AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF NEW YORK
COUNTY OF ~~GREENE~~ Columbia
~~VILLAGE OF CATSKILL~~ City of Hudson

Patricia Bulich of
The Village of Catskill, County of Greene and State of New York, bring duly sworn deposes and says the he/she is a principal clerk of The Daily Mail, a daily newspaper, printed and published in the Village of Catskill, County of Greene and State of New York, and that the notice, of which the annexed is a printed copy, has been duly and regularly published in said newspaper: in each week for four successive week(s), said publication commencing on the 25 day of September, 2025.

Patricia Bulich
Principal Clerk

Sworn to me before this 6th day of October, 2025.

Columbia County
Notary Public, ~~Greene County~~, NY

Theresa Gerber

THERESA GERBER
NOTARY PUBLIC, STATE OF NEW YORK
Registration No. 04GE6063684
Qualified in Columbia County
Commission Expires September 4, 2029

THE DAILY MAIL
364 Warren St., Hudson, NY 12534 (518)943-2100

Greene County Calendar

THURSDAY, SEPT. 25

Athens Town Planning Board, 7 p.m., Municipal Building, 2 1st St., Athens

Coxsackie Town Board Workshop (subject to change), 6 p.m., Town Hall, 56 Bailey Street, Coxsackie

Tannersville Village Board Meeting, 6 p.m., Village Hall, 1 Park Lane (5974 Main Street), Tannersville

Tannersville Village Zoning Board of Appeals, 7 a.m., Village Hall, 1 Park Lane (5974 Main Street), Tannersville

Windham Town Board, 7 p.m., Town Hall, 371 NY-296, Hensonville

SATURDAY, SEPT. 27

Greenville Comprehensive Plan Workshop, noon, the North Barn at Vanderbilt Park, Town Park Drive, Greenville

Monday, Sept. 29

Catskill Downtown Revitalization Initiative Local Planning Committee DRI Open House, 5:30 p.m., at the Senior Center located on Academy Street (off of Thompson Street), Catskill

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 1

Athens Village Board, 6 p.m., Municipal Building, 2 1st St., Athens

Catskill Town Board Special Meeting for 2026 Tentative Budget, 6 pm, Catskill Town Hall, 439 Main St., Catskill

THURSDAY, OCT. 2

Ashland Planning Board, 7 p.m., Town Hall, 12094 Route 23, Ashland, 518-734-3636

Cairo Planning Board, 7 p.m., Cairo-Durham Elementary School Cafeteria, 424 Main St., Cairo

Coxsackie Town Planning Board, 7 p.m., Town Hall, 56 Bailey Street, Coxsackie

Windham Town Planning Board, 7 p.m., Town Hall, 371 NY-296, Hensonville

MONDAY, OCT. 6

Ashland Town Board, 7:30 p.m., Town Hall, 12094 Route 23, Ashland, 518-734-3636

Athens Town Board, 6 p.m., Municipal Building, 2 1st St., Athens

Cairo Town Board, 7 p.m., Town Hall Meeting Room, 512 Main St., Cairo

Friends of the Cairo Public Library, 2:30 p.m., 15 Railroad Ave., Cairo

Greenville Central School District Board of Education, 6 p.m., Middle School/High School Library, 4976 State Route 81, Greenville

TUESDAY, OCT. 7

Catskill Town Board, 6:30 p.m., Catskill Town Hall, 439 Main St., Catskill

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 8

Athens Town Zoning Board of Appeals, 7 p.m., Municipal Building, 2 1st St., Athens

Cairo-Durham Central School District Board of Education, 6 p.m., Middle School/High School Distance Learning Room, 1301 State Route 145, Cairo

Catskill Central School District Board of Education, 6 p.m., Catskill High School Library, 341 West Main St., Catskill

Catskill Village Board of Trustees, 6:30 p.m., Senior Center located on Academy St. (off of Thompson St.), Catskill

Hunter Public Library Board, 1:30 p.m., Hunter Public Library, 7965 Main St., Hunter

Windham-Ashland-Jewett Central School District Board of Education, 5 p.m., School Library, 5411 State Route 23, Windham

THURSDAY, OCT. 9

Catskill Town Board Budget Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Catskill Town Hall, 439 Main St., Catskill

Coxsackie Village Board Workshop, 6 p.m., Village Hall, 119 Mansion St., Coxsackie

Windham Town Board, 7 p.m., Town Hall, 371 NY-296, Hensonville

MONDAY, OCT. 13

Catskill Town Offices Closed

Catskill Village Offices Closed for Columbus Day/Indigenous People's Day

Catskill Village Planning Board, 6:30 p.m., Senior Center located on Academy St. (off of Thompson St.), Catskill



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Left to right, Carter Colon, Korben Raffo, Isabelle Johnston, Logan Maccaline, Justus Davies and Samuel Kubicek.

CATSKILL

Catskill High School students awarded by the College Board

Catskill High School students Carter Colon, Korben Raffo, Isabelle Johnston, Logan Maccaline, Justus Davies and Samuel Kubicek have been recognized nationally as 2025 College Board National Recognition Program awardees.

