

10/1/18-IF YOU WANT TO VOTE IN NOVEMBER'S ELECTION YOU HAVE LESS THAN TWO WEEKS TO GET REGISTERED. OCTOBER TWELFTH IS THE DEADLINE FOR THIS YEAR'S POLLING. IF YOU'RE NOT ALREADY ON THE ROLLS YOU CAN REGISTER BY MAIL THROUGH YOUR LOCAL BOARD OF ELECTIONS, OR IN PERSON THROUGH ANY STATE OFFICE. OFFICIALS SAY THE FASTEST WAY METHOD IS THROUGH THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES. FORMS ARE AVAILABLE AT THEIR OFFICES AND ONLINE AT THE D-M-V-DOT-N-Y-DOT-GOV WEBSITE.

10/4/18-CYNTHIA NIXON'S RUN FOR THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE HAS COME TO AN END. LAST MONTH SHE LOST HER CHALLENGE AGAINST GOVERNOR CUOMO IN THE DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY. BUT SHE WAS STILL ON THE BALLOT AS THE ENDORSED CANDIDATE FOR THE WORKING FAMILIES PARTY. THAT CAME TO AN END LAST NIGHT, AS THE PARTY COMMITTEE VOTED TO REMOVE NIXON AND RUNNING MATE JUMAANE WILLIAMS FROM THE BALLOT AND OFFER THE PARTY LINE TO CUOMO AND LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR KATHY HOCHUL (HOKE-ULL).

10/5/18-STAND ALONE MAUSOLEUMS ARE NOW ILLEGAL IN NEW YORK. GOVERNOR CUOMO SIGNED A MEASURE INTO LAW YESTERDAY THAT BANS THEIR CONSTRUCTION. THE LAW CAME ABOUT AFTER SEVERAL TOWNS FOUND THEMSELVES FINANCIALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR ABANDONED MAUSOLEUMS AND FACING MILLIONS OF DOLLARS IN REPAIR AND UPKEEP COSTS. THOSE EXPENSES CAN ADD UP FAST BECAUSE THE BUILDINGS ARE USUALLY BUILT FROM EXPENSIVE HAND CUT STONE.

10/5/18-ELECTION SEASON IS IN FULL SWING, AND WITH IT THE ANNUAL RITUAL OF VANISHING AND VANDALIZED CAMPAIGN SIGNS. BUT THE PROBLEM APPEARS TO BE MORE WIDESPREAD THIS YEAR THANKS TO THE SUPER-CHARGED POLITICAL CLIMATE. THE LATEST INCIDENT INVOLVES DOZENS OF SIGNS FOR REPRESENTATIVE CLAUDIA TENNEY THAT WERE VANDALIZED IN CHADWICKS. LAW ENFORCEMENT IS REGULARLY CALLED IN DURING ELECTION SEASON, BUT THEY'RE RARELY ABLE TO CATCH ANYONE BECAUSE OF A LACK OF EVIDENCE.

10/8/18-IF YOU WANT TO VOTE IN THIS FALL'S ELECTIONS YOU HAVE UNTIL FRIDAY TO FILE OR CHANGE YOUR REGISTRATION. THAT'S THE 25 DAY CUTOFF FOR THE NOVEMBER SIXTH GENERAL ELECTION. IT'S ALSO THE DEADLINE FOR ANYONE THAT WANTS TO VOTE IN NEXT YEAR'S PRIMARIES TO ESTABLISH THEIR PARTY AFFILIATION. VOTERS CAN REGISTER BY MAIL OR BY STOPPING BY AT ANY STATE OFFICE. YOU CAN ALSO REGISTER ONLINE THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES AT D-M-V-DOT-N-Y-DOT-GOV.

