

Human Care Event



State Assemblyman Dov Hikind speaks at the Legislative Barbecue for Human Care Services for Families and Children, on the rooftop of the organization's headquarters in Boro Park, on Tuesday evening. Human Care provides services to the special needs community. At the event, awards were presented to State Sen. Kevin Parker and Dr. Michael Kaplowitz.

Paladino: I Won't Play 'Spoiler' in Gov's Race

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) – Rising Republican candidate Carl Paladino said that he won't stay in the New York governor's race if he doesn't win the Republican primary, saying the GOP can't afford to let Democrat Andrew Cuomo win.

"We're not going to be a spoiler to someone running against Andrew Cuomo and taking him down," Paladino told NY1. "Andrew Cuomo is the poster child for everything that people don't want in government anymore."

The millionaire developer from Buffalo has pledged to use \$10 million of his own money in his cam-

paign, and he is close to billionaire B. Thomas Golisano, the former Western New York candidate for governor who has funded campaigns at the state level as part of a reform effort.

Paladino, a conservative Republican, is trying to petition his way onto the November ballot on what he calls the Taxpayers line. He plans to use it if he wins the Republican line to compensate for losing the Conservative Party line to Republican front-runner Rick Lazio.

Paladino used the petition route to force a Republican primary with Lazio, the choice of party delegates

at the state GOP convention.

There was no immediate comment from Lazio or Cuomo.

A Quinnipiac University poll released Wednesday showed Paladino trailed Lazio 39 percent to 23 percent among enrolled Republicans questioned. That's a gain since June 22 when Lazio had 46 percent to Paladino's 17 percent. In April, Lazio was supported by 39 percent of Republicans questioned, compared to Paladino's 11 percent.

Wednesday's Quinnipiac poll questioned 380 Republicans statewide and had a margin of error of plus or minus 5 percent.

De Blasio Calls on City to Delay Tax Dollars for Thomson Reuters

NEW YORK CITY – Public Advocate Bill de Blasio, members of the New York City Council and Bill O'Meara, president of the Newspaper Guild of New York, called on the New York City Industrial Development Agency (NYCIDA) to delay tax breaks allocated to the news corporation Thomson Reuters until they explain their record on job creation and clear outstanding labor violations.

"In these tough times we cannot afford to give out tax dollars to companies that simply can't prove they are creating jobs," Mr. de Blasio said. "The City must delay new approvals of tax exemptions for Thomson Reuters until the company shows it can create jobs,

maintain jobs and treat the workers in those jobs fairly."

Thomson Reuters is seeking to amend their 1998 agreement with the NYCIDA to reallocate up to \$26 million that was meant for construction of their headquarters at 3 Times Square, by transferring those tax breaks to seven other Manhattan office locations. This amendment is being sought even though many questions remain unanswered as to whether Thomson Reuters achieved their job projections in the 1998 agreement and how they plan to meet lofty new promises made in the proposed amended agreement.

The IDA allows companies like Thomson Reuters to take incentives without giving an accounting

of how they plan to retain and create jobs, and subjecting them to a full review of their conduct as an employer in creating, retaining and maintaining fair jobs, de Blasio statement said.

Mr. O'Meara, president of the Newspaper Guild, said, "The bottom line is that Thomson Reuters has been unable to live up to their job creation projections and continues to treat their employees with no respect."

At a time when vital city services are being threatened, I do not believe New York City should be giving an extremely profitable, foreign-owned company like Thomson Reuters a second chance at up to \$26 million in New York taxpayer money."

Bill Would Help NYPD Battle Illegal Van Services

NEW YORK CITY (Hamodia) – Amid police efforts to root out illegal commuter van operations, a Council member was expected yesterday to introduce a bill that will support the crackdown.

City Councilwoman Elizabeth

Crowley (D-Queens) is sponsoring legislation that would require the Taxi and Limousine Commission to train the NYPD at least twice per year on how to distinguish illegal commuter vans from licensed ones. The commis-

sion would also have to compose a digest of laws applicable to commuter vans, to be distributed to officers. If passed, the legislation will become effective 60 days later.

