NEW YORK CITY'S NO. 1 CIRCULATED NEWSPAPER

WEDNESDAY November 20, 2024 HI 54° | LO 48° MOSTLY CLOUDY, CH

Latest fall guy in another failed season Page 44 JETS AX GM DOUGLAS

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MANHATTAN STABBING SPREE



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shows closing These B'way

PAGE 43

PHOTO VIA GETTY IMAGES

- Suspect held without bail on murder-1 charges for bloody rampage
- New horrific details emerge about one victim's last moments

Page



POWER PLAYERS IN HEALTH CARE

NY's new tracking system Special Section, Page 14 Queens dispensary opens;



New end cannabis products Queens dispensary and more offers hig



BY COLUM
MOTHERWAY
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Queens residents can now experience high-end cannabis products and exceptional customer service with the opening of Bayside Cannabis Dispensary.

Located at 224-15 Union Tpke. in Oakland Gardens, the new premium dispensary transformed three vacant storefronts into a spacious, modern outlet in the

cious, modern outlet in the heart of the community.

"When you walk into Bayside Cannabis Dispensary, it is a beautiful large marble floor. There's space, you don't feel overcrowded. You don't feel like you're potentially walking into a place that might sell drugs. There's a clear distinction that this is a nice highend dispensary," remarked Cannabis Marketing Strategist Stephen Gold.

This store has been two years in the making but is now welcoming customers for 12 hours a day from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. every day of the week.

One of the store's main goals is to be welcoming and helpful to Oakland Gardens' primarily older demographic.

"We find that we are helping a crowd that is coming in, and it's their coming in, and it's their

coming in, and it's their irst time experiencing annabis, and our response always that this space s extremely welcoming," Gold added.

The owners are from Queens and are eager to Queens and are eager to 20 ensure that this store can be heavily involved in the community, just like they No are.

14 They are in the early stages of planning community events and initiatives to give back, aiming to show locals that they are community members icated to delivering notch service.

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AND OPENING

ed its doors"

The spacious store offers convenient parking, a team of knowledgeable staff ready to assist with any customer needs, and has already garnered five-star reviews online.

Multiple cannabis op-

Multiple cannabis options are available in the store, and they are divided into the following categories: Flower, Pre-Rolls, Edibles, Vaporizers, Concentrates, Topicals, Tinctures,

CBD. There

There is an option to sign up for the dispensary's loyalty program, which will provide exclusive discounts and rewards.

The dispensary also offers advice on food and drink pairings with various strains of cannabis to provide their customers with a unique level of hospitality that allows them to enhance their own experi-

The owners of Bayside Cannabis Dispensary applied to get their license through the social equity CAURD (Conditional Adult-Use Retail Dispensary) juana priority in entering the legal cannabis indus-

York State Cannabis Control Board (CCB) held its monthly public meeting, at which it approved 125 new adult-use cannabis licenses, bringing the total to 1,311. This includes 217 CAURD licenses, 54% of which are held by social and economic equity (SEE) licensees.

Additionally, The Board, in collaboration with the Office of Cannabis Management (OCM) deter-

Use Retail Dispensary) program, which gave individuals impacted by the criminalization of mari-

BAYSIDE CANNABIS DISPENSARY DUEENS, NY (347) 548-0 9 224-15 U baysidacan

mined that provisional CAURD licenses would be extended for an additional six months before expiration.

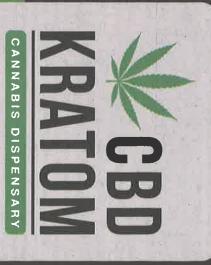
"OCM's commitment to building an equitable and active cannabis market in New York goes beyond reg-ulation—it's about foster-

ing an environment that gives all licensees the opportunity to succeed," said Felicia A.B. Reid, OCM's Acting Executive Director.

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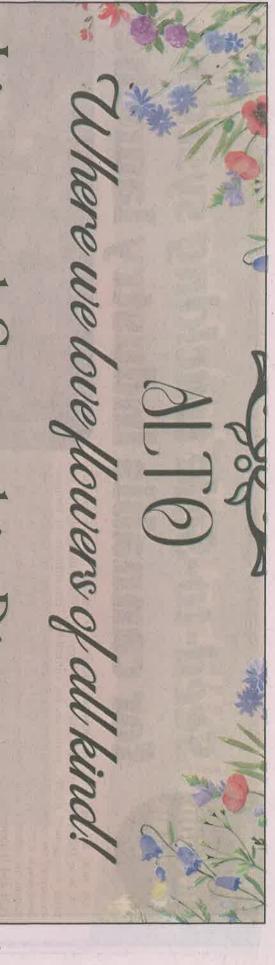
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Seed-to-S aunched

York State Office of Cannabis Management (OCM) announced the launch of a Seed-to-Sale (STS) Tracking System to enhance oversight and transparency in the state's cannabis indus-

The new system requires all cannabis licensees to use an electronic inventory system integrated with the NY STS Tracking System, known as BioTrack. This initiative ensures comprehensive monitoring of cannabis products, from the planting stage to final sale, to secure the integrity of supply chains for both adult-use and medical can-

To support ance during the compli-rollout,

the OCM will fund up to \$250,000 in inventory tag purchases for cultivators, processors, and microbusinesses. These tags serve as unique identifiers, maintaining traceability across all stages, including culti-

Permitted laboratories will also be required to submit product testing data directly to BioTrack, creating an integrated flow of information. This feature enhances transparency and ensures products meet state standards before reaching consumers.

