



Trump's Sculpture Emerges From Manhattan Manhole

page-02



UN Forum Welcomes Faith-Based Leadership

page-05



Wildlife Comes to the Classroom

page-07



Bridging the Gap: FDNY Partners with Muslim Communities

page-08

Sunday, JULY 27, 2025

nyn.press

Safar -1447

+1646 444 6644

info@nyn.press

NEW YORK NEWS

The Voice of People

From New York



Image Source: CNBC

AI Race Lacks Clear Direction

U.S.–China AI competition intensifies amid strategy confusion

Lily Anderson

In a dramatic turn in the global tech rivalry, artificial intelligence has become the newest and fiercest battleground between the United States and China. As July 2025 closed, both nations unveiled sharply opposing strategies that could shape the future of AI worldwide.

The Trump administration launched a bold, low-regulation AI policy, touting innovation and export growth. Yet critics argue it lacks a clear endgame, risking short-term gains over long-term safety and stability.

Just days later, Chinese Premier Li Qiang, speaking at the World AI Conference in Shanghai, proposed a multilateral body for global AI governance. He warned that without international coordination, AI development could become dangerously imbalanced and monopolized. As Washington pursues dominance through relaxed export rules, Beijing champions ethical oversight and shared responsibility. The world must now ask: can true AI leadership exist without accountability?

U.S.–EU Tariff Showdown

Last-minute efforts to avoid escalation

Alexandar Sullivan

In a pivotal moment for transatlantic commerce, President Donald Trump and European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen met on Sunday afternoon, July 27, 2025, at his private Turnberry golf resort in Scotland to negotiate a trade agreement aimed at head-off a looming trade war. With an August 1 deadline set for the imposition of 30% U.S. tariffs on most EU imports, the stakes could not be higher.

U.S. negotiators, including Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick and Trade Representative Jamieson Greer, and EU counterpart Maroš Šefčovič were part of intense final-hour discussions seeking a compromise rate—reportedly a 15% tariff baseline aligned with a recent U.S.–Japan agreement. The deal under consideration would spare key sectors—automobiles, pharmaceuticals, and metals—from punitive tariffs and offer

HIGHLIGHT

●30% U.S. tariffs set to begin August 1.

●EU prepares retaliation on U.S. goods.

industry clarity ahead of escalating uncertainty. Despite mounting pressure, both sides expressed guarded optimism. Trump described the chance of striking a deal as “50-50,” underscoring his demand that the EU open its markets to

U.S. goods in return. EU leaders such as German Chancellor Friedrich Merz and French President Emmanuel Macron echoed hopes for resolution while preparing for fallback retaliation. Brussels has already drafted plans for retaliatory tariffs valued at up to €93 billion (\$109 bn) targeting U.S. exports including beef, aircraft, and vehicles if talks collapse. Diplomats noted that internal divisions within the EU—between countries demanding concession and others

resisting asymmetrical deals—add complexity to securing unanimous approval. As global markets watched closely, the success of this Scotland summit could prevent severe disruption to \$1.6 trillion in bilateral trade, affecting industries on both sides of the Atlantic. If concluded, the deal would mark a landmark achievement in Trump's second administration and set a critical precedent for U.S. trade relations with its largest economic partner.

The Short

3 injured in facade wall collapse at furniture store in Queens

page-02

The Dilemma of Terminology

page-03

Empowering Asian Voices: Zohran Mamdani Celebrated in Queens

page-04

Charity with Clarity Lands in New York

page-06

France to Recognize Palestine

Macron's bold September pledge reshapes Western stance

John Paul

In a significant diplomatic shift, France has announced plans to formally recognize the State of Palestine at the United Nations General Assembly in September 2025. The move makes France the first G7 nation to take this step and comes amid rising global concern over the humanitarian crisis in Gaza. The recognition is

HIGHLIGHT

●France to recognize Palestine in September

●First G7 nation to do so

●Move aims to revive two-state solution

●Israel and U.S. condemn the decision

●Recognition tied to Gaza humanitarian crisis

intended to reaffirm France's longstanding support for a two-state solution and to pressure international actors toward renewed peace efforts. The decision also reflects growing frustration over stalled negotiations and escalating violence in the region. While many see the move as symbolic, it could have wide-reaching implications, encouraging other

European nations to follow suit. The recognition has been met with harsh criticism from Israel, which views it as legitimizing militant groups, and from the United States, which called the timing reckless. France's decision arrives at a moment when diplomatic momentum is urgently needed, especially as conditions in Gaza deteriorate. With this

bold step, France signals its willingness to reshape the international conversation on Palestinian statehood—even at the cost of straining traditional alliances.

NEW YORK NEWS

Sunday, July 27, 2025

ISSUE-38

Please send news to

info@nyn.press

Published by NYNN

New York News Networks



COMMUNITY NEWS

Trump's Sculpture Emerges From Manhattan Manhole

Staff Reporter

On the morning of July 23, New Yorkers were taken by surprise when a bright red sculpture of US President Donald Trump appeared at a busy Manhattan intersection, seemingly climbing out of a manhole. The life-size artwork, titled Donald, was secretly installed by French street artist James Colomina at the corner of East 42nd Street and 2nd Avenue. Colomina, known for his provocative red sculptures placed unannounced in public spaces, told USA Today the location was intentional: "I installed the sculpture in New York because this is where he built his image, his empire,



his legend," he said, as per USA Today. "A city he tried to conquer with golden towers and brutal slogans. I wanted

this image, a red body rising from the sewers, to disturb that landscape." The sculpture, made of red

resin, depicted Trump from the waist up in a suit and tie, his expression stern, lips pursed, and eyes cast upward toward the skyscrapers. Tucked beneath the manhole cover, part of the sculpture, was a small red rat, peering out. The installation faced the Chrysler Building, a placement Colomina said was deliberate: "The sculpture is installed right across from the Chrysler Building, a symbol of power, elevation, and architectural pride. I liked the idea of creating a stark contrast between this vertical monument and the grotesque figure emerging from the sewers." Colomina, who posted an image of the sculpture to

his Instagram story with the caption "Make America Grime Again," said he spent about three weeks creating the piece in his studio in France. He shipped it to New York in parts and reassembled it on-site around 7 am local time. But the artwork didn't stay up for long. Later that day, a maintenance worker with SL Green Realty Corp, which owns the building where the statue appeared, removed it. The Trump administration dismissed the installation. White House Deputy Press Secretary Abigail Jackson told USA Today: "Imitation is the sincerest form of flattery. This 'artist' will have to go back to the drawing board. Or perhaps art school."

3 Injured in Facade Wall Collapse At Furniture Store in Queens



NYN DESK

Three people were injured after a facade wall at a furniture store in Queens collapsed on Wednesday. People working and shopping on the busy commercial strip of Jericho Turnpike, right on the Queens-Nassau border, around 5 p.m., were shocked by the sound of hundreds of cinderblocks dropped to the pavement when the facades of several stores peeled away. "I thought a bomb went off, honestly. Honest to god. I thought a bomb went off," eyewitness Victoria Craig

said. It happened at 245-13 Jericho Turnpike in the Bellerose section. Department of Buildings inspectors say about 175 feet of a facade wall partially collapsed onto the sidewalk and street below. The crash kicked up a cloud of dust seen in surveillance video from across the street. Firefighters responded and hosed down the dust. Most of the facade had been on the storefront of Plaza Furniture, whose owner said he just opened the store two weeks ago. "I went outside. I see someone screaming. I just

called 911 right away," Billy Rashid said. The screaming was coming from the rubble. "Luckily, only one person was underneath. Thank God," eyewitness Jophry Phillip said. Witnesses worked together to rescue him. "A lot of people ran over. Without hesitation. Just ran over and started getting the guy out of the rubble," Craig said. Police say the 25-year-old man suffered pain in his back and was taken to a hospital. "He was saying that he was in pain on his right leg and lower back and he was grateful that he was still alive," Phillip said. The debris also struck a parked Jeep with an 11-year-old girl sitting in the rear passenger seat and a 13-year-old girl sitting in the front passenger seat. The 11-year-old suffered pain to the back, and the 13-year-old girl suffered pain in the right leg. The 25-year-old man was taken to North Shore University Hospital, and the two girls were taken to Cohen Children's Medical Center.

90 Year Old Man Killed Crossing The Street in Brooklyn

Staff Reporter

A 90-year-old man was struck and killed by a moped as he was crossing the street in Brooklyn Tuesday morning, police said. Zhuo Xie was crossing East 14th Street and Avenue U in Sheepshead Bay when he was hit by a blue moped that fled from the scene, police said. He got to the corner of 14th Street and looked left down the one-way street. That's when police said a man riding a blue moped slammed into



Xie and both men fell to the ground. Initially, the suspect checked on the victim, who witnesses said was bleeding heavily from the mouth. Instead of staying with the man he just plowed into, he walked over to the moped, stayed for a few seconds and

took off. A driver who was parked in the crosswalk the entire time got into their car and drove away. Some rushed to the victim to see if he was OK, but he lay motionless in the street. From start to finish, the moped driver only hung around for about two and a half minutes, and now police are looking for him. Police said the man was in the crosswalk against the light when he was hit and suffered severe head trauma, officials said.