The six students are among only 15% of high school students nationwide who received recognition based on their achievement on AP Exams and/or PSAT-related assessments, according to a Catskill Central School District press release.

In 2025, the National Recognition Program offered three awards: the First-Generation Recognition Award, the Rural & Small-Town Recognition Award and the School Recognition Award, which honors the top-performing students in every high school, according to the Catskill Central School District.

The Catskill Central School District winners are:

◆ Carter Colon, First-Generation Recognition Award.

◆ Korben Raffo, School Recognition Award.

◆ Isabelle Johnston, Rural & Small-Town Recognition Award and School Recognition Award.

◆ Logan Maccaline, School Recognition Award.

◆ Justus Davies, School Recognition Award.

◆ Samuel Kubicek, School Recognition Award.

According to the school district, in order to be eligible for one or more of these awards, students had to meet the following criteria:

◆ Take the PSAT/NMSQT (10th and 11th grades), PSAT 10 (10th grade) and/or AP Exams (by the end of 10th grade)

◆ Earn a cumulative GPA of 3.3 (B+) or higher.

◆ Be one of the top 10% of test takers in their high school, a first-generation college student and/or a rural and small-town student, or earn a 3+ on 2 or more distinct AP Exams in the 8th, 9th, and/or 10th grade.

HUDSON

Hudson Hall to host Botz exhibit

Hudson Hall presents an extensive solo exhibition by photographer and filmmaker Corinne May Botz, on view Oct. 11 to Nov. 23.

An opening reception will be held on Saturday, Oct. 11, from 4 to 6 p.m. A special film screening and artist talk follows on Friday, Oct. 17, at 6 p.m., featuring Botz's short films "Milk Factory" (2021, 10 minutes) and "Bedside Manner" (2016, 18 minutes), followed by a Q&A moderated by cultural producer and educator Lesly Deschler Canossi.

The screening is free, with reservations encouraged. Tickets can be reserved at hudsonhall.org/corinne-botz

The exhibition, "Ghosts, Mother's Milk and Other Stories," brings together over 40 works from Botz's photographic series spanning over two decades, offering a survey of her artistic practice. Through her photographs, Botz explores the uncanny in domestic and institutional spaces, examining the spaces people inhabit and the hidden stories they hold.

"Bringing these works together for the first time offers a rare opportunity to draw new connections between projects and reflect on themes underlying my work over many years," Botz said in a statement. "The exhibition coincides with the publication of Milk Factory with Saint Lucy Books, which offers a meaningful opportunity to celebrate that project which was made in collaboration with mothers in the local community."

The exhibition features highlights from "The Nutshell Studies of Unexplained Death" (2004), "Haunted Houses" (2010), "Bedside Manner" (2016), "Dollhouse View" (ongoing), and her newest project, "Milk Factory" (2025).

For more information visit hudsonhall.org/corinne-botz. Hudson Hall is at 327 Warren St., Hudson.

ABOUT CORINNE MAY BOTZ

Botz is a photographic artist, filmmaker and educator based in upstate New York. Her published books include "The Nutshell Studies of Unexplained Death," "Haunted Houses," and "Milk Factory." Her work has been exhibited at institutions including the Brooklyn Museum, Museum of Contemporary Photography in Chicago, Kunstmuseum Basel, the Wellcome Collection in London; Württembergischer Kunstverein in Stuttgart, De Appel in Amsterdam, and Turner Contemporary in Margate.

Her short film "Bedside Manner" won the Grand Jury Prize at DOC NYC. She is a recipient of grants from the New York Foundation for the Arts and the Jerome Foundation and teaches at the International Center of Photography and John Jay College of Criminal Justice.

ABOUT LESLY DESCHLER CANOSSI

Canossi is a photography educator and cultural producer. She holds an MFA from the Maryland Institute College of Art and is faculty at the International Center of Photography. In 2016, she co-created Women Picturing Revolution, an organization dedicated to women photographers who have documented conflicts and crises in private realms and public spaces.

From 2016 to 2022, WPR lectured and organized seminars and panels at institutions including Columbia University, ICP and the Tate Modern, culminating in their co-edited publication "Black Matrilineage, Photography, and Representation: Another Way of Knowing."

Her teaching and personal practice center on themes of care, mothering and grief. Her course "Into the Fold: Mother Artist Identity" explores artist-parent identity through lens and performance-based works.





FILE PHOTO

An invasive pest known as the spotted lanternfly.

NEW BALTIMORE

Conservancy warns of invasive lanternfly

The New Baltimore Conservancy is warning that the spotted lanternfly — which it describes as an invasive species that can damage trees, plants and vineyards — is present in New Baltimore.

The conservancy recommends the following tips during encounters with the insect:

◆ Do not move it or its egg masses to other areas.

◆ Capture or kill the insect if possible, using a jar, container or squash method.

