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NEW YORK NEWS

The Voice of People

From New York



Photo: US President Donald Trump

Image Source: CNN

Trump Warns Gaza

“Obliteration” if power is not ceded

Alexandar Sullivan

President Donald Trump warned that Hamas faces “complete obliteration” if it refuses to cede power in Gaza, even as he pressed forward with his proposed 20-point ceasefire plan aimed at halting the conflict. In text messages to CNN’s Jake Tapper on Saturday, Trump responded to questions about Hamas’ position by writing simply: “Complete Obliteration!” Trump’s remarks came amid conflicting signals over Hamas’ response. Sen. Lindsey Graham has said the group effectively rejected the

proposal by demanding “no disarmament, keeping Gaza under Palestinian control and tying hostage release to negotiations.” When asked if Graham was wrong, Trump replied, “We will find out. Only time will tell!!!!” but added he expects clarity “soon” on whether Hamas is serious about peace. The president also confirmed that Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is “on board” with ending the bombing campaign and supports his broader vision. On social media, Trump announced that Israel has agreed to the initial withdrawal line laid out

in his plan, calling it a “critical step” toward finalizing a ceasefire and securing the release of

HIGHLIGHT

• Trump warns of “complete obliteration.”

• Israel agrees to initial withdrawal.

• Hostage deal hinges on Hamas reply.

hostages. “If Hamas agrees,” Trump wrote, “the Ceasefire will be IMMEDIATELY effective, the Hostages and Prisoner Exchange

will begin, and we will create the conditions for the next phase of withdrawal.” Trump added that Israel had temporarily halted its airstrikes in Gaza to facilitate negotiations. Yet CNN reported that at least 67 people were killed in Israeli strikes earlier Saturday, according to hospital officials. Trump called the developments “unprecedented” and expressed hope his plan would bring an end to what he termed a “3,000 YEAR CATASTROPHE,” but warned Hamas to act swiftly or face the consequences.

Zelenskyy Slams West

‘No real reaction’ after deadly Russian strikes

Lily Anderson

President Volodymyr Zelenskyy has condemned what he called “zero real reaction” from the West following a deadly wave of Russian drone and missile attacks across Ukraine early Sunday, killing six people and injuring 18.

The strikes included the most intense assault yet on Lviv, a city near the Polish border once considered a safe haven. The overnight attack lasted over five hours, with explosions rocking the city center, a UNESCO World Heritage site. In the village of Lapaivka, a 15-year-old girl and three of her relatives were killed when their home was destroyed. Other regions hit included Zaporizhzhia, Kharkiv, Odesa, and Ivano-Frankivsk. In a video address, Zelenskyy said the strikes were aimed

at crippling Ukraine’s energy infrastructure ahead of winter. “Putin is simply laughing at the West, at its silence and lack of strong action,” he said, warning that Russia used weapons with components from Western nations, including the US and UK.

Fires burned across Lviv, knocking out power in parts of the city. Mayor Andriy Sadovyi and Governor Maksym Kozytskyi urged residents to stay indoors as ash and fumes filled the air. Despite the attack, Lviv BookForum events continued, with international guests including Fiona Benson and Bernardine Evaristo joining remotely. Zelenskyy renewed calls for stronger air defense and a no-fly zone, while EU leaders like Kaja Kallas condemned Moscow’s “terror attacks” and promised continued support for Kyiv.



Photo: Five people were killed in the attacks across the country, and 14 were injured. Image Source: State Emergency Service/EPA/theguardian.com

The Short

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Portland Guard Plan Paused

State sovereignty cited in court order

John Paul

A federal judge has temporarily blocked President Donald Trump’s administration from deploying the National Guard in Portland, ruling in favor of a lawsuit filed by the state and city. U.S. District Judge Karin Immergut, a Trump appointee, issued the order Saturday, saying the relatively small protests in Portland did

not justify federalized forces and allowing the deployment could undermine Oregon’s state sovereignty. “This country has a longstanding and foundational tradition of resistance to government overreach... this is a nation of Constitutional law, not martial law,” Immergut wrote. The White House quickly filed a notice of appeal to the 9th U.S.

HIGHLIGHT

• Federal judge halts National Guard deployment in Portland

• Ruling cites state sovereignty and small protests

Circuit Court of Appeals. Press secretary Abigail Jackson said Trump acted lawfully to protect federal assets after “violent riots and attacks

on law enforcement” and expressed confidence the ruling would be overturned. Oregon Attorney General Dan Rayfield called the decision “a healthy check on the president” and rejected Trump’s depiction of Portland as “war-ravaged.” Protests near the city’s ICE facility have typically been small but swelled after the troop announcement. Federal

agents responded with tear gas and pepper balls Saturday night as hundreds marched, echoing scenes from the 2020 deployment that drew national scrutiny.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Man, 69, Fatally Stabbed in Chinatown

NYN Desk

A 69-year-old man was fatally stabbed in the back on Saturday afternoon inside a residential building at 7 Eldridge Street, in Manhattan's Lower East Side, according to the New York City Police Department. Police responded to an assault call around 3:50 p.m., where they found the victim suffering from a stab wound. He was rushed to NYC Health + Hospitals/Bellevue, where he was later pronounced dead. His identity is being withheld until family members are notified.



Photo: Officers investigate after a 69-year-old man was stabbed and killed on the Lower East Side. Image Source: fox5ny.com

Authorities arrested Feizhon Zheng, 50, at 4:26 p.m. the

same day. He faces murder charges and remains in

custody pending arraignment. Zheng reportedly resides just

a few blocks from the scene of the attack.

The motive behind the stabbing remains under investigation, and no additional arrests have been made. Police confirmed that the incident occurred inside a Chinatown apartment complex near Division Street, an area generally known for low crime rates. The deadly assault has raised concerns among local residents, though law enforcement emphasized that the situation appears to be isolated. Officials continue to gather evidence and interview witnesses. Anyone with information is encouraged to contact NYPD Crime Stoppers as the investigation continues.

Cuomo Sees Fundraising Surge Post-Adams Exit



Photo: Former Gov. and mayoral candidate Andrew Cuomo Image Source: Lloyd Mitchell/AMNY.com

Senior Reporter

Former Governor Andrew Cuomo received a major fundraising boost in his NYC mayoral campaign, collecting nearly \$940,000 since late August, with \$390,000 arriving within 36 hours of Mayor

Eric Adams dropping out of the race earlier this week, according to his campaign. Despite the surge, Cuomo still trails Democratic Socialist frontrunner Zohran Mamdani, who hit the \$8 million spending cap on September 5. Of Cuomo's latest haul,

roughly \$337,000 qualifies for up to \$2.7 million in public matching funds, his team said, noting that 77% of donations came from within New York City. "This is officially a two-person race," said campaign chairman Bill Mulrow, claiming momentum is on Cuomo's side. Cuomo expressed interest in gaining Adams' endorsement and support from his base. Mamdani, meanwhile, dismissed the spike in Cuomo's donations. "We've maxed out our fundraising because thousands of New Yorkers have come forward," he said Friday. "Cuomo will keep calling donors, while I'll be speaking to New Yorkers." Republican Curtis Sliwa, also in the race, reported a record \$421,000 raised in the latest period, bringing his total private fundraising to over \$1.3 million, according to City & State New York. The Campaign Finance Board's official filings are expected to clarify the figures.

