconds or less, with proper form.
2. Train at Our Lifeguard School  
Once you pass the qualifying test, your training to become an NYC Lifeguard begins. You’ll develop your swimming skills, learn lifesaving techniques, and receive your certification to become an NYC Lifeguard. Lifeguard Training is a 16-week program that consists of 40 hours of training, a CPR course, and final swimming tests.
3. Head to Our Beaches and Pools!

If you successfully complete the training program, you may be offered a full-time job for the summer working at a beach or pool in one of the best cities in the world! Our beaches open on Memorial Day Weekend and outdoor pools open in late June. Beaches and pools close the Sunday after Labor Day.

After completing the course and passing the final exam and background check, lifeguards will be paid for time spent in training once they begin working.

NYC Parks manages eight beaches and 53 outdoor pools citywide.



## QBP Richards On City Council Passage Of Innovation QNS

*Queens Borough President Donovan Richards Jr. stated the following in response to the City Council vote to approve Innovation QNS.*

“This day is not about votes, percentages or politics — it’s about Astoria families teetering on the brink of eviction. It’s about children doing their homework tonight in a homeless shelter and seniors being priced out of the only community they’ve ever lived in. That is who this day and this transformational project belongs to,” said Borough President RICHARDS. “With the passage of Innovation QNS, this borough has set a new standard for what community-first development can and must look like. I fully believe Queens will lead our city out of

this affordability crisis because, as we proved today, Queens will accept nothing less than historic investments in deeply affordable housing from any organization, private or public, that seeks to build here.

“With Innovation QNS, such a historic investment will manifest in the form of more than 1,400 permanently affordable homes — 45 percent of the project’s units — with 500 homes available at less than \$1,000 a month. Additional benefits include comprehensive construction agreements with organized labor, discounted rents and incubator space for small businesses, a community advisory board and a study on the potential use of geothermal energy.

“The process of getting to a ‘yes’ on Innovation QNS was long,

difficult and, at times, frustrating. But this victorious vote belongs to each and every person who helped get this project over the finish line, especially Council Member Julie Won, whose fierce advocacy on behalf of her constituents has helped ensure that Astoria families, first and foremost, will be the ones who benefit the most,” added Borough President RICHARDS. “I’m deeply grateful to Mayor Adams’ administration, Council Speaker Adrienne Adams, Zoning Subcommittee Chair Kevin Riley, Land Use Committee Chair Rafael Salamanca Jr. and the entire City Council, as well as organized labor for its advocacy and the Innovation QNS development team for their commitment to delivering a project worthy of the community and borough it will call home.”

## AG James Releases Annual “Pennies for Charity” Report

*Attorney General James Releases Annual “Pennies for Charity” Report*

*New Report Shows Charitable Giving Campaigns Raised over \$1.7 Billion in 2021, Almost \$250 Million More than 2020*

In advance of Giving Tuesday and the holiday season, New York Attorney General Letitia James today released her annual “Pennies for Charity: Fundraising by Professional Fundraisers” report, which analyzes data submitted to the Office of the Attorney General’s (OAG) Charities Bureau by professional fundraisers on their 2021 charitable fundraising campaigns in New York. The report looks at trends in the sector, provides guidance and tips for donors, and gives charities information on fundraisers’ performance. This year’s report found that professional fundraisers received over a quarter of every dollar donated to charities that employed them in 2021 in fees and expenses — a total of more than \$460 million. Analyzing 658 campaigns conducted by professional fundraisers in 2021, the report finds that charities received 73 percent of donations, in line with the year prior and a small increase from 2019. Professional fundraisers are outside, for-profit organizations often hired by charities to run campaigns.

“When New Yorkers make the generous choice to give to a charity, they trust that their money will be used responsibly,” said Attorney General James. “In advance of the holiday season and Giving Tuesday tomorrow, New Yorkers can rest assured that my office is working every day to protect their wallets and deliver the transparency they so rightly deserve. I encourage anyone planning to donate this season to consult our tips for charitable giving to ensure their thoughtful gift goes to the right place.”

New York is home to many diverse charitable organizations and institutions, which like all parts of our society, faced many challenges during the coronavirus pandemic. Despite the pandemic’s continuing economic impact and limitations on in-person events, donations rose to over \$1.7 billion in 2021 — an increase of almost \$250

million from 2020 and over \$400 million from 2019 pre-pandemic contributions. Other report findings include:

- In 276 campaigns — 42 percent — charities received less than 50 percent of funds raised, with professional fundraisers retaining the rest.
- In 96 campaigns — 15 percent — expenses exceeded revenue and cost charities over \$10 million. This is fewer cases than last year for both findings.

This year’s Pennies for Charity report includes information from reports filed with OAG’s Charities Bureau by professional fundraisers for charity campaigns conducted in 2021. Professional fundraisers must register with OAG and their financial reports must break down the campaign’s earnings and expenses. The report and the searchable Pennies for Charity database containing the findings of those reports are posted on the Charities Bureau website.

The report also lays out tips for donors to follow before donating over the phone, through mail, or online to ensure that their contributions reach the causes they intend to support. The report is linked above for a full guide, but important tips to keep in mind include:

- If you are contacted by a telemarketer, ask questions to make an informed decision: New York law requires telemarketers soliciting for charities to make certain disclosures to potential donors and prohibits them from making false, misleading, or deceptive statements to contributors. Telemarketers are required to tell potential donors their names, which professional fundraiser employs them, and if the telemarketer is getting paid. Donors may also ask what percentage of their donation will go to the fundraiser for fees and expenses.
- If you receive a direct mail charitable appeal, verify the soliciting organization: Does the organization have a name that sounds like a well-known charity? Double-check — is it the one you think it is? Does the mailing claim to follow up on a pledge that you do not remember making? Does it clearly describe the programs that the charity plans to fund with your donation?
- If you are donating online,

do your research first: Donating online or via an app is convenient for donors and can be cost effective for a charity. But before hitting “Send,” donors should check whether a campaign is legitimate. Below are steps to take before donating online:

- Some online platforms that host groups and individuals soliciting for causes do not obtain permission from charities, or vet those charities who use their service. Donors should only give to campaigns conducted by people whom they know. Donors also should check what fees they will be charged and make sure that the charity has given its permission for the use of its name or logo. The site or the charity should confirm that the charity has approved the campaign.
- When donating online, make sure the website is secure: The web address should start with “https.” Unless the charity uses a separate payment site, the web address should match that of the organization that will receive the donation.
- Be wary of email solicitations that ask you to click a link or open attachments. These could be phishing scams that try to trick you into giving out your credit card number, Social Security number, or other confidential information.
- More information about OAG’s Charities Bureau and organizations it regulates may be found online. If you believe an organization is misrepresenting its work or that a scam is taking place, please contact OAG’s Charities Bureau at [Complaints@ag.ny.gov](mailto:Complaints@ag.ny.gov) or (212) 416-8401.

This report was authored by Director of Registration and Fundraising Sections Hanna Rubin and Fundraising Supervisor Siobhan Blank of the Charities Bureau. Data analysis was completed by Data Analyst Anushua Choudhury of the Research and Analytics Department, under the supervision of Deputy Director Megan Thorsfeldt and Director Jonathan Werberg. The Charities Bureau is led by Bureau Chief James Sheehan and Deputy Bureau Chief Karin Kunstler Goldman. The Charities Bureau is a part of the Division for Social Justice, which is led by Chief Deputy Attorney General Meghan Faux and is overseen by First Deputy Attorney General Jennifer Levy.

## Queens Museum Screens Seven Shorts on World AIDS Day

(Continued from page 3)

diovisual projects, video editing, experimental video, VJ sets, and music video production. His video work has been exhibited in Spain, Germany, Mexico, Canada, and France.

Lemus uses organic matter, image, and sound to address the relationship between art, nature, and landscape through installations, interventions, performances, photography, and video. He co-founded Tomamos la Palabra, a collective that organizes interventions denouncing homophobia, transphobia, racism, and violence in public spaces.

Mikiki is a performer, video artist, and queer community health activist whose resume includes high school sexuality educator, bathhouse attendant, drag karaoke hostess, and various jobs in gay men’s health and HIV response.