◆ Report sightings to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation or via their online reporting tool.

◆ Take pictures of the insect, egg masses and/or infestation signs as described above (include something for scale such as a coin or ruler) and email to spottedlanternfly@agriculture.ny.gov

◆ Or fill out the Department of Agriculture and Markets reporting form by going to http://bit.ly/3W3k2fs.

A spotted lanterfly distribution map can be viewed at cals.cornell.edu/integrated-pest-management/outreach-education/whats-bugging-you/spotted-lanternfly/spotted-lanternfly-reported-distribution-map.

TANNERSVILLE

Arboretum to host walk, talk on women birders

The Mountain Top Arboretum will a walk and talk event, titled "Women in the Bird World with Susan Fox Rogers," on Saturday, Sept. 27, from 10 a.m. to noon.

Rogers will discuss early women bird watchers who observed birds through an opera glass and who fought to protect birds. These determined women will serve as inspiration for the ways participants can change the world in small but important ways. Rogers will then lead a short bird walk and visitors can share what they know about the birds that they hear and see, according to an email from the Mountain Top Arboretum.

Rogers is a writer, birder, teacher, editor, rock climber and kayaker. She writes about the natural world and adventures large and small in the outdoors, according to the arboretum.

Copies of Rogers' most recent book, "Learning the Birds," will be available for purchase at the conclusion of the program.

The cost of admission is free for members and a $10 suggested donation for nonmembers. It is required to RSVP. Register at tickettailor.com/events/mountaintoparboretum/1642551.

PUBLIC STATEMENT HEARINGS TO BE HELD IN PSC CASES 25-E-0375, 25-G-0378, 25-E-0379, 25-G-0380 – NEW YORK STATE ELECTRIC & GAS CORPORATION AND ROCHESTER GAS AND ELECTRIC CORPORATION FOR ELECTRIC AND GAS SERVICE

Public comment is invited concerning the proposed changes in the electric and gas delivery rates and practices of New York State Electric & Gas Corporation (NYSEG) and Rochester Gas and Electric Corporation (RG&E) (together, the Companies). In addition, members of the public and parties to these proceedings are invited to comment on the proposed closure of certain walk-in office locations operated by the Companies.

NYSEG and RG&E filed amendments to their electric and gas tariff schedules on June 30, 2025, proposing to increase their annual electric and gas delivery revenues for the 12-month period ending April 30, 2027. NYSEG proposes to increase its electric delivery revenues by approximately $464.4 million (an 18.4 percent increase in total revenues or 35.0 percent increase in base delivery revenues), and its natural gas delivery revenues by approximately $93 million (a 22.1 percent increase in total revenues or 39.4 percent increase in base delivery revenues). RG&E proposes to increase its electric delivery revenues by approximately $220.2 million (a 19.8 percent increase in total revenues or 36.0 percent increase in base delivery revenues), and its natural gas delivery revenues by approximately $72.9 million (a 17.1 percent increase in total revenues or 32.0 percent increase in base delivery revenues). The actual bill impacts of these proposed changes on any particular customer class will vary based upon revenue allocation and rate design.

As part of the Companies' rate filings, they propose to close the following walk-in offices:

- NYSEG's Auburn office located at 73 Wright Circle, Auburn, NY 13021
- NYSEG's Ithaca office located at 1387 Dryden Road, Ithaca, NY 14850
- NYSEG's Oneonta office located at 65 Country Club Road, Oneonta, NY 13820
- RG&E's Sodus office located at 14 State Street, Sodus, NY 14551
- RG&E's Rochester office located at 3 City Center, 180 South Clinton Avenue, Rochester, NY 14604

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that **public statement hearings** will be held before Administrative Law Judges on:

DATE:	Tuesday, September 30, 2025
TIME:	1:00 p.m.
LOCATION:	Sodus Community Library 17 Maple Avenue Sodus, NY 14551

DATE:	Tuesday, October 7, 2025
TIME:	1:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.
LOCATION:	Binghamton City Hall 38 Hawley Street Binghamton, NY 13901

DATE:	Tuesday, September 30, 2025
TIME:	6:00 p.m.
LOCATION:	Cayuga Community College 197 Franklin Street Auburn, NY 13021

DATE:	Wednesday, October 8, 2025
TIME:	1:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.
LOCATION:	Ithaca Town Hall 215 N. Tioga Street Ithaca, NY 14850

DATE:	Tuesday, September 30, 2025
TIME:	1:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.
LOCATION:	Rochester City Hall City Council Chambers, Room 302-A 30 Church Street Rochester, NY 14614

DATE:	Thursday, October 16, 2025
TIME:	1:00 p.m.
LOCATION:	SUNY – Oneonta Morris Conference Center 108 Ravine Parkway Oneonta, NY 13820

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that **virtual** public statement hearings will be held as follows:

DATE:	Tuesday, October 21, 2025
TIME:	1:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Registration is required for the virtual hearings.

