

QUEENS TIMES

Published for the Borough of Queens

VOLUME 26, NO. 32

THURSDAY, AUGUST 12, 2021

25 CENTS

CONSUMER ALERT:

Attorney General James Issues Consumer Alert to Protect New Yorkers From Dangerous, Fake COVID-19 Vaccination Cards

New York Attorney General Letitia James today issued an alert to protect New Yorkers from the dangers of fake coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) vaccination cards. The sale or distribution of blank or fraudulently-completed vaccination cards to individuals who have not actually received a vaccine poses a serious threat to the health of New York communities, and will impede the progress that has been made in combatting COVID-19. Falsifying vaccine cards and records, as well as the unauthorized use of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) seals, also violate various federal and New York state laws and is subject to civil and criminal enforcement.

"As the Delta variant becomes more prominent, it is more important than ever for New Yorkers to be vaccinated against COVID-19," said Attorney General James. "Not only do fake and fraudulently-completed vaccination cards violate federal and state laws and the public trust, but they also put the health of our communities at risk and potentially prolong this public health crisis. I strongly urge New Yorkers to reject these fake vaccination cards and get the COVID-19 vaccine, so that we can move forward from this pandemic and return to normalcy as soon as possible."

COVID-19 vaccines are now available to all New Yorkers 12 years of age and older, and must be administered free of

(Continued on page 2)

Grand Opening of Hyatt Regency Hotel at Resorts World



Robert DeSalvio, president of Genting Americas East, and representatives of Hyatt Regency and Genting Group at the ribbon-cutting ceremony of the Hyatt

Regency JFK Airport at Resorts World NYC is pictured with Queens Elected officials Congressman Gregory Meeks; Assemblywoman Stacey Pheffer-Amato;

NYS Senators Joseph Addabbo and Leroy Comrie, Queens Borough President Donovan

(Continued on page 2)

Assemblyman Braunstein Hosts Over 100 Blood Donors at Successful Northeast Queens Drive



Assemblyman Braunstein is pictured at his office's 9th Annual Summer Blood Drive with Michele McCaffrey, New York Blood Center Account Manager, and Dionis Xhindolli, New York Blood Center Donor Specialist, PIC, on Aug. 5. See story on page 4.

Astoria legend Tony Bennett's Memorable Career



Tony Bennett and Lady Gaga released second album entitled "Love for Sale".

NYS Governor Andrew Cuomo proclaimed Aug. 3, 2021, as "Tony Bennett Day" in New York to honor the legendary singer's 95th birthday and his final performances at Radio City Music Hall. Anthony Dominick Benedetto

born in Astoria in 1926 and grew up in a two-story house on 32nd Street near Ditmars Boulevard during the Great Depression. He began to display his talents at an early age, performing at age 10 at the opening of the Triborough

Bridge in 1936. Long before he became a world-famous crooner, Benedetto honed his talents singing in restaurants and nightclubs in his Astoria,

(Continued on page 2)



One Edition for ALL of Queens!
Visit our website at www.queentimes.com

Park Side Restaurant

Queens' Finest Italian Restaurant



About Park Side Restaurant - An Italian Landmark in the heart of Corona, Queens, Park Side Restaurant is truly a destination that is worth the trip. After one visit, you will be sure to be back again and again for one the city's Best Italian restaurants. Bring your appetite and enjoy authentic and always delicious dishes using the freshest ingredients and attention to detail served by our professional staff. Park Side is also happy to host your next function with our private dining area and flexible banquet packages.

107-01 Corona Ave. Corona Heights, NY
(718) 271-9274 • (718) 271-9871
- Reservations Suggested -

DMV# 7103558 **108 Auto Service Inc.**
宏興車行
Official NYS Inspection Station
Complete Auto Repair & Tires
All Work Guarantee
ASE CERTIFIED

- NYS Approved Auto Technician
- ASE Certified Technician
- Licensed Auto Body Estimator
- ASA Member

DEE 宏
Tel.: (718) 393-3139
Fax: (718) 271-0902
55-26 108 Street, Corona, NY. 11368

Subscribe to the Queens Times

Your Local Newspaper-One Edition for All Of Queens

Just \$36.50 per year... and have the paper delivered to your door by US Mail

Please Enter my Subscription For One Year

Name

Address

City.....Zip.....

Please make check payable to: Queens Times and mail to:
 11-20 154th Street, Whitestone, NY 11357



Published every week by C.T. Publishing Corp.

Executive Office: 108-59 49th Avenue, Corona Heights, NY 11368

Operations: 11-20 154th Street, Whitestone, NY 11357

Phone (718) 592-2196 • FAX (718) 357-3682

Web Site: www.queens-times.com

email: editor@queens-times.com

James C. LisaPublisher/Editor
 Lew Scala Associate Publisher/Webmaster
 Lou DuroInternational Correspondent
 Nicole Rescigno.....Office Manager
 Joseph V. DorsaPhoto Journalist
 Bob Grant.....Photo Journalist

The Queens Times, USPS # P127 AIC060 is published weekly by CT Publishing Corp. for an annual subscription charge of \$28.50, mail subscription request to Queens Times, 11-20 154th Street, Whitestone, NY 11357, Periodicals Postage at Flushing, NY. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Queens Times at 11-20 154th Street, Whitestone, NY 11357

Attorney General James Issues Consumer Alert to Protect New Yorkers From Dangerous, Fake COVID-19 Vaccination Cards

(Continued from page 1)

charge. To find a New York state operated vaccination site, please visit this the state's COVID-19 vaccine tracker website. Other vaccination sites can be found online.

Legitimate CDC vaccination cards are provided to individuals once they receive the COVID-19 vaccine. If an individual receives the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines — which require two doses — they will receive a vaccination card after their first dose that will be updated after the second dose. Those getting the Johnson & Johnson vaccine will receive their vaccination card after their single dose. New Yorkers are urged not to share pictures of this card online or on social media, or to at least blur out private information (date of birth, vaccination lot number, etc.). Scammers can use New Yorkers' personal information to steal their identity, and use pictures to create fake cards.

New Yorkers can access proof of a COVID-19 vaccination or a negative test result digitally on

their smartphone using one of the two Excelsior Pass apps, which are available for free from the Apple App Store and the Google Play Store. Use of the Excelsior Pass apps are voluntary, and with these apps, New Yorkers can easily retrieve and store a digital form of vaccine records or negative test results and avoid misplacing or damaging their vaccination card. New Yorkers can learn more about the Excelsior Pass apps online.

Relatedly, this past April, Attorney General James and a bipartisan coalition of attorneys general sent letters to a number of companies asking them to act immediately to prevent the sale of fake COVID-19 vaccination cards on their platforms.

Separately, last week, Attorney General James, leading a coalition of advocates, sent a letter to Facebook, urging the company to address and dispel harmful and inaccurate myths about the COVID-19 virus and the available vaccines on its platform that have targeted Latino communities. This letter came after Attorney General James and a coalition of

attorneys general sent an earlier letter to both Facebook and Twitter, in March 2021, calling on the companies to enforce company guidelines against vaccine misinformation.

In April, Attorney General James issued an alert urging New Yorkers to report unlawful vaccine charges as the vaccines are and always have been free of charge.

Lastly, in March, Attorney General James issued an alert to New Yorkers to beware of scams making fraudulent promises to consumers that they could cut COVID-19 vaccine lines or receive additional stimulus payments. This alert followed an earlier alert, in December 2020, where Attorney General James warned New Yorkers about potential scams offering early access to the COVID-19 vaccine.

Any New Yorker that believes they have been a victim of a COVID-19 vaccination card scam should contact the Office of the Attorney General by calling 1-800-771-7755 or filing a complaint online.

Grand Opening of Hyatt Regency Hotel at Resorts World

(Continued from page 1)

Richards; Councilmember Eric Ulrich; Betty Braton, South Queens Democratic Club Executive Member. In attendance and not pictured were Assembly members Vivian Cook and Khaleel Anderson.

Resorts World opened and eight-story, 400-room, "four-star" hotel. Resorts World NYC is the only casino in New York City, offering over 6,000 slots and electronic table games to millions of guests annually.

The hotel addition is projected to create more than 500 jobs and generate as well as revenues dedicated to state schools.

The hotel will also include

new restaurants, state-of-the-art conference and meeting spaces, retail stores, and additional gaming areas.

"Hyatt's global brand recognition will give Resorts World an even greater opportunity to tap into the travel and tourism market worldwide and showcase our unparalleled hospitality, gaming, dining and entertainment offerings," said Bob DeSalvio, president of Genting Americas East.

"We are proud to work with such an iconic brand as we move NY Forward, and we are excited that guests will soon be able to enjoy an integrated casino resort experience right here in Queens."

Lawmakers from the county of Queens welcomed the hotel

to the southeast Queens. "This hotel creates job opportunities for hundreds of the borough's residents and is an important step in improving the gaming experience in Queens," said NYS Sen. Joseph Addabbo Jr., whose district includes the Aqueduct communities.

"Resorts World Casino New York City is doing its part to show tourists there is more to New York City than just Manhattan. I look forward to more people exploring the borough I've called home my entire life."

Said Congressman Gregory Meeks, "I congratulate Resorts World New York and Hyatt and look forward to seeing the jobs created in the community as a result of this partnership."

Astoria legend Tony Bennett's Memorable Career

(Continued from page 1)

eventually working as a singing waiter at Riccardo's by the Bridge, which closed last year due to the operational impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

His career was put on hold while he fought in the final stages of World War II as a combat infantryman. Benedetto returned home in 1946 and brought his talent to Astoria hotspots such as the Shangri-La on Ditmars Boulevard and The Red Door on Steinway Street.

One night in 1949, Pearl Bailey heard him sing and invited him to open for her in Greenwich Village. Bob Hope was in the audience and visited with him after the show.

"Bob Hope came down to check out my act," the singer recalled. "He liked my singing so much he came back to see me in my dressing room

and said, 'Come on kid, you're going to come to the Paramount and sing with me.' First, he told me he didn't care for my stage name and asked me what my real name was. I told him, 'My name is Anthony Dominick Benedetto,' he said, 'We'll call you Tony Bennett.'"

He went on to sell more than 50 million records, with numerous platinum and gold albums to his name. Along the way, Bennett garnered 13 Grammy nominations and the Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award and is one of the select few artists to have new albums at the top of the charts in the '50s, '60s, '70s, '80s and '90s.

"Music and the arts have long been an essential piece of the fabric of New York, and you would be hard-pressed to find someone who has made more of a contribution in this space than Tony Bennett,"

Cuomo said. "Not only is Tony a born-and-bred New Yorker who has been dazzling audiences with beautiful music for more than six decades, but he has always stayed true to his humble New York roots and can always be spotted throughout the city whether he is working on his next painting in Central Park, or just chatting with fans on the street."

Earlier this year, Bennett's family divulged that he was suffering from Alzheimer's disease. His Radio City performances with Lady Gaga, with whom he released a second album entitled "Love for Sale", last week was billed as the last of his illustrious career.

From growing up as a child of immigrants, to all the contributions he has made to our community, Tony Bennett is a New Yorker in the truest sense of the word.

'Mr. SALT' & N.J. Ally Fight Ocasio-Cortez to Revive Tax Break

Congressman Tom Suozzi's (D – Long Island, Queens) push to restore the SALT deduction continues to gain steam with the Senate announcing that SALT relief will be included in the outline of the budget plan. The following appeared in Bloomberg on August 10, 2021 By Laura Davison. ICYMI: From Bloomberg.