Zempoalteca is an educator and visual artist whose work seeks to

produce a counter-pedagogy by deconstructing the visual imaginaries surrounding dissident and seropositive experiences. His work has been exhibited in Mexico, Guatemala, and Spain.

La Jerry is a non-binary folk dancer.

Queens Museum co-presents Being & Belonging with the activist nonprofit Visual AIDS, which established Dec. 1 as Day With(out) Art in 1989. This annual commemoration coincides with World AIDS Day (aka Dec. 1), which was established in 1988 to honor the disease’s victims, support people living with HIV, and continue awareness.

Queens Museum is located inside the NYC Building in Flushing Meadows Corona Park. One entrance faces the Unisphere, while the other faces the Grand Central Parkway. There’s an on-site parking lot, and the 7 train’s Mets-Willets Point station is not far away.

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*Queens Times Weekly ...*  
**HOROSCOPE**   
 For the Week of ... 12/1/22 - 12/7/22

*For Entertainment Purposes Only*

**ARIES**  
 (Mar. 21- April 20)  
 Travel should be on your agenda this week. You will drive your partner crazy with your ideas. Try sorting them out before you present them. Your lucky numbers are 9,4,3.

**TAURUS**  
 (Apr. 21 - May 21)  
 Your excellent memory will aid your accomplishments. Resist any idle chatter. Things will be emotional with your partner. Your lucky numbers are 4,3,1.

**GEMINI**  
 (May 22 - June 21)  
 Your emotional state could leave you confused. Make a promise that will stabilize your personal life. Sign up for courses that will bring you more skills. Your lucky numbers are 8,2,1.

**CANCER**  
 (June 22 - July 22)  
 You can make a big difference to children if you are understanding of the difficulties they are experiencing. Your lucky numbers are 2,5,1.

**LEO**  
 (July 23 - Aug 22)  
 Think before you act. Opportunities may come up at prestigious affairs. Communication will be your strong point. Your lucky numbers are 5,3,1.

**VIRGO**  
 (Aug. 23 - Sept. 23)  
 Emotional relationships will be plentiful if you attend group activities. It may not be the best day to confront employers or to present your ideas. Your lucky numbers are 2,7,4.

**LIBRA**  
 (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)  
 You can come up with solutions to the problems responsible for inefficiencies at work. Arguments with relatives may lead to a split in the family. lucky numbers are 9,1,7.

**SCORPIO**  
 (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)  
 A change is in your future. Someone may be trying to damage your reputation. Get involved in creative projects that could turn into moneymaking ventures. Your lucky numbers are 7,8,9.

**SAGITTARIUS**  
 (Nov. 23 - Dec. 21)  
 A female colleague may cause problems for you. Start sending out those resumes. Don't follow any stock tips this week. Your lucky numbers are 1,9,2.

**CAPRICORN**  
 (Dec 22 - Jan. 20)  
 Your new romantic partner will not work out for you. Try not to allow your partner to lead you astray or upset your routine. Your lucky numbers are 5,9,2.

**AQUARIUS**  
 (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)  
 Small business ventures can earn you extra cash. Travel will enhance romance and adventure. You need to get out if you want to meet potential partners. Your lucky numbers are 7,3,2.

**PISCES**  
 (Feb. 20 - Mar. 20)  
 Develop more skills. You will be prone to carelessness that could result in accidents. You are likely to be left alone if you don't bend a little. Your lucky numbers are 1,6,4.

**Did You Know?**

- Tachophobia is the fear of speed
- Zoophobia is the fear of animals
- A lions feed once every 3 to 4 days
- Lion's can't roar until the age of 2
- An office desk has 400 times more bacteria than a toilet
- You have over 600 muscles
- All owls lay white eggs
- Mapping is older than writing
- The bigger the orange the sweeter it is
- From space the brightest man made place is Las Vegas
- Sesquipedaliophobia is the fear of long words
- Triscadecaphobia is the fear of the number 13
- The world's most expensive spice is saffron
- The corkscrew was invented in 1890
- Albert Einstein never knew how to drive a car
- After you've eaten it takes approximately 12 hours for food to entirely digest
- The human eye blinks over 4,200,000 times a year
- The little hole in some sinks that lets the water drain out instead of flowing is called a 'porcelator'

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

**Answer to Last Weeks Puzzles**

**"Sudoku"**

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

**"Crossword Puzzle"**

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

**"Try And Find"**

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

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**TRY AND FIND**

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

- |             |           |            |           |
|-------------|-----------|------------|-----------|
| Bake        | Evergreen | Lights     | Rudolph   |
| Bells       | Family    | Merry      | Shopping  |
| Bow         | Festival  | Mistletoe  | Sleigh    |
| Candles     | Friends   | Ornament   | Snow      |
| Carols      | Garland   | Peace      | Stockings |
| Celebrate   | Glitter   | Poinsettia | Tinsel    |
| Children    | Icicles   | Presents   | Tree      |
| Cookies     | Jingle    | Reindeer   | Winter    |
| Decorations | Joy       | Ribbon     | Wreath    |

**SUDOKU**

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

**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			

- |                                 |                              |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>ACROSS</b>                   | <b>DOWN</b>                  |
| 1. Horde                        | 1. Gush forth                |
| 6. Wingly                       | 2. Had on                    |
| 10. Marine mammal               | 3. Seaweed                   |
| 14. Infantile paralysis         | 4. Violent disturbance       |
| 15. Opera star                  | 5. Wool eaters               |
| 16. Desire                      | 6. One who adores            |
| 17. Grain disease               | 7. Enduring                  |
| 18. Baking appliance            | 8. Retaliator                |
| 19. The top edge of a container | 9. Sounded a bell            |
| 20. Enduring                    | 10. A gradual sinking        |
| 22. Alone                       | 11. Mistake                  |
| 23. Jargon                      | 12. Nimble                   |
| 24. Femme fatale                | 13. Tart yellow fruit        |
| 25. Jetty                       | 21. Slipped by               |
| 29. Upset                       | 24. One more than six        |
| 31. Try                         | 25. Buddies                  |
| 33. Back up                     | 26. Detail                   |
| 37. Focusing glass (plural)     | 27. Europe's highest volcano |
| 38. Superficiality              | 28. Bridles or chains        |
| 39. Superficial amount          | 30. Spin                     |
| 41. Sympathy                    | 32. Nickel or steel          |
| 42. Extreme                     | 34. Bobbin                   |
| 44. River to the North Sea      | 35. Belgrade native          |
| 45. Majestic                    | 36. Coastal raptor           |
| 48. Flow controller             | 40. Engrossed                |
| 50. Dugout shelter              | 41. Oxydize by heating       |
| 51. Child                       | 43. Informal                 |
| 56. Midday                      | 45. Scope                    |
| 57. Decorative case             | 46. Deadly virus             |
| 58. Eagle's home                | 47. Thin mortar              |
| 59. Oversupply                  | 49. Legislate                |
| 60. Not fatty                   | 51. Sandwich shop            |
| 61. Places for tenting          | 52. Darling                  |
| 62. Consumes food               | 53. Military                 |
| 63. Inactive                    | 54. Bites                    |
| 64. Secret meeting              | 55. Exam                     |

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### Rozic And Kim Honor Jane Qiu on Her Retirement

*Assemblymembers Rozic and Kim Honor Longtime Senior Center Director with Official New York State Assembly Proclamation*

Assemblymembers Nily Rozic (D,WF-Fresh Meadows) and Ron Kim (D,WF-Flushing) presented Jane Qiu, Selfhelp Program Director, with a proclamation congratulating her on her retirement and twenty-four years of service at Selfhelp Benjamin Rosenthal Senior Center.

"I congratulate Jane Qiu on her well-deserved retirement! In her years of service, Jane has encouraged access to education, the arts, and physical and mental well-being for our elders," said Assemblywoman Nily Rozic. "Selfhelp Rosenthal flourished under her attentive care, and we congratulate her on a very successful twenty-four years."

"Jane has been a wonderful and active community member who has given much of her time and energy to improving the lives of older adults," said Assemblymember



Ron Kim. "Her work has helped many of the constituents in both of our districts, and I am proud to join Assemblymember Rozic in honoring Jane with this proclamation."