Thousands Without Power on Staten Island Amid Heat, Storms



NYN DESK

Thousands of Con Edison customers on Staten Island lost power Friday as heat gripped the city and storms moved through the area. As of 6:20 p.m., more than 18,100 customers in the borough were without power, according to Con Edison's outage map. More than 1,500 customers in Brooklyn and more than 240 customers in Queens were also dealing with outages, the map showed. (A "customer" outage does not necessarily reflect one resident or household. For example, in some instances, a "customer" outage could reflect an entire residential building.) In a release, Con Edison said it reduced voltage by 8% on the east side of Staten Island "to protect

equipment and maintain service as repairs are made." "The affected area includes 64,900 customers and is bounded by the Kill Van Kull on the north, The Narrows on the east, Raritan Bay on the south, and Bard Avenue and Manor Road on the west," the release said. The utility is urging residents in certain neighborhoods to temporarily avoid using energy-intensive appliances such as washers, dryers and microwaves, and to limit the use of air conditioning, as well as refrain from charging electric vehicles. The request to reduce energy use was made for the following neighborhoods: New Brighton, St. George, Tompkinsville,

Prayer Time IN New York

FAJR	DHUHR	ASR	MAGHRIB	ISHA
04:19	01:02	04:58	08:15	09:46
04:20	01:02	04:58	08:14	09:44
04:21	01:02	04:58	08:13	09:43
04:23	01:02	04:57	08:12	09:41
04:24	01:02	04:57	08:11	09:40
04:25	01:02	04:56	08:10	09:38
04:27	01:02	04:56	08:09	09:37

OPINION

The Dilemma of Terminology

Imam Shamsi Ali

A word or terminology can often carry different nuances and meanings. The interpretation of a word or terminology is largely determined by the context in which it is used, and most importantly, the intention behind its use. Let's take a popular example that is still widely used by many people. The use of the word "great" in the context of "Make America Great Again" or the word "first" in the phrase "America First" can be interpreted differently by many people. Some people interpret these words positively in relation to America, genuinely wanting to see America become strong and advanced. However, others understand them negatively, and for negative purposes as well.

When someone says "Make America Great Again" and that person has racist tendencies, the phrase can be understood as racist, implying making America (dominant) white again for White Supremacists or White Nationalists. Similarly, the phrase "America First" can be seen as discriminatory against non-whites in America. If we apply this to the realm of religion, some terminologies, even if believed to be positive, can be

understood negatively and lead to negative behavior. Let's take the example of two communities that seem to be at odds due to the Middle East issue: Jews and Muslims. The Jewish community has the concept of "the chosen people," while Muslims also believe in the concept of "the best nation." Both terminologies, although believed to be positive, can be understood negatively by both adherents of each religion and others. Positively, the words "chosen" and "best" are understood as a moral representation and an obligation to convey the message to others. However, many also understand them negatively and incorrectly. The concept of being chosen among the Jewish community and the concept of being the best among the Muslim community can be understood negatively as superiority over others, leading to arrogant behavior in the name of religion. The danger of politicizing



— Imam Shamsi Ali :
 Director of Jamaica
 Muslim Center

terminology is even more complicated when a word or terminology is understood politically, whether intentionally or subconsciously. Understanding a religious terminology that should be noble and good can turn into something evil and dangerous if viewed through a political lens. This can ultimately lead to justifying the condemnation of an entire noble religious teaching. In Islam, there is a terminology that is actually a very positive and noble concept of life, but is often understood negatively and dangerously. That is the word or concept of striving or struggling in Islam, known as "jihad" in the language of the religion. Jihad is believed by adherents to be a positive and noble concept that teaches working hard and struggling to bring about good things in life, both on a personal and collective level. However, this concept is often understood negatively and dangerously. The word "jihad"

is sometimes understood as a destructive concept, implying violence, murder, destruction, and so on. And it's even worse when this concept is politicized. The reality above makes me aware of a sensitive terminology that even becomes a fear for some, especially to the Jewish community. That word is "intifada," which means "shaking off" or "uprising" in Arabic, and it refers to a popular uprising or resistance movement of the Palestinians against Israeli occupation of their land. However, in its journey, this word or terminology has become negative and even feared because it's associated with violence, murder, and destruction. But doesn't it remind us also the so-called "self-defense" which these days is openly linked to genocide? Shamelessly, this word is often forced to be condemned by some people. Yet, this word has become "a path" for those who fight for their basic human rights of freedom and independence. Undoubtedly, those who are on the opposite side, "depriving others of freedom," would see it as evil and dangerous. Perhaps each of us just needs to learn to feel what others feel, even if it's sometimes bitter. Minimize your ego!

“Understanding a religious terminology that should be noble and good can turn into something evil and dangerous if viewed through a political lens.”



Image Source:thehappinesstrap.com

“Perhaps each of us just needs to learn to feel what others feel, even if it's sometimes bitter. Minimize your ego!”

