

## QUEENS TODAY MAY 20, 2024

STATE LEGISLATORS FROM QUEENS are calling on the MTA to immediately expand express bus service in Queens in order to attract more riders to public transit before congestion pricing takes effect. Legislators expressed disappointment that the MTA excluded Queens from recent enhancements to express bus routes from Brooklyn and Staten Island to Manhattan. As the countdown to congestion pricing continues, the elected officials argue that it is unacceptable to exclude Queens from express bus improvements while simultaneously proposing service reductions for nearly every Queens express bus line as part of the ongoing Queens Bus Redesign. "With most of my neighbors in Western Queens relying on public transportation, expanded express bus services will improve the quality of life and increase street safety," said Assemblymember Jessica González-Rojas. "Further, as we are gearing up for congestion pricing to start, it's important the rest of New York City's infrastructure support this critical improvement."

AN OZONE PARK HIGH SCHOOL Assistant principal was charged for inappropriately touching a 15-year-old student and showing her an X-rated video while telling her "this will have to happen" in order for her to pass a class, the Daily News reported. The administrator, 51-year-old Michael Budhu, who worked at John Adams High School, was arrested on Wednesday for sex abuse and acting in a manner injurious to a child. Budhu was conditionally released after pleading not guilty at Queens Criminal Court on Queens Boulevard on Thursday. He is due back in court in July, the News reported.

ASTORIA'S SOCRATES SCULPTURE Park has been approved by the National Endowment for the Arts for a Grants for Arts Projects award of \$40,000. The grant will support Socrates Sculpture Park's 2024 Annual Fellowship, which has recently expanded alongside the amount of new works produced on-site by the Artist Fellows. In total, the NEA will award 1,135 Grants for Arts Projects, totaling more than \$37 million as part of its second round of fiscal year 2024 grants. "We are thrilled to expand our fellowship program this year and increase access to Socrates' platform for artists working in public with our local community," said Katie Dixon, the executive director of Socrates Sculpture Park.

A PERSON WAS STRUCK BY A QUEENS 7 train on Friday afternoon, causing major delays to the line, PIX 11 reports. The individual, who was taken to Elmhurst Hospital, was struck at the 69th Street station in Woodside at around 11:51 a.m. Their condition is unknown at the time of this paper's publication.



## Jail programming suffers a year after DOC cut nonprofit contract

Department of Correction leadership, including DOC Commissioner Lynelle Maginley-Liddie, gave testimony at a City Council budget hearing on Friday, May 17, 2024.

Photo by Gerardo Romo / NYC Council Media Unit

By Jacob Kaye  
Queens Daily Eagle

The city's Department of Correction has continued to struggle to provide re-entry services, educational programs, life skills training and other programs to detainees on Rikers Island a year after the agency cut a contract with half a dozen nonprofits and opted to provide the programming themselves.

Agency leadership said during a City Council budget hearing on Friday that the DOC is currently not providing the minimum hours of required programming for detainees on Rikers Island.

The revelation of the agency's continued programming struggles comes almost a year

after it cut a \$17 million contract with five nonprofit organizations that had previously been running various social services programs in the notoriously dangerous jail complex.

After making the austerity measure last year, the DOC said it would be able to provide the programming itself. However, a year later, that promise remains unfulfilled.

When asked point blank by City Councilmember Sandy Nurse, who chairs the Committee on Criminal Justice, if the DOC was providing five hours of programming to detainees held in all facilities on Rikers Island as required by the Board of Correction's minimum standards, DOC leadership didn't mince words.

"No," said DOC First Deputy Commission-

er Francis Torres, who served as the deputy commissioner of the DOC's Division of Programs and Community Partnerships when the nonprofit contracts were cut last year.

Though Torres in her previous role working under former DOC Commissioner Louis Molina last year told the Council that the agency would be able to fill the shoes of the nonprofit providers once they had left, she admitted on Friday that that hadn't been the case.

"We've had challenges," Torres said. "I'm not going to tell you our programming has not been impacted, it has been impacted."

The DOC first cut the \$17 million contract with The Fortune Society, The Osborne Associ-

Continued on page 16



## Advocates rally for restoration of Queens library funding

Library advocates in Queens called for the city to restore funding for the Queens Public Library on Thursday.

Photo via Borough President Donovan Richards/Facebook

By Ryan Schwach  
Queens Daily Eagle

Queens officials and library advocates rallied in Forest Hills last week to call for the full restoration of funding for the Queens Public Library after the mayor in his most recent budget proposal made a number of cuts to the city's libraries.

Under Mayor Eric Adams' proposed budget, the city's public library systems would face \$58.3 million worth of cuts, which the systems say would severely limit resources and services.

In a recent email to members, QPL said the cuts would lead to Queens libraries eliminating weekend service entirely, and would reduce spending on books, technology and programming.

Under the proposed budget, which is currently under negotiation between the mayor and the City Council, Queens' libraries would see a \$17 million cut, or a full 12 percent of QPL's operating budget, according to Queens Borough President Donovan Richards.

"We shouldn't have to be defending something as integral to our libraries from budget

See story on page 2



# Queens officials call for restoration of library budget

Continued from page 1

cuts,” Richards said on Thursday. “Our libraries are the heart and soul of our community. They are where people of all ages, and all walks of life come to read to learn, to connect and, of course, to grow.”

“I can’t stress the importance of having each institution open seven days a week on our city streets,” Richards added.

CEO of the QPL and Southeast Queens native Dennis Walcott stressed that cuts to the libraries would massively affect the services and programs the library provides.

“These are not made up stories that we’re talking about,” he said. “These are real things because we have a responsibility to manage our budget, and if there are fewer dollars in our budget, that means there are fewer services going to the public. That means there are fewer books that are being afforded by the library. That means we’re not laying off people, but hiring has slowed down because we can’t fill those positions.”

Walcott said it could be the end of the six-day service for nearly all of Queens’ library branches, and that the cuts could even delay the reopening of libraries at Broadway, Bay Terrace and Hillcrest, which are all currently under renovation.

“That’s going to be impossible if we don’t have, not just the money restored, but you have the money baseline and are quite frankly adding more money on top of that because we’re always running,” said Walcott.

Cuts to the libraries, advocates say, would greatly hurt members of the community to rely on its resources.

Wanda Best, from the Friends of the Cambria Heights Library, said the libraries are often a sanctuary for members of the community, particularly for women. Richards made a similar point, saying that libraries can be a source of respite and a safe space for kids and teens to



Queens Borough Donavan Richards stressed that libraries are an important part of local communities, and called for the restoration of the Queens Public Library’s funding in the city budget during a rally on Thursday. Photo via Borough President Donovan Richards/Facebook

escape crime and other negative circumstances.

“We must continue to encourage our communities to strive for better and dream big, and our libraries are where they can start to do just that,” Richards said. “We hope the city will do right by libraries and restore the funding.”

The most recent cuts are nothing new to the borough’s library system. Libraries have been routinely on the chopping block dating back to the early 2010s when the libraries experienced the harshest cuts they had seen in decades.

“It’s so disappointing that we have to be here

every year,” said John Hyslop, the president of the Queens Library Guild. “It’s very important that we, all of us, tell our mayor that he needs to support us.”

Cuts in recent years have led to the slashing of library staffing. Since the month before the pandemic began in the spring of 2020, the union has lost 100 members.

“That’s a loss of 100 librarians, clerks, custodians, drivers, IT workers, HR, people in finance,” Hyslop said. “Unfortunately for us, the mayor expects the same number of hours open

that we had before the pandemic that has put a lot of stress and strain on our library systems.”

At the Forest Hills Library, there is only one custodian for the entire library because they can’t afford to hire more, Hyslop added.

Although the budget is still being negotiated, the Queens advocates have the City Council in their corner, since the Council called for the full restoration of the \$58 million in their budget response last month.

“Libraries have an essential presence in every neighborhood of New York, providing indispensable services in a safe and reliable space for youth, seniors, immigrants and other New Yorkers,” the council said in its budget response. “Along with the increased cost of programming and circulations, the systems have also experienced a rise in the cost of materials, staff, and operating expenses. These additional funds are needed to help maintain our city’s libraries.”

## This week’s cases of interest in Queens Criminal Court

### CASES OF INTEREST - MONDAY, MAY 20, 2024

Tamir Khan – TAP D/ Justice Aloise/ Aggravated Vehicular Homicide (ADA McCabe) Conference. Charged in fatal crash in Richmond Hill. Yomar Gonzalez – TAP B/ Justice Pandit-Durant/ Murder 2° (ADA Aloise) Conference. Indicted for beating elderly neighbor to death with metal bar. Jovan Young – TAP D/ Justice Aloise/ Murder 2° (ADA Selkove) Conference. Charged in shooting death of 10-year-old boy in Far Rockaway. Joseph Barahona – TAP C/ Justice Holder/ Murder 2° (ADA J. Esposito) Conference. Indicted in death of man shot through wall during botched drug heist.

### CASES OF INTEREST - TUESDAY, MAY 21, 2024

Jamie Burke – W50/ Justice Kirschner/ Grand Larceny 3° (ADA Diaz) Sentencing. Pleaded guilty to bilking PPP Covid relief and SBA disaster loan. James McGonagale – TAP B/ Justice Pandit-Durant/ Attempted Kidnapping

2° (ADA Richards) Conference. Charged with grabbing child from sidewalk as he strolled with family in Queens neighborhood. Neal Milano – K7/ Justice Cheng/ Criminal Mischief 3° (ADA Acevedo-Hernandez) Conference. Charged with hate crime for defacing apartment building with slurs and threats. Jerson Vasquez – K11/ Justice Johnson/ Attempted Murder 2° (ADA Cheema) Conference. Charged with attempted murder and rape in rooftop attack. Davi Vidal – TAP B/ Justice Pandit-Durant/ Murder 2° (ADA Aloise) Conference. Charged in death of landlady. Keith Harvey – TAP A/ Justice Cimino/ Criminal Possession of a Weapon 2° (ADA Brovner) Conference. Charged with possessing arsenal of assault rifles in residence. Joseph Woods – TAP D/ Justice Aloise/ Murder 2° (ADA Amodeo) Conference. Indicted for shooting death of man in south Jamaica. Shahab Usman – TAP B/ Justice Pandit-Durant/ Predatory Sexual Assault (ADA Malfi) Conference. Charged in with robbery and rape in crime spree targeting spas. Alexander Stephens – TAP C/ Justice Holder/

Murder 2° (ADA Zawistowski) Conference. Indicted for stabbing death in Queens.

### CASES OF INTEREST - WEDNESDAY, MAY 22, 2024

Tanika Sauls – TAP B/ Justice Pandit-Durant/ Manslaughter 1° (ADA Charles) Sentencing. Convicted of stabbing death outside of shelter. Christopher Lall – K21/ Justice Gopee/ Criminal Possession of a Weapon 2° (ADA Bello) Sentencing. Charged with possessing arsenal of illegal weapons. Jerry Lewis – TAP C/ Justice Holder/ Murder 2° (ADA Ross) Conference. Indicted in strangulation death of 15-year-old girl in 1992. Kenny Panama – TAP C/ Justice Holder/ Murder 2° (ADA J. Esposito) Conference. Charged with causing death of Queens man who tried to stop him from breaking into his vehicle. Rodolfo Lopez-Portillo – TAP C/ Justice Holder/ Murder 2° (ADA J. Esposito) Conference. Charged with murder of pawn shop owner. Adrian Escobar Jonathan Suarez – K22/ Justice Margulis/ Criminal Poss. of Controlled Substance 2° (ADA Linehan) Conference. Million-dollar drug and gun-trafficking ring take down. Carlos Garcia – TAP A/ Justice Cimino/ Manslaughter 2° (ADA Mullins) Conference. Indicted for shoving man onto subway tracks causing his death. Jereld Bethea – TAP D/ Justice Aloise/ Murder 2° (ADA Shortt) Conference. Indicted in stray bullet shooting death of NYCHA worker.

