

QUEENS TODAY

MAY 17, 2024

NEW YORK CITY RETAIL SHOPS will soon be able to share their security footage with the NYPD in real time, amNY Metro reported. The pilot program, dubbed "Connect New York," is a purported effort to crack down on retail theft in the five boroughs. Participating businesses will be outfitted with security cameras and software that allows them to send the footage straight to the cops whenever they suspect someone of swiping from their store. "Retail theft hurts our businesses, our workers, our customers and our city," Mayor Eric Adams said in a statement. "But by allowing businesses to integrate their security cameras with their local NYPD precinct, we can gather real-time intelligence on crimes and swiftly apprehend individuals who are responsible, while creating greater efficiencies within the NYPD and involving the local community in improving quality of life." The program announced Thursday is expansion of a pilot program that first launched last June in Flushing and College Point. The entire expansion is expected to cost taxpayers \$1.5 million.

A 12-YEAR-OLD GIRL WAS SHOT IN THE arm after two people opened fire on a group of nearly a dozen children in Jamaica Wednesday night, NBC reported. The girl is recovering in the hospital after taking a bullet to her left arm. Police claim that the young girl was one of several kids involved in some kind of a brawl on 160th Street near Tuskegee Airmen Way around 8 p.m. before the shots rang out. An 18-year-old was taken to the hospital with cuts to her head and a 26-year-old walked into Jamaica Hospital with stab wounds to her chest following the incident. Police are looking for two suspects in the shooting, both of whom cops say were wearing masks and drove off in a getaway car.

METS OWNER STEVE COHEN WAS embraced by fans when he purchased the team several years ago in large part because of his propensity to interact honestly with them on social media. But on Wednesday night, Cohen's love of X, the social media site formerly known as Twitter, got him in trouble. "All in the future, not much we can do until the trade deadline," Cohen wrote in response to a fan before deleting the tweet hours later. But the damage had been done. Fans interpreted the message to mean the Mets owner had given up on putting together a winning team in 2024 and was instead looking to future years. The owner attempted to clarify his comments to SNY on Thursday. "I believe in this team," Cohen said. "I believe in the back of the baseball card. It's way too early to speculate on anything. It's May 16. I expect to make the playoffs. I know the fan base is frustrated, but it's still early."



'A little perplexed'

Questions raised over city's \$4 billion contract for construction of Queens jail

The city was criticized for its proposed \$4 billion contract to build Queens' borough-based jail, which likely won't be completed until four years after the city's legally-mandated deadline to close Rikers Island.

Eagle file photo by Jacob Kaye

By Jacob Kaye
Queens Daily Eagle

Advocates and a lawmaker on Thursday spoke out against the city's proposed \$4 billion contract for the building of Queens' borough-based jail, which may be completed four years after the city's legally-mandated deadline to close Rikers Island.

The opposition came as the proposed contract between the city and construction company Leon D. Dematteis Construction Corp. headed into its near final phase on Thursday, following a public hearing held by the Mayor's Office of Contract Services.

But advocates and lawmakers say the contract, which will cost taxpayers nearly \$4 bil-

lion dollars and which will run through 2031, doesn't make much sense.

Not only has the cost of the jail ballooned when compared to its original estimate, the timeline for the jail's construction is far longer than what was originally proposed.

"I'm a little perplexed," City Councilmember Sandy Nurse, who chairs the Council's Committee on Criminal Justice, said during the Thursday hearing.

"Without more scrutiny on why the extended period is taking so long in the proposed construction timeline, I think we are putting ourselves in a very precarious situation," she added.

The city quietly unveiled the proposed con-

tract at the start of May, alongside a similar contract for the construction of the borough-based jail in the Bronx. The Queens and Bronx jails are designed to be two of four total jails built by the city to replace Rikers Island as the city's main jail complex. The borough-based jails, which were crafted under former Mayor Bill de Blasio, were designed to serve as a more humane alternative to Rikers Island, which has seen over two dozen people die since Mayor Eric Adams first took office a little more than two years ago.

But while the city is legally mandated to close Rikers Island by August 2027, none of the borough-based jails will be close to completion

Continued on page 16



E-scooters heading to Eastern Queens

The city's e-scooter pilot program, run by the Department of Transportation, will be rolled out in a section of Eastern Queens this summer.

Photo via NYC DOT

By Jacob Kaye
Queens Daily Eagle

The city's e-scooter pilot program will expand to Eastern Queens this summer, the city's Department of Transportation said this week.

Come June, over half a million residents in a portion of Eastern Queens will have access to the e-scooter share program, which first began in the Bronx nearly three years ago.

According to the city's DOT, the expansion of the program comes after its successful introduction in the Bronx, where nearly 4 million rides have been taken by New Yorkers since the scooters' introduction.

"We are very excited for this summer's arrival of e-scooter sharing in Eastern Queens following our successful East Bronx pilot, where nearly 4 million rides have been taken since August 2021," said DOT Commissioner Ydanis Rodriguez.

"This expansion is an equitable way to bring a popular, safe, and environmentally sustainable mode of transportation to underserved neighborhoods in Queens, and we look forward to continuing our work with these communities

See story on page 2

E-scooter pilot to soon be rolled out in Eastern Queens

Continued from page 1

as e-scooter share expands," he added.

The Queens expansion will cover an area represented by four different community boards. The approximately 20-square-mile area from Flushing and Auburndale in the north to Rochdale Village and Springfield Gardens in the south will be outfitted with the electric scooters from companies Bird, Lime and Veo. The area of the pilot program will run east to west approximately from Flushing Meadows Corona Park to Cunningham park in the northern portion of Eastern Queens and from the Van Wyck Expressway to the Cross Island Parkway in its southern portion.

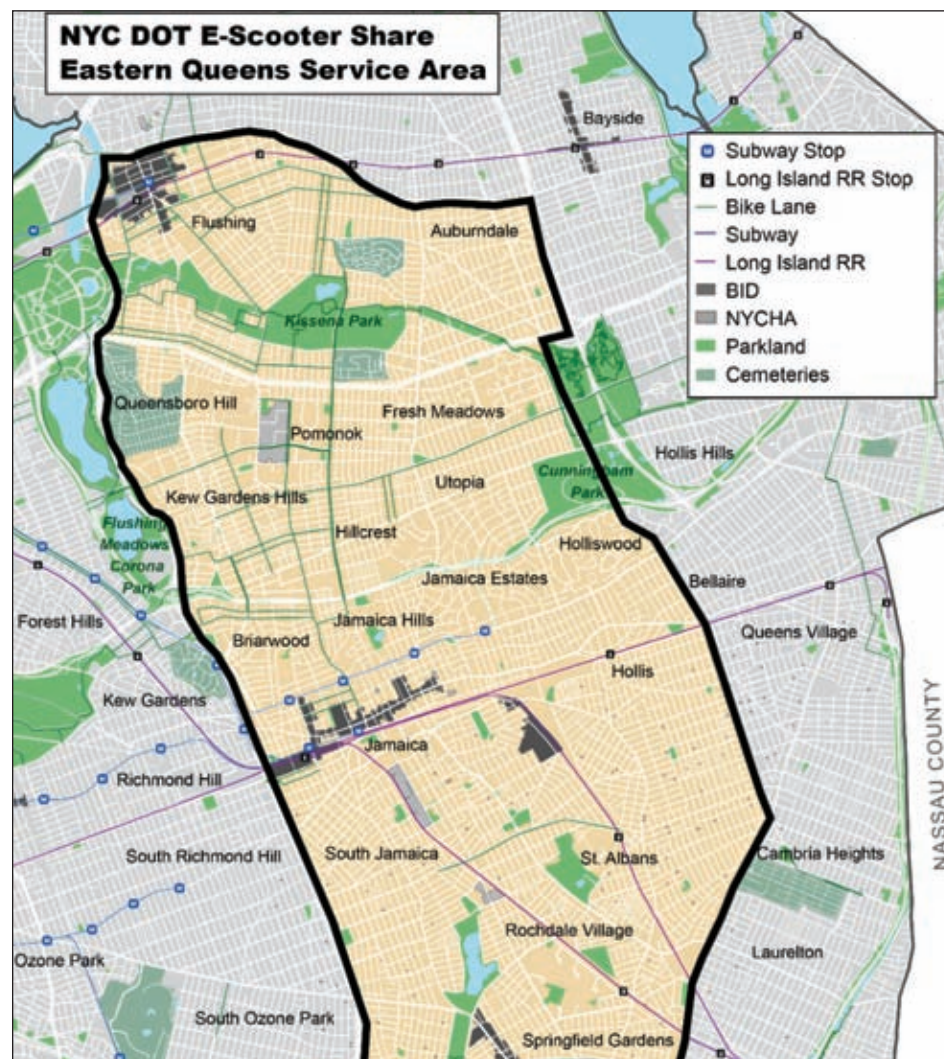
According to the DOT, the agency will make follow-up presentations on the program to community boards in the pilot area throughout May. By early- to mid-June, the transportation agency said it will begin to install corrals where the e-scooters will be parked.

In late June, the DOT expects Queens residents to begin to have access to the new e-scooters. The rollout will begin in the southern portion of the program area. The agency did not specify when the entire rollout will be completed.

The DOT said that the Queens e-scooter pilot program will cover several "priority investment areas," which are defined in the city's Streets Plan as areas with higher percentages of non-white and low-income residents, higher job and population density and lower levels of past DOT investment.

Among the Tier 1 priority investment areas covered in the pilot are Downtown Jamaica and Downtown Flushing. Virtually all other neighborhoods included in the pilot area are designated as Tier 2 priority investment areas – there are three tiers in total.

"I am very excited that the city's e-scooter sharing program will soon be operating in Eastern Queens," said Queens Borough Presi-



The area of Eastern Queens that will be covered by the city Department of Transportation's e-scooter pilot program. The program is expected to begin in early summer. Map via NYC DOT

dent Donovan Richards.

"Making e-scooters more easily available is a great way to help New Yorkers get where they need to go, especially those New Yorkers who live in traditionally underserved communities," the BP added. "With so much of Queens existing within a transit desert, I am pleased the DOT is being creative and proactive in finding ways to make it easier for our residents to get around."

Not only will the e-scooters be made available to a number of low-income residents as a result of their proximity, but they may also come at a discounted price.

New Yorkers who receive or qualify for local, state or federal assistance programs including SNAP, NYCHA or discounted utility bills, will be eligible for reduced price e-scooter rates.

Around 275,000 of the total e-scooter rides taken from August 2021 through December 2023 in the Bronx were done so using discounted pricing.

The DOT began conducting outreach for the pilot last fall, speaking with Queens residents on the street, meeting with elected officials and local leaders, including community boards, business improvement districts, colleges and hospitals.

The agency said it was looking for feedback on where to build the e-scooter parking corrals, as well as other design elements of the program.

The corral locations have yet to be made public, but are expected to be presented by the DOT in the coming weeks.

According to a study conducted by the agency after more than 1.4 million rides had been taken as part of the Bronx pilot, the e-scooter program served as a needed last-mile connection to areas largely considered transit deserts.

The average trip distance in the Bronx during that time period was a mile.

In all, the Queens program is expected to impact around 600,000 residents.

In order to get on an e-scooter, first time riders will be required to complete an in-app safety training and quiz, as well as submit age verification.

During the first three trips any rider takes, the e-scooter will not be able to go faster than 10 miles per hour and will not be able to be rented out during overnight hours.

Similar safety requirements were implemented in the Bronx, where there were fewer than one crash per 10,000 trips.

DoorDash settles after discriminating against formerly incarcerated applicants

By Robert Abruzzese
Queens Daily Eagle

Delivery company DoorDash agreed to a settlement with Attorney General Letitia James and New York State this week after the company unlawfully rejected potential delivery workers' applications because of their criminal history.

Now, DoorDash has agreed to review around 3,000 previously rejected applicants, reform its hiring policies and pay \$75,000 to applicants who were unfairly denied employment.

DoorDash was previously accused of routinely rejecting delivery-worker applicants with criminal histories without fair assessment, violating New York State human rights and corrections laws, and the New York City Fair Chance Act, James claimed.

According to the AG's office, from January to December 2022, DoorDash rejected nearly 3,000 applicants based on their criminal records without considering the nature of the offense, the applicant's age at the time, the time elapsed since the offense or any evidence of rehabilitation.

Additionally, DoorDash failed to provide applicants with the required explanations of their rights or opportunities to respond to rejections, issuing blanket rejections instead.

"The law is very clear on the rights that all New Yorkers, including those with criminal

histories, have when it comes to pursuing job opportunities," James said.

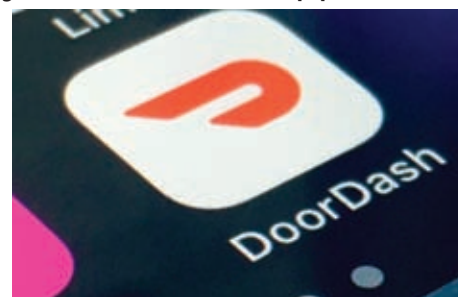
"DoorDash ignored New York laws, discriminated against hardworking people, and denied thousands of New Yorkers the opportunity to provide for their families without fair consideration for their individual histories. People deserve a second chance and the ability to earn a living and succeed," the AG added.

The Fair Chance Act prohibits most employers in New York City from inquiring about a job applicant's criminal record before making a job offer, ensuring candidates are evaluated based on their qualifications.

If an employer decides to withdraw an offer due to a criminal record, they must provide a Fair Chance Notice, any relevant background check information, and also allow the applicant five business days to respond to the rejection.

Employers must share the criminal record information they used, whether from a consumer reporting agency, public records or an internet search. The commission provides a form for compliance, which can be adapted without changing its substance.

"The kind of discrimination which prompted this settlement is exactly why I pushed to pass the Fair Chance Act and Ban the Box in New York City," said New York City Public Advocate Jumaane Williams.



DoorDash has been accused of unlawfully rejecting applicants with criminal histories, prompting a settlement to review rejected applications and reform hiring policies.

AP file photo

"New Yorkers have the right to fair assessment when searching for employment, not be shut out because of past arrest records or criminal history," Williams added. "That is illegal, immoral and unfair to those seeking employment — and disproportionately impacts people of more color."

The agreement mandates DoorDash to update its hiring policies and review previously rejected applications, prioritizing those who submitted appeals. DoorDash will also provide regular reports to the OAG on its compliance for three years.

Former MTA employee and wife arrested for alleged role in Capitol insurrection

By Robert Abruzzese
Queens Daily Eagle

A former Metropolitan Transportation Authority employee and his wife were arrested for their alleged involvement in the Jan. 6, 2021, insurrection in the U.S. Capitol, federal prosecutors said Thursday.

Kevin Moore, who was employed by the MTA at the time, and his wife, Carol Moore, are accused of entering the Capitol building illegally and participating in activities aimed at disrupting the certification of the 2020 presidential election results.

The arrests come as part of an ongoing investigation into the events of Jan. 6, where a large crowd of supporters of former President

Donald Trump gathered outside the U.S. Capitol, breaching security barriers and entering the building. This unprecedented breach led to a temporary suspension of Congress' joint session, which had been called to certify the presidential election won by President Joe Biden.

According to the FBI, the Moores were identified through various means, including open-source media and tip-offs from the public. Video footage and photographs show the couple attending rallies in support of Trump and later entering the Capitol building, law enforcement said. Inside the Capitol, the Moores allegedly documented their crimes by taking photographs and interacting with other rioters.

The investigation revealed that Kevin

Moore had taken leave from his MTA job from Jan. 1st through the 7th. Further evidence, such as a Venmo transaction from Carol Moore on Jan. 6, indicated their presence in Washington, D.C., on the day of the attack.

Witnesses familiar with the Moores positively identified them in photographs taken during the Capitol riot. One witness recalled a conversation with Kevin Moore before Jan. 6, where he hinted at a significant event to come.

The charges against the Moores include knowingly entering a restricted building without lawful authority, disorderly conduct with the intent to disrupt government business, and engaging in threatening behavior within the Capitol.