Stuart Kaplan, CEO of Selfhelp Community Services said: "Selfhelp is grateful for Jane's 24 years of service and dedication to the Selfhelp and Flushing communities. She has been a tireless leader of the Older Adult Center and will be missed by all who worked with her. At Selfhelp, our

mission is to help older adults age with independence and dignity. Jane embodies these values every day and she always has a home with the Selfhelp community."

As Selfhelp Program Director, Jane helped coordinate wellness calls and home meal delivery programs during the pandemic, facilitated the re-opening of the center in June of 2021, and prioritized hybrid programming to make participation widely accessible while adhering to safety guidelines.

### Sacred Music Society Of Our Lady Queen Of Martyrs

**Performs a concert of Christmas Favorites**

The Sacred Music Society of Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Church (Forest Hills, NY) presents "A CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL" on Sunday, December 11 at 4:00 pm. The Sacred Music Society joins with the Oratorio Society of Queens to perform this concert under the artistic direction of Maestro David Close, Music Director of Our Lady Queen of Martyrs.

The program includes selections from Handel's Messiah and beloved Christmas carols and Holiday favorites. The performance features international guest artist John Easterlin, tenor, brilliant soprano, Paula Rocheleau, and distinguished pianist, Barbara Podgurski at the piano and organ.

John Easterlin returns to bring us once again, his thrilling "Ten Thousand Joys." Lift your voices in song with the entire chorus as we sing together, "Adeste Fideles." John Easterlin and Paula Jean Rocheleau singing "O Holy Night" crowns a magnificent concert that is not to be missed.

We are thrilled to bring this magnificent music to our parishioners and friends of Our Lady Queen of Martyrs. The concert is a much-anticipated event at the church as parishioners and friends begin their preparations for the Christmas season. It is an



annual tradition that brings the whole community together as the entire audience looks forward to Christmas while the chorus sings their beloved holiday melodies!

The concert is performed in the church, located on Ascan Avenue

and Queens Boulevard. Tickets are \$30 general admission and children 12 and under accompanied by an adult are free. For additional information, please call Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Rectory at 718-268-6251.

### AG James Secures \$9.4 Million From Google & iHeartMedia Over Misleading Radio Ads About a Google Device



*Google Paid Radio Personalities to Record and Air Endorsement Ads for Google Pixel 4 despite Never Using the Phone*

New York Attorney General Letitia James announced that her office, along with a coalition of five other states and the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), secured \$9.4 million from Google and iHeartMedia for airing mis-

leading ads about a Google device. Google paid radio personalities to record endorsement ads describing their positive experience using the Google Pixel 4 phone, however, they had never used the phone prior to recording or running the ads. The misleading ads ran in English and Spanish more than 23,000 times in 10 different

(Continued on page 11)

### Senator Gillibrand's Statement On Senate Passage Of The Respect for Marriage Act



U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand released the following statement regarding Senate passage of the Respect for Marriage Act, a bipartisan bill that would enshrine marriage equality into federal law:

"Today's Senate passage of the Respect for Marriage Act is an important step forward in our fight to enshrine marriage equality into federal law. As the Supreme Court's recent reversal of Roe v. Wade has shown, no modern right or freedom is safe from constitutional attack.

(Continued on page 11)

*Join Assemblyman Edward C. Braunstein in spreading holiday cheer*

Assemblyman Braunstein is sponsoring his office's Annual Holiday Toy Drive for needy children

**Toy Drive**

Help put smiles on the faces of needy and hospitalized children by giving them a present during the holidays.

You can participate by bringing or mailing unwrapped new toys to:

Assemblyman Braunstein's Office  
213-33 39th Avenue, Suite 238  
(718) 357-3588

or

Community Board 11 Office  
46-21 Little Neck Parkway  
(718) 225-1054

**All toys must be received by Wednesday, December 14, 2022.**

*Assemblyman Braunstein would like to thank all contributors who make this toy drive successful. Have a safe and happy holiday!*

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## CM Moya, Laborers, Carpenters, Community Partners And Other Organizations Distribute Turkeys And Other Food Items to Over 3,500 Families Across District 21 Queens

(Continued from page 1)

community leaders as well as my brothers and sisters from the Laborers Local 79, Laborers Local Union 1010 LECET, and New York City District Council of Carpenters & Carpenter Contractor Alliance of Metropolitan, for their continued generosity to the more than families in District 21 Queens. This is New York City solidarity at its best as we approach the Thanksgiving holiday," said Council Member Francisco Moya.

"We are grateful to partner up with Councilman Francisco Moya, who continues to fight not only for his community but for our sisters and brothers in labor. Our Local 79 members are very thankful to have an opportunity to contribute and give back to the communities they call home and ensure as many families as possible have food on the table during the Thanksgiving holidays." said Mike Prohaska, Business Manager, Mason Tenders District Council/ Laborers Local 79

"Laborers' Local 1010 LECET is honored to give back to the NYC communities where our members live and work. As we see in our field, strong communities do not just happen; they are built and nurtured over time. We are proud to tend to the sidewalks, schools, roadways, and playgrounds that need fixing but even prouder to have the opportunity to help families have a hearty meal this holiday season." said Victor Rizzo, Director, Laborers' Local 1010 LECET.

"This Thanksgiving, we're thankful for the great partnerships we have within our communities to give back to families in need, especially our ongoing partnership with our friend of labor in Queens, Council Member Francisco Moya. The NYC Carpenters Union not only builds communities, but we lift communities up where we live and work and that is why we are happy to donate Thanksgiving turkeys to families in Corona this holiday." said Joseph Geiger, Executive Secretary-Treasurer of New York City and Vicinity District Council of Carpenters.

"At District Council 9, we deeply value the importance of giving back to the communities in which our union members live and works" said Joseph Azzopardi, Business Manager/Secretary Treasury of District Council 9 "We were proud to participate in today's turkey giveaway alongside Councilmem-



Ideal Food Basket Supermarket turkeys in Corona

ber Moya and community partners to ensure our neighbors can have a joyful Thanksgiving this year."

As part of the funds Councilman Moya designated to fight food insecurity and support healthier communities, families also received food bags and fresh produce as part of the GrowNYC-Health Bucks initiative during the food distributions in Corona.

Additionally, the Fifth Annual Iconic Thanksgiving Drive was

possible thanks to Goya Foods Inc., Associated Supermarket Group, Key Food Supermarkets in Jackson Heights and Valley Stream, City Fresh Market in Corona, PCNY, State of NY Chaplain Federation, Alex Guzman Family & Friends, 4U House of Fitted Caps, Porky, Nebraska land Bronx, Royal Waste Hollis, Paragon Honda of Woodside, NYPD Office of Community Affairs, and NYPD 110 Precinct.

## Assemblywoman Distributed Over 200 Turkeys To Her Constituents



Assemblywoman Jenifer Rajkumar (D-AD 38) has distributed over 200 turkeys to her constituents. Through multiple events with her many community partners, the Assemblywoman is continued to give away turkeys so that every one of her constituents had a Happy Thanksgiving.

Assemblywoman Rajkumar co-sponsored the NYPD Desi Society's Turkey Giveaway in South Ozone Park. She also partnered with the Richmond Hill-South Ozone Park Lions Club and numerous local businesses for a turkey giveaway at Sofia's Pizza. The Assemblywoman also contributed 10 turkeys to the Parents Association of PS 254Q, who distributed them to members of the school community. To ensure her Muslim-American constituents can also celebrate Thanksgiving, Assemblywoman Rajkumar also partnered with the American

Pakistani Advocacy Group for a Halal turkey giveaway.

Assemblywoman Rajkumar said: "I am proud to have secured well over 200 turkeys for my constituents. Also, in supporting numerous additional turkey distributions throughout my district, I am working to ensure every family in South Queens can have a happy Thanksgiving. Since childhood, I have cherished every Thanksgiving dinner with my family, and I want everyone in my district to be able to do the same because my constituents are like family to me. After distributing turkeys to everyone in a line at my office stretching for blocks on Friday, I immediately got to work procuring even more turkeys. As far as I am concerned, I am hosting Thanksgiving dinner for the entire 38th Assembly District, and I will not allow any of my guests to go hungry."



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## Flushing Town Hall Hosts Annual Native American Social

*This special event will feature artwork, dancing, drumming, singing, and story sharing to build community*

On Saturday, December 3, Flushing Town Hall will partner with NativeTec, Ma's House & BIPOC Art Studio Inc., and Niamuck Land Trust to host its annual Native American Social. The event will feature artwork, dancing, drumming, singing, and story sharing to build community. Refreshments will be served.