A more comprehensive notice that contains further information, including how to register for a virtual hearing, is available at **https://dps.ny.gov/calendar**, where you should click on the "View DPS Calendar Listings" button, locate and click on the NYSEG and RG&E public statement hearings scheduled on the dates indicated above, and click on the "READ THE NOTICE" button.

Persons with difficulty understanding or reading English are encouraged to call the Department of Public Service (Department) at (800) 342-3377 or email **languageaccess@dps.ny.gov** for free language help with this Notice. To request a translator or sign language interpreter so you can participate at a specific public statement hearing, please contact the Department at least 10 days before the hearing by calling (800) 342-3377 or emailing your request to **languageaccess@dps.ny.gov**.

Each public statement hearing will be held open until everyone who has registered to speak has been heard or other reasonable arrangements to submit comments have been made.

Wild food enthusiasts are reconnecting with nature

Humans began foraging for food some 12,000 years ago

BY RODRIQUE NGOWI AND KIMBERLEE KRUESI

PORTSMOUTH, N.H. (AP) — Standing barefoot in a grassy patch of dandelions, Iris Phoebe Weaver excitedly begins listing the many ways the modest plant can be used medicinally and in cooking.

"I just picked a bunch of dandelion flowers yesterday and threw them in vodka with some orange peel and some sugar, and that's my dandelion aperitif," Weaver said. "That will make a lovely mixed drink at some point."

A longtime herbalist and foraging instructor in Massachusetts, Weaver takes people on nature walks that transform their relationships with their surroundings. Lately, she's been encouraged by the uptick in interest in foraging, a trend she sees as benefiting the environment, community and people.

"There is just an amazing amount of food that is around us," Weaver said. "There is so much abundance that we don't even understand."

Humans have been foraging long before they developed the agricultural tools some 12,000 years ago that quickly overshadowed the ancient act that helped sustain early humans. Yet foraging enthusiasts say the search for wild mushrooms, edible plants, shellfish and seaweed has grown more popular in recent years as people tout their rare finds. Others share knowledge on social media, and experienced foragers offer training to novices on safe and sustainable practices.

The renewed interest ranges from those wanting to be budget-conscious — foraging is free after all — to those wanting to be more mindful of their environmental footprint. Some even use foraging as a creative outlet, using mushrooms they find to create spore prints and other art.



ROBERT F. BUKATY

Iris Weaver reaches for a plant while teaching a class on foraging, in Wenham, Mass.

'I think the dangers of foraging are baked into most people's brains and souls. We as an animal know that there are certain things that when they smell a certain way or look a certain way, they can be encoded with a message that we shouldn't eat those things.'

EVAN MALLETT
Black Trumpet Bistro chef and owner

The popularity is also helped by the hobby's accessibility. Foragers can look for wild food everywhere, from urban landscapes to abandoned farmlands to forests — they just need permission from a private landowner or to secure the right permit from a state or federal park. Some advocates have even launched a map highlighting where people can pick fruits and vegetables for free.

Gina Buelow, a natural resources field specialist with the Iowa University Extension Program, says the university has had a backlog of folks eager to learn more about foraging mushrooms for the past two years. Buelow runs presentations and field guide days throughout the state, regularly meeting the attendance cap of 30 in both rural and urban counties.

"Typically, I would get usually older women for a master gardener or pollinator garden class. That audience still shows up to these mushrooms programs, but they bring their husbands. And a lot of people between the ages of 20 and 30 years old are really interested in this topic, as well," she said.

Some creative chefs are also sparking interest in foraging as they expose patrons to exotic and surprisingly tasty ingredients found locally.

"Foraging is an ancient concept," said Evan Mallett, chef and owner of the Black Trumpet Bistro in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, a popular historic New England destination. "Our culture has moved far away from foraging and is fortunately coming back into it now."

Mallett opened the restaurant nearly 20 years ago and uses foods foraged from around Portsmouth. He said he hopes more people will continue to learn about foraging, and encouraged those worried about picking something poisonous to find a mentor.

"I think the dangers of foraging are baked into most people's brains and souls," he said. "We as an animal know that there are certain things that when they smell a certain way or look a certain way, they can be encoded with a message that we shouldn't eat those things."

Mallett named his restaurant after the wild foraged mushroom as a reminder. Over the years, he's incorporated Black Trumpet mushrooms into dozens of dishes throughout the menu — even ice cream.

Other menu items have included foraged sea kelp in lobster tamales, as well as using Ulva lactuca, a type of sea lettuce, in salads.

"It's nothing that I necessarily seek out, but I kind of love it when it's on a menu," said M.J. Blanchette, a longtime patron of Black Trumpet, speaking to the foraged dishes available at Black Trumpet and other restaurants.

She recently ordered the meatballs with foraged sweet fern from Mallett's restaurant, a feature she says elevated both the taste and experience of consuming the dish.

"I think it's really cool and I think it's also something that's not only foraged, but also tends to be local, and I like that a lot," she said.