A major push by a group of U.S. lawmakers to secure an expansion of the federal deduction for state and local taxes -- which on Monday won inclusion in a critical budget plan -- owes much to a pair of onetime roommates in the nation's capital.

One, Tom Suozzi, has the nickname "Mr. SALT," and the other, Josh Gottheimer, is co-chief of a sometime influential bipartisan House group known as the Problem Solvers.

Together, they've helped to gather a caucus of 33 representatives battling to remove or raise the \$10,000 cap on SALT deductions imposed in the 2017 Republican tax-cut package. Success at getting that included in final legislation this fall would offer relief to middle and higher-income residents in higher-tax states such as New York and New Jersey.

The duo sees the legislative vehicle for the bulk of President Joe Biden's longer-term economic proposals -- a \$3.5 trillion bill made up mostly of social spending measures, funded in part by tax hikes -- as a crucial opportunity to win SALT relief.

The budget blueprint for that package, released by Senate Democrats on Monday, explicitly provided for making the SALT deduction more generous. The White House had left out addressing SALT in its original American Families Plan, leaving it to legislators to address and fund.

'Existential Threat'

Suozzi brings the perspective of a former local official to a deduction that's viewed by the SALT caucus as vital to supporting the economies of higher-tax areas that are in turn critical to national output.

"For us, this is an existential threat," explains Gottheimer, who in pre-pandemic days shared living quarters with Suozzi when the two were in the capital. "If the tax base leaves, if well-to-do people leave, that drains the tax base and hurts the programs we all care about."

Suozzi's district includes portions

of Long Island and Queens and Gottheimer's spans the northernmost portions of New Jersey. The two both took office in 2017, months before President Donald Trump signed the tax bill that included a SALT cap to help pay for federal corporate and income-tax cuts.

Suozzi, 58, and Gottheimer, 46, have amassed enough support that Biden's economic agenda can't pass the House without addressing their demands, provided their block of Democrats stays united.

"No SALT, No Deal," is Suozzi's slogan. Gottheimer says, "No SALT, No Dice."

Suozzi, a lawyer and CPA, and Gottheimer, a former speechwriter for Bill Clinton who has worked for Microsoft Corp. and Ford Motor Co., have argued that limiting the SALT deduction hurts residents in their districts and others like them because it raises taxes on middle-income earners who aren't able to claim all their property and income taxes against the federal tax bills.

They argue it prompts wealthier people to move to low-tax places like Florida and Texas, which hurts their state's ability to fund robust social services, an issue that should be a concern to both moderates and progressives.

Liberals counter that the deduction aids higher-income taxpayers, and shouldn't be a priority given greater need to enhance federal support for lower-income families in the social-spending focused bill. It would cost hundreds of billions of dollars to restore the write-off to pre-Trump levels, with more than half of those benefits flowing to households earning at least \$1 million.

Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, who represents a House district adjacent to Suozzi's, has called his position "a gift to billionaires."

'Extreme Position'

"We can have a conversation on the policy, but it's a bit of an extreme position, to be frank," she said.

The rejoinder for SALT relief advocates is that passage can help Democrats in competitive districts.

"This is not a giveaway to the rich -- this is an essential feature to our progressive states," Suozzi said. "The only way we can hold our majority, or expand our majority, is to address this issue."

Suozzi and Gottheimer have been closely linked since they came

to Congress in 2017. Before Covid-19, the pair were roommates when in Washington, living in a shared apartment decorated with a duck-patterned couch that was a cast-off from Gottheimer's cousin. Mike Florio, Suozzi's chief of staff, also lived with them, sleeping on an air mattress in a walk-in closet on the days he was in town.

County Executor

Suozzi, as county executor for Nassau County, where the median property tax bills consistently rank among the top-five highest in the country, earned praise from constituents for working to institute a cap on that levy. He earned the nickname Mr. SALT for bringing up the issue in nearly every meeting of the Ways and Means Committee, the panel responsible for tax issues.

Gottheimer, who flipped his district from Republican control, arrived at Congress with a raft of corporate-communications experience, and has gone on to co-chair the bipartisan Problem Solvers Caucus -- which gained some success in pushing forward a compromise pandemic-relief plan in late 2020.

"Everything I do is bipartisan. I don't go out to dinner without Republicans," he quipped. Gottheimer also said, "I take much more of the 'let's get 80% of what we want, and get it done' approach."

Democrats will be the ultimate deciders on whether SALT relief passes, as GOP members oppose the broader social-spending bill it would be part of. Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer has sponsored a version of Suozzi's SALT restoration bill in his chamber.

Budget Bill

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, who also represents a district with some of the highest tax bills in the country, has said she's sympathetic to the issue, though has stopped short of endorsing any SALT plan. The initiative got its biggest momentum boost last month, when Senate Budget Committee Chair Bernie Sanders agreed to include a SALT provision in the draft \$3.5 trillion budget deal.

"In the beginning, this was a long, long shot because the White House didn't include it," Suozzi said. "But, you know, my first campaign slogan was 'Suozzi Gets It Done.' I feel like we are going to get this done."

Suozzi Statement on the Resignation of Governor Andrew Cuomo

Congressman Tom Suozzi (D-Long Island, Queens) released the following statement on the resignation of New York Governor Andrew Cuomo:

"The Governor has done the right thing by resigning. There is no doubt that Andrew Cuomo has accomplished much for our

state, from the property tax cap, to rebuilding our infrastructure, to instituting a \$15 min wage and battling COVID. It is imperative that our next governor continue the positive achievements of the Cuomo administration and help once again make New York the Empire State."

Statement From NYS Democratic Chairman on Incoming Governor Kathy Hochul

New York State Democratic Chairman Jay S. Jacobs has released the following statement:

"New York will finally have its first female Governor and we could not be in better hands. From assisting her mother run a transitional domestic violence shelter to helping make the property tax cap permanent, Kathy Hochul has always and relentlessly fought for the people of New York. Her

experience at all levels of government -- Town Board Member, County Clerk, Congresswoman, and Lieutenant Governor, makes her uniquely well-equipped to effectively govern the State at this time. I am confident that incoming Governor Hochul's empathy, work ethic and authentic concern for the welfare of its citizens will make her an outstanding Governor for our State."

Rozic Statement on Resignation of Governor Cuomo

In response to the resignation of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, Assemblywoman Nily Rozic (D,WF-Fresh Meadows) issued the following statement:

"New Yorker's deserve a Governor who embodies the values of our state. It has been abundantly clear that Governor Cuomo is unfit to hold the position and his resignation will allow us to finally move forward. It is my hope that investigations into his conduct

continue and that his many victims receive the justice and peace of mind they deserve.

As we continue to battle the COVID-19 pandemic, New York must now focus on recovery, reopening, and the future. Incoming Governor Kathy Hochul will make history as the first woman to serve as Governor. I look forward to working with her to ensure that our government functions as it should."

State Comptroller Dinapoli Statement on Governor's Resignation

"The Governor has done the right thing. New York is facing many challenges as we battle the ongoing impact

of COVID-19. My team and I stand ready to assist incoming Governor Hochul as we move the state forward."

Attorney General James' Statement on the Resignation of Governor Cuomo

New York Attorney General Letitia James today released the following statement after New York Governor Andrew Cuomo announced he would resign from office:

"Today closes a sad chapter for all of New York, but it's an important step towards justice.

"I thank Governor Cuomo for his contributions to our state.

The ascension of our Lieutenant Governor, Kathy Hochul, will help New York enter a new day. We must continue to build on the progress already made and improve the lives of New Yorkers in every corner of the state. I know our state is in good hands with Lieutenant Governor Hochul at the helm, and I look forward to continuing to work with her."

Statement From Queens Borough President Donovan Richards, Jr.

"Thank you to all the survivors who came forward. It was not an easy decision to make, but your decision transformed New York's history for the better. You are the true heroes of New York State, and Queens continues to support you as you move toward your next steps.

"I thank Attorney General

Letitia James and her team for conducting a thorough, fair investigation and for giving survivors a platform to speak their truth.

"Today is a sad day for New York, but I am confident we can get back to work. I am ready to collaborate with our State's first female Governor, Kathy Hochul."

Senate Passes \$1 Trillion Infrastructure Bill

On Tuesday, the U.S. Senate overwhelmingly approved a major bipartisan infrastructure bill to rebuild the nation's deteriorating roads, bridges, and railroads, and fund new climate resilience and broadband initiatives. In response, Renae Reynolds, Executive Director of Tri-State Transportation Campaign, released the following statement:

"We congratulate Senator Chuck Schumer, the New York Congressional delegation, and President Biden for passing the first major infrastructure bill

since the Federal Highway Act was passed in 1956. The bill will provide the tri-state region with badly needed funds to move major projects forward, bolster the economy, and start the work of electrifying our transportation infrastructure.

"In addition to an unprecedented investment in passenger and freight rail, the bill supports climate-resiliency efforts to help our region mitigate some of the worst effects of climate change. The deal is expected to help move forward many long-stalled proj-

ects, such as the Second Avenue Subway, the Hudson River Tunnel, and the Portal Bridge replacement. It also includes \$73 billion to update the nation's electric grid, so it can carry more renewable energy, \$7.5 billion to construct electric vehicle charging stations, and \$17.5 billion for clean buses and ferries.

"We look forward to working with the delegation to pass the reconciliation bill, which is expected to go even further to

(Continued on page 9)



QBP Richards, Brooklyn BP Adams Join Health Leaders, Local Officials to Announce New Awareness Campaign in Low-Vaccinated Areas, Encourage Residents in Far Rockaway to Get Vaccinated

Queens Borough President Donovan Richards Jr. and Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams, along with representation from the Bronx Borough President's Office and the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH), held a joint press conference with public health leaders, local elected officials, and community advocates outside the City's Beach 39th Street Vaccine Hub to urge Far Rockaway residents to get vaccinated. At the press conference, Borough President Adams, Queens Borough President Richards, and other local leaders touted the fact that they have been vaccinated, and reassured residents, particularly in traditionally underserved communities, that the vaccines are safe, effective, and save lives.

"New Yorkers have been resilient in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic, especially here in Queens. However the pandemic is far from over given the rise of the Delta variant. It is more important than ever to ensure everyone gets vaccinated so they can protect themselves, their loved ones and their neighbors," said Queens Borough President DONOVAN RICHARDS. "The vaccines are safe, effective, and free, and I am proud to stand with Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams, Bronx Deputy Borough President Marricka Scott-McFadden and the DOHMH to launch this partnership and urge our much-needed communities to get their doses."

"This virus, and the new Delta variant, are formidable opponents. But we have a strong weapon on our side: vaccines. We have seen that this pandemic does not respect national, state, city, or borough borders. That's why we have to encourage as many New Yorkers as possible to get vaccinated as soon as possible," said Brooklyn Borough President ERIC ADAMS. "To get vaccination rates up across the five boroughs, we need a combination of smart policies and aggressive outreach through credible messengers. I'm proud to join Queens Borough President Richards, DOHMH, and other local leaders to urge residents in Far Rockaway to get vaccinated."