### CASES OF INTEREST - THURSDAY, MAY 23, 2024

Cleveland Sterling – K10/ Justice Vallone / Sex Trafficking (ADA Arshakyan) Conference. Indicted on sex trafficking charges. Austin Amos – TAP B/ Justice Pandit-Durant/ Manslaughter 1° (ADA Reilly) Conference. Charged in deadly attack on taxi driver while evading fare. Kevin Sygney – TAP A/ Justice Cimino/ Crim. Poss. of a Control Substance 2° (ADA McCabe) Conference. Charged after search of home turns up drugs and weapon arsenal.

### CASES OF INTEREST - FRIDAY, MAY 24, 2024 NO CASES OF INTEREST

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# Elderly New Yorkers throng City Hall to protest proposed cuts to senior centers

By **Katie Honan**  
THE CITY

Hundreds of older New Yorkers rallied outside City Hall to protest cuts to the city's Department for the Aging, which could shutter dozens of senior centers and reduce services like meal delivery.

The agency, which had its budget slashed by \$20 million last year, faces an additional \$80 million in cuts in the budget City Hall has proposed for the coming fiscal year.

Hundreds of people thronged Broadway on Thursday, and many booed Mayor Eric Adams when he was mentioned. The City Council will be holding a hearing on the Department of Aging's budget Friday.

"We agree with you," Council Speaker Adrienne Adams said to the crowd as they chanted "no more cuts."

Senior advocates pointed out that the Department for the Aging represents a small portion of overall city spending.

"The agency's budget represents less than one half of one percent of the city's entire budget, but the mayor has remained intent on slashing funding for the agency," Brooklyn City Councilmember Crystal Hudson, who chairs the Committee on Aging, wrote in an email to constituents.

At the rally, she decried "indiscriminate budget cuts to the programs that keep our communities afloat."

Department for the Aging Commissioner Lorraine Cortés-Vázquez denied cuts and instead touted the preservation of services.

"There is no \$80 million dollar cut to the NYC Aging budget for FY25, and no centers will be closed. Any claims about budget cuts or center closings are inaccurate," she said.

Budget documents show an expected reduction of \$80 million in the agency's budget between last fiscal year and fiscal year 2026, which begins next summer.

The budget tightening comes as attendance at the more than 300 older adult centers funded by the department is inching up after the facilities were shuttered in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Last summer into the fall, 111,662 older adults visited the centers — an 11% increase from the same time the previous year, according to the Mayor's Management Report.

Meals served at the centers also saw a sharp increase from last year, with nearly 2 million served to 86,332 older New Yorkers from July through October. That's a 26% increase in meals and a 17% increase in meal participants.

"All older adults should be alarmed by the mayor's proposed cuts to aging services," Beth Finkel, State Director of AARP New York, said in a statement.

## 'We Have a Nice Time'

The rally came in the midst of another budget season, with City Council hearings and behind-the-scenes negotiations.



Councilmembers and advocates rally outside City Hall for better senior services, May 16, 2024.

Credit: John McCarten/NYC Council Media

Mayor Adams' most recent executive budget proposal, totaling more than \$111 billion, restored some of the cuts he proposed months earlier — but not everything was put back in the budget.

On Wednesday, the Independent Budget Office — which is funded by the city but analyzes the budget on its own — predicted a \$1.1 billion surplus this year.

That money, rallying older New Yorkers said, should be given to their crumbling centers and cash-strapped programming.

Winifred McClarin, 77, has attended the Thomas Guess Older Adult Center in Tremont in The Bronx a few times a week for a decade.

She's retired from the psychology department at Columbia University and helps serve breakfast and lunch to fellow participants when she's not doing Zumba or chair boxing or coloring.

"We have a nice time, and we enjoy it, and we look forward to it," she said, noting that the cuts are "frightening."

"They need to give us more funding because we have a lot of seniors and some seniors don't have sufficient food, clothing, housing."

Frances Garavuso, 85 and from Williamsburg, Brooklyn, has attended the Swinging 60s

Senior Center for years — just like her mom, who also attended as a senior, she told THE CITY.

In addition to breakfast and lunch there, along with exercise classes and birthday parties, she joins other regulars for trips around the city. Next week, there will be a belly dancer at the center, she said while holding an "Aging is Awesome" sign.

"If you close the senior centers, where are they supposed to go? Stay home and do nothing and be bored?" she said. "The next step you know is the cemetery."

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



Council Speaker Adrienne Adams speaks at a City Hall senior services rally, May 16, 2024.

Credit: John McCarten/NYC Council Media

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## Take the Cap Off the New York State Bottle Bill

By Albany Times Union  
Via Associated Press

Raising fees is a smart step the Legislature can take to address growing crisis in plastic pollution

Without a doubt, plastic pollution has proliferated beyond what the crafters of the state's original 1982 Bottle Bill could have imagined.

Nowhere is that more evident than in the single-use beverages we consume, accounting for about 150 plastic bottles per person annually.

New York, to its credit, has long had the Bottle Bill, a bottle and can redemption program that most hail as the most effective anti-litter program in state history.

Unfortunately, the state Legislature has

for too long left the industry to fend for itself. It is estimated that more than 100 recycling and redemption centers have closed in recent years, largely due to the lack of a handling fee increase since 2009.

That handling fee comes out of the collection of the 5-cent container deposit, which hasn't been raised since 1983 when the first containers started being recycled. Deposit fees are passed on to consumers in the purchase price of beverages, but those who redeem the containers get that money back.

The Legislature has the opportunity to raise the deposit fee to a mere 10 cents, which would allow the handling fee to also rise.

If the deposit fee is increased, consumers who redeem their containers would still

get their whole deposit returned to them. Unclaimed deposits go to the state.

The state-licensed facilities that accept redeemable beverage containers — known as recycling and redemption centers — have been begging for this increase for years, and converged on the Capitol in January to make the case that the increase from 3.5 cents to 6 cents would save the industry.

Opponents of the recent push, including labor leaders, have argued that the increase could impact consumers' choices since items might cost more, which might mean fewer purchases, which in turn might mean job losses. Given the number of polls that show overwhelming majorities of New Yorkers support efforts to reduce plastic pollution and that a failure to raise the handling

fee will definitely impact the jobs in the redemption industry, this argument doesn't hold water or any other beverage.

We have no doubt that some members of the Legislature are worried any cost increase might be seen as a de facto tax increase that might affect their reelection chances. That perception seems woefully shortsighted: Would they rather be seen as proponents of increased litter from unredeemed containers, or fans of job losses as redemption centers continue to fold?

In addition to costing jobs, closed redemption centers would result in fewer locations for consumers to redeem and recycle beverage containers. And that leads to greater chances for more litter — especially plastics.







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Scholastic Roundup

## Cages in Basketball — The Final Word

By Andy Furman  
Brooklyn Daily Eagle

This is the last word on cages, courtesy of Dan Lynch Jr., former baseball coach at Brooklyn's St. Francis College.

"In addition to public schools erecting protective wire cages around basketball courts, as reported last week by Glenn Thomas (FDR basketball coach)," Lynch writes, "I think that probably schools and clubs in the early 1900s had similar 'cages' since they didn't even have backboards back then — but wire cages surrounding basketball courts were still evident in 1974."

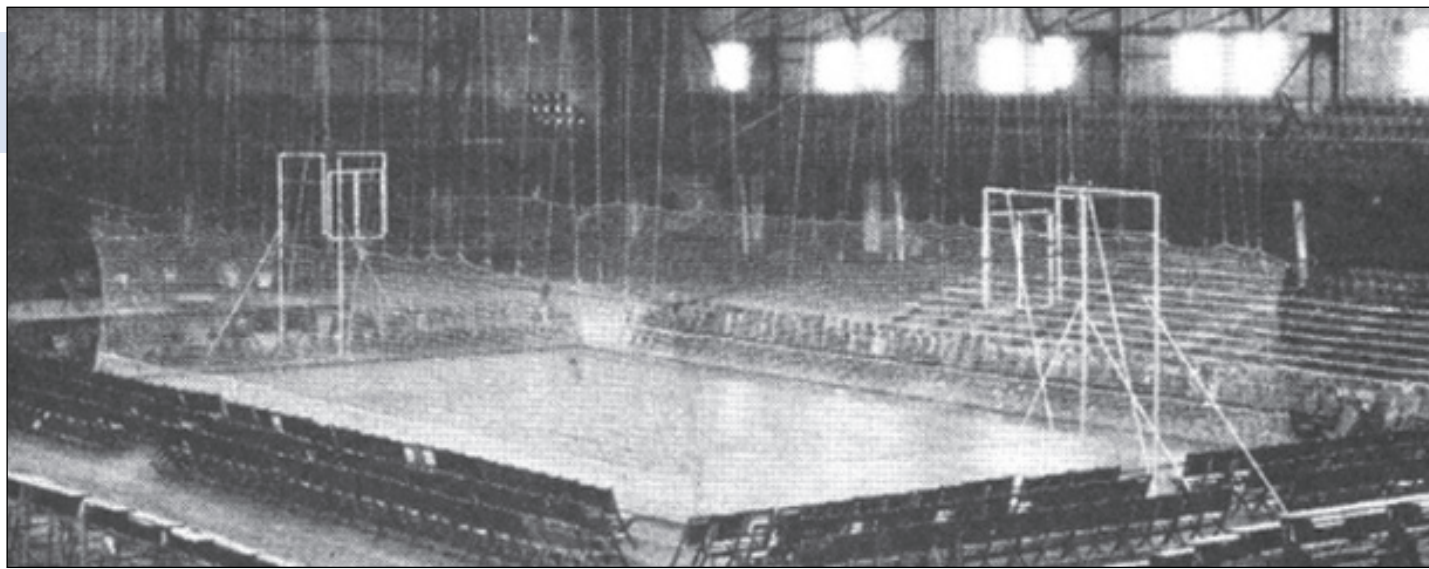
Lynch says he knows because he was coaching the Caracas entry in the inaugural Venezuelan Professional League, and the courts in all their opponents' facilities were surrounded by 15-foot steel cages with barbed wire on top.

"They were not there to keep the balls from bouncing away," Lynch said, "But were there to keep the maniacal fans from storming the court. We had to enter and leave the court from a trap door at half court. Luckily, we won the final championship game at our arena — a very modern facility (no wire cage around the court).

"If we had won the game on an away court," he adds, "I'm sure the opposing fans would have ripped down the cage."

Lynch said each team was allowed to suit up three American players per game. "Our team was led by three former St. Francis College hoop stars — Ronnie Jones, Jack McCue, and Kenny Lam. Two other New York City players — Ray Hyland and Jimmy Romeo — were on the roster at one time or another," Lynch said.

The team they beat for the championship was coached by Nat Frazier, who was Division II National Coach of the Year, and later an assistant with the New York Knicks.



A early basketball game on a court surrounded by a wire cage.

Photo courtesy of basketball.org

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Lynch said years later his team was inducted into the Venezuelan Sports Institute Hall of Fame. "We were invited to attend," he said, "But to quote Kenny Lam, 'Are you serious?' We'd be kidnapped before the cocktail hour was over, and I don't know about you guys but my wife, Marge, has a strict No Ransom, policy."

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Mick Quinn, St. Francis College, Class of 1969, says he is still bummed about the cancellation of Terrier athletics. "I knew Coach Danny Lynch Sr.," Quinn says. "He told me about an upcoming New York City Board of Education exam for the license of Teacher of Physical Education in Vacation Playground.