Man Fatally Shot by NYPD in Brooklyn

Staff Reporter

A 28-year-old man was fatally shot by New York City police officers Sunday morning in Canarsie, following a domestic violence call and a brief foot pursuit, authorities said. The incident unfolded around 9 a.m. near 125 East 86th Street, when officers from the 67th Precinct responded to a report of a protection order violation. According to the NYPD, the man matched the caller's description and fled upon being approached by officers. During the chase, police observed that the man had a gun. As the suspect reached Coventry Road, officers ordered him to drop the weapon. When he did not

comply, one officer fired a single shot, striking the man in the chest. A loaded revolver was recovered at the scene. Witnesses described the moment of the shooting, with one resident, Mercedes Clark, stating, "A pair of officers came out of [a] car and fired a single shot." The suspect was transported by patrol car to Kings County Hospital, where he was pronounced dead. Two officers were also hospitalized for tinnitus. Assistant Chief Frank Giordano noted the entire incident lasted roughly six minutes. The investigation remains active, and residents are advised to avoid the area during police activity.



Photo: Police at the scene of a shooting at 125 E. 86th St. in Canarsie, Oct. 5. Image Source: Lloyd Mitchell/AMNY.com

The Bronx sees unseasonably high temperatures this week

Community Desk

The Bronx is expected to see a streak of warm, sunny weather in the coming days, with temperatures forecast to rise more than 10 degrees above the seasonal average. A persistent high-pressure system will dominate early in the week, creating conditions more typical of late summer than early October. On Sunday, forecasts call for sunny skies and highs in the low to mid-80s, well above the average 70°F mark. The warm and dry pattern is set to continue into Monday and Tuesday, with expected highs hovering in the upper 70s to low 80s, and overnight lows settling in the mid-60s. By Wednesday, the weather pattern is predicted to shift.

Mostly cloudy skies and scattered showers are likely, accompanied by a cooldown into the lower to mid-70s. The cooler trend will persist through Thursday, which is expected to be sunny and breezy with highs in the mid-60s.

Residents can look forward to a bright and warm start to the week, but should prepare for rain and cooler temperatures midweek. While short-lived, the stretch of warm weather offers a brief escape from the typical early-fall chill.



Photo: Weather forecast for the next few days in The Bronx Image Source: bronx.news12.com

Prayer Time IN New York

FAJR	DHUHR	ASR	MAGHRIB	ISHA
05:43	12:44	03:57	06:29	07:44
05:44	12:44	03:56	06:28	07:43
05:45	12:43	03:54	06:26	07:41
05:46	12:43	03:52	06:24	07:39
05:47	12:43	03:51	06:23	07:38
05:48	12:43	03:50	06:21	07:36
05:49	12:42	03:49	06:20	07:35

OPINION

Modern Day Fir'aun and the Need for a Musa Figure to Challenge

– Imam Shamsi Ali

The essence of guidance lies in understanding the meaning of everything in life. When Allah created Adam, He taught him the names of all things, signifying humanity's readiness to comprehend life's meanings. Similarly, when reading the Holy Quran, it's crucial to look beyond the words and understand the underlying message. One of the key contents of the Quran is history, particularly the stories of prophets and those who defied truth, such as Fir'aun. Fir'aun is not a name but a title given to individuals who embody tyranny, oppression, and arrogance. Fir'aun during Musa's time even claimed divinity and refused to listen to Musa. The Quran highlights Fir'aun's atrocities, including killing male children and sparing females, driven by fear of potential threats to his power. Allah then sent Musa to challenge Fir'aun's evil regime and free the Israelites from oppression. Despite Fir'aun's arrogance, Musa's message emphasized the importance

of justice, compassion, and humility (qaulan layyina). The concept of Fir'aun is still relevant today, manifesting in various forms of oppression, authoritarianism, and exploitation. Modern-day Fir'auns prioritize power and wealth over human life and dignity, causing immense suffering and injustice. In fact, modern Fir'auns are even more ruthless, killing not only male children but also females, women, the elderly, and civilians. They destroy homes, schools, hospitals, and even mosques and churches. For this very reason, our world is in need of a modern-day Musa who will challenge Fir'aun-like systems and leaders, promoting justice, equality, and human rights. This Musa figure should possess four key characteristics:



— Imam Shamsi Ali :
 Director of Jamaica Muslim Center

Amanah (Trustworthiness): integrity and accountability in leadership.
 As-Sidqu (Truthfulness): commitment to truth and justice for all.
 Al-Fathonah (Intelligence): strategic thinking and wisdom.
 At-Tabligh (Effective Communication): ability to convey ideas and inspire others.
 When Allah commanded Musa to confront Fir'aun's cruelty, He said: "Go, both of you, and say to him with gentle words." The phrase "gentle words" is interpreted as an effort to bring about change constructively, not through destructive means. In the current context, especially in America, public participation, particularly through political participation, can be an effective approach to determining who will make decisions in public life.

In the context of New York City, I strongly feel that ZM embodies the characteristics of a modern-day Musa. This young politician has high integrity, honesty, and universal values. He bravely defies Fir'aun's tyranny, advocating for a more equitable distribution of wealth. ZM's ideology of democratic socialism aims to ensure the city's wealth benefits all its inhabitants, not just a tiny 1–2%. He possesses the four leadership characteristics mentioned earlier: trustworthiness, honesty, intelligence, and effective communication. While ZM, like any human being, has limitations and may make mistakes, his commitment to justice and equality makes him an exemplary figure. Above all, as the hadith reminds us, "this Ummah is one body." He is us, and we are him. Despite potential disagreements on some issues, there is no reason not to support him. In fact, only misguided Muslims would support another candidate.

“

Our world is in need of a modern-day Musa who will challenge Fir'aun-like systems and leaders, promoting justice, equality, and human rights.”



Image Source: Online

“

Modern-day Fir'auns prioritize power and wealth over human life and dignity, causing immense suffering and injustice.”