"The implementation of the Seed-to-Sale tracking

system is a pivotal m in the evolution o

commitment to transparency, accountability, and public trust," said Felicia A.B. Reid, acting OCM executive director. "By en-

Mandated by Section 78 of the Cannabis Law, licensees must report data to the OCM through the BioTrack Application Programming Interface (API). By Jan. 17, 2025, all licensees are required to have a third-party inventory tracking system compati-

compliance but also ensur-ing that both medical and adult-use consumers bene-fit from a regulated and se-cure market." suring traceability at every stage of the supply chain, we are not only bolstering York's cannabis This initiative up bis industry.
upholds our

ble with the NY-API.

The OCM has committed to sharing additional information on the logistics and

timeframe for full system integration.
For further details about the NY STS Tracking Sys-

tem and BioTrack, visit cannabis.ny.gov/seed-to-sale.

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For use only by adults 21 years or older. Keep out of reach of children and pets. In case of accidental ingestion or overconsumption, contact the Poison Center hotline (800) 222-1222 or 911. Please consume responsibly. Cannabis can be addictive. Concerned about your cannabis use? Contact the NYS HOPELine by texting "HopsNY", calling (877) 8-HOPENY, or visiting: oasas.ny.gov/HOPELine

The New York State Cannabis Control Board (CCB) approved 125 additional adult-use cannabis licenses during its monthly meeting in New York City on Nov. 13.

In a move to bolster the state's cannabis industry, the board also extended provisional Conditional Adult-Use Retail Dispensary (CAURD) licenses by six months before their expiration. The extension aims to provide licensees with additional support to become fully operational.

"OCM's commitment to building an equitable and active cannabis market in New York goes beyond regulation—it's about fostering an environment that gives all licensees the opportunity to succeed," said Felicia

A.B. Reid, acting executive director of the Office of Cannabis Management (OCM).

New York's cannabis market continues to gain momentum, with cumulative sales exceeding \$800 million. Weekly sales reached \$24.3 million in early November, with annual revenues nearing \$1 billion, highlighting the sector's

enues nearing \$1 billion, highlighting the sector's rapid growth.

The latest approvals bring the total number of adultuse cannabis licenses in the state to 1,311, including 217 CAURD licenses. Over half of these licenses, 54%, are held by Social and Economic Equity (SEE) applicants, reflecting the state's dedication to fostering inclusivity



busi-

sued in 2024, 587 were granted to SEE applicants. These included 28 Community Disproportionately Impacted applicants, 39 distressed farmers, 222 minority-owned businesses, 42 service-disabled veteran-owned businesses, and nesses.

SEE applicants also made up 61% of the cohort approved at the recent meeting, with 76 of the 124 new licenses going to SEE appliwomen-owned

cants.
Currently, 229 legal can-

nabis dispensaries are oper-ating across New York State.

"Bolstering medical can-nabis access is essential for making sure patients all across New York can get the care they need," said

Medical cannabis
expansion efforts
The OCM also highlighted ongoing efforts to expand access to medical cannabis. Since 2016, the state has worked to address accessibility challenges faced by 40% of active medical cannabis

Tremaine Wright, CCB chairperson. "By approving this latest batch of ROs, we

As part of this initiative, the CCB approped four new Registered Organization (RO) licenses to join the Medical Cannabis Program, focusing on underserved re-

care they

are opening up more opportunities to improve access, quality and innovation."

Processor Type 3 Branding

The OCM also announced the opening of applications for Processor Type 3 Branding Licenses.

This license allows brand licensees to enter white-label agreements with licensed cannabis processors to manufacture branded products. However, it does plant-touching

Applications are available the OCM website, canna-

Business Development Program Cannabis Workforce and

AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Start

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Work.

Anywhei

The Borough of Manhattan Community College and partner Lehman College have created short-term credential programs and courses meant to provide pathways to employment in the Cannabis industry.

The BMCC Cannabis Workforce and Business Development Program is excited to announce the launch of its Cannabis Retail Management Training Program next

This no-cost certification is grant-funded by the Department of Labor is designed to equip you with the essential skills and expertise needed to successfully manage a cannabis retail business. Our comprehensive course covers in-depth training on revenue generation, strategic marketing, regulatory compliance, exceptional customer service, and effective staff management—everything tailored specifically to the unique cannabis retail landscape. About: Cannabis Retail Management

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The certification is in compliance with NYS Marijuana Regulations & Taxation (MRTA), and Office of Cannabis Management (OCM) standards and regulations.

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If you or someone you know is interested, please join us for an upcoming info session.

Learn More!



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