Commuter vans are prevalent in various parts of the city where mass transit is scarce. Illegal van services are also prevalent, creating unauthorized competition and safety issues due to aggressive driving.

New York Briefs

Suspect Has Byte to Eat When Police Drop In

BROOKLYN (Hamodia) – Some people have a knack for digesting large volumes of information. Florin Necula apparently fits into the category.

Necula, 32, a defendant in a federal fraud case, told a judge on Wednesday that he swallowed a computer flash drive to prevent law enforcement agents from obtaining it in a raid last January in Queens.

"I'm sorry, what did you do with the drive?" Magistrate Viktor Pohorelsky asked Necula in federal court in Brooklyn. Necula reiterated that he swallowed it.

The alleged scammer pleaded guilty to stealing credit and debit card numbers from ATM machines. He also admitted to obstructing justice by ingesting the flashdrive when federal agents burst in on him and other suspects at a Long Island City apartment.

Necula could get up to four years in prison and be deported to Russia.

A search warrant led to the flash drive being removed from Necula surgically. His lawyer said he has recovered.

Tunnel Will Increase Property Value

NEW YORK (AP) – A planned railroad tunnel between New York and New Jersey will increase property values in both states and double the number of people who can quickly get to Manhattan.

That's according to a study released yesterday by the Regional Plan Association.

The urban research and advocacy group says home property values within walking distance of the train stations will increase as much as \$29,000. Property taxes also will increase.

The project to create the one-mile tunnel is known as Access to the Region's Core. It's expected to be completed by 2018. It will double train capacity into and out of Manhattan by adding two single-track tunnels under the Hudson River.

More New Jersey residents are expected to work in New York because commuters will be able to get to Manhattan in less than an hour.

NYC Years Away from Recycling Takeout Containers

NEW YORK (AP) – New York's City Council has expanded city waste laws to add plastic takeout containers, yogurt tubs and medicine bottles to the list required for recycling.

But it will be years before it becomes practice, if ever.

Currently the city recycles two types of plastics, mostly limited to containers like soda bottles and milk jugs.

The measure passed by the City Council yesterday takes effect after a new recycling facility opens in Brooklyn, set for mid-2012. The facility will

be privately owned and operated. After the facility is open, officials say the city will analyze the cost of recycling the new types of plastics and present the finding to the council.

The council also voted to require recycling bins in every school classroom and more containers in public places.

Cleared of Charges, Gov. Paterson Shares Regret

ALBANY (AP) – A day after a special prosecutor cleared Gov. David Paterson of allegations that he tampered with a witness who had accused a top aide of violence, he said he regrets dropping out of the race for a full term as New York governor.

Paterson related in an interview that he has second thoughts about leaving the race shortly after he asked Attorney General Andrew Cuomo to investigate the allegations of misuse of the governor's office and state police in the case.

Paterson said he needed to drop out because he had to deal with the allegations.

He also said the current candidates propose mostly the same actions he's undertaking in the fiscal crisis and that validates that he would have been a strong contender.

Cuomo has since become the Democratic nominee.

Sources: Silver, Sampson Plan SUNY Compromise

ALBANY (AP) – A state official involved in the negotiations says Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver and Senate leader John Sampson are crafting a bill that would empower the state's public universities to grow unfettered by Albany and allow them greater control over raising tuition.

The official says negotiations that began in earnest yesterday are seen as a breakthrough on an issue holding up the state budget that was due April 1.

A second state official says the sides are close to agreement.

Both officials spoke on the condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the talks.

Three senators whose districts have university centers that could be come flagship campuses under the plan have withheld their budget votes until a deal is struck.

Man Accused of Driving 110 Mph

NORTH VALLEY STREAM, N.Y. (AP) – A New York City man has been arrested and charged with driving 110 mph on the Southern State Parkway.

State police say Kashaun Iqbal, of Queens, was zipping down the parkway, where the speed limit is 55 mph.

Police say the driver nearly caused several collisions and tried to elude police.

He was arrested on charges of reckless endangerment, unlawfully fleeing an officer and reckless driving.

The name of his lawyer was not immediately on record.