The Borough Presidents announced a new City partnership that will incentivize local businesses to refer patrons and community members for vaccination through \$100 payments to participating businesses, adding to the existing \$100 incentive available to individuals who have not yet been vaccinated. The program will advance the twin goals of boosting vaccination rates while supporting struggling small businesses in economically underserved areas.

The partnership builds on the 'NYC Vaccine Referral Bonus' program, launched by the City in June of this year, which engages small businesses, community-based organizations, parent-teacher associations (PTAs), houses of worship, and other local institutions to turn out their neighbors,

awarding \$100 for each referral that leads to an individual's receiving their first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine at a City-run site. Each organization is eligible for up to \$20,000 in incentives, representing 200 referrals in total.

In the coming weeks, the Borough Presidents will announce future events in other areas around the city that suffer from low vaccination rates to ensure vaccinations continue to rise and New York beats back the surge in cases. Next steps include canvassing events in small business corridors in Brooklyn and Queens to inform local business owners of the \$100 incentive and the influential role they can play as community anchors in advocating for their customers to get vaccinated.

"Our road to recovery starts with everyone getting vaccinated. I urge everyone to get the COVID-19 vaccine — they are safe, free and effective at protecting you against the worst outcomes of this virus," said NYC Health Department First Deputy Commissioner Dr. Torian Easterling. "Thank you to all of our partners in government and in the community for working together to make our city safe from COVID-19."

"In The Bronx, we were hit particularly hard by the COVID-19 pandemic, and increasing vaccination rates will play a key role in our city's recovery," said Bronx Borough President RUBEN DIAZ JR. "It is critical for the health of ourselves, our families and our fellow New Yorkers that we get the vaccine and beat the virus together. I want to thank my colleagues Borough President Donovan Richards, Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams and The New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene for their partnership in getting the message out that the vaccines are safe, effective and accessible in all corners of our City."

"The high numbers of COVID cases and low vaccination numbers in the Rockaways are alarming especially now with the emergence of the Delta Variant," said State Senator JAMES SANDERS JR. "I have encouraged the Mayor to station mobile vaccination vans at all city events with 100 people or more and support all efforts to ensure that as many people as possible get vaccinated so we can finally put a halt to this deadly disease."

"COVID-19 and the new Delta variant still pose a threat to our communities — especially the unvaccinated," said State Senator JOE ADDABBO JR. "In our fight against COVID, it is important to speak with your doctor, get educated on the vaccine, and get vaccinated. By getting vaccinated, you are not only protecting yourself, you are protecting your loved ones, co-workers, and your community. While we should still maintain a social distance and wash our hands, the vaccine is the only way we can truly defeat this virus."

"Our community has come so far from being one of the hardest

hit neighborhoods in New York City during the devastating first wave of the COVID-19 pandemic," said Assemblymember STACEY PHEFFER AMATO. "With the delta variant proving to be an even more dangerous virus, it is absolutely essential that everyone who can get vaccinated makes an appointment today. Appointments are widely available, and home visits have made the vaccine easy to attain and accessible for New Yorkers. The vaccines are safe, free, effective and are the light at the end of the tunnel to end this pandemic once and for all. Please encourage your neighbors, loved ones, families and friends to get the COVID-19 vaccine today."

"We must address vaccinations through a racial justice lens. In Far Rockaway and Southeast Queens, the deadly COVID-19 pandemic, including the new Delta Variant, has exposed deep healthcare inequities that disproportionately affect Black and Hispanic communities. Medical racism has effectively paved the way for vaccine curiosity, cynicism, and conspiracy theories that circulate across our social networks," said Assemblymember KHALEEL ANDERSON. "Today, I proudly join Queens Borough President Richards and my colleagues in urging Southeast Queens residents to get vaccinated as we commit to more vaccine education, expanded choice, increased access, and genuine community partnership."

"Getting vaccinated against COVID-19 is the single biggest step we can all take to end the pandemic," said Councilmember SELVENA BROOKS-POWERS. "The vaccinations are safe and effective, and more widely available than ever. Queens was hit first, we were hit hard, and we are still struggling to recover, especially with the rise of the Delta variant. That's why I strongly encourage everyone to get vaccinated — it's the best way to protect ourselves, our loved ones, and our neighbors."

"As we approach this critical time in the pandemic response, it is so vital to the future of New York City that the residents of Far Rockaway and all New Yorkers continue to get vaccinated. We are all in this together — so it is imperative that we reach mass vaccination status citywide, especially in underserved communities," said Doctors Council SEIU President DR. FRANCK PROSCIA, M.D. "If you are a Far Rockaway resident or anyone looking for more information: there are many clinics available and hotlines to call which will serve you or your family. From all of us at Doctors Council, we implore you to get vaccinated, wear your mask, and wash your hands so we can continue to protect each other as we progress in our collective effort to combat COVID-19 in New York and beyond."

"St. John's is committed to supporting local efforts to increase the vaccination rates in

(Continued on page 9)

Con Edison Supports President Biden's Executive Order on Electric Vehicles

Con Edison released this statement in response to President Biden's Executive Order setting a goal of making half of all new vehicles sold in 2030 zero-emissions vehicles.

"We believe electric vehicles will play a vital role in a clean energy future and support President Biden's goal of dramatically increasing adoption. As part of PowerReady — the second most aggressive program of its kind in the country — we offer incentives for the installation of level 2 and

direct current fast chargers.

"Con Edison also is providing financial incentives to EV drivers to charge during off-peak hours. Further, Con Edison is experimenting with business models and technologies to make it more attractive and convenient for drivers to choose EVs. We have begun using current from batteries on electric school buses in White Plains to feed our grid and working with the City of New York to place 100 publicly available chargers in the five boroughs."

Assemblyman Edward Braunstein's Statement on Gov. Cuomo's Resignation:

"The Governor's resignation ends a difficult and painful chapter in our state's history and is in the best interest of New Yorkers. I commend the 11 women who bravely disclosed the disturbing allegations of assault and misconduct against Governor Cuomo.

As we continue to battle the COVID-19 crisis and usher in a new era for New York State, I look forward to working with the incoming Governor, Kathy Hochul, who I am confident will be an effective leader for New Yorkers."

Assemblyman Braunstein Hosts Over 100 Blood Donors at Successful Northeast Queens Drive

(Continued from page 1)

I'm proud to announce that over 100 Northeast Queens residents answered the call for urgently-needed blood donations at my office's 9th Annual Summer Blood Drive on August 5th. Thanks to their generosity, more than 300 lives will be saved," said Assemblyman Edward Braunstein. "Special recognition goes to the New York Blood Center for its continued part-

nership and to the Cord Meyer Development Company for providing my office with space at the Bay Terrace Shopping Center for another successful drive. Thanks also to the New York Mets for providing free t-shirts to donors."

All donors were also entered into a sweepstakes by the New York Blood Center to win a six pack of tickets to a New York Mets game. Janet Cohen of Bay-side was the sweepstakes winner.

Council Member James F. Gennaro Reacts to Gov. Cuomo's Resignation

"On March 9, 2021, I was the first former high-ranking Cuomo Administration official to issue a formal statement calling for the Governor's resignation after six women had come forward. On a practical level, I didn't see a way forward for him to continue in office — his ordeal was certain, in my opinion, to distract the State from the business of governing. On a compassion level, I believed that him stepping down then would have spared more women — who I presumed had been harassed — from the gut-wrenching ordeal of deciding whether to come forward, and thereby re-live their trauma. And on a justice level, I believed

he forfeited the moral authority to lead our State. Period.

At the end of this ordeal, we have a host of harassed women, a State in disarray, and a disgraced soon-to-be ex-governor who still faces a criminal sexual harassment charge and whatever repercussions come out of the federal probe into COVID nursing home deaths in New York. If found culpable in these matters, let swift and certain justice be meted out to the governor.

I wish Kathy Hochul all the best as she assumes office and, much more importantly, I wish peace for the victims of the Governor's harassment."

Gillibrand Statement on Resignation of Governor Andrew Cuomo

Addressing the resignation of New York Governor Andrew Cuomo, U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand released the following statement:

"First and foremost, I want to thank the incredibly courageous women who came forward and shared their stories. They are the

true public servants here. New York now has a chance to move forward and build a new culture of leadership. Lieutenant Governor Kathy Hochul is an exceptional public servant and will be an excellent governor. I look forward to working together to continue serving the people of our great state."

Visit our website: www.queenstimes.com
Read our paper online

Queens Times Weekly ...
HOROSCOPE
 For the Week of ... 8/12/21 - 8/18/21

For Entertainment Purposes Only

ARIES

(Mar. 21 - April 20)

Sudden changes regarding friendships are likely to occur if you have tried to change others. Your lucky numbers are: 1,9,4

TAURUS

(Apr. 21 - May 21)

Tie up your personal papers or push to have legal settlements completed. Lay your cards on the table regarding your personal direction. Your lucky numbers are: 7,6,1

GEMINI

(May 22 - June 21)

It's a great week to attend social functions. Don't expect new acquaintances to be completely honest about themselves. Your lucky numbers are: 6,9,3

CANCER

(June 22 - July 22)

Your sensitive nature will allow others to read you well. Don't volunteer private information about yourself. Your lucky numbers are: 6,5,4

LEO

(July 23 - Aug. 22)

Home environment will be unpredictable today. Don't ruffle the feathers of those you care about most. Your lucky numbers are: 6,9,4

VIRGO

(Aug. 23 - Sept. 23)

Limitations at work might set you back. Be careful when dealing with superiors. Do your best, but don't make too many promises. Your lucky numbers are: 1,2,3

LIBRA

(Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)

You will be able to contribute a great deal to organizations that you join. Your high energy will help you through this rather hectic day. Your lucky numbers are: 9,7,4

SCORPIO

(Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)

Get motivated and follow up on some self-improvement resolutions. It might be time to shake a leg and do a personal makeover. Your lucky numbers are: 5,1,9

SAGITTARIUS

(Nov. 23 - Dec. 21)

You will be in an overly generous mood today. Your best efforts will come through hard work. Your lucky numbers are: 3,2,8

CAPRICORN

(Dec. 22 - Jan. 20)

Be careful not to hurt the ones you love. They will not be in the right frame of mind to put up with tactless comments. Your lucky numbers are: 9,3,1

AQUARIUS

(Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)

Your charisma will no doubt attract a lot of attention. Use your intellectual approach to get the best results. lucky numbers are: 6,8,3

PISCES

(Feb. 20 - Mar. 20)

If you're looking to do something worthwhile, consider volunteer work. Helping children may be rewarding and challenging. Your lucky numbers are: 5,9,6

Did You Know?