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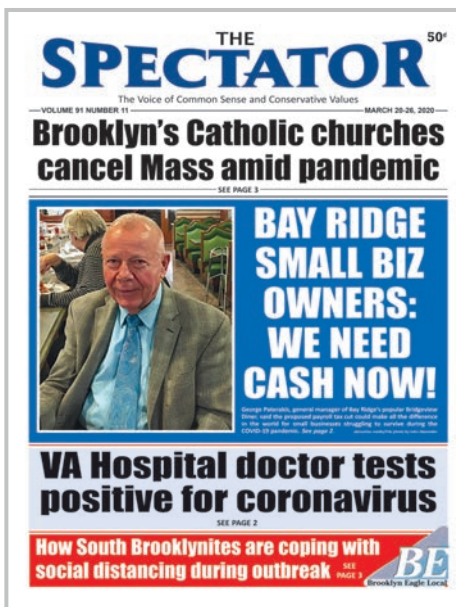
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We hope you will support our efforts in local journalism.

Jen Hopewell,
Assistant to the Publisher
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Megastores and small e-bike shops blow off city ban on unsafe batteries

By Greg B. Smith
THE CITY

Since September, the City of New York has banned the sale and rental of e-bike and other micro-mobility batteries that haven't been certified as safe by a recognized testing lab — a step the FDNY deems crucial in the fight to halt deadly fires triggered by exploding devices.

Since then, however, city enforcers have often found success elusive in their battle to get sellers of these potentially dangerous devices to cease and desist, a review of records obtained under the Freedom of Information Law by THE CITY has found.

Those retailers include giants Amazon and Target, as well as neighborhood e-bike stores.

Battery sellers blowing off the city ban on uncertified batteries has been especially common online, with the city issuing summonses to 10 major sellers of these batteries for continuing to sell devices that they could not show were certified as safe even after having previously been cited, THE CITY found. Among them was the biggest of them all: Amazon.

Eight months after the ban went into effect, the city Department of Consumer & Worker Protection (DCWP) has found itself playing a volatile game of Whack-A-Mole trying to halt the sale and rental of these potentially calamitous devices.

"It's been a real issue and not just enforcement but a safety issue," DCWP Commissioner Vilda Vera Mayuga told THE CITY. "We really want to make sure retailers get into compliance ... so we don't have to keep going back to these places."

Since the law kicked in on Sept. 16, DCWP has performed more than 500 inspections and issued more than 150 summonses to brick-and-mortar retailers, along with 40 cease-and-desist letters to on-line retailers through March.

Mayuga noted the agency has had "some success," but added, "There's others like Amazon that's been a bit more difficult to get them there. In between the summonses and the penalties they're receiving with the recidivism we certainly hope that not just Amazon but any business realizes that we are taking this seriously."

The Fire Department has meanwhile engaged in an equally frustrating battle against shops that store and charge e-bikes and e-scooters in dangerously unsafe conditions. In many cases shop owners appear undeterred by the law, openly selling uncertified devices and storing and charging them in illegal unsafe conditions — even after being repeatedly cited for breaking the law, THE CITY found.

This is happening at a time when the number of fires caused by these lithium-ion batteries has risen steadily year by year from 30 in 2019 to 268 last year, as THE CITY reported in January. These fires erupt quickly, are difficult to put out and more often than not occur inside apartments or in e-bike stores above which are residential units.

And they are potentially deadly. In all, through April 2024, there have been 735 e-bike battery fires across the five boroughs resulting in 447 injuries and 29 deaths.

The most recent fatality occurred Feb. 23 with



A charred electronic battery amid a pile of burnt vehicles after a fire at a chinatown e-bike repair shop killed four people, June 20, 2023.

Credit: Ben Fractenberg/THE CITY

the death of Fazil Khan, 27, a reporter for the non-profit education journalism site the Hechinger Report. Khan lived in a Harlem building above an apartment where several food delivery drivers lived and charged their batteries. One of those batteries exploded, causing a fast-moving fire that spread thick black deadly smoke throughout the building, fire officials say. The city medical examiner attributed Khan's death to smoke inhalation and thermal injuries.

Fire officials say a key to reversing this dangerous trend is to eliminate the use of unsafe, untested batteries that delivery drivers often rely on. They are sometimes altered to juice up their power and are extremely vulnerable to explosion, particularly when owners swap out the chemical cells that are the fuel for the batteries' power.

Dejan Gakovic, micro-mobility business development manager at UL Solutions, the organization that promotes the safety standard, notes that uncertified batteries are "significantly" less expensive and that "demand for batteries is extremely high and there's a lot of batteries on the market."

"There's a whole black market. Go on YouTube on how to build your own battery," he said. "We have to educate the public. That is the message that we have to get to consumers — buy only

certified products. Don't buy replacements from who knows who."

Unlicensed Businesses

The City Council has tried multiple approaches to get e-bike battery dangers under control, with mixed results. They have included laws requiring e-bike shops to post instructions advising customers to only use certified batteries and on how to properly store and charge them. The Council also hiked penalties for sale and rental of uncertified batteries and banned the sale of batteries that have been altered.

But other measures have met a dead-end. A proposal to require food delivery apps to provide drivers with certified batteries went nowhere. And a bill that would require e-bike stores to be licensed by Mayuga's agency — giving the city authority to suspend and revoke licenses — failed to gain support.

Instead, in March the Council passed a law giving DCWP the authority to temporarily seal businesses that are repeatedly cited for violations. That law, however, won't take effect until September, and so to date none of the dozens of repeat offenders have been subject to this sanction.

Mayuga opposed the licensing requirement, stating that sealing orders are "really more effective."

"We license a lot of businesses. Some of them, it helps in the enforcement. In other areas like this, we don't believe it would help identify and take action against illegal sales," she said. Among the 40 industries and 46,000 businesses her agency licenses are car washes, used car dealers and locksmiths.

Mayuga also noted that under Mayor Eric Adams, the idea of requiring the food delivery apps to contribute more to ending the scourge of e-bike battery fires is not entirely off the table: "The administration as a whole, it's not just me, we all believe that the apps should be dispatching workers with certified equipment."

She added: "I know that there will be ongoing conversations and hopefully it will increase the safety levels."

Amazon Delays

Enforcing the existing law banning uncertified battery sales, in fact, has proven to be more difficult than originally anticipated — particularly with online retailers.

Days after Local Law 39 went into effect on Sept. 16, inspectors in the consumer protection de-

partment began randomly searching online retailer websites. They quickly found potential illegal sales just about everywhere.

That includes one of the world's biggest companies, Amazon, where corporate executives repeatedly put off responding to the city of New York's efforts to get them to come into compliance with the law, records show.

On Sept. 25, after DCWP's random search turned up three potentially illegal batteries for sale on Amazon's site ready for shipment to New York City, the department issued a cease and desist order requiring that Amazon provide proof that the devices they were selling had been certified as safe by a recognized testing lab.

According to records obtained by THE CITY, DCWP gave Amazon until Oct. 12 to provide proof of compliance. Amazon then requested an extension until Nov. 3.

Continued on page 8



City Council members pressed for more e-bike regulation after a fire sparked by a battery, March 2, 2023.

Credit: Ben Fractenberg/THE CITY



Mayor Eric Adams at City Hall, March 20, 2023.

Credit: Ben Fractenberg/THE CITY

Latest Inflation Figures Are Good News, Even if They Give Many People Heartburn

By **Christopher Decker**
The Conversation

The U.S. economy is slowing, but not crashing. In the dismal science, this is what counts as good news.

That's the message I took away from the latest inflation data, released May 15, 2024, which showed U.S. consumer prices rising 3.4% in the 12 months to April 2024. This is down slightly from the 3.5% year-over-year increase reported in March 2024.

In other words, while prices are rising, they're not going up as sharply as they once were. That's good news for shoppers; the U.S. economy is far from the 9.1% annual inflation seen in June 2022.

While energy and shelter prices increased in April, these gains were relatively modest. Meanwhile, food prices remained steady compared to last year and even declined by 0.2% compared to March. What's more, people in the market for a car were in luck: New and used vehicle prices fell 0.4% and 6.9%, respectively, in April.

The "core" consumer price index — which doesn't include volatile food and energy prices and is often considered better at predicting future inflation than so-called "headline" CPI figures — is also down slightly. After posting a year-over-year increase of 3.9% in January and 3.8% in February and March, it slowed to 3.6% in April.

So the overall report is relatively positive: It didn't show the uptick in inflation that many consumers feared, and reported inflation rates were actually slightly lower than market expectations.

As an economist, I see this data report as yet more evidence that economic growth is slowing — in a good way. The economy grew at a lower-than-expected 1.6% rate in the first quarter of 2024, according to the most recent gross domestic product data from the Bureau of Economic Analysis. The most recent jobs report also showed a slowdown in hiring, and the latest data on job vacancies similarly showed the labor market cooling off.

Why the Fed is paying close attention

The Federal Reserve's main objective is to strike a balance between two goals: maintaining stable employment and ensuring price stability. It does this by managing and influencing interest rates.

Lowering rates stimulates the economy, which encourages economic growth and job creation — but that can fuel inflation. Raising rates does the opposite: Economic growth slows, which dampens inflation, but also hinders employment.

So, when inflation started increasing dramatically after the COVID-19 pandemic, the Federal Reserve responded with a two-year campaign of rate hikes — they're currently at a 23-year high. Since this raises the cost of borrowing, investors and potential homebuyers are kept for the Fed to dial back its rates.

After May's report, I don't believe the Federal Reserve will be in any rush to cut interest rates from their current elevated level. There's a slowdown, to be sure, but the slowdown is so steady that it's not pulling prices down in any rapid fashion.

This is no doubt frustrating for the Fed — which has an inflation target of 2% — as well as for potential homebuyers. But it's evidence that the economy is stable at the moment. Inflation isn't surging, and consumer spending, according to the Bureau of Economic Analysis, is still growing. In March, consumer spending increased 5.8% year over year, up from February's 4.9% rate.

All eyes on the American shopper

Going forward, hopes for a "soft landing" — economist-speak for when the Fed slows inflation without triggering a recession — will depend in large measure on U.S. shoppers. Consumer spending makes up roughly two-thirds of U.S. gross domestic product.

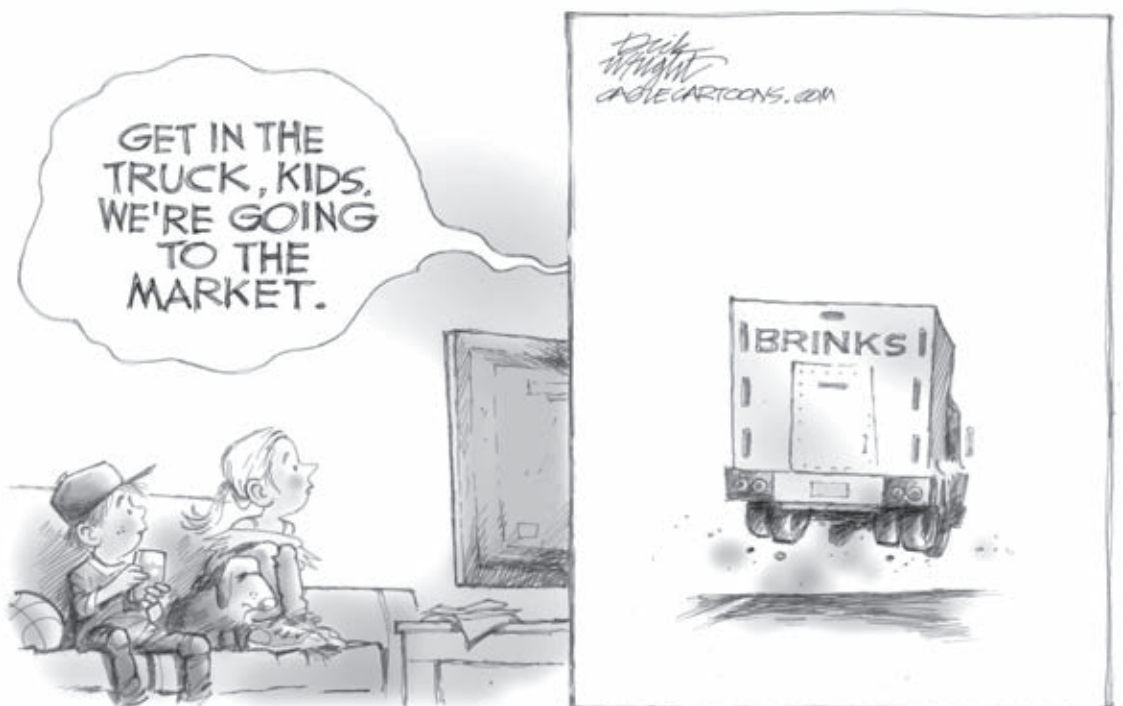
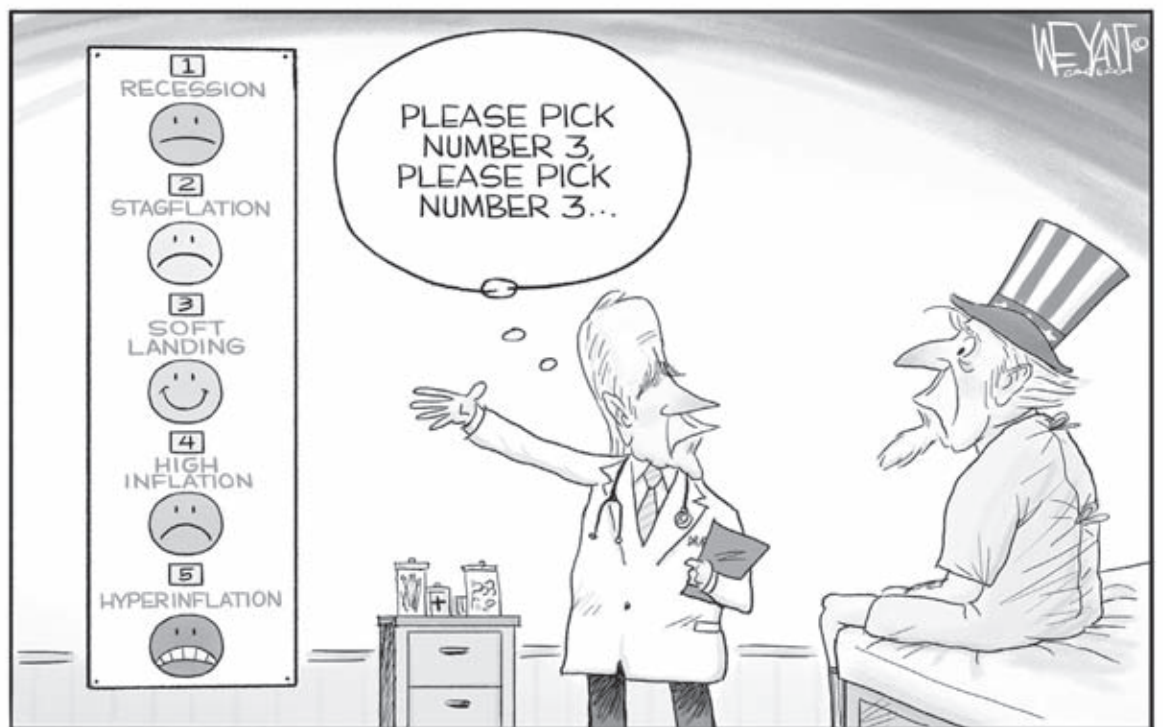
If American shoppers suddenly stop spending, then inflation will slow considerably, job vacancies will evaporate, and gross domestic product could contract. At that point, the Fed will turn attention away from inflation and toward economic stimulus, and rates will fall.

I mention this because a recent report by the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis showed a troubling uptick in consumer credit card delinquency rates. If much of the recent increase in consumer spending is due to Americans relying more on credit cards, then the economy could be on shakier ground than it appears.

The good news is that delinquency rates are still way below where they were ahead of the Great Recession, which lasted from December 2007 through June 2009. So, while this data may be troubling, there's no need to panic just yet.

In short, while inflation rates still aren't to the Fed's liking, the economy — for now — appears to be on a stable path.

Christopher Decker is a professor of economics at the University of Omaha Nebraska.



Liberty visit Rookie Clark And Fever

**New York goes to Indiana
off comeback win in D.C.**

By John Torenli, Sports Editor
Brooklyn Daily Eagle

The defending Eastern Conference champion New York Liberty will try to pick up their second straight win to start the season and spoil the home debut of first-overall pick and media sensation Caitlin Clark Thursday when they visit Indiana Fever at Gainbridge Fieldhouse.