"I took the test, passed it, and worked in that job for three summers," Quinn said. "The recreation superintendent for the eastern Queens Board of Education district I worked in from 1967-1969 was Norm Drucker, longtime NBA/ABA referee. I met him in June of 1967 at his office at a school in southeastern Queens, and he assigned me to work that summer at Andrew Jackson High School — Bob Cousy's alma mater, in Springfield Gardens. I took my kids to play in the same gym that Cousy honed his hoop skills."

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Speaking of St. Francis College, Terrier Athletics Day is set for Saturday, June 22 (noon to 4 p.m.), at Brooklyn Law School Feil Hall, 205 State Street.

The cost is \$100 per person, with recent student-athletes paying \$50 and no charge for children under the age of 10. The event is chaired by Fr. Brian Jordan PFM and sponsored by Michael Randazzo, CEO of Integrated Community Wellness.

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Billy Lopez, former basketball coach at Kingsborough Community College, was



The old days: The St. Francis College men's basketball team in 2015-16.

Photo courtesy of St. Francis College Athletics

battling dementia a few years and passed earlier this month.

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Prayers are needed for New Utrecht High's and Florida State Hall of Fame broadcaster Spencer Ross. "It's been a tough four months," he tells Scholastic Roundup. "It started January 12; I had COVID for 29 days. Five days later I catch the flu, with fever and hospitalized."

Ross said a scan showed a growth on his bladder; and it turned out to be cancer. "I underwent surgery, March 15; and remained hospitalized. The good news, 10 days later, they said it was malignant but they removed it all.

"They moved me to a rehab center. The physical therapy has been fantastic, but I still can't go home. My wife Pat is here every day. She's the greatest. I'm mentally still sharp and doing a good job of fighting depression. I should be home in two to three weeks. That's my goal."

With the exception of the New York Mets, Ross has called play-by-play for every professional New York metropolitan area sports franchise, including the Yankees of MLB, the Nets and Knicks of the NBA, and Jets and Giants of the NFL. He has also called games for the Americans of the old ABA and, in the NHL, for the New Jersey Devils, the New York Islanders and the New York Rangers.

Outside of New York, he has called games for the Florida State Seminoles and Boston Celtics. Nationally, he has worked for the NFL on NBC, Major League Baseball on CBS Radio, the NCAA Division I men's basketball tournament on Westwood One, and as the lead play-by-play announcer for the 1992 USA Olympic Dream Team with Dick Vitale. In 2009 he was inducted into the New York City Basketball Hall of Fame.

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LIU honored 16 student-athletes prior to their baseball game with Wagner last week, and improved their record to 19-2 at home with an 8-3 victory. Jake Castillo set an LIU single-season RBI record after driving in Seth Surret in the third inning, recording his 59th RBI. Mastillo's milestone surpassed Joe Zeccardi, who drove in 58 runs during the 1999 season. Castillo now has 107 RBIs in his two seasons at LIU.

Prior to the game, LIU honored Bentley Boekhout, Carlton Harper, Jake Castillo, Kyle Matthews, PJ Moritz, JC Navarro, Riley Palmer, Evan Panjwani, Dominic Pieta, Connor Price, Kevin Small, Seth Surret, Shane Tucker, Tatsuya Umemoto, Jarrod Wade and Garrett Yawn on Senior Day.

LIU's softball team fell to Central Connecticut State University in a Northeast Conference elimination game, 12-9, Friday. The Sharks hit five home runs in the loss — Mari Narvaiz hit a pair and finished with four RBIs on the day; Gabby Padilla drove in three runs and hit two homers and Kaylee Clarkson hit a solo shot.

Andy Furman is a Fox Sports Radio national talk show host. Previously, he was a scholastic sports columnist for the Brooklyn Eagle. He may be reached at: andyf@brooklyneagle.com ; Twitter: @AndyFurmanFSR



Today, the West 4th Street basketball courts in Greenwich Village are known as "the Cage."

Wikimedia photo by Aude





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## Our World In Pictures

**ROME — A quick glance before crushing:** Chile's Alejandro Tabilo serves to Germany's Alexander Zverev during a men's tennis semifinal match at the Italian Open tennis tournament, in Rome, Friday, May 17, 2024.

Photo: Andrew Medichini/AP



**ATLANTA — Police tragedy takes down airman:** U.S. Air Force personnel stand near the coffin of slain airman Roger Fortson during his funeral at New Birth Missionary Baptist Church, Friday, May 17, 2024, near Atlanta.

Photo: Brynn Anderson/AP



**HOUSTON — Nature's revenge — more storms break hearts, create billions in damage in total, and actually take lives:** A woman looks at the damage caused by fallen bricks from a building wall in the aftermath of a severe thunderstorm Friday, May 17, 2024, in Houston. Thunderstorms pummeled southeastern Texas on Thursday, killing at least four people, blowing out windows in high-rise buildings and knocking out power to more than 900,000 homes and businesses in the Houston area.

Photo: David J. Phillip/AP



**CALIFORNIA — Shifting routes in illegal migration:** The border wall separating Jacumba Hot Springs, CA, and Mexico is seen in the background as Chinese migrant asylum seekers walk to await processing by U.S. authorities Wednesday, May 8, 2024, near Jacumba Hot Springs. San Diego became the busiest corridor for illegal crossings in April, according to U.S. figures, the fifth region to hold that title in two years in a sign of how quickly migration routes are changing.

Photo: Ryan Sun/AP





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## Our World In Pictures



**LOS ANGELES — Safe... and almost crushed:** Los Angeles Dodgers designated hitter Shohei Ohtani (17) steals second base ahead of a throw to Cincinnati Reds second baseman Santiago Espinal (4) during the first inning of a baseball game in Los Angeles, Thursday, May 16, 2024.

Photo: Ashley Landis/AP



**ROME — New Yorkers ask, 'Why can't they do that here?':** Aircraft of The Frecce Tricolori (Tricolor Arrows) Italian Air Force aerobatic squad fly above the central court of the Foro Italico before a men's tennis semifinal match at the Italian Open tennis tournament, in Rome, Friday, May 17, 2024.

Photo: Andrew Medichini/AP



**CANNES — Film festivals sometimes call for hat tricks:** Nicolas Cage poses for photographers at the photo call for the film 'The Surfer' at the 77th International Film Festival, Cannes, southern France, Friday, May 17, 2024.

Photo: Daniel Cole/Invision/AP



**FRISCO — 'Y'all know this guy?':** Reba McEntire, left, and Post Malone perform "Ramblin' Man" during the 59th annual Academy of Country Music Awards on Thursday, May 16, 2024, at the Ford Center in Frisco, Texas.

Photo: Chris Pizzello/AP



# As NYC preschool offers release, some families are left without a 3-K seat

By Julian Shen-Berro  
Chalkbeat

Mayor Eric Adams has vowed that every family who wants a seat in New York City's free preschool program for 3-year-olds will receive one, despite recent cuts to city funding for the early childhood system.

But as the city distributed 3-K offers on Thursday, some families say they didn't receive a seat at any of the programs to which they applied.

Diana Sidakis, a public defender who lives in Manhattan, said she tried to be savvy with her application. She spent hours extensively researching programs, compiled spreadsheets, attended tours, and eliminated any programs that seemed unlikely to admit her son.

Despite applying to 12 programs, the maximum number, Sidakis did not receive a seat for her child. She was waitlisted at all of them.

"Every kid needs education at 3 years old," she said. "They're socially and developmentally ready, and it changes the rest of their life. So for Mayor Adams to say that he can cut this program and every family who wants a seat will get a seat, it's just such a fraud."

Building up the free prekindergarten system was a signature initiative of former Mayor Bill de Blasio, who leaned heavily on federal COVID relief dollars to expand preschool for 3-year-olds, aiming to make the program universal. That effort stalled under Adams, whose administration has justified funding cuts to the program by arguing that thousands of seats are sitting empty due to a mismatch of supply and demand in some neighborhoods. Advocates counter that the mayor has not invested in promoting preschool options to families.



Despite promises from Mayor Eric Adams, some parents say their kids were left without a 3-K seat on Thursday as offers went out to families. Jimena Peck for Chalkbeat

This year, the city's early childhood system has taken center stage in budget negotiations between City Council members and the Adams administration. Under a plan Adams proposed last month, the city would replace \$92 million of ex-

piring federal funding for 3-K with city and state funds — but it would not restore a separate \$170 million in city funding that was cut from early childhood programs in November. Adams also promised to spend \$5 million to help recruit more families to the city's pre-K programs.

At a budget hearing on Wednesday, Education Department officials said enrollment in preschool programs, including the larger pre-K program for 4-year-olds, had grown to roughly 114,000 children. In total, there were about 53,000 seats in the city's 3-K program, with about 44,000 filled.

Despite cuts to early childhood funding, Adams has remained adamant that "every child who wants a 3-K and pre-K seat will have access to one."

In a statement Thursday evening, city officials emphasized that thousands of 3-K seats remained open and said the city would work with families who were not initially admitted to find nearby open seats.

"The mayor was clear: Every child who wants a seat will have access to a seat and he will keep his word," said Amaris Cockfield, a spokesperson for City Hall. "The guidance sent to a limited number of families by New York City Public Schools, unfortunately, did not fully convey all the seats still available to New York City students."

The city made offers to 94% of families who applied to 3-K on time, receiving approximately 43,000 applicants for about 52,000 seats across the city, according to city officials. The Education Department will send an "updated letter" to families about seats that remain open in 3-K.

Still, advocates were quick to condemn the mayor's previous promises as some families received the news that they had not been offered a 3-K seat. As of Thursday afternoon, more than 20

families across the city had reached out to the advocacy group New Yorkers United for Childcare, informing them they had been rejected or waitlisted. Others told the group they were admitted to programs far from home, adding logistical challenges for parents seeking care for their young children.

"The impact cannot be understated: without free 3-K, childcare costs families an average of \$20,000 a year per kid, with many spending more — a cost far too many families cannot afford," said Rebecca Bailin, director of the group, in a statement. "Now, New Yorkers who are already facing a skyrocketing cost of living must decide whether to leave work and stay home with their child, drain their savings, or potentially leave the city altogether."


Prior reports have shown a lack of access to affordable child care can have a significant impact on parents' ability to work. More than half a million people did not seek employment in 2021 due to child care needs, and about 375,000 parents chose to leave or considered leaving their jobs due to the combined impact of the pandemic and a lack of affordable child care, according to a 2022 city report.

Sidakis said she's unsure whether her family can afford to consider private child care options if she ultimately does not receive a 3-K seat that works for her family.

"It's just an enormous, enormous source of financial and emotional stress," she said.

"I really don't want to leave the city," Sidakis added. "I'm a public defender. I've devoted my life to public service. I want my kids to go to public school. I believe in public school. But this is really wrong."

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



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# Upside-down flag at Justice Alito's home another blow for Supreme Court under fire

By Lindsay Whitehurst and Gary Fields  
Associated Press

An upside-down U.S. flag has long been a sign of dire distress and versatile symbol of protest. But in January 2021, when it flew over the home of Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito, it was largely seen in connection with a specific cause: the false claim by then-President Donald Trump's supporters that the 2020 election had been marred by fraud.

The revelation this week about the flag flying at Alito's home was the latest blow to a Supreme Court that was already under fire as it considers unprecedented cases against Trump and some of those charged with rioting at the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021.

Alito has said the flag was briefly flown by his wife amid a dispute with neighbors and he had no part in it. But the incident reported by The New York Times adds to concerns about an institution that's increasingly seen as partisan and lacking strict ethical guidelines.

The high court is now facing questions about whether the spouses of two of its members question the legitimacy of the 2020 election, and if those justices should be hearing cases related to the Jan. 6 riot and Trump's role in it. Justice Clarence Thomas, appointed by President George H.W. Bush, has resisted calls for recusal after reports that his wife Virginia Thomas was involved in efforts to overturn President Joe Biden's 2020 election win.