- Bees and house flies flap their wings 200 times a second
- Bees have 4 wings
- The most eaten fruit in America is the banana
- The ancient Greeks first grew carrots as a form of medicine and not a food
- knoworiginally in 1886 Coca Cola was introduced as an 'intellectual beverage' to boost brain power
- Over a third of all pineapples come from Hawaii
- The frozen foods were first introduced in the 1920.
- The color of a chile pepper is no indication of its heat (usually the smaller the the hotter)
- John Kellogg invented corn flakes
- 60 cows can produce a ton of milk each day
- Orange Fanta is the 3rd largest selling soft drink in the world
- Italy and France produce over 40% of all wine
- There are over 15,000 different kinds of rice
- knowdairy products account for 29% of all food consumed in the U.S.
- The ideal temperature to fall asleep is between 18-30c (64-86f)
- The most popular toothbrush color is blue
- The US produces 19% of the world's trash
- 59% of people say that their average looking
- 53% of women don't leave home without makeup on

Answer to Last Weeks Puzzles

"Sudoku"

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

"Crossword Puzzle"

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

"Try And Find"

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

SUDOKU

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

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

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

ACROSS

- Units of resistance
- European mountain range
- Cause to leak
- Opinion
- Angel's headwear
- Scallion
- Using traditional skills
- Territories
- Inclined
- Objections
- Bond certificate
- Misinform
- Nigerian tribesman
- Uncooked
- Ill
- Anagram of "Cue"
- Notability
- Celebrity
- Glowing remnant
- Rectal
- Colored part of an eye
- Lie
- Brilliant
- Bamboozle
- It is (poetic)
- Queen of the jungle?
- Not southwest
- Lavished
- Enter data
- Exotic jelly flavor
- Train operators
- Academy award
- Air force heroes
- Search
- Requested
- School session
- Resorts

DOWN

- Egg-shaped
- Employ
- Of higher order
- Scammers
- "Eureka!"
- Arrived
- Unadorned
- Not an equinox
- Ravel classic
- Absurd
- Fluff
- Deities
- NNNN
- Metal
- Bedroom community
- Bonfire
- Melodies
- Foreword
- Boyfriend (archaic)
- Cooktop
- Housemaids
- Weals
- Diminish
- Indistinctness
- Abuse
- Kino gum
- In that direction
- Account book
- Exploded stars
- Therefore
- Figure (out)
- Cut away
- Chick's sound
- Carbamide
- Tut-tuts
- A state of SW India
- Belief

Visit us on Facebook: www.Facebook.com/Queenstimes

TRY AND FIND

A CLOTHES CALL

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

| | | | |
|-------------|-------------|-----------|------------|
| Belt | Corduroys | Khakis | Suit |
| Blouse | Dress | Miniskirt | Sweatshirt |
| Boxers | Hip Huggers | Overcoat | Tank Top |
| Capris | Jacket | Socks | Ties |
| Cargo Pants | Jeans | Stockings | Tube Top |

Play Sudoku online.. Visit www.queenstimes.com Click on Puzzles

Senator Sanders Launches 1st Housing Assistance Program in the Country for Small Landlords & Tenants in Anticipation of Eviction Moratorium Ending

State Senator James Sanders Jr. is partnering with Neighborhood Housing of Jamaica to host a weekly, virtual, one-on-one clinic to help small landlords and tenants as the post-COVID eviction moratorium is about to come to an end. He made the official announcement today outside the Queens Civil Court House in Jamaica.

Senator Sanders was joined by many small landlords who are experiencing distress and shared their first-hand experiences and why this program is needed.

Always a leader, this is the first program of its kind in the country. The moratorium in New York is set to expire on August 31, 2021 and the federal moratorium will expire on October 3, 2021, but there is no denying the inevitable.

"There are going to be a whole lot of people facing a world of pain," Sanders said. "It is our job as leaders in government to take the steps necessary to help our constituents and be stewards of good will."

Congresswomen Cori Bush, Ayanna Pressley and Ilhan Omar slept outside the U.S. Capitol to protest the expiration of the moratorium of federal evictions.

"This is something that is



so serious and affects so many people," Sanders said. "We are talking about thousands of people potentially becoming homeless."

The courts will be overloaded with landlords who cannot pay their mortgages due to non-paying tenants and tenants who cannot pay their rent due to job loss and other COVID-related circum-

stances. In both cases, each side is going to desperately need help and Senator Sanders along with NHSJ is going to provide that assistance.

The program began on Tuesday, August 10, 2021 from 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. You must call Senator Sanders' Office at 718-523-3069 to make an appointment. Each appointment is 30 minutes in length.

Pheffer Amato, Addabbo, Anderson, And Advocates Urge Governor's Office to Sign Bill Forming Water Safety Commission

Assemblywoman Stacey Pheffer Amato (D-South Queens) hosted a press conference in support of her bill with Senator Tim Kennedy, A.7734/S.7129. This bill would create a commission to investigate best practices in preventing childhood drowning. Members of the Water Safety Coalition, local elected officials, and community leaders were in attendance.

"No matter where you live or what your background is, you should feel safe going into the water or know when not to go into the water," Pheffer Amato said. "This bill is for the children who lost their lives, their families, and every other person in New York State who we must protect. This bill can lay the groundwork for protecting a whole generation of children from preventable fatality due to lack of knowledge on water safety, and it gives me hope for a safer future. We are here today to urge Governor Cuomo to sign this bill into law. There is too much at stake, and too much to lose."

"We are lucky enough to have some amazing swim education programs here on the Rockaway Peninsula, but it is beyond time that we as a state take on the responsibility of expanding access to these vital programs into communities all across New York," State Senator Joseph P. Addabbo, Jr. said. "Proper swim education can mean the difference between life and death in the water, and this legislation will allow people of all ages — but especially children — the opportunity to learn how to swim and will save lives. We



respectfully ask the Governor to sign this bill into law."

"Water safety programs save lives," Assemblymember Khaleel Anderson stated. "Each year, we grieve heartbreaking but often preventable drowning tragedies that statistically surge in the summer months. Particularly in beachside communities like Far Rockaway and throughout New York State, we must invest in high-quality water safety programs to prevent these avoidable drownings. The creation of a Water Safety Commission is also a matter of racial justice as Black and brown communities suffer disproportionately from a lack of access to water safety and swimming education. I stand alongside Assemblymember Stacey Pheffer Amato and the Water Safety Coalition as they call on the Executive to sign this bill into law."

"All members of our community should be able to safely take advantage of Rockaway's largest

public facility - the beach!" Clare Hilger, member of the Water Safety Coalition and secretary of the Rockaway Beach Civic Association, said. "Improving our community means educating our community about water safety. We need to focus on communities that have previously been ignored and empower children with the knowledge to save lives."

"The answer to keeping our children safe from drowning and water-based accidents is not to keep our children away from water," Shawn Slevin, founder of Swim Strong Foundation, said. "It is to educate them about the nature, challenges and behaviors of different bodies of water so they can make decisions that will keep them safe in, on and around water. It is also to teach them swimming skills to navigate water with competence and confidence so they can enjoy all of the ben-

(Continued on page 10)

Pheffer Amato and Addabbo Secure Passage of Whippets Bill in Assembly and Senate



Assemblywoman Stacey Pheffer Amato (D-South Queens) announced that her bill, A.754A/S.2819A, has passed both the State Assembly and the State Senate, and is awaiting the Governor's signature. The bill will make it illegal for children under age 21 to purchase whipped cream canisters ("whippets"), which can be used as drugs. This bill was sponsored by Senator Joseph Addabbo in the Senate.

"I am very happy that my Assembly and Senate colleagues have passed this bill. It is clear that we need to get whippets out of the hands of teenagers in our communities," Pheffer Amato said. "In my community, empty whippets are all over our streets, and this will go a long way toward keeping our kids safe and our streets free of debris. This bill will greatly improve quality

of life in my district, and I look forward to the Governor signing it into law."

"My office has received countless complaints about discarded whippets canisters littering the streets, and we even conducted a cleanup of the Addabbo Bridge where we found several dozen of these canisters strewn about," Addabbo said. "Bill S.2819A/A.754A hopes to keep these canisters out of the hands of children under the age of 21 who may be using them to get high on the nitrous oxide, while allowing for businesses with legitimate uses for them to still be able to purchase them. My thanks go to Assemblywoman Pheffer Amato for sponsoring this piece of legislation and helping it pass in the Assembly." This bill now awaits the signature of the Governor before it will become law.

BUY AMERICAN

HIRE AMERICAN

Vallone & Vallone

Attorneys at Law



Over
80 Years
Of Legal Excellence

A FAMILY
TRADITION OF
LEGAL AND
COMMUNITY
SERVICE
SINCE 1932

Estates & Elder Law Planning - Wills & Trusts

Family Home and Asset Protection

Full Real Estate Representation

Personal Injury - Civil & Criminal Litigation

WWW.VALLONELAW.COM

Three Convenient Locations

22-45 31st Street
Astoria, NY 11105
(718) 284-2929

18 Canal
Sacco & Filias LLP
42-40 Bell Boulevard, Suite 301
Bayside, NY 11361
(718) 428-7285

233 Broadway, Suite 2510
New York, NY 10029
(212) VALLONE

38th National Night Out Against Crime

On Tuesday evening, August 3, millions of communities across the country to commemorate the 38th National Night Out Against Crime. Every year they gather with friends and neighbors to reaffirm our commitment to keeping each other safe from crime in our neighborhoods.

Queens District Attorney Melinda Katz stands proudly with our local police precincts, community organizations, cure-violence programs, and our youth groups. From the very first day I became your District Attorney, one of my top priorities has been to reach out to young people in Queens County.

Our kids need parks and playgrounds to keep them on the right path. My Office recently secured funding to implement the Queens DA's Youth Development Crime Prevention Program, building programs to ensure that picking up a gun or joining a gang is not an option.

To combat our City's gun violence health crisis, I joined Mayor Bill de Blasio to announce "Safe Summer NYC." This is a comprehensive, City-wide plan to invest in holistic programs. We have also added 17 new "Saturday Night Lights" locations in Queens.



QDA Katz said "I am committed to working with our partners to make sure no community is held hostage to gun violence. National Night Out is about listening to our neighbors and friends, making sure that their concerns are heard and acted upon - and building stronger

relationships between the community and law enforcement."

Katz further said "I want you all to know that my Office is always here to help."

For more information about any of the services we offer, please call us at 718 286-6000.

Council Member Vallone Partners With Lowe's to Bring New Infrastructure to Local School



Lowe's 100 Hometowns Project to invest in the Quality Services for the Autism Community school in Whitestone

Lowe's announced that the Quality Services for the Autism Community (QSAC) School in Whitestone would be the recipient of a grant to revitalize their space as part of Lowe's 100 Hometowns project. QSAC is an organization devoted to supporting children and adults with autism in achieving their goals and contributing to their communities in a meaningful way. QSAC runs a school in our district at 1210 150th St, Whitestone, NY 11357. This investment will allow QSAC to make functional and aesthetic changes to their space as well as adding a garden and playground for the students they serve.

"We are extremely grateful for the incredible investment Lowe's has decided to make to help serve the autism community within our district as part of their 100 Hometowns campaign", said Council Member Vallone "I am proud to have immediately connected Lowe's with the incredible organization of QSAC right here in Whitestone, Queens. The autism community will truly benefit from this infusion of resources for

generations to come."

As part of their 100th anniversary the Lowe's corporation has generously decided to fund 100 projects across the country to refresh and revitalize spaces that are important to local communities and work to ensure that they are good neighbors wherever they find themselves. They have shown incredible commitment to their goal by ensuring that each location selected is deeply valued and are working closely with the organizations to provide much needed and impactful improvements.

"Queens, and particularly the Whitestone/Beechhurst area, has a very special place in my heart as it happens to be my own hometown," said Marisa Thalberg, Lowe's executive vice president, chief brand and marketing officer. "This project is much more than the act of building a garden, a playground and upgrading facilities. It's about the community who will see it with newfound pride, and even more so the people who will enjoy and benefit from it everyday. That is at the core of our improving "100 Hometowns" in concert with Lowe's 100th birthday, and I am personally thrilled that one of those projects is the rejuvenation of Whitestone's own QSAC center."