The Liberty (1-0) slogged their way through three quarters in Washington, D.C., in Tuesday's season opener before outscoring the Mystics, 26-13, in the fourth quarter to pull out an 85-80 victory.

Jonquel Jones racked up 25 points, drained four 3-pointers and grabbed eight rebounds as New York erased an eight-point deficit over the final 10 minutes.

"We've been in those positions before. We're a veteran team," noted Jones, who spearheaded the comeback with eight points in the final period.

Betnijah Laney-Hamilton had half of her 20 points in the fourth quarter as the Liberty survived an uncharacteristic eight-point contribution from reigning WNBA Most Valuable Player Breanna Stewart.

"We have to come out with the mindset and the mentality that we have to grind out wins," said New York coach Sandy Brondello.

"There's still going to be a little, some funky parts of our game, no doubt," she added. "But we have to just make sure we're gritty right from the beginning, especially with our starters."

New York will now have to contend with an Indiana team that went 13-27 last year and drafted Clark, the NCAA phenom from the University of Iowa who has sparked unprecedented interest in women's basketball nationwide.

The 6-foot guard earned ESPN its highest rating ever for a WNBA game Tuesday night, but the Fever fell to Connecticut, 92-



Caitlin Clark and the Indiana Fever lost their season debut. Now, they'll host New York Liberty in their home opener Thursday.

AP Photo by Jessica Hill

71, at Mohegan Sun Arena.

Clark finished with 20 points, three assists, two steals and a whopping 10 turnovers in 32 minutes in her professional debut.

"Disappointed and nobody likes to lose, that's how it is," Clark said. "Can't beat yourself up too much about one game."

The NCAA women's all-time leading scorer missed 10 of her 15 field-goal attempts, but hit four 3-pointers and all six of her free throws.

"Caitlin was able to get her some looks, able to knock them down, our spacing was not great," Fever coach Christie Sides said.

"Connecticut came in and punched us in the mouth tonight. We'll be in the gym tomorrow watching a lot of video trying to figure out how not to turn the ball over 25 times."

This will be the opener of a home-and-home series between the squads.

The Liberty will host Indiana at Downtown's Barclays Center Saturday afternoon in their home opener before what should be a capacity crowd.

It will be capacity whether they show up to see New York's first home game

since Game 4 of its first WNBA Finals appearance since 2002, or to catch their first glimpse of Clark in Brooklyn since last month's draft at the Brooklyn Academy of Music.

Clark won't get caught looking ahead to her first taste of New York basketball, however.

She knows the fans in Indiana have been waiting to see her. And see her help the Fever climb back into serious WNBA contention.

"I think anytime you can have a home opener and have the support that we've had, like our preseason game was tremendous and now that we get to do it for real, I think it's gonna be a lot of fun," she said.

"It's gonna be loud. We're gonna need to use the environment to our advantage, and I think just learn and move on and get ready to play and embrace it and enjoy it, because it is special, too."

Last year, the Liberty swept four regular-season contests from the Fever, including a 100-89 victory in Indiana on Aug. 13.

Stewart, well on her way to her second career MVP award, scored 42 points, becoming the first player in league history to score

at least 40 points three times in a season.

New York has won six straight meetings against Indiana since a 92-86 overtime home loss to the Fever on May 13, 2022.

GIVE ME LIBERTY: Liberty All-Star guard Sabrina Ionescu, who led the league with 3.6 3-pointers made per game last year, had a rough shooting night in Washington Tuesday. She went 4-of-12 from the floor, including 1-of-7 from beyond the arc. But the two-time Wooden Award winner as the best player in the nation at the University of Oregon finished with 15 points, seven rebounds, eight assists, a steal and two blocked shots in New York's win. Ionescu, who entered the league as a potential transitional player like Clark as the first overall pick in 2020, didn't want to overemphasize Thursday's matchup in Indiana. "It's another game for us, to be honest," she told the New York Post. "Like every single arena that we're going into this year, and every single team that's coming in to ours is gonna be facing record-breaking crowds, and so it's nothing really new to us." ... Saturday's rematch at Barclays Center will tip off at 1 p.m. and will be televised via ABC.



Breanna Stewart hopes to shake off a sub-par Opening Night in Washington when the Liberty visit the Indiana Fever Thursday.

AP Photo by Terrance Williams



New York's Sabrina Ionescu entered the WNBA four years ago much the same way, albeit with less fanfare, than Indiana's Caitlin Clark is receiving.

AP Photo by Elaine Thompson

Megastores and small e-bike shops blow off city ban on unsafe batteries

Continued from page 3

The day the deadline arrived, Amazon requested a meeting.

Another month passed. On Dec. 7, DCWP met with Amazon's representatives "to ensure Amazon understood its obligations to comply" with the law. Five days later DCWP was now informing Amazon that their inspectors had now compiled a "non-exhaustive list of 30 products" on its site that "appeared to be out of compliance."

They set a new deadline of Dec. 22.

On that day Amazon requested yet another extension, this time to Jan. 12. On that day, Amazon sent an email to the city claiming it was now in compliance. DCWP, however, discovered they were not, tagging another 10 items deemed to be out of compliance still for sale to New York City buyers on the mega-platform's heavily trafficked site.

Finally the agency issued a summons to Amazon on Feb. 6, demanding compliance and threatening to seek "relief." There was one final problem: the "relief" consisted of zero dollars in imposed fines. The law didn't allow for any financial penalties until the second summons.

In March the mega-platform finally began posting a notice on some items red-flagged by DCWP: "This item cannot be shipped to your selected delivery location. Please choose a different delivery location."

But as of Wednesday, DCWP said Amazon is once again non-compliant.

In response to questions from THE CITY, Amazon spokesperson Heather Layman emailed a statement, asserting, "We continuously monitor our store, and if we discover a product was undetected by our automated checks, we address the issue immediately and refine our controls. We take action to maintain a safe selection for our customers, including removing non-compliant products, and outreach to sellers, manufacturers, and government agencies, such as DCWP, for additional information, when appropriate.

"We ensure our selection meets industry-accepted standards, and we develop innovative tools to prevent the sale of unsafe products," Layman added.

'You Need Federal Legislation'

The struggle to get Amazon to obey the law was anything but unusual, THE CITY has found.

Data obtained by THE CITY reveals local authorities have issued multiple summonses to nine other national online retailers that specialize in selling e-bikes, e-scooters and the batteries that power them. All nine are based outside of New



Department of Consumer and Worker Protection Commissioner Vilda Vera Mayuga at City Hall, April 1, 2024.

Credit: Ben Fractenberg/THE CITY

York and were cited last fall and then again over the last two months for selling devices for which they could not document safety certification, the data show.

Last fall, for instance, the city issued summonses to Fiido of Hong Kong, Retrospec of California, Surface 604 of Canada, GOTRAX of Carrollton, Texas, and Swagtron of South Bend, Ind., demanding proof that the items they were selling to New York City buyers had, in fact, been certified as safe by a recognized testing lab.

Five months later city inspectors checked each of these retailers again and, without exception, found more items for sale without proof that they were certified as safe. They issued another summons, records show. As of Wednesday, all five remained non-compliant, according to DCWP.

Fiido, Retrospec, Surface 604, GOTRAX and Swagtron have not responded to emailed questions submitted Monday by THE CITY regarding the pending and past summonses.

Because enforcement of the ban with online retailers has proven difficult, FDNY Commissioner Laura Kavanaugh, the Council members who've

sponsored the battery bills and Mayuga are all urging a federal ban on the sale of uncertified batteries.

"It's just that everything we try seems to go south," said Councilmember Gale Brewer (D-Manhattan), who has sponsored several laws to combat e-bike battery fires. "It's like throwing spaghetti on the wall. You need federal legislation."

Mayuga noted this is particularly necessary with on-line sales: "With online, we really need a federal ban on the sale of these devices. It's cutting across state lines. Right now somebody could ship it across the river and it's coming here."

On Wednesday the House overwhelmingly passed a bill co-sponsored by Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-N.Y.) and U.S. Rep. Ritchie Torres (D-The Bronx) that would require the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission to set standards for lithium-ion batteries, including requiring that they be certified as safe by a recognized testing lab. It's not clear when the Senate will take it up, but its sponsors emphasize it has bipartisan support in both chambers.

"For years, it has been clear that unregulated lithium-ion batteries pose an escalating threat to the public's safety, and now is the time to do something about it," Rep. Torres said following the 378-34 vote.

THE CITY also found two megastores, Target and Best Buy, got cease and desist letters from the city and came into compliance online, but were then hit with multiple summonses at some of their brick-and-mortar stores that DCWP chose to randomly inspect, records show.

From December through March, DCWP issued summonses to six different Target stores in every borough but Staten Island. Between January and April, inspectors issued four summonses at Best Buy stores in Manhattan, Brooklyn and Queens. The Best Buy on Queens Boulevard in Rego Park was hit with a violation in February, then another one in April.

Target did not respond to requests for comment from THE CITY. On Tuesday, Best Buy spokesperson initially promised to provide a response to THE CITY's questions, but by late Wednesday had not done so.

By far the vast majority of summonses for illegal sales went to small brick-and-mortar shops all over the city, where DCWP and the FDNY have made repeat inspections and issued multiple summonses — and still the sales of uncertified batteries, along with the unsafe storage and charging violations, continued.

"We find it incredibly frustrating," Kavanaugh said last month after fire marshals for the first time arrested an e-bike shop owner for repeatedly flouting the law. "We have shown people again and again how dangerous this is, that this is real

life, that this is not some arbitrary regulation. New Yorkers have died because of e-bikes and because of this reckless activity."

Kavanaugh said some small businesses have come into compliance by following fire code restrictions on how to safely store and charge batteries to minimize the risk of fire. But not everybody appears to have gotten the message.

A review of FDNY data shows at least 39 small e-bike shops across the city have received at least one violation after an initial inspection, then more summonses after subsequent inspections going forward — an indication that they didn't take that first summons too seriously.

"I would say we are seeing them more frequently flouting these laws," Kavanaugh said following that first arrest. "That is why they are still operating...so when we go back to places that were once conducting illegal activity, we are seeing that that's continuing at many of those sites."

Last year, for example, both fire and DCWP inspectors spent a lot of time at a Fly E-Bike shop at 220 Ingraham St. in Bushwick, Brooklyn — eight visits in all, including five by the FDNY and three by DCWP, records show. In all but one of these visits over a 10-month period, authorities issued new citations for unsafe conditions or selling or leasing uncertified batteries, according to THE CITY's review of FDNY and DCWP data.

Sometimes not even a fire stops e-bike shop owners from continuing to create unsafe conditions.

At the 11th Avenue Bike Shop, 6304-6308 11th Ave. in Dyker Heights, Brooklyn, the FDNY responded to a Feb. 18, 2023 fire that destroyed dozens of e-bikes. A post-fire assessment resulted in four FDNY summonses. By July 14, the shop was back in business when fire inspectors returned in response to a complaint and issued two more summonses.

In March 2023, fire inspectors issued two violations during a scheduled inspection of a Fly E-Bike shop at 4130 Broadway in Washington Heights. Three months later, on June 5, 2023, a battery-triggered fire erupted there.

None of that stopped the owner from continuing to charge and store uncertified batteries in dangerous conditions. FDNY returned that August and issued a summons; DCWP showed up in September to cite the owner for selling/renting uncertified batteries; then FDNY returned Dec. 7 to issue two more citations.

A week later DCWP issued two more summonses for illegal battery sales/rentals.

For the last four years, fire officials have relied on civil summonses against anyone they find storing and charging batteries in an unsafe manner. Last month's criminal charges against two e-bike shop owners they'd repeatedly cited who'd continued their unsafe ways undeterred show officials' determination to go further.

One of those charged, Wei Chen, owner of Wilson's E-Bike Shop at 101-19 Queens Boulevard in Rego Park, had been hit with FDNY civil summonses twice before during two separate inspections in February, including for storing altered and repaired batteries. That same month DCWP also hit Wilson's with a summons for illegal sales/rentals of unsafe batteries.

When fire marshals revisited Chen's shop on April 29, they found 80 e-bikes and two toolboxes containing 282 batteries. One of the batteries exploded during the inspection.

Another owner, Tian Liang Liu, was arrested on reckless endangerment charges April 12 after FDNY paid a fourth visit to his e-bike shop at 1239 Flatbush Ave., in Brooklyn. FDNY had repeatedly issued multiple violations for unsafe charging, while DCWP had twice issued summonses for illegal sales of uncertified batteries.

Asked by reporters if she expects to see more arrests for this type of activity, Kavanaugh made it clear that's an option that remains in play.

"Our inspectors wrote numerous violations on their previous visits and they had little or no compliance," she said during the April arrest press conference. "If we find someone with a similar pattern where we've been there multiple times and they've recklessly ignored us, then certainly."

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Chief Fire Marshall Daniel Flynn at the scene of a deadly e-bike repair shop fire in Chinatown, June 20, 2023.

Credit: Ben Fractenberg/THE CITY



The Boys and Girls Club on Hoe Avenue in The Bronx was set to close, May 9, 2024.

Credit: Ben Fractenberg/THE CITY

Haven for Bronx kids that hosted historic gang peace summit faces shutdown

By Jonathan Custodio
THE CITY

The 66-year-old South Bronx clubhouse that hosted the famous gang treaty credited with the birth of hip-hop is heading to shut down in August, and it's already for sale.

The closure plan for the Joel E. Smilow clubhouse — which offers programming along with dance and music studios, a rec room with pool tables and a computer room — was first reported by the Mott Haven Herald. It comes after its operator, the Madison Boys and Girls Club, founded in 1894, reached a bankruptcy settlement last year.

In that settlement, the club agreed to pay about \$22 million to a trust covering 149 people who sued under the New York Child Victims Act alleging they'd been abused by Dr. Reginald Archibald, a pediatric endocrinologist who volunteered from the 1950s through the 1980s at other clubhouses it ran.

A "Confidential Offering" brochure from real estate firm Cushman and Wakefield, posted online by the Hoe Avenue Alumni Association, calls the site "an outstanding opportunity to invest in a blank slate repositioning or development project" while a public listing from one of the firm's agents notes "the property will be delivered vacant."

The sales brochure's "Location Overview" describes the club that's about to shut down as "a beacon of hope and opportunity for youth in the community" that "plays an integral role in fostering a sense of community pride and empowerment."

The shutdown of the Hoe Avenue clubhouse "is a heartbreaking decision, and we wish we had another way to address our financial obligations," Madison Boys and Girls Club executive director Tim McChristian said in a statement last month. "Our Board of Trustees and I are confident that these actions are necessary and will secure Madison's future."

The clubhouse has about 350 members, according to Madison Boys and Girls Club spokesperson Daniela Ritter. Young people also participate in afterschool enrichment programs that feature academic support and service projects, including clothing and food drives and volunteering. The 37,000-square-foot clubhouse also has a swimming pool, but it's been dry since prior to the pandemic due to needed repairs.

"They had everything from kung fu to computer class," Marilyn Johnson, 62, told THE CITY in a phone interview on Monday, noting her children also benefited from cooking classes, field trips and other activities at the clubhouse during the 1990s. "All these things that was, I think,

transformative in our family's lives because it makes such a difference. People didn't have to pay for child care."

Bronx elected officials including Borough President Vanessa Gibson and Rep. Ritchie Torres responded to the closure news with a statement saying they were "extremely disappointed to learn about the potential sale, and "deeply concerned by the lack of meaningful engagement and transparency from the Boys and Girls Club and its Board of Directors."

According to a city stipulation in a restrictive covenant that's part of a 15-year funding agreement from 2015, the property can only be used through 2030 "as a community and recreation center that is dedicated to providing the children of the City with educational and recreation programs in a safe and nurturing environment, and which is operated for the benefit of one or more not-for-profit entities."

'A Safe Haven'

During the late 1960s and early 1970s, largely Black and Puerto Rican youth gangs like the Savage Skulls, Black Spades and the Savage Nomads claimed different pockets of the South Bronx.