Wounded Knee soldiers will keep Medals of Honor

19 soldiers received honors after 1890 Native American massacre

BY KONSTANTIN TOROPIN

WASHINGTON (AP) — Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth has announced that he has decided that the 19 soldiers who received the Medal of Honor for their actions in 1890 at Wounded Knee will keep their awards in a video posted to social media Thursday evening.



Hegseth

Hegseth's predecessor, Lloyd Austin, ordered the review of the awards in 2024 after a congressional recommendation in the 2022 defense bill — itself a reflection of efforts by some lawmakers to rescind the awards for those who participated in the bloody massacre on South Dakota's Pine Ridge Indian Reservation near Wounded Knee Creek.

While the events of that day are sometimes described as a battle, historical records show that the U.S. Army, which was in the midst of a campaign to repress the tribes in the area, killed an estimated 250 Native Americans, including women and children, of the Lakota Sioux tribe, while attempting to disarm Native American fighters who had already surrendered at their camp.

"We're making it clear that [the soldiers] deserve those medals," Hegseth said in the video, before adding that "their place in our nation's history is no longer up for debate."

After the fighting, Medals of Honor were given to 19 soldiers from the 7th Cavalry Regiment, and their awards cite a range of actions, including bravery, efforts to rescue fellow troops and actions to "dislodge Sioux Indians" who were concealed in a ravine.

The event became a celebrated part of the regiment's history, with its coat of arms still featuring the head of a Native American chief to "commemorate Indian campaigns," according to the military's Institute of Heraldry.

In 1990, Congress apologized to the descendants of those killed at Wounded Knee but did not revoke the medals.

According to Hegseth, the review panel ordered by Austin "concluded that these brave soldiers should, in fact, rightfully keep their medals from actions," but an official from the defense secretary's office couldn't say if the report he was referencing in the video would be made public.

President Donald Trump issued an executive order in March titled "Restoring Truth and Sanity to American History," which decried efforts to reinterpret American history and, since then, Hegseth has undertaken multiple actions that have subverted the recommendations of a congressionally mandated commission that examined the use of Confederate names and references in the military.

He reverted the names of several Army bases back to their original, Confederate-linked names, though by honoring different figures.

Hegseth also restored a 1914 memorial to the Confederacy that was removed from Arlington National Cemetery. The monument features a classical female figure, crowned with olive leaves, representing the American South, alongside sanitized depictions of slavery.

In September, the U.S. Military Academy at West Point also confirmed that a painting of Gen. Robert E. Lee in his Confederate uniform was back on display in the school's library.

Briefs

US economy expanded at 3.8% pace

WASHINGTON (AP) — An uptick in consumer spending helped the U.S. economy expand at a surprising 3.8% from April through June, the government reported in a dramatic upgrade of its previous estimate of second-quarter growth.

U.S. gross domestic product — the nation's output of goods and services — rebounded in the spring from a 0.6% first-quarter drop caused by fallout from President Donald Trump's trade wars, the Commerce Department said Thursday. The department had previously estimated second-quarter growth at 3.3%, and forecasters had expected a repeat of that figure.

The first-quarter GDP drop, the first retreat of the U.S. economy in three years, was mainly caused by a surge in imports — which are subtracted from GDP — as businesses hurried to bring in foreign goods before Trump could impose sweeping taxes on them. That trend reversed as expected in the second quarter: Imports fell at a 29.3% pace, boosting April-June growth by more than 5 percentage points.

Fed's favored inflation gauge accelerates

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Federal Reserve's favored inflation gauge accelerated slightly in August from a year earlier.

The Commerce Department reported Friday that its personal consumption expenditures (PCE) price index was up 2.7% in August from a year earlier, a tick higher from a 2.6% year-over-year increase in July and most since February.

Excluding volatile food and energy prices, so-called core PCE inflation showed a 2.9% increase in prices from August 2024, same as in July. The increases were what forecasters had expected.

Prices rose 0.3% from July, compared to a 0.2% increase the month before. Core prices rose 0.2%, same as in July.

Separately, the report showed that inflation-adjusted consumer spending rose a healthy 0.4% from July, same as the month before, largely on a 0.7% increase in spending for goods; spending on services such as travel and dining out rose just 0.2%.

Trump to put tariffs on drugs, furniture, trucks

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump said Thursday that he will put import taxes of 100% on pharmaceutical drugs, 50% on kitchen cabinets and bathroom vanities, 30% on upholstered furniture and 25% on heavy trucks starting on Oct. 1.

While Trump did not provide a legal justification for the tariffs, he appeared to stretch the bounds of his role as commander-in-chief by stating on Truth Social that the taxes on imported kitchen cabinets and sofas were needed "for National Security and other reasons."

Federal Bureau of Prisons to end union protections

WASHINGTON (AP) — The federal Bureau of Prisons said Thursday it is canceling a collective bargaining agreement with its workers and stripping them of union rights, the latest move by the Trump administration to gut labor protections for federal employees.