"We are grateful to Lowe's for seeing the importance and need in investing in our Whitestone school through the 100 Hometowns Project," said Lisa Veglia, CEO of QSAC "We also are thankful for the continued support and leadership of Council Member Vallone, who without it this opportunity would not have been possible. This award will allow us to make necessary upgrades and improvements that need attention."

Annual Ecuadorian Parade in Queens



Queens District Attorney Melinda Katz is pictured marching in the Annual Ecuadorian Parade. Photo by Walter Karling



Marching in the Annual Ecuadorian Parade is (l to r) Assemblywoman Catalina Cruz; Queens Borough President Donovan Richards and Congresswoman Grace Meng. Photo by Walter Karling

The Annual Ecuadorian Parade in Queens began at the intersection of Northern Boulevard and 69th Street and the route went from East Elmhurst east along Northern Boulevard through Jackson Heights into Corona.

American Softball's World Series For People With Autism & Other Developmental Disabilities Will be Held on Saturday, August 28th, 2021, at 10:00AM in Ozone Park



American Softball's last game of their 11th season in Ozone Park, will open with the Pledge of Allegiance, with the American Flag held by the Girl Scouts of

America. The Star-Spangled Banner will be performed by Kathy Leon from the Pizza Dance Foundation. The players will play their last game followed by an award

ceremony and refreshments.

Please join the American Softball Organization by giving their

(Continued on page 9)

Italian American Journal



GIA



To read GIA online in English and Italian

Visit www.giamondo.com

Servicing The Tri-State Area and Long Island, Florida and Italy

Choose **Citibus** for **EXPERIENCE,**
Reliability & Safety!



S E R V I N G



Y O U R C O M M U N I T Y



Bus service to:

Bronx High School of Science
High School of American Studies

Check our website for service contracts

www.citibusnyc.com

(718) 767-0353

CitibusCorp.

151-19 Sixth Road

Whitestone, NY 11357

(718) 767-0353

www.citibusnyc.com



**QUEENS
TOURISM
COUNCIL**

IT'S IN QUEENS

(Aug. 13 to Aug. 19)

Free and outdoors. Free and outdoors. There's a distinct theme to many upcoming events in Queens. With a few exceptions, they don't cost anything and they don't take place inside. Of course, many of the presenters would accept donations.

Aug. 13, Taiwan: A World of Orchids, Aug. 15. Queens Botanical Garden and the Taipei Economic & Cultural Office in New York present this annual event which mixes a stunning display of orchids with a healthy dose of art, film, horticulture, origami, and music. Shopping too! QBG, 43-50 Main St., Flushing.

• Aug. 13, Malcolm X, 8:10 pm. An outdoor, free screening of Spike Lee's film about of a controversial and influential African-American leader who lived in Queens at the end of his life. Rufus King Park, vicinity of Jamaica Avenue at 153rd Street, Jamaica.

• Aug. 14, Shorebird Festival, 11 am. Several hours of hikes, tours, bird-watching, and activities. Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge, 175-10 Cross Bay Blvd., Broad Channel.

• Aug. 14, An Evening with Taiwanese Piano Stars, 7 pm. Flushing Town Hall streams a concert with Ching-Yun Hu, Natasha Wu, and Yao-Wen Chang. Expect Chopin, Schubert, Liszt, Rachmaninoff, Schubert, and Tyzen Hsiao.

• Aug. 14, Healing Sound Bath, 7 pm. As part of his ongoing Planeta Abuelx exhibition, Guadalupe Maravilla presents a free healing sound bath just like the ones he discovered while treating his

colon cancer. Socrates Sculpture Park, 32-01 Vernon Blvd., LIC.

• Aug. 14, Free Surf Clinic for People with Disabilities, 8 am. AmpSurf facilitates surf therapy for people with disabilities. A certified instructor and at least one water assistant work with each participant. (Amputees, those on the Autism spectrum, and veterans with PTSD are among the diverse group of students.) The sand off Beach 67th Street, Rockaway.

• Aug. 14, Under Woodside, 7 pm. A free outdoor production of Sunnyside resident Juliann Lavalley's poetic prose play, which uses inspiration from the 1954 Dylan Thomas poem "Under Milk Wood" to depict a single day within a few borough blocks. Doughboy Park, vicinity of 54th Street and Woodside Avenue, Woodside.

• Aug. 14, Queensboro Dance Festival Popup Performance, 2 pm. Travers Park, vicinity of 34th Avenue and 76th Street, Jackson Heights.

• Aug. 14, Small Biz Bazaar, 11 am. A small business fair featuring booths with local businesses presented by Queens Chronicle. King Manor Museum, vicinity of 153rd Street and Jamaica Avenue, Jamaica.

• Aug. 15, Tango y Mas, 4 pm. Frank Valiente plays Tango and other danceable rhythms. Corona Plaza, vicinity of Roosevelt Avenue and 104th Street.

• Aug. 15, Anthony & Cleopatra, 5 pm. The Woodside-based Hip to Hip Theatre Company presents this Shakespeare tragedy outdoors and for free. Socrates Sculpture Park, 32-01 Vernon Blvd., Long

Island City.

• Aug. 15, Summer Sunday Concerts, 6 pm. Cumbia River Band plays infectious Colombian dance music. Travers Park, vicinity of 78th Street and 34th Avenue, Jackson Heights.

• Aug. 15, Queensboro Dance Festival Popup Performance, 6 pm. Windmiller Park, vicinity of 39th Road at 53rd Street, Woodside.

• Aug. 16, Quintet of the Americas, 7:30 pm. Music by John Philip Sousa, Scott Joplin, Quincy Jones, and others used in television shows and movies such as "The Sting," "Sesame Street," "Harry Potter," "Goodfellas," "Sanford and Son," and "The Godfather." All Saints Episcopal Church, 85-45 96th St., Woodhaven.

• Aug. 17, Bachata, 7 pm. Live at the Gantries continues with Dominican Republic native Yasser Tejeda, a guitarist, vocalist, and composer who specializes in Bachata, a sensual, danceable rhythm from his homeland. Gantry Plaza State Park, vicinity of 49th Avenue and Center Boulevard, Long Island City.

• Aug. 18, LIC Gantry Lecture, 7 pm. Greater Astoria Historical Society Executive Director Bob Singleton discusses the history of the Long Island City Gantries. Lift bridges, car floats, and farm produce.

• Aug. 19, Literary Thursdays, 4 pm. University of Baltimore School of Law Associate Professor Gilda R. Daniels discusses "Uncounted: The Crisis of Voter Suppression in America" as part of an ongoing virtual series hosted by Queens Public Library.

From Cameroon to Queens, Gino Sitson Brings a "Beautiful Vibration" to Flushing Town Hall's Stage

On Friday, August 20 at 7:00 PM (ET), The Gino Sitson Trio brings "Beautiful Vibration" - Colors of African Music to Flushing Town Hall with a live, hybrid performance for both in-person and at-home audiences.

In honor of Flushing Town Hall's 42nd anniversary and to ensure continued Covid safety, the venue is open at a limited capacity, offering 42 in-person tickets. The concert will also be livestreamed, and an unlimited number of virtual tickets are available for global music lovers to tune in from home — and from anywhere around the world.

"Flushing Town Hall's mission is to present global arts to the global communities of Queens and New York City. Throughout the pandemic, the internet has given us the opportunity to reach a truly global audience," says Executive & Artistic Director Ellen Kodadek. "We are so pleased to welcome the local community back into our Hall and to continue presenting wonderful artists to the world online!"

"It's such a pleasure and an honor for me to perform at Flushing



Town Hall with the greats Lonnie Plaxico and Marvin Sewell," says Dr. Sitson of his trio members. "This project reflects my musical journey from Cameroon to the United States."

Today a resident of Manhattan's Upper East Side, Gino Sitson, PhD is originally from the Bamiléké region of Cameroon, Central Africa where he is descendent from a long line of family musicians known as Ntontas ("players of horns"). His mother is a singer and

choir director. His daring musical project combines traditional African polyphonies, polyrhythms, and melodies with American jazz, gospel, and blues in a most innovative way, generating an exciting and multicultural, new sound.

The trio features Sitson's original compositions, voice, and body percussion, alongside Lonnie Plaxico on double bass and Marvin Sewell on acoustic guitar

(Continued on page 9)

Mama's Backyard Café

46-10 104th Street • Corona, NY 11368



Cakes for all Occasions
Specializing in Napoleon Cakes
Full Line of Italian Pastries and Cookies

Bakery Tel: 718-565-9104
Deli Tel: 718-898-6069

A & F Auto Repairs, Inc.

General Auto Repairs
(Foreign and Domestic)
Accessories
• Tires • Batteries
• Electronic Tune-ups
• Inspection Station
• Towing

ARIS & FRANK

43-05 111th Street • Corona Heights, NY
Greek, Spanish and Italian Spoken

(718) 592-7470

(718) 699-2499

18-81 Steinway Street - Astoria, NY 11105
Tel: 718-278-8435 - Fax: 718-956-0804

RIENZI™

RIENZI & SONS, INC.

The TRUE FLAVORS OF THE MEDITERRANEAN



Anthony M. Battisti

Criminal Defense Attorney

DWI-Domestic Violence-Assault-Drugs-Weapons

Robbery-Homicide-Larceny-Frauds

87-13 Myrtle Avenue, Glendale, NY 11385

718-846-5843

Licensed Insured



ROCCO

CONSTRUCTION GROUP

Kitchens-Bathrooms-Roofs-Custom Tile Installations

Tel: 718-314-7474

rvr@RoccoConGroup.com www.RoccoConGroup.com

Maloney, Nadler, Garbarino, & Gillibrand Introduce The Bipartisan 9/11 Responder And Survivor Health Funding Correction Act

The lead sponsors of the bipartisan James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act, which created the World Trade Center Health Program (WTCHP) and reopened the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund (VCF), announced the introduction of the 9/11 Responder and Survivor Health Funding Correction Act. This legislation - introduced by Reps. Carolyn B. Maloney, Jerrold Nadler, and Andrew Garbarino in the House and U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand in the Senate - would address a funding shortfall in the WTCHP and ensure its adequate funding now and in the future. It would also make minor corrections to the 2010 statute and authorize the program to develop a research cohort to study the impact of the toxic exposures and psychological trauma on the more than 35,000 people who were children at the time of the attack and resided or attended school or daycare in the NYC disaster area in the aftermath of the attack.

The WTCHP provides medical treatment and monitoring for over 100,000 responders and survivors from the World Trade Center and lower Manhattan, the Pentagon, and the Shanksville, PA crash site, who live in every state and in 434 out of 435 Congressional Districts. While Congress extended the program to 2090, the funding needs of the WTCHP exceed the current funding formula. Because of that, in the coming years, the WTCHP will not have sufficient funds to provide care for all those still suffering the physical and mental impacts of 9/11. This includes responders and survivors who will be newly diagnosed with 9/11-associated cancers caused by their toxic exposures.

"Our country made a promise after 9/11 to always be there for the firefighters, the police, the EMTs, the workers clearing the pile, and survivors, residents, area workers, and students who got sick or injured from the toxins at ground zero," said Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney. "A promise we kept when we made the 9/11 health program essentially permanent. The funding provided in the 9/11 Responder and Survivor Health Funding Correction Act will ensure that everyone impacted by this tragic event gets the care they rightfully

need and deserve."