As their turf fights became increasingly violent in the summer of 1971 with a wave of beatings and battles where bats, knives, guns and even grenades and other explosives replaced fists, one gang, the Ghetto Brothers, began to shift away

from violence and toward activism as well as music.

The group organized clothing drives, cleaned apartment buildings, advocated for youth employment and better health care, and set up a free breakfast program, inspired in part by the Black Panther Party.

They recruited Cornell "Black Benjie" Benjamin, a self-proclaimed former drug addict, to be its peace counselor, a modern-day violence interrupter.

But after Benjamin was murdered on Dec. 2, 1971, in Horseshoe Park on East 165th Street and Rogers Place as he tried to de-escalate a rumble between rival gangs, his mother, Gwendolyn Benjamin, helped convince his fellow Ghetto Brothers to temper their impulse for vengeance and push for the peace her son had died trying to establish.

Ghetto Brothers leaders Benjamin "Yellow Benjy" Melendez and Carlos "Karate Charlie" Suarez reached out to Felipe "Blackie" Mercado, president of the Savage Skulls, one of the Bronx's biggest gangs. After lining up his support, they convinced the leaders and warlords of 40 gangs to meet in neutral territory, at what was then called the Hoe Avenue Boys Club of America — now the Smilow clubhouse.

"There were too many things going around in that neighborhood and the boys club was a safe haven. It was a neutral place. Nothing would

jump off over there," recalled Eddie Guzman, 68, a former member of the Royal Javelins gang who's now president of the Hoe Avenue Alumni Association advocating for the clubhouse to stay put.

"Right after that big meeting, [the club] started a tournament and [rival] gang members were playing each other in basketball there."

That truce was later credited with opening up the neighborhood that had been cut up into gang territories, thus allowing young people to move around the borough and gather at the house parties where hip-hop was born 50 years ago. A street about a mile from the clubhouse was renamed in honor of Black Benjie last year.

But Will Estrada, 68, a former member of the Royal Javelins who was present at the treaty, where the 40 largest gangs each sent a handful of representatives to the clubhouse's neutral space, rejected that account.

"Some people think that after that meeting, that peace was established. But the ones that really made peace with each other was the three gangs that killed Black Benjie," said Estrada, referring to the Seven Immortals, the Mongols and the Black Spades.

"Remember the gangs from different neighborhoods were at war with each other... when you live in one block, three blocks away there's a rival gang; a few blocks away from that, another rival gang."

Estrada, who later wrote the memoir "The Dancing Gangsters of the South Bronx," continued: "It was scary as fuck. We're surrounded by enemies and we didn't know what to expect," he said.

The clubhouse, he recalled, was where "We used to always play ball. It was a place where we stayed out of trouble. It gave us a positive place to go and be at peace."

Guzman, for his part, remained a member of the Royal Javelins after the treaty was struck, and was shot in a gang altercation in 1972.

He counts the clubhouse as a place that saved his life.

"They took time to talk to us. They didn't lecture. They pulled you to the side, helped you look for jobs, helped you go to school," Guzman recalled. "They weren't like people that were afraid of gangs. They didn't mess around or bullshit you."

Without the club, he said, "I'd either be dead or in jail."

THE CITY is an independent, nonprofit news outlet dedicated to hard-hitting reporting that serves the people of New York.



Cornell "Black Benjie" Benjamin speaks in an early '70s tv interview.

Credit: Screenshot/YouTube

Dozens of NYCHA staff have pleaded guilty to bribery in 'micro' contracts scheme

By Greg B. Smith
THE CITY

More than two dozen current New York City Housing Authority employees have pleaded guilty to a variety of bribery charges as part of a long-standing scheme related to so-called micro-purchase contracts, say federal prosecutors with the Southern District of New York.

In February, 70 development-level NYCHA superintendents and assistant superintendents — 55 current and 15 former — were arrested in the biggest one-day takedown in U.S. Department of Justice history.

As of Tuesday, 27 of the current workers had pleaded guilty, although the impact of the first wave of admissions of guilt on NYCHA's operations remains unclear. NYCHA officials said the plea agreements required the employees to resign.

Forty-two other cases are pending. "NYCHA cannot comment on plea agreements between the arrested employees and SDNY as NYCHA is not a party to those agreements," said NYCHA spokesperson Barbara Brancaccio. "However, NYCHA has backfilled all positions to ensure a smooth transition with no impact on services provided to residents."

NYCHA deployed micro-contracts in an attempt to attack a longstanding backlog of repair requests by tenants. The pressure to address those requests remains intact.

The number of open tenant-initiated repair requests at the end of April was 607,000, down slightly from 659,000 at the end of April 2023. The average time to complete a repair has risen slightly from 358 in April 2023 to 371 last month.

Prosecutors alleged that the indicted NYCHA staffers had for years pocketed a total of \$2 million in bribes in exchange for awarding \$13 million in smaller contracts to a favored group of contractors performing repairs on NYCHA buildings, according to indictments announced by Manhattan U.S. Attorney Damian Williams.

The employees had the power to hand out smaller micro-purchase contracts of \$5,000 (and



Federal prosecutors said NYCHA superintendents were taking bribes at housing developments across the city, Feb. 6, 2024.

Credit: Ben Fractenberg/THE CITY

then \$10,000 after 2019) that fell below the amounts that trigger competitive bidding, a protocol that requires authorities to seek bids from multiple vendors and pick the lowest responsible offer.

For years and across nearly 100 of the authority's 320 developments citywide, contractors paid bribes — often based on a percentage of the contract's worth — to win these small contracts to repair the authority's aging buildings. With almost no oversight, NYCHA bureaucrats were able to award these corrupt vendors for jobs such as plastering, plumbing and painting multiple \$5,000

contracts over short time periods, effectively paying them amounts that would normally trigger competitive bidding requirements.

The subject of NYCHA's reliance on micro-contracts surfaced last week in public remarks by Jocelyn Strauber, commissioner of the Department of Investigation (DOI), which conducted the investigation that led to the indictments.

Strauber has recommended that NYCHA take responsibility for awarding the smaller contracts away from development-level managers and place it with a central office unit where oversight would be easier to perform.

She noted that NYCHA — after rejecting a similar suggestion two years ago — is now on board to institute this reform. And she noted that DOI is considering looking into the use of these no-bid smaller contract awards at other city agencies.

"It is something we would like to do," she said, noting the agency's limited resources. Mayor Eric Adams' most recent budget includes a 20% cut for DOI over the last fiscal year's budget.

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Preschool funding, school food, and other key education issues take center stage at budget hearing

By Julian Shen-Berro
Chalkbeat

As New York City schools stand to lose nearly \$1 billion in the next fiscal year, City Council members pressed Education Department officials on how the looming drop in funding could impact the city's early childhood system, school cafeteria menus, and other key education programs.

The Wednesday hearing came as City Council members and Mayor Eric Adams continue to negotiate the city's budget for the next fiscal year, which is due by July 1.

Last month, Adams unveiled a budget proposal that would see the city's Education Department funding shrink by 2.4%, or \$808 million, next year — largely spurred by the expiration of billions of dollars of one-time federal COVID relief funds. Despite that drop in funding, the proposed budget devotes half a billion dollars in city and state funds to preserve several education programs currently propped up by the expiring federal dollars, including money for hundreds of social workers, the city's free preschool program for 3-year-olds, and new staffers working in homeless shelters.

Other programs that have relied on the federal funds, however, remain at risk.

Education Department officials acknowledged the difficulties presented by the expiring federal funds, noting that they've advocated for the continuation of all such programs. Specific decisions about which programs to devote long-term city funding to have been made by the city's Office of Management and Budget, said Emma Vadehra, the department's chief operating officer.

Questions also centered on how the city's schools would be impacted by sweeping cuts that Adams has ordered city agencies to enact over the past year to help cover costs for services to an influx of migrants. Under that separate directive, the Education Department faces more than \$700 million in cuts to city funding for specific programs next year, including roughly \$170 million slashed from early childhood programs. (The city's overall contribution to the Education Department's budget would still rise by nearly \$1.6 billion under Adams' proposal, though it's not enough to offset the vast drop in federal funding next year.)

Schools Chancellor David Banks told council members it's been "very challenging" to select certain programs to prioritize.

"I mean, it's like, 'Which one is your favorite child?'" he said. "These are all wonderfully, amazing programs. We don't want to lose any of them."

Here's a look at some of the key education issues that arose during the hearing:

Council member clashes with DOE over preschool programs

Though Adams' proposed budget would replace \$92 million of expiring federal funding for 3-K — the city's free preschool program for 3-year-olds — it does not restore a separate \$170 million cut to city funding for early childhood programs. City Council members repeatedly expressed concerns over that cut during the hearing, seeking further details from Education Department officials about the potential impact of reduced funding.

Building up the free prekindergarten system for the city's 3- and 4-year-olds was a centerpiece of former Mayor Bill de Blasio's administration. Under Adams, the sector has been plagued with problems, including declining enrollment and lengthy payment delays to community organizations running programs.

On Wednesday, Education Department officials contended those issues had been inherited from the prior administration. They pointed to some improving metrics in the city's early childhood system, stating enrollment in such programs had grown to roughly 114,000 children. That was up from 97,000 children earlier this year, according to city data released in November. Meanwhile, the average processing time for payments for early childhood providers had decreased to roughly 11 days.

Officials added they've worked to shift existing seats to neighborhoods with higher demand.

Capacity for the city's 3-K program is roughly 53,000 seats, with about 44,000 filled, accord-



New York City council members questioned education officials during a budget hearing on Wednesday, as the looming expiration of federal COVID relief money threatens to shave \$808 million from the Education Department's budget. David Handschuh / Chalkbeat

ing to figures shared by Education Department officials during the hearing.

In one particularly contentious exchange, Brooklyn Council Member Lincoln Restler questioned why Education Department officials were unable to say definitively how many seats the city's preschool programs would be able to offer next year after the \$170 million cut.

"These are the cuts that the mayor has proposed that he wants to implement to your agency: What would be the impact of them?" he said. "How many fewer seats would you have? This is like the most plain, simple, obvious question that we were going to get all day. I'm a little disappointed that we're not getting a straight answer."

Education Department officials said any reductions would be focused in areas where seats aren't filled.

Restler also pressed department officials for details about the full release of a report on 3-K seats. City officials hired the consulting firm Accenture last year to "map out needs and seats" as the program grappled with thousands of vacancies.

Officials previously said Accenture would be paid \$760,000 to compile the report. But on Wednesday, Education Department officials cited a significantly lower figure of "\$350,000 or \$250,000." They did not provide a precise timeline for the release.

City officials did not immediately explain the discrepancy between the two figures.

Budget cuts prompt concerns over school food

City Council members also expressed concerns over how budget cuts to school food would affect students next year. A \$60 million November cut to the city's school foods budget sparked outcry earlier this year, as the reduced funding forced cafeterias to remove popular items like chicken dumplings and bean and cheese burritos from their menus.

Though the city later restored some of those menu items, council members questioned whether the lingering cuts would impact cafeteria menus in the coming school year.

"We are monitoring this very closely," Vadehra said. "We are very invested in making sure all of these food options stay on the menu for students next year."

City officials express concerns over state funding

Education Department officials noted multiple times during the hearing that although state funding for the city's schools increased for the coming fiscal year, the city is getting less than expected. A change to the formula determining how much money is sent to districts left New York City schools with \$126 million less than anticipated.

continue to invest in hiring additional teachers and expanding classroom space to remain in compliance with the law, officials said.

An additional \$180 million will go to school budgets, with around \$135 million explicitly earmarked for compliance with the state class size law, Vadehra said. She estimated those funds would allow for hiring between 1,200 and 2,000 new teachers.

"Assuming those teachers can be found," she added.

Education programs still at risk as fiscal cliff looms

City Council members drew attention to several education programs that have relied on expiring federal funds and are not included in the mayor's proposed budget — including \$65 million funding roughly 400 contracted school nurses, as well as millions of dollars to support restorative justice programs.

Education Department officials were unable to say during the hearing how many schools would be left without a nurse as that funding dries up later this year. Currently, every public school in the city has at least one nurse in the building.

Meanwhile, restorative justice programs, which aim to resolve conflict through peer mediation and other less punitive methods, are at risk of losing more than half of their current budget as the federal funds expire. Education Department officials said roughly \$8 million of the \$13.6 million committed to restorative justice programs this year comes from expiring federal dollars.

At the hearing, Banks encouraged council members to advocate for the funding to be restored.

"You all are still engaged in the process," he said. "You can certainly, as you are engaged in this conversation and negotiations, push to make sure that [restorative justice] gets restored."

In total, the city's Education Department faces a gap of more than \$200 million in expiring federal funds for education programming next year, officials said.

Chalkbeat is a nonprofit news site covering educational change in public schools.

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2ND DEPARTMENT/PUBLIC LEGAL NOTICES

SUMMONS

SUPREME COURT OF NEW YORK, QUEENS COUNTY. NEWREZ LLC D/B/A AS SHELLPOINT MORTGAGE SERVICING, PLAINTIFF, -AGAINST- OSCARA. PRIETO, AS ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ESTATE OF MAUREEN MULLANEY; STUART GLUICK, HEIR AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF MAUREEN MULLANEY; UNIFUND CCR LLC; NEW YORK CITY PARKING VIOLATIONS BUREAU; NEW YORK CITY ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL BOARD; NEW YORK CITY TRANSIT ADJUDICATION BUREAU; NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION AND FINANCE; LTNITED STATES OF AMERICA, "JOHN DOE #1" THROUGH "JOHN DOE #12," THE LAST TWELVE NAMES BEING FICTITIOUS AND UNKNOWN TO PLAINTIFF, THE PERSONS OR PARTIES INTENDED BEING THE TENANTS, OCCUPANTS, PERSONS OR CORPORATIONS, IF ANY, HAVING OR CLAIMING AN INTEREST IN OR LIEN UPON THE PREMISES, DESCRIBED IN THE COMPLAINT, DEFENDANTS INDEX NO. 711178/2023. PLAINTIFF DESIGNATES QUEENS COUNTY AS THE PLACE OF TRIAL SITUS OF THE REAL PROPERTY. MORTGAGED PREMISES: 57-44 57TH DRIVE MASPETH, NY 11378 TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANTS: YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED TO ANSWER THE COMPLAINT IN THE ABOVE CAPTIONED ACTION AND TO SERVE A COPY OF YOUR ANSWER ON THE PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY WITHIN TWENTY (20) DAYS AFTER THE SERVICE OF THIS SUMMONS, EXCLUSIVE OF THE DAY OF SERVICE, OR WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS AFTER COMPLETION OF SERVICE WHERE SERVICE IS MADE IN ANY OTHER MANNER THAN BY PERSONAL DELIVERY WITHIN THE STATE. THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, IF DESIGNATED AS A DEFENDANT IN THIS ACTION, MAY ANSWER OR APPEAR WITHIN SIXTY (60) DAYS OF SERVICE HEREOF. IN CASE OF YOUR FAILURE TO APPEAR OR ANSWER, JUDGMENT WILL BE TAKEN AGAINST YOU BY DEFAULT FOR THE RELIEF DEMANDED IN THE COMPLAINT. NOTICE YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME IF YOU DO NOT RESPOND TO THIS SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF (MORTGAGE COMPANY) AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT, A DEFAULT JUDGMENT MAY BE ENTERED AND YOU CAN LOSE YOUR HOME. SPEAK TO AN ATTORNEY OR GO TO THE COURT WHERE YOUR CASE IS PENDING FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON HOW TO ANSWER THE SUMMONS AND PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY. SENDING A PAYMENT TO YOUR MORTGAGE COMPANY WILL NOT STOP THIS FORECLOSURE ACTION. YOU MUST RESPOND BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF (MORTGAGE COMPANY) AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT. PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE THAT ANY RIGHT YOU MAY HAVE PURSUANT TO THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT TO DISPUTE THE VALIDITY OR AMOUNT OF THE DEBT DOES NOT CHANGE THE TIME WITHIN WHICH YOU MUST ANSWER THIS SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT. YOU MUST FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS CONTAINED IN THE SUMMONS EVEN IF YOU DIS-

PUTE THE VALIDITY OR AMOUNT OF THE DEBT. FRIEDMAN VARTOLO, LLP 1325 FRANKLIN AVENUE, SUITE 160 GARDEN CITY, NY 11530, ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF. #217604