Director William K. Marshall III told the agency's nearly 35,000 employees that the union, the Council of Prison Locals, had become "an obstacle to progress instead of a partner in it." The contract, he said, "too often slowed or prevented" changes meant to improve safety and morale.

"The whole purpose of ending this contract is to make your lives better," Marshall wrote in a message posted to the agency's website. He said the agency will "move forward with solutions that work, without roadblocks, without excuses, and with one goal: to make the Bureau a place where people are proud to serve."

The union's president, Brandy Moore-White, said ending the collective bargaining agreement, which was supposed to run through May 2029, will jeopardize the safety and livelihoods of workers who endure dangerous conditions to keep inmates, staff and communities safe.

Ex-financier indicted in sex trafficking case

NEW YORK (AP) — Retired financier Howard Rubin was arrested Friday on sex trafficking charges for allegedly trafficking dozens of women, including former Playboy models, to be sexually and physically assaulted during encounters in his Central Park penthouse in a soundproofed room described in court papers as "The Dungeon."

Authorities announced the arrest of Rubin and his former personal assistant, Jennifer Powers, on charges in an indictment unsealed in Brooklyn federal court.

Rubin was arrested Friday at his rental home in Fairfield, Connecticut, while Powers was arrested at her home in Southlake, Texas, authorities said. Rubin was expected to be arraigned later on Friday.

During a three-decade career, Rubin worked at various financial firms, including Merrill Lynch, Bear Stearns and Soros Fund Management.

Prosecutors said Rubin and Powers abused the women between 2009 and 2019 after recruiting them to fly to New York to engage in sex acts with Rubin in exchange for money.

They said Rubin and Powers targeted women who were desperate, including women who had previously been sexually abused, along with women who were financially desperate or who suffered from addiction. Once they were in New York, the women were encouraged to use drugs or alcohol to prepare for their sexual encounters, and they sometimes engaged in conduct beyond the scope of their consent, prosecutors said.

PUBLIC STATEMENT HEARINGS TO BE HELD IN PSC CASES 25-E-0375, 25-G-0378, 25-E-0379, 25-G-0380 – NEW YORK STATE ELECTRIC & GAS CORPORATION AND ROCHESTER GAS AND ELECTRIC CORPORATION FOR ELECTRIC AND GAS SERVICE

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- NYSEG's Oneonta office located at 65 Country Club Road, Oneonta, NY 13820
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LOCATION:	Binghamton City Hall 38 Hawley Street Binghamton, NY 13901

DATE:	Tuesday, September 30, 2025
TIME:	6:00 p.m.
LOCATION:	Cayuga Community College 197 Franklin Street Auburn, NY 13021

DATE:	Wednesday, October 8, 2025
TIME:	1:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.
LOCATION:	Ithaca Town Hall 215 N. Tioga Street Ithaca, NY 14850

DATE:	Tuesday, September 30, 2025
TIME:	1:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.
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Greene County Calendar

THURSDAY, OCT. 2

Ashland Planning Board, 7 p.m., Town Hall, 12094 Route 23, Ashland, 518-734-3636

Cairo Department Budget Meeting with Board Members, 10 a.m., Town Hall Meeting Room, 512 Main St., Cairo

Cairo Planning Board, 7 p.m., Town Hall Meeting Room, 512 Main St., Cairo

Coxsackie Town Planning Board, 7 p.m., Town Hall, 56 Bailey Street, Coxsackie

Durham Town Board Budget Meeting, 6 p.m., Town Hall, 7309 Route 81, East Durham

Jewett Town Planning Board, 7:30 p.m., Jewett Municipal Building, 3547 County Route 23C, Jewett

Windham Town Planning Board, 7 p.m., Town Hall, 371 NY-296, Hensonville

MONDAY, OCT. 6

Ashland Town Board, 7:30 p.m., Town Hall, 12094 Route 23, Ashland, 518-734-3636

Athens Town Board, 6 p.m., Municipal Building, 2 1st St., Athens

Cairo Comprehensive Plan Committee, 6 p.m., Town Hall Meeting Room, 512 Main St., Cairo

Cairo Town Board, 7 p.m., Town Hall Meeting Room, 512 Main St., Cairo

Durham Town Board Budget Meeting, 6 p.m., Town Hall, 7309 Route 81, East Durham

Friends of the Cairo Public Library, 2:30 p.m., 15 Railroad Ave., Cairo

Greenville Central School District Board of Education, 6 p.m., Middle School/High School Library, 4976 State Route 81, Greenville

TUESDAY, OCT. 7

Catskill Town Board, 6:30 p.m., Catskill Town Hall, 439 Main St., Catskill

Durham Town Board Work Session and Subdivisions, 7 p.m., Town Hall, 7309 Route 81, East Durham

Hunter Town Planning Board, 6:30 p.m., Town Hall, 5748 Route 23A, Tannersville

Lexington Town Board, 6 p.m., Municipal Building, 3542 Route 42, Lexington

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 8

Athens Town Zoning Board of Appeals, 7 p.m., Municipal Building, 2 1st St., Athens