Feeding the Future: Faith, Action, and the Fight Against Hunger

Imam Muhammad Shahidullah



In a world brimming with abundance, it is unconscionable that millions still go to bed hungry every night. Sustainable Development Goal 2: Zero Hunger is not just an aspiration—it is a moral imperative. As people of faith and conscience, we must not accept hunger as a permanent feature of our global landscape. Instead, we must

unite across all sectors to ensure food security and nutrition for every human being. Hunger is not just the absence of food—it is the erosion of dignity, the denial of opportunity, and a silent force of inequality. It disproportionately affects the poor, the displaced, and the voiceless, including children whose future is stunted by chronic malnutrition. In many parts of the world, including right here in our neighborhoods, food insecurity is a daily reality.



— Imam Muhammad
 Shahidullah
 Vice President, United
 Nations Association
 of the USA (UNA-
 USA), Queens Chapter

From single mothers choosing between rent and groceries to elderly individuals skipping meals to afford medicine, hunger is closer than we often admit. We need to advocate for food systems that are resilient, equitable, and sustainable. Local agriculture, community gardens, and food banks are not just emergency solutions—they are essential components of long-term food justice. Governments must increase investment in

sustainable farming, reduce food waste, and ensure fair access to nutritious food. Faith communities and civic organizations have a powerful role to play in feeding the hungry—not just through charity but by championing policies that address the root causes of food insecurity. Compassion must extend beyond words and belief systems—it must be reflected in concrete action. Eradicating hunger requires a shared commitment from individuals, institutions, and governments to confront the root causes of food insecurity with justice, coordination, and a deep sense of human responsibility.

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Empowering Asian Voices: Zohran Mamdani Celebrated in Queens

Victory party in Jamaica highlights immigrant political engagement.



Emily Parker

In a spirited celebration of grassroots democracy, members of the Jamaica community in Queens gathered on Tuesday, July 22, to honor the electoral success of Zohran Mamdani, a candidate

widely embraced by immigrant, working-class, and multiracial residents. Held at 173-175 Hillside Avenue, the event marked a moment of shared pride and renewed political hope. Organized under the banner of “Zohran Victory Party with

Jamaica Community,” the evening’s celebration was a colorful and heartfelt display of solidarity. Community members of all ages—many dressed in traditional South Asian attire—converged to express joy and gratitude for Mamdani’s

efforts and success. The crowd came armed with posters, drums, and infectious enthusiasm, transforming the gathering into a moment of unity and cultural pride. The event underscored the deep bond between Mamdani and the diverse neighborhoods of Queens he represents and advocates for. Photographs from the celebration captured smiling elders, engaged youth, and energized campaign supporters—all of whom played a role in the political momentum that helped secure Mamdani’s victory. Many participants proudly held up campaign posters, reinforcing the collective spirit that characterized his campaign. The drum beats echoed through the streets, not

only as a celebratory rhythm but as a symbol of grassroots energy and community-driven change. The celebration featured impromptu dancing, conversations about the future, and personal stories of how Mamdani’s vision resonated with the everyday realities of working families. Mamdani, who has built his political platform around housing justice, immigrant rights, and economic fairness, has become a recognized figure in Queens and across New York City. His ability to connect with underrepresented communities has made him a beacon for inclusive and accessible politics. Though Mamdani himself was not visibly featured in the available images, the

overwhelming turnout and joyful atmosphere reflected the immense appreciation and loyalty he enjoys among his constituents. The event was not just a party—it was a reaffirmation of collective strength and the enduring belief that politics can serve people when rooted in community values. As Queens continues to be one of the most vibrant and diverse regions in the country, gatherings like the Zohran Victory Party offer a window into the power of local organizing and the importance of representation that reflects lived experiences. This celebration was a clear message from Jamaica residents: their voices matter, and they will continue to rally behind leaders who listen.



UN FORUM

UN Forum Welcomes Faith-Based Leadership

Save the People USA Participates in Landmark UN Sustainability Dialogue

James Anderson

In a powerful intersection of faith and policy, Imam Muhammad Shahidullah, CEO of Save the People USA, joined global leaders at the United Nations Headquarters in New York to participate in the 2025 High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF). Held from July 14 to July 23, 2025, the forum is the UN's central platform for reviewing progress on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Representing his organization on behalf of American civil society, Imam Shahidullah's presence marked a significant moment for faith-based advocacy at an international level. His participation aligned with the HLPF's commitment to include diverse voices and sectors



in global decision-making processes. The gathering featured a ministerial segment from July 21 to July 23, welcoming senior-level policymakers, experts, and stakeholders from around the world. The theme of the 2025 forum, "Advancing sustainable, inclusive, science- and evidence-based solutions for the 2030 Agenda...", emphasized the

importance of collaboration and equity in addressing global challenges. This year's HLPF spotlighted five core SDGs: health and well-being (SDG 3), gender equality (SDG 5), sustainable economic growth (SDG 8), marine resource conservation (SDG 14), and global partnerships (SDG 17). Through these lenses, participants explored not only policy