SUPPLEMENTAL SUMMONS

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK INDEX NO. 707987/2023 COUNTY OF QUEENS DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY, AS TRUSTEE FOR ARGENT SECURITIES INC., ASSET-BACKED PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2005-W3 PLAINTIFF, VS. OMAR C. BLAKE A/K/A OMAR CASSIUS BLAKE, INDIVIDUALLY AND AS HEIR AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF CYNTHIA MENION LODGE; KEITH MENARD LODGE, AS HEIR AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF CYNTHIA MENION LODGE; COURTNEY OPEL SUTHERLAND, AS HEIR AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF CYNTHIA MENION LODGE; BASIL ANTHONY PEART, AS HEIR AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF CYNTHIA MENION LODGE, IF LIVING, AND IF SHE/HE BE DEAD, ANY AND ALL PERSONS UNKNOWN TO PLAINTIFF, CLAIMING, OR WHO MAY CLAIM TO HAVE AN INTEREST IN, OR GENERAL OR SPECIFIC LIEN UPON THE REAL PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN THIS ACTION; SUCH UNKNOWN PERSONS BEING HEREIN GENERALLY DESCRIBED AND INTENDED TO BE INCLUDED IN THE FOLLOWING DESIGNATION, NAMELY: THE WIFE, WIDOW, HUSBAND, WIDOWER, HEIRS AT LAW, NEXT OF KIN, DESCENDANTS, EXECUTORS, ADMINISTRATORS, DEVISEES, LEGATEES, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES, COMMITTEES, LIENORS, AND ASSIGNEES OF SUCH DECEASED, ANY AND ALL PERSONS DERIVING INTEREST IN OR LIEN UPON, OR TITLE TO SAID REAL PROPERTY BY, THROUGH OR UNDER THEM, OR EITHER OF THEM, AND THEIR RESPECTIVE WIVES, WIDOWS, HUSBANDS, WIDOWERS, HEIRS AT LAW, NEXT OF KIN, DESCENDANTS, EXECUTORS, ADMINISTRATORS, DEVISEES, LEGATEES, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES, COMMITTEES, LIENORS AND ASSIGNS, ALL OF WHOM AND WHOSE NAMES, EXCEPT AS STATED, ARE UNKNOWN TO PLAINTIFF; MARVIN TOUSSAINT SMITH, AS HEIR AND DISTRIBUTE OF THE ESTATE OF CYNTHIA MENION LODGE, IF LIVING, AND IF SHE/HE BE DEAD, ANY AND ALL PERSONS UNKNOWN TO PLAINTIFF, CLAIMING, OR WHO MAY CLAIM TO HAVE AN INTEREST IN, OR GENERAL OR SPECIFIC LIEN UPON THE REAL PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN THIS ACTION; SUCH UNKNOWN PERSONS BEING HEREIN GENERALLY DESCRIBED AND INTENDED TO BE INCLUDED IN THE FOLLOWING DESIGNATION, NAMELY: THE WIFE, WIDOW, HUSBAND, WIDOWER, HEIRS AT LAW, NEXT OF KIN, DESCENDANTS, EXECUTORS, ADMINISTRATORS, DEVISEES, LEGATEES, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES, COMMITTEES, LIENORS AND ASSIGNEES OF SUCH DECEASED, ANY AND ALL PERSONS DERIVING INTEREST IN OR LIEN UPON, OR TITLE TO SAID REAL PROPERTY BY, THROUGH OR UNDER THEM, OR EITHER OF THEM, AND THEIR RESPECTIVE WIVES, WIDOWS, HUSBANDS, WIDOWERS, HEIRS AT LAW, NEXT OF KIN, DESCENDANTS, EXECUTORS, ADMINISTRATORS, DEVISEES, LEGATEES, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES, COMMITTEES, LIENORS AND ASSIGNS, ALL OF WHOM AND WHOSE NAMES, EXCEPT AS STATED, ARE UN-

KNOWN TO PLAINTIFF; UNKNOWN HEIRS AND DISTRIBUTEES OF THE ESTATE OF CYNTHIA MENION LODGE, ANY AND ALL PERSONS UNKNOWN TO PLAINTIFF, CLAIMING, OR WHO MAY CLAIM TO HAVE AN INTEREST IN, OR GENERAL OR SPECIFIC LIEN UPON THE REAL PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN THIS ACTION; SUCH UNKNOWN PERSONS BEING HEREIN GENERALLY DESCRIBED AND INTENDED TO BE INCLUDED IN THE FOLLOWING DESIGNATION, NAMELY: THE WIFE, WIDOW, HUSBAND, WIDOWER, HEIRS AT LAW, NEXT OF KIN, DESCENDANTS, EXECUTORS, ADMINISTRATORS, DEVISEES, LEGATEES, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES, COMMITTEES, LIENORS, AND ASSIGNEES OF SUCH DECEASED, ANY AND ALL PERSONS DERIVING INTEREST IN OR LIEN UPON, OR TITLE TO SAID REAL PROPERTY BY, THROUGH OR UNDER THEM, OR EITHER OF THEM, AND THEIR RESPECTIVE WIVES, WIDOWS, HUSBANDS, WIDOWERS, HEIRS AT LAW, NEXT OF KIN, DESCENDANTS, EXECUTORS, ADMINISTRATORS, DEVISEES, LEGATEES, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES, COMMITTEES, LIENORS AND ASSIGNS, ALL OF WHOM AND WHOSE NAMES, EXCEPT AS STATED, ARE UNKNOWN TO PLAINTIFF; NEW YORK CITY PARKING VIOLATIONS BUREAU; NEW YORK CITY ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL BOARD; NEW YORK CITY TRANSIT ADJUDICATION BUREAU; NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION AND FINANCE; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK; "JOHN DOE" (REFUSED NAME) AS JOHN DOE #1; "JOHN DOE" (REFUSED NAME) AS JOHN DOE #2; "JOHN DOE" (REFUSED NAME) AS JOHN DOE #3; "JOHN DOE" (REFUSED NAME) AS JOHN DOE #4; "JOHN DOE" (REFUSED NAME) AS JOHN DOE #5; "JOHN DOE #6" THROUGH "JOHN DOE #12," THE LAST TWELVE NAMES BEING FICTITIOUS AND UNKNOWN TO PLAINTIFF, THE PERSONS OR PARTIES INTENDED BEING THE TENANTS, OCCUPANTS, PERSONS OR CORPORATIONS, IF ANY, HAVING OR CLAIMING AN INTEREST IN OR LIEN UPON THE PREMISES, DESCRIBED IN THE COMPLAINT, DEFENDANTS. PLAINTIFF DESIGNATES QUEENS AS THE PLACE OF TRIAL SITUS OF THE REAL PROPERTY. MORTGAGED PREMISES: 131-09 224TH STREET, LAURELTON, NY 11413 BLOCK: 12934, LOT: 136 TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANTS YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED TO ANSWER THE COMPLAINT IN THE ABOVE ENTITLED ACTION AND TO SERVE A COPY OF YOUR ANSWER ON THE PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY WITHIN TWENTY (20) DAYS OF THE SERVICE OF THIS SUMMONS, EXCLUSIVE OF THE DAY OF SERVICE, OR WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS AFTER SERVICE OF THE SAME IS COMPLETE WHERE SERVICE IS MADE IN ANY MANNER OTHER THAN BY PERSONAL DELIVERY WITHIN THE STATE. THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, IF DESIGNATED AS A DEFENDANT IN THIS ACTION, MAY ANSWER OR APPEAR WITHIN SIXTY (60) DAYS OF SERVICE. YOUR FAILURE TO APPEAR OR TO ANSWER WILL RESULT IN A JUDGMENT AGAINST YOU BY DEFAULT FOR THE RELIEF DEMANDED IN THE COMPLAINT. IN THE EVENT THAT A DEFICIENCY BALANCE REMAINS FROM THE SALE PROCEEDS, A JUDGMENT MAY BE ENTERED AGAINST YOU. NOTICE OF NATURE OF ACTION AND RELIEF SOUGHT THE OBJECT OF THE ABOVE CAPTIONED ACTION IS TO FORECLOSE A MORTGAGE TO SECURE THE SUM OF \$233,000.00 AND

INTEREST, RECORDED ON SEPTEMBER 01, 2005, IN OFFICIAL RECORD CRFN 2005000492769, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF QUEENS COUNTY, NEW YORK., COVERING PREMISES KNOWN AS 131-09 224TH STREET, LAURELTON, NY 11413. THE RELIEF SOUGHT IN THE WITHIN ACTION IS A FINAL JUDGMENT DIRECTING THE SALE OF THE PREMISES DESCRIBED ABOVE TO SATISFY THE DEBT SECURED BY THE MORTGAGE DESCRIBED ABOVE. QUEENS COUNTY IS DESIGNATED AS THE PLACE OF TRIAL BECAUSE THE REAL PROPERTY AFFECTED BY THIS ACTION IS LOCATED IN SAID COUNTY. NOTICE YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME IF YOU DO NOT RESPOND TO THIS SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE MORTGAGE COMPANY WHO FILED THIS FORECLOSURE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT, A DEFAULT JUDGMENT MAY BE ENTERED AND YOU CAN LOSE YOUR HOME. SPEAK TO AN ATTORNEY OR GO TO THE COURT WHERE YOUR CASE IS PENDING FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON HOW TO ANSWER THE SUMMONS AND PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY. SENDING A PAYMENT TO THE MORTGAGE COMPANY WILL NOT STOP THE FORECLOSURE ACTION. YOU MUST RESPOND BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF (MORTGAGE COMPANY) AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT. DATED: APRIL 19TH, 2024 ROBERTSON, ANSCHUTZ, SCHNEID, CRANE & PARTNERS, PLLC ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF MATTHEW ROTHSTEIN, ESQ. 900 MERCHANTS CONCOURSE, SUITE 310 WESTBURY, NY 11590 516-280-7675 #217239

SUPPLEMENTAL SUMMONS

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, COUNTY OF QUEENS - BANK OF AMERICA, N.A. PLAINTIFF, -AGAINST- GERALDINE GRANGER, AS NOMINATED EXECUTRIX OF THE ESTATE OF MILDRED ROBERTS AND AS TRUSTEE OF THE ROBERTS FAMILY TRUST; AGELA ABDULLAH, AS HEIR TO THE ESTATE OF MILDRED ROBERTS; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, ACTING ON BEHALF OF THE SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, ACTING ON BEHALF OF DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY - INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE; NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION AND FINANCE; UNKNOWN BENEFICIARIES OF THE ROBERTS FAMILY TRUST; JOHN DOE #1" THROUGH "JOHN DOE #10," SAID NAMES BEING FICTITIOUS AND UNKNOWN TO PLAINTIFF, INTENDED TO BE POSSIBLE TENANTS OR OCCUPANTS OF THE PREMISES, OR CORPORATIONS, PERSONS, OR OTHER ENTITIES HAVING OR CLAIMING A LIEN UPON THE MORTGAGED PREMISES, DEFENDANTS - INDEX NO: 710103/2015 PLAINTIFF DESIGNATES QUEENS COUNTY AS THE PLACE OF TRIAL. THE BASIS OF VENUE IS THAT THE SUBJECT ACTION IS SITUATED IN QUEENS COUNTY. TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANTS-YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED TO ANSWER THE COMPLAINT IN THIS ACTION AND TO SERVE A COPY OF YOUR ANSWER, OR, IF THE COMPLAINT IS NOT SERVED WITH THIS SUMMONS, TO SERVE A NOTICE OF APPEARANCE, ON THE PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY(S) WITHIN 20 DAYS AFTER THE SERVICE OF THIS SUMMONS, EXCLUSIVE OF THE DAY OF SERVICE (OR WITHIN 30

DAYS AFTER THE SERVICE IS COMPLETE IF THIS SUMMONS IS NOT PERSONALLY DELIVERED TO YOU WITHIN THE STATE OF NEW YORK); AND IN CASE OF YOUR FAILURE TO APPEAR OR ANSWER, JUDGMENT WILL BE TAKEN AGAINST YOU BY DEFAULT FOR THE RELIEF DEMANDED IN THE COMPLAINT. THAT THIS SUPPLEMENTAL SUMMONS IS BEING FILED PURSUANT TO AN ORDER OF THE COURT DATED APRIL 5, 2024. NOTICE-YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME - IF YOU DO NOT RESPOND TO THIS SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE MORTGAGE COMPANY WHO FILED THIS FORECLOSURE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT, A DEFAULT JUDGMENT MAY BE ENTERED AND YOU CAN LOSE YOUR HOME. SPEAK TO AN ATTORNEY OR GO TO THE COURT WHERE YOUR CASE IS PENDING FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON HOW TO ANSWER THE SUMMONS AND PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY. SENDING A PAYMENT TO THE MORTGAGE COMPANY WILL NOT STOP THE FORECLOSURE ACTION. YOU MUST RESPOND BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF (BANK OF AMERICA, N.A.) AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT. THE FOREGOING SUMMONS IS SERVED UPON YOU BY PUBLICATION PURSUANT TO AN ORDER OF THE HONORABLE SCOTT DUNN, J.S.C. DATED: APRIL 5, 2024 FILED: APRIL 9, 2024. THE OBJECT OF THIS ACTION IS TO FORECLOSE A MORTGAGE AND COVERING THE PREMISES KNOWN AS 230-01 141ST AVENUE, LAURELTON, NY 11413. DATED: OCTOBER 20, 2023 FILED: APRIL 16, 2024 GREENSPOON MARDER LLP, ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF, BY: ANGELO A. REGINA, ESQ., 590 MADISON AVENUE, SUITE 1800, NEW YORK, NY 10022 P: (212) 524-5000 F: (212) 524-5050 NO SERVICE BY FAX) SERVICE PURPOSES ONLY: TRADE CREEK SOUTH 100 W. CYPRESS CREEK ROAD, SUITE 700, FORT LAUDERDALE, FL 33309 P: (888) 491-1120 F: (954) 343-6982

