

0:05 Show Intro

Story 1 – 1 min 18 sec

<https://spotlightnews.com/thespot/2020/11/05/holiday-lights-coming-back-to-washington-park-on-nov-17/#:~:text=The%202020%20Grand%20Opening%20will,until%20Jan.%203%2C%202021>

<https://wnyt.com/albany-new-york-news/capital-holiday-lights-in-the-park-turned-on-in-washington-park-albany/5927575/?cat=10114>

The Albany Police Athletic League has lit the Capital Holiday Lights in the Park, with Albany Mayor Kathy Sheehan and the show will run from Nov. 27 through Jan. 3, 2021. This year's theme is Hope and While some events have been cancelled and others modified, the lights will once again illuminate Albany's historic urban landscape at Washington Park. Sgt. (Ret.) Leonard Ricchiuti, Executive Director of Albany PAL said The Lights have grown to become the symbols of hope, love, and peace that define the holiday season and With the year we've all had, the people of the Capital Region need the sense of normalcy that our holiday tradition provides."

Albany PAL's walking events in Washington Park will still take place, Admission is \$5 per person, or \$10 for a family, for each walk or bike event and proceeds of which will go to PAL's programming, as well as the Make-A-Wish Northeast New York, American Red Cross of Northeastern New York. and Regional Food Bank of Northeastern NY. Admission is \$5 per person, or \$10 for a family, for each walk or bike event. Every Sunday night of the show, children will receive a special gift, courtesy of Albany PAL and the PAL Partners. Due to current pandemic restrictions, the Lake House will remain closed this holiday season, and PAL will not be offering horse and carriage rides, vendors, or pictures with Santa. But the organization does plan to resume normal operations in 2021, to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of Lighting up the Capital Region.

Story 2– 3 min 53 sec

<https://wnyt.com/capital-region-comeback/new-yorkers-wont-let-pandemic-rob-them-of-holiday-joy/5928557/?cat=10114>

<https://scri.siena.edu/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Holiday-2020-Press-Release-final.pdf>

<https://cbs6albany.com/newsletter-daily/watch-gov-cuomo-holds-daily-covid-19-briefing-from-albany-11-18-2020>

<https://www.facebook.com/glenville.police/>

<https://cbs6albany.com/news/coronavirus/cuomo-dont-call-yourself-a-law-enforcement-officer-to-police-not-enforcing-limit>

https://www.saratogian.com/news/area-sheriffs-to-defy-executive-order-on-indoor-family-gatherings/article_40318034-2851-11eb-84d2-97dd3ad3ac66.html

The Siena Research Institute released its annual holiday survey this week finding that A majority of New Yorkers said the holidays will certainly look different this year. However, they will not let the pandemic take the joy out of the season. Most who responded to the survey said that they do expect to stay home this year due to coronavirus even though Thanksgiving is typically the most traveled holiday of the year. Gov. Andrew Cuomo says he's expecting a "tremendous spike" of COVID-19 cases in New York after Thanksgiving and has made a feeble attempt to clamp down on holiday celebrations, which most New Yorkers, including law enforcement say they have absolutely no intention of paying attention to. Cuomo criticized the notion that police agencies may not be enforcing private gathering capacity limits saying it is frightening to democracy, it's arrogant and it violates one's constitutional duty, accusing law enforcement of violating their oaths if they only uphold laws they agree with.

Cuomo also encouraged citizens to practice safe Thanksgiving gatherings to help and to report on any issues they may see in their own family celebrations, which is highly unlikely to happen. In fact, law enforcement across the state have come out and stated in no uncertain terms that they will not infringe on the rights of New Yorkers. Fulton County Sheriff Richard Giardino has been an outspoken critic of the new rule, appearing on national news networks including CNN and FOX, arguing that enforcement of the executive order is a violation of the fourth amendment and that it's not enforceable.

Albany County Sheriff Craig Apple said he thinks this situation has just gone too far saying It seems that Cuomo has lost the middle ground, and has lost the pragmatic approach, and needs to get that back, instead of making it a Republican or Democratic thing. Saratoga County Sheriff announced this week that his police force also has no intention of enforcing the governor's orders either saying they've seen an increase in a variety of call types and have to and that he can't see how devoting crucial resources to counting cars in citizens' driveways or investigating how much turkey and dressing they've purchased is for the public good.

This week, the Glensville police chief Stephen Janik issued a lengthy statement saying The Glensville Police Department does not have the resources to proactively investigate the number of guests in a private residence and no authority to enter a private residence to take a "head-count" of the guests without a warrant and that the Executive Orders issued by the governor are usually intended for businesses and events that are under the regulatory authority of the NYS Liquor Authority and the NYS and local Health Departments. These agencies have the authority to close, sanction or fine businesses and events that are licensed in this state, not private homes and homeowners. Furthermore, Chief Janik said, "how would the enforcement of an Executive Order stop a gathering at the dinner table on Thanksgiving from happening, or continuing after the homeowner is cited? The answer is, it will not. Recent legislation, approved by the governor, has all but completely taken the fear of committing a crime away. Bail reform and the rules governing discovery have proven to be a complete disaster. If there were guidelines on the enforcement of this Executive Order, it would most likely result in a homeowner receiving an appearance ticket. He said - The number of friends and family in a private home is a private decision; and if it is done safely, should never be regulated by any government agency. Cuomo said many New Yorkers are parochial or religiously inclined and limited in their ability to see beyond their own experiences, saying they have yet to feel the full pain of COVID 19 and are pretending it won't ever affect them.

As for the Siena survey, Siena College Research Institute Director, Don Levy said "Over a quarter of New Yorkers are coming into the holiday season saying that no matter how hard they try, the pandemic will take the joy out of the holidays, but that over two-thirds New Yorkers refuse to allow the virus be a factor in their holiday celebrations."

Story 3 – 3 min 11 sec

<https://www.news10.com/news/special-reports/human-trafficking-agencies-survivors-fight-against-increasing-misinformation/>

<https://www.christianpost.com/news/over-170-arrested-in-2-year-long-sex-trafficking-investigation.html>
<https://polarisproject.org/blog/2020/08/what-we-know-about-how-child-sex-trafficking-happens/>

Human trafficking continues to make headlines around the world as more and more crime rings are uncovered, but the problem continues to persist in spite of awareness and efforts to stem the flow of kidnapping and slavery in the underworld of American society. Over 170 people have been charged in recent months as part of a two-year investigation uncovering a sex trafficking network in Florida With the help of state and federal authorities that has led to an "unprecedented" number of arrests. The investigation uncovered an "enormous amount" of electronic evidence that required months to analyze but helped authorities to determine how many suspects were involved and to what extent they were involved.

Late last month, the Department of Justice announced that 27 missing children were rescued in Virginia as part of a five-day law enforcement effort called "Operation Find Our Children." In September, the U.S. Marshals reported that local and federal law enforcers rescued more than 70 missing minors nationwide since August as part of "Operation Homecoming." In August, it was announced that during the first three weeks of "Operation Safety Net" in Ohio, 25 children, ranging in age from 13 to 18, were rescued.

local human trafficking support agencies, like the Albany County Safe Harbour program, say there are real examples of exploitation in area neighborhoods across the Capital Region. Nicole Consiglio, coordinator of Safe Harbour said parents across the region are trafficking their own children to feed a drug habit, or to pay their bills, saying that gangs are also part of trafficking people of all ages and that the crime takes on a lot of forms, and can happen anywhere at any time."

Megan Cutter is the director of the National Human Trafficking Hotline said the biggest blockade to making more progress to combat human trafficking is misinformation spread throughout social media, sensationalizing what victims look like through dramatizations and heartwrenching photos that are actually fakes, instead of putting the real stories, and the real faces, and the real issues at the forefront of raising awareness.

Rachel Lloyd, a survivor of human trafficking and exploitation said photos circulating social media showing children with duct-taped mouths and girls in cages perpetuates stereotypes about trafficking and can be confusing to victims whose experiences don't look that way, preventing many from speaking up about their own abuse.

Nicole Consiglio from the Albany county safe harbor program said it's crucial that people research what they read and stop passing on memes and pictures that are inaccurate or are from false sources of information. She implored people across the Capital Region to do their research, be aware of what's going on around them and to avoid thinking that people suffering from human trafficking will look anything like a Hollywood depiction, noting that victims more often than not look like everyone else and are not usually napped off the streets and thrown into windowless vans, but are instead groomed and taken advantage of by predators who don't have to kidnap them. In reality most victims of human trafficking go willingly with a person they trust.

According to Consiglio, human trafficking is a very real issue across the Capital Region and she said part of helping fight back against it is learning how to identify it and then picking up the phone and reporting it.

STORY 4 – 59 sec

<https://wnyt.com/money/gluten-free-oreos-nabisco/5927364/?cat=12987>

Nabisco has announced that it has put a new twist on an old favorite with Gluten-Free Oreos, and Gluten-Free Double-Stuf Oreos that the company says it will debut in January saying both are permanent additions to its lineup, and will be certified by the Gluten-Free Certification Organization. A **gluten-free** diet is a diet that strictly excludes **gluten**, proteins present in wheat (and all wheat varieties such as spelt and kamut), barley, rye, oat, and derivatives of these grains such and foods that may include them, or shared transportation or processing facilities with them.

The Oreo production company said it focused on making sure the recipe delivered a "comparable snacking experience to the original recipe." On Facebook members of the Gluten Free Albany group celebrated the move and Oreo fans across the country buzzed about the news on Twitter saying the 2021 release was a symbol of hope to put 2020 in the past and start the new year with something to celebrate.

STORY 5 – 4 min 34 sec

<https://wnyt.com/capital-region-comeback/rpi-rensselaer-polytechnic-institute-coronavirus-plan/5927522/?cat=12404>

https://www.rushlimbaugh.com/daily/2020/11/18/record-fast-vaccine-is-the-blockbuster-result-of-trumps-operation-warp-speed/?fbclid=IwAR0Z2IL2MEZRTxOxEu7Kg64K4RCghCcAfcwoy_JIPZghCySVfJu0HkijzA0

<https://nypost.com/2020/11/17/cuomo-blames-drug-companies-trump-for-speedy-covid-19-vaccines/>

<https://www.news10.com/news/ny-news/cuomo-doesnt-want-attorney-general-job-wanted-to-punch-trump/>

<https://www.nydailynews.com/coronavirus/ny-coronavirus-vaccine-cuomo-trump-20201116-hmucsuh5vffzvjlofidjuurm5e-story.html>

<https://cbs6albany.com/news/local/cuomo-plans-to-defer-scheduled-25000-pay-raise-in-2021>
<https://nypost.com/2020/11/14/new-stats-reveal-massive-nyc-exodus-amid-coronavirus-crime/>
<https://www.news10.com/news/coronavirus/when-will-a-covid-19-vaccine-be-available-in-the-united-states/>

RPI had an aggressive COVID testing plan – 80,200 tests were done with 18 positives during the fall semester. Testing along with tight policies for mask wearing, social distancing, and other preventive measures paid off and Now the school is looking ahead to when the COVID vaccine is being rolled out. The two leading vaccine candidates from Pfizer and Moderna, and each needs to be kept at very low temperatures. That's where RPI says they may be able to help. RPI President Dr. Shirley Jackson says they'll be reaching out to the state to see if their services are needed as the school had had tremendous success with managing COVID 19 on campus.

The Pfizer vaccine has been declared to be 95% effective and the company says they plan to submit this to the FDA in days, according to CNBC. Radio commentator Rush Limbaugh said the blockbuster vaccine was a direct result of President Trump's Operation Warp Speed, but in order for it to happen Trump had to rid the FDA and the government of numerous regulations, that liberal Democrats would have never permitted under their watch because Big Pharma has been an enemy of the Democrat Party for decades. According to Rush, while Big Pharma has some bad actors like anyone else, the fact remains that their advancements are representative of American greatness and ingenuity, and, he said, while Democrats have demonized Big Pharma — and a lot of Americans have not taken the time to be informed, hate Big Pharma too, the fact remains that Democrats want as many Americans as possible to be helpless victims, with the Democrat party as the heroes, rather than facilitating Americans health and well being, independent of government.

In fact, Gov. Cuomo actually blamed President Trump and drugmakers Pfizer and Moderna for being so fast in coming up with coronavirus vaccines that show signs they may be very effective in ending the pandemic. In a perplexing statement Cuomo accused President Trump of stroking his own ego and the drug companies of prioritizing their wallets ahead of public health as the chief reasons behind accelerated coronavirus vaccine trials and results, despite the governor's own attempts to control the vaccine's anticipated distribution in New York until he gives it the all-clear.

Meanwhile, Cuomo has comprised his own Empire State-staffed [panel](#) of medical and logistical experts slated to conduct a secondary review of the Trump administration's drug distribution plan, arguing the federal plan is "flawed." He went as far as to say last week that he can't let the vaccination plan go forward the way that Trump and his administration is designing it."

In recent weeks, Governor Cuomo has also said he wanted to punch President Trump in the face for calling Chris Cuomo, the governor's younger brother, "Fredo" in a reference to Michael Corleone's weak-minded weasel brother in "The Godfather".

However in spite of his machismo, Cuomo is still begging for help managing COVID 19 in New York state Brushing aside his war of words with President Trump, and demanded the federal government get to work on creating a viable plan for distributing vaccines. Insisting that that significant numbers of Americans may shun the vaccine for COVID-19 because they distrust Trump. The governor is also demanding more stimulus money for the state as he announced his plans this week to defer his scheduled \$25,000 salary increase in January as the state faces a \$60.5 billion loss through the 2024 [fiscal year] as people are fleeing New York in large numbers following the mismanagement of New York City mayor Bill De Blasio and Governor Cuomo who is being held responsible for thousands of nursing home deaths during the pandemic.

More than 300,000 New Yorkers have bailed from the Big Apple in the last eight months, new statistics show.

As for the vaccine, the Trump administration has no plans to slow down in making it widely accessible to those in need as soon as possible. Both the Moderna and Pfizer shots are frozen but at different temperatures. Moderna said that once thawed, its doses can last longer in a refrigerator than initially thought, up to 30 days. Pfizer's shots require long-term storage at ultra-cold temperatures. RPI has been working on examining and combatting the COVID-19 virus since the beginning using advanced technologies to track, monitor, manipulate and research it all along. President Dr. Shirley Jackson they have the means by which to safely store the vaccines and that they will reach out to the drug companies and offer their help.

STORY 6 – 31 sec

<https://www.pix11.com/news/local-news/x-gender-ny-drivers-licenses-coming-with-computer-update>

<https://wnyt.com/news/x-gender-ny-drivers-licenses-coming-with-computer-update/5928402/#:~:text=ALBANY%2C%20N.Y.,officials%20said%20in%20court%20filings>.

<https://empirejustice.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/pro-se-name-gender-change-capital-region-final.pdf>

<https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/bills/2017/s7441>

<https://www.law.com/newyorklawjournal/2020/07/29/new-york-officials-sued-over-limits-to-gender-options-on-licenses/?slreturn=20201020110719>

<https://spectrumlocalnews.com/nys/central-ny/ny-state-of-politics/2020/03/11/ag-james--transgender-minors-can-change-sex-designation-on-birth-certificates-in-ny>

New York state will soon offer driver's licenses with a nonbinary gender identity marker of "X" disclosing their intentions in papers filed in Albany County in a federal lawsuit brought against them by Sander Saba, who is challenging the state policy of limiting gender identity on licenses to either "male" or "female." Saba, a nonbinary transgender New York City resident, said in the lawsuit that the policy is discriminatory. Several months back, Alive Radio reported that New York Attorney General Letitia James, who has been a vocal and very active opponent of every type of conservative value, and has aggressively advanced progressive agendas announced that in New York state Transgender minors will now be allowed to change the sex designation on their birth certificate to accomodate their gender dysshopira

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