"We're talking about a fundamental bedrock American value about peaceful transfer of power, about elections," said Tony Carrk, executive director of Accountable.US, a progressive watchdog organization. "It's just the integrity of the democratic process."

Several Democrats in Congress called for Alito to recuse himself from Trump-related cases. Justices can and do voluntarily recuse themselves, but those are their own individual calls and they aren't subject to review.

There was no indication Alito would do so. He did not respond to a request for comment sent through the court's public information office.

While the Supreme Court long went without its own specific code of ethics, an institutional reputation of staying above the political fray has long helped bolster its relatively high levels of public trust. But in the wake of the 2022 decision overturning a nationwide right to abortion — an opinion that was leaked before its release — public trust sank to its lowest level in 50 years. There's also been sustained criticism over undisclosed trips and gifts from wealthy benefactors to some justices. The high court adopted a code of ethics last year, but it lacks a means of enforcement.

Alito, a former prosecutor who was appointed



Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito Jr., left, and his wife Martha-Ann Alito, pay their respects at the casket of Reverend Billy Graham at the Rotunda of the U.S. Capitol Building in Washington, Feb. 28, 2018. An upside-down American flag was displayed outside of Alito's home Jan. 17, 2021, days after former President Donald Trump supporters stormed the U.S. Capitol, The New York Times reports. It's a symbol associated with Trump's false claims of election fraud. "It was briefly placed by Mrs. Alito in response to a neighbor's use of objectionable and personally insulting language on yard signs," Alito said in an emailed statement to the newspaper.

AP Photo/Pablo Martinez Monsivais, File

by President George W. Bush and confirmed in 2006, has been one of the most court's most conservative justices and authored the decision overturning Roe v. Wade. During oral arguments in the election interference case against Trump, he appeared skeptical of Justice Department arguments that past presidents aren't completely immune from prosecution, and seemed one of the justices most likely to find that prosecutors went too far in bringing obstruction charges against hundreds of participants in the Jan. 6 riot.

Ethical guidelines generally make it clear that judges should recuse themselves in cases where their spouses have financial interest, but the situation is less clear when spouses have a publicly known political point of view, said Arthur Hellman, a professor emeritus at the University of Pittsburgh School of Law. He pointed to a federal judge in California who refused to recuse himself from a same-sex marriage case in 2010 even though his wife was a head of the American Civil Liberties Union there. Spouses' finances are generally intertwined, but the idea that wives and husbands always share political views is outdated, he found.

Meanwhile, it remains unclear whether Alito was aware of the inverted flag at the time

or its links to Trump supporters, said Stephen Gillers, a judicial ethics expert at the New York University School of Law. "I don't believe Alito knew the flag was flying upside down or if he did know, I find it hard to believe that he knew the relationship to 'Stop the Steal,'" he said in an email.

The American flag is not supposed to be flown upside down except as a signal of dire distress or extreme danger, according to the U.S. Flag Code. That significance has made it into a protest symbol on both the left and the right for decades. It took off as a symbol of Trump's "Stop the Steal" campaign as he spread false claims that the election he lost to Biden had been stolen.

Martha-Ann Alito hung the upside-down flag during a dust-up with a neighbor in Alexandria, Virginia, who had a lawn sign referring to Trump with an expletive near a bus stop during a the "heated time" of January 2021, Fox News anchor Shannon Bream said in an online post, citing a conversation with Justice Alito. She became distraught after the neighbor used vulgar language and hung the flag "for a short time," Bream wrote, saying Alito described some neighbors as "very political."

Politics often overlaps into everyday life,

and no human can be completely free of personal opinions, said Charles Geyh, a law professor at Indiana University. But "the duty of a judge is to do what you can to keep them at bay. That means you don't trumpet your biases by running them up a flagpole," he said.

Appearing to enter the political fray can contribute to a growing distrust of the U.S. Supreme Court, which Geyh warned could have dire consequences.

But is there is no mechanism for sanctioning a justice, said Gabe Roth, executive director of Fix the Court, an advocacy group pushing for judicial ethics. Complaints against lower court judges are filed with the chief judge of the district, who appoints special committees of judges to investigate and report back. "To me the fact that such a protocol does not currently exist at the court is a real deficit," he said.

Only Congress can impeach a justice, said Michael Frisch, ethics counsel at Georgetown Law. One justice, Abe Fortas, resigned from the Supreme Court in 1969 amid a controversy over receiving \$20,000 from a Wall Street financier. An impeachment, though, has only happened once, to Justice Samuel Chase in the early 1800s. He was later acquitted by the Senate.

## Taking presidential debates out of commission's hands virtually guarantees fewer viewers

By David Bauder  
Associated Press

The planned presidential debates between Joe Biden and Donald Trump that were swiftly organized this week are a coup for CNN and ABC News — but virtually guaranteed to be among the least-watched general election contests ever.

The rival campaigns skirted the Commission on Presidential Debates, which has organized the events for 36 years with a goal of getting them before as many eyes as possible.

CNN said Friday that it will make its debate, scheduled for June 27 with Jake Tapper and Dana Bash as moderators, available for simulcast on any U.S. television network that wants it, and allow free entry to CNN.com to stream it. ABC had said on Wednesday that it would allow networks and streaming services to simulcast its debate, set for Sept. 10 with David Muir and Linsey Davis as moderators.

A debate between Vice President Kamala Harris and whomever former President Trump chooses as his running mate is expected to air this summer on CBS. Fox News said it was seeking a second undercard debate but the Biden campaign signaled it would reject that

Each of the two debates between Biden and Trump in 2020 were carried on at least 16 networks, according to the Nielsen company. The first was seen by 73.1 million viewers, the second by 63 million.

Debates prior to a party's nominating process, which Trump skipped this year, are usually organized and broadcast by individual media organizations. The tradition has been different for those organized by the commission during general election campaigns, said Kathleen Hall Jamieson, director of the Annenberg Public Policy Center at the University of Pennsylvania, and member of a group of experts Annenberg organized a decade ago that explored ways to increase viewership.

"It's the public's debate," Jamieson said.

It's not certain how many other networks will carry the debates even with the opportunity. Only PBS has said that it would; other networks have yet to give a public commitment.

For CNN leaders, there was a great temptation to keep it for themselves. It would have likely been the most-watched event ever on a network that is struggling in ratings. CNN's chief executive, Mark Thompson, made a point in tying the debate to the brand on Wednesday

when he announced the agreement to hold it during a sales presentation to advertisers in New York.

"When people have something important to say," Thompson said, "they say it on CNN."

CNN said Wednesday the debate would also air live on its international and Spanish-speaking networks, and stream on CNN Max and CNN.com.

The pool of people available to watch on CNN's main television network is dwindling due to cord-cutting of cable and satellite services. CNN was available in 71% of American homes with television in May 2020; this month it's just under 54%, Nielsen said.

Keeping the debate on CNN alone would have run up against stout criticism that it's not the public-spirited thing to do, something ABC moved quickly to avoid.

Political polarization that has spread to the media would also likely cut into viewership if the event was not shared, Jamieson said. Would Fox News viewers, after years of hearing CNN criticized by some of their favorite politicians and media figures, turn to CNN for a debate or skip it entirely?

Some of those executives would have to

swallow hard to carry another network's personalities on their air, with the risk some of their regular viewers might like them and switch allegiances. Pressure to carry the debates for public service reasons would be intense, though.

Despite worries about how many people will watch, Jamieson said there's some irony in that there's a lot to like about the proposed ground rules for the event. So far, the plans are to hold them in television studios without an audience.

That's something the Annenberg group had proposed a decade ago, saying an audience that reacts to what the candidates are saying is often a distraction, and that audience is usually packed with partisans on both sides.

If the two campaigns agree to rules where one candidate's microphone would be shut off while his opponent answers a question, it would go a long way to solving what has been a more frequent problem recently with politicians interrupting and talking over an opponent, she said.

"If someone had told me that there was going to be some good news about political discourse this year, I would have told them they were delusional," she said.



# 2ND DEPARTMENT / New Business Formations

## GRAY CATBIRD CLEAN ENERGY LLC

NOTICE OF QUALIFICATION OF GRAY CATBIRD CLEAN ENERGY LLC. AUTHORITY FILED WITH NY SECY OF STATE (SSNY) ON 4/9/24. OFFICE LOCATION: KINGS COUNTY. LLC FORMED IN DELAWARE (DE) ON 4/4/24. SSNY IS DESIGNATED AS AGENT OF LLC UPON WHOM PROCESS AGAINST IT MAY BE SERVED. SSNY SHALL MAIL PROCESS TO: 28 LIBERTY ST, NY, NY 10005. DE ADDRESS OF LLC: 1209 ORANGE ST, WILMINGTON, DE 19801. CERT. OF FORMATION FILED WITH DE SECY OF STATE, 401 FEDERAL ST. STE 4, DOVER, DE 19901. THE NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE REG. AGENT IS C T CORPORATION SYSTEM, 28 LIBERTY ST, NY, NY 10005. PURPOSE: ANY LAWFUL ACTIVITY.

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## WREN CLEAN ENERGY LLC

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#216992

## ARD7 HOLDINGS LLC

ARD7 HOLDINGS LLC. FILED 3/19/24. OFFICE: KINGS CO. SSNY DESIG. AS AGENT FOR PROCESS & SHALL MAIL TO: 145 E 16TH ST APT 8A, NY, NY 10003. REGISTERED AGENT: UNITED STATES CORPORATION AGENTS, INC., 7014 13TH AVE, STE 202, BKLYN, NY 11228. PURPOSE: GENERAL.

#216994

## 5113 BROOKLYN LLC

5113 BROOKLYN LLC. FILED 3/12/24. OFFICE: KINGS CO. SSNY DESIG. AS AGENT FOR PROCESS & SHALL MAIL TO: 5113 6TH AVE, BKLYN, NY 11220. PURPOSE: GENERAL.

#216995

## 1550 CONEY LLC

1550 CONEY LLC. FILED 2/8/24. OFFICE: KINGS CO. SSNY DESIG. AS AGENT FOR PROCESS & SHALL MAIL TO: 1585 CONEY ISLAND AVE, BKLYN, NY 11230. PURPOSE: GENERAL.

#216996

## PPA MANAGEMENT LLC

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#216997

## MZ ARCHITECTURE PLLC

MZ ARCHITECTURE PLLC. FILED 2/5/24. OFFICE: KINGS CO. SSNY DESIG. AS AGENT FOR PROCESS & SHALL MAIL TO: 364 HARDING DR, SOUTH ORANGE, NJ 07079. PURPOSE: ARCHITECTURE.

#216998

## ERICA LEIGH DESIGN LLC

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#216999

## TSUJETSU LLC

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#217000

## DERAM LLC

DERAM LLC. FILED 1/2/24. OFFICE: KINGS CO. SSNY DESIG. AS AGENT FOR PROCESS & SHALL MAIL TO: ANTON DEREVIANKO, 2940 OCEAN PKWY APT 3F, BKLYN, NY 11235. PURPOSE: GENERAL.

#217001

## ALSAIDI GENERAL TRADING LLC

ALSAIDI GENERAL TRADING LLC. FILED 1/16/24. OFFICE: KINGS CO. SSNY DESIG. AS AGENT FOR PROCESS & SHALL MAIL TO: 222 STUYVESANT AVE, NY CITY, NY 11221. REGISTERED AGENT: USACORP INC, 325 DIVISION AVE, STE 201, BKLYN, NY 11211. PURPOSE: GENERAL.

#217002

## SOCIAL TRENDS APPLIED BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS PLLC

SOCIAL TRENDS APPLIED BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS PLLC. FILED 3/8/24. OFFICE: KINGS CO. SSNY DESIG. AS AGENT FOR PROCESS & SHALL MAIL TO: 2514 AVE M, BKLYN, NY 11210. PURPOSE: LICENSED BEHAVIOR ANALYST.

