



Tuesday, May 22, 2018

Former Clinton and Cuomo aide jumps into AG race ... De Blasio says don't smoke pot in public ... Last-ditch effort to pass new gun laws ... and more.

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## CITY & STATE NEW YORK | First Read

TUESDAY, MAY 22, 2018

**WEATHER:** Rain likely across the state. New York City, high 67; Albany, high 64; Buffalo, high 66.

### FROM CITY & STATE:

\* From Eric Schneiderman to Rob Astorino, here's a recap of [the 21 people who no longer made the cut on this year's Albany Power 100](#), including where they ranked last year and why they're off the list.

\* As the major-party conventions get underway this week, Republicans appear to have coalesced around Dutchess County Executive Marcus Molinaro for governor. But how can a party select a candidate without a primary? [Here's how it all works in New York.](#)

### NEW THIS MORNING:

\* Leecia Eve, a former top aide to Hillary Clinton and Gov. Andrew Cuomo, said that she will enter the race for state attorney general that now features two well-

connected black women seeking an office that has been held only by white men, [The New York Times reports.](#)

\* New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio said New Yorkers won't end up in jail if they smoke marijuana in public, but that doesn't mean they should to do it, noting that in states where pot is legal, it's not legal to smoke it in public, [the Daily News reports.](#)

\* Ed Mullins, president of the Sergeants Benevolent Association, said de Blasio's new approach to marijuana enforcement would put police in a tough spot because marijuana is still illegal and officers receive complaints from the public about it, [The Wall Street Journal reports.](#)

\* Advocates for tougher gun laws, including state Senate Democrats, are launching a last-ditch effort to pressure the GOP-controlled Senate to pass legislation that would make it easier to take weapons away from dangerous individuals, [the Daily News reports.](#)

\* Parting ways with Cuomo and reformers across the region, New Jersey Gov. Phil Murphy said he remains intent on restoring a position at the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey many believe facilitated the so-called Bridgegate scandal, [Politico New York reports.](#)

\* More news below ...

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Uber Helps All New Yorkers Move Around Their Communities .

From Bayside to Brownsville, Uber helps all New Yorkers move around their communities, especially in areas long ignored by yellow taxis and where access to public transit is limited. That's why the majority of Uber trips now begin in the Bronx, Queens, Staten Island and Brooklyn, where we continue to grow the fastest. Learn more at [UberConnectsNYC.com](http://UberConnectsNYC.com)

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\* Candice Giove, the former press secretary to state Sen. Jeff Klein, unloaded on her former boss, referring to him as “an accused predator” during an extraordinary exchange on social media, [the New York Post reports](#).

\* De Blasio visited the Manhattan Hunter Science High School to take part in the first citywide Student Voter Registration Day, where students who are 18 or will turn 18 by Nov. 6 can sign up to vote, [the Daily News reports](#).

\* Mount Vernon Mayor Richard Thomas’ attempt to block the state attorney general’s office from prosecuting him on criminal charges has been shot down after he argued that acting state Attorney General Barbara Underwood had no authority to do so, [the Journal News reports](#).

\* New York’s per-pupil spending has long led the nation, and in 2016, the state spent \$22,366 per student at its public schools – 90 percent above the national average, a gap that continues to grow as the state has steadily increased aid to schools, [Gannett Albany reports](#).

\* The state Department of Transportation announced that work is underway on three Long Island transportation projects totaling \$22.6 million in repairs and technology improvements to enhance road safety and help traffic flow more efficiently, [Newsday reports](#).

Got inside info? Email us: [tips@cityandstateny.com](mailto:tips@cityandstateny.com).

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All Students Deserve to Feel Safe!

NYC public charter schools - already shut out of DOE buildings - are the only type of schools, public or private, left to fend for themselves for building security. We are calling on the NYC Council to offer these 42,000 public charter school students the same protections provided to the City’s wealthiest private schools.

[Learn More>>](#)

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#### EDITORIAL PAGES :

- \* Too many officials don't have answers and rarely seem curious about basic questions of how to safeguard public health and safety after marijuana legalization, and we don't have firm answers about how to determine safe dosages, labeling and licensing, [the Daily News writes](#).
- \* We'll grant that the case for the legalization of marijuana has a strong appeal since private behavior shouldn't be the business of the government's if no one else is harmed, but the hard issues turn on "private" and "harm," [the Post writes](#).
- \* The illegal sale of marijuana has to be prosecuted, and so does driving under the influence of the drug, but arresting and prosecuting people for possession, an act which is expected to be legal soon, would serve little purpose, [Newsday writes](#).
- \* The Erie County Water Authority, which hires unqualified leaders and frolics in a sewer of patronage, is viewed by its own customers as one of the nation's worst, and sometimes, there is justice in the world, [The Buffalo News writes](#).

#### NATIONAL POLITICS :

- \* The White House brokered an agreement with intelligence and law enforcement officials that will allow Republican congressional leaders to view some of the most highly classified information related to the Russia investigation, [the Times reports](#).
- \* Top House Republicans are privately questioning whether retiring Speaker Paul Ryan can make it through Election Day as rank-and-file Republicans have become increasingly willing to defy the lame-duck leader, [Politico reports](#).

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**Citizens' Committee for Children's new report outlines recommendations**

to address inequality, foster upward mobility and improve well-being in northern Manhattan. The study analyzed government data and engaged parents, youth and service providers in identifying their most pressing concerns in housing affordability, school performance, economic mobility, and more. [Read Celebrating Strengths, Addressing Needs: Community-Driven Solutions to Improve Well-being in Northern Manhattan to learn what residents feel is needed to support families and strengthen their community.](#)

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY: To former Assemblyman Ronald Canestrari ... to Assemblyman Harry Bronson ... to Vanessa J. Herman, assistant vice president of government and community relations at Pace University ... to state Sen. Kenneth P. LaValle ... to Dan Slippen, vice president of government affairs at the American Museum of Natural History ... and belatedly, on Sunday, to Norman Steisel, chairman and CEO of EnEssCo Strategies and former first deputy mayor of New York City.

Have a birthday, career change, birth or death to announce? Email us: [editor@cityandstateny.com](mailto:editor@cityandstateny.com).

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Feast on Facts: Join us June 6th at the Albany Capital Center at 5:30PM for a reception and an exclusive screening of the documentary FOOD EVOLUTION from Academy Award®-nominated director Scott Hamilton Kennedy. This 52-minute film explores the controversy surrounding GMOs and food. Sarah Evanega, PhD, Director of the Alliance for Science at Cornell University will introduce this special screening and host a discussion following along with a panel of experts.

Join us for this special screening, discussion and networking reception at NO COST. Please register [here](#) as limited seats are available.

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Communications Director or Press Secretary, Todd Shapiro Associates

Former Communications Director or Press Secretary Wanted for Public Relations Firm with offices in Manhattan and Long Island. Clients include government, nonprofits, unions medical, financial and hospitality. Must be excellent writer and have media contacts. Todd Shapiro Associates Public Relations has served the New York Metro region for over 20 years. Send resume to [toddspr@yahoo.com](mailto:toddspr@yahoo.com) or call 516-312-6573.

[Vice President and Chief Officer](#), MTA Staten Island Railway

The Department of Subways is seeking a dynamic, experienced leader to assume the role of Vice President & Chief Officer of Staten Island Railway. The successful candidate will oversee all aspects of Staten Island Railway, a 24/7 operation, in the delivery of safe, efficient and reliable service for its 30,000 daily riders. Apply [here](#).

[Executive Vice President, Station Service and Strategic Planning](#), MTA  
New York City Transit

The NYC Transit Department of Subways is seeking a dynamic leader to play a critical role in transforming and leading a modernized, strategic, data-driven and customer-focused subways organization. The chosen candidate will join a talented executive leadership team at NYC Transit and will be responsible for the strategic planning and execution of a corporate modernization plan aimed at improving performance. Apply [here](#).

[Chief Budget Officer](#), MTA New York City Transit

The NYC Transit Department of Subways is seeking to hire an experienced executive as Chief Budget Officer, who will provide managerial oversight for the Department's \$4.5 Billion operating budget including expense analysis, budget reporting, operating analytics, performance reporting, audits, and internal controls. This key role will report to the newly appointed Vice President and Chief Officer of Subway Operations support. The position is based in lower Manhattan. Apply [here](#).

[Director of Major Gifts](#), St. Mary's Healthcare System for Children

St. Mary's Healthcare System for Children is currently seeking an energetic, versatile development professional to join our team in Bayside, Queens as the Director of Major Gifts. The qualified candidate will support the Development Team initiating the identification, cultivation, solicitation and stewardship of prospects capable of making leadership and major gifts to St. Mary's Healthcare System for Children. Apply [here](#).

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**TODAY'S SKED:**

Gov. Andrew Cuomo is in New York City with no public schedule.

Mayor Bill de Blasio is in New York City with no public schedule.

The state Legislature is in session.

9 a.m. – Lt. Gov. Kathy Hochul keynotes the Low Income Forum on Energy Statewide Conference, Albany Capital Center, 55 Eagle St., Albany.

9:45 a.m. – The state Senate Committee on Housing, Construction and Community Development meets, Legislative Office Building, Room 309, Albany.

10 a.m. – State Sens. Kemp Hannon, George Amedore Jr., Fred Akshar and Chris Jacobs hold a roundtable discussion on access to opioids, state Capitol, Room 124, Albany.

10 a.m. – The New York City Council Committee on Health meets about requiring defibrillators at softball fields where youth leagues play, City Hall, Committee Room, Manhattan.

10 a.m. – The New York City Council Committee on Education holds an executive budget hearing jointly with the Committee on Finance, with New York City schools Chancellor Richard Carranza delivering testimony, Council Chambers, City Hall, Manhattan.

10:30 a.m. – Former New York City Department of Education Chancellor Carmen Fariña speaks at the Pace University commencement ceremony, Radio City Music Hall, 1260 Sixth Ave., Manhattan.

10:30 a.m. – The state Senate Committee on Transportation meets, Legislative Office Building, Room 710, Albany.

11 a.m. – Assembly members Ron Kim and Yuh-Line Niou announce the 2018 Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month Celebration, Hearing Room B, Legislative Office Building, Albany.

11 a.m. – The New York City Council Committee on Transportation meets about sidewalk repairs, City Hall, Committee Room, Manhattan.

11 a.m. – Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams and New York City Councilmen Antonio Reynoso and Robert Cornegy Jr. join charter educators



and families to demand equitable access to school security guard funding, Brooklyn Borough Hall, 209 Joralemon St., Brooklyn.

11 a.m. – State Senate Minority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins and state Senate Democrats hold a press conference to urge the passage of a bill allowing extreme risk protection orders, state Capitol, outside Room 123, Albany.

11 a.m. – “Capitol Pressroom” features state Sen. John Bonacic and Working Families Party State Director Bill Lipton, WCNY.

11:30 a.m. – The state Senate Committee on Judiciary meets, state Capitol, Room 123, Albany.

12 p.m. – State Sen. Marisol Alcantara, Assemblyman Marcos Crespo and criminal justice reform advocates hold a press conference in support of the One Day to Protect New Yorkers Act, Legislative Office Building, Room 130, Albany.

12 p.m. – The New York City Council Committee on Civil Service and Labor meets, City Hall, Committee Room, Manhattan.

1 p.m. – Hochul delivers remarks and presents an award at Older New Yorkers Day, The Egg Hart Lounge, Center for the Performing Arts, Empire State Plaza, Albany.

1 p.m. – The state Senate Committee on Labor meets, state Capitol, Room 123, Albany,

1 p.m. – The state Senate Committee on Finance meets, state Capitol, Room 124, Albany.

1 p.m. – State Sen. Thomas O’Mara and Assemblywoman Donna Lupardo host a hemp forum, featuring a panel discussion on the growth, manufacturing and processing of industrial hemp in New York state, Legislative Office Building, Room 711A, Albany.

1 p.m. – The New York City Council Committee on Governmental Operations meets about broadcasting mandatory debates, City Hall, Committee Room, Manhattan.

1 p.m. – Rally in support of extending Article 15-A and Assemblywoman Crystal Peoples-Stokes' legislation A10713, Senate Staircase, Albany.

1:30 p.m. – Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer, Rep. Adriano Espaillat and New York City Councilman Mark Levine hold a press conference denouncing the conversion of Safety City into a vehicle depot and reiterating their call for affordable housing at the site, 672 W. 158th St., Manhattan.

2:50 p.m. – Stewart-Cousins and state Senate Democrats hold a press conference to announce plans to force the Child Victims Act onto the Senate floor for a vote, state Capitol, outside of the state Senate glass doors, Albany.

3 p.m. – The state Senate Committee on Environmental Conservation meets, Legislative Office Building, Room 308, Albany.

3 p.m. – The state Senate is in session, state Capitol, Senate Chambers, Albany.

3 p.m. – The New York City Loft Tenants hold a press conference and rally in support of their bill A8409/S6828, state Capitol, Albany.

6 p.m. – Hochul speaks at the Stars and Stripes Democratic Club's Annual Dinner, Sirico's, 8023 13th Ave., Brooklyn.

6:30 p.m. – Carranza attends a town hall meeting of District 25's Community Education Council, P.S. 107 Thomas A. Dooley, 167-02 45th Ave., Queens.

7 p.m. – Brewer speaks at The High School of Fashion Industries' Annual Fashion Show, 225 W. 24th St., Manhattan.

8 p.m. – Queens Borough President Melinda Katz hosts the annual Queens sunset iftar event, Borough Hall, 120-55 Queens Blvd., Queens.

Send sked items to [editor@cityandstateny.com](mailto:editor@cityandstateny.com).

KICKER: “First of all, until the law is different, you shouldn’t smoke marijuana in public.” – New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio, on new marijuana enforcement policies that effectively decriminalize smoking pot in public, [via the Daily News](#)