"As the twenty-year anniversary of the September 11th approaches, we must all reflect on the cost borne by the heroic responders and survivors made ill by their exposure to toxins in the days, weeks, and months after the attack. Just as they did not fail us in the aftermath of that terrible day, we cannot fail to provide them with the support that they deserve," said Congressman Jerrold Nadler. "I'm proud to introduce the 9/11 Responder and Survivor Health Funding Correction Act, which will ensure that the World Trade Center Health Program remains fully funded and survivors and responders receive the care they need. It's the right thing to do."

"The World Trade Center Health Program provides medical services to first responders and survivors impacted by the 9/11 terrorist attack, but the program is quickly running out of funds," said Congressman Andrew Garbarino. "It's essential that we ensure the program has the resources it needs to continue to help those still suffering the long-term effects of this horrific attack. I'm proud to help introduce this bipartisan legislation to replenish funding for this program so that those who need it most continue to have access to care."

"The victims of September 11th are not just the men and women killed on that terrible day - countless American lives continue to be claimed by illnesses linked to the attacks," said Senator Gillibrand. "In 2011, we established the World Trade Center Health Program (WTCHP) to provide first responders, survivors and their families with the health care benefits needed to treat 9/11-related health conditions. Today, we must uphold that promise and ensure that the program will have the funds it needs now and into the future. I'm urging my colleagues to prioritize and pass the 9/11 Responder and Survivor Health Funding Correction Act, and to remember that "we will never forget 9/11" is not just a slogan, but a reality we must uphold."

As the nation observes the 20th Anniversary of the 9/11 attacks, this legislation is needed to ensure that the slogan that we will "Never Forget 9/11" is a reality and that 9/11 responders and survivors

will continue to get the care that they need and deserve.

Cosponsors of the bill include Reps. Jerrold Nadler (D-NY), Andrew Garbarino (R-NY), Tom Suozzi (D-NY), Sean Patrick Maloney (D-NY), Grace Meng (D-NY), Nydia Velázquez (D-NY), Adriano Espaillat (D-NY), Nicole Malliotakis (R-NY), Ritchie Torres (D-NY), Bill Pascrell Jr. (D-NJ), Josh Gottheimer (D-NJ), Albio Sires (D-NJ), Donald M. Payne, Jr. (D-NJ), Paul Tonko (D-NY), Yvette Clarke (D-NY), Brian Higgins (D-NY), Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA), Chris Jacobs (R-NY), Lee Zeldin (R-NY), Jahana Hayes (D-CT), David McKinley (R-WV), Bonnie Watson Coleman (D-NJ), Jeff Van Drew (D-NJ), Jim Himes (D-CT), Chris Smith (R-NJ), Elise Stefanik (R-NY), Don Bacon (R-NE), Hakeem Jeffries (D-NY), John Katko (R-NY), Joe Morelle (D-NY), David Joyce (R-OH), Kathleen Rice (D-NY), Antonio Delgado (D-NY), Tom Reed (R-NY), Jamaal Bowman (D-NY), Gregory Meeks (D-NY), Mondaire Jones (D-NY), Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-NY), and Claudia Tenney (R-NY), and Sens. Schumer (D-NY), Menendez (D-NJ), Booker (D-NJ), Murphy (D-CT), and Blumenthal (D-CT).

Background - After the attack on September 11, 2001, thousands of responders rushed to the scenes and spent months combing through the wreckage looking for remains. In New York, the residents and workers were urged by the government to return to their homes and business and reopen the Financial District. The federal government assured them that the air they were breathing was safe, when in fact it was filled with toxic pollutants that continue to kill and disable 9/11 responders and survivors to this day.

In 2010, Congress finally responded to this health crisis with bipartisan action by passing the James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act, which created the WTCHP and reopened the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund. In subsequent years, Congress, with bipartisan support in 2015 and 2019, moved to expand both programs' funding and extend their authorizations to ensure that both those injured and their families would get the help they need and deserve.

From Cameroon to Queens, Gino Sitson Brings a "Beautiful Vibration" to Flushing Town Hall's Stage

(Continued from page 8)

and voice.

Sitson's extraordinary voice covers an impressive, four-octave range. He has recorded eight albums, including his most recent, "Echo Chamber," which was preceded in 2016 by his entirely a'capella solo album of 16 songs, "Body & Voice."

When not performing his own music, he can be heard on recordings with other artists and in various television and radio commercial jingles. He has even composed for the beloved Nickelodeon show, "Dora The Explorer." In 2008, Sitson appeared with Bobby McFerrin in an "Instant Opera" project at Carnegie Hall

and appears in the 2009 PBS documentary, "The Music Instinct: Science and Song," along with McFerrin and Yo-Yo Ma.

Sitson is the winner of the 2004 Parents Choice Silver Medal Honor Award. Since 2006, he has served as a Cultural Arts Ambassador for the City of Miami, Florida and is currently also a UNICEF CAMEROON Goodwill Ambassador and Associate Researcher at IreMus (Institut de recherche en musicologie: Paris-Sorbonne, CNRS, BnF, Ministère de la culture).

For more information on The Gino Sitson Trio's performance or to purchase tickets, visit: <https://www.flushingtownhall.org/gino-sitson>

American Softball's World Series For People With Autism & Other ...

(Continued from page 7)

players a cheer of support.

Location: VITO LOCASCIO FIELD in OZONE PARK, N.Y. AT 149th AVENUE and CROSS BAY BOULEVARD

The players have been getting together this year, every week since June 12th, in a very fun, non-competitive, social environment. The American Softball Organization is dedicated to helping people reach their full potential; socially and physically. Every player gets a chance to hit the ball, run around the bases, and play in the field. This helps to improve the quality of life for many special need individuals, by demonstrating to them that they can become a part of the team, regardless of their disabilities.

American Softball is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. Their Special Needs Program for Autism and Developmental Disabilities is dedicated to teaching the fundamentals of softball. They currently have over 70 players who come from several organizations for people with special needs such as; Bernard Fineson, Unique

People, Little Flowers, Lifespire, Life's Worc, YAI and Services for the Underserved, as well as people from New York Families for Autistic Children and the NYC Board of Education- District 75.

A few of their sponsors include; The Heisman Foundation, McDonald's, Verizon, The Allstate Foundation, The New York Mets, The New York Yankees, The Brooklyn Cyclones, New York Families for Autistic Children, UA Local Union No.1 The Plumbers of NYC, along with the local businesses and people in their community, who have donated their time and money to help them grow.

American Softball hopes to further expand membership and, in the future, to open additional locations in New York City and around the country. Randy Novick, Founder & CEO, stated, "These players are truly special and giving them this opportunity, to play the sport of softball, is priceless!" The rules are, "There Are No Rules." Everyone is equal.

For more information please visit www.AmericanSoftball.org or email: info@americansoftball.org

Senate Passes \$1 Trillion Infrastructure Bill

(Continued from page 3)

provide critical investments in our nation's infrastructure. We

will continue to advocate for a significant commitment to improving our regional and national mass transit systems."

NYC Parks Celebrates The \$5.2 Million Transformation of CC Moore Homestead Playground in Elmhurst

NYC Parks Acting Commissioner Margaret Nelson joined Queens Borough President Donovan Richards, New York City Council Member Daniel Dromm, Community Board 4 District Manager Christian Cassagnol, and community members to cut the ribbon on renovations to CC Moore Homestead Playground in Queens.

"Every child deserves a great playground, and every community deserves access to quality open space and thriving parks,"



(Continued on page 10)

Join The Oratorio Society of Queens And Experience The Joy of Choral Singing Auditions

Sing with OSQ! Become a part of the musical history of Queens and join the Oratorio Society of Queens under the direction of Maestro David Close.

OSQ is a community-based chorus which includes diverse members of varied backgrounds with differing levels of singing ability. Singing with OSQ is an excellent opportunity to create beautiful music with others and meet a wide range of people. OSQ also sponsors a Student Choral Program that offers talented high school and local full-time college

students a scholarship to sing and perform with OSQ.

The OSQ 2021 Holiday season rehearsals will be conducted in-person. Rehearsals take place every Monday at Temple Beth Shalom, 172nd Street and Northern Boulevard, Flushing, from 7:30 pm to 9 pm beginning on September 13, 2021.

Auditions will take place on September 13 and 20, 2021 at Temple Beth Shalom prior to rehearsal. Please call 718.279.3006

(Continued on page 11)

QBP Richards, Brooklyn BP Adams Join Health Leaders, Local Officials to Announce . . .

(Continued from page 4)

the Rockaways,” said St. John’s Episcopal Hospital Vice President of External Affairs RENEE HASTICK-MOTES. “In addition to providing the vaccine at our ambulatory locations, residents may also walk-in to our Patient Express Center (PEC) located on our hospital campus Tuesdays and Thursdays between 5PM and 8PM to receive the vaccine. No appointment necessary.”

“The COVID-19 pandemic has not only impacted our physical well-being but also our mental health. Based on research my team and I conducted, Queens children and adults are experiencing high anxiety and depression,” said Child HELP Partnership Founder and Executive Director DR. ELISSA BROWN. “These symptoms are correlated with exposure to trauma and stress, but not specific to COVID-19. As a result, they may not be

focused on the pandemic and vaccination. It is now more critical than ever we spread the word about vaccines so we can move forward from this pandemic once and for all.”

The Delta variant of COVID-19 continues to cause a troubling rise in positive coronavirus cases citywide. As of August 5th, the city-wide positivity rate stands at 3.27 percent. Areas with low vaccination rates are particularly vulnerable to the Delta variant, according to public health experts.

In April, Queens was the first county in the state to have 1 million residents vaccinated. In two dozen ZIP codes across Queens, more than 70 percent of eligible residents have received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine as of Thursday, August 5th. In total, 67 percent of Queens residents — just over than 1.5 million people — have received at least one vaccine dose, by far the second-highest total

of the five boroughs and six percentage points higher than the City average.

However, vaccination rates in historically underserved communities across Southeast Queens and the Rockaway Peninsula have lagged other areas. As of Thursday, ZIP Code 11691, made up of Far Rockaway and Edgemere, has the lowest vaccination rate of any ZIP code in the City of New York with just 38.85 percent of eligible residents having received at least one vaccine dose.

The COVID-19 pandemic disproportionately impacted Far Rockaway. According to City data, the virus has been either the confirmed or probable cause of death of 535 Far Rockaway and Edgemere residents as of Thursday, the second-most of any ZIP code in the borough, while a total of 8,605 residents living in ZIP code 11691 have tested positive for COVID-19 over the course of the pandemic.

Pheffer Amato, Addabbo, Anderson, And Advocates Urge Governor’s Office to Sign Bill Forming Water Safety Commission

(Continued from page 6)

efits being in water brings to our lives. Swim Strong is happy to support Senate Bill 7129/Assembly Bill 7734, which will create a commission to prevent childhood drowning by evaluating and developing programs to educate children on water safety and teach them swimming skills.”

“Our civic association has been working on this issue for a long time,” Ed Williams, president of the Heart of Rockaway Civic Association, said. “Assemblywoman Pheffer Amato was one of the first people to elevate the conversation happening in this community. We join her in urging

the Governor’s office to see the value of this bill, because it is truly a matter of life and death.”