Athens Village Board, 6 p.m., Municipal Building, 2 1st St., Athens

Cairo-Durham Central School District Board of Education, 6 p.m., Middle School/High School Distance Learning Room, 1301 State Route 145, Cairo

Catskill Central School District Board of Education, 6 p.m., Catskill High School Library, 341 West Main St., Catskill

Catskill Village Board of Trustees, 6:30 p.m., Senior Center located on Academy St. (off of Thompson St.), Catskill

Hunter Public Library Board, 1:30 p.m., Hunter Public Library, 7965 Main St., Hunter

Jewett Town Board, 7 p.m., Jewett Municipal Building, 3547 County Route 23C, Jewett

Windham-Ashland-Jewett Central School District Board of Education, 5 p.m., School Library, 5411 State Route 23, Windham

THURSDAY, OCT. 9

Catskill Town Board Budget Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Catskill Town Hall, 439 Main St., Catskill

Coxsackie Village Board Workshop, 6 p.m., Village Hall, 119 Mansion St., Coxsackie

New Baltimore Planning Board, 7 p.m., Town Hall, 3809 County Route 51, Hannacroix

Windham Town Board, 7 p.m., Town Hall, 371 NY-296, Hensonville

MONDAY, OCT. 13

Cairo Town Hall Closed

Catskill Town Offices Closed

Catskill Village Offices Closed for Columbus Day/Indigenous People's Day

Catskill Village Planning Board, 6:30 p.m., Senior Center located on Academy St. (off of Thompson St.), Catskill

Coxsackie Village Offices Closed for Columbus Day/Indigenous People's Day

Coxsackie Village Board, 7 p.m., Village Hall, 119 Mansion St., Coxsackie

CATSKILL

Catskill High student selected for All-State

The New York State School Music Association has selected Catskill High School's Isabel Johnston for All-State, a musical performance opportunity reserved for the most highly-rated high school musicians in the state, according to a press release from the Catskill Central School District.

Johnston will travel to the University of Rochester's Eastman School of Music to attend All-State from Dec. 4 to 7, where she will rehearse and perform with the All-State band under the direction of a guest conductor.

An oboist, Johnston gained the attention of the All-State selection committee through her audition at the 2025 regional NYSSMA Solo & Small Ensemble Festival. There, Johnston played a level 6 (highest skill level) solo and earned a score of 100. A perfect score doesn't guarantee a spot in All-State, so Johnston had to wait months to find out if she had been picked. When she got word in late August she was thrilled to learn she had made it, the school district said.

"I've wanted to do All-State since elementary school, but I never thought I'd actually get in," Johnston said in a statement. "I think it's really going to push me to get out of my comfort zone because now I've really got to up my level and sound."



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Isabel Johnston

Johnston has been playing the oboe since fourth grade, when she joined the Catskill Elementary School Band and chose the woodwind instrument.

"It takes a while to get used to it because it's such a difficult instrument to make sound good, but when you do it sounds really good," Johnston said in a statement.

Since that time, she has become a fixture at school concerts and annual All-County and Area All-State festivals. She also plays trombone in her school's jazz band, is captain of the varsity volleyball team, participates in the school musical each year, works at a local health food store and is a high honor roll student, the school district said.

"Isabel is definitely dedicated, hard working and is really passionate about what she is doing," Catskill Band Teacher Seth Dowling said in a statement. "Not only can I count on her to know her parts but also to set a good example for her peers. She shows it is possible that if you care about something you can do it, that you can be both an athlete and a musician."

Her participation in All-State culminates with a public concert at the esteemed Kodak Hall at Eastman Theatre on Sunday, Dec. 7.

BINGHAMTON

NYSEG begins installation of animal guards on its electrical equipment

New York State Electric & Gas and Rochester Gas and Electric have been installing animal guards across their service areas, with the goal of increasing energy reliability.

These guards reduce outages by preventing wildlife from "contacting" energized electrical equipment, NYSEG and RG&E said in a press release.

The companies are investing $13.8 million to install more than 18,000 animal guards through the end of this year, according to the press release.

"Keeping the power on for customers is one of our top priorities," Josh Shail, director of programs and logistics for NYSEG and RG&E, said in statement. "Unfortunately, wild animals are one of the leading causes of power outages in the state. Animal guards are a cost-effective way to not only strengthen our grid but protect the lives of critters simply following their natural tendency."

While the companies' infrastructure may provide a temporary safe haven for a wild animal, like a squirrel climbing a pole to avoid a dog or a bird building a nest, it can be deadly if they venture too far. Wild animals have impacted the grid over the years. In 2020, "animal contacts" caused 1,421 outages that impacted approximately 82,000 customers.

These outages represented 8.6 percent of all company outages, NYSEG and RG&E said.

In response, NYSEG and RG&E developed the animal guard program, which targets circuits across the grid. Once circuits are identified, the animal guards are installed on energized electrical equipment, including distribution transformer bushings, arresters and other infrastructure, the utilities said.