This year's Native American Social will feature artwork from Tecumseh Ceasar, Shane Weeks,



Jeremy Dennis, Chenae Bullock, and others. Ginew Benton and Young Blood Singers will lead a drum performance and Jennifer Kreisberg of the Native American women's acapella group Ulali will

sing as a special guest. "After a nearly two year pause due to covid, we are pleased, once again, to host our Native Ameri-

(Continued on page 9)

# IT'S IN QUEENS

## It's In Queens! (Dec. 3 to Dec. 8)

The holiday season starts this week in terms of activities. (Holiday music already started.) Stay in the borough to learn, make, or buy everything from trees to wreaths to gingerbread. Or enjoy Jazz, drumming, comedy, dance, and something called “electroluminescent artistry.”

- Dec. 3, Trees + Gingerbreads, Dec. 24. Stroll around and check out the fully decorated trees and vote for your favorite one. Plus, some stores and restaurants hand out complimentary gingerbread kits with purchases. The Shops at Skyview, 40-24 College Point Blvd., Flushing.

- Dec. 3, Wreathmaking Workshops, Dec. 11. Learn how to make evergreen wreaths. No experience necessary, but bring garden shears. Sessions at 10 am and 1 pm on Dec. 3, 4, 10, and 11. Queens County Farm Museum, 73-50 Little Neck Pkwy., Glen Oaks.

- Dec. 3, Winter Landscapes, 1 pm. Paint a winter scene of Rufus King Park and/or make Victorian salt dough ornaments to bring home or display on site. King Manor Museum, 150-03 Jamaica Ave.

- Dec. 3, Winter Wonder Weekend, Dec. 4. Multi-cultural celebrations with live music, a tree lighting, menorah display, selfies with Santa, holiday crafts, a tree tour, and story time. Noon to 5 pm. Queens Botanical Garden, 43-50 Main St., Flushing.

- Dec. 3, Illegal: A New Musical, 7 pm. A staged reading of a historical fiction musical about Anti-Asian prejudice, immigration, and martial arts with some bold characters and comedic moments. Flushing Town Hall, 137-35 Northern Blvd.

- Dec. 3, Native American Social, noon. Native American art, dancing, drumming, acapella singing, and story sharing to build community. Flushing Town Hall, 137-35 Northern Blvd.

- Dec. 3, Concerts, Art + More, 4 pm. An annual holiday concert followed by an exhibition unveiling with the displaying artist, Rachel Vas Nunes, in person. Maple Grove Cemetery, enter at Kew Gardens Road and 129th Street, Kew Gardens.

- Dec. 3, Celebration of Diversity + Disability, noon. A free and fun day with art-making, movement, dance, music, storytelling, and other activities for youngsters with disabilities. Queens Museum, NYC Building, Flushing Meadows Corona Park.

- Dec. 3, Christmas Craft Fair, 10 am. Peruse baked goods, homemade jams, handmade items, jewelry, and other locally made items. Trinity Lutheran Church of LIC/Astoria, 31-18 37th St.

- Dec. 3, Guilty Pleasures, 8 pm. Jump back to the 1980s with this high-energy, six-person cover band. Resorts World New York City, 110-00 Rockaway Blvd., South Jamaica.

- Dec. 4, A Very Electric Christmas, 4 pm. Lightwire Theater uses electroluminescent artistry



RW Guilty-Pleasures



QM photo by kuoheng huang

to present a story about a bird and his family that migrate south for the winter. A wind blows them off course, and they end up in the North Pole with dancing toy soldiers, caroling worms, and performing poinsettias. Queens Theatre, 14 United Nations Ave. S., Flushing Meadows Corona Park.

- Dec. 4, Sacred Music Chorale, 3 pm. A performance of Camille Saint-Saens's “Christmas Oratorio” with choruses, solos, duets, and trios, along with a selection of familiar carols. St. John’s Lutheran Church, 86-20 114th St., Richmond Hill.

- Dec. 4, Grammy-Winning Clayton Bryant, 3 pm. ASCAP and Grammy-winning artist and composer Clayton Bryant performs a wide variety of music, including selections from his recently released “A Christmas Love Song.” Queens Central Library, 89-11 Merrick Blvd., Jamaica.

- Dec. 4, Bang on a Can: Miriam Elhajli, 4 pm. Miriam Elhajli is a folk singer, composer, improviser, and musicologist whose work is influenced by her Venezuelan, Moroccan, and North American heritages. She performs as part of a monthly concert series that’s celebrating 12 years. The Noguchi Museum, 9-01 33rd Rd., Long Island City.

- Dec. 4, Art for Disabled Teens, 2 pm. On the first weekend of the month, teens and adults with disabilities visit the gallery with trained museum educators and teaching artists. Participants must be accompanied by a care partner. Queens Museum, NYC Building, Flushing Meadows Corona Park.

- Dec. 4, Bad Trip Storytelling Show, 7 pm. Comedians share their

cringe-worthy tales with a Q&A afterwards. QED Astoria, 27-16 23rd Ave.

- Dec. 4, Holiday Centerpiece Workshop, 1 pm. Create traditional centerpieces from evergreens, candles, and decorative elements. Voelker Orth Museum, 149-19 38th Ave., Flushing.

- Dec. 4, Hell Gate Walking Tour, 1 pm. Explore the East River’s treacherous Hell Gate with a professional guide. Meet at the Wards Island end of the Wards Island Bridge (103rd Street Footbridge).

- Dec. 6, Queens Street Names, 2 pm. Queens Historical Society Executive Director Jason Antos discusses some of the people behind local street names and the street renaming process. Queens Library North Forest Park, 98-27 Metropolitan Ave., Forest Hills.

- Dec. 7, Folds, Dec. 17. Four Ivy Baldwin Dance members move, molt, and mend a large visual art installation made in collaboration with Ukrainian visual artist Inna Babaeva. Wednesdays through Saturdays at 7 pm. The Chocolate Factory Theater, 38-33 24th St., Long Island City.

- Dec. 7, U.S. Premiere of Jumana Manna’s New Film, 7:30 pm. A screening and conversation around “Foragers,” which weaves documentary and fiction to trace foraging for wild edibles in Palestine/Israel. Jumana Manna and human rights attorney Rabea Eghbariah attend. MoMA PS 1, 22-25 Jackson Ave., Long Island City.

- Dec. 8, Lioness: Women in Jazz, 7:30 pm. The final concert in a three-part series featuring Lioness, a collective of female Jazz instrumentalists. Flushing Town Hall, 137-35 Northern Blvd.

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## Attorney General James Urges Congress to Protect Workers by Prohibiting Retirement Investments in Cryptocurrencies

New York Attorney General Letitia James has urged congressional leaders to adopt legislation that would prohibit investing retirement funds in digital assets, such as cryptocurrencies, digital coins, and digital tokens. Individual retirement accounts (IRAs) and defined contribution retirement plans, like 401(k) plans and 457 plans for government employees, are key retirement investments for millions of hardworking Americans. Recently, a major financial institution has offered Bitcoin as an investment option in its 401(k) plans, and other financial institutions are expected to follow suit. With recent crypto market crashes and other market turbulence, Attorney General James stressed the need to protect workers' retirement funds and avoid the dangers of risky cryptocurrencies.

"Investing Americans' hard-earned retirement funds in crashing cryptocurrencies could wipe away a lifetime's worth of hard work," said Attorney General James. "Over and over again, we have seen the dangers and pitfalls of cryptocurrencies and the wild swings in these funds. Hardworking Americans should not have to worry about their retirement savings being wiped out due to risky bets on unstable assets like cryptocurrencies. I urge Congress to take action to protect working families from having their retirement accounts dry up because of crypto investments."

Two congressional bills have been proposed to allow crypto investments in retirement plans and prevent regulators from restricting access to these investments in

such plans. The Retirement Savings Modernization Act would put 401(k) retirement savings at risk by exposing them to the volatility and illegality of cryptocurrencies. In her letter, Attorney General James explains that recent high-profile failures of crypto companies make digital assets unsuitable retirement investments. Just this month, the value of many cryptocurrencies fell precipitously after one of the largest crypto exchanges in the world, FTX Trading Ltd., collapsed. In May 2022, many cryptocurrencies reached significant lows following the crash of a so-called stable coin, TerraUSD. The failure of TerraUSD spread and resulted in \$500 billion in losses into the broader crypto market.

Aside from such failures, Attorney General James cautioned that cryptocurrency prices swing wildly because they are purely speculative rather than an investment in future cash flow. Bitcoin, for example, the first and most popular of cryptocurrencies, peaked at \$68,789.63 on November 12, 2021, and traded as low as \$15,599.05 just yesterday. Yet no underlying fundamentals explain why it traded at over \$64,000 one year and under \$20,000 the next. Many once well-established cryptocurrency businesses have frozen customer withdrawals, announced mass layoffs, or filed for bankruptcy, while investors have been left in financial ruin.

In addition, Attorney General James warned that cryptocurrencies are often an instrument for fraud and crime. For example, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC)

recently reported that since the start of 2021, more than 46,000 people have reported losing over \$1 billion total in crypto to scams. The FTC further noted that there is no institution to flag suspicious transactions and attempt to stop fraud before it happens and that crypto transfers cannot be reversed. Most issuers of cryptocurrencies are not examined by any regulator, state or federal. Safeguards like those provided by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) or the Securities Investor Protection Corporation (SIPC) are unavailable to protect investors from the failures of digital asset companies.

Congress historically has enacted laws to help American workers save for retirement. In her letter, Attorney General James described legislation that Congress could adopt to protect workers' retirement savings from crypto losses, including making minor amendments to existing statutory restrictions on how retirement savings may be invested.

This letter is the latest action that Attorney General James has taken to protect the investing public from the risks posed by digital assets. In March 2021 and June 2022, Attorney General James issued alerts warning investors about the risks of investing in cryptocurrencies. Attorney General James has also brought investigations into, and civil actions against, several crypto companies to put an end to their fraudulent or illegal practices, including Coinseed, Inc., Bitfinex and Tether, GTV Media Group, Inc., BlockFi, and Nexo Capital Inc.

## Flushing Town Hall Hosts Annual Native American Social

(Continued from page 7)

can Social in-person at Flushing Town Hall. Covid hit the Indigenous community particularly hard and sadly many elders and tribal leaders passed away. We dedicate our third annual Native American Social to the legacy of those we lost; and hope our art, songs, and dances will honor them. We invite you to join us in celebrating their lives and support Native artists and artisans," says Director of Education and Public

Programs at Flushing Town Hall Gabrielle M. Hamilton.

Those who wish to attend must RSVP at <https://www.flushingtowntownhall.org/native-american-social>

Admission is free. There is a suggested \$5 donation for children and a suggested \$10 donation for adults.

For more information: [www.flushingtowntownhall.org](http://www.flushingtowntownhall.org) (718) 463-7700 x222 137-35 Northern Blvd. Flushing, NY 11354

## QBP Richards On Approval Of Conditional Cannabis Dispensary Licenses in Queens

Queens Borough President Donovan Richards Jr. stated the following in response to the New York State Cannabis Control Board issuing 36 Conditional Adult Use Retail Dispensary licenses, with six conditional licenses going to six Queens organizations and individuals.

"Societal shifts don't come quickly or easily, but this week's milestone approval of six conditional cannabis dispensary licenses for Queens organizations is nothing short of transformational. What was once a tool

used to target communities of color is now a crucial, and legal, piece of our economic puzzle that will create jobs, create wealth and create opportunity in those same communities," said Borough President RICHARDS. "Congratulations to all six Queens licensees for making history. My office, along with members of our Cannabis Task Force, looks forward to working with each entity to ensure this emerging sector of our borough's economy is one rooted in equity and empowerment."

## New York City Council Votes to Pass Council Member Linda Lee's Legislation to Track the Opioid Settlement Fund And its Related Programs

The New York City Council voted to pass Council Member Linda Lee's Bill (Int.0404) to require the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to track and report on the funds secured for New York City by New York State Attorney General Letitia James from settlements with opioid manufacturers and distributors. The report would include the total money found in the opioid settlement fund, the total money withdrawn from the opioid settlement fund, where this money is being spent, the number of New Yorkers benefitting from the fund, and a timeline of when the fund will be depleted.

"For the first time in decades, New York City has an opportunity to address a massive public health crisis in a manner that will maximize coordination between the City and State, various government agencies, and community-based service providers, while simultaneously providing the utmost transparency for New Yorkers," said Council Member Linda Lee, Chair of the Committee on Mental Health, Disabilities, and Addictions. "Every three hours a New Yorker dies from a drug overdose, and as a social worker, I have seen how the ongoing opioid epidemic has created turmoil that families across our city have paid for with their lives. New York City

deserves to know how we will combat this crisis, and Int.404 serves as the blueprint that will give our residents insight into our efforts to build preventative and rehabilitative programming to end the opioid epidemic. I want to thank New York State Attorney General Letitia James for holding opioid manufacturers accountable for the damage they have caused, my colleagues in the Committee on Mental Health, Disabilities, and Addictions for their support, and Speaker Adrienne Adams for her leadership on this issue."

"The funds secured from opioid manufacturers and distributors is the first step in addressing the opioid crisis in our city. It's imperative that we utilize the funding to address the crisis humanely, effectively, and methodically. This bill will ensure that we have the necessary information to develop policy that does exactly that," said Deputy Speaker Diane Ayala.

"There needs to be full accountability to the New York City Council concerning where these funds are being sent," Councilwoman Joann Ariola said. "Those funds should be used for things such as education and for additional addiction services. By requiring the DOHM or any other agency in charge of this money to issue regular reports on where

it is going, we can ensure proper oversight and help guarantee those funds are going to the places they are most needed."

"The opioid epidemic has devastated countless families and individuals' lives in New York City. These funds, paid to the city pursuant to Attorney General Letitia James' opioid settlement sharing agreement, must be prioritized to support our healthcare workers, communities, and people most affected by substance abuse. I commend my colleague Council Member Linda Lee for creating a pathway to keep the process of reporting on the opioid settlement transparent as we need to assure those funds are appropriately allocated to benefit those struggling from opioid addictions and drug abuse," said Council Member Julie Menin.

"For decades, pharmaceutical companies and doctors have caused the opioid epidemic to continue because of the mass sale and overprescribing of these deadly drugs," said Council Member Robert Holden. "The opioid crisis is a public health emergency and has wreaked havoc on thousands of families in New York. Thanks to the opioid settlements, those impacted by the scourge get as-

(Continued on page 10)



**Council Member Linda Lee's**

### Flood Barrier Distribution

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## Speaker Adrienne Adams, NYC Council Celebrate Signing of Bills to Expand Services For Victims of Domestic And Gender-Based Violence into Law

Speaker Adrienne E. Adams and Council Member Tiffany Cabán celebrated two bills to expand services to victims of domestic and gender-based violence being signed into law today. The "Support Survivors" legislative package, to increase services and provide resources for survivors of domestic and gender-based violence, was passed during Domestic Violence Awareness Month. It would require city agencies to establish a housing stability program for survivors and create an online portal and resource guide for survivors.

"The Council has been laser-focused on expanding support for crime victims, who too often are underserved despite being frequently referenced in public safety debates," said Speaker Adrienne Adams. "Supporting survivors of domestic and gender-based violence requires thoughtful consideration of their most urgent needs and the best ways to meet them. The Support Survivors legislative package enacts solutions that will provide critical resources to promote health, safety, and stability and make available services easier to find and navigate. I thank Council Member Caban for her advocacy and leadership, and all of our Council colleagues who supported this legislation that will help

survivors access the recovery they need."

"When I first became chair of the Committee on Women & Gender Equity, I shared that my focus this term would be on shifting resources and power away from patriarchal systems of violence and punishment and toward the compassionate, life-giving systems which we have sidelined and devalued for too long. I am very proud to be delivering on that promise with the two bills the Mayor is signing today," said Council Member Tiffany Cabán. "These two laws WILL save lives. The online portal and written resource guide, available in all major languages and in braille, will make it much more likely that survivors will know about, and take advantage of, the great life-saving programs already available in our City. And the low-barrier urgently-accessible grant program will directly address one of the most significant barriers survivors face in leaving dangerous situations: economic precarity. I look forward to working with the Mayor to fully fund and thoughtfully implement these laws and can't wait to celebrate many survivor success stories together."

The legislative package contains the following:

- Introduction 153-A, sponsored by Council Member Tiffany Cabán,

would require the Office to End Domestic and Gender-Based Violence (ENDGBV), in consultation with the Department of Social Services (DSS) and community-based organizations, to establish a program to provide survivors of domestic and gender-based violence with a low-barrier grant and supportive services that would help survivors with expenses related to maintaining housing. The bill would also require ENDGBV to report on the program on an annual basis.

- Introduction 154-A, sponsored by Council Member Tiffany Cabán, would require ENDGBV to establish an online portal and a written resource guide of available services for survivors of domestic and gender-based violence in New York City. The portal and guide would be available in the designated citywide languages. The guide would also be available in Braille. The portal would also include a clear and conspicuous link to any other relevant City-run websites and portals that provide information on survivor services located within the city, and a description of the types of such resources. The bill would also require ENDGBV to conduct outreach on the portal and guide and ensure the portal is secure and confidential to protect the privacy of survivors.

## New York City Council Votes to Pass Council Member Linda Lee's Legislation to Track the Opioid Settlement Fund And its Related Programs

(Continued from page 9)

assistance while they rebuild their lives. Intro 404 is a step in the right direction for increased accountability and transparency and will assist in ensuring that there is access to these funds for those who need it."

According to the most recent data<<https://www.nyc.gov/assets/doh/downloads/pdf/basas/provisional-overdose-report-third-quarter-2021.pdf>>, every three hours someone dies of a drug overdose in New York City with more residents dying of overdoses than homicides, suicides, and motor vehicle crashes combined. The first round of investments that New York City will receive over the next five years will build on the city's \$60 million allocation for HealingNYC, the City's existing plan to

address the opioid overdose epidemic as well as other baselined objectives to support measures in overdose prevention, harm reduction, and preventative care. The City plans to meet the objectives identified below:

- Strengthening Harm Reduction and Treatment in Communities
- Sustaining and expanding hours and services at the city's existing Syringe Service Programs (SSPs) that operate Overdose Prevention Centers (OPCs) to reduce the risk of overdoses among people who use drugs and offer them connections to other services and supports, like treatment.
- Expanding access to Street Health Outreach and Wellness (SHOW) mobile harm reduction clinics and connections to provide care in communities hardest hit

by the overdose epidemic.

Expanding Support for Treatment Optimization Strategies

- Supporting additional staff within the city's public hospital system to expand their emergency department substance use consult team to 24/7 operations across 11 hospitals.
- Training the behavioral health workforce to build expertise in addressing co-occurring psychiatric and substance use disorders.
- Strengthening Community Support for People Who Use Drugs and Their Families
- Expanding support for the families of drug overdose decedents by connecting them to critical mental health and social services supports in the crucial window following a death and according to their particular needs.

## Chairman Hakeem Jeffries Statement on The Passing of Rep. Donald Mceachin

Upon the passing of Rep. Donald McEachin (VA-04), House Democratic Caucus Chair Hakeem Jeffries (D-NY) released the following statement:

Our Caucus family is heartbroken that we will return to Washington this week without our dear friend and colleague, Donald McEachin.

Don's presence will be sorely missed in the Caucus, the Congress and the Commonwealth of Virginia. From his time serv-

ing in both chambers of the Virginia legislature to his three terms in Congress, Don brought a servant's heart, fierce passion and beaming smile to everything that he did. Many of us have been blessed with the opportunity to fight alongside Don during his service on the Energy & Commerce Committee, Committee on Natural Resources and the Select Committee on the Climate Crisis, in addition to his leadership within the Congressional Black

Caucus.

Brother Don was a proud lifetime member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. As an accomplished attorney, legislator and father, Don truly embodied our motto of "achievement in every field of human endeavor."

I join the entire Democratic Caucus family in praying for his wife Collette, their three children and all who loved Don. May his memory be a blessing to all who share in this tremendous loss.

## Riders Testify For #6MinuteService

### At The MTA Committee Meeting, Riders Alliance Members and Leaders Urge Governor Hochul to Save Public Transit from Fiscal Crisis and Invest in More Frequent Buses and Trains

Before a recent meeting of the MTA Board's New York City Transit Committee at 2 Broadway, Riders Alliance Executive Director Betsy Plum said: - "Six minute service brings more opportunity within reach for New Yorkers who need it most. That's why we're calling on Governor Hochul to invest in a positive vision for public transit: funding to resolve the fiscal cliff and a targeted investment in improving service to grow ridership over the long term. Serving riders better today and investing in attracting new riders to public transit is the only way we secure the MTA's future."

Bronx artist and Bx13 and 4 train rider Victor Walker said: - "Sometimes I choose to just stay home knowing the wait times are long in the extreme cold or heat with no place to sit or even a bus shelter to cover you. Today I ask you all to strongly consider #6minservice. Think about who rides the bus the most in this city: Seniors, the physically disabled, parents, students. Often with no bus

shelter as they wait. Riders need frequent transit service today!"

Upper West Sider Paul Fridman said: - "Running a business in NYC is even more complex if you can not rely on your workforce being on time. This is especially challenging when a business runs 24/7 and has shifts starting overnight and on weekends. Schedules were created to assume there would be employees late or missing work often due to transportation issues. This increases the cost and complexity of business operations in NYC. The ease and attractiveness of operating in NYC increases with more reliable transportation for employees. I ask that the MTA work towards a minimum of #6MinuteService to help riders and businesses in NYC."

Co-op City resident and retired bus operator Alfred Lynch Jr said: - "As a bus operator, I know what service changes mean, it means cuts. If there is no commitment from the MTA to invest more money in improving

buses in the Bronx, we have no reason to believe that this will make the lives of riders better and speed up our bus trips. I'm calling on Governor Hochul and the MTA to radically improve the lives of bus riders. Access to reliable and affordable buses are critical for Bronx riders."

Brooklynite Emily Rose Prats said: - "I've developed spinal & joint degeneration over time that mean I can no longer stand on a platform for 17 minutes waiting for a train and then stand on the train for 20 more minutes without extreme pain. More frequent service would mean a less painful experience for me when I stand, as well as less crowded platforms & cars, which would make seating more accessible. This more equitable access to transit would mean more subway trips for me and elevated ridership for the MTA. If the city expects workers like me to keep it running 24/7, then it owes us reliable, accessible transit 24/7. Six minute service is a big step in the right direction."

## Statement From Speaker Adrienne Adams and LGBTQIA+ Caucus Co-Chairs Tiffany Cabán and Crystal Hudson on Respect for Marriage Act Vote in the U.S. Senate

"Love is love, and all Americans deserve the right to marry the person they love without undue restrictions from government. With the United States Senate's passage of the bipartisan Respect for Marriage Act, our country is sending a clear message that marriage equality is an inalienable right for all that is supported by Democrats, Republicans,

and Independents alike. The Supreme Court has already stripped away the federal right to safely access abortion and reproductive health care, and indicated that other rights, including same sex marriage, could be next on the chopping block. Codifying marriage equality in federal law is an important step to ensure rights and federal benefits are

safeguarded from extremist, hyper-partisan attacks. We thank Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer for his leadership and the U.S. Senate for supporting this vital legislation. We look forward to the quick passage of the amended bill in the House of Representatives so President Biden can sign this crucial bill into law."



**LEGAL NOTICES**

Notice of Formation of NENOT'S NYC LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 10/03/2022. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 6336 Fitchett Street, Rego Park, NY 11374. Purpose: any lawful activities. 11/17,24,12/1,8,15&22/2022

EVIUM CHARGING, LLC Articles of Org. filed NY Sec. of State (SSNY) 6/2/22. Office in Queens Co. SSNY design. Agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to David Fenig 152 Beach 6th St Far Rockaway NY 11691. Purpose: Any lawful activity. 11/3,10,17,24,12/1&8/2022

Notice of Formation of CIRCADIAN RISE LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 08/09/2022. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 187 Wolf Road, Suite 101, Albany, NY 12205. Purpose: any lawful activities. 10/27,11/3,10,17,24&12/1/2022

Notice of Formation of ATREVIDO LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 09/22/2022. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 4509 104 Street, Corona, NY 11368. Purpose: any lawful activities. 11/10,17,24,12/1,8&15/2022

Notice of Formation of 9108 ROOSEVELT LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/02/22. Office location: Queens County. Princ. office of LLC: c/o MCO, 111-15 Queens Blvd., Forest Hills, NY 11375. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC at the addr. of its princ. office. Purpose: Any lawful activity. 11/17,24,12/1,8,15&22/2022

2340 27 STREET LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 10/28/22. 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, 2340 27th Street, Queens, NY 11105. Purpose: Any lawful purpose. 11/24,12/1,8,15,22&29/2022

Notice of Formation of TREMAINE SECURITY SERVICES LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 08/01/2022. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 167-20 144th Drive, Jamaica, NY 11434. Purpose: any lawful activities. 11/24,12/1,8,15,22&29/2022

**LEGAL NOTICES**

182NDPLC LLC. Art. of Org. filed with SSNY on 9/29/22. Office in Queens Co. SSNY design. for svce of process. SSNY shall mail a copy of any process to: the LLC, at 90-18 182nd Place, Hollis, NY 11423. Any lawful purpose. 10/27,11/3,10,17,24&12/1/2022

Notice of Formation of ABA TAX LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 10/17/2022. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 8595 150TH Street, Jamaica, NY 11435. Purpose: any lawful activities. 11/3,10,17,24,12/1&8/2022

OPRX 11374, LLC Articles of Org. filed NY Sec. of State (SSNY) 10/24/22. Office in Queens Co. SSNY design. agent of LLC whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail process to 1 Old Country Rd., Ste. 347, Carle Place, NY 11514. Purpose: Any lawful purpose. Principal business loc: 63-20 99th St., Rego Park, NY 11374. 10/27,11/3,10,17,24&12/1/2022

FRANCO TAX & ADVISORY LLC, Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 10/25/2022. Office loc: Queens County. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Manuel Franco, 101-11 108th Street, Richmond Hill, NY 11419. Purpose: Any Lawful Purpose. 10/27,11/3,10,17,24&12/1/2022

67-22 Fresh Pond Road LLC, Arts of Org. filed with Sec. of State of NY (SSNY) 5/12/2022. Cty: Queens. SSNY desig. as agent upon whom process against may be served & shall mail process to Calogero & Maria Noto, 158-16 89th St., Howard Beach, NY 11414. General Purpose. 11/3,10,17,24,12/1&8/2022

Notice of formation of 76-21 170TH STREET LLC, a limited liability company. Art of Org. filed with the Sec. of State of NY (SSNY) on 10/17/2022. Office located in QUEENS. SSNY has been designated for service of process. SSNY shall mail a copy of any process served against the LLC to c/o 76-21 170TH STREET LLC. 76-21 170TH STREET FRESH MEADOWS NY 11366 Purpose: any lawful activity. 10/27,11/3,10,17,24&12/1/2022

SJ Richmond LLC filed w/ SSNY on 11/4/22. Office: Queens Co. SSNY designated as agent for process & shall mail to: 126-15 89th Ave., Richmond Hill, NY 11418. Purpose: any lawful. 11/17,24,12/1,8,15&22/2022

8230 Parsons LLC filed w/ SSNY on 10/11/22. Office: Queens Co. SSNY designated as agent for process & shall mail to: 30-55 37th St., Astoria, NY 11103. Purpose: any lawful. 11/10,17,24,12/1,8&15/2022

**LEGAL NOTICES**

AARG CAPITAL LLC filed Arts. of Org. with the Sect'y of State of NY (SSNY) on 7/8/2022. 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, 141-03 71st Ave, Flushing, NY 11367. Purpose: any lawful act. 11/24,12/1,8,15,22&29/2022

Mejor Amiga Appliances, LLC filed w/ SSNY on 11/18/22. Office: Queens Co. SSNY designated as agent for process & shall mail to: 163-07 Depot Rd., Flushing, NY 11358. Purpose: any lawful. 11/24,12/1,8,15,22&29/2022

Notice of Qualification of CV Executive Services, LLC. Authority filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 09/30/22. Office location: Queens County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 12/06/21. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 1482 E. Valley Rd., Ste. 300, Santa Barbara, CA 93108. Address to be maintained in DE: 838 Walker Rd., Ste. 21-2, Dover, DE 19904. Arts of Org. filed with the Secy. of State, John G. Townsend Bldg., 401 Federal St., Ste. 4, Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: any lawful activities. 12/1,8,15,22,29/2022&1/5/2023

Notice of Formation of AZUGA POWER LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 11/11/22. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o The LLC, 50-22 40th St, #2G, Sunnyside, NY 11104. Purpose: any lawful activity. 12/1,8,15,22,29/2022&1/5/2023

518 Services LLC, Arts of Org. filed with Sec. of State of NY (SSNY) 10/20/2022. Cty: Queens. SSNY desig. as agent upon whom process against may be served & shall mail process to 33-15 211 St., Bayside, NY 11361. General Purpose. 12/1,8,15,22,29/2022&1/5/2023

Notice of Formation of ELITE EHS CONSULTANTS LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 09/12/2022. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 2520 42nd St. #1C, Astoria, NY, 11103 Purpose: any lawful activities. 12/1,8,15,22,29/2022&1/5/2023



**Senator Gillibrand's Statement On Senate Passage Of The Respect for Marriage Act**

(Continued from page 6)

By passing the Respect for Marriage Act, we are showing same-sex and interracial couples that Congress will stand by them and fight for their fundamental

rights. It is a sad fact of reality that we must take this necessary step, but by doing so we are giving all couples the certainty and security they deserve.”

Senator Kirsten Gillibrand has long been a leader in the

fight for LGBTQ rights. In 2009, Gillibrand led the effort in the Senate to repeal the discriminatory “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” policy, waging a successful 18-month campaign on the issue.

**AG James Secures \$9.4 Million From Google & iHeartMedia Over Misleading Radio Ads About a Google Device**

(Continued from page 6)

markets, including in New York, a violation of New York’s consumer protection laws. Google and iHeartMedia will pay more than \$9.4 million in civil penalties, costs, and fees of which New York will receive \$1.58 million.

“Google and iHeartMedia knowingly misled the public through inaccurate ads to turn a profit,” said Attorney General James. “False advertising is a fraud against the public. Companies big and small have a responsibility to be honest about their products and follow the law, there are no exceptions. Consumers deserve to know the truth about products before making any purchases. My office will not tolerate misleading claims, and outright lies from advertisers, and we will hold them accountable.”

“Google and iHeartMedia paid influencers to promote products they never used, showing a blatant disrespect for truth-in-advertising rules,” said Federal Trade Commission’s Bureau of Consumer Protection Director Samuel Levine. “The FTC will not stop working with our partners in the states to crack down on deceptive ads and ensure firms that break the rules pay a price.”

In 2019, Google partnered

with iHeartMedia and other local radio stations to run an ad campaign for the Google Pixel 4. In these ads, Google required radio personalities to describe their personal experiences using the Pixel 4, despite the phone not yet being available for sale. Google refused to provide the phones to any stations in advance of recording and airing the ads, so the radio personalities’ statements about their experiences using the phone could not be true. One ad in English deceptively exclaimed:

“The only thing I love more than taking the perfect photo? Taking the perfect photo at night. With Google Pixel 4 both are a cinch. It’s my favorite phone camera out there, especially in low light, thanks to Night Sight Mode. I’ve been taking studio-like photos of everything... my son’s football game... a meteor shower... a rare spotted owl that landed in my backyard.”

Google ran the misleading ads in English and Spanish a total of 23,577 times in 10 different media markets across the country, including more than 4,037 times in New York.

As a result of today’s consent judgments, New York will receive \$1,524,621 from Google and \$56,767 from iHeartMedia in civil penalties, cost, and fees. Google is also barred from running

ads with false endorsements for its consumer electronic products, operating systems for handheld devices, or any software or consumer-facing feature in any device. The settlements also require the companies to provide related compliance reports to the states. Google will be required to report for three years, and iHeartMedia will be required to report for 10 years.

New York was joined by Arizona, California, Georgia, Illinois, and Massachusetts in the settlement against Google. Texas also joined the group in its settlement against iHeartMedia.

Attorney General James asks any consumer who believes they have been the victim of consumer fraud, to file a consumer complaint online or contact the Attorney General’s Office Helpline at (800) 771-7755. This matter was handled by Assistant Attorney General Melvin Goldberg of the Consumer Frauds & Protection Bureau, under the supervision of Bureau Chief Jane M. Azia and Deputy Bureau Chief Laura J. Levine. The Consumer Frauds and Protection Bureau is a part of the Division of Economic Justice, which is led by Chief Deputy Attorney General Chris D’Angelo and overseen by First Deputy Attorney General Jennifer Levy.

**Meng's Statement On The Election Of Hakeem Jeffries As The New Democratic Leader In The House Of Representatives**

U.S. Rep. Grace Meng (D-NY), New York’s senior member of the House Appropriations Committee, today issued the following statement hailing the election of Congressman Hakeem Jeffries (D-Brooklyn) as the new Democratic Leader in the United States House of Representatives.

“I have known Hakeem since I entered the New York State Legislature in 2009. Early on, I came to view him as a friend and big brother. From the Assembly to Congress, I have always valued his advice – whether on moving legislation, or how

to best support constituents.

Hakeem is an outstanding public servant and wonderful human being. He is a natural and steady leader on whom Brooklyn families have come to rely on in both high and low moments. I am so proud of Hakeem, and I was honored to help second his historic nomination as our Caucus unanimously elected him to become the new Democratic Leader in the House.

He is studious, smart, and does not seek headlines for himself. Instead, he selflessly goes out of his way to make sure that colleagues are

recognized for their work, and shine in the spotlight. He is a collaborative leader who will seek out and include as many voices as possible. He sees the strengths in each of our colleagues, and will work to ensure that these talents are fully recognized and utilized.

I am confident in the direction of House Democrats with Hakeem at the helm. I know he will keep us unified as one team as we retake the House Majority in 2024, and I am excited to partner with him in his new role. Congratulations to my friend and fellow New Yorker!”



### NYC is Indebted to Immigrant Workers



New York City is indebted to immigrant workers. Yet they often face wage theft and employment discrimination. This is why the Low Wage Worker Initiative, funding worker organizing and legal services, is vital. Council

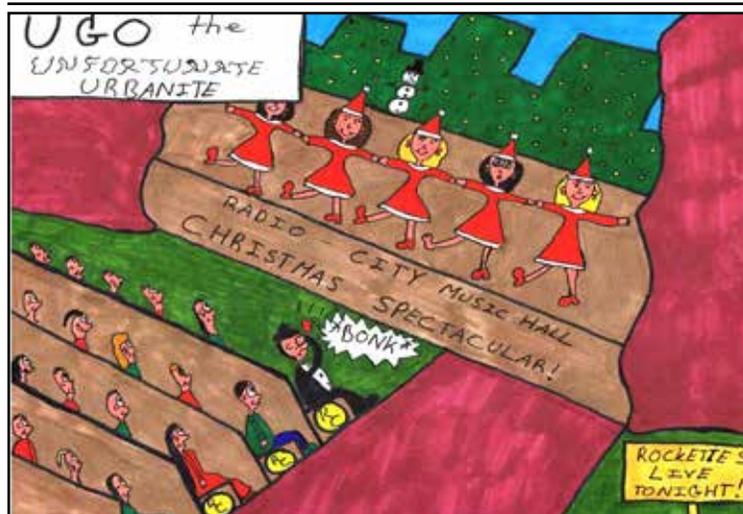
Member Shekar Krishnan is proud to have worked with my Council colleagues and front-line groups to save this critical program that was dropped from the mayoral administration's last budget.

### Pheffer Amato Presents Summer Reading Awards



Assemblywoman Stacey Pheffer Amato (D-South Queens) presented the Assembly Excellence in Reading Certificate to students at several schools to congratulate them on successfully participating in the 2022 Summer Reading Challenge. In her Summer Reading Program, Assemblywoman Pheffer Amato sent pamphlets to schools across the 23rd Assembly District which challenged the students to incorporate reading into their daily routine over summer vacation in order to win the award. The challenge was to read a book for a minimum of 15 minutes a day for

at least 40 days during July and August. Over 200 students from schools across the district participated and sent in their pamphlets with days marked or checked off. The Assemblywoman addressed students, parents and faculty at numerous ceremonies and remarked how "reading gives our students an opportunity to open the world - bringing new thoughts and ideas to the forefront. I'm so proud of each of the students who completed this challenge as they've taken that first step to become lifelong readers," said Assemblywoman Stacey Pheffer Amato.



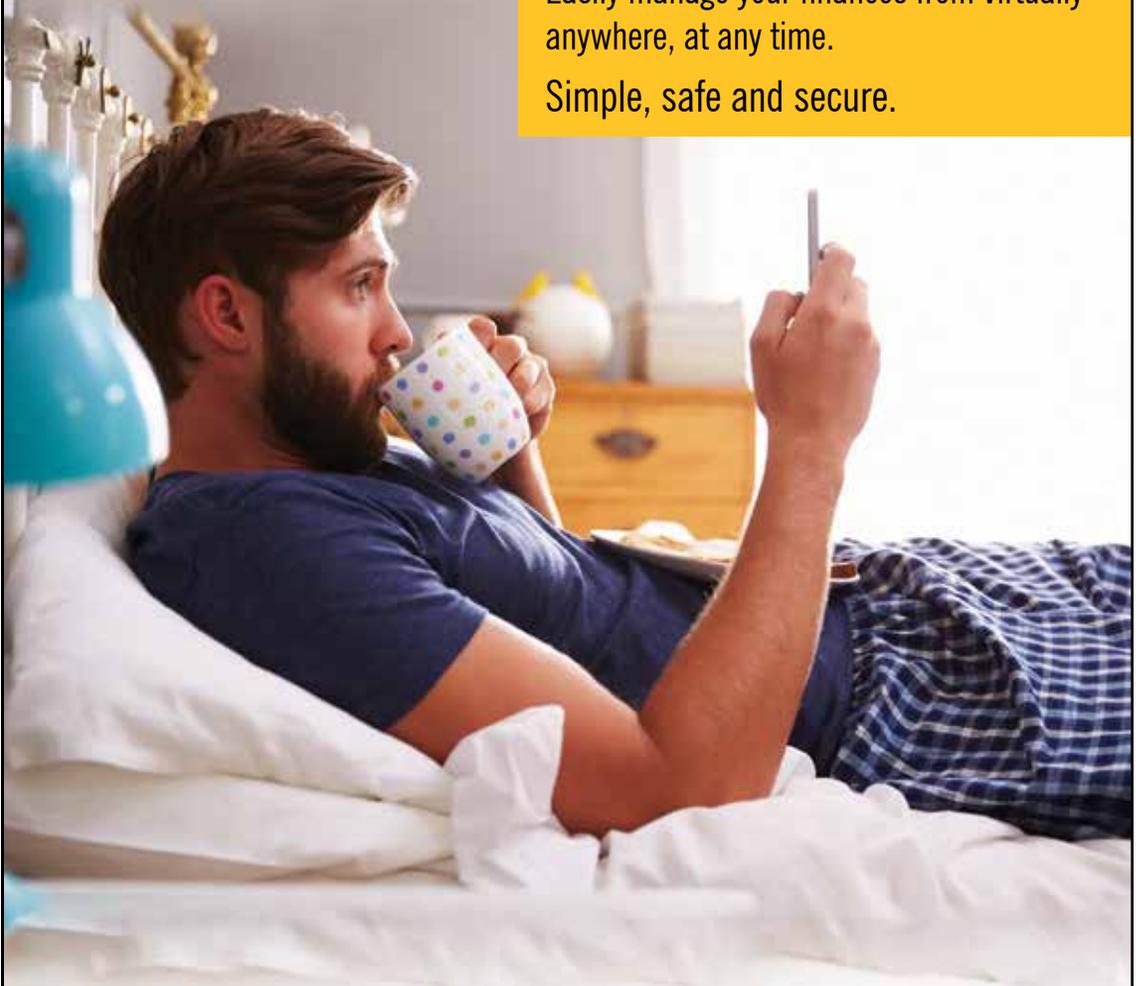
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