“Making it mandatory in New York State schools would work toward fixing the disparity in underserved populations because swim lessons and water safety knowledge have been largely something that only affluent families can afford for their children,” Kaitlyn Krause, founder of Rising Tide Effect, said. “This knowledge should not be a matter of money, especially when we have the resources already available. All human beings should have the right to access this life-saving skill.”

“Working with the Laru Beya Collective has al-

lowed us to reach some but this bill will guarantee the reach of many,” Cynthia Hicks, leader of the Laru Beya Collective, stated. “Passing the water safety initiative will begin to allow the availability to ensure the survival of our up and coming young swimmers who without this bill would be missing out on an essential skill for life.”

The press conference was held on Tuesday, August 3 at 9:00am on the Beach 17th St boardwalk. This bill is awaiting the signature from the Governor’s office. A video to the press conference can be viewed here: <https://www.facebook.com/AssemblywomanStaceyPhefferAmato/videos/127841586128099>

NYC Parks Celebrates The \$5.2 Million Transformation of CC Moore Homestead Playground in Elmhurst

(Continued from page 9)

said Commissioner Nelson. “Thanks to Mayor de Blasio, the Borough President’s office, Council Member Dromm, the new and improved CC Moore Homestead Playground now provides plenty of recreational opportunities for the children and families of Elmhurst.”

“This is a great day for our children and families as we cut the ribbon on the first-class playground they deserve,” said Queens Borough President Donovan Richards. “Fairness and equity demand that all children should have access to the top-quality play spaces they need to thrive, and the recent renovations at Moore Homestead Playground have created such a space right here in Elmhurst. I thank Council Member Dromm and the Parks Department for their many contributions toward this upgraded playground.”

“CC Moore Park is the center of the Elmhurst community and that’s why I, along with the Borough

President, am so proud to have funded the renovations to this important public space,” said Council Member Daniel Dromm.

“By investing \$5.2 million, I am saying that Elmhurst is a thriving community deserving of open space accessible to everyone. Named after the poet who scribed “A Visit from St. Nicholas”, commonly known as “Twas the Night Before Christmas,” I have held yearly holiday celebrations in the park. Now, with a new pine tree in the park, our tree lighting ceremony will be even more exciting. This park is beautiful and ready for all to use.”

The CC Moore Homestead Playground reconstruction project completely upgraded the park’s amenities and features an expanded play area, new play equipment, swings, a spray shower, and a multi-purpose open area for recreation. The revitalized community space now features amphitheater seating and stairs, new paths, upgraded sports courts, and accessible entrances which create a more

welcoming entryway into the park.

The \$5.2 million project was funded with \$4.3 million from the Office of the Borough President, \$672,000 from Mayor Bill de Blasio, and \$300,000 from Council Member Daniel Dromm.

Bordered by 82nd Street and Broadway, this property was once home to Reverend John Moore (1620-1657), the town’s first minister. The land was acquired by the Board of Transportation during the construction of the Independent Subway in 1930, and it was later transferred to NYC Parks in 1993. In 1954, it was converted to Elmhurst Playground. The City Council renamed the playground to commemorate the location of the Moore homestead in 1987. The property is also known as the birthplace of the famous “Newtown Pippin” apple which arose from the farm of Gershom Moore, Captain Samuel Moore’s brother. In December 2013, the City of New York adopted the Newtown Pippin as its official apple.

Senator Sanders’ Statement on Cuomo Resignation And Incoming Governor Kathy Hochul

State Senator James Sanders Jr. said: “I agree with the Governor’s decision to resign because as he said, and as I have been saying, that is what is in the best interest of the state. I have faith in our Lieutenant Governor, Kathy Hochul and her ability to be a great leader steering us through what will be tough times ahead especially with the Delta Variant of the coronavirus hitting the state.

There are nearly a dozen women accusing the Governor of sexual misconduct and although he did admit

that, he is perhaps too familiar (given today’s norms) with his staff, often hugging or patting women and men, he said it was not in a sexual manner. Ultimately, the true motivation and punishment for these actions has yet to be determined. To his credit, the Governor admitted that his actions were wrong; he apologized, and did not attempt to attack or discredit any of his accusers.

Perhaps, this is a teaching moment that times have changed. Personal space has expanded and must be

respected, and what was considered acceptable banter, complimentary statements, or socially friendly behavior years ago has vastly changed.

I look forward to working with New York’s first female Governor - Kathy Hochul. She has impeccable qualifications, having worked at all levels of government - Town Board Member, County Clerk, Congresswoman, and Lieutenant Governor. Let’s move ahead, onward and upward, New York Tough.”

New York State Announces \$200 Million in Additional Food Assistance for August

All SNAP Recipients In New York Will Receive Maximum Food Benefits Emergency Allotment has Brought More than \$2.7 Billion in Food Assistance

The state Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance today announced that all New Yorkers enrolled in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program will receive the maximum allowable level of food benefits for August. The agency is also working with the federal government to ensure these supplemental benefits continue to reach households in need through September and beyond.

“The struggles many New Yorkers experience daily were laid bare and exacerbated by the global health crisis,” Commissioner Mike Hein said. “These additional

food benefits offer critical support for the many individuals and families that grapple with food insecurity throughout our state.”

SNAP households already receiving the maximum monthly benefit, and those that had been receiving an emergency allotment of less than \$95 per month, will receive a minimum supplement of \$95. Nearly 1.6 million households in New York State will receive the supplemental benefits later this month, which will result in the state receiving roughly \$200 million in federal assistance.

SNAP households in all counties outside of New York City should see these benefits post starting Aug. 10. Those SNAP households in the five-county New York City region should see their benefits post between Aug. 16 and the end of the month.

While New York’s emer-

gency declaration expired in June, OTDA obtained approval from the federal government to extend the emergency allotments based on the continued public need due to COVID-19. As a result, New Yorkers will continue to receive the maximum SNAP benefit for as long as the federal emergency declaration continues in 2021.

As during prior months, the payments will be delivered directly to recipients’ existing Electronic Benefit Transfer account and can be accessed with their existing EBT card. Like regular SNAP benefits, the supplemental benefits can be used to purchase food at authorized retail food stores. Any unused SNAP benefits will be automatically carried over to the following month.

Struggling New Yorkers

(Continued on page 11)



LEGAL NOTICES

RUFUS KING PARK DEVELOPMENT COMPANY LLC. App. for Auth. filed with the SSNY on 07/08/21. Originally filed with Secretary of State of Delaware on 06/25/21. 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, 166-07 Hillside Avenue, Jamaica, NY 11432. Purpose: Any lawful purpose. 7/15,22,29,8/5,12&19/2021

AJM77 REALTY LLC, Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 07/07/2021. Office loc: Queens County. SSNY has been designated as agent upon whom process against the LLC may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 145-19 232nd Street, Springfield Gardens, NY 11413. Purpose: Any Lawful Purpose. 7/15,22,29,8/5,12&19/2021

Notice of Formation of MEKARI LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 03/05/2021. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 90 State Street, Suite 700, Office 40, Albany, NY 12207. Purpose: any lawful activity. 7/15,22,29,8/5,12&19/2021

Notice of Formation of EAST COAST SERVICE NYC LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 06/02/2021. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 3223 104th Street, Apt 3, East Elmhurst, NY 11369. Purpose: any lawful activity. 7/22,29,8/5,12,19&26/2021

HANNAN LLC, Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 07/29/2021. 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 H. Bhuiyan, 69-18 30 Avenue, 3FL, Woodside, NY 11377. Purpose: Any Lawful Purpose. 8/5,12,19,26,9/2&8/2021

Notice of Formation of BEEKO LOGISTICS LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 06/14/2021. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 16004 Crossbay Boulevard, Howard Beach, NY 11414. Purpose: any lawful activity. 7/29,8/5,12,19,26&9/2/2021

PKG 28TH ST MANAGEMENT LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 07/13/21. 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, 2829 119th Street, Flushing, NY 11354. Purpose: Any lawful purpose. 7/22,29,8/5,12,19&26/2021

LEGAL NOTICES

TRUE PROPERTY MANAGEMENT LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 07/21/21. 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, 56-24 Marathon Parkway, Apartment 1F, Little Neck, NY 11362. Purpose: Any lawful purpose. 8/5,12,19,26,9/2&9/2021

86-20 57th ROAD LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 07/17/20. 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, 54-04 Roosevelt Avenue, Woodside, NY 11377. Purpose: Any lawful purpose. 7/8,15,22,29,8/5&12/2021

Notice of Formation of LIGHT BY LIV LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 06/30/2021. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 6457 214th Street, Oakland Gardens, NY 11364. Purpose: any lawful activity. 7/8,15,22,29,8/5&12/2021

75 Onderdonk Ave LLC filed with SSNY on 02/09/2021. Office location: QUEENS County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the 75 Onderdonk Avenue Ridgewood, NY 11385. Purpose: Any lawful activity. 7/8,15,22,29,8/5&12/2021

Notice of Formation of FAMILY HOUSE U.S LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 07/02/2021. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 35-07 33rd Street, Astoria, NY 11106. Purpose: any lawful activity. 7/15,22,29,8/5,12&19/2021

Cajamarca Bros LLC, Arts of Org. filed with Sec. of State of NY (SSNY) 6/25/2021. Cty: Queens. SSNY desig. as agent upon whom process against it may be served & shall mail process to 7628 Park Ln. S., Woodhaven, NY 11421. General Purpose. 7/22,29,8/5,12,19&26/2021

Notice of Formation of ALF CAPITAL LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 05/17/2021. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 9265 222nd Street, Queens Village, NY 11428. Purpose: any lawful activity. 7/22,29,8/5,12,19&26/2021

LEGAL NOTICES

Notice of Formation of VG INSPECTION & DESIGN LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 07/10/2021. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 69-13 75th Street, Middle Village, NY 11379. Purpose: any lawful activity. 7/15,22,29,8/5,12&19/2021

Notice of Formation of EAST COAST SERVICE NYC LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 06/02/2021. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 3223 104th Street, Apt 3, East Elmhurst, NY 11369. Purpose: any lawful activity. 7/15,22,29,8/5,12&19/2021

Notice of Formation of TG&S MULTIPURPOSE SERVICE LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 07/13/2021. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 153-01 Jamaica Avenue, Jamaica Centre #247, Jamaica, NY 11432. Purpose: any lawful activity. 7/22,29,8/5,12,19&26/2021

100YEARVACATION LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with the SSNY on 07/22/2021. 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, 42-20 27th Street #706 Long Island City, NY 11101. Purpose: Any lawful purpose. 7/29,8/5,12,19,26&9/2/2021

POWER SWEAT LLC. Art. Of Org. Filed with the SSNY on 06/16/2021. 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, 4602 21st St, P.O. Box 1809, Queens, NY 11101. Purpose: Any lawful purpose. 7/29,8/5,12,19,26&9/2/2021

Notice of Formation of 106-50 96 STREET LLC Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 07/19/2021. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 106-45 96 Street, Ozone Park, NY 11417. Purpose: any lawful activity. 7/29,8/5,12,19,26&9/2/2021

**LEGAL NOTICES**

File No.: 2018-5384/B CITATION THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK BY THE GRACE OF GOD, FREE AND INDEPENDENT To: Myrna Denberg, Estate of Harvey Barry, Evelyn Barry, Lisa LoPipero, Ronnie McNeill, Diane Gudell, Barry Weisman, Deborah Green, Nanci Tomasetti, Attorney General of the State of New York

The unknown distributees, legatees, devisees, heirs at law and assignees of JOAN WEISMAN, deceased, or their estates, if any there be, whose names, places of residence and post office addresses are unknown to the petitioner and cannot with due diligence be ascertained

A copy of this citation and the accounting, as well as all amendments to it, if any, shall be served on the Guardian Ad Litem, John Graffeo Esq.