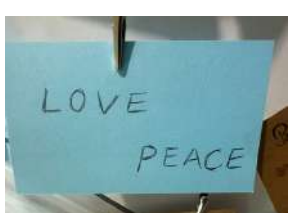
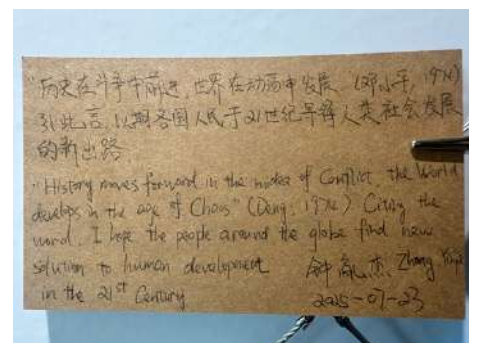
their Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs)—country-specific progress reports on SDG implementation. Alongside government officials, the forum featured academics, UN agencies, and civil society organizations, with additional programming including side events, VNR Labs, and special exhibitions. Save the People USA's engagement underscores the evolving role of faith-based nonprofits in the international

in shaping global frameworks. For Imam Shahidullah, the invitation to engage at the HLPF reflects a broader commitment to amplifying ethical, people-centered approaches to global development. As climate change, inequality, and displacement continue to pose complex threats, leaders from across disciplines—including religious sectors—are being called to the table to collaborate on holistic solutions. As the 2025 HLPF concluded, the collective momentum pointed toward deeper integration of community-led action with global strategies. For Save the People USA, the forum offered both a platform and a promise: that even small voices can echo loudly in the chambers of international diplomacy—especially when they speak for justice, dignity, and sustainable futures for all.



innovations but also grassroots contributions to sustainability. Delegates from 37 countries, including Bangladesh, Ghana, India, the Philippines, and Finland, shared

development sphere. As a U.S.-based organization with community roots and a growing global footprint, its participation signaled the value of local voices



PHILANTHROPY

Charity with Clarity Lands in New York

Latifi Hands Celebrates U.S. Debut in Bronx Event



William Henry

In a significant step toward expanding its global mission of humanitarian service, Latifi Hands Inc. USA was officially launched on July 23, 2025, at Golden Palace, 1451 Unionport Road, Bronx, New York. The well-

attended event marked the U.S. debut of the internationally respected charitable organization that has already made a deep impact in Bangladesh and the United Kingdom. Latifi Hands was founded on the guiding principle of helping those in need—an

ethos rooted in the legacy of Allamah Abdul Latif Chowdhury Fultali (R). His enduring commitment to social welfare is now carried forward by his son, Allamah Imad Uddin Chowdhury Fultali, who has spearheaded numerous charitable initiatives across

continents. The organization's tagline, "Charity with Clarity," reflects its mission to ensure transparency, purpose, and long-term benefit for underserved communities. The launch in New York signifies the charity's entrance into American civil society, promising to bring its proven model of service to vulnerable populations across the United States. With over 100 active appeals, 50+ years of experience, and more than 25 million people helped, Latifi Hands has earned a reputation for reliability and compassion. The charity's core areas of focus include

education, healthcare, housing for orphans and widows, clean water access, and sustainable livelihoods. Its holistic approach is driven by the belief that improving lives requires multifaceted intervention—from building schools and medical camps to constructing housing and funding vocational tools. Speaking to the values behind Latifi Hands, the organization emphasizes service to humanity across all religious and social lines. The projects in Bangladesh have especially focused on providing clean water, maternal care, and support for people with disabilities. In the UK, the charity has become a familiar name in faith-based humanitarian circles. The Bronx launch now paves the way for similar contributions in American communities,

starting with those most in need. The event drew a diverse gathering of community members, religious leaders, and nonprofit representatives, all united in welcoming a new chapter for a trusted name in global charity. The energy in the room underscored the enthusiasm for building bridges between cultures through collective action and compassion. As Latifi Hands embarks on its journey in the United States, its leadership hopes to continue making measurable impact through programs rooted in Islamic values and universal principles of justice and service. With its strong legacy and growing global footprint, the organization is poised to become a powerful force for good in American society.



EDUCATION

Wildlife Comes to the Classroom

Elhaam Academy Students Learn Through Live Animal Encounters

Patt Cummins

In a vivid demonstration of hands-on education, Elhaam Academy brought nature directly into the classroom as part of its summer school program, offering students an up-close encounter with wildlife. The Live Animal Interaction session, held recently, provided a dynamic and unforgettable opportunity for students to explore the natural world through direct observation and engagement. The session featured a variety of animals, including snakes, turtles, exotic birds, and lizards, each presented by experienced wildlife educators. As students gathered around with wide eyes and eager questions, they learned about the animals' natural habitats, unique



behaviors, and the critical importance of conservation efforts. The event was designed to deepen student understanding of biology and ecology through a

tangible experience that textbooks alone cannot provide. By meeting the creatures face-to-face, students gained a stronger appreciation for the interconnectedness

of ecosystems and the role humans play in protecting them. The classroom transformed into a miniature sanctuary of biodiversity, buzzing

with excitement as students touched turtle shells, watched lizards bask, and marveled at the vibrant plumage of tropical birds. The moment a snake was gently introduced sparked both curiosity and courage, with several students stepping forward to feel its smooth, scaly skin for the first time. This live learning experience not only complemented classroom instruction but also fostered empathy

deeper curiosity about animal life and a better understanding of how conservation begins with awareness. The success of the event was due in large part to the skilled wildlife educators who guided the interaction with care and clarity, answering students' questions and emphasizing respect for all living beings. Their presence turned a routine summer school day into an inspiring educational journey. Elhaam Academy continues to find innovative ways to engage students during the summer, and the live animal session is a shining example of its commitment to experiential learning. As photos captured students in moments of wonder and connection, it was clear that the lessons of the day would leave a lasting impact.



and responsibility toward wildlife. Many students left the session with a



DISCUSSION



Bridging the Gap: FDNY Partners with Muslim Communities

A historic roundtable sets the stage for inclusive public safety initiatives.

Jessica Morgan

In a landmark step toward deepening community engagement and public safety collaboration, the Fire Department of the City of New York (FDNY) hosted a Muslim Community Roundtable on Monday, July 21, 2025, at the Commissioner Robert O. Lowery Auditorium, located at 9 MetroTech Center in Brooklyn. The event brought together a diverse group of Muslim leaders and FDNY officials in what participants hailed as a long-overdue conversation. Presided over by FDNY Commissioner Robert Tucker, the roundtable marked the first formal setting in which top Muslim imams, scholars, and community leaders from across the five boroughs gathered to exchange ideas



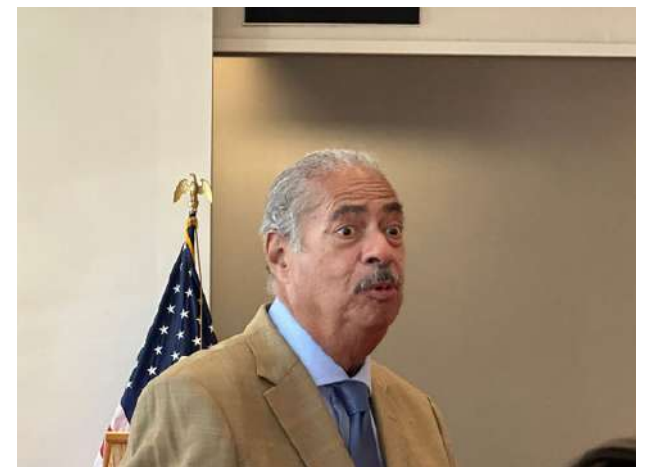
directly with senior leadership from the city's fire department. The goal: to build mutual understanding, share critical safety information, and explore pathways to improve emergency preparedness and trust within Muslim communities. Among the invited leaders was Imam Mohammad Shahidullah,

CEO of Save the People USA (STPUSA), whose participation underscored the importance of faith-based leadership in fostering civic engagement. "Being in the room with Commissioner Tucker and so many respected leaders was not only an honor, but a vital step toward saving lives and empowering

our communities," said Shahidullah after the event. The roundtable emphasized open dialogue on how FDNY can best serve and collaborate with Muslim communities, many of which have expressed a need for culturally sensitive outreach and inclusion in emergency preparedness efforts. Attendees

discussed improving communication during crises, increasing recruitment and training opportunities for Muslim youth within the department, and ensuring equal access to lifesaving resources. Commissioner Tucker expressed his commitment to continued collaboration, highlighting FDNY's dedication to protecting all New

Yorkers regardless of background. The event also paid tribute to the legacy of Commissioner Robert O. Lowery, the department's first African American fire commissioner and a pioneer of inclusive public service. For many in attendance, the event represented a new chapter. By convening around shared values of safety, dignity, and public service, the roundtable set the tone for future engagement between city agencies and religious communities. As the forum concluded, participants voiced a collective resolve to sustain the momentum. With the promise of follow-up initiatives and future sessions, the gathering proved that when dialogue is welcomed and voices are heard, stronger, safer communities can be built—together.



DISCUSSION

Bridging the Gap: FDNY Partners with Muslim Communities



SUMMER STREETS

Streets for the People

Community shines at NYC DOT's Summer Streets in Queens



Ashley Reed

What happens when a busy Queens boulevard goes car-free for a day? It becomes a canvas for creativity, a platform for public service, and a celebration of community spirit. That vision came to life on Saturday, July 26, 2025, as New York City's Department of Transportation (NYC DOT) hosted its Summer Streets 2025 event along 41st Avenue between

Vernon Boulevard and 10th Street. Held under the NYC DOT's Open Streets Initiative, the day-long celebration transformed the area from 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. into a vibrant pedestrian-friendly space filled with activities, performances, and hands-on community engagement. Save the People USA (STPUSA), serving as the lead organization at the Queens rest stop, collaborated with Elhaam Academy, World

Humanity Services, and the UNA-USA Queens Chapter to transform the block into a hub of cultural activity and social connection. Their booths featured everything from free henna painting and bracelet making and drawing activities to hygiene kit distribution, engaging hundreds of passersby in hands-on experiences that combined joy with civic learning. The car-free atmosphere welcomed families, cyclists,

runners, and local residents to explore a new way of interacting with their neighborhood. Rather than navigating busy traffic, attendees were invited to slow down, connect with

neighbors, and take part in enriching activities. "This event is about reclaiming our streets for the people," one organizer shared. "We're making community presence not just visible—but vibrant." The STPUSA-led team, in collaboration with their partners, ensured that every visitor felt welcomed and inspired. Free activities such as temporary henna tattoos, handcrafted jewelry, and informational handouts on civic engagement were offered throughout the day. Each station buzzed with creative expression and meaningful conversations—whether about local services, youth opportunities, or public health. A highlight of the day came with the arrival of NYC Mayor Eric Adams, who walked the street, greeted attendees, and visited multiple booths, including those hosted by STPUSA and its partners. His presence emphasized City Hall's recognition

of community efforts in making public spaces inclusive and active. NYC Department of Transportation Commissioner Ydanis Rodriguez also acknowledged the role of grassroots groups in bringing the Summer Streets vision to life. As the event drew to a close around 3:00 p.m., DOT Commissioner presented certificates of appreciation to volunteers, acknowledging their critical role in making the day a success. The gesture symbolized not only recognition, but a growing partnership between the city and its most active community builders. By combining culture, creativity, and civic empowerment, Summer Streets 2025 in Queens served as a testament to what's possible when public spaces are used for public good. Events like these reaffirm that the heart of New York doesn't just beat in its skyline—it thrives in its streets, in the hands of its people.



SUMMER STREETS

Streets for the People





NASA Faces Mass Exodus

Over 20% of Workforce Applies for Exit Amid Budget Cuts



Photo: Thousands Seek Departure Following Budget Slashes and Leadership Turmoil
Image Source: extremetech.com

Amkel Norush

In a dramatic shift, more than 3,870 NASA employees—over 20% of the agency's workforce—have applied to resign under the Trump administration's Deferred Resignation Program. The deadline for applications closed at midnight on Friday,

marking a major turning point for the space agency. The program, aimed at reducing federal staffing and operational costs, could see NASA's civil servant roster shrink from 18,000 to 14,000, factoring in normal attrition. "Safety remains a top priority for our agency,"

HIGHLIGHT

• Nearly 4,000 NASA employees applied to leave via a buyout program.

• Workforce may shrink by over 20%, from 18,000 to 14,000.

said Cheryl Warner, NASA spokesperson,

emphasizing that missions to the Moon and Mars remain on course. This upheaval follows mounting budget pressure. A 25% cut—from \$24 billion to \$18 billion—has been proposed for fiscal year 2026, compounding anxieties within the agency. Leadership instability has added fuel to the crisis. The abrupt withdrawal of Jared Isaacman's administrator nomination, after public tensions between Donald Trump and Elon Musk, left NASA without permanent leadership. Transportation Secretary Sean Duffy was appointed interim chief earlier this month. As the agency navigates this transition, questions loom over the continuity of its ambitious exploration agenda and ability to retain critical talent.



Photo: Mark Zuckerberg leads Meta's bold AI push, hiring top talent to build a superintelligence powerhouse.
Image Source: web3universe.today

Meta Goes All-In on AI

High-profile recruiting war heats up with OpenAI and Google

Nassr AI Shams

Meta is making a bold bet on machine intelligence by launching an aggressive recruiting campaign to build what CEO Mark Zuckerberg calls the most "talent-dense team in the industry." In recent weeks, the company has signed high-profile AI researchers from rivals including OpenAI, Google, Apple, and Anthropic—some reportedly through multi-million- and even nine-figure compensation packages. A centerpiece of Meta's strategy is the appointment of Shengjia Zhao, a co-creator of ChatGPT, as chief scientist of its new Superintelligence Labs. Zhao now sets the scientific direction for the team, while Scale AI founder Alexandr Wang and ex-GitHub CEO Nat Friedman

lead infrastructure and organizational efforts following Meta's \$14.3 billion investment in Scale last month. Analysts warn that building that much infrastructure—including data centers and proprietary chips—is costly and carries risk, particularly as Meta works to align its superintelligence ambitions with a business model still anchored in advertising revenue. Meta lags behind rivals in large AI model releases, with Llama D4 still pending public launch. Yet through this massive talent race, Zuckerberg appears intent on repositioning Meta not just as a social media company, but as a pioneer of transformative artificial intelligence. If successful, the effort could redefine the company's legacy—and the future of AI.



Photo: Lionel Messi and Inter Miami teammate Jordi Alba suspended
Image Source: Jeff Dean / Getty Images / CNN

Messi and Alba Suspended for No-Show

MLS enforces policy after All-Star Game absence

Julian Alvez

In a hard-fought contest without stars Lionel Messi and Jordi Alba, Inter Miami secured a valuable point in its playoff chase with a 0-0 draw against FC Cincinnati on Saturday in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. The two stars were suspended for skipping the MLS All-Star Game, and their absence left a void in Miami's starting lineup. Despite the setback, Miami (12-4-6, 42 points) showed resilience, narrowly avoiding a last-minute loss in the second half when Miles Robinson's shot appeared to find the back of the net in stoppage time. However, the goal was disallowed after a foul was called on Noah Allen, a decision upheld after a video review. Luis Suarez and Tadeo Allende took on greater responsibility up front in Messi's absence, while

Benja Cremaschi started at left-back in place of Alba. The match saw a strong start from Miami, including a close header from Fafa Picault in the 11th minute, though Cincinnati goalkeeper Roman Celentano recorded his third consecutive clean sheet. Miami's Rocco Rios Novo also stood firm in goal, keeping a clean sheet for the first time since June 14, the club's first shutout in an MLS match since April. Cincinnati's Evander, who scored twice in the first meeting, was kept scoreless despite a missed opportunity in the second half. The tie keeps Inter Miami in the hunt for the playoffs, with Philadelphia leading the Supporters' Shield by eight points. The team will look to build momentum when Messi and Alba return to action in the Leagues Cup on Wednesday against Atlas.

Hulkamania Ends Forever

WWE Hall of Famer Hulk Hogan remembered Worldwide



Photo: WWE Hall of Famer Hulk Hogan dies at 71
Image Source: usanetwork.com

Adrian Smith

Terry Bollea, known globally as Hulk Hogan, died on Thursday at the age of 71, marking the end of one of professional wrestling's most influential legacies. Bollea, whose charisma and muscle-bound persona defined the golden age of wrestling, was instrumental in transforming WWE into a global entertainment powerhouse. Authorities in Clearwater, Florida, responded to a report of cardiac arrest at his residence. Bollea was transported to Morton Plant Hospital, where he was pronounced dead. Officials confirmed no signs of foul play. Rising to fame in the 1980s, Hogan's persona — from his "24-inch

pythons" to his call to "say your prayers and eat your vitamins" — made him a household name. His legendary bouts with stars like André the Giant and "Macho Man" Randy Savage captivated millions. His later role as "Hollywood" Hogan helped reshape the industry once again. Despite controversies in later years, Hogan remained a towering figure in the sport. WWE honored him as "one of pop culture's most recognizable figures." His legacy endures through generations of fans and wrestlers who followed in his footsteps. For millions, Hulk Hogan wasn't just a wrestler — he was the embodiment of wrestling's golden era.

Piastrri Tops Belgian GP

McLaren star secures sixth win of the season.

Charles Lewis

Oscar Piastrri displayed a masterclass in racing strategy and execution to win the 2025 Belgian Grand Prix, his sixth victory of the season. Starting second behind teammate Lando Norris, Piastrri capitalized on a flawless first lap, overtaking Norris at Eau Rouge and maintaining his lead throughout the race. Despite a tire strategy difference, with Norris opting for hard tires and Piastrri choosing medium, the Australian held firm, managing tire wear expertly. Norris, in the closing laps, began to slash the gap, but Piastrri maintained a steady pace to cross the finish line 3.41 seconds ahead of his teammate. The race was delayed by heavy rain, and conditions remained

HIGHLIGHT

• Lando Norris finishes second after tire strategy.
• Charles Leclerc claims third for Ferrari.
tricky throughout. But Piastrri's early overtaking move and tire management ensured he extended his lead in the drivers' championship, now 16 points ahead of Norris. Charles Leclerc secured a morale-boosting third place for Ferrari, while Max Verstappen could only manage fourth. Lewis Hamilton, who started from the pit lane, impressed with his overtakes, eventually finishing seventh. With the Hungarian Grand Prix on the horizon, Piastrri's victory sets the stage for a thrilling championship battle.