Since launching the animal guard program in 2020, outages caused by animals have decreased by approximately 50 percent. Last year, animal contact represented 3.87 percent of outages, the utilities said.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

New York State Electric & Gas and Rochester Gas and Electric have been installing animal guards, below, on their electrical equipment in order to reduce outages from "animal contacts," according to a press release from the utilities.



TANNERSVILLE

CMF to host hip-hop dancing

The Catskill Mountain Foundation presents "Nuttin' But a Word" by Rennie Harris Puremovement, a hip-hop dance performance, on Saturday, Oct. 25, at 7 p.m., at the Orpheum Performing Arts Center.

"This suite of works challenges the structural integrity of Campbell locking, house, hip-hop and b-boying. Now that we are a global hip-hop nation, we seem to have become hip-hop/street dance zealots. This purist attitude has stagnated the natural progression of street dance. Simply put, we have become elitist about hip-hop culture. This elitism is due to this generation's obsession with 'keeping it real.' The truth of the matter is this generation will never relive my generation's era of original dance. My generation defined the three laws of hip-hop culture: innovation, individuality and creativity. At best, they can appreciate it, pay homage to it and acknowledge it as the foundational era of hip-hop/street dance it was. In doing that, they will tap into their individuality, creativity and innovation, which in turn ensures progress," Harris said in a statement posted to the show's On The Stage page.

Online tickets are $28.22 for adults, $23.02 for seniors and $9.50 for children and students.

Tickets are available at catskillmtn.org/performances.

The Orpheum Performing Arts Center is at 6050 Main St., Tannersville.

"Nuttin' But a Word" is presented in partnership with The Joyce Theater Foundation.

SCHENECTADY

Campaign supports children's hospitals

As part of Market 32's continuing 10-year anniversary celebration, Market 32 and Price Chopper are holding a checkout campaign during October in support of Children's Miracle Network Hospitals.

One of the hospitals the campaign will support is the Bernard & Millie Duker Children's Hospital at Albany Medical Center. Hospitals in Valhalla, Utica, Watertown and Syracuse will also be supported.

Market 32 and Price Chopper will match all customer contributions, up to $10,000.

"Each donation, no matter the size, helps bring comfort, healing and hope to children and families across our communities," Pam Cerrone, Market 32 and Price Chopper director of community relations, said in a statement. "Together, alongside our customers and teammates, we're helping Children's Miracle Network Hospitals deliver critical care today and brighter tomorrows for kids."



FILE PHOTO

Price Chopper in Catskill.

PUBLIC STATEMENT HEARINGS TO BE HELD IN PSC CASES 25-E-0375, 25-G-0378, 25-E-0379, 25-G-0380 – NEW YORK STATE ELECTRIC & GAS CORPORATION AND ROCHESTER GAS AND ELECTRIC CORPORATION FOR ELECTRIC AND GAS SERVICE

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- NYSEG's Ithaca office located at 1387 Dryden Road, Ithaca, NY 14850
- NYSEG's Oneonta office located at 65 Country Club Road, Oneonta, NY 13820
- RG&E's Sodus office located at 14 State Street, Sodus, NY 14551
- RG&E's Rochester office located at 3 City Center, 180 South Clinton Avenue, Rochester, NY 14604

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that **public statement hearings** will be held before Administrative Law Judges on:

DATE:	Tuesday, September 30, 2025
TIME:	1:00 p.m.
LOCATION:	Sodus Community Library 17 Maple Avenue Sodus, NY 14551

DATE:	Tuesday, October 7, 2025
TIME:	1:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.
LOCATION:	Binghamton City Hall 38 Hawley Street Binghamton, NY 13901

DATE:	Tuesday, September 30, 2025
TIME:	6:00 p.m.
LOCATION:	Cayuga Community College 197 Franklin Street Auburn, NY 13021

DATE:	Wednesday, October 8, 2025
TIME:	1:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.
LOCATION:	Ithaca Town Hall 215 N. Tioga Street Ithaca, NY 14850

DATE:	Tuesday, September 30, 2025
TIME:	1:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.
LOCATION:	Rochester City Hall City Council Chambers, Room 302-A 30 Church Street Rochester, NY 14614

DATE:	Thursday, October 16, 2025
TIME:	1:00 p.m.
LOCATION:	SUNY – Oneonta Morris Conference Center 108 Ravine Parkway Oneonta, NY 13820

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DATE:	Tuesday, October 21, 2025
TIME:	1:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.

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Hamas to OK parts of Gaza 'peace plan'

All Israeli hostages will be let go; future of Gaza Strip undecided

BY WAFAA SHURAFA AND FATMA KHALED

DEIR AL-BALAH, Gaza Strip (AP) — Hamas said Friday that it has accepted some elements of U.S. President Donald Trump's plan to end the war in the Gaza Strip, including giving up power and releasing all remaining hostages, but that others require further consultations among Palestinians.

The statement came hours after Trump said that Hamas must agree to the deal by Sunday evening, threