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25 CENTS

TIQC Selected by the New York City Economic Development Corporation (NYCEDC) to Operate in the 2023 Founder Fellowship Program

The Tech Incubator at Queens College, CUNY (TIQC) is one of the few incubators that provides free accelerator programs for underrepresented entrepreneurs for tech and tech-enabled startups in New York City. TIQC was one of the five organizations selected by the New York City Economic Development Corporation (NYCEDC) to operate in the 2023 Founder Fellowship program, designed to improve access to capital and networks. This prestigious Founder Fellowship evolved from NYC Venture Fellows, which accelerated some of NYC's most successful startups including Warby Parker, Etsy, Foursquare, and Rent the Runway.

TIQC is playing an important role in amplifying the startup culture by providing much-needed resources and support to underserved and BIPOC tech founders from the local community access to the resources they need to realize their ventures. Participants in the fellowship at TIQC gain skills to successfully lead their companies, and are given opportunities for professional networking, fundraising, mentorship, and business development. These entrepreneurs are provided access to six months of free co working space, an innovation lab, interns support, faculty advisors, one on one mentorship,

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NYCFC Shares New Renderings That Could Transform Queens Neighborhood of Willets Point, Next to Citi Field



NYCFC shared new renderings of the soccer stadium set to be built in Willets Point. This new gleaming soccer stadium, directly across from Citi Field, will enhance the redevelopment of Willets Point, Corona, Queens, 11368. The proposed stadium is a big part of the latest effort to transform an industrial area to affordable housing units, a school and a hotel revitalizing Willets Point. See story on page 3.

Michelle Wang Honored as Woman of Distinction at The NY State Capitol



Pictured (L to R) State Senator John Liu, Michelle Wang (With a plaque in recognition of her service and commitment to the community) and Majority Leader Andrea Stewart Cousins. See story on page 3.

District Attorney Melinda Katz Hosts AAPI Heritage Month Celebration at St. John's University



Queens DA Melinda Katz celebrated Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month at St. John's University with awards and keynote by Judge Karen Lin. See story on page 3.

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TIQC Selected by the New York City Economic Development Corporation (NYCEDC) to Operate in the 2023 Founder Fellowship Program

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and industry experts, and vast resources from TIQC network, resources from Queens College such as the School of Business, Small Business Administration (SBA)/Small Business Development Center (SBDC), and programs such as Data Analytics, Economics, Computer Science, Media Studies, Art & Design.

Two resources in the ecosystem that were brought in by TIQC were Think8 and WeLoveMentors. Think8 has conducted a three day in person workshop at the beginning of the program which provided a framework that allowed the Founder Fellows to align their purpose and visions. Subsequently both partners provided one on one coaching and mentoring with each of the Founder Fellows to help them further de-

velop their strategy and roadmap towards implementation.

"We are helping underserved founders grow their ventures by connecting them with resources from the tech ecosystem and increase their impact and footprint with a goal of promoting equity in New York City," says Ying Zhou, Executive Director of The Tech Incubator at Queens College (TIQC).

In this inaugural year, the Founder Fellowship program at TIQC accepted 12 startup companies, many of which are run by founders from underserved communities, many of whose ventures aim to serve underserved communities. The innovative startups include:

Animation Nights New York (ANNY), is a monthly screening event and annual festival based in NYC; BodyLogicPT, Healthcare,

a breakthrough industry disruptor that is driving innovation in healthcare and impacting healthcare accessibility and inequity with a "Wellness on Demand" approach; Innocuous AI helps enterprises harness the power of generative AI to boost productivity and enhance customer experiences; Kquika is using machine learning predictive technology to help airlines resolve flight delays and maintain equipment, thereby saving them significant amounts of money; Layman reclaims the legal system for the people using the power of the people. Created by a recent grad from NYU School of Law, Breaking Barriers Scholar from Columbia University School of Public Health, and published Fulbright Scholar, Esona Ohonba hopes to simulate the

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District Attorney Melinda Katz Hosts AAPI Heritage Month Celebration at St. John's University

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Queens District Attorney Melinda Katz, in partnership with her Asian American and Pacific Islander Advisory Council, hosted an annual celebration in honor of Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month at St. John's University in Jamaica. The program included awards honoring notable community members of Asian and Pacific Island descent and a keynote address by Queens Civil Court Judge Karen Lin.

District Attorney Katz said: "This year's celebration of Asian and Pacific Islander heritage is especially gratifying because we were finally able to come together in person. Celebrating the cultural and civic impact that Asian communities have made in Queens strengthens our ability to confront the challenges we face along the way. It is my hope that building understanding will also contribute to ensuring fair justice for all who live and work here in Queens."

District Attorney Katz honored:

- The Flushing Chinese Business Association
- Korean Community Services
- Queens District Attorney's Felony Trials II Deputy Bureau Chief Rosemary Chao
- Queens District Attorney Unit Supervisor of Diversion and Alternative Sentencing Harleen Kaur

United States Representative Grace Meng said: "Happy Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month to all who are celebrating in Queens and across New York. Despite the vital ways that Asian Americans have shaped our nation, the many contributions of our community are often forgotten or ignored, leading to the perception that Asian Americans are perpetual foreigners in America. That is why I am fighting to amplify the experiences, stories, culture, and history of Asian Americans, including leading the effort to establish a national museum

dedicated to our community's history, advocating for the inclusion of Asian Pacific American history in school curricula, and seeking federal recognition for holidays that are important to our community, such as Lunar New Year, Diwali, Eid, and many others.

While I believe that we need to recognize Asian American heritage every day and not just in the month of May, I am grateful to have a dedicated period to highlight the accomplishments of the Asian American community and celebrate the face of American diversity. Thank you to District Attorney Katz for sponsoring this celebration."

New York State Senator John Liu said: "Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month is a time for us to come together to celebrate the history, heritage and future of Asian Americans. Whether standing up and fighting back against the onslaught of anti-Asian hatred or advocating for a more inclusive curriculum that teaches Asian American history in public schools, Asian Americans are more united than ever. Many thanks to Queens DA Melinda Katz for acknowledging and celebrating this important moment that pays tribute to those Asian Americans and community-based organizations that continue to support and uplift our community."

New York State Assembly Member Steven Raga said: "I am honored to co-sponsor the Queens District Attorney's Office AAPI Heritage Month celebration. This collaboration is a testament to our commitment to embracing diversity and honoring the rich cultural heritage of the Asian American and Pacific Islander communities in Queens. Together, we celebrate the remarkable contributions that strengthen our community and inspire us all."

New York Assembly Member Jenifer Rajkumar said: "As the first South Asian woman elected to New York State Office,

I am honored to partner with my friend District Attorney Katz for the Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month celebration. We are partners in serving the AAPI community: she is always there for us when the community has a safety concern, and I supported her efforts by helping pass a budget with \$30 million for AAPI safety. Now we are teaming up to honor some of the outstanding individuals and organizations that embody the hard work, dedication, and compassion that define the AAPI community."

New York City Council Member Sandra Ung said: "Members of the AAPI community have been making important contributions to this country for generations, but to many we are seen as perpetual foreigners. Events like this one being hosted by the Queens District Attorney's Office are an important recognition of the role Asian Americans have had in shaping the nation we know today. While May is a month to celebrate AAPI heritage, we should also reflect on the long and impactful history of the AAPI community in the United States."

New York City Council Member Linda Lee, Vice-Chair of the New York City Council Black, Latino, and Asian Caucus, and first Korean American elected to City Council alongside Julie Won, said: "This AAPI Heritage Month, I am proud to commemorate the traditions I remember celebrating as a child, with my friends and neighbors in the Queens community. The AAPI currently makes up 18 percent of NYC's population and continues to grow, so it is great to see our culture, traditions, and food influence the lives of so many New Yorkers. Thank you to Queens DA Melinda Katz and all of my colleagues who have partnered to create a celebration to reflect this great diversity, and to honor the immense contributions of the AAPI community to our city."

Gillibrand Announces Legislation to Provide Social Security Credits to Caregivers

Caregivers Age 50+ Who Leave The Workforce Lose An Average Of \$304,000 In Wages, Private Pensions, and Social Security;

2.2 Million Family Caregivers Across New York Provide \$39 Billion Worth Of Care Every Year

U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, a member of the Senate Aging Committee, held a video press conference to announce the reintroduction of the Social Security Caregiver Credit Act, legislation that would provide Social Security credits to caregivers. Millions of Americans leave the workforce to become unpaid caregivers for sick, disabled, or elderly loved ones; Gillibrand's legislation would make sure that their

retirement is not threatened as a result.

"Families should never be forced to choose between caring for a loved one and ensuring the security of their retirement," said Senator Gillibrand. "We cannot continue to penalize workers who take time out of the workforce to take care of a sick child, an ailing grandparent, or a disabled spouse by denying them Social Security credits during that period. The Social Security Caregiver Credit Act would recognize caregiving for what it is – work – and allow caregivers to continue to build toward their retirement. I'm proud to be introducing this bill and look forward to getting it passed."

Social Security credits are "units" the Social Security Administration uses to determine whether an individual has qualified for retirement, disability, and

other benefits. In 2023, a worker must earn \$1,640 to earn one Social Security credit and \$6,560 to earn the maximum of four credits per year, and they need 40 credits total to qualify for retirement benefits. Unpaid caregivers who leave the workforce or substantially reduce their hours earn fewer or no Social Security credits. As a result, they are at risk of not qualifying for benefits, putting their retirement security in jeopardy.

The Social Security Caregiver Credit Act would provide retirement credits to unpaid caregivers who spend at least 80 hours a month providing care to a dependent relative under the age of 12 or to a chronically dependent individual. A chronically dependent individual is a person who cannot perform basic activities without the help of a caregiver.

Consumer Affairs Committee Announces Credit Reform Package



Assemblywoman Nily Rozic (D, WF-Fresh Meadows), Chair of the Assembly's Consumer Protection Committee announced a legislative package intended to reform and enhance consumer credit protections in New York. The package includes A779 (Dinowitz), A1309 (L. Rosenthal), A1480 (Carroll), A2672 (Paulin), A4717 (Epstein), and A5367 (Lucas).

"The credit score system has a long way to go before it works for consumers rather than against them," said Assemblywoman Rozic, Chair of the Assembly Consumer Affairs and Protection Committee. "This legislative package is a step toward ensuring New Yorkers are equipped with the information and protections necessary. In New York we know that poor credit reflects a broken financial system, not a judgment on the consumer."

The package of bills includes:

- A779 (Dinowitz) prohibits employers or potential employers from using a job applicant or employee's consumer credit report in his or her decision to hire, terminate, promote, demote, discipline, compensate, or in setting the terms, conditions, or privileges of employment.
- A1309 (L. Rosenthal) protects survivors of domestic violence and others who have become victims of economic abuse by providing them with a right of action in the face of coerced debt.
- A1480 (Carroll) ensures that the credit scores of consumers are not unnecessarily punished due to excessive and egregious fines and other issues presented by cashless tolling systems.
- A2672 (Paulin) clarifies that sellers who impose a surcharge on customers who pay by credit card

must clearly post the credit card price, inclusive of the surcharge, and as long as the final sales price does not amount to a price that is higher than the posted price.

- A4717 (Epstein) requires that consumer reporting agencies contact consumers when an inquiry is made into their consumer reports to better provide control and awareness to consumers regarding their reports.

- A5367 (Lucas) requires the Department of State and Public Service Commission to study and make recommendations regarding the practice of utility, cable, and telephone service providers reporting customer payment information to consumer reporting agencies.

"Large employers' use of credit checks as part of their hiring process is an unfair burden to place upon a person who has applied for a position with that employer. There is little to no evidence that shows a correlation between credit history and job performance, therefore, this practice frequently unfairly thwarts individuals who seek gainful employment. Countless New Yorkers have errors in their credit reports that put them in a lower credit risk tier which are unrelated to their job performance or capabilities. This puts not only prospective employees at a disadvantage but harms existing employees who have their credit history utilized against them by an employer," said Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz. "This legislation would put an end to this practice, and I look forward to working with my colleagues to putting an end to this practice."

"Domestic violence is not limited to physical abuse; in fact survivors are often exposed to severe economic abuse, not realizing the extent until they've escaped," said Assemblymember Linda B. Rosenthal. "After courageously fleeing an abusive relationship, survivors often find their credit destroyed, because their abuser has used their credit cards, made purchases and taken out loans in their name. Survivors cannot rebuild their lives while facing

mountains of coerced debt. My bill will provide them the opportunity to move forward. A hit to one's credit rating can have a long-lasting impact and I applaud the Consumer Affairs and Protection Committee for advancing this package of bills."

"I am pleased to see my bill A1480 pass the Consumer Affairs Committee today. New Yorker's shouldn't see their credit and their lives ruined by confusing billing practices and opaque fees and fines or just because they were late in paying for a toll," said Assemblymember Robert Carroll. "Thanks to Consumer Affairs Committee Chair Nily Rozic for her partnership in moving this bill forward."

"Credit card surcharges should be disclosed clearly and concisely so that customers are fully aware and informed," said Assemblywoman Amy Paulin. "We should not have instances where a lower price is posted and the customer only sees a surcharge when they go to pay. Transparency is key and people should know what they are going to be paying at the outset. The NYS Court of Appeals has also ruled that credit card surcharges must be transparent. I thank Assemblywoman Nily Rozic, Chair, Committee on Consumer Affairs and Protection for her support of this bill and protecting New Yorkers from hidden surcharges."

"While the proliferation of online banking has created convenience for millions, unfortunately data breaches have ensued and threatened the safety of consumers' personal information. By ensuring consumers are notified about inquiries made into their consumer reports, we help them to be proactive in safeguarding their information if they notice what appears to be unauthorized activity," said Assemblymember Harvey Epstein. "I want to thank the Chair for her partnership in protecting New Yorkers from fraud and other illegal activity."

This package passed the Consumer Protection Committee today.

NYCFC Shares New Renderings That Could Transform Queens Neighborhood of Willets Point, Next to Citi Field

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The 25,000 seat stadium will be built across the street from Citi Field at Willets Point is expected to cost nearly \$800 million through a mix of private, government and city funds, and raise \$6 billion in revenue for the city over 30 years.

In addition to the constructing of the 25,000-seat stadium, the plan includes 2,500 new affordable homes, over 40,000 square feet of public open space, retail shops, a hotel and a 650-seat public school. The construction is expected to start in 2024. The stadium is expected to open in 2027.

TIQC Selected by the New York City Economic Development Corporation (NYCEDC) to Operate in the 2023 Founder Fellowship Program

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experience of having a lawyer in the family for the 100 million marginalized Americans who can't afford one; Light Pong & Friends, Inc. specializes in creating super cool connected toys for "kidults," catering to those who still feel like a kid at heart; REEPA celebrates the diverse talent of Harlem, New York by creating local events and popup shops to allow musicians, dancers, street artists and more to showcase their talent; Solid Gold Global (Sagos Distro) is a new (global) music and video distribution platform with a network in over 60 countries; SaveAway® Pioneering the "Save Now, Buy Later" category, SaveAway®'s patented platform offerings empower underserved buyers and sellers alike to realize opportunity where they least expected it; 5050 Style delivers elegantly designed, uplifting organizational products and services that seamlessly integrate into daily life, helping individuals cultivate healthy habits and unlock their full potential in both personal and professional spheres. Charlie Lin is a student at Queens College, has background in software engineering and was formerly a USMC Veteran. TrustFundRegistry™ is an artificial intelligence wealth tech that aims to deliver automated financial tools and education through a gift registry business

model. It empowers families in the BIPOC community to build and transfer intergenerational wealth; Walkspan is a data-driven and location intelligence technology firm dedicated to advancing urban livability and walkability at a global scale. Its preferential mapping technology allows users to find sidewalks that meet their walking criteria. Rather than relying on the shortest route available, Walkspan empowers people by providing options like tree lined paths, shopping corridors, building edges marked with beautiful architecture, neighborhood vibrance and more. The experience of walking enhanced by Walkspan's navigation tool leaves residents feeling happier and healthier. Walkspan was founded by Bernardita Calinao who received her PhD and Master's degrees in Environmental Science from the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry.

Under the umbrella of the NYCEDC, the fellows also have access to free legal service, one year free of We Work space, connections among with 100 new startups funded by the other cohorts in the NYCEDC 2023 Founder Fellowship program. For more information about the Founder Fellowship at Tech Incubator at Queens College see <https://techincubatorqc.com/founder-fellowship/>

Michelle Wang Honored as Woman of Distinction at The NY State Capitol

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Michelle Wang was honored as a Woman of Distinction at the State Capitol. Michelle is President of the New York Chapter of Asian Pacific Islander American Public Affairs (APAPA) and a longtime community leader in New York City's AAPI community, serving in leadership positions on multiple community organizations and volunteering her time to promote AAPI leadership and increase civic engagement. State Senator John Liu presented her with a plaque in recognition of her service and commitment to the community in a ceremony presided over by Majority Leader Andrea Stewart Cousins.

State Senator John Liu stated, "Michelle Wang has dedicated many years to the civic engage-

ment and empowerment of the Asian American community. From serving on the New York State Electoral College during the 2020 presidential election to her outstanding work in creating educational and career opportunities for AAPI youth, Michelle is always the first in line to be on the front lines. For her inspiring commitment to our community, we offer our sincere gratitude and proudly name her a Woman of Distinction."

Michelle Wang stated, "I am so honored for this recognition to be named among the state of New York's Women of Distinction. I have always strived to do everything in my power to strengthen and uplift our community, and this reward serves as an acknowl-

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Meng And Higgins Introduce Legislation to Prohibit The Sale And Transfer of Body Armor to Potential Mass Shooters

Lawmakers reintroduce the bill, named in honor of Aaron Salter, Jr., ahead of the one-year anniversary of the Buffalo massacre

In advance of the one-year anniversary of the Tops Friendly Market grocery store shooting in Buffalo, New York, U.S. Reps. Grace Meng (D-NY) and Brain Higgins (D-NY) announced the reintroduction of the Aaron Salter, Jr., Responsible Body Armor Possession Act.

The legislation is named in memory of Aaron Salter, Jr., the supermarket security guard killed in the massacre who was unable to stop the shooter since he was protected by enhanced body armor during the attack. Salter, a resident of Lockport, New York, was a 30-year veteran of the Buffalo Police Department.

The bill would prohibit the sale, transfer or possession of enhanced body armor by civilians unless they meet specific employment exemptions such as law enforcement or active-duty military personnel. Enhanced body armor is defined as body armor that meets or exceeds a Level III ballistic resistance level—which is tested to stop 7.62mm rifle ammunition—as determined by the National Institution of Justice.

“In past mass shootings, perpetrators have worn body armor that has prolonged the duration of these horrific attacks,” said Congresswoman Meng, a member of the House Gun Violence Prevention Task Force. “Aaron

Salter, Jr., faced such an individual whose body armor ensured that the massacre continued despite shots received from Salter’s fire-arm. The fact that bad actors have access to equipment designed to stop military grade ammunition is dangerous for communities and threatens law enforcement’s ability to respond during a shooting. We must do any and everything we can to limit the devastation of mass shootings before they begin. Our bill is a commonsense step to ensure dangerous individuals cannot access enhanced body armor. I thank Congressman Higgins for his leadership and we will work to see it signed into law.”

“One year ago, a racist, hateful individual traveled to my community of Western New York to commit mass violence at a supermarket on Jefferson Avenue in East Buffalo,” said Congressman Higgins. “Armed with an AR-15 assault weapon, he shot 13 of our neighbors, killing 10 of them in just two minutes and three seconds. It is often said that the best way to stop a bad guy with a gun is a good guy with a gun. Retired police officer Aaron Salter, Jr., the security guard on duty on May 14, 2022, was a good guy with a gun, but his weapon was no match for the military-grade body armor the shooter wore. Body armor designed for war zones has no place in our neighborhoods. The Aaron Salter, Jr., Responsible Body Armor Possession Act prohibits civilians from buying and selling this enhanced armor. I am proud to once again

join Rep. Meng in introducing this commonsense measure. It protects communities, as well as law enforcement answering the call when public safety is at risk.”

“Mass shooters have only one objective: to kill as many people as quickly as possible,” said Kris Brown, President of Brady. “More and more commonly, they are employing body armor during these shootings to protect themselves, prolonging their attacks and making it much more difficult for law enforcement to intervene. Brady applauds Representatives Meng and Higgins for introducing legislation to prevent mass shooters from accessing military-grade protective armor.”

“When a criminal or dangerous individual is wearing enhanced body armor, they can often continue their violent acts even after being engaged by law enforcement,” said Laura Cooper, Executive Director of the Major Cities Chiefs Association. “Tragedies such as the Tops Supermarket shooting in Buffalo have shown the challenge this can pose. The MCCA thanks Rep. Higgins and Rep. Meng for their leadership and for honoring the memory of retired Buffalo Police Officer Aaron Salter, Jr., by introducing this critical piece of legislation.”

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

Meng And Hirono Introduce Legislation to Promote The Teaching of Asian American, Native Hawaiian, And Pacific Islander History in Schools

Lawmakers introduce the bill during Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month

As New York and the nation continue to mark Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, U.S. Rep. Grace Meng (D-NY) and Senator Mazie Hirono (D-HI) announced today that they introduced legislation to promote the teaching of Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander (AANHPI) history in schools.

Throughout America’s history, Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders have made immeasurable contributions to our nation, helping to make the United States the country that it is today. However, AANHPI history has been ignored or poorly represented in our K-12 education system and social studies textbooks.

The lawmakers’ Teaching Asian Pacific American History Act would help change this by increasing awareness of the history, contributions and experiences of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders in the United States so that more students across the nation understand and appreciate the role that AANHPIs have played in shaping and building America.

“Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander history IS American history,” said Congresswoman Meng, the First Vice Chair of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus. “From the heights we’ve reached to the struggles we have faced, future generations must know and understand all that the AANHPI community has given to our country. For too long, our schools have ignored or diminished this vital part of our nation’s past, and it is finally time for that to change. A greater understanding of our story would also help address anti-Asian hate and discrimination at its roots, and combat the stereotypes and negative perceptions that for generations have existed about Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders. I thank Senator Hirono for partnering with me on this important legislation and look forward to our bills moving through Congress.”

“Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander (AANHPI) Heritage Month is an opportunity to recognize AANHPI individuals and communities that have contributed to the development and enhancement of American life and culture,” said Senator Hirono. “But too often, the teaching of AANHPI history has been limited to passing references or minor footnotes that

barely scratch the surface of our diverse and resilient communities. I am proud to join Representative Meng in reintroducing the Teaching Asian Pacific American History Act so that public school students across the U.S. can better understand the racism and prejudice that members of the AANHPI community have endured, as well as the many achievements and contributions they have made to our communities.”

“The inclusion of AAPI histories in education is crucial as it allows AAPI students to see themselves and their communities represented in the curriculum, while promoting mutual learning between students of all backgrounds, and helping to dismantle harmful stereotypes by exposing all students to the richness of all the contributions the AAPI community has had to our country,” said Soukprida Phetmisay, Senior Managing Director of Teach For America’s Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) Alliances. “The anti-Asian violence that escalated since the pandemic began illustrates how harmful believing these stereotypes can be. To fight back against this prejudice and violence, it is essential to understand and acknowledge the inextricable role of Asian Americans

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CONSUMER ALERT: New York Department of State’s Division of Consumer Protection Provides Safety Tips to Follow When Using Gas or Charcoal Grills

Following Safety Procedures When Grilling Can Reduce Injury and Save Lives

Secretary Robert J. Rodriguez: “Cookout fun can quickly turn dangerous if you don’t follow the proper safety procedures when grilling. Simple steps such as a frequent cleaning of the grill and keeping a fire extinguisher nearby can help ensure your gatherings remain safe and memorable all summer long.”

The New York Department of State’s Division of Consumer Protection is providing safety tips to follow when using gas or charcoal grills. This Memorial Day on May 29 will mark the beginning of summer for many New Yorkers, and with it, the start of the grilling season. Following proper safety procedures when grilling can help reduce injury and save lives. Follow the New York Department of State on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram and check in every Tuesday for more practical tips that educate and empower New York consumers on a variety of topics. Sign up to receive consumer alerts directly to your email or phone here.

“Memorial Day is just around the corner, marking the beginning of summer when New Yorkers all across the State begin to gather, grill and enjoy the warmer weather with their friends and families,” said Secretary of State Robert J. Rodriguez. “But cookout fun can quickly turn dangerous if you don’t follow the proper safety procedures when grilling. Simple steps such as a frequent cleaning of the grill and keeping a fire extinguisher nearby can help ensure your gatherings remain safe and memorable all summer long.”

“The beginning of summer is a time when family and friends gather to enjoy beautiful weather and delicious foods on the grill,” Acting State Health Commissioner Dr. James McDonald said. “Taking simple precautions such as cleaning the grill and keeping a fire extinguisher in close proximity will keep everyone safe which in turn will make the summer relaxing, memorable, and fun.”

According to statistics from fire departments around the United States, there are about 10,600 home grill fires reported annually, including around 4,900 fires per year in or on structures. Approximately 100 deaths due to grill fire injuries are reported annually, and about \$135 million in direct property damage is reported per year. The U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency’s U.S. Fire Administration statistics also reflect that almost half of home grill fires happen between 5 p.m. and 8 p.m., and the majority of home grill fires happen between May and August, the summer months when grills are used more often. Additionally, 79% of all grill fires are from gas grills.

Gas and charcoal grills also present a risk of carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning that could result in injury or death. Of the thousands

of grill-related injuries reported in hospital emergency departments each year, many are related to carbon monoxide poisoning.

Tips for Using Your Grill Safely:

- Before lighting the grill do a safety check.
 - Have a fire extinguisher nearby and easily accessible in case of a fire.
 - Inspect the hoses on a gas grill for cracking, brittleness, holes and leaks. Make sure there are no sharp bends in the hose or tubing and that all connections are secure. Replace if necessary.
 - Check for propane gas leaks. Open the gas supply valve fully and apply a soapy solution with a brush at the connection point. If bubbles appear, there is a leak. Try tightening the tank connection. If that does not stop the leak, close the gas valve and have the grill repaired by a qualified professional.
 - Make sure the grill is clean. Regularly cleaning the grill, as described in the owner’s manual, and cleaning the grease trap, will reduce the risk of flare-ups and grease fires.
 - Make sure the grill is stable and on a level, flat surface. Be sure it doesn’t rock or tip when you open and close the lid. If your grill isn’t set on concrete or pavers, consider investing in a grill mat.
 - Always start a gas grill with the lid open. Keeping the lid open while starting the grill allows excess gas to escape. If the lid is closed, the gas can pool under the lid and, when opened, combust suddenly creating a fireball.
 - Light charcoal in a charcoal chimney. A charcoal chimney is a safer way of starting a charcoal grill since it doesn’t involve the use of accelerants like lighter fluid.
 - Only use grills outside in a well-ventilated area. Never use a grill indoors, in a garage, breezeway, carport, porch, next to your home or under a surface that will burn.
 - Pay close attention once the grill is lit.
 - Never leave a grill unattended. If a flare-up occurs, turn off the gas or spread out the coals to lower the temperature.
 - Watch for grease fires. If a grease fire occurs, turn off the gas and use baking soda and/or a fire extinguisher to put out the fire.
 - Keep children away from the grill area. The outside surface of a grill can get hot and cause severe burns.
- Store your grill and fuel tanks safely.
- Leave charcoal grills outside. Since charcoal produces CO fumes until the charcoal is completely extinguished, do not store a grill indoors with freshly used coals.
 - Use caution when storing liquid propane (LP) gas containers. Always keep containers upright. Never store a spare gas container under or near the grill. Never store a full container indoors.

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(Feb. 26 - Mar. 26)
You will have to check your cash flow before you decide to indulge in entertainment that may be beyond your budget. Your lucky numbers are 2,8,9.

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DOWN

1. Dots on dice
2. Death notice
3. Bingo relative
4. Strong black coffees
5. Fraternity letter
6. Washed off
7. Aromatic compound
8. Flavoring extracts
9. Shocked
10. Foreheads
11. Ruination
12. Mimicked
13. Timid
18. A city in Nebraska
22. Beachcomber's find
24. A crystalline rock
25. Give or take
26. Light wood
27. Extraterrestrial
29. Armada
30. Fatuous
31. Consumer of food
33. Deviation
34. Unfashionable
37. Impetus
42. A type of renewable energy
44. Virtues
45. Swap
46. Vineyard fruit
47. Employ again
48. Dry riverbed
49. Any minute
51. Be slack-jawed
52. Winglike
53. Being
54. Once around the track
56. Flowery verse

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TRY AND FIND

Smith	Davis	Anderson	Martin
Johnson	Miller	Thomas	Thompson
Williams	Wilson	Jackson	Garcia
Jones	Moore	White	Martinez
Brown	Taylor	Harris	Robinson

NYC Parks, NYC Dep, And National Audubon Society Celebrate Completion of Hook Creek Park Wetlands Restoration Project in Queens

\$700,000 project replenished sand, installed temporary guards, and added native plants to restore bird breeding habitats in southeast Queens

NYC Parks Commissioner Sue Donoghue recently joined representatives from the NYC Department of Environmental Protection, National Audubon Society, representatives from the Office of the Queens Borough President and Community Board 13, Eastern Queens Alliance President Barbara Brown, wetland restoration staff, and members of the community to celebrate the completion of wetland restoration work at Hook Creek Park, and to help plant the last of the native plants being added to the marsh.

"Our wetlands are of vital importance to our city, and their protection and restoration is a crucial part of our efforts to make our city resilient in the face of climate change," said Parks Commissioner Donoghue. "I'd like to thank our partners at the New York State Department of State, our very own New York City Department of Environmental Protection, and Audubon New York for their



support for this project. Through this important work, the wetlands in Hook Creek Park have been thoughtfully restored to preserve the saltmarsh for the benefit of southeast Queens for decades to come."

"Protecting and expanding the salt marshes and wetlands that surround New York City are critical to our efforts to protect the five boroughs from rising sea levels as well as improving the health of our waterways," said NYC Chief Climate Officer and DEP Commissioner Rohit T. Aggarwala. "Thanks to our partners at NYC

Parks for doing terrific work to utilize marshes and wetlands at many of their properties and to include robust public engagement so that all New Yorkers can join in these important efforts."

"Audubon was thrilled to support the revitalization of habitat at Hook Creek Park. Because healthy salt marshes can protect our communities from storm impacts, improve air and water quality, and reduce flooding, it is essential that we build resilience across key coastal areas," said

(Continued on page 10)

NYC Health + Hospitals/Queens' ICU Receives Gold-Level Beacon Award for Excellence from AACN

NYC Health + Hospitals/Queens is announcing that its Intensive Care Unit has received the Gold-Level Beacon Award for Excellence from the American Association of Critical Care Nurses (AACN). The Gold-Level Beacon Award recognizes those who successfully improve patient outcomes and meet the AACN organization's rigorous standards. Queens Hospital's ICU is the only critical care unit within the Health + Hospitals system to receive AACN Beacon designation for the second time in four years.



Assemblywoman Stacey Pheffer Amato's Legislation Helps Uniformed Officers Across New York State



Assemblywoman Stacey Pheffer Amato (D-South Queens) scored an enormous win for members of the New York State Local Police, Fire Retirement System and the New York State and Local Employees' Retirement System

by having her bill included in the State budget the other week. Members of those pension systems, like police officers, correction officers, firefighters, court officers and other uniformed officers were given the full assurance that any condition of impairment of health caused by a disease of the heart, resulting in disability, shall be presumptive evidence that such disability was incurred in the performance and discharge of duty.

This legislation, A.5201, was needed due to the lack of clarity in the existing law, along with conflicting court rulings on heart disease disability. "This was an unacceptable problem and I was happy to partner with some amazing unions and members to get this over the finish line. It is intolerable to think that our first responders and uniformed officers, the heroes of our community, had to jump through hoops to get their disabili-

ty pension. That is now over and any uncertainty in the law is now abated," said Assemblywoman Stacey Pheffer Amato. Police Conference of New York State (PCNY), the largest police organization in the State which serves as the umbrella organization for all law enforcement unions, thanked Assemblywoman Pheffer Amato for delivering for the men and women within law enforcement. "When Assemblywoman Pheffer Amato became the Chair of the Governmental Employees Committee it was clear that she would have a positive effect. She sought out to do right by police officers and their families across the State; and she delivered. The hard work police officers do is being recognized and the law now says if you have a heart problem, the State will take care of you, like you took care of its residents," said Michael O'Meara, 2nd Vice President of PCNY.

CM Vickie Paladino Speaks to Boy Scout Troop 235



Recently, Council Member Vickie Paladino spoke to the Boy Scouts of Troop 235 at St. Luke's in Whitestone. The Scouts are working on their Citizen in the Community badge and one of the requirements is to have an elected official speak to the troop.

CM Paladino said "I had so much fun with the scouts answering their questions. They had many interesting and thought-provoking questions. The next generation of leaders is looking pretty great based off Troop 235!"

Meng Helps Convince Postal Service to Better Address Spike in Mail Theft



Agency rolls out plan after Congresswoman called for improved security of mail in Queens

After calling on the United States Postal Service to do more to address the rise in mail theft, U.S. Rep. Grace Meng (D-Queens) has announced that the agency has agreed to do so.

Over the past year, Meng has urged the Postal Service to combat the problem in Queens after she received many complaints from constituents who have been victims of mail theft. These include thieves stealing and altering their checks for thousands of dollars and taking their personal information that has resulted in financial fraud. The Congresswoman sent letters to postal officials last July and December to demand action, and as a result, the agency will replace tens of thousands of keys used by letter carriers, install high security

collection boxes and implement other important upgrades.

"The spike in mail theft has impacted too many people in our borough and across the country and it's time for the Postal Service to crack down harder on this despicable crime," said Meng. "I thank the agency for listening to our pleas and implementing a plan to stop these robberies from occurring. I also thank postal officials for increasing efforts to combat the increased attacks against letter carriers. Everybody deserves to receive their mail and those who deliver it are entitled to be safe. I will be watching and monitoring these improvements rolled out by the Postal Service, and hope that they will swiftly lead to improved security of our country's mail. New Yorkers and the American public deserve it."

Several years ago, the Postal Service retrofitted blue collection boxes in Queens with mail slots after Meng, in 2018, urged the agency to address 'mail fishing' in the borough. The problem occurs when criminals place string connected to a sticky material into the collection boxes, and 'fish' out the envelopes. The narrower slots make it more difficult for thieves to steal the mail that is inside.

Meng also introduced legislation last month to strengthen the Postal Service's ability to go after criminal organizations driving the theft of mail, and she is organizing a roundtable to shed light on local mail theft.



Democratic Queens Council Members Strongly Endorse District Attorney Melinda Katz For Re-Election



Queens District Attorney Melinda Katz' momentum for re-election continues to grow, with her campaign today announcing the endorsement of Democratic members of the City Council's Queens delegation. The elected leaders, from every corner of Queens, cited Katz' successful work to make Queens safer, engage communities across Queens, get guns off our streets, fight human trafficking, reduce gang violence, address domestic abuse, prosecute wage theft, and protect workers, seniors, immigrants, and others. Endorsers include Council Speaker Adrienne Adams, Councilmember Sandra Ung, Councilmember Francisco Moya, Councilmember Selvena N. Brooks-Powers, Councilmember Lynn Schulman, Councilmember Nantasha Williams, Councilmember Linda Lee, Councilmember Bob Holden, and Councilmember

Jim Gennaro.

"I am so honored to receive this tremendous support from trusted leaders who represent the full diversity of our amazing Borough," said DA Melinda Katz. "Our work to modernize this office, keep Queens safe through unprecedented challenges, and reform and improve our criminal justice system to make it fairer, stronger and more effective is working, but it works best when we all work together. While those on the far right seek to divide us with fear-mongering and falsehoods, I am proud to be working with these partners in government to deliver real results."

"Throughout her career in public service, Melinda Katz has proven that she knows how to get results. With Queens residents' concerns about crime and fairness in our criminal justice system, Melinda has taken the lead to make our streets safer while protecting our rights," said Council Speaker Adrienne Adams.

"From protecting immigrants' access to a fair criminal justice system to fighting wage theft and unsafe working conditions to helping our small businesses, Melinda Katz has taken the lead on making her office more responsive and stronger. She's in the community, hearing our concerns, and getting results. I'm proud to endorse her,"

said Councilmember Francisco Moya.

"Melinda Katz is successfully using the DA's office to enhance public safety, from combating hate crimes, protecting small businesses to fighting human trafficking and domestic violence. I'm proud to call her my DA, and proud to support her for re-election," said Councilmember Sandra Ung.

Melinda Katz is a neighbor and a friend, but more importantly she has fulfilled the promises she made when she ran for DA, putting a laser focus on making Queens safer by taking down gangs and getting guns off our streets, while modernizing the office and making it more equitable, fairer and more transparent," said Councilmember Lynn Schulman.

As District Attorney, Melinda Katz has made our criminal justice system fairer and stronger, which makes all of us safer. She's gotten countless guns off our streets and shows up when we need her. I'm especially pleased to see that she created a Conviction Integrity Unit as she promised which has overturned more than 100 wrongful convictions, and I look forward to its continuing work to undo more of the injustices of the past. She's earned re-election, and I'm proud to endorse her,"

(Continued on page 9)

Livable Streets For Queens: NYC DOT Brings Street Seats to Jamaica Avenue And Begins Bike Lane Hardening on Queens Boulevard

DOT installs public seating and improves pedestrian space in Jamaica, Queens

Agency to upgrade delineator-protected bike lane with Jersey Barriers to better protect cyclists from drivers entering lanes on Queens Boulevard

New York City Department of Transportation (NYC DOT) Commissioner Ydanis Rodriguez today announced cycling and public space initiatives in Queens, including a new location of the Street Seats program and a new bike lane hardening project. The Jamaica Street Seat provides safety enhancements and additional pedestrian space on Jamaica Avenue. Street Seats is a citywide program where partners apply to transform underused streets into vibrant, social public spaces between the months of March through December. Street Seats are installed in the roadbed along the curb line or on wide sidewalks to create an attractive setting for eating, reading, working, meeting friends, or taking a rest. On Queens Boulevard, DOT also began hardening the protected bike lane with Jersey Barriers, a type of barrier used to separate lanes of traffic, to make the bike lane even safer.

"Queens is the world's borough, and delivering high-quality pedestrian spaces and safe cycling infrastructure are some of the ways Mayor Adams and New York City DOT are reimagining the use



The new Street Seat on Jamaica Avenue, between 160th Street and Union Hall Street.

of public space," said NYC DOT Commissioner Ydanis Rodriguez. "I thank the hard-working teams at DOT and our community partners for their efforts in beautifying Jamaica Avenue and giving cyclists the protection they deserve on Queens Boulevard."

The Jamaica Street Seat - DOT partnered with the newly consolidated Downtown Jamaica BID to provide additional pedestrian space on Jamaica Avenue between

160th Street and Union Hall Street as well as shorter crossings across Jamaica and Union Hall Street. The new public space includes planters, granite block, and tables and chairs. Approximately 4,500 square feet of pedestrian space has been added to this commercial corridor and Streets Plan Tier 1 location. This project was implemented with the Jamaica busway,

(Continued on page 9)

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IT'S IN QUEENS

It's In Queens! (May 19 to May 25)

The outdoors (street fair, remembrance, nature walk, history stroll) are big in Queens this week. So are the arts (opening, crawl, mashup). But then again, there's also a lot of music (orchestra, symphony, ensemble, quintet, oratorio).

- May 19, En Vogue, 8 pm. A performance by an all-female R&B group which has sold more than 20 million records. Queens College, Colden Auditorium, 153-49 Reeves Ave., Flushing.

- May 19, Daughter of the Struggle, 11 am + 6 pm. Ayanna Gregory presents her one-woman show about growing up with her father, Civil Rights activist Dick Gregory, and other issues. She sings, dances, tells stories, and acts. Black Spectrum Theatre, inside Roy Wilkins Park near 177th Street and Baisley Boulevard, Jamaica.

- May 19, Downtown Jamaica Jazz Festival, May 20. Two music marathons with some of the world's most prominent jazz musicians. Performers include Michela Marino Lerman, Johnathan Blake, Dabin Ryu, Patricia Brennen, Marcus Gilmore, Jaleel Shaw, and Pedrito Martinez. May 19 at 6:30 pm and May 20 at noon. Jamaica Performing Arts Center, 153-10 Jamaica Ave.

- May 19, Global Mashup: Ireland Meets Mexico, 7 pm. Cilian Vallely brings the traditional Irish pipes and whistles. Then, Mexico-via-Brooklyn band Jarana Beat creates a percussive melody perfect for dancing. Then, they share the stage for a jam session. Flushing Town Hall, 137-35 Northern Blvd.

- May 19, Site: Yizkor/King Manor, 8 pm. Visual artist Maya Ciarrocchi's site-specific performance installation examines individual and collective experiences of displacement and loss through the lens of "Yizkor" or "Remembering." King Manor Museum, 150-03 Jamaica Ave.

- May 19, Teen Film Festival 2023, 6 pm. Hosted by the MoMI Teen Council, this festival screens 18 selected shorts by local teen filmmakers. Event includes a live Q&A. Museum of the Moving Image, 36-01 35th Ave., Astoria's Kaufman Arts District.

- May 19, The Sludge Project, May 28. A series of paintings that Priscilla Stadler created with water from Newtown Creek and her intuitive research methods. Opening reception on May 19 at 5 pm. Local Project Gallery, 11-27 44th Rd., Long Island City.

- May 20, Free Fruit For All, 1 pm. Harley Judd Spiller discusses and offers samples of lesser-known fruits, such as Mangosteen, Rambutan, and Wong Pei. The Woodside-based artist also shares his multilingual books about fruit and fruit-paring devices, such as the cow bone pomelo peeler. The Glow Community Center, 133-29 41st Ave., Flushing.

- May 20, LIC Springs, noon to 5 pm. This annual street festival celebrates Long Island City with live music, dance, performances, interactive lessons, art, fitness classes, outdoor dining, pop-up activities, games, and more.

- May 20, Mary Mattingly: Ebb of a Spring Tide, Sept. 9. This exhibition features a 65-foot Water Clock that includes edible vegetation. The living sculpture's pulse is kept by water from the East River moving through tubes on the structure, a reminder of a life-support system and the delicate balance of coastal ecosystems. Socrates Sculpture Center, 32-01 Vernon Blvd., Long Island City.

- May 20, LIC Arts Open Festival, May 21. Several dozen artists open their Long Island City studios to the public. Patrons can get a map and walk around, checking them out.

- May 20, Concert Honoring Scott Joplin + Granville T. Woods, 2 pm. The Peacherine Ragtime Society performs a medley of Scott Joplin's numbers. David Head discusses Granville T. Woods's life and inventions. St. Michael's Cemetery, 72-02 Astoria Blvd. S., East Elmhurst.

- May 20, Tulips, Roses & Wampum: The Seal of Queens in Flowers, 1 pm. A walking exploration of the borough's botanical heritage. Queens Botanical Garden, 43-50 Main St., Flushing.

- May 20, Venezuelan Cultural Fest, 2 pm. A multi-hour celebration of Venezuelan dance, music, clothes, food, beer, plus. Culture Lab LIC, 5-25 46th Ave., Long Island City.

- May 20, Associated Chamber Music Players, 4 pm. Great live music followed by a reception and meet-and-greet with artist Rita Wilmers, whose exhibition "Immigrants...Untold Stories," is on display. Maple Grove Cemetery, Kew Gardens Road and 129th Street.

- May 20, Happy Birthday, Joey Ramone!, 1 pm. Punk legend Joey Ramone of the Ramones was born on May 19, 1951, and he grew up in Forest Hills. This workshop involves making guitar picks and learning some basic punk chords on electric guitar with Real Brave instructors. King Manor Museum, 150-03 Jamaica Ave.

- May 21, Oratorio Society of Queens Spring Concert, 4 pm. Maestro David Close conducts live orchestral and solo music by Vivaldi and Haydn. Featured soloists include Paula Jean Rocheleau (soprano), Ginger Inabinet (mezzo soprano), Byron Singleton (tenor), and Nathan Bahny (bass baritone). St. Kevin Church, 45-21 194th St., Flushing.

- May 21, Stop 'N' Swap, noon to 3 pm. Reduce waste by dropping off unwanted, clean, reusable items and taking ones you want. Queens County Farm Museum, 73-50 Little Neck Pkwy., Glen Oaks.

- May 21, Spring Awe Walk, 11 am. Certified forest therapy guide Linda Lombardo leads a

healing stroll through Alley Pond Park. Alley Pond Environmental Center, 224-65 76th Ave., Oakland Gardens.

- May 21, Mini Mashup: Stride Piano Meets Guinea, 1 pm. Renowned jazz pianist Anthony Coleman and globally recognized balafonist Famoro Dioubaté share the stage for a unique concert. Flushing Town Hall, 137-35 Northern Blvd.

- May 21, Bringing Water to Light: An Artist Workshop Series for Flushing Creek, 1 pm. A three-hour workshop that visualizes the possibility of "daylighting" or restoring underground portions of Flushing Creek. After sections were forced underground for the construction of the 1939 World's Fair, it runs beneath the center of Flushing Meadows Corona Park. Queens Museum, NYC Building, Flushing Meadows Corona Park.

- May 21, The Tribal Legacy Band, 3 pm. Bayside Historical Society welcomes Geff Z & The One Vybz Crew. The band offers a potpourri of Reggae, Soul, Soca, and Calypso with featured performers Paul G. Zuniga (keyboards) from Belize, Vibert Austin (vocals) from Guyana, Leon Raga (bass) from St. Lucia, and Fitzroy Frank (percussion) from Jamaica. The Castle, 208 Totten Ave., Fort Totten.

- May 21, Stories & Snacks: A Festival of Home Cooking, 1 pm. This inaugural, three-hour festival is an immersive celebration of food and cultural memory in a historic house with a Victorian garden. Vendors, recipes, workshops, cooking, free samples, and food journalist Caroline Shin. Voelker Orth Museum, 149-19 38th Ave., Flushing.

- May 21, Jackson Heights, 11 am. Professional tour guide Adrienne Onofri leads an expedition through Jackson Heights with special attention to history, demographics, and housing. She wrote Walking Queens: 30 Tours for Discovering the Diverse Communities, Historic Places, and Natural Treasures of New York City's Largest Borough in 2014. Meet at Manuel de Dios Unanue Triangle on the south side of Roosevelt Avenue at 83rd Street.

- May 21, Quintet of the Americas, 3 pm. This Queens-based woodwind ensemble celebrates Spring with a rich program inspired by nature. Queens Botanical Garden, 43-50 Main St., Flushing.

- May 21, QC Wellness Series Run, 9 am. The WEPA Run Club hosts a non-competitive, two-to-three-mile race as part of the QC Wellness Series. Meet at Queens Center, 90-15 Queens Blvd., Elmhurst.

- May 21, Better World Festival, noon. A celebratory afternoon that includes presentations, discussions, and activities focused on connecting, inspiring, building capacities, and amplifying stories. Culture Lab LIC, 5-25 46th Ave.,

(Continued on page 9)

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Meng And Hirono Introduce Legislation to Promote The Teaching of Asian American, Native Hawaiian, And Pacific Islander History in Schools

(Continued from page 4)

and Pacific Islanders in shaping the nation's story and identity. By teaching this full history, and celebrating it, we dispel the harmful narrative that suggests Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders are not an integral part of the United States."

"Now, more than at any time in recent memory, it is crucial that students have the opportunity to learn the rich history of Asian American and Pacific Islander communities," said Margaret Huang, President and CEO of the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC) and Southern Poverty Law Center Action Fund. "The SPLC applauds Rep. Meng and Senator Hirono for their leadership in introducing the Teaching Asian Pacific American History Act. The United States has a long and shameful history of discrimination against people of Asian and Pacific Islander descent — and just this year, the FBI documented record levels of hate violence against our communities. Hate crime laws must be enforced, but equally important are prevention and education. We look forward to working together to enact this important legislation and to center and celebrate the many contributions of Asian and Pacific Islanders to our nation."

"The teaching of Asian Pacific American History in our education system is critical for the progress of Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander communities," said Gregg Orton, National Director of the National Council of Asian Pacific Americans (NCAPA). "The consistent neglect of APA history in our curriculum has led to the erasure of many generations of our communities. This bill would allow our students nationwide to be seen and feel empowered, while educating others in understanding our roots and cultural history. We thank Sen. Hirono and Rep. Meng's commitment to advancing this bill and look forward to seeing its passage."

"This bill represents a historic step in prioritizing Asian American and Pacific Islander histories in our education system," said John C. Yang, President and Executive Director of Asian Americans Advancing Justice — AAJC. "Recent events have shown that teaching diverse curricula is ever more important to building a more inclusive future, and public education of AAPI histories will play a crucial role in ensuring that we can move forward as a country."

"National ACE is proud to endorse this bill to expand education on AA and NHPI history in our country's K-12 education system," said Chiling Tong, President and CEO of the National Asian/Pacific Islander American Chamber of Commerce and Entrepreneurship (National ACE). "Invisibility and misrepresentation are a serious barrier for AA and NHPI communities. We appreciate all the work Representative Meng and Senator Hirono are doing to tackle these harmful patterns."

The Teaching Asian Pacific American History Act would require grant applications from Presidential and Congressional Academies to include Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander history as part of their American history and civics programs offered to students and teachers. Every year, hundreds of teachers and students attend these academies, which are funded by the U.S. Department of Education, for an in-depth study of American history and civics.

Presidential Academies are designed for teachers seeking to strengthen their knowledge of American history, and Congressional Academies for students who aim to enrich their understanding of the subject.

The bill, which Meng previously introduced in 2020 and 2021, would also encourage the inclusion of Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific

Islander history in national and state tests administered through the National Assessment of Educational Progress, and promote collaboration with the Smithsonian Institution's Asian Pacific American Center to develop innovative programming regarding Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander history.

The measure comes after Meng passed legislation into law last year to create the first National Museum of Asian Pacific American History and Culture, a facility that would provide the physical space for more Americans to learn about the vast contributions that AANHPIs have made to America.

In addition, several states have implemented their own curriculum requirements to include the teaching of the contributions of AANHPIs in history and civics courses after the Congresswoman first introduced the bill.

Organizations that have endorsed the Meng-Hirono legislation include the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC) Action Fund, American Federation of Teachers, Teach for America, Educators for Excellence, National Council of Asian Pacific Americans (NCA-PA), Asian Americans Advancing Justice — AAJC, OCA-Asian Pacific American Advocates, Asian American Federal (AAF), Association of Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations (AAPCHO), Asian and Pacific Islander American Health Forum (APIAHF), National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum (NAPAWF), National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA), Chinese Historical Society of America, Japanese American Citizens League (JACL), Council of Korean Americans, Indian Diaspora Council, National Asian/Pacific Islander American Chamber of Commerce and Entrepreneurship (National ACE), Committee of 100, Sikh American Legal Defense and Education Fund (SALDEF) and the Fred Korematsu Institute.

Democratic Queens Council Members Strongly Endorse District Attorney Melinda Katz For Re-Election

(Continued from page 7)

said Councilmember Selvena N. Brooks-Powers.

"Our neighborhoods, our schools, our stores, and our students are safer because Melinda Katz is our District Attorney. From getting guns off our streets to prosecuting human trafficking to helping our small businesses, she's doing the hard work to address people's concerns and deliver results," said Councilmember Linda Lee.

"Queens needs a tough, fair, experienced District Attorney to ensure that our families are safe and that justice is done. Melinda Katz has proven that she IS that District Attorney, and I will do all I can on behalf of the safety of my constituents to see that Melinda gets re-elected," stated Councilmember Jim Gennaro.

"Melinda Katz has proven to be a sensible District Attorney who

collaborates closely with me on quality of life issues, including noise complaints. She has been an outspoken critic of criminal justice reforms that jeopardize the safety of my constituents, and that's why I'm proud to endorse her for another term," said Councilmember Bob Holden.

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



(Continued from page 4)

Long Island City.

- May 22, A Night at the Opera: Queens Symphony Orchestra, 7 pm. Arias and duets by two rising stars in the Opera World: Nicholas Simpson (tenor) and Hans Tashjian (bass baritone). Expect Bizet, Puccini, Verdi, Mozart, and Rachmaninoff. Russo's on the Bay, 162-45 Cross Bay Blvd., Howard Beach.

- May 22, Queensborough Film Festival, 3:30 pm. Queensborough Community College's Communication, Theatre, & Media Department hosts a one-day showcase of student films. QCC Shadowbox Theater, Z Building, 222-05 56th Ave., Bayside.

- May 24, Secrets of Astoria & Forest Parks, 7 pm. Kevin Walsh from Forgotten NY zooms this program on the stories behind two Queens gems.

- May 24, The Future Classics Festival, May 25. BIPOC playwrights and theatre makers use this platform to develop new work under the guidance of Titan Theatre Company's artistic leadership team. Queens Theatre Cabaret, 14 United Nations Ave. S., Flushing Meadows Corona Park.

- May 25, Black Historic Sites in Conversation: The Olde Towne of Flushing Burial Ground, 6:30 pm. A virtual panel discussion on The Olde Towne of Flushing Burial Ground, a historic African American cemetery.

Livable Streets For Queens: NYC DOT Brings Street Seats to Jamaica Avenue And Begins Bike Lane Hardening on Queens Boulevard

(Continued from page 7)

which transformed the roadway to enhance bus efficiency. The newly consolidated Downtown Jamaica BID will be working with the DOT and local organizations to provide future programming at this location and DOT will build on this work with future capital upgrades to Jamaica Avenue—part of the \$375 million in public space funding announced during Mayor Adams' 2023 State of the City address the "Working People's Agenda." These capital upgrades will reconstruct Jamaica Avenue, from Sutphin Boulevard to Merrick Boulevard, with wider sidewalks and new pedestrian safety improvements, including curb extensions and raised crosswalks.

Queens Boulevard Bike Lane Hardening

DOT will harden 0.75 miles



A newly hardened section of Queens Boulevard.

of delineator-protected bike lanes with Jersey Barriers on Queens Boulevard from 72nd Street to Grand Avenue. Installations will be happening from May 8th to May 17th, 2023. This builds on

the 3.7 miles of bike lane hardening on Queens Boulevard in 2022, for a total of 4.4 lane miles. This year, DOT will harden 10 miles of existing lanes and five miles of new projects with sturdier barriers.

Michelle Wang Honored as Woman of Distinction at The NY State Capitol

(Continued from page 3)

edgement of both the importance of that work and of why it is imperative that our AAPI community continue to get involved. There is always more work to be

done, and with this recognition, I commit to working even harder to increase representation and participation so that together we can build a better world that is representative of all voices and communities."

Queens Chamber of Commerce Introduces New Energy Procurement And Energy Advisory Services Program For Members

Queens Chamber of Commerce Teams up with Transparent Energy to Bring the Efficiency and Cost-Saving Benefits of Purchasing Electricity, Natural Gas, and Renewables via Online Auctions to Members

The Queens Chamber of Commerce, the oldest and largest

business association in Queens, announced they have teamed with Transparent Energy, the national leader in auction-based energy procurement, to bring Chamber members a proven, cost-effective, and risk-free way to buy their energy and manage risk.

(Continued on page 10)

Velázquez Leads 23 Members in Calling on USDA to Facilitate Healthy, Climate Friendly Meals in Schools

Rep. Nydia M. Velázquez (D-NY) led twenty-three Members of Congress in sending a letter to United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Secretary Tom Vilsack urging the agency to work with schools to facilitate plant-forward menus featuring nutritious, climate-friendly, and culturally appropriate options.

“USDA’s Food and Nutrition Service is uniquely positioned to advance equity and inclusion, while supporting climate and conservation goals in the final Child Nutrition Program meal patterns rule,” wrote the lawmakers. “Once finalized, we hope these revised meal patterns will facilitate plant-forward menus so that the Child Nutrition Programs better align with the Dietary Guidelines for Americans, support the health and wellbeing of our children, and meet student and operator demand.”

The letter comes as USDA undergoes its most recent revisions to ensure that the Child Nutrition Program meal patterns align with the most recent Dietary Guidelines for Americans.

In the letter, the lawmakers stress that providing increased access to plant-based and non-

dairy milk options will:

1. Align with USDA’s mission “to serve all Americans,” and its vision to properly nourish our nation’s children, spur economic development, and preserve our environment.
2. Advance USDA’s core values of respect, dignity, equity, and inclusion; there are a range of cultural, ethnic, religious, and physiological needs for plant-based options. Most Black, Indigenous, and other People of Color (BIPOC) are lactose intolerant, and BIPOC are three times as likely to follow a plant-based diet than white people.
3. Better align with the Dietary Guidelines for Americans, including by increasing intake of beans, peas, and lentils; nuts and seeds; and dietary fiber, and by diversifying protein intake.
4. Meet the demand from students – who are the ultimate beneficiaries of Child Nutrition Programs – for plant-based options, which has grown as the K-12 student population has become increasingly racially and culturally diverse as well as environmentally conscious and concerned for animal welfare.
5. Resolve Child Nutrition

Program operators’ challenges in meeting this student demand, which are due in part to regulatory barriers in the current meal pattern regulations.

6. Support USDA’s climate and conservation goals; plant-rich diets are a highly effective way to reduce our impact on the climate because the production process results in less greenhouse gas emissions, requiring fewer land and water resources.

In addition to Congresswoman Velázquez, this letter was signed by Representatives Nanette Barragán (D-CA), Jamaal Bowman (D-NY), Judy Chu (D-CA), Yvette Clarke (D-NY), Emanuel Cleaver (D-MO), Steve Cohen (D-TN), Lloyd Doggett (D-TX), Adriano Espaillat (D-NY), Shelia Jackson Lee (D-TX), Barbara Lee (D-CA), Grace Meng (D-NY), Elanor Holmes Norton (D-DC), Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-NY), Donald Payne Jr. (D-NJ), Rashida Tlaib (D-MI), Bonnie Watson Coleman (D-NJ), Earl Blumenauer (D-OR), Julia Brownley (D-CA), Dwight Evans (D-PA), Ayanna Pressley (D-MA), Mark Takano (D-CA), Jerrold Nadler (D-NY), Lisa Blunt Rochester (D-RI).

CONSUMER ALERT: New York Department of State’s Division of Consumer Protection Provides Safety Tips to Follow When Using Gas or Charcoal Grills

(Continued from page 4)

- Transport LP gas containers carefully. Consumers should transport the container in a secure, upright position and never keep a filled container in a hot car or trunk. Heat may increase the gas pressure, causing the relief valve to open and allowing gas to escape. Keep food safety in mind.
- Marinate foods in the refrigerator — never on the kitchen counter or outdoors. If you plan to use some of the marinade as a sauce on the cooked food, reserve a portion separately before adding raw meat, poultry or seafood. Don’t reuse marinade.
- Meat must be cooked to the proper temperature. Germs, such as E. coli and salmonella, can be present in undercooked meats,

such as hamburger and chicken. Always check the temperature with a meat thermometer.

- Don’t reuse platters or utensils. Using the same platter or utensils that previously held raw meat, poultry or seafood allows bacteria from the raw food to spread to the cooked food. Instead, have a clean platter and utensils ready at grill-side to serve your food.
- Keep cold food cold and hot food hot. Keep meat, poultry, seafood, salads and other cold foods refrigerated until they’re about to be cooked or served. If grilled food is finished cooking but won’t be served right away, keep it hot until served. To prevent bacteria growth, cold food should be kept at 40 °F or below, and hot food should be kept at 140 °F or higher.
- Refrigerate any leftovers immediately! Never leave food at

room temperature for more than two hours, or only one hour if the temperature is above 90 °F.

About the New York State Division of Consumer Protection The New York State Division of Consumer Protection provides resources and education materials to consumers on product safety, as well as voluntary mediation services between consumers and businesses. The Consumer Assistance Helpline 1-800-697-1220 is available Monday to Friday from 8:30am to 4:30pm, excluding State Holidays, and consumer complaints can be filed at any time at www.dos.ny.gov/consumer-protection.

For more consumer protection tips, follow the Division on social media at Twitter: @NYSConsumer and Facebook: www.facebook.com/nysconsumer.

NYSCI Launches Partners in STEM Equity With Founding Partners Amazon, BNY Mellon And MetLife

\$700,000, five-year commitment will ensure sustained resources for STEM experiences and career explorations

NYSCI introduces hundreds of teens to science and technology careers at STEM career expo

The New York Hall of Science (NYSCI) today joined with Amazon, BNY Mellon and MetLife to launch Partners in STEM Equity, a new partnership that will galvanize corporations to invest in the development of STEM learning experiences and careers. As founding partners in the group, Amazon, BNY Mel-

lon and MetLife have collectively committed \$700,000, providing sustained funding over the next three to five years.

“These founding partners are stepping up, delivering sustained investment and resources to help us create a trajectory of science and technology learning opportunities,” said Dr. Margaret Honey, President and CEO, New York Hall of Science. “This long-term commitment will provide access to learning opportunities, particularly for kids who don’t see themselves well represented in the STEM professions. We look forward to working with our partners to develop diverse, creative talent

for the STEM workforce.”

KEY DETAILS: PARTNERS IN STEM EQUITY

- New group will work to break down barriers to STEM opportunities and create career pathways for groups that are underrepresented in the STEM fields
- As founding partners, Amazon, BNY Mellon and MetLife have collectively committed \$700,000, providing sustained funding over the next 3-5 years

“MetLife’s commitment to STEM equity aligns to our purpose of building more confident futures for all. Supporting stu-

(Continued on page 11)

NYC Parks, NYC Dep, And National Audubon Society Celebrate Completion of Hook Creek Park Wetlands Restoration Project in Queens

(Continued from page 6)

Phoebe Clark, Audubon New York Senior Manager for Coastal Resilience. “Keeping Idlewild healthy is also vital for wildlife, like the rapidly-declining Saltmarsh Sparrow. This bird will benefit from the restoration as it struggles to keep up with sea level rise, and our hope is that Hook Creek Park will become a valuable nesting habitat.”

Hook Creek Park has been restored to preserve saltmarsh from sea level rise and provide new habitat for breeding birds. Hook Creek Park was identified as one of the critical sites for restoration in order to preserve saltmarshes.

The first phase of the restoration consisted of a first-ever pilot project, using equipment to shoot sand from the hard non-marsh surface into the wetlands. The second phase of the project added native plants to the marsh to restore breeding bird habitat in the saltmarsh.

“As climate change continues to leave it’s damaging and deadly mark on Queens, efforts like restoring our wetlands to guard against sea level rise and protect animal species who call them home have never been more critical,” said Queens Borough President Donovan Richards Jr. “Hook Creek Park is a key piece of our borough’s natural infrastructure and I commend all our state, city and community partners for their dedication in preserving and protecting this beautiful and vital

space.”

“Community members in my district know how important resiliency is for the health and wealth of our neighborhoods,” said NYC Council Majority Whip Selvena N. Brooks-Powers. “Projects like the restoration of Hook Creek Park’s wetlands help preserve natural habitats and help ensure long-term community sustainability. I thank my colleagues in government, National Audubon Society, Community Board 13, Eastern Queens Alliance President Barbara Brown, community members and advocates for their work to complete this project.”

The Hook Creek Wetlands Restoration project was made possible with \$500k from the NYS DOS Local Waterfront Revitalization Program, \$125k from NYC DEP, and \$100k from Audubon New York.

Over the last 30 years, NYC Parks has worked with partners to restore over 175 acres of salt marsh citywide that were filled to support development. A citywide ecological assessment, completed in partnership with the Natural Areas Conservancy, identified marshes in Jamaica Bay as the most vulnerable to sea-level rise; the marshes within Idlewild Park Preserve, including Hook Creek, were the highest priority due to their vulnerability and important breeding habitat for rare birds. Completion of this project celebrates critical achievements in ensuring NYC’s salt marshes are sustained for future generations.

Queens Chamber of Commerce Introduces New Energy Procurement And Energy Advisory Services Program For Members

(Continued from page 9)

The new program enables members to procure energy, often a top-5 operational cost, easily and with confidence, backed by the people, process, and technology that have made Transparent Energy synonymous with energy-procurement excellence. For members with in-house energy expertise, Transparent Energy’s leading market intelligence and online-auction platform can supplement existing processes, driving additional savings.

“Energy has emerged as a top budgetary and reputational concern for our members,” said Thomas J. Grech, President and CEO of the Queens Chamber of Commerce. “Our new partnership with Transparent Energy will bring the power of online auctions, backed by the energy expertise and client-service skills of their team, to members interested in saving money on energy and protecting themselves from energy-market volatility. We are excited to work with Transparent Energy to introduce new value-added services that will improve our members’

bottom lines.”

Added Jane Seagraves, Vice President, Associations, at Transparent Energy, “We are delighted to be working with the Queens Chamber of Commerce to bring the many benefits of online energy procurement to its members. Starting immediately, the full resources of Transparent Energy for energy procurement, risk management, and sustainability efforts to support ESG goals are available to members. We are looking forward to making the energy-buying process more strategic and cost-effective for all interested parties.”

By working with Transparent Energy, Queens Chamber of Commerce members will gain the following benefits:

1. Annual energy cost reductions compared to traditional procurement methods.
2. An additional “members only” discount.
3. Access to an always-on energy advisory resource proactively monitoring energy markets and actively identifying opportune times to purchase energy, includ-

(Continued on page 11)

LEGAL NOTICES

The name of the limited liability company is IRNR Properties LLC. The date of the filing of the Articles of Organization with the Secretary of State was 03/01/2023. The County in which the office of the LLC is located is Queens. The agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served is the Secretary of State and such shall mail a copy of any process to 16006 119th Rd, #1, Jamaica, NY 11434. The business purpose of the LLC is any lawful business purpose or purposes. 4/20,27,5/4,11,18&25/2023

Notice of Formation of LANDMARK REALTY VENTURES LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 04/17/2023. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 136-20 38th Avenue, Suite 3A, Flushing, NY 11354. Purpose: any lawful activities. 4/20,27,5/4,11,18&25/2023

Notice of Formation of MADDI'S VARIETY LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 04/14/2023. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 14311 181st St. Springfield Gardens, NY 11413. Purpose: any lawful activities. 4/27,5/4,11,18,25&6/1/2023

Notice of Formation of Astoria Towers II Developer LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 03/07/23. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: c/o Essex Management Company LLC, 31 Clinton St., Ste. 100, Newark, NJ 07102. Purpose: any lawful activities. 4/27, 5/4,11,18,25&6/1/2023

Yi-An 49 Realty LLC, Arts of Org filed with SSNY on 04/10/23 Off. Loc.: Queens County, SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of process to: The LLC, 3908 Nelson House Rd, Ellicott City MD 21043. Purpose: to engage in any lawful act. 4/13,20,27,5/4,11&18/2023

Infinity 38 LLC filed w/ SSNY on 4/17/23. Office: Queens Co. SSNY designated as agent for process & shall mail to: 120-18A Cove Ct, College Point, NY 11356. Purpose: any lawful. 4/20,27,5/4,11,18&25/2023

Notice is hereby given that a license number 1359685 for a beer, wine and liquor license has been applied Taqueria Santa Fe Corp to sell beer, wine and liquor at retail in a restaurant under the Alcoholic Beverage Control law at 47-08 47th Ave, Woodside, NY 11377 for on-premises consumption. 5/11&18/2023

LEGAL NOTICES

FRESHMEADOWSPHYSICIAN PRACTICE, PLLC, a Prof. LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 04/13/2023. Office loc: Queens County. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The PLLC, 61-36 170th Street, Ste M4, Fresh Meadows, NY 11365. Purpose: To practice the profession of medicine. 5/4,11,18,25,6/1&8/2023

Notice of formation of REDSTONE NY HOLDING LLC Arts of Org. filed with the Secretary of State of New York SSNY on 04/27/2023. Office location: QUEENS. SSNY design. agent of LLC upon whom process may be served and shall mail copy to 63-33 98TH PL APT 6Q, REGO PARK, NY, 11374. Purpose: any lawful activity. 5/4,11,18,25,6/1&8/2023

Notice of Formation of EFP BUILDERS LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 03/31/2023. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 2239 85th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11214. Purpose: any lawful activities. 5/4,11,18,25,6/1&8/2023

Notice of Formation of FURLEGGED HOLDINGS LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 03/10/2023. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 87-30 108TH Street, Richmond Hills, NY 11418. Purpose: any lawful activities. 5/4,11,18,25,6/1&8/2023

Notice of Formation: 963 Haight Street LLC Articles of Organization filed with Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on May 2023. Office loc: Queens County SSNY designated for service of process. SSNY shall mail copies of any process served against the LLC to 39-07 Prince Street, Suite 4B, Flushing, NY 11354 Purpose: Any lawful purpose or activity. 5/4,11,18,25,6/1&8/2023

Notice of Formation of FOREX MATRIX LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 02/15/2023. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 6112 Woodbine St, 4C, Ridgewood, NY 11385. Purpose: any lawful activities. 4/20,27,5/4,11,18&25/2023

ATLAS 28TH STREET LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 05/04/23. Office: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 36-08 30th Avenue, Astoria, NY 11103. Purpose: Any lawful purpose. 5/11,18,25,6/1,8&15/2023

LEGAL NOTICES

Jacquet Realty LLC, Arts of Org. filed with Sec. of State of NY (SSNY) 9/1/2022. Cty: Queens. SSNY desig. as agent upon whom process against it may be served & shall mail process to C/O James T. Walsh, Esq., McCanliss & Early LLP, 88 Pine St., 24th Fl., New York, NY 10005. General Purpose. 5/11,18,25,6/1,8&15/2023

Notice of Formation of ZHENGDUO LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 05/08/2023. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 9507 Roosevelt Ave., Jackson Heights, NY 11372. Purpose: any lawful activities. 5/11,18,25,6/1,8&15/2023

Notice of Formation of AVENUE M CONSULTING LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 04/08/2023. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 17860 Wexford Terr, 3M, Jamaica, NY 11432. Purpose: any lawful activities. 5/11,18,25,6/1,8&15/2023

ICE GIANT PRODUCTIONS, LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 04/17/23. Office: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to the LLC, 222-01 Hempstead Avenue, #2F, Queens Village, NY 11429. Purpose: Any lawful purpose. 4/20,27,5/4,11,18&25/2023

MOJA TRANSPORTATION LLC, Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 04/06/2023. Office loc: Queens County. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: Mohammed Abdul Malek, 30-19 70 St., 1FL, E. Elmhurst, NY 11370. Purpose: Any Lawful Purpose. 4/13,20,27,5/4,11&18/2023

Notice of Formation of HALLOWPATH LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 04/07/2023. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 418 Broadway, Ste R, Albany, NY 12207. Purpose: any lawful activities. 4/13,20,27,5/4,11&18/2023

Notice of Formation of JUDY CHANG BKKG LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 05/08/2023. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 121-28 8th Ave, BSMT, College Point, NY 11356. Purpose: any lawful activities. 5/11,18,25,6/1,8&15/2023

LEGAL NOTICES

Notice of Formation of MJ & YR CLEANING SERVICES LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 03/16/2023. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 8105 Queens Blvd, Apt 5F, Elmhurst, NY 11373. Purpose: any lawful activities. 5/18,25,6/1,8,15&22/2023

Notice of Qualification of LAFAYETTE TOWERS NELSON APARTMENTS LLC Appl. for Auth. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 05/09/23. Office location: Queens County. LLC formed in Delaware (DE) on 05/05/23. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to c/o Corporation Service Co., 80 State St., Albany, NY 12207-2543. DE addr. of LLC: 251 Little Falls Dr., Wilmington, DE 19808. Cert. of Form. filed with DE Secy. of State, Div. of Corps., John G. Townsend Bldg., 401 Federal St. - Ste. 4, Dover, DE 19901. Purpose: Any lawful activity. 5/18,25,6/1,8,15&22/2023

Queens Chamber of Commerce Introduces New Energy Procurement And Energy Advisory Services Program For Members

(Continued from page 10)

ing renewables.

4. The program is risk free. Satisfaction is 100% guaranteed.

For more information

on Transparent Energy's high-value, risk-free energy advisory and procurement services for Queens Chamber of Commerce members, please contact Jane Seagraves at jseagraves@

transparentedge.com or (443) 614-2846 or visit our informational landing page. To speak with a member of the Queens Chamber of Commerce team please visit www.queenschamber.org.

NYSCI Launches Partners in STEM Equity With Founding Partners Amazon, BNY Mellon And MetLife

(Continued from page 10)

dents from an early age gives them the confidence and experiences they need as a launchpad to future success – and that's why we're proud to partner with NYSCI on its Partners in STEM Equity program," said Ratna Subrahmanyan, MetLife Global CIO, Corporate

"BNY Mellon is proud to participate in the creation of the national strategy for achieving STEM equity, and to be a founding partner in NYSCI's Partners in STEM Equity program. We recognize that STEM education is the first step in encouraging young talent from diverse backgrounds to join the workforce and become the next generation of fintech leaders," said Bridget Engle, BNY Mellon CIO and Head of Engineering, NYSCI Trustee

"Amazon believes in the transformative power of education and is investing in programs to help children, higher education

students, and adults unlock their potential. We are proud to support the New York Hall of Science as a Partner in STEM Equity, and look forward to working with their team to ensure equitable access to inspiring STEM programs and pathways for youth from all backgrounds," said Carley Graham Garcia, Amazon Head of Community Affairs in New York

NYSCI announced the launch at its STEM Career Expo, an event that brought more than 30 science and technology partners together with hundreds of teens to learn about STEM-related programs and careers.

About NYSCI - The mission of the New York Hall of Science (NYSCI) is to nurture generations of passionate learners, critical thinkers and active citizens through an approach called Design, Make, Play. Design, Make, Play emphasizes open-ended exploration, imaginative learning and personal relevance, resulting in deep engagement and

delight in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. NYSCI was founded at the 1964-65 World's Fair and has evolved into a local, global and impactful center for interactive science:

- 400,000 annual visitors.
- 1 million learners worldwide use NYSCI's digital products.
- 3,000 local teachers participate in professional development each year.
- 1,000 high-school and college students benefit from mentoring opportunities in STEM fields every year.
- 95 percent of the more than 4,000 young people participating in NYSCI's Science Career Ladder program over the last three decades have gone on to college.
- 70 percent of the Science Career Ladder alumni work in STEM fields.

For more information, visit nysci.org. Follow NYSCI on Twitter and Instagram: @nysci, and on Facebook at: [facebook.com/nysci](https://www.facebook.com/nysci).

Protecting Small Businesses



Queens District Attorney Melinda Katz stood alongside the 114th Police Precinct, NYPD Patrol Borough Queens North, local merchants and community leaders to announce the expansion of the Merchants Business Improvement Program to Astoria. The program focuses on the small number of

individuals responsible for the vast majority of shoplifting and vandalism in our neighborhoods.

Communities thrive when local businesses thrive. That is why I am committed to providing resources for our local merchants to combat crime and provide a positive experience for their customers.

Paying Tribute to Maestro David Close



The Oratorio Society of Queens is the oldest performing arts institution in the borough. Maestro David Close (pictured on the left) began his tenure as the choir's conductor in the spring of 1970, taking the reins from my father, who served as

conductor in 1968 and 1969.

QDA Melinda Katz said "It was a special privilege to join President Lawrence M. Lutzak (pictured on the right) to wish the maestro all the best in his retirement from the chorus.

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