Building a Future of Responsible Consumption and Production

– Imam Muhammad Shahidullah



Sustainable Development Goal 12—Responsible Consumption and Production—stands as one of the most critical pillars in the global journey toward sustainability. It compels us to rethink how we produce, consume, and dispose of the resources that sustain our lives. The world today faces a

troubling imbalance: while millions live in excess, others struggle for basic necessities. This imbalance not only widens social inequality but also accelerates the depletion of our planet's natural resources. To build a sustainable future, we must transition toward more responsible systems of production and consumption that protect both people and the planet. Our economic models have long been driven by the pursuit of growth without adequately considering the environmental costs. From industrial pollution to food waste, the toll of our consumption habits is staggering. According to



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

the United Nations, if the global population reaches 9.8 billion by 2050, the equivalent of nearly three planets will be required to sustain current lifestyles. This reality underscores the urgent need for a systemic shift toward sustainable production practices, circular economies, and ethical consumer choices. Governments, corporations, and individuals alike must share responsibility for reducing waste, using resources efficiently, and investing in sustainable technologies. Education and awareness are key in driving this transformation. By promoting sustainable lifestyles through community engagement,

policy advocacy, and institutional accountability, we can foster a culture of mindfulness. Businesses must adopt cleaner production methods, while individuals can contribute by reducing waste, reusing materials, and making environmentally conscious purchasing decisions. The change we seek is not only environmental—it is moral and social. A sustainable world is one where prosperity does not come at the cost of future generations. To truly achieve SDG 12, we must move beyond slogans and embrace action. Responsible consumption and production are not merely policy goals; they represent a collective moral duty to ensure the continuity of life on Earth. Our choices today will determine whether we pass down a planet of abundance or scarcity to our children. The path forward lies in unity, innovation, and a renewed commitment to sustainable living for all.

EDUCATION

Elhaam Academy Students Reach for the Stars

World Space Week Inspires a New Generation of Space Dreamers



James Anderson

The halls of Elhaam Academy in Jamaica, New York, are buzzing with creativity and excitement as students celebrate World Space Week 2025, which runs from October 4–10. In partnership with Save

the People, the academy has transformed classrooms into miniature laboratories of imagination, where children explore science, innovation, and the vast mysteries of outer space. This year's global theme, "Living in Space,"

has inspired students to imagine what life might look like beyond Earth's atmosphere. The celebrations, now in full swing, combine learning with hands-on creativity—encouraging young minds to think critically about humanity's future in the

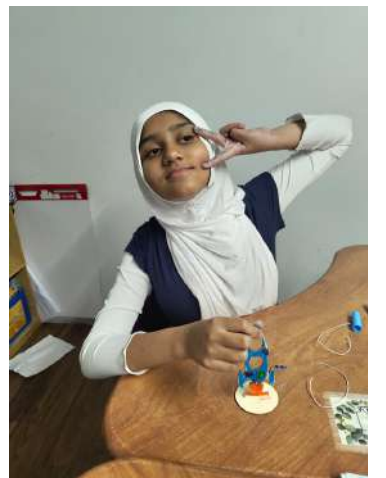
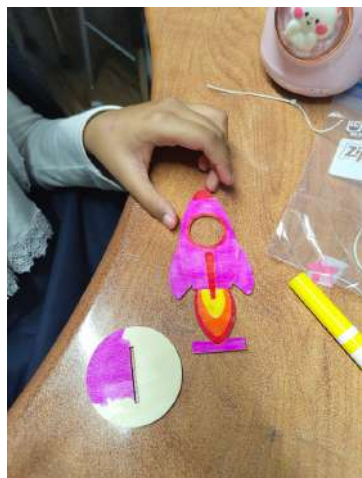
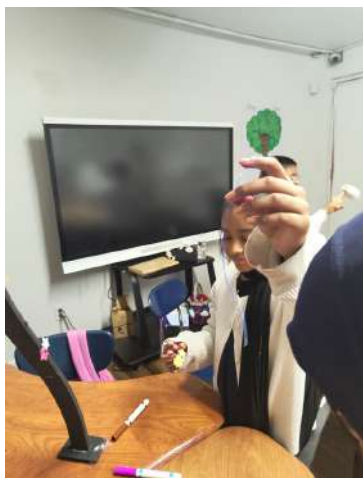
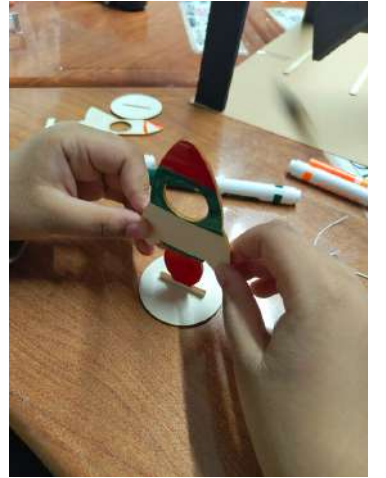
cosmos. The program began on October 4 with Club Hands of Hope, where students built intricate models of rockets, satellites, and space stations, alongside imaginative depictions of planets and galaxies.



Each creation reflected a deep sense of curiosity and excitement. Teachers noted that the activity was more than an art project—it was a powerful way to foster teamwork, innovation, and problem-solving. "You could see their eyes light up as they

explained how their rockets would launch or how their planets might sustain life," shared one educator. "That sense of wonder is exactly what World Space Week is all about." The academy's celebration has also woven together science and spirituality, with students learning about the religious significance of the moon and sun in worship, timekeeping, and faith traditions. This integration of faith and science underscores Elhaam Academy's holistic approach to education—one that encourages intellectual growth while nurturing spiritual awareness. Supported by Save the People, the weeklong event is designed to inspire students to dream big and pursue interests in STEM education. Activities throughout the week will continue to explore space science through art, storytelling, and discovery-

based learning. The partnership has allowed Elhaam Academy to create an enriching platform where young learners can engage with ideas that go far beyond the classroom. As World Space Week continues, the excitement at Elhaam Academy shows no signs of slowing down. Students, parents, and educators alike are celebrating not just space exploration, but the boundless potential of imagination and learning. For many children, these early experiences may well plant the seeds for future careers in science, engineering, or even space exploration itself. By the time the celebrations conclude on October 10, one message will ring clear through the halls of Elhaam Academy: that learning, faith, and curiosity are the real forces that help humanity reach the stars.



ORGANIZATION

Giving Back with a Smile

Smile of Life and Partners Support Students and Families for a Brighter Tomorrow

Jessica Morgan

Bringing together families, children, and community leaders, Smile of Life USA (SOL) hosted a heartwarming Back-to-School Giveaway and Competition Event recently at 8-11 179th Place, Jamaica, NY 11432. The initiative aimed to celebrate the return of children to school while supporting local families through education and community service. The event, held in collaboration with All County Home Care and Day Care Services, drew enthusiastic participation from parents, students, and elders alike. The occasion symbolized the unity of generations as grandparents joined their grandchildren in the festivities, reinforcing family bonds and the shared value of education. More than 85 children