Being the persons interested as creditors, legatees, distributees or otherwise in the Estate of JOAN WEISMAN, deceased, who at the time of death was a resident of 8451 Beverly Road, Apt. 3N, Kew Gardens, NY 11415, in the County of Queens, State of New York.

SEND GREETING: Upon the petition of LOIS M. ROSENBLATT, Public Administrator of Queens County, who maintains her office at 88-11 Sutphin Boulevard, Jamaica, Queens County, New York 11435, as Administrator of the Estate of JOAN WEISMAN, deceased, you and each of you are hereby cited to show cause before the Surrogate at the Surrogate's Court of the County of Queens, to be held at the Queens General Courthouse, 6th Floor, 88-11 Sutphin Boulevard, Jamaica, City and State of New York, on the 16th day of September, 2021 at 9:30 o'clock in the forenoon, why the Account of Proceedings of the Public Administrator of Queens County, as Administrator of the Estate of said deceased, a copy of which is attached, should not be judicially settled, and why the Surrogate should not fix and allow a reasonable amount of compensation to GERARD J. SWEENEY, ESQ., for legal services rendered to petitioner herein in the amount of \$6,552.34 and that the Court fix the fair and reasonable additional fee for any services to be rendered by GERARD J. SWEENEY, ESQ., hereafter in connection with proceedings on kinship, claims etc., prior to entry of a final Decree on this accounting in the amount of 6% of assets or income collected after the date of the within accounting; and why the Surrogate should not fix and allow an amount equal to one percent on said Schedules of the total assets on Schedules A, A1, and A2 plus any additional monies received subsequent

LEGAL NOTICES

to the date of this account, as the fair and reasonable amount payable to the Office of the Public Administrator for the expenses of said office pursuant to S.C.P.A. §1106(3); and why each of you claiming to be a distributee of the decedent should not establish proof of your kinship; and why the balance of said funds should not be paid to said alleged distributees upon proof of kinship, or deposited with the Commissioner of Finance of the City of New York should said alleged distributees default herein, or fail to establish proof of kinship.

Dated, Attested and Sealed 15th day of July, 2021 HON. PETER J. KELLY Surrogate, Queens County JAMES LIM BECKER Clerk of the Surrogate's Court GERARD J. SWEENEY, ESQ. (718) 459-9000 1981 Marcus Avenue, Suite 200

Lake Success, New York 11042 NOTICE: THIS CITATION IS SERVED UPON YOU AS REQUIRED BY LAW. AS A RESULT OF THE MEASURES ADOPTED BY THE COURT TO COMBAT THE SPREAD OF COVID-19, PHYSICAL PRESENCE AT THE COURTHOUSE ON THE RETURN DATE IS LIMITED. THEREFORE, IF YOU WISH TO CONTEST THE RELIEF REQUESTED, YOU, OR AN ATTORNEY ON YOUR BEHALF, MUST CONTACT THE COURT PRIOR TO THIS DATE IN THE MANNER SET FORTH IN THE ATTACHED NOTICE. IF YOU DO NOT CONTACT THE COURT AS SET FORTH IN THE NOTICE IT WILL BE FOUND YOU CONSENT TO THE RELIEF REQUESTED.

Accounting Citation 8/5,12,19&26/2021

Notice of Formation of MAINTENANCE AND CLEANING SOLUTIONS LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 04/19/2021. Office location: Queens County. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 99 Washington Avenue, Suite 805, Albany, NY 12210-2822. Purpose: any lawful purpose. 7/22,29,8/5,12,19&26/2021

Join The Oratorio Society . . .

(Continued from page 9)

to make an appointment.

For additional information on membership

New York State Announces ...

(Continued from page 10)

continue to rely heavily on SNAP as the COVID-19 pandemic continues. As of June 2021, there were more than 2.8 million SNAP recipients throughout the state, a 1.9 percent increase from

LEGAL NOTICES

Notice of Formation of SERIAL SAINT L.L.C. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 03/16/2021. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: The LLC, 14338 Ferndale Avenue, Jamaica, NY 11435. Purpose: any lawful activity. 7/15,22,29,8/5,12&19/2021

Notice of formation of DOG FRIENDLY LIVING LLC. Art. Of Org. filed with the Sect'y of State of NY (SSNY) on 08/06/21. Office in Queens County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to the LLC, 3065 74th St 2nd Fl East Elmhurst, NY, 11370. Purpose: Any lawful purpose. 8/12,19,26,9/2,9&16/2021

Notice of Formation of Ridgewood Tower II Member LLC. Arts. of Org. filed with Secy. of State of NY (SSNY) on 07/19/21. Office location: Queens County. SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 15 West 27th St., 6th Fl., NY, NY 10001. Purpose: any lawful activities. 8/12,19,26,9/2,9&16/2021

Notice of Formation of Animaye LLC. Articles of Organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 6/17/21. Office location: Queens County. SSNY is designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: 138-33 97th Ave, Jamaica, NY 11435. Purpose: any lawful purpose. 7/22,29,8/5,12,19&26/2021

Notice of Formation: NY MC Consulting LLC. Arts of Org filed with Sec. of State of New York (SSNY) 08/02/2021. Office in Queens Co. SSNY desig. agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served & shall mail process to the LLC, 153-19 41st Ave, Flushing, NY 11354. Purpose: General. 8/12,19,26,9/2,9&16/2021



and the audition process call 718.279.3006 or visit <https://www.queensoratorio.org/becoming-a-member>.

June 2020.

For more information on the emergency supplemental SNAP benefits, including answers to frequently asked questions, visit OTDA's website. New Yorkers can also check their eligibility for SNAP and apply online.

Queens DA Day



Recently Queens District Attorney Melinda Katz spent part of "Queens DA Day" at 34th Avenue Open Streets in Jackson Heights with our Community Partnerships Division in collaboration with the Fresh Air Fund.

Katz said "We want our youth to know the Queens District

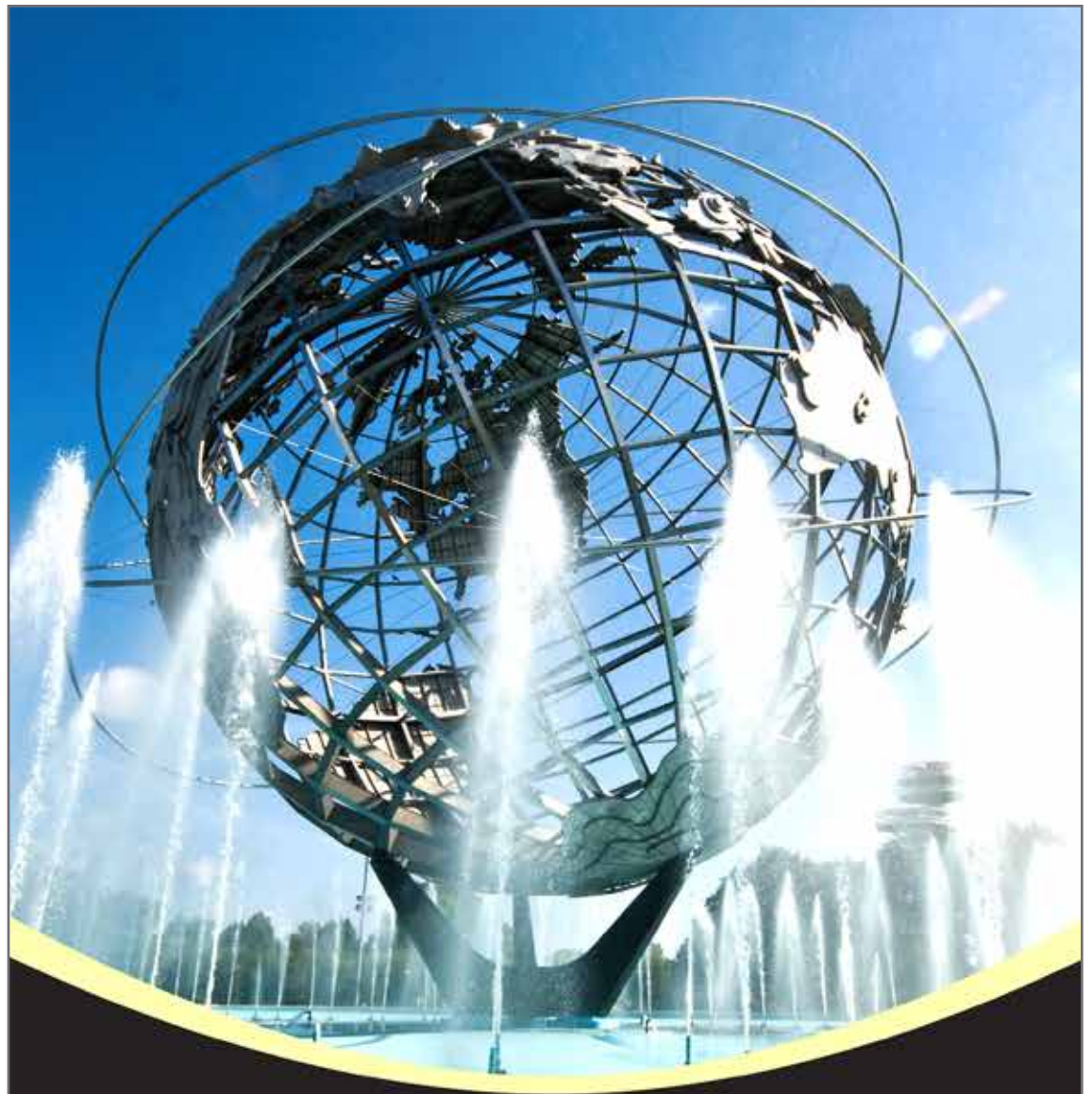
Attorney's Office is invested in their success through our youth programs and working tirelessly to keep their neighborhoods safe by upholding justice."

These events help us raise awareness and build strong, positive relationships with our young people!

NYC H+H/Queens Participates in Second Virtual 'Big Latch On' Breastfeeding Event



Representatives of the Sathya Sai Baba Organization, an international service organization based in Flushing, donated baby hats and blankets to new moms who participated in this year's Global Big Latch On virtual event.



STRENGTH, STABILITY & SERVICE

— SINCE 1859 —



Queens County Savings Bank

A Division of New York Community Bank • Member FDIC



For more information, call (877) 786-6560
or visit myNYCB.com

Stay smart. Stay safe. Stay strong.



EGRESS PROS
KEEPING YOUR FAMILY SAFE

516.224.7576 EgressPros.com

What is Egress?

BASEMENT WALKOUTS, TOO!

This is Egress.

Act Now!
SAVE \$1,000*

Visit www.EgressPros.com to get a coupon for up to \$1,000 OFF the installation of an egress window system.

* On select installed models. Offer not to be combined with any other offer.