SUPPLEMENTAL SUMMONS

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK INDEX NO. 707811/2016 COUNTY OF QUEENS BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON TRUST COMPANY, N.A. AS TRUSTEE FOR MORTGAGE ASSETS MANAGEMENT SERIES I TRUST, PLAINTIFF, VS. MELISSA D. MOHAN, AS ADMINISTRATOR TO THE ESTATE OF ELVETT EDWARDS; UNKNOWN HEIRS AND DISTRIBUTEES TO THE ESTATE OF ELVETT EDWARDS, ANY AND ALL PERSONS UNKNOWN TO PLAINTIFF, CLAIMING, OR WHO MAY CLAIM TO HAVE AN INTEREST IN, OR GENERAL OR SPECIFIC LIEN UPON THE REAL PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN THIS ACTION; SUCH UNKNOWN PERSONS BEING HEREIN GENERALLY DESCRIBED AND INTENDED TO BE INCLUDED IN THE FOLLOWING DESIGNATION, NAMELY: THE WIFE, WIDOW, HUSBAND, WIDOWER, HEIRS AT LAW, NEXT OF KIN, DESCENDANTS, EXECUTORS, ADMINISTRATORS, DEVISEES, LEGATEES, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES, COMMITTEES, LIENORS, AND ASSIGNEES OF SUCH DECEASED, ANY AND ALL PERSONS DERIVING INTEREST IN OR LIEN UPON, OR TITLE TO SAID REAL PROPERTY BY, THROUGH OR UNDER THEM, OR EITHER OF THEM, AND THEIR RESPECTIVE WIVES, WIDOWS, HUSBANDS, WIDOWERS, HEIRS AT LAW, NEXT OF KIN, DESCENDANTS, EXECUTORS, ADMINISTRATORS, DEVISEES, LEGATEES, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES, COMMITTEES, LIENORS AND ASSIGNS, ALL OF WHOM AND WHOSE NAMES, EXCEPT AS STATED, ARE UNKNOWN TO PLAINTIFF; SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT; PALISADES COLLECTION, L.L.C.; NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION AND FINANCE; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; BOBSY "DOE"; TREVOR EDWARDS; MARCUSS EDWARDS, DEFENDANTS. PLAINTIFF DESIGNATES QUEENS AS THE PLACE OF TRIAL SITUS OF THE REAL PROPERTY. MORTGAGED PREMISES: 220-22 120TH AVENUE, CAMBRIA HEIGHTS, NY 11411 BLOCK: 12804, LOT: 53 TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANTS YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED TO ANSWER THE COMPLAINT IN THE ABOVE ENTITLED ACTION AND TO SERVE A COPY OF YOUR ANSWER ON THE PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY WITHIN TWENTY (20) DAYS OF THE SERVICE OF THIS SUMMONS, EXCLUSIVE OF THE DAY OF SERVICE, OR WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS AFTER SERVICE OF THE SAME IS COMPLETE WHERE SERVICE IS MADE IN ANY MANNER OTHER THAN BY PERSONAL DELIVERY WITHIN THE STATE. THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, IF DESIGNATED AS A DEFENDANT IN THIS ACTION, MAY ANSWER OR APPEAR WITHIN SIXTY (60) DAYS OF SERVICE. YOUR FAILURE TO APPEAR OR TO ANSWER WILL RESULT IN A JUDGMENT AGAINST YOU BY DEFAULT FOR THE RELIEF DEMANDED IN THE COMPLAINT. IN THE EVENT THAT A DEFICIENCY BALANCE REMAINS FROM THE SALE PROCEEDS, A JUDGMENT MAY BE ENTERED AGAINST YOU. NOTICE OF NATURE OF ACTION AND RELIEF SOUGHT THE OBJECT OF THE ABOVE CAPTIONED ACTION IS TO FORECLOSE A MORTGAGE TO SECURE THE SUM OF \$544,185.00 AND INTEREST, RECORDED ON SEPTEMBER 20, 2007, AT CRFN 2007000483598, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF QUEENS COUNTY, NEW YORK., COVERING PREMISES KNOWN AS 220-22 120TH AVENUE, CAMBRIA HEIGHTS, NY 11411. THE RELIEF SOUGHT IN THE WITHIN ACTION IS A FINAL JUDGMENT DIRECTING THE SALE OF THE PREMISES DESCRIBED ABOVE TO SATISFY THE DEBT SECURED BY THE MORTGAGE DESCRIBED ABOVE. QUEENS COUNTY IS DESIGNATED AS THE PLACE OF TRIAL BECAUSE THE REAL PROPERTY AFFECTED BY THIS ACTION IS LOCATED IN SAID COUNTY. NOTICE YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME IF YOU DO NOT RESPOND TO THIS SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE MORTGAGE COMPANY WHO FILED THIS FORECLOSURE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT, A DEFAULT JUDGMENT MAY BE ENTERED AND YOU CAN LOSE YOUR HOME. SPEAK TO AN ATTORNEY OR GO TO THE COURT WHERE YOUR CASE IS PENDING FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON HOW TO ANSWER THE SUMMONS AND PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY. SENDING A PAYMENT TO THE MORTGAGE COMPANY WILL NOT STOP THE FORECLOSURE ACTION. YOU MUST RESPOND BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF (MORTGAGE COMPANY) AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT. DATED: APRIL 19TH, 2024 ROBERTSON, ANSCHUTZ, SCHNEID, CRANE & PARTNERS, PLLC ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF MATTHEW ROTHSTEIN, ESQ. 900 MERCHANTS CONCOURSE, SUITE 310 WESTBURY, NY 11590 516-280-7675 #217242



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2ND DEPARTMENT / PUBLIC LEGAL NOTICES

SUPPLEMENTAL SUMMONS

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK INDEX NO. 720461/2023 COUNTY OF QUEENS MORTGAGE ASSETS MANAGEMENT, LLC PLAINTIFF, VS. DONNA HARPER, AS HEIR AND DISTRIBUTTEE OF THE ESTATE OF ROSE ZIZZO; UNKNOWN HEIRS AND DISTRIBUTTEES OF THE ESTATE OF ROSE ZIZZO, ANY AND ALL PERSONS UNKNOWN TO PLAINTIFF, CLAIMING, OR WHO MAY CLAIM TO HAVE AN INTEREST IN, OR GENERAL OR SPECIFIC LIEN UPON THE REAL PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN THIS ACTION; SUCH UNKNOWN PERSONS BEING HEREIN GENERALLY DESCRIBED AND INTENDED TO BE INCLUDED IN THE FOLLOWING DESIGNATION, NAMELY: THE WIFE, WIDOW, HUSBAND, WIDOWER, HEIRS AT LAW, NEXT OF KIN, DESCENDANTS, EXECUTORS, ADMINISTRATORS, DEVISEES, LEGATEES, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES, COMMITTEES, LIENORS, AND ASSIGNEES OF SUCH DECEASED, ANY AND ALL PERSONS DERIVING INTEREST IN OR LIEN UPON, OR TITLE TO SAID REAL PROPERTY BY, THROUGH OR UNDER THEM, OR EITHER OF THEM, AND THEIR RESPECTIVE WIVES, WIDOWS, HUSBANDS, WIDOWERS, HEIRS AT LAW, NEXT OF KIN, DESCENDANTS, EXECUTORS, ADMINISTRATORS, DEVISEES, LEGATEES, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES, COMMITTEES, LIENORS AND ASSIGNS, ALL OF WHOM AND WHOSE NAMES, EXCEPT AS STATED, ARE UNKNOWN TO PLAINTIFF; NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION AND FINANCE; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT; NEW YORK CITY PARKING VIOLATIONS BUREAU; NEW YORK CITY ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL BOARD; NEW YORK CITY TRANSIT AD-

JUDICATION BUREAU, "JOHN DOE #1" THROUGH "JOHN DOE #12," THE LAST TWELVE NAMES BEING FICTITIOUS AND UNKNOWN TO PLAINTIFF, THE PERSONS OR PARTIES INTENDED BEING THE TENANTS, OCCUPANTS, PERSONS OR CORPORATIONS, IF ANY, HAVING OR CLAIMING AN INTEREST IN OR LIEN UPON THE PREMISES, DESCRIBED IN THE COMPLAINT, DEFENDANTS. PLAINTIFF DESIGNATES QUEENS AS THE PLACE OF TRIAL SITUS OF THE REAL PROPERTY MORTGAGED PREMISES: 1407 CROSS BAY BOULEVARD, BROAD CHANNEL, NY 11693 BLOCK: 15319, LOT: 36 TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANTS YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED TO ANSWER THE COMPLAINT IN THE ABOVE ENTITLED ACTION AND TO SERVE A COPY OF YOUR ANSWER ON THE PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY WITHIN TWENTY (20) DAYS OF THE SERVICE OF THIS SUMMONS, EXCLUSIVE OF THE DAY OF SERVICE, OR WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS AFTER SERVICE OF THE SAME IS COMPLETE WHERE SERVICE IS MADE IN ANY MANNER OTHER THAN BY PERSONAL DELIVERY WITHIN THE STATE. THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, IF DESIGNATED AS A DEFENDANT IN THIS ACTION, MAY ANSWER OR APPEAR WITHIN SIXTY (60) DAYS OF SERVICE. YOUR FAILURE TO APPEAR OR TO ANSWER WILL RESULT IN A JUDGMENT AGAINST YOU BY DEFAULT FOR THE RELIEF DEMANDED IN THE COMPLAINT. IN THE EVENT THAT A DEFICIENCY BALANCE REMAINS FROM THE SALE PROCEEDS, A JUDGMENT MAY BE ENTERED AGAINST YOU. NOTICE OF NATURE OF ACTION AND RELIEF SOUGHT THE OBJECT OF THE ABOVE CAPTION ACTION IS TO FORECLOSE A MORTGAGE TO SECURE THE SUM

OF \$487,500.00 AND INTEREST, RECORDED ON NOVEMBER 19, 2007, IN CRFN 2007000575450, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF QUEENS COUNTY, NEW YORK., COVERING PREMISES KNOWN AS 1407 CROSS BAY BOULEVARD, BROAD CHANNEL, NY 11693. THE RELIEF SOUGHT IN THE WITHIN ACTION IS A FINAL JUDGMENT DIRECTING THE SALE OF THE PREMISES DESCRIBED ABOVE TO SATISFY THE DEBT SECURED BY THE MORTGAGE DESCRIBED ABOVE. QUEENS COUNTY IS DESIGNATED AS THE PLACE OF TRIAL BECAUSE THE REAL PROPERTY AFFECTED BY THIS ACTION IS LOCATED IN SAID COUNTY. NOTICE YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME IF YOU DO NOT RESPOND TO THIS SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE MORTGAGE COMPANY WHO FILED THIS FORECLOSURE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT, A DEFAULT JUDGMENT MAY BE ENTERED AND YOU CAN LOSE YOUR HOME. SPEAK TO AN ATTORNEY OR GO TO THE COURT WHERE YOUR CASE IS PENDING FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON HOW TO ANSWER THE SUMMONS AND PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY. SENDING A PAYMENT TO THE MORTGAGE COMPANY WILL NOT STOP THE FORECLOSURE ACTION. YOU MUST RESPOND BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF (MORTGAGE COMPANY) AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT. DATED: APRIL 23RD, 2024 ROBERTSON, ANSCHUTZ, SCHNEID, CRANE & PARTNERS, PLLC ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF MATTHEW ROTHSTEIN, ESQ. 900 MERCHANTS CONCOURSE, SUITE 310 WESTBURY, NY 11590 516-280-7675 #217264

SUPPLEMENTAL SUMMONS

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK INDEX NO. 719775/2021 COUNTY OF QUEENS BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON TRUST COMPANY, N.A. AS TRUSTEE FOR MORTGAGE ASSETS MANAGEMENT SERIES I TRUST, PLAINTIFF, VS. CORY STORCH AS HEIR AT LAW, NEXT OF KIN, AND DISTRIBUTTEE OF THE ESTATE OF DORIS STORCH; DANA GRIFFIN AS EXECUTRIX, HEIR AND DISTRIBUTTEE OF THE ESTATE OF LINDA STORCH, AS HEIR AT LAW, NEXT OF KIN, AND DISTRIBUTTEE OF THE ESTATE OF DORIS STORCH; UNKNOWN HEIRS AND DISTRIBUTTEES OF THE ESTATE OF DORIS STORCH, ANY AND ALL PERSONS UNKNOWN TO PLAINTIFF, CLAIMING, OR WHO MAY CLAIM TO HAVE AN INTEREST IN, OR GENERAL OR SPECIFIC LIEN UPON THE REAL PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN THIS ACTION; SUCH UNKNOWN PERSONS BEING HEREIN GENERALLY DESCRIBED AND INTENDED TO BE INCLUDED IN THE FOLLOWING DESIGNATION, NAMELY: THE WIFE, WIDOW, HUSBAND, WIDOWER, HEIRS AT LAW, NEXT OF KIN, DESCENDANTS, EXECUTORS, ADMINISTRATORS, DEVISEES, LEGATEES, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES, COMMITTEES, LIENORS, AND ASSIGNEES OF SUCH DECEASED, ANY AND ALL PERSONS DERIVING INTEREST IN OR LIEN UPON, OR TITLE TO SAID REAL PROPERTY BY, THROUGH OR UNDER THEM, OR EITHER OF THEM, AND THEIR RESPECTIVE WIVES, WIDOWS, HUSBANDS, WIDOWERS, HEIRS AT LAW, NEXT OF KIN, DESCENDANTS, EXECUTORS, ADMINISTRATORS, DEVISEES, LEGATEES, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES, COMMITTEES, LIENORS AND ASSIGNS, ALL OF WHOM AND WHOSE NAMES, EXCEPT AS STATED, ARE UNKNOWN TO

PLAINTIFF; ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK; SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT; BOARD OF MANAGERS OF HERITAGE HOUSE; GENERAL APARTMENT CORPORATION CONDOMINIUM; CITY OF NEW YORK ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL BOARD; INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE-UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE-TAX COMPLIANCE DIVISION-C.O.-ATC, "JOHN DOE #1" THROUGH "JOHN DOE #25," THE DEFENDANTS LAST NAMED IN QUOTATION MARKS BEING INTENDED TO DESIGNATE TENANTS OR OCCUPANTS IN POSSESSION OF THE HEREIN DESCRIBED PREMISES OR PORTION THEREOF, IF THERE BE ANY, SAID NAMES BEING FICTITIOUS, THEIR TRUE NAME BEING UNKNOWN TO THE PLAINTIFF, DEFENDANTS. PLAINTIFF DESIGNATES QUEENS AS THE PLACE OF TRIAL SITUS OF THE REAL PROPERTY MORTGAGED PREMISES: 8429 153RD AVENUE, UNIT 6K, HOWARD BEACH, NY 11414 BLOCK: 11431, LOT: 2610 TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANTS YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED TO ANSWER THE COMPLAINT IN THE ABOVE ENTITLED ACTION AND TO SERVE A COPY OF YOUR ANSWER ON THE PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY WITHIN TWENTY (20) DAYS OF THE SERVICE OF THIS SUMMONS, EXCLUSIVE OF THE DAY OF SERVICE, OR WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS AFTER SERVICE OF THE SAME IS COMPLETE WHERE SERVICE IS MADE IN ANY MANNER OTHER THAN BY PERSONAL DELIVERY WITHIN THE STATE. THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, IF DESIGNATED AS A DEFENDANT IN THIS ACTION, MAY ANSWER OR APPEAR WITHIN SIXTY (60) DAYS OF SERVICE. YOUR FAILURE TO APPEAR OR TO ANSWER WILL RESULT IN A JUDGMENT AGAINST YOU BY DEFAULT FOR THE RELIEF DEMANDED IN THE COMPLAINT. IN THE EVENT THAT A DEFICIENCY BALANCE REMAINS FROM THE SALE PROCEEDS, A JUDGMENT MAY BE ENTERED AGAINST YOU. NOTICE OF NATURE OF ACTION

AND RELIEF SOUGHT THE OBJECT OF THE ABOVE CAPTION ACTION IS TO FORECLOSE A MORTGAGE TO SECURE THE SUM OF \$435,478.50 AND INTEREST, RECORDED ON FEBRUARY 17, 2005, IN INSTRUMENT NUMBER 2005000099210, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF QUEENS COUNTY, NEW YORK., COVERING PREMISES KNOWN AS 8429 153RD AVENUE, UNIT 6K, HOWARD BEACH, NY 11414. THE RELIEF SOUGHT IN THE WITHIN ACTION IS A FINAL JUDGMENT DIRECTING THE SALE OF THE PREMISES DESCRIBED ABOVE TO SATISFY THE DEBT SECURED BY THE MORTGAGE DESCRIBED ABOVE. QUEENS COUNTY IS DESIGNATED AS THE PLACE OF TRIAL BECAUSE THE REAL PROPERTY AFFECTED BY THIS ACTION IS LOCATED IN SAID COUNTY. NOTICE YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME IF YOU DO NOT RESPOND TO THIS SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE MORTGAGE COMPANY WHO FILED THIS FORECLOSURE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT, A DEFAULT JUDGMENT MAY BE ENTERED AND YOU CAN LOSE YOUR HOME. SPEAK TO AN ATTORNEY OR GO TO THE COURT WHERE YOUR CASE IS PENDING FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON HOW TO ANSWER THE SUMMONS AND PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY. SENDING A PAYMENT TO THE MORTGAGE COMPANY WILL NOT STOP THE FORECLOSURE ACTION. YOU MUST RESPOND BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF (MORTGAGE COMPANY) AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT. DATED: OCTOBER 18TH, 2023 ROBERTSON, ANSCHUTZ, SCHNEID, CRANE & PARTNERS, PLLC ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF MATTHEW ROTHSTEIN, ESQ. 900 MERCHANTS CONCOURSE, SUITE 310 WESTBURY, NY 11590 516-280-7675 #217516

2ND DEPARTMENT / New Business Formations

DEE CUSTOM HAIR LLC

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF DEE CUSTOM HAIR LLC. ARTS. OF ORG. FILED WITH SECY. OF STATE (SSNY) ON 4/5/24. OFFICE LOCATION: QUEENS COUNTY. SSNY DESIGNATED AS AGENT OF LLC UPON WHOM PROCESS AGAINST IT MAY BE SERVED. SSNY SHALL MAIL PROCESS TO: 104-14 110TH ST, RICHMOND HILL, NY 11419. PURPOSE: ANY LAWFUL ACTIVITY. #216711

NOSHIN LLC

NOSHIN LLC FILED WITH SSNY ON 4/15/2024. OFF. LOC.: QUEENS CO. SSNY DESIG. AS AGT. UPON WHOM PROCESS MAY BE SERVED. SSNY SHALL MAIL PROCESS TO: THE LLC, 115 57TH AVE, UNIT 5719, LIC, NY 11101. PURPOSE: ANY LAWFUL ACT OR ACTIVITY. #216883

233 STOCKHOLM REALTY, LLC

233 STOCKHOLM REALTY, LLC, ARTS OF ORG. FILED WITH SEC. OF STATE OF NY (SSNY) 4/11/2024. CTY: QUEENS. SSNY DESIG. AS AGENT UPON WHOM PROCESS AGAINST MAY BE SERVED & SHALL MAIL PROCESS TO JOSEPH MAUCERI, 85-16 67TH AVE, REGO PARK, NY 11374. GENERAL PURPOSE #216899

292 MADISON RF LLC

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF 292 MADISON RF LLC. ARTS. OF ORG. FILED WITH SECY. OF STATE (SSNY) ON 4/8/24. OFFICE LOCATION: QUEENS COUNTY. SSNY DESIGNATED AS AGENT OF LLC UPON WHOM PROCESS AGAINST IT MAY BE SERVED. SSNY SHALL MAIL PROCESS TO: 42-15 235TH ST, DOUGLASTON, NY 11363. PURPOSE: ANY LAWFUL ACTIVITY. #217061

LEFFERTS 57 LLC

LEFFERTS 57 LLC, ARTS OF ORG. FILED WITH SEC. OF STATE OF NY (SSNY) 3/19/2024. CTY: QUEENS. SSNY DESIG. AS AGENT UPON WHOM PROCESS AGAINST MAY BE SERVED & SHALL MAIL PROCESS TO GAMEEL SAEIDI, 80-57 LEFFERTS BLVD, KEW GARDENS, NY 11415. GENERAL PURPOSE #217347

LEFFERTS 59 LLC

LEFFERTS 59 LLC, ARTS OF ORG. FILED WITH SEC. OF STATE OF NY (SSNY) 3/19/2024. CTY: QUEENS. SSNY DESIG. AS AGENT UPON WHOM PROCESS AGAINST MAY BE SERVED & SHALL MAIL PROCESS TO GAMEEL SAEIDI, 80-59 LEFFERTS BLVD, KEW GARDENS, NY 11415. GENERAL PURPOSE #217350

TIENS, LLC

NOTICE OF QUALIFICATION OF TIENS, LLC. AUTHORITY FILED WITH SECY. OF STATE OF NY (SSNY) ON 1/19/24. OFFICE LOC: QUEENS COUNTY. LLC FORMED IN DE ON 1/10/24. SSNY DESIGNATED AGENT UPON WHOM PROCESS MAY BE SERVED & MAILED TO: 68-26 GROTON ST, FOREST HILLS, NY 11375. DE ADDRESS OF LLC: 108 W. 13TH ST, WILMINGTON, DE 19801. CERT. OF LLC FILED WITH SECY. OF STATE OF DE LOC: 401 FEDERAL ST., #4, DOVER, DE 19901. PURPOSE: ANY LAWFUL ACTIVITY. #217357

LEO CHAU LLC

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (LLC). NAME: LEO CHAU LLC. ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION FILED WITH SECRETARY OF STATE OF NEW YORK (SSNY) ON 04/30/2024. NY OFFICE LOCATION: QUEENS COUNTY. SSNY HAS BEEN DESIGNATED AS AGENT OF THE LLC UPON WHOM PROCESS AGAINST IT MAY BE SERVED. THE POST OFFICE ADDRESS TO WHICH THE SSNY SHALL MAIL A COPY OF ANY PROCESS AGAINST THE LLC SERVED UPON HIM/HER IS LEO CHAU LLC 13614 NORTHERN BLVD 5J, FLUSHING, NY, 11354. PURPOSE/CHARACTER OF LLC: ANY LAWFUL PURPOSE. #217506

LAUNDRYBEE NOSTRAND LLC

LAUNDRYBEE NOSTRAND LLC FILED 5/7/24. CTY: QUEENS. SSNY DESIG. FOR PROCESS & SHALL MAIL TO: 22111 KINGSBURY AVE, OAKLAND GARDENS, NY 11364. PURP: ANY LAWFUL. #217735

4N ASTORIA LLC

4N ASTORIA LLC ARTS. OF ORG. FILED WITH SSNY ON 11/17/2021. OFF. LOC.: QUEENS CO. SSNY DESIG. AS AGT. UPON WHOM PROCESS MAY BE SERVED. SSNY SHALL MAIL PROCESS TO: THE LLC, 77 DARTMOUTH ST, FOREST HILLS, NY 11375. GENERAL PURPOSES. #217739

10001 SIGNOTARY SERVICE LLC

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (LLC). NAME: SIGNOTARY SERVICE LLC. ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION FILED WITH SECRETARY OF STATE OF NEW YORK (SSNY) ON 5/11/2024. NY OFFICE LOCATION: QUEENS COUNTY. SSNY HAS BEEN DESIGNATED AS AGENT OF THE LLC UPON WHOM PROCESS AGAINST IT MAY BE SERVED. THE POST OFFICE ADDRESS TO WHICH THE SSNY SHALL MAIL A COPY OF ANY PROCESS AGAINST THE LLC SERVED UPON HIM/HER IS SIGNOTARY SERVICE LLC 224 W 35TH ST STE 500 # 827, NEW YORK, NY, 10001. PURPOSE/CHARACTER OF LLC: ANY LAWFUL PURPOSE. #217694

10457 ROSA PELIGROSA LLC

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (LLC). NAME: ROSA PELIGROSA LLC. ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION FILED WITH SECRETARY OF STATE OF NEW YORK (SSNY) ON 1/24/2024. NY OFFICE LOCATION: QUEENS COUNTY. SSNY HAS BEEN DESIGNATED AS AGENT OF THE LLC UPON WHOM PROCESS AGAINST IT MAY BE SERVED. THE POST OFFICE ADDRESS TO WHICH THE SSNY SHALL MAIL A COPY OF ANY PROCESS AGAINST THE LLC SERVED UPON HIM/HER IS BLANCA DIAZ, 1873 CARTER AVE, 15 BRONX, NY, 10457. PURPOSE/CHARACTER OF LLC: ANY LAWFUL PURPOSE. #217147

11105 EMERALD 2715 IV LLC

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (LLC). NAME: EMERALD 2715 IV LLC. ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION FILED WITH SECRETARY OF STATE OF NEW YORK (SSNY) ON 12/8/2023. NY OFFICE LOCATION: QUEENS COUNTY. SSNY HAS BEEN DESIGNATED AS AGENT OF THE LLC UPON WHOM PROCESS AGAINST IT MAY BE SERVED. THE POST OFFICE ADDRESS TO WHICH THE SSNY SHALL MAIL A COPY OF ANY PROCESS AGAINST THE LLC SERVED UPON HIM/HER IS THE LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY, 2320 27TH STREET, FL 1 ASTORIA, NY, 11105. PURPOSE/CHARACTER OF LLC: ANY LAWFUL PURPOSE. #217694

11355 SUMKAFEST LLC

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (LLC). NAME: SUMKAFEST LLC. ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION FILED WITH SECRETARY OF STATE OF NEW YORK (SSNY) ON 2/19/2024. NY OFFICE LOCATION: QUEENS COUNTY. SSNY HAS BEEN DESIGNATED AS AGENT OF THE LLC UPON WHOM PROCESS AGAINST IT MAY BE SERVED. THE POST OFFICE ADDRESS TO WHICH THE SSNY SHALL MAIL A COPY OF ANY PROCESS AGAINST THE LLC SERVED UPON HIM/HER IS SUMKAFEST LLC 41-25 KISSENA BLVD STE 109A, FLUSHING, NY, 11355. PURPOSE/CHARACTER OF LLC: ANY LAWFUL PURPOSE. #215238

11366 SYSTEM-ADDICT LLC

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (LLC). NAME: SYSTEM-ADDICT LLC. ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION FILED WITH SECRETARY OF STATE OF NEW YORK (SSNY) ON 5/8/2024. NY OFFICE LOCATION: QUEENS COUNTY. SSNY HAS BEEN DESIGNATED AS AGENT OF THE LLC UPON WHOM PROCESS AGAINST IT MAY BE SERVED. THE POST OFFICE ADDRESS TO WHICH THE SSNY SHALL MAIL A COPY OF ANY PROCESS AGAINST THE LLC SERVED UPON HIM/HER IS RUBIN YAGUDAYEV, 180-02 UNION TPKE FRESH MEADOWS, NY, 11366. PURPOSE/CHARACTER OF LLC: ANY LAWFUL PURPOSE. #217734

11367 SMARTSELLHEALTHSHOP, LLC

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (LLC). NAME: SMARTSELLHEALTHSHOP, LLC. ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION FILED WITH SECRETARY OF STATE OF NEW YORK (SSNY) ON 4/11/2024. NY OFFICE LOCATION: QUEENS COUNTY. SSNY HAS BEEN DESIGNATED AS AGENT OF THE LLC UPON WHOM PROCESS AGAINST IT MAY BE SERVED. THE POST OFFICE ADDRESS TO WHICH THE SSNY SHALL MAIL A COPY OF ANY PROCESS AGAINST THE LLC SERVED UPON HIM/HER IS CHRISTINA GUTIERREZ 6935 150TH STREET, FLUSHING, NY, 11367. PURPOSE/CHARACTER OF LLC: ANY LAWFUL PURPOSE. #217148

11372 CUSTOM FORMS SOLUTIONS, LLC

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (LLC). NAME: CUSTOM FORMS SOLUTIONS, LLC. ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION FILED WITH SECRETARY OF STATE OF NEW YORK (SSNY) ON 7/15/2023. NY OFFICE LOCATION: QUEENS COUNTY. SSNY HAS BEEN DESIGNATED AS AGENT OF THE LLC UPON WHOM PROCESS AGAINST IT MAY BE SERVED. THE POST OFFICE ADDRESS TO WHICH THE SSNY SHALL MAIL A COPY OF ANY PROCESS AGAINST THE LLC SERVED UPON HIM/HER IS CUSTOM FORMS SOLUTIONS, LLC 8211 37TH AVENUE, SUITE LL10 JACKSON HEIGHTS, NY, 11372. PURPOSE/CHARACTER OF LLC: ANY LAWFUL PURPOSE. #217522

11378 AMEYERS INTERNATIONAL LLC

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (LLC). NAME: AMEYERS INTERNATIONAL LLC. ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION FILED WITH SECRETARY OF STATE OF NEW YORK (SSNY) ON 4/1/2024. NY OFFICE LOCATION: QUEENS COUNTY. SSNY HAS BEEN DESIGNATED AS AGENT OF THE LLC UPON WHOM PROCESS AGAINST IT MAY BE SERVED. THE POST OFFICE ADDRESS TO WHICH THE SSNY SHALL MAIL A COPY OF ANY PROCESS AGAINST THE LLC SERVED UPON HIM/HER IS THE LLC 60-35 FRESH POND ROAD, APT 1A MASPETH, NY, 11378. PURPOSE/CHARACTER OF LLC: ANY LAWFUL PURPOSE. #217354



Our World In Pictures

Trump supporters wave flags outside Manhattan criminal court, Thursday, May 16, 2024, in New York. Former President Donald Trump is accused of falsifying business records to cover up a sex scandal during the 2016 presidential campaign. AP Photo/Andres Kudacki

Former President Donald Trump closes his eyes, during his trial at Manhattan criminal court Thursday, May 16, 2024, in New York. Mike Segar/Pool Photo via AP



2ND DEPARTMENT / New Business Formations

11385 GRACE LAUNDROMAT LLC

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (LLC). NAME: GRACE LAUNDROMAT LLC. ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION FILED WITH SECRETARY OF STATE OF NEW YORK (SSNY) ON 4/5/2024. NY OFFICE LOCATION: QUEENS COUNTY. SSNY HAS BEEN DESIGNATED AS AGENT OF THE LLC UPON WHOM PROCESS AGAINST IT MAY BE SERVED. THE POST OFFICE ADDRESS TO WHICH THE SSNY SHALL MAIL A COPY OF ANY PROCESS AGAINST THE LLC SERVED UPON HIM/HER IS GRACE LAUNDROMAT LLC 754 SENECA AVE, RIDGEWOOD, NY, 11385. PURPOSE/CHARACTER OF LLC: ANY LAWFUL PURPOSE.

#217322

4P STRATEGIES LLC

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (LLC). NAME: 4P STRATEGIES LLC. ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION FILED WITH SECRETARY OF STATE OF NEW YORK (SSNY) ON 3/22/2024. NY OFFICE LOCATION: QUEENS COUNTY. SSNY HAS BEEN DESIGNATED AS AGENT OF THE LLC UPON WHOM PROCESS AGAINST IT MAY BE SERVED. THE POST OFFICE ADDRESS TO WHICH THE SSNY SHALL MAIL A COPY OF ANY PROCESS AGAINST THE LLC SERVED UPON HIM/HER IS ALINA PANAS 307 ONDERDONK AVENUE, RIDGEWOOD, NY, 11385. PURPOSE/CHARACTER OF LLC: ANY LAWFUL PURPOSE.

#217687

11411 D'THREE PRODUCTIONS LLC

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (LLC). NAME: D'THREE PRODUCTIONS LLC. ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION FILED WITH SECRETARY OF STATE OF NEW YORK (SSNY) ON 6/5/2023. NY OFFICE LOCATION: QUEENS COUNTY. SSNY HAS BEEN DESIGNATED AS AGENT OF THE LLC UPON WHOM PROCESS AGAINST IT MAY BE SERVED. THE POST OFFICE ADDRESS TO WHICH THE SSNY SHALL MAIL A COPY OF ANY PROCESS AGAINST THE LLC SERVED UPON HIM/HER IS THE LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY, 11827 233RD STREET CAMBRIA HEIGHTS, NY, 11411. PURPOSE/CHARACTER OF LLC: ANY LAWFUL PURPOSE.

#216176

11415 GEORGE CHASE MEDICAL PHYSICIAN PLLC

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF PROFESSIONAL LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (PLLC). NAME: GEORGE CHASE MEDICAL PHYSICIAN PLLC. ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION FILED WITH SECRETARY OF STATE OF NEW YORK (SSNY) ON 2/28/2024. NY OFFICE LOCATION: QUEENS COUNTY. SSNY HAS BEEN DESIGNATED AS AGENT OF THE PLLC UPON WHOM PROCESS AGAINST IT MAY BE SERVED. THE POST OFFICE ADDRESS TO WHICH THE SSNY SHALL MAIL A COPY OF ANY PROCESS AGAINST THE PLLC SERVED UPON HIM/HER IS 119-60 METROPOLITAN AVENUE KEW GARDENS, NY, 11415. PURPOSE/CHARACTER OF PLLC: FOR THE PRACTICE OF MEDICINE.

#217700

11420 SJ PROPERTY BUILDERS LLC

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (LLC). NAME: SJ PROPERTY BUILDERS LLC. ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION FILED WITH SECRETARY OF STATE OF NEW YORK (SSNY) ON 3/19/2024. NY OFFICE LOCATION: QUEENS COUNTY. SSNY HAS BEEN DESIGNATED AS AGENT OF THE LLC UPON WHOM PROCESS AGAINST IT MAY BE SERVED. THE POST OFFICE ADDRESS TO WHICH THE SSNY SHALL MAIL A COPY OF ANY PROCESS AGAINST THE LLC SERVED UPON HIM/HER IS SJ PROPERTY BUILDERS LLC 135-14 127 STREET, SOUTH OZONE PARK, NY, 11420. PURPOSE/CHARACTER OF LLC: ANY LAWFUL PURPOSE.

#216886

30114 DROGBA STUDIO LLC

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (LLC). NAME: DROGBA STUDIO LLC. ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION FILED WITH SECRETARY OF STATE OF NEW YORK (SSNY) ON 2/28/2024. NY OFFICE LOCATION: QUEENS COUNTY. SSNY HAS BEEN DESIGNATED AS AGENT OF THE LLC UPON WHOM PROCESS AGAINST IT MAY BE SERVED. THE POST OFFICE ADDRESS TO WHICH THE SSNY SHALL MAIL A COPY OF ANY PROCESS AGAINST THE LLC SERVED UPON HIM/HER IS THE LEGACY ADVISORY FIRM LLC, 225 REFORMATION PARKWAY, SUITE 200 #9 CANTON, GA, 30114. PURPOSE/CHARACTER OF LLC: ANY LAWFUL PURPOSE.

#216860

IT'S IN QUEENS

Queens goes festival crazy this week with large events celebrating children, spring, art unveilings, new public venues, and German maibowle punch. Those who prefer the indoors can hit play premieres, boxing matches, classical music, and celebrations of the borough's foodie scene.

STEM Career Expo May 17, 5:30 p.m.

A free evening to explore opportunities in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) with colleges, professionals, nonprofits, and companies.

New York Hall of Science, 47-01 111th St., Corona

Death At The Disco May 17 and May 19.

It's a Saturday night in 1974, and everyone is grooving at the hottest disco in Queens before a young woman drops dead on the dance floor. Don't worry, detective Thalia La Croix is on it. Baccalaureate School for Global Education students Zoë Louise Nadal and Isabella Hill premiere this family-friendly whodunnit on May 17, 18, and 19 at 6 pm with a 3 pm matinee on May 18.

The Secret Theatre, 38-02 61st St., Woodside

Nibal Malshi Quartet May 17, 6 p.m.

Arab performer Nibal Malshi shares the stage with other renowned musicians.

Flushing Town Hall, 137-35 Northern Blvd

Alex Romania: Face Eaters May 17

The premiere of an autobiographical dance by Alex Romania that mines feelings of apocalyptic grief in the wake of the loss of a brother and collaborator, reflecting on states of depression, sickness, political and environmental insanity. All shows are at 7 pm on May 17, 18, 21, 22, 24, and 25.

The Chocolate Factory Theater, 38-33 24th St., Long Island City

Open House May 18, noon

Eight hours of music, performances, and talks with artists and curators to celebrate the unveiling of Reynaldo Rivera: *Fistful of Love/También la belleza*, Yto Barrada: *Le Grand Soir*, Hard Ground, and Little Manila Queens: *Mabuhay!*. Free Filipino cuisine, a gallery conversation with Jerry the Marble Faun, and Michele Rizzo: *HIGHER* xtn.

MoMA PSI, 22-25 Jackson Ave., Long Island City

LIC Springs! Street Festival May 18, noon

Six blocks with more than 130 experiences, in-

cluding music, performances, open studios, interactive lessons, art, fitness classes, outdoor dining, pop-up activities, and games.

Vernon Boulevard from 46th Avenue to 50th Avenue, Long Island City

Doktor Kaboom: Look Out! Science is Coming! May 18, 3 p.m.

Doktor Kaboom is an over-the-top German physicist with a passion for science. Sporting chrome goggles, an orange lab coat, motorcycle boots, and wicked cool hair, he travels the world, thrilling audiences.

Queens College's Colden Auditorium, 153-49 Reeves Ave., Flushing

Open Worlds Kick Off May 18, 4 p.m.

A ribbon-cutting ceremony and launch party with music from DJ Stretch Armstrong, a VR demo, food, drinks, and Joshua Davis's renowned sound-responsive video installation. Opens Worlds is an accessible, 15,500-square-foot, climate-controlled, WiFi-enabled community resource.

Museum of the Moving Image, 36-01 35th Ave., Astoria's Kaufman Arts District

Michele Rizzo: HIGHER xtn May 18 and May 19.

The U.S. museum premiere of a performance by artist and choreographer Michele Rizzo featuring eight dancers whose minimal gestures coalesce into a unified flow.

MoMA PSI, 22-25 Jackson Ave., Long Island City

83rd Annual Spring Concert May 18, 8 p.m.

The Queens College Choral Society sings Mozart's "Requiem" with a full orchestra, soloists, and choir.

LeFrak Concert Hall, 153-49 Reeves Ave., Flushing

Spring Community Celebration May 18, 11 a.m.

Explore spring-inspired science activities, science demos, Mariachis, Cumbia, and cultural performances.

New York Hall of Science, 47-01 111th St., Corona

ACMP Chamber Music Play In May 18, 4 p.m.

Violapalooza with featured artist Eric Horn.

Maple Grove Cemetery, 127-15 Kew Gardens Rd.

Ink Rhythms: An Ink Rubbing Adventure May 18, 3 p.m.

Displaying artist Cui Fei leads a workshop on the



The Chocolate Factory Theater in Long Island City presents Alex Romania's "Face Eaters" this weekend.

Photo via QEDC

basic techniques of ink rubbing on delicate rice paper.

The Garage Art Center, 26-01 Corporal Kennedy St., Bayside

Fury vs. Usyk May 18, 6 p.m.

Watch the fight between WBC titleholder Tyson Fury and Ring champion Oleksandr Usyk.

Resorts World New York City's Bar 360, 110-00 Rockaway Blvd., Ozone Park

Queens International Children's Festival 2024 May 18, noon

Six hours of free entertainment and activities, including live music, dance, games, art, crafts, and more.

Jamaica Performing Arts Center, 153-10 Jamaica Ave.

Douglaston Music + Arts Festival May 18, noon

Four hours of fun with the Douglaston Local Development Corporation.

Douglaston Village Plaza, 235th Street and 41st Avenue

Hands-on History: Moving Images May 18, 1 p.m.

Make a thaumatrope during this workshop. Invented by English physician J.A. Paris in 1826, the thaumatrope creates a moving image when twirled. By drawing an image on the front and back of a piece of paper, one can make a moving image when twirled. This popular 19th century toy was an early introduction to film.

King Manor Museum, 150-03 Jamaica Ave.

Spring Concert: Fauré to Broadway May 19, 4 p.m.

Artistic Director and Conductor Jin Byun leads the Oratorio Society of Queens through Gabriel Fauré's "Requiem" and "Cantique de Jean Racine." The second half is dedicated to pieces written or popularized by artists with Queens ties, including Aaron Copland, Louis Armstrong, and Rodgers & Hammerstein.

Queensborough Performing Arts Center, 222-05 56th Ave., Bayside

Opening of Spring Exhibitions May 19, 1 p.m.

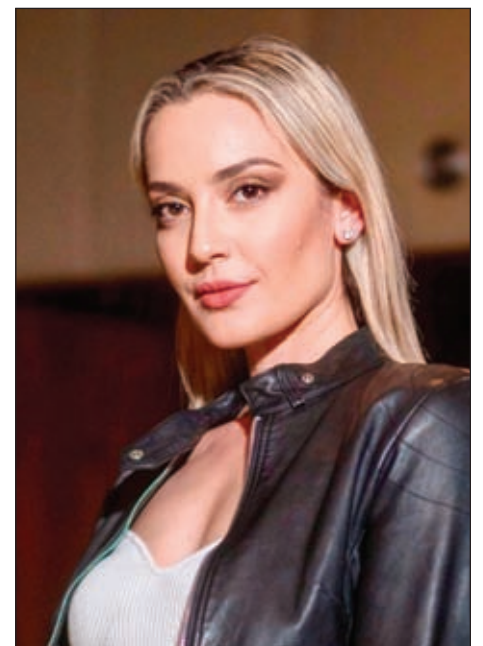
Artist-led walkthroughs, drop-in family art, workshops, reception. Shows are Lyle Ashton Harris: *Our first and last love*; Cameron A. Granger: *9999*; Nsenga Knight: *Close to Home*; Catalina Schliebener Muñoz: *Buenos Vecinos*; and Cas Holman: *Prototyping Play*.

Queens Museum, NYC Building, Flushing Meadows Corona Park

Serenity in Sound May 19, 3 p.m.

Guzheng artist Wei Sun and pianist Katelyn Weng perform. The guzheng is a Chinese multi-stringed instrument with 2,500 years of history.

Bayside Historical Society, The Castle, 208 Totten Ave., Fort Totten



Arab performer Nibal Malshi shares the stage with other renowned musicians at Flushing Town Hall.

Photo via QEDC

Harp Performance and Lawn Tea May 19, 1:30 p.m.

Jorge Espinosa's show highlights four folkloric traditions of Latin American harp music. Tea sandwiches and German maibowle punch.

Voelker Orth Museum, 149-19 38th Ave., Flushing

The Forest Fairy May 19, 3 p.m.

Three downtrodden commuters are magically transported to an urban forest by a self-centered fairy in this play by Mike Rendino.

Maple Grove Cemetery, 127-15 Kew Gardens Rd.

E-Waste Collection Event May 19, 10 a.m.

Drop off unwanted or broken gadgets, such as computers, TVs, VCRs, DVRs, DVDs, Blu-ray players, cell phones, pagers, and PDAs. At the end of the day, the Lower East Side Ecology Center collects and disposes everything in a way that keeps it out of the waste stream.

Queens Botanical Garden's parking lot, 42-80 Croomelin St., Flushing

Queens Taste 2024 May 21, 6 p.m.

More than 50 restaurants, beverage purveyors, and dessert makers offer samples of their products to about 500 attendees.

New York Hall of Science, 47-01 111th St., Flushing Meadows Corona Park

Kashana Cauley, The Survivalists May 23, 6 p.m.

Cauley is a television writer, a former contributor to *The New York Times*, and a former antitrust lawyer. She discusses her debut novel online with the Queens Public Library.



The New York Hall of Science will host its Spring Community Celebration this weekend.

Photo via QEDC

City criticized for proposed \$4 billion contract to build Queens jail

Continued from page 1
by that time.

"This contract is incredibly important to the closure of Rikers and because of that, this project needs to be moved with all possible urgency," Sarita Daftary, the co-director of Freedom Agenda, said during the hearing. "The completion timeline... is unacceptable when Rikers Island is legally required to close by Aug. 31, 2027."

"I urge the administration to address these questions and ensure that this contract is actually moving in the fastest possible way," she added.

Much about the construction and design of the borough-based jails has changed since Adams, who has never voiced full-throated support for the Rikers closure plan, took office.

Originally, the four borough-based jails in Manhattan, Brooklyn, the Bronx and Queens were supposed to together hold 3,300 detainees at maximum capacity.

However, the Adams administration upped the jails' combined maximum capacity to 4,400 beds in recent months.

The Queens jail, which will be built behind Borough Hall and the Queens Criminal Courthouse was originally planned to be built with 886 beds. It now is expected to hold 1,150 beds.

And while the number of beds in each facility has increased, so have the construction timelines — just not proportionately.

The city originally said that the 886-bed Queens jail proposal would have taken a little more than four years to complete, or around 1.6 days per bed. And even at that pace, the jail wouldn't have been completed in time for Rikers closure.

However, under the new 1,150-bed proposal, construction is expected to take over seven years to complete, for a pace of around 2.3 days per bed.

Part of the reason the overall timeline increased was because the design phase of the jail increased — the city claims it will take three years for the design to be completed, despite



Though the city is legally required to close Rikers Island by 2027, none of the four replacement jails, including the one planned for Kew Gardens, is expected to be completed by then. Eagle file photo by Jacob Kaye

the design of the Brooklyn borough-based jail, which is currently underway, taking around a third of the time to be completed.

City Hall did not respond to the Eagle's request for comment on why the timeline has been increased disproportionately to the number of new beds. The mayor's office also did not respond to questions regarding the specific reasons behind the construction delays or questions about the detailed breakdown of the cost of the project.

Adams has said multiple times in recent years that he believes the plan to shutter Rikers and replace it with the borough-based jails is unfeasible.

He's mainly blamed the size of the city's detainee population, which has increased nearly every month he's been in office.

When Adams took office in January 2022, Rikers' population was around 5,200. It was the fourth consecutive month the population had declined after the city had seen month after month of increases dating back to the start of the pandemic.

However, the jail's population was around 6,300 people as of April 2024, the most recent month for which data is available.

Despite his insistence that the city can't meet the requirements, including a lower jail population, to meet the needs of the current plan to close Rikers, advocates and lawmakers in the City Council have accused the mayor of taking few concrete actions to lower the population and work toward the jail's closure.

"There is a realistic plan for reducing the

jail population to meet the target of fewer than 3,300 individuals incarcerated in city jails, and a critical component is prioritizing decarceration of people with mental health concerns and expanding supportive housing and community mental health supports," Jennifer Parish, the director of Criminal Justice Advocacy at Urban Justice Center Mental Health Project, said in a statement earlier this month when the Queens jail contract was first announced.

"Mayor Adams is failing in his responsibility to advance the plan to close Rikers," she added. "Since taking office, he has proposed defunding [alternative to incarceration] and preventative programs — effective interventions for reducing incarceration, expanded the capacity of the borough-based jails by reducing space dedicated for specialized mental health units, and agreed to contracts that will result in people being incarcerated at Rikers Island long after the closure deadline."

In an effort to potentially craft a new plan to map out Rikers closure, Adams and the City Council together reformed the Independent Rikers Commission, which was first created to craft the original plan to shutter the dangerous jail around half a decade ago.

But on Thursday, the commission's leader was one of the voices speaking out against the proposed contract.

"Every day, every month the decrepit, isolated jails on Rikers are open, they undermine safety, justice and racial equity," said Zachary Katznelson, the executive director of the Independent Rikers Commission.

Katznelson raised a number of questions about the proposed construction timeline and the jail's cost, and urged the city to bring in a team of experts to examine both the proposed timeline and "see where we can reasonably save time and money."

"There is a fierce urgency to close Rikers and get these jails built as quickly as possible," Katznelson said.

Mayor appoints four judges to Criminal Court bench

By Jacob Kaye
Queens Daily Eagle

Mayor Eric Adams last month appointed four judges to the city's Criminal Court, including several with strong Queens ties, Adams' office announced last week.

The mayor placed four judges on the Criminal Court bench in April, including Christopher Whitehair, Daneil Lewis, Edward Daniels and Michelle Webber.

"Public safety and justice are the prerequisites to prosperity, and these judges have the experience and integrity required to ensure that the criminal justice system continues to work for the betterment of all New Yorkers," Adams said in a statement. "These individuals have shown to be among the best and the brightest minds in their field and I look forward to their continued service to this city."

Among the new appointments, Whitehair and Lewis have spent at least a portion of their respective legal careers in the World's Borough.

After graduating from Brooklyn Law School around two decades ago, Whitehair headed over to work for Staten Island Legal Defense Services. However, not long after, he left to join Queens Defenders, where he worked for 15 years.

At the time of his appointment to the Crimi-

nal Court bench, Whitehair was working as a supervising attorney at the Queens public defense firm, while also leading its recruitment and hiring.

Lewis most recently was serving as the unit chief of the Crimes Against Revenue Unit of the Fraud Bureau in the Queens district attorney's office.

Lewis began his career working at a private firm. At the same time, he worked as an operational law attorney for the National Guard and Army Reserve.

He later went on to start a job as an assistant district attorney in the Richmond County DA's office, working in the Domestic Violence Bureau, the Narcotics-Investigations Bureau and the Economic Crimes Bureau.

Prior to joining the Queens DA's office, Lewis served as the lead attorney at the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance's Criminal Investigations Division.

Adams also appointed Daniels, who most recently was working as a staff attorney at Brooklyn Defender Services, to the bench in April.

Daniels began his legal career at a private law firm in Washington, D.C. He eventually started a solo practice in New York before joining another firm, where he worked on criminal



Mayor Eric Adams recently appointed four judges to the city's Criminal Court bench. File photo by Benny Polatseck/Mayoral Photography Office

and civil matters at both trial and appeals court.

Webber began her legal career at the Brooklyn DA's office, working as a misdemeanor line assistant in the Red Trial Zone, which covers parts of southern and eastern Brooklyn.

Weber then went on to serve as a grand jury

assistant and senior ADA in the DA's office. She eventually became the bureau chief of the Domestic Violence Bureau.

At the time of her appointment, she was serving as the unit chief of the Elder Abuse Unit.