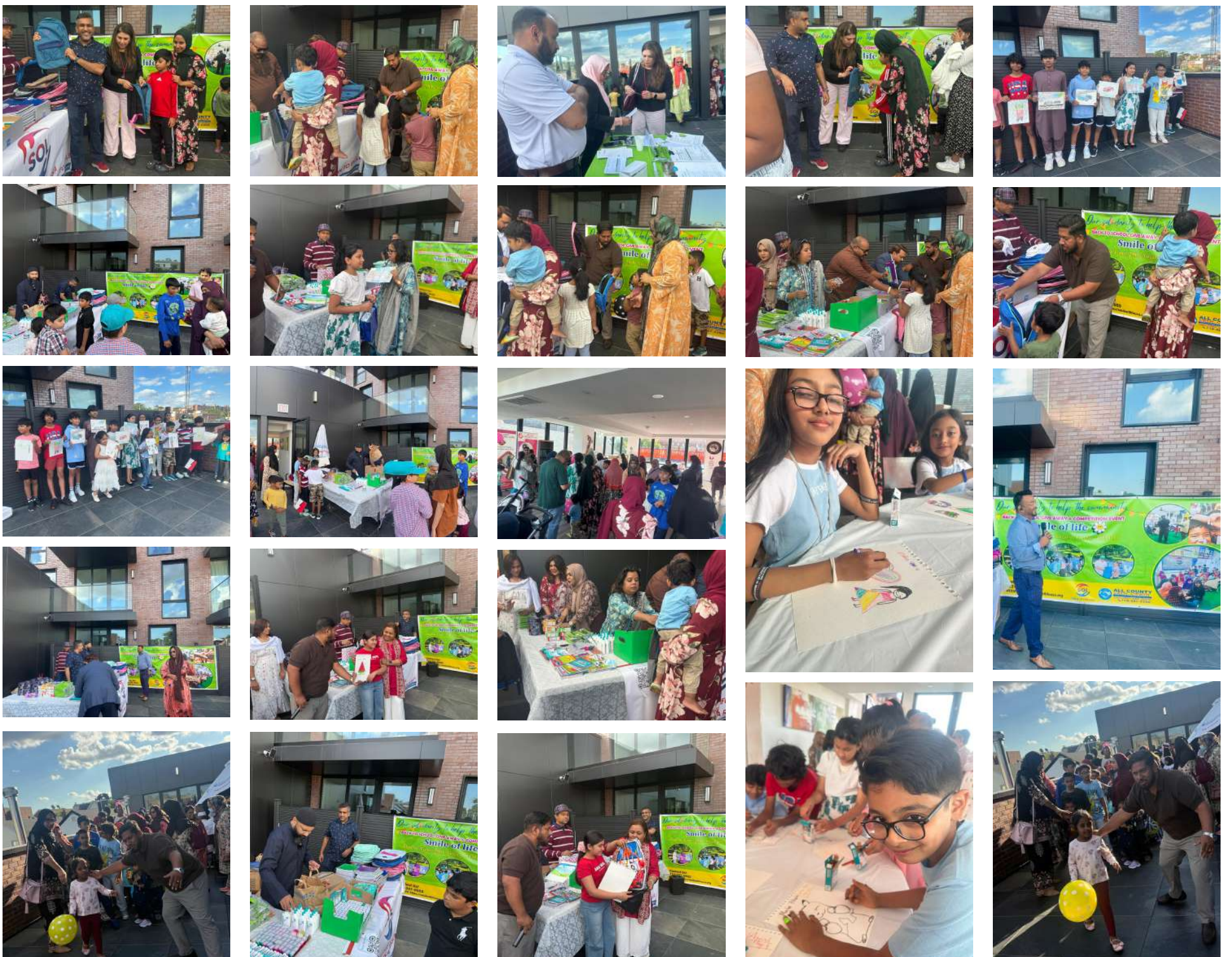


received backpacks filled with essential school supplies, ensuring they begin the school year with confidence and excitement. The program also featured engaging activities and competitions that blended learning with fun, leaving students inspired and motivated. All County Home Care

and Day Care Services was represented by Mr. Abdul Kader Bhuiyan Sheshir, CIP (CEO), and Mrs. Shaifa Bhuiyan (Vice President), who expressed their commitment to supporting initiatives that empower families. In addition, Healthfast Health Insurance and Dr. Mafuzul Hasan, DDS of Dhaka Dental Care,

contributed by offering free dental screenings and health consultations for both children and adults—an effort that emphasized the importance of holistic community wellness. The event reached a high note with the presence of renowned Bangladeshi singer Parvez, whose participation brought smiles and encouragement to attendees. His words of motivation resonated deeply with the children, reminding them that dreams, when combined with education and hard work, can indeed come true. Continuing its community outreach, Smile of Life organized a monthly food pantry, in front of Masjid Yaseen, distributing nutritious food packages to families in need. The initiative reflected SOL's ongoing mission to serve with compassion and uplift the less

fortunate. The success of these efforts was made possible through the dedicated involvement of SOL's leadership and members, including Chairperson Suman Islam, Managing Director Atik Rahman, Finance Director Rony Rehman, and executive committee members Sahara Lili, Jahid Islam, Robin Kamal, Shayla Sultana, Sharif Hossain, Nahian Kajol, Gazi Salauddin, and Rubia Rahman. As the new school year begins, Smile of Life remains steadfast in its vision to empower families, promote education, and strengthen the community through collective effort and compassion. The event served as a touching reminder that even small acts of giving can create lasting impacts—spreading smiles, hope, and inspiration across generations.



ENVIRONMENT

Hillside Avenue Cleanup Brings Community and City Together

Bangladeshi-American leaders unite with NYC officials for a cleaner Queens



Emily Parker

The Jamaica Bangladesh Friends Society (JBFS) spearheaded a meaningful community engagement initiative on September 29, 2025, along Hillside Avenue,

Queens, focusing on cleanliness, civic responsibility, and cooperation with city agencies. The effort, held in partnership with New York City officials, aimed to strengthen ties between local residents and municipal

departments while addressing ongoing sanitation challenges in one of Queens' busiest neighborhoods. Representatives from the NYC Department of Sanitation, Department of Health, and Community Affairs

Bureau attended the program, participating in discussions about improving waste management systems, enhancing public awareness, and keeping local streets clean and safe. Mohammad Fakrul Islam Delwar, Founder President of the Jamaica Bangladesh Friends Society, presided over the meeting and welcomed city representatives including Council Member James F. Gennaro, Deputy Inspector Mohamed Saddique, Community Affairs Board-8 District Manager Mary Adam,



and other key officials

and community leaders. His leadership and continued dedication to strengthening the bond between civic authorities and the Bangladeshi-American community were widely appreciated. Foysal Islam, President of the Jamaica Bangladesh Friends Society, expressed gratitude to participating agencies and highlighted the importance of sustained partnerships between the community and city departments. He noted that collective action is essential to maintaining public cleanliness and ensuring a safe, welcoming neighborhood for all. City officials praised the initiative, acknowledging the role of organizations like the Jamaica Bangladesh Friends Society in promoting civic awareness and public cooperation. The discussion also covered future plans for

expanding neighborhood engagement programs and improving city-community coordination. The event saw the active participation of Chairperson Suman Islam, Managing Director Atique Rahman, Finance Director Rony Rehman, and other executive members and volunteers, all of whom underscored the importance of grassroots leadership in creating positive urban change. Through this initiative, the Jamaica Bangladesh Friends Society once again demonstrated its ongoing commitment to civic empowerment, education, and the collective well-being of Queens' multicultural population. The event reflected the shared vision of residents and city leaders alike—to build a cleaner, stronger, and more united community in Jamaica, New York.