#217003

## UPFULLVIBES LLC

UPFULLVIBES LLC. FILED 5/21/22. OFFICE: KINGS CO. SSNY DESIG. AS AGENT FOR PROCESS & SHALL MAIL TO: 4225 AVE M, APT 2, BKLYN, NY 11234. PURPOSE: GENERAL.

#217004

## MEIMAR ARCHITECTURE PLLC

MEIMAR ARCHITECTURE PLLC. FILED 4/11/24. OFFICE: KINGS CO. SSNY DESIG. AS AGENT FOR PROCESS & SHALL MAIL TO: 559 CARROLL ST, APT 2, BKLYN, NY 11215. PURPOSE: ARCHITECTURE.

#217005

## CALM COACHING, LLC

CALM COACHING, LLC. FILED 2/10/24. OFFICE: KINGS CO. SSNY DESIG. AS AGENT FOR PROCESS & SHALL MAIL TO: RADICKA UDAIRAM, 1613 E 54TH ST, BKLYN, NY 11234. PURPOSE: GENERAL.

#217006

## 887 NOST LLC

887 NOST LLC. FILED 12/5/23. OFFICE: KINGS CO. SSNY DESIG. AS AGENT FOR PROCESS & SHALL MAIL TO: 1601 BEVERLEY RD APT 2F, BKLYN, NY 11226. REGISTERED AGENT: UNITED STATES CORPORATION AGENTS, INC., 7014 13TH AVE, STE 202, BKLYN, NY 11228. PURPOSE: GENERAL.

#217007

## WITH FRIENDS CONSULTING LLC

WITH FRIENDS CONSULTING LLC. FILED 1/17/24. OFFICE: KINGS CO. SSNY DESIG. AS AGENT FOR PROCESS & SHALL MAIL TO: KIMBERLY JOHNSON, 298 GREENE AVE, #2, BKLYN, NY 11238. PURPOSE: GENERAL.

#217008

## HUDSON DENTAL ANESTHESIA, PLLC

HUDSON DENTAL ANESTHESIA, PLLC. FILED 2/16/24. OFFICE: KINGS CO. SSNY DESIG. AS AGENT FOR PROCESS & SHALL MAIL TO: 418 BROADWAY, STE N, ALBANY, NY 12207. PURPOSE: DENTAL GENERAL ANESTHESIA.

#217009

## WALK IN MEDICAL CARE PLLC

WALK IN MEDICAL CARE PLLC. FILED 3/25/24. OFFICE: KINGS CO. SSNY DESIG. AS AGENT FOR PROCESS & SHALL MAIL TO: JOSEPH ETIENNE GERALD APOLLON, 11901 EVENING CT, CLARKSVILLE, MD 21029. PURPOSE: MEDICINE.

#217010



Senior citizens in Vermont. More and more people are working into their seventies and eighties nowadays.

AP photo by David Goldman

# Never Too Old: Merits of Delaying Retirement

By *Chhavi Agarwal*  
Wealth of Geeks via AP

In January 2023, more than one million French citizens formed nationwide demonstrations against new pension reform law proposals. Activist groups organized the marches following the Borne government's plan to increase the retirement age from 62 to 64, which came into law the following April.

The United Nations predicts France's national life expectancy will rise from its current 83 years to 86 years in 2050. However, when Pierre Mauroy's socialist government lowered the retirement age to 60 in 1982, the French lived 75 years on average, which cost the French taxpayer less to maintain. This arrangement meant French citizens could enjoy a "golden decade" of retirement before old age caught up — this is no longer the case.

## The Long Life Conundrum

Living longer is becoming more expensive. French Labor Minister Olivier Dussopt used this as the nucleus of his argument for extending French workers' years of duty. Conversely, opponents of lengthening one's working life would argue that living longer is the by-product of early retirement. But should people retire early — especially considering how much more a person usually earns in the later years of their career?

A recent Forbes report using U.S. Bureau of Labor (BLS) data shows that working Americans between 45 and 64 years old make almost twice that of a worker in their early twenties. Moreover, the average hourly rate drops significantly from 65 years — after most people have left the workforce. It poses the question as to whether retirement is a good idea for some people, especially those in good health who are still highly active.

## A Step Too Far

A National Bureau of Economic Research report found in 2017 that a cohort of American male workers was dying at 62 years old — when Social Security eligibility begins. The report also shows that male death rate increases come from retirement's subsequent lifestyle readjustment. The change in living standards and the breakup of longstanding daily routines can prove too much for some.

A 2021 Journal of Epidemiology & Community Health review found a closer association between mortality and on-time retirement than with early retirement in Dutch pensioners. This outcome suggests that those who can afford premature retirement have more financial resources and better healthcare options. For those less fortunate, the inverse may be the case. What is clear, however, is a correlation between earning good money and living longer.

Continued on page 13



# Never Too Old: Merits of Delaying Retirement

Continued from page 12

## Ten Years Earlier

Financial Times columnist Simon Kuper discusses the merits of a longer working life in an opinion editorial. Retirement should be for those who want it, though Kuper believes it depends on the person's socioeconomic background. A life working in stock trading is much different from back-breaking years spent in a coal mine, sewer, or lumber yard. In short, Kuper feels those on the lower rungs of the social ladder should get to retire ten years before those at the top.

However, his judgment is predicated on the understanding of two jobholder categories: highly skilled, well-paid workers or business owners and the contrasting groups. The former usually studies into their third decade, choosing careers with more autonomy, growth, and reward. For the latter who didn't have the same career success, retirement comes as an end to a tough working existence. Some of those in the former pool usually don't wish to retire; these high-functioning humans are usually very fit, intelligent, and enterprising.

## The Great Unretirement

The World Economic Forum (WEF) champions the existence of an older workforce, as mapped out in its "Great Unretirement" article. The first wave of the global COVID-19 lockdowns forced many older adults to retire for various reasons, namely work-related changes and perceived threats to wellness. An additional 3.3 million more people were retired within 18 months of the first wave than in January 2020: numbers much higher than usual.

The American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) says that many Americans are now "un-retiring" to bolster their income or grow their social circle. However, while women prefer extra work to help offset inflation, male retirees choose to do so for personal or social development and possibly delay physical decline, which accelerates after the sudden halt in a full-time working routine.

## A Comfortable Twilight for Some

For those who are happy in their careers or who have saved enough for compound interest to give them a comfortable twilight, the upside to retiring late or un-retiring is persuasive, though only if conditions are right. Investopedia warns that anybody thinking they will be able to keep earning past retirement age may need to adjust their expectations.

The Employee Benefit Research Institute (EBRI) reported in its 2023 "Retirement Confidence Survey" that nearly three-quarters of people expected to work for pay after retirement. Only 33% of other participants had earned money since retirement.

## The Gig Economy

Nonetheless, the number of retirees earning a side salary will surely increase in the coming years. Retirees will learn new ways to bring in revenue through the growing opportunities available; more tech-literate generations will reach retirement age. The current decade heralds a boom in extra revenue generation, and while the "gig economy" has hitherto been associated with youthful entrepreneurs lounging in coffee shops as their revenues grow, this trope is set to evolve.

## A New Outlook

Older workers have many options and can benefit from hundreds of online and app-based work. One selling point for some retired workers is flexibility — side hustles offer ideal ways to earn supplementary cash on a fixed retirement income, sometimes several at once, and workers can choose when they clock in. The Association for Entrepreneurship says this new outlook will transform retirement for generations to come.

# 2ND DEPARTMENT / New Business Formations

## RASTA REEFERS LLC

RASTA REEFERS LLC. FILED 12/11/23. OFFICE: KINGS CO. SSNY DESIG. AS AGENT FOR PROCESS & SHALL MAIL TO: 573 MILLER AVE, BKLYN, NY 11207. PURPOSE: GENERAL. #217011

## ERR LABS LLC

ERR LABS LLC. FILED 8/4/23. OFFICE: KINGS CO. SSNY DESIG. AS AGENT FOR PROCESS & SHALL MAIL TO: TEO SOARES, 118 DEAN ST, APT 2, BKLYN, NY 11201. PURPOSE: GENERAL. #217012

## GRACIOUS7 LLC

GRACIOUS7 LLC. FILED 12/9/23. OFFICE: KINGS CO. SSNY DESIG. AS AGENT FOR PROCESS & SHALL MAIL TO: 1784 E 92ND ST APT 1, BKLYN, NY 11236. REGISTERED AGENT: UNITED STATES CORPORATION AGENTS, INC., 7014 13TH AVE., STE 202, BKLYN, NY 11228. PURPOSE: GENERAL. #217013

## DUMBOPCK LLC

DUMBOPCK LLC. FILED 3/1/24. OFFICE: KINGS CO. SSNY DESIG. AS AGENT FOR PROCESS & SHALL MAIL TO: 30 FRONT ST, UNIT 26C, BKLYN, NY 11201. PURPOSE: GENERAL. #217014

## 26A HART LLC

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF 26A HART LLC ART. OF ORG. FILED WITH SSNY ON 4/16/24. OFF. LOC.: KINGS COUNTY. SSNY DESIG. AS AGENT UPON WHOM PROCESS AGAINST IT MAY BE SERVED. SSNY SHALL MAIL PROCESS: THE LLC 130 LEE AVENUE STE 457 BROOKLYN, NY 11211. PURPOSE: ANY LAWFUL ACT. #217017

## 126 BEDFORD AVENUE OWNER LLC

NOTICE OF QUALIFICATION OF 126 BEDFORD AVENUE OWNER LLC. AUTHORITY FILED WITH NY SECY OF STATE (SSNY) ON 8/7/19. OFFICE LOCATION: KINGS COUNTY. LLC FORMED IN DELAWARE ON 5/17/19. SSNY IS DESIGNATED AS AGENT OF LLC UPON WHOM PROCESS AGAINST IT MAY BE SERVED. SSNY SHALL MAIL PROCESS TO: 599 MANHATTAN AVE, BROOKLYN, NY 11222. DELAWARE ADDRESS OF LLC: 1521 CONCORD PIKE, STE 201, WILMINGTON, DE 19803. CERT. OF FORMATION FILED WITH DE SECY OF STATE, 401 FEDERAL ST, STE 4, DOVER, DE 19901. PURPOSE: ANY LAWFUL ACTIVITY. #217018

## 152 NORMAN AVENUE OWNER LLC

NOTICE OF QUALIFICATION OF 152 NORMAN AVENUE OWNER LLC. AUTHORITY FILED WITH NY SECY OF STATE (SSNY) ON 9/13/22. OFFICE LOCATION: KINGS COUNTY. LLC FORMED IN DELAWARE ON 6/12/20. SSNY IS DESIGNATED AS AGENT OF LLC UPON WHOM PROCESS AGAINST IT MAY BE SERVED. SSNY SHALL MAIL PROCESS TO: 599 MANHATTAN AVE, BROOKLYN, NY 11222. DELAWARE ADDRESS OF LLC: 1521 CONCORD PIKE, STE 201, WILMINGTON, DE 19803. CERT. OF FORMATION FILED WITH DE SECY OF STATE, 401 FEDERAL ST, STE 4, DOVER, DE 19901. PURPOSE: ANY LAWFUL ACTIVITY. #217020

## GREENERY NYC LLC

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF GREENERY NYC LLC. ARTS OF ORG. FILED WITH NEW YORK SECY OF STATE (SSNY) ON 4/2/24. OFFICE LOCATION: KINGS COUNTY. SSNY IS DESIGNATED AS AGENT OF LLC UPON WHOM PROCESS AGAINST IT MAY BE SERVED. SSNY SHALL MAIL PROCESS TO: 453 S. SPRING ST, STE 400-1568, ATTN: ROBERT WEINBERGER, ESQ., LOS ANGELES, CA 90013. THE NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE REG. AGENT IS CORPORATION SERVICE COMPANY, 80 STATE ST, ALBANY, NY 12207. PURPOSE: ANY LAWFUL ACTIVITY. #217022