10/11/18-WINTER IS COMING, AND IT'S GOING TO BE EXPENSIVE. OVER THE LAST FEW DAYS THE PRICE OF ROAD SALT IN NEW YORK HAS SKYROCKETED, JUMPING OVER TWENTY PERCENT. MUNICIPAL BUDGETS WERE FINALIZED MONTHS AGO, AND THAT COULD LEAVE TOWNS AND CITIES STRUGGLING TO PAY FOR THEIR WINTER STOCKPILES. LAST YEAR THE ENTIRE STATE WAS HIT WITH A SALT SHORTAGE AS HEAVY DEMAND EXHAUSTED THE MULTI-MILLION TON RESERVE SUPPLY OF SALT THAT CARGILL STORES AT THEIR MINES NEAR CAYUGA.

10/11/18-SHOULD NEW YORK LEGALIZE RECREATIONAL MARIJUANA? AND HOW SHOULD IT BE DONE? THAT WAS THE SUBJECT OF A LISTENING SESSION HELD BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH IN UTICA LAST NIGHT. A PACKED HOUSE AT THE HOLIDAY INN HAD PLENTY OF FEEDBACK FOR STATE OFFICIALS CONSIDERING THE IMPLICATIONS OF RECREATIONAL CANNABIS. THAT INCLUDED RESIDENTS SAYING LEGALIZATION WAS LONG OVERDUE, AS WELL AS OPPONENTS WORRIED ABOUT THE LONG TERM HEALTH IMPACTS OF THE PROPOSAL.

10/12/18-IF YOU WANT TO VOTE IN THIS FALL'S ELECTIONS YOU'D BETTER BE REGISTERED BY THE END OF TODAY. VOTERS HEAD TO THE POLLS JUST OVER THREE WEEKS FROM NOW ON NOVEMBER SIXTH. IRONICALLY, DESPITE THE POLITICALLY CHARGED ATMOSPHERE AND ENCOURAGEMENT TO GET PEOPLE REGISTERED TO VOTE ONLY A FRACTION OF THE POPULATION ACTUALLY BOTHERS. YOU CAN REGISTER BY STOPPING BY AT ANY STATE OFFICE OR GET MORE INFORMATION ONLINE, INCLUDING PRINTABLE FORMS YOU CAN DROP IN THE MAIL, AT ELECTIONS DOT N-Y DOT GOV.

10/12/18-NEW YORK NEEDS TO REFORM HOW IT PAYS FOR MEDICAID. THAT WAS THE MESSAGE FROM GUBERNATORIAL CANDIDATE AND FORMER SYRACUSE MAYOR STEPHANIE MINER YESTERDAY. SHE WAS IN UTICA ALONG WITH RUNNING MATE MICHAEL VOLPE TO TOUT HER MEDICAID REFORM PLAN. THE PROPOSAL WOULD HAVE THE STATE TAKE OVER THE MEDICAID PAYMENTS THAT ARE CURRENTLY PAID BY NEW YORK'S COUNTIES. MINER IS RUNNING FOR GOVERNOR WITH THE SERVE AMERICA MOVEMENT PARTY.

10/16/18-WITH LESS THAN A MONTH TO GO UNTIL ELECTION DAY THERE STILL ISN'T A SINGLE GUBERNATORIAL DEBATE ON THE SCHEDULE. MULTIPLE ORGANIZATIONS HAVE OFFERED TO HOST A FACE OFF, BUT SO FAR GOVERNOR CUOMO HAS REFUSED TO PARTICIPATE. AT THIS TIME FOUR YEARS AGO CUOMO HAD ALREADY AGREED TO MULTIPLE DEBATES, INCLUDING A ONE-ON-ONE EVENT WITH HIS REPUBLICAN CHALLENGER. ORGANIZERS MAY BE FORCED TO HOLD EVENTS WITH THE REMAINING FOUR CANDIDATES AND AN EMPTY PODIUM FOR CUOMO.

10/17/18-IF YOU'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO BE A FARMER THE STATE WANTS TO HELP OUT. THE CUOMO ADMINISTRATION HAS ANNOUNCED ONE MILLION DOLLARS IN GRANTS AVAILABLE TO NEW FARMERS. THE MONEY CAN BE USED TO DEVELOP FARM OPERATIONS WITH NEW CONSTRUCTION, EQUIPMENT, AND MACHINERY FOR SUPPORTING HARVESTING AND PRODUCT PROCESSING. ANY FARM LESS THAN TEN YEARS OLD CAN APPLY FOR THE FUNDS, WHICH ARE HANDED OUT IN LUMP SUMS UP TO FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS.

10/17/18-THE MONEY FLOWING INTO THE RACE FOR THE 22ND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT KEEPS CLIMBING. NEW FIGURES SHOW THE BATTLE BETWEEN REPRESENTATIVE CLAUDIA TENNEY AND HER CHALLENGER ASSEMBLYMAN ANTHONY BRINDISI HAS ALREADY COST OVER FIVE MILLION DOLLARS, AND THAT COULD NEARLY DOUBLE BY ELECTION DAY. THE CANDIDATES THEMSELVES HAVE SPENT JUST OVER THREE MILLION DOLLARS, WITH THE REST COMING FROM POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEES AND OUTSIDE GROUPS.

10/18/18-FORMER CONGRESSMAN RICHARD HANNA DROPPED A POLITICAL BOMBSHELL LAST NIGHT, ENDORSING DEMOCRAT ANTHONY BRINDISI OVER REPUBLICAN CLAUDIA TENNEY. HANNA REPRESENTED THE AREA FOR THREE TERMS IN CONGRESS BEFORE RETIRING IN 2016. HE HAS A LONG HISTORY OF ANTAGONISM WITH TENNEY, GOING BACK TO A TOUGH PRIMARY FIGHT BETWEEN THE TWO BACK IN 2014. HE ALSO MADE NATIONAL NEWS BACK IN 2016 WHEN HE ENDORSED HILLARY CLINTON OVER REPUBLICAN DONALD TRUMP.

10/18/18-LESS THAN A THIRD OF THE STATE'S RESIDENTS THINK THEIR ELECTED OFFICIALS ARE HONEST, HARDWORKING PUBLIC SERVANTS. INSTEAD, MOST OF US THINK THEY'RE MORE CONCERNED WITH TAKING CARE OF THEMSELVES AND THEIR POLITICAL FRIENDS THAN SERVING THEIR CONSTITUENTS. THAT'S ACCORDING TO A SIENNA COLLEGE POLL THAT FOUND A WHOPPING 65 PERCENT OF NEW YORKERS WITH A DIM VIEW OF THE STATE'S ELECTED

OFFICIALS. THAT INCLUDES NOT BEING SURPRISED WHEN YET ANOTHER ALBANY INSIDER IS INDICTED.

10/18/18-YOU COULD BE SEEING SOME MAJOR CHANGES AT NEW YORK'S THRUWAY REST STOPS. THE THRUWAY AUTHORITY IS LOOKING FOR PROPOSALS ON HOW TO REVAMP THE FACILITIES AND SERVICES AT THE 27 PLAZAS ALONG THE THRUWAY. THE MOVE COMES IN RESPONSE TO FEEDBACK FROM DRIVERS, WHO SAID THEY WANTED MORE HIGH END FOOD OPTIONS, DRIVE THROUGHS, AND BETTER PARKING OPTIONS. THE SYSTEM-WIDE MAKEOVER WOULD ALSO PUT EVERY REST AREA UNDER THE CONTROL OF A SINGLE OPERATOR.

10/19/18-ELECTION SEASON IS IN FULL SWING, AND WITH IT THE ANNUAL RITUAL OF VANISHING AND VANDALIZED CAMPAIGN SIGNS. BUT THE PROBLEM APPEARS TO BE MORE WIDESPREAD THIS YEAR THANKS TO THE SUPER-CHARGED POLITICAL CLIMATE. THE LATEST INCIDENT INVOLVES DOZENS OF SIGNS FOR REPRESENTATIVE CLAUDIA TENNEY THAT WERE VANDALIZED IN CHADWICKS. LAW ENFORCEMENT IS REGULARLY CALLED IN DURING ELECTION SEASON, BUT THEY'RE RARELY ABLE TO CATCH ANYONE BECAUSE OF A LACK OF EVIDENCE.

10/22/18-THE LIBERTARIAN CANDIDATES FOR GOVERNOR AND LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR WERE IN UTICA YESTERDAY. LARRY SHARPE AND ANDREW HOLLISTER SPOKE TO A PACKED HOUSE AT BREEZES ON REFORMING NEW YORK'S INCOME TAX SYSTEM, LEGALIZING MARIJUANA, AND REPEALING NEW YORK'S SAFE ACT. THE PAIR HAVE BEEN TOURING THE STATE TO DRUM UP SUPPORT FOR THEIR CAMPAIGNS. SHARPE IS ONE OF THE FOUR GUBERNATORIAL CANDIDATES WHO'VE AGREED TO A DEBATE. WITH TWO WEEKS UNTIL ELECTION DAY GOVERNOR CUOMO CONTINUES HIS REFUSE ANY DEBATES.

10/23/18-FALL IS IN THE AIR, AND WITH IT COMES HAYRIDES, CIDER MILLS, AND A TRIP TO THE PUMPKIN PATCH. THOSE BUSINESSES ARE NOW PROTECTED FROM FRIVOLOUS LAWSUITS THANKS TO A NEW LAW SIGNED BY GOVERNOR CUOMO. THE MEASURE REDUCES THEIR LIABILITY FOR PATRONS HURT DURING THE NORMAL COURSE OF ACTIVITIES AT A FARM-BASED TOURISM OPERATION. THAT INCLUDES EVERYTHING FROM FALLING FROM A LADDER WHILE PICKING APPLES, OR TRIPPING WHILE WALKING A CORN MAZE.

10/24/18-THERE WERE PLENTY OF FIREWORKS DURING A DEBATE BETWEEN GOVERNOR CUOMO AND HIS REPUBLICAN CHALLENGER MARK MOLINARO YESTERDAY. THE BIG QUESTION IS IF ANYONE WILL ACTUALLY SEE IT. AFTER REFUSING A DEBATE FOR WEEKS CUOMO FINALLY AGREED TO ONE LATE SUNDAY, BUT ONLY IF THE DEBATE WASN'T BROADCAST LIVE. INSTEAD IT WAS PRE-TAPED AND SENT OUT TO C-B-S AFFILIATES LAST NIGHT AT SEVEN. YOU CAN VIEW THE EVENT ONLINE AT NEW YORK DOT C-B-S LOCAL DOT COM.

10/25/18-THE RACE FOR THE 22ND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT IS A DEAD HEAT. THAT'S ACCORDING TO A NEW SIENA RESEARCH POLL THAT FOUND CHALLENGER ANTHONY BRINDISI LEADING THE RACE WITH REPRESENTATIVE CLAUDIA TENNEY 46-45 PERCENT, WITH 9 PERCENT OF VOTERS STILL UNDECIDED. SINCE THEIR AUGUST POLL TENNEY HAS GAINED A PERCENTAGE POINT, AND ACTUALLY PICKED UP SUPPORT FROM DEMOCRATS, WHILE BRINDISI SAW A SURGE AMONG INDEPENDENT VOTERS. SIENA SAYS THE POLL HAS A MARGIN OF ERROR OF 4.7 PERCENT.

10/26/18-REPRESENTATIVE CLAUDIA TENNEY AND CHALLENGER ASSEMBLYMAN ANTHONY BRINDISI FACED OFF IN THEIR FIRST OFFICIAL DEBATE LAST NIGHT, AND IT WAS MORE OF THE SAME. NEITHER CANDIDATE WANDERED FAR FROM THEIR REGULAR CAMPAIGN SCRIPT DESPITE PRODDING BY THE MODERATORS FROM SPECTRUM CABLE. COMPLICATING MATTERS, THE EVENT WAS ONLY AVAILABLE TO SUBSCRIBERS. IF YOU MISSED IT LIVE THE ONLY WAY TO WATCH THE RECORDED DEBATE IS TO SIGN IN AS A SPECTRUM CUSTOMER.