FAITH

A Gathering of Faith and Reflection

Monthly Dua Mahfil serves as a reminder of devotion, reflection, and gratitude



William Henry

The spirit of reflection and devotion filled Elhaam Academy this week as the institution hosted its

Monthly Dua Mahfil, a gathering that brought students, teachers, and community members together in heartfelt remembrance of Allah. The event, held at the

school premises in Jamaica, New York, served as a meaningful reminder of faith's enduring role in guiding both individual lives and collective harmony.

Presiding over the gathering were Sayyed Mustanzid Billah Rabbani and Hafiz Mawlana Abdul Qaiyyum, who led the attendees in prayers and reflections. Their words and recitations reminded all present of the importance of gratitude, humility, and steadfastness in faith. The Mahfil encouraged participants to pause amid their daily routines and reconnect spiritually, finding solace and purpose through prayer



and reflection. The Dua Mahfil has become a cherished monthly tradition at Elhaam Academy, where spiritual education is regarded as an essential part of personal growth alongside academic excellence. Each month, students and faculty take part in collective prayer and short discussions designed to nurture moral values, compassion, and mindfulness. The serene atmosphere of the event offered students a space for self-examination and inner peace. Teachers and staff emphasized that such gatherings strengthen the moral foundation of the younger generation, ensuring that education remains connected to ethical and spiritual

values. By organizing these regular gatherings, Elhaam Academy continues to uphold its commitment to nurturing well-rounded individuals grounded in both knowledge and faith. The Monthly Dua Mahfil not only reinforces a sense of community but also provides a moment for spiritual renewal—an occasion to remember that learning is most meaningful when rooted in purpose and guided by divine remembrance. As the gathering concluded, participants left with renewed hearts and a shared sense of peace, inspired by the timeless reminder that every act of remembrance brings believers closer to Allah and to one another.



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UNITY

Honoring Leaders of Faith and Vision

Cardinal Dolan and Tony Elumelu recognized for global impact



Ashley Reed

The Appeal of Conscience Foundation celebrated its 60th Annual Appeal of Conscience Awards Dinner on Monday, September 29, 2025, at the iconic Waldorf Astoria in New York City, honoring two distinguished global figures — His Eminence Timothy Cardinal Dolan, the Archbishop of New York, and Tony O. Elumelu, the Founder of the Tony Elumelu Foundation and Chairman of Heirs Holdings and the United

Bank for Africa. The prestigious event, chaired by Brian Moynihan, recognized the honorees for their exceptional leadership, moral vision, and commitment to humanitarian and interfaith values. It was an evening of faith, unity, and celebration, gathering global dignitaries, religious leaders, diplomats, and business executives to reaffirm the foundation's enduring mission of fostering peace, understanding, and conscience in public life. In his remarks, Rabbi

Arthur Schneier, President and Founder of the Appeal of Conscience Foundation, lauded Cardinal Dolan for his decades of spiritual leadership and community service. "My dear friend, Cardinal Timothy Dolan, endowed with wisdom, vision, and compassion, has earned the trust and respect of people and communities both in New York and throughout the nation," Rabbi Schneier said. "He embodies the biblical commandment 'Love thy neighbor as thyself,' practicing what he preaches and

uplifting all who know him." Rabbi Schneier also praised the Archbishop's long-standing commitment to religious freedom and interfaith harmony. "We have bonded throughout the years through our shared commitment to advancing interreligious cooperation and peaceful coexistence," he said, emphasizing Cardinal Dolan's steadfast role as "a blessing in our midst" during times of global division. Tony Elumelu, widely recognized for his

philanthropy and efforts to empower entrepreneurs across Africa, was equally celebrated for his transformative vision of inclusive growth and human dignity. His recognition reflected the Foundation's belief that moral leadership extends beyond faith to the realms of business, innovation, and social responsibility. For six decades, the Appeal of Conscience Foundation has honored global leaders who advance freedom, tolerance, and human rights through moral

and ethical leadership. This year's milestone celebration served not only as a tribute to the honorees but also as a reminder of the Foundation's guiding principle: that peace among nations begins with peace among religions. As the evening concluded, guests rose in standing ovation, united in the shared conviction that conscience and compassion remain vital forces for healing and progress in an increasingly divided world.



FAITH AND UNITY

Community and Leadership Converge at Friday Prayers

Zohran Mamdani's visit to Jamaica Muslim Center highlights dialogue with faith leaders



Noah Presley

The Jamaica Muslim Center (JMC) in Queens, New

York, welcomed a distinguished guest during its Friday Jummah prayers, as New York City

mayoral candidate Zohran Mamdani joined congregants for worship and reflection. The Khutbah, delivered

by Imam Shamsi Ali, focused on the spiritual values of justice, compassion, and unity—principles that resonate deeply with New York's diverse Muslim community. The October Friday gathering drew a large congregation, filling the prayer hall with worshippers from across the borough. Imam Shamsi Ali, a respected interfaith leader and advocate for peace, spoke passionately about the importance of grounding leadership and community action in ethical and moral values. His message emphasized faith's role in inspiring service to others, encouraging believers to embody

fairness and integrity in all aspects of life. Following the prayers, Zohran Mamdani met with community members and leaders, engaging in conversations about the challenges and aspirations of New York's Muslim residents. His visit was seen as a gesture of respect and solidarity, particularly as the city continues to foster inclusivity and understanding among its diverse populations. The Jamaica Muslim Center, one of the largest mosques in the city, has long served as a hub for worship, education, and civic engagement. The event highlighted how faith institutions continue

to play a vital role in connecting citizens with policymakers and in strengthening social cohesion across neighborhoods. Attendees expressed appreciation for Mamdani's outreach and Imam Ali's thoughtful sermon, noting how both civic and spiritual leadership can come together to inspire hope and unity in an increasingly complex city landscape. As the mayoral campaign progresses, moments like these—where prayer, community, and public service converge—underscore the shared values that continue to define New York City's pluralistic spirit.



INSTITUTION

WUST: Bridging Academia and Industry

A Virginia university redefining employability and global learning.



Alex Mason

The Washington University of Science and Technology (WUST) in Alexandria, Virginia, recently hosted its orientation and varsity tour, welcoming a new cohort of students to its dynamic academic community. The event

introduced students to WUST's learning environment, state-of-the-art facilities, and the university's core mission of bridging the gap between education and industry. Founded in 2008, WUST has earned a reputation as one of Virginia's leading private institutions,



combining innovation with accessibility. Under

the visionary leadership of Chairman and Chancellor Abubokor Hanip, a Bangladeshi-American education entrepreneur, and President Dr. Hasan Karaburk, the university has grown into a model of career-oriented higher education. The orientation and campus tour provided students with a firsthand look at WUST's modern infrastructure and academic support systems, emphasizing the institution's "Triple Mission — Degree, Skills, and Career." Faculty members and administrators engaged with students, discussing how WUST's programs are designed to align academic learning with real-world application. WUST offers Bachelor of Science degrees in Business Administration (BSBA) and Information Technology (BSIT),

as well as Master's programs in Business Administration (MBA), Cybersecurity (MSCS), and Information Technology (MSIT). Each program includes specialized elective tracks such as Leadership and Management, Data Management, and Software Engineering, enabling students to tailor their studies toward evolving industry needs. Accredited by the Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges (ACCSC) and certified by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV), WUST is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education and authorized by SEVP to admit international students. The institution's global approach to education attracts students from diverse backgrounds

while preparing them for success in international job markets. A defining feature of WUST is its industry-experienced faculty — every instructor brings a minimum of four years of professional experience, ensuring that classroom learning is closely tied to practical application. This focus on skill-based education supports the university's mission to produce a competent domestic workforce and reduce dependency on the H1B program, a significant contribution to the U.S. economy. The orientation and varsity tour concluded with an interactive session, where students expressed excitement for the academic journey ahead. The event set a positive tone for the new academic term, reaffirming WUST's commitment to innovation, integrity, and inclusive excellence.

Message from the Chairman & Chancellor – Abubokor Hanip



Dear Students and Parents,

Welcome to Washington University of Science and Technology (WUST). Our mission is to equip

students with the skills and confidence needed to excel in their careers right after graduation. Too often, new graduates enter the job market unprepared for industry expectations. At WUST, we balance academic learning with the technical, soft, and professional skills essential for career success. Our faculty, each with significant industry experience, plays a crucial role in preparing students for real-world challenges. We take pride in creating an ecosystem that connects education and employment, helping produce a skilled domestic workforce ready for the demands of fields like Cybersecurity, Information Technology, and Business Management. At WUST, our commitment extends beyond academics — we care deeply about each student's success. Our faculty and staff work tirelessly to ensure every graduate finds meaningful employment and contributes positively to society. Your success is our success. Together, we can build a future defined by knowledge, innovation, and opportunity.

**Best wishes,
Abubokor Hanip
Chairman & Chancellor
Washington University of Science and
Technology (WUST)**



INSTITUTION

WUST: Bridging Academia and Industry



INTERFAITH

Synagogue Opens Doors to Muslim Worshipers

Town & Village Synagogue offers sanctuary for Al-Madina Mosque during construction



Daniel Matthew

In a remarkable expression of faith and fellowship, the Town & Village Synagogue in Manhattan has opened its doors every Friday

since July 2025 to host congregants of the Al-Madina Mosque, whose worship space is currently under construction. Under the guidance of Rabbi Laurence

Sebert, the synagogue's sanctuary transforms weekly into a space for Jumu'ah (Friday) prayers, bringing together two faith communities that share a common commitment

to peace, compassion, and humanity. The collaboration was born out of both necessity and generosity. With Al-Madina's construction temporarily displacing worshippers, the Town & Village Synagogue stepped forward, offering its sacred space without hesitation. What began as an act of hospitality has since evolved into a profound symbol of interfaith unity. "This act of solidarity reminds us that our houses of worship—whether synagogue, mosque, or church—are all sanctuaries of peace, compassion, and humanity," said Det. Mohamed Amen, Senior Adviser at the NYC Mayor's Office. "New Yorkers show once again that unity is our strongest prayer."

The initiative has been met with deep appreciation from both Muslim and Jewish congregants. It reflects the spirit of cooperation echoed in the Qur'anic verse:
 أول اعْتَبِرْ بِاتِّفَالِ الْيَهُودِ
 أَن نَّبِّأَ أَوْسَ قَوْمِكَ
 وَلِئَلَّا يَكْفُرُوا
 بِآيَاتِنَا
 (O People of the Book, come to a common word between us and you.)
 For worshippers, the shared use of space extends far beyond convenience. It has fostered meaningful dialogue and friendship, allowing both communities to see their faiths reflected in one another's devotion. The warmth and respect experienced within the synagogue have turned a logistical arrangement into a heartfelt example of coexistence in action. Religious leaders

and city officials alike have noted that this partnership embodies the best of New York City's pluralistic spirit—a place where diversity is not only accepted but celebrated. It serves as a reminder that the essence of faith is not separation but connection. As construction continues on the Al-Madina Mosque, the Town & Village Synagogue remains more than a temporary home—it stands as a testament to what is possible when faiths unite under a shared vision of peace. In a world often divided by differences, this act of solidarity offers a powerful message: when communities open their doors to one another, humanity itself is strengthened.



TOURISM

Exploring Autumn's Magic Across America

Top destinations to experience the best of fall in the USA



Photo: Harper's Ferry, West Virginia

Image Source: Online

Carlos Stewart

As temperatures drop and leaves turn brilliant shades of red, gold, and amber, fall transforms the United States into a breathtaking canvas of color and charm. From the golden deserts of the Southwest to the cozy villages of the Northeast, October stands out as

one of the best months for travel, offering mild weather, vibrant scenery, and countless cultural events. In New England, the season is nothing short of iconic. Stretching across Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Rhode Island, the region bursts

into fiery hues that draw travelers from around the world. Scenic drives along the Kancamagus Highway, apple picking in Connecticut, and autumn fairs like Vermont's Mount Snow Oktoberfest or Salem's Haunted Happenings make New England a timeless fall favorite. Further south, Asheville,

North Carolina, nestled in the Blue Ridge Mountains, captures autumn's artistic and natural spirit. The winding Blue Ridge Parkway offers miles of panoramic views framed by colorful forests, while the historic Biltmore Estate and lively Oktoberfest celebrations fill the city with warmth and festivity. In the Mid-Atlantic, Harper's Ferry, West Virginia, blends history with stunning mountain vistas. Set at the confluence of the Potomac and Shenandoah Rivers, the 19th-century town comes alive each October with hiking, ghost tours, and fall festivals set against a backdrop of Appalachian beauty. The heartland also glows with autumn energy. Chicago, Illinois, with its tree-lined streets and lakefront parks, offers a perfect blend of city and nature. Seasonal events like Open House Chicago

and the Navy Pier Pumpkin Lights add a festive touch to the city's crisp fall atmosphere. For those drawn to nature's grandeur, Rocky Mountain National Park in Colorado and Monument Valley on the Arizona-Utah border provide unforgettable landscapes. The Rockies' aspen groves shimmer in gold, while the red sandstone formations of Monument Valley glow under soft autumn light, best explored on guided Navajo tours. In Pennsylvania, the Allegheny National Forest turns into a sea of color, its trails and scenic byways perfect for quiet drives and rustic cabin retreats. Meanwhile, Arches National Park in Utah offers milder temperatures and crystal-clear skies for exploring its surreal red rock formations and stargazing under the

desert night. For a coastal escape, Gulf Shores, Alabama, offers a different kind of fall — warm beaches, the National Shrimp Festival, and off-season tranquility along the Gulf Coast. And in Austin, Texas, fall brings cultural vibrancy with Austoberfest, Viva La Vida Festival, and the city's famed music and food scene thriving in the cooler air. From mountain trails to sandy shores, autumn across America is a celebration of color, culture, and community. Whether wandering through New England's rustic roads, sipping cider in Asheville, or marveling at the vastness of Monument Valley, fall offers travelers a perfect balance of beauty and serenity—proving once again why October is one of the most enchanting times to explore the United States.



Photo: New England
 Image Source: Online



Photo: Monument Valley, Arizona/Utah
 Image Source: Online



Photo: Chicago, Illinois
 Image Source: Online



Photo: Allegheny National Forest, Pennsylvania
 Image Source: Online



Photo: Rocky Mountain National Park, Colorado
 Image Source: Online



Photo: Austin, Texas
 Image Source: Online



Photo: Arches National Park, Utah
 Image Source: Online



Photo: Gulf Shores, Alabama
 Image Source: Online



Photo: Asheville, North Carolina
 Image Source: Online

EVENTS

In and Around Queens

A look at the city's latest community gatherings, workshops, and celebrations

Issac Andrew

As autumn arrives, New York City's neighborhoods are coming alive with a full lineup of community-driven events designed to inspire, engage, and connect residents. From local initiatives promoting environmental awareness and small business growth to family celebrations and educational fairs, there's something for everyone to enjoy. Whether you're looking to give back, learn something new, or simply join your neighbors for a day of fun, these upcoming gatherings highlight the vibrant energy and civic spirit that define our city.

Upcoming Events and Activities

Become a Community Captain

Join the team!
Help us organize and promote the voice of the 27th Council District

OUR MISSION
Community Captains serve as ambassadors for their neighborhoods, communicating concerns and aspirations to our office. They increase awareness of our office events and initiatives and facilitate constructive dialogue between our office and the community.

OUR GOAL
Our goal is to ensure that every neighborhood in District 27 has a local contact person—someone who understands the unique needs of their community. This initiative aims to be inclusive, giving specific attention to underrepresented voices and capturing the diverse needs of our district.

OUR SERVICE

- OUTREACH**
Our office can't be everywhere so we are looking for help reporting on what we are doing and hearing what we should be doing.
- ORGANIZING**
Serious challenges require serious work to resolve and we are looking for dedicated volunteers to collaborate to move mountains together one inch at a time.
- INPUT**
As we work to address the issues of the day, we want to hear the voices of our constituents on how they feel about the debates occurring at City Hall and in the community.

Interested? Candice Duncan
Please contact: (718) 776-3700 | CDuncan@council.nyc.gov

MTA Metropolitan Transportation Authority

CONNECTING SMALL BUSINESSES

MTA in conjunction with Queens Elected Officials

Join us for a discussion on opportunities for Historically Underutilized Businesses (HUBs)

Learn about subcontracting opportunities & local hiring
Learn about the MTA's certification program
Learn about MTA's Capital Plan & becoming a vendor
Learn about job opportunities with the MTA
Meet with your local elected officials

EVENT DETAILS

DATE: Wednesday, October 8, 2025
TIME: 12pm - 4pm
LOCATION: Dabar Bethlehem Cathedral
218-38 98th Avenue, Queens Village
NY 11429

RSVP REQUIRED
Link to RSVP:
<https://forms.gle/dExyud3wk7k7rid59>
For more info contact: kpadava@mta.gov

RECYCLE YOUR E-WASTE AND TEXTILES

Saturday 10/11/2025 10am - 2pm | Rain or Shine

Avoid a fine: It's now illegal to discard electronics in the trash!

DROP-OFF: Wayanda Park
217-72 Hollis Avenue | Queens Village

WE ACCEPT:

- Working & non-working:** computers, monitors, printers/scanners, keyboards, mice, cables, TVs, VCRs & DVD players, phones, audio/visual equipment, cell phones & PDA's
- Textiles:** clothing, accessories (shoes, hats, bags, gloves), household textiles (towels, curtains, bedding), clean rags, ripped and damaged material

Co-hosted by: Council Member Dr. Nantasha Williams

LES Ecology Center
leseecologycenter.org | @leseecologyctr | 212.477.4022

Community Captains — District 27
Council Member Nantasha Williams is recruiting volunteers to serve as neighborhood ambassadors, helping report concerns and promote office initiatives across District 27. Focus areas include outreach, organizing, and input; interested residents can contact Candice Duncan at (718) 776-3700 or CDuncan@council.nyc.gov

Connecting Small Businesses — Queens Village

The Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA), in partnership with Queens elected officials, will host a small business forum on Wednesday, October 8, 2025, from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. at Dabar Bethlehem Cathedral, 218-38 98th Avenue, Queens Village. The event will focus on opportunities for Historically Underutilized Businesses (HUBs), including subcontracting, certification, and local hiring. Attendees can meet representatives from the MTA and local officials, including U.S. Rep. Gregory W. Meeks and Queens Borough President Donovan Richards Jr. RSVP is required for participation.

E-Waste & Textiles Recycling — Queens Village

Residents are encouraged to bring their old electronics and textiles to Wayanda Park, 217-72 Hollis Avenue, Queens Village, on Saturday, October 11, 2025, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The free recycling event, co-hosted by Council Member Dr. Nantasha Williams and the LES Ecology Center, accepts both working and non-working devices as well as clothing and household fabrics. The initiative promotes responsible disposal and environmental sustainability — rain or shine.

SAVE THE PEOPLE

REGISTER TO VOTE

BECAUSE YOUR VOTE MATTERS

Friday, October 3, 2025

JAMAICA MUSLIM CENTER
85-37 JMC WAY, JAMAICA, NY
11432 12:15PM - 2:00PM

Scan the QR code or visit the link below to register to vote.

You can do the following things:

- Register to Vote
- Update Voter Record
- Check Voter Status
- Request a Vote-by-Mail
- Find Election Information

ELECTION DAY NOVEMBER 4

For more information: 718-200-3050 | info@stpusa.org
www.stpusa.org

Voter Registration Drive — Jamaica, Queens

Residents are encouraged to take part in a voter registration event on Friday, October 3, 2025, from 12:15 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Jamaica Muslim Center, 85-37 JMC Way, Jamaica, NY. Organized by Save the People, the event offers assistance with registering to vote, updating records, checking voter status, and requesting vote-by-mail ballots ahead of Election Day on November 4. Participants can also scan the provided QR code for online registration details.

Fall Family Fun Day — Queens Village

FALL FAMILY FUN DAY

FESTIVE ACTIVITIES - MUSIC - GIVEAWAYS & MORE!

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11

12:00PM - 4:00PM

WAYANDA PARK
217-60 Hollis Ave.
Queens Village, NY 11429

RSVP: fallfamilyfun2025.eventbrite.com

E-WASTE & TEXTILE RECYLING AVAILABLE
COSTUMES ARE ENCOURAGED!

Families are invited to celebrate the season at Wayanda Park, 217-60 Hollis Avenue, Queens Village, on Saturday, October 11, 2025, from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. The event, hosted by Council Member Dr. Nantasha Williams and State Senator Leroy Comrie, will feature music, games, giveaways, and festive activities for all ages. E-waste and textile recycling will also be available on-site, and attendees are encouraged to come in costumes for added fun. RSVP at fallfamilyfun2025.eventbrite.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS



1ST ANNUAL QURAN COMPETITION

REGISTRATION
IS OPEN

FINAL COMPETITION
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6TH
AWARD CEREMONY

WHO
KG – 7TH GRADE



HOW IT WORKS!

- Each class is assigned a set of Surahs to memorize.
- Three rounds: Classroom Qualifiers – Grade Level Semi Finals – School Finals.
- Judging focuses on Hifz, Tajwid, Fluency, and Adab.
- Prizes and Certifications!

866-935-4226

ELHAAM ACADEMY

87-41 165TH ST, JAMAICA, NY 11432



www.elhaamacademy.org



Mamdani Gains Muslim Support

Deputy Inspector Waheed Akhtar endorses Mamdani's vision on public safety, law enforcement, and social reform.



Photo: Zohran Mamdani and Waheed Akhtar, NYPD Deputy Inspector. Image Source: Online

Amkel Nourush

Deputy Inspector Waheed Akhtar, the first Pakistani American to become a captain in

the New York Police Department, has officially endorsed Zohran Mamdani in the race for Mayor of New York City. Akhtar, who

also serves as president of the Muslim Officers Society, announced his support in a statement emphasizing Mamdani's qualifications and

progressive vision for the city.

HIGHLIGHT

•Waheed Akhtar, NYPD Deputy Inspector, endorses Zohran Mamdani

•Praises Mamdani's vision for public safety and social reform

"With 20 years of law enforcement experience in the United States, I believe Zohran Mamdani is the most suitable candidate to lead New York City," said Akhtar. "His approach to public safety, law enforcement, and the use of social workers to prevent non-violent incidents is both

modern and effective."

Akhtar urged New Yorkers, especially the Pakistani American community, to vote collectively for Mamdani on November 4, calling it a pivotal moment for the city's future. "This is the time to step up and shape the direction of our city. Mamdani has the experience, the strategy, and the heart needed for this leadership," Akhtar added. Mamdani, a Democratic Socialist and current Queens Assembly Member, is viewed as a frontrunner in the race. His campaign has drawn support from various grassroots communities and reform-minded groups across New York City.

Russell Seals Singapore Win

McLaren tension overshadows Mercedes driver's flawless performance

Julian Alvez

George Russell delivered a dominant performance at the Singapore Grand Prix, taking his second victory of the season while tensions boiled over at McLaren following a controversial opening-lap clash. Starting from pole, the Mercedes driver led from the front to finish 5.430 seconds ahead of Max Verstappen, recovering from a disappointing showing at the same venue two years ago. Drama unfolded immediately at the start as Lando Norris lunged past teammate Oscar Piastri, making contact in the process. While Norris damaged his front wing after briefly touching Verstappen,

HIGHLIGHT

•George Russell claims second win of the season at Singapore Grand Prix

•Early contact between Lando Norris and Oscar Piastri sparks McLaren tension

the resulting momentum carried him into Piastri. The move allowed Norris to take third, sparking radio complaints from the Australian, who labeled the team's lack of response as "not fair." McLaren's internal rules discourage contact but allow free racing—an approach that has increasingly frustrated Piastri in recent races. Despite the turmoil, McLaren secured the constructors' championship with six races remaining, thanks to consistent performance throughout the season. Piastri eventually finished fourth after a slow pit stop hindered his chances of a podium. The incident has further narrowed his title lead over Norris to 22 points, while Verstappen remains 63 points behind. The result, while celebratory for McLaren, reignited scrutiny over its driver management.

Ahmed Shehata Honored by UNHCR

Islamic Relief USA CEO named Eminent Advocate for refugees



Photos: This satellite view from Sunday afternoon shows Hurricane Humberto on the right and Tropical Storm Imelda over the Bahamas. Image Source: UNHCR/Nicholas Feeney

Nassr Al Shams

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) has recognized Ahmed Shehata, CEO of Islamic Relief USA (IRUSA), as an Eminent Advocate for his dedicated support of displaced populations worldwide. Shehata, a seasoned humanitarian with over 20 years of experience, was honored for both his organizational leadership and personal commitment to refugee causes. In 2024, Shehata helped launch a major partnership between IRUSA and UNHCR aimed at raising \$25 million over five years to assist refugees globally. As part of his new role, he will lead an international campaign focused on mobilizing resources and rebuilding hope for refugees from

Syria. The U.S. Council of Muslim Organizations (USCMO) congratulated Shehata on this milestone and emphasized the strength of its ongoing collaboration with IRUSA. The organization noted that such partnerships not only uplift vulnerable communities abroad but also contribute to strengthening local communities across the United States. Shehata's appointment underscores the increasing impact of American Muslim leadership in global humanitarian efforts. His recognition as an Eminent Advocate places him among a select group of leaders trusted by the UN to promote meaningful action for some of the world's most vulnerable populations.



Photo: Pharaoh Amenhotep III ruled ancient Egypt between 1390 B.C.E. and 1350 B.C.E. Image Source: Amr Nabil/AP Photo/DW

Amenhotep III's Tomb Reopens

After 20 years of restoration, pharaoh's burial site welcomes visitors again

Adrian Smith

After more than two decades of painstaking restoration, the tomb of Pharaoh Amenhotep III in Luxor's Valley of the Kings has reopened to the public, Egyptian antiquities officials announced Saturday. The reopening comes just weeks ahead of the highly anticipated inauguration of the Grand Egyptian Museum in Cairo, as part of the government's broader efforts to rejuvenate the tourism sector. The massive tomb, discovered in 1799, had suffered severe deterioration and looting, including the loss of its sarcophagus. A Japanese-led restoration project, carried out in partnership with

HIGHLIGHT

•Egypt reopens Amenhotep III's tomb in Luxor after over 20 years of renovations

•Tomb dates back to 1390-1350 BCE; first discovered in 1799

•Restoration led by Japanese team under UNESCO guidance

•Reopening coincides with upcoming launch of Grand Egyptian Museum

UNESCO, worked for over 20 years to conserve the structure and preserve intricate wall paintings depicting Amenhotep III and

scenes from the Book of the Dead. The tomb features a 36-meter (118-foot) sloping passageway, a central burial chamber for the pharaoh, and two side chambers for Queens Tiye and Sitamun. Though not fully decorated like other tombs in the valley, it offers rare insight into Eighteenth Dynasty artistry and beliefs. Officials hope the tomb's reopening will draw international tourists and contribute to Egypt's economic recovery. Amenhotep III's mummy, relocated in antiquity to his grandfather's tomb, is currently housed at the National Museum of Egyptian Civilization alongside other royal remains.