## MOGADOR GREENWICH LLC

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF MOGADOR GREENWICH LLC. ARTS OF ORG. FILED WITH NEW YORK SECY OF STATE (SSNY) ON 3/28/24. OFFICE LOCATION: KINGS COUNTY. SSNY IS DESIGNATED AS AGENT OF LLC UPON WHOM PROCESS AGAINST IT MAY BE SERVED. SSNY SHALL MAIL PROCESS TO: 133 WYTHE AVE, APT #2, BROOKLYN, NY 11249. PURPOSE: ANY LAWFUL ACTIVITY. #217024

## APNA ADULT DAYCARE OF BRIGHTON LLC

APNA ADULT DAYCARE OF BRIGHTON LLC. ARTS OF ORG. FILED WITH SEC. OF STATE OF NY (SSNY) 8/6/2015. CTY: KINGS. SSNY DESIG. AS AGENT UPON WHOM PROCESS AGAINST MAY BE SERVED & SHALL MAIL PROCESS TO 236 NEPTUNE AVE, BROOKLYN, NY 11235. GENERAL PURPOSE #217051

## FLATBUSH WDY LLC

FLATBUSH WDY LLC, ARTS. OF ORG. FILED WITH THE SSNY ON 04/17/2024. OFFICE LOC: KINGS COUNTY. SSNY HAS BEEN DESIGNATED AS AGENT UPON WHOM PROCESS AGAINST THE LLC MAY BE SERVED. SSNY SHALL MAIL PROCESS TO: THE LLC, 2160 FLATBUSH AVENUE, BROOKLYN, NY 11234. REG AGENT: SUHAH SITAF, 3 WINDSOR DRIVE, OLD WESTBURY, NY, 11568. PURPOSE: ANY LAWFUL PURPOSE. #217053

## MURRAYWALSH LLC

MURRAYWALSH LLC, ARTS OF ORG. FILED WITH SEC. OF STATE OF NY (SSNY) 4/16/2024. CTY: KINGS. SSNY DESIG. AS AGENT UPON WHOM PROCESS AGAINST MAY BE SERVED & SHALL MAIL PROCESS TO 196 N 10TH ST, BROOKLYN, NY 11211. GENERAL PURPOSE #217055

## MOUKINS LLC

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF MOUKINS LLC. ARTS. OF ORG. FILED WITH SSNY ON 04/17/2024. OFFICE LOCATION KINGS SSNY DESG. AS AGENT OF LLC UPON WHOM PROCESS AGAINST IT MAY BE SERVED SSNY MAIL PROCESS TO 638 PARK PLACE, BROOKLYN, NY, 11238. ANY LAWFUL PURPOSE. #217070

## LB 526 LLC

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LB 526 LLC. ARTS. OF ORG. FILED WITH SECY. OF STATE OF NY (SSNY) ON 03/28/24. OFFICE LOCATION: KINGS COUNTY. SSNY DESIGNATED AS AGENT OF LLC UPON WHOM PROCESS AGAINST IT MAY BE SERVED. SSNY SHALL MAIL PROCESS TO: C/O PIERRO, CONNOR & STRAUSS, LLC, 43 BRITISH AMERICAN BLVD., LATHAM, NY 12110. PURPOSE: ANY LAWFUL ACTIVITIES #217073

## THE MAXIMALIST SOCIETY LLC

THE MAXIMALIST SOCIETY LLC ARTICLES OF ORG. FILED NY SEC. OF STATE (SSNY) 4/10/24. OFFICE IN KINGS CO. SSNY DESIGN. AGENT OF LLC UPON WHOM PROCESS MAY BE SERVED. SSNY SHALL MAIL COPY OF PROCESS TO CHINAE ALEXANDER 31 KOSCIUSZKO ST APT 5B BROOKLYN NY 11205. PURPOSE: ANY LAWFUL ACTIVITY. #217079

## GINA M DISTRIBUTION, LLC

GINA M DISTRIBUTION, LLC ARTICLES OF ORG. FILED NY SEC. OF STATE (SSNY) 4/1/24. OFFICE IN KINGS CO. SSNY DESIGN. AGENT OF LLC UPON WHOM PROCESS MAY BE SERVED. SSNY SHALL MAIL COPY OF PROCESS TO THE LLC PO BOX 570494 WHITESTONE NY 11357. PURPOSE: ANY LAWFUL ACTIVITY. #217080

## LM 14-50 30TH AVE., LLC

LM 14-50 30TH AVE., LLC ARTICLES OF ORG. FILED NY SEC. OF STATE (SSNY) 3/27/24. OFFICE IN QUEENS CO. SSNY DESIGN. AGENT OF LLC UPON WHOM PROCESS MAY BE SERVED. SSNY SHALL MAIL COPY OF PROCESS TO THE LLC 2457 CRESCENT ST ASTORIA NY 11102. PURPOSE: ANY LAWFUL ACTIVITY. #217083

## BURKHOLDER ACCOUNTING AND CONSULTING, LLC

BURKHOLDER ACCOUNTING AND CONSULTING, LLC ARTICLES OF ORG. FILED NY SEC. OF STATE (SSNY) 2/21/24. OFFICE IN QUEENS CO. SSNY DESIGN. AGENT OF LLC UPON WHOM PROCESS MAY BE SERVED. SSNY SHALL MAIL COPY OF PROCESS TO JULIE BURKHOLDER 1410 VALENCIA RD NISKAYUNA NY 12309. PURPOSE: ANY LAWFUL ACTIVITY. #217084

## SHE SO CHIC, LLC

SHE SO CHIC, LLC ARTICLES OF ORG. FILED NY SEC. OF STATE (SSNY) 4/22/24. OFFICE IN KINGS CO. SSNY DESIG. AGENT OF LLC WHOM PROCESS MAY BE SERVED. SSNY SHALL MAIL PROCESSTO LAW OFFICE JONATHAN R. SUAREZ, PLLC, 267 5TH AVE., LOWER LEVEL II, STE. 106, NY, NY 10016. PURPOSE: ANY LAWFUL PURPOSE. PRINCIPAL BUSINESS LOC: 238 JUNIUS ST., BROOKLYN, NY 11212. #217232

## 1 CITY POINT APT 43H LLC

1 CITY POINT APT 43H LLC, ARTS OF ORG. FILED WITH SEC. OF STATE OF NY (SSNY) 4/24/2024. CTY: KINGS. SSNY DESIG. AS AGENT UPON WHOM PROCESS AGAINST MAY BE SERVED & SHALL MAIL PROCESS TO ATTN: PAUL BUETI, 1 CITY POINT, APT. 43H, BROOKLYN, NY 11201. GENERAL PURPOSE #217234

## NEWKIRK STATION WINES & LIQUORS LLC

NEWKIRK STATION WINES & LIQUORS LLC. ARTS. OF ORG. FILED WITH THE SSNY ON 01/08/24. OFFICE: KINGS COUNTY. SSNY DESIGNATED AS AGENT OF THE LLC UPON WHOM PROCESS AGAINST IT MAY BE SERVED. SSNY SHALL MAIL COPY OF PROCESS TO THE LLC, 11 NEWKIRK PLAZA, BROOKLYN, NY 11226. PURPOSE: ANY LAWFUL PURPOSE. #217240

## 39 WOODHULL LLC

39 WOODHULL LLC ARTS. OF ORG. FILED WITH SSNY ON 4/24/2024. OFF. LOC.: KINGS CO. SSNY DESIG. AS AGT. UPON WHOM PROCESS MAY BE SERVED. SSNY SHALL MAIL PROCESS TO: THE LLC, 79 LUQUER ST, BROOKLYN, NY 11231. GENERAL PURPOSES. #217243

## MKDK BROOKLYN, LLC

NOTICE OF QUALIFICATION OF MKDK BROOKLYN, LLC. AUTHORITY FILED WITH SECY. OF STATE OF NY (SSNY) ON 04/15/24. OFFICE LOCATION: KINGS COUNTY. LLC FORMED IN PENNSYLVANIA (PA) ON 04/02/24. SSNY DESIGNATED AS AGENT OF LLC UPON WHOM PROCESS AGAINST IT MAY BE SERVED. SSNY SHALL MAIL PROCESS TO: 4250 OLD WILLIAM PENN HIGHWAY, SUITE 2, MONROEVILLE, PA 15146, ALSO THE ADDRESS REQUIRED TO BE MAINTAINED IN PA. ARTS OF ORG. FILED WITH THE PA SECRETARY OF STATE, P.O. BOX 8722, HARRISBURG, PA 17105. PURPOSE: ANY LAWFUL ACTIVITIES. #217245

## GERTIE PHILADELPHIA LLC

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF GERTIE PHILADELPHIA LLC. ARTS. OF ORG. FILED WITH SSNY ON 04/24/2024. OFFICE LOCATION KINGS SSNY DESG. AS AGENT OF LLC UPON WHOM PROCESS AGAINST IT MAY BE SERVED SSNY MAIL PROCESS TO 801 BERGEN ST, APT 307, BROOKLYN, NY, 11238. ANY LAWFUL PURPOSE. #217249

## 255A LLC

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF 255A LLC ARTS. OF ORG. FILED WITH SECY. OF STATE OF NY (SSNY) ON 04/17/24. OFFICE LOCATION: KINGS COUNTY. SSNY DESIGNATED AS AGENT OF LLC UPON WHOM PROCESS AGAINST IT MAY BE SERVED. SSNY SHALL MAIL PROCESS TO C/O TARTER KRINSKY & DROGIN LLP, ATTN: GINA PIAZZA, ESQ., 1350 BROADWAY, 11TH FL., NY, NY 10018. PURPOSE: ANY LAWFUL ACTIVITY. #217252

## 964 EAST 9TH STREET RESIDENCE LLC

NOTICE OF QUALIFICATION OF 964 EAST 9TH STREET RESIDENCE LLC APPL. FOR AUTH. FILED WITH SECY. OF STATE OF NY (SSNY) ON 04/19/24. OFFICE LOCATION: KINGS COUNTY. LLC FORMED IN DELAWARE (DE) ON 04/10/24. PRINC. OFFICE OF LLC: 921 AVE. K, BROOKLYN, NY 11230. SSNY DESIGNATED AS AGENT OF LLC UPON WHOM PROCESS AGAINST IT MAY BE SERVED. SSNY SHALL MAIL PROCESS TO C/O CORPORATION SERVICE CO. (CSC), 80 STATE ST, ALBANY, NY 12207-2543. DE ADDR. OF LLC: CSC, 251 LITTLE FALLS DR., WILMINGTON, DE 19808. CERT. OF FORM. FILED WITH SECY. OF STATE, 401 FEDERAL ST., STE. #4, DOVER, DE 19901. PURPOSE: ANY LAWFUL ACTIVITY. #217254

## AK & GD REALTY LLC

AK & GD REALTY LLC. ARTS. OF ORG. FILED WITH THE SSNY ON 04/29/24. OFFICE: KINGS COUNTY. SSNY DESIGNATED AS AGENT OF THE LLC UPON WHOM PROCESS AGAINST IT MAY BE SERVED. SSNY SHALL MAIL COPY OF PROCESS TO THE LLC, 3386 ATLANTIC AVENUE, BROOKLYN, NY 11208. PURPOSE: ANY LAWFUL PURPOSE. #217388

## DANIEL COCHRAN PHOTOGRAPHY LLC

DANIEL COCHRAN PHOTOGRAPHY LLC, ARTS OF ORG. FILED WITH SEC. OF STATE OF NY (SSNY) 3/20/2024. CTY: KINGS. SSNY DESIG. AS AGENT UPON WHOM PROCESS AGAINST MAY BE SERVED & SHALL MAIL PROCESS TO REGISTERED AGENT SOLUTIONS, INC, 99 WASHINGTON AVE, STE 700, ALBANY, NY 12260. GENERAL PURPOSE #217402

## KAI & YANG TANG'S REALTY LLC

KAI & YANG TANG'S REALTY LLC, ARTS OF ORG FILED WITH SSNY ON 03/20/24. OFFICE LOCATION: KINGS COUNTY, SSNY DESIGNATED AS AGENT OF LLC UPON WHOM PROCESS AGAINST IT MAY BE SERVED. SSNY SHALL MAIL A COPY OF PROCESS TO: THE LLC, 511 SENATOR ST, BROOKLYN NY 11220. PURPOSE: TO ENGAGE IN ANY LAWFUL ACT. #217412

## PUPCULTURE 149 PLYMOUTH LLC

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF PUPCULTURE 149 PLYMOUTH LLC ARTS. OF ORG. FILED WITH SECY. OF STATE OF NY (SSNY) ON 04/23/24. OFFICE LOCATION: KINGS COUNTY. SSNY DESIGNATED AS AGENT OF LLC UPON WHOM PROCESS AGAINST IT MAY BE SERVED. SSNY SHALL MAIL PROCESS TO CORPORATION SERVICE CO., 80 STATE ST., ALBANY, NY 12207. PURPOSE: ANY LAWFUL ACTIVITY. #217605

## ALPHABET CITY LAUGHS PRODUCTIONS, LLC

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF ALPHABET CITY LAUGHS PRODUCTIONS, LLC ARTS. OF ORG. FILED WITH SECY. OF STATE OF NY (SSNY) ON 04/30/24. OFFICE LOCATION: KINGS COUNTY. SSNY DESIGNATED AS AGENT OF LLC UPON WHOM PROCESS AGAINST IT MAY BE SERVED. SSNY SHALL MAIL PROCESS TO THE LLC, ATTN: ISABEL SAAD, 182 15TH ST., APT. 3H, BROOKLYN, NY 11215. PURPOSE: ANY LAWFUL ACTIVITY. #217607

## MGN 178 WILLIAMS AVE, LLC

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF MGN 178 WILLIAMS AVE, LLC ARTS. OF ORG. FILED WITH SECY. OF STATE OF NY (SSNY) ON 05/06/24. OFFICE LOCATION: KINGS COUNTY. PRINC. OFFICE OF LLC: 1074 GRAND ST., BROOKLYN, NY 11211. SSNY DESIGNATED AS AGENT OF LLC UPON WHOM PROCESS AGAINST IT MAY BE SERVED. SSNY SHALL MAIL PROCESS TO CORPORATION SERVICE CO., 80 STATE ST., ALBANY, NY 12207-2543. PURPOSE: ANY LAWFUL ACTIVITY. #217608

## TELCO OF BRIGHTON BEACH AVE, LLC

TELCO OF BRIGHTON BEACH AVE, LLC, ART. OF ORG. FILED WITH SSNY 5/7/24. NY OFFICE LOCATION: KINGS COUNTY. SSNY DESIGNATED AS AGENT FOR PROCESS. SSNY SHALL MAIL COPY OF PROCESS TO: C/O LEECH TISHMAN ROBINSON BROG PLLC, ATTN: NEIL S. GOLDSTEIN, 875 THIRD AVE., 9TH FL., NY, NY 10022. ANY LAWFUL ACT OR ACTIVITY. #217622

## H COOP PARTNERS, L.P.

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF H COOP PARTNERS, L.P. CERTIFICATE FILED WITH SECY. OF STATE OF NY (SSNY) ON 05/02/2024. DURATION: 12/31/2074 OFFICE LOCATION: KINGS COUNTY. SSNY DESIGNATED AS AGENT OF LP UPON WHOM PROCESS AGAINST IT MAY BE SERVED. SSNY SHALL MAIL PROCESS TO: THE PARTNERSHIP C/O GENERAL PARTNER, 90 DOVER STREET, BROOKLYN, NY 11235. NAME/ADDRESS OF EACH GENERAL PARTNER AVAILABLE WITH THE SSNY. PURPOSE: ANY LAWFUL ACTIVITIES. #217825



# 2ND DEPARTMENT/PUBLIC LEGAL NOTICES

## NOTICE OF SALE

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK: COUNTY OF QUEENS. JY THE NORTH L.P., PLTF V. NCRVI INTERNATIONAL INC, ET AL., DEFTS. INDEX NO. 700671/2020. PURSUANT TO THE JUDGMENT OF FORECLOSURE AND

SALE DATED APRIL 5, 2023 AND ENTERED ON APRIL 7, 2023, I WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION PUBLIC AUCTION AT THE COURTHOUSE STEPS OF QUEENS COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 88-11 SUTPHIN BLVD, JAMAICA, NEW YORK, ON JUNE 21, 2024 AT 12:45 P.M.,

PREM. K/A 164-01 GOETHALS AVE, QUEENS, NY 11432 (BLOCK 7024/LOT 32). APPROX. AMT OF JUDGMENT IS \$1,023,429.68 TOGETHER WITH INTEREST, PLUS COSTS, ATTORNEYS' FEES AND INTEREST. SOLD SUBJECT TO TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF FILED

JUDGMENT, THE COVID-19 AUCTION POLICIES AND TERMS OF SALE. GREGORY J. NEWMAN, ESQ., REFEREE. JACOBOWITZ NEWMAN TVERSKY LLP, ATTYS. FOR PLAINTIFF, 377 PEARSALL AVE., STE C, CEDARHURST, NY.

#217703

# 2ND DEPARTMENT / New Business Formations

## 21029 28TH AVENUE GROUP, LLC

21029 28TH AVENUE GROUP, LLC ARTICLES OF ORG. FILED NY SEC. OF STATE (SSNY) 4/17/24. OFFICE IN QUEENS CO. SSNY DESIG. AGENT OF LLC WHOM PROCESS MAY BE SERVED. SSNY SHALL MAIL PROCESS TO 40-18 BELL BLVD., BAYSIDE, NY 11361, C/O TBO SITESCAPES INC., WHICH IS ALSO THE PRINCIPAL BUSINESS LOCATION. PURPOSE: ANY LAWFUL PURPOSE.

#217077

## M&E HIGH RIDGE LLC

M&E HIGH RIDGE LLC ARTICLES OF ORG. FILED NY SEC. OF STATE (SSNY) 4/18/24. OFFICE IN QUEENS CO. SSNY DESIG. AGENT OF LLC WHOM PROCESS MAY BE SERVED. SSNY SHALL MAIL PROCESS TO 105-30 101ST AVE., OZONE PARK, NY 11416, WHICH IS ALSO THE PRINCIPAL BUSINESS LOCATION. PURPOSE: ANY LAWFUL PURPOSE.

#217236

## CITRUS HAVEN LLC

NOTICE OF QUALIFICATION OF CITRUS HAVEN LLC. AUTHORITY FILED WITH SECY. OF STATE OF NY (SSNY) ON 04/12/24. OFFICE LOCATION: QUEENS COUNTY. LLC FORMED IN FLORIDA (FL) ON 02/15/24. SSNY DESIGNATED AS AGENT OF LLC UPON WHOM PROCESS AGAINST IT MAY BE SERVED. SSNY SHALL MAIL PROCESS TO: 31 MONTEREY STREET, APT. A, PONTE VEDRA BEACH, FL 32082, ALSO THE ADDRESS REQUIRED TO BE MAINTAINED IN FL. ARTS OF ORG. FILED WITH THE FL SECY. OF STATE, R.A. GRAY BUILDING, 500 S BROUGH ST., TALLAHASSEE, FL 32399. PURPOSE: ANY LAWFUL ACTIVITIES.

#217247

## 186 UNION CENTER LLC

NOTICE OF QUALIFICATION OF 186 UNION CENTER LLC. AUTHORITY FILED WITH SECY. OF STATE OF NY (SSNY) ON 04/11/24. OFFICE LOCATION: QUEENS COUNTY. LLC FORMED IN DELAWARE (DE) ON 10/12/23. SSNY DESIGNATED AS AGENT OF LLC UPON WHOM PROCESS AGAINST IT MAY BE SERVED. SSNY SHALL MAIL PROCESS TO: C/O AB CAPSTONE LLC, 251-73 JERICHO TURNPIKE, SUITE 404, BELLROSE, NY 11426, ATTN: MEIR BABAIEV. ADDRESS TO BE MAINTAINED IN DE: CORPORATE CREATIONS NETWORK INC., 1521 CONCORD PIKE, SUITE 201, WILMINGTON, DE 19803. ARTS OF ORG. FILED WITH THE DE SECY. OF STATE, 401 FEDERAL ST., DOVER, DE 19901. PURPOSE: ANY LAWFUL ACTIVITIES.

#217248

## ING PROPERTIES LLC

ING PROPERTIES LLC FILED ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION WITH THE SECRETARY OF STATE OF NEW YORK (SSNY) ON 12/21/2021. OFFICE: QUEENS COUNTY. SSNY HAS BEEN DESIGNATED AS AGENT OF THE LLC UPON WHOM PROCESS AGAINST IT MAY BE SERVED. SSNY SHALL MAIL COPY OF PROCESS TO THE LLC TO 146-04 21 AVE 1ST FLOOR WHITESTONE, NY, 11357. PURPOSE: ANY LAWFUL PURPOSE.

#217251

## STN FUNDING LLC

STN FUNDING LLC,ART.OF ORG.FILED NY DOS 4/23/24,QUEE.CO.S/S C/O THE LLC 26-32 SKILLMAN AVE.,L.I.C.,NY 11101.TO ENGAGE IN ANY LAWFUL ACT OR ACTIVITY.MANAGED BY 1 OR MORE MANAGERS.PERPETUAL EXISTENCE.FULL INDEMNIFICATION.

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## MSJ786 GROUP LLC

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#217828

## 11104

### LODMANKICHLER LLC

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (LLC). NAME: LODMANKICHLER LLC. ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION FILED WITH SECRETARY OF STATE OF NEW YORK (SSNY) ON 1/25/2024. 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 MARTIN C, LODMAN III 4142 47TH STREET, UNIT 1 SUNNYSIDE, NY, 11104. PURPOSE/CHARACTER OF LLC: ANY LAWFUL PURPOSE.

#216746

## 11106

### P'TITE MAISON LLC

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (LLC). NAME: P'TITE MAISON 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 THE LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY 3443 CRESCENT ST APT 2N, ASTORIA, NY, 11106. PURPOSE/CHARACTER OF LLC: ANY LAWFUL PURPOSE.

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## 11358

### CSW PRO MANAGEMENT LLC

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## 11379

### BKHOOPZ LLC

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#217075

## 11412

### AMITA LUNA PERINATAL LLC

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#216956

## 11421

### BALDALLAC LLC

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#217526

## 11436

### CHEME ENTERPRISES LLC

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#216611

## 11694

### HEMPSTEAD GOLF LLC

NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (LLC). NAME: HEMPSTEAD GOLF LLC. ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION FILED WITH SECRETARY OF STATE OF NEW YORK (SSNY) ON 3/29/2024. 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 KELLEY BROOKE, 253 BEACH 134TH STREET BELLE HARBOR, NY, 11694. PURPOSE/CHARACTER OF LLC: ANY LAWFUL PURPOSE.

#216961



Gamblers play the cash wheel at the Hard Rock casino in Atlantic City, N.J., on May 17, 2023. Figures released by state gambling regulators on Thursday, May 16, 2024, show that New Jersey's casinos, horse tracks that accept sports bets and their online partners won more than half a billion dollars from gamblers in April. AP Photo/Wayne Parry



Archaeologists at Colonial Williamsburg in Virginia work around a chimney base in the summer of 2023 at a site where military barracks are believed to have stood during the American Revolution. The museum announced the site's discovery on Tuesday, May 14, 2024.

Colonial Williamsburg Foundation via AP

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# MTA blames canceled express bus trips on driver shortages

By Jose Martinez  
THE CITY

On Thursday morning, the MTA scrapped a series of scheduled trips on express bus routes that link the boroughs with Manhattan, sounding a familiar refrain on social media about a shortage of drivers.

“We’re running as much service as we can with the bus operators we have available,” @NYCTBus posted repeatedly to X (formerly Twitter).

At least six scheduled morning express bus runs — from Staten Island, two from The Bronx and one apiece from Brooklyn and Queens — were scrapped, a day after the agency similarly blamed a bus operator shortfall for a series of canceled express trips.

The rash of cancellations came as the MTA plans to boost service on six express bus routes next month, just before the scheduled June 30 start of congestion pricing. Officials are hopeful that more service will draw motorists out of their private vehicles and on to mass transit as the first-in-the-nation central business district vehicle-tolling program launches.

But transit sources and advocates for express bus riders told THE CITY that commuters who live on Staten Island and in borough neighborhoods far from the subway system are also contending with maintenance issues and a shortage of coaches. The canceled trips are disrupting the commutes of the more than 50,000 weekday commuters who rely on the 1,030 express buses that run along close to 80 routes for \$7 a trip.

“They’re canceling lots and lots and lots of service on a daily basis, canceling it on the backs of their customers,” said Vittorio Bugatti, an express bus rider from Brooklyn and founder of the Express Bus Advocacy Group. “A lot of people are very frustrated and they have every right to be, as the service is very unreliable.”

“But you can’t run the extra service if you can’t run what you have now,” he added.

Even as the MTA pointed to agency data showing that express bus service delivery is at 95.4% in 2024 — one of the highest figures since the start of the pandemic — the canceled runs have piled up, with the agency conceding that



A Staten Island express bus moves through Lower Manhattan, May 10, 2024.

Credit: Alex Krales/THE CITY

80% of the lost trips this year can be pinned on operator vacancies and availability.

“I am constantly being told and seeing posts from the MTA about how they’re running as much service as they can with the bus operators they have available,” said Filippa Grisafi, a rider advocate who commutes between Staten Island and Manhattan. “And then a bus driver will tell me, ‘I’m standing outside the depot and we have 10 operators waiting because we don’t have buses.’”

A spokesperson did not respond directly to THE CITY’s questions asking if the MTA has had recent maintenance issues or a shortage of express buses that has contributed to the cancellations, but said the agency continues to hire bus operators.

“New York City Transit continues to aggressively fill bus operators vacancies, regularly onboarding dozens of new operators, while continu-

ing to provide reliable service,” Michael Cortez, an MTA spokesperson, told THE CITY in a statement. “As more operators graduate from training, they will be strategically deployed.”

In March, the latest date for which numbers are available, 95.8% of express bus trips completed their scheduled runs, according to MTA data — down from 97.2% one year earlier, but higher than the 12-month low of 92.3% last July.

“Every night for the past month, going to Manhattan or back up to The Bronx, there have been numerous cancellations back to back,” said Marielena Recine, who commutes daily on the BxM10, which runs between Williamsbridge/Morris Park and Midtown. “At that point, how are you getting home?”

“You’re not always going to pay \$80 for an Uber.”

THE CITY reported this week that the MTA recently paid \$100,000 to New Jersey Transit for 15 used coaches that will largely be used for parts in helping to maintain the MTA express bus fleet in advance of the service boosts to six routes, four of which run between Staten Island and Manhattan.

The NJT bus buy took place as North America’s largest mass transit system faces multiple lawsuits — including one from New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy — that seek to stop congestion pricing, which is designed to dramatically reduce traffic on Manhattan’s most congested streets while raising billions of dollars for upkeep and expansion of the mass transit system.

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# DOC's struggle to provide programs on Rikers continues

*Continued from page 1*

ation, SCO Family of Services, Greenhope Services for Women and Fedcap Rehabilitation Services in June of last year. The providers were set to enter into the final year of the contract, which allowed them to provide anger management, parenting skills, workforce development, vocational training, social services and other programs for detainees on Rikers Island.

The DOC's decision to end the contract – which amounted to less than one percent of its total \$1.2 billion budget – came after Mayor Eric Adams ordered one of several across-the-board budget cuts to city agencies last year.

The severed contract drew condemnation not only from the providers but also from a number of lawmakers and criminal justice advocates who claimed that the cuts were antithetical to lowering the city's recidivism rate and generally improving public safety.

The DOC, under Molina, defended the cut and claimed that they would be able to offer as many programs as were offered by the nonprofits. Nonetheless, DOC brass offered scant details about how the agency would fulfill that promise during a budget hearing last year.

During the May 2023 hearing, Torres said that “when it comes to that transition plan, we're working internally.”

It wasn't until January of this year that a full accounting of the impact of the severed contract was made clear.

During the first four months of Fiscal Year 2024 – which began in July 2023 – the number of group-based programming offered to detainees on Rikers Island dropped by 29 percent and one-on-one sessions dropped by over 30 percent when compared to the first four months of Fiscal Year 2023, according to the Mayor's Management Report released in January.

The decline came immediately after the



The DOC has continued to struggle to provide programming to detainees a year after it cut a contract with nonprofit service providers.

Photo by Gerardo Romo / NYC Council Media Unit

agency prematurely terminated the \$17 million contract with the five nonprofit service providers.

According to the Mayor's Management Report, the overall number of detainees participating in programs, services and activities dropped by around six percent at the start of Fiscal Year 2024.

During the first four months of Fiscal Year 2023, when the nonprofits were providing programming in Rikers, there were over 11,300 one-on-one programming sessions offered to detainees. That number dropped to 7,878 in the first four months of Fiscal Year 2024, according to the report. Group sessions fell from 14,323 to

10,221 in the same time period.

DOC Commissioner Lynelle Maginley-Liddie, who took over the position from Molina in December, took notice of the decline. In February, she quietly asked two nonprofits, including Queens-based organization the Fortune Society, to return to Rikers to provide a limited number of programs free of charge to the DOC.

Since February, the Fortune Society has been providing transitional planning services and employment services in only one facility on Rikers, the Eric M. Taylor Center, the second-most populous jail facility on Rikers. Fortune has also been screening detainees and assessing whether or not they are eligible to

participate in any of the alternatives to incarceration programs the nonprofit provides.

A week after the Eagle was the first to report on Fortune's return to Rikers, the Adams administration announced that it planned to send \$14 million to the DOC to “enhance programing initiatives for people in custody.” The money will go toward contracts with nonprofit organizations that offer a range of services to detainees, a spokesperson for City Hall said at the time.

However, officials said on Friday that the new money not only has very little to do with the \$17 million severed contract, but it also won't be seen by providers for some time.

The city has yet to send out a bid to nonprofits for the funding and doesn't plan to do so until at least the summer, DOC leadership said.

When asked by councilmembers if the agency would consider using the money to send out emergency contracts to bring the nonprofits back to the island quicker, DOC officials said they would not.

However, Stanley Richards, the CEO of the Fortune Society, said both his and the other nonprofits would jump at the opportunity to return to Rikers and

restore the programming to what it once was.

“We stand ready to be engaged,” Richards told the Eagle on Friday following the hearing. “At this point, I encourage them to find ways to expedite the use of those resources to bring back programs to the department.”

Given the lag in programming over the past year, Torres was asked by Council Finance Committee Chair Justin Brannan at one point during the hearing if the agency had regretted its austerity measure made last year.

“We responded to the request to reduce our budget,” Torres said. “It is true that we have been impacted, but we have not been idled in ensuring that there are other additional services.”

## Opinion: Mayor Adams should reverse cut to one of Queens' most crucial resources

By James Gennaro  
Special to the Eagle

Mayor Adams has proposed a wide range of budget cuts across nearly all city agencies and public resources, including our libraries.

New York City's public library systems are facing \$58.3 million in proposed budget cuts this year – and that is on top of the mid-year cuts that already forced reductions in books, programs and maintenance, as well as the end of seven-day service. If these extensive budget cuts go through, it would be yet another devastating blow to library-goers across all five boroughs, but most especially in Queens, where so many families rely on our libraries, library programs and weekend service.

Libraries are a crucial resource for our communities. They provide free access to books, educational materials, digital resources and entertainment. They also provide valuable programs for our children and our seniors.

Last year, Queens Public Library saw 5.6 million total visits, a circulation of 7.7 million materials, and an attendance of 849,943 at their programs. Queens Public Library is one of the largest and busiest library systems in the United States. The mayor's proposed budget cuts have put all of these resources in jeopardy and will inevitably result in fewer programs and classes. These include vital programs such as job readiness, computer literacy and financial literacy workshops. It is often our most vulnerable populations that rely on these types of programs the most, and so unfortunately, having fewer options available for them will disproportionately impact low-income communities.

Approximately 90 percent of Queen Public



City Councilmember James Gennaro.  
Photo via Gennaro's office

Library's budget comes from the city. If the cuts go through, QPL will have no other choice but to eliminate weekend service at nearly all Queens locations, as it is prioritizing keeping libraries open on weekdays for afterschool services, such as homework enrichment and STEM activities.

In my district, I fought tooth and nail to ensure that the Kew Gardens Hills branch remained open on Sundays. Kew Gardens Hills

is home to one of the largest Jewish Orthodox populations in the city. This particular branch is heavily utilized by Jewish families, who observe Shabbat on Saturdays. I have always known how important this library was to my constituents, which is why I fought so hard to preserve Sunday service. While I am so grateful to have worked with Queens Public Library to keep the Kew Gardens Hills branch open on Sundays, it is simply not feasible to maintain weekend service across the borough given the magnitude of budget cuts the library is facing. Nearly all branches will lose weekend service altogether.

But it isn't just our Jewish neighbors who will be impacted by these budget cuts. Countless Queens residents and their children flock to the libraries on the weekends to read, do homework, use a computer and/or attend a program. Last year, Queens Public Library boasted 883,821 weekend visits, 109,915 weekend computer sessions and a weekend program attendance of 125,020. Families all across the Borough – and the city – will be displaced on the weekends as the result of these weekend closures. This is also a particularly devastating blow to the thousands of individuals who utilize a public computer on weekends. Our library system plays a crucial role in bridging the “digital divide” by offering free internet and computer use – a service heavily utilized by low-income families. Eliminating weekend service eliminates access to these crucial resources, once again, impacting our most vulnerable populations.

In addition to fewer library programs and the elimination of weekend service, the may-

or's proposed budget cuts are stalling the reopening of the Hillcrest Library branch. The Hillcrest branch, which is located in my district, has been closed since before the pandemic. Initially, the branch closed to undergo the installation of a brand new roof and HVAC system. The upgrades, which cost the library \$3 million, are expected to be completed next month. But despite all upgrades, the library will remain closed simply because it does not have the funds to staff the branch. My office has received many complaints from constituents who really miss the library and are impacted by the branch's closure. Before the pandemic, the Hillcrest branch saw 102,630 annual visits. What a shame it is to have invested so much money into Hillcrest Library only to have it sit empty and unutilized because the library does not have the funds to keep it running amidst these budget cuts.

But outside of the numbers and the statistics, the mayor's budget cuts will have a real impact on those that need our libraries the most. For so many, the library is more than just a place to go – it is a safe haven, a place to read and escape from a troubled home, a place to make new friends, a place to learn proper job etiquette before a big interview, or a place to learn important life skills, like how to balance a checkbook. These budget cuts will have a detrimental impact on our families. I urge Mayor Eric Adams to look at better solutions to fund the city's fiscal crisis and restore funding to our library system for the sake of all city residents.

James Gennaro is a city councilmember who represents the 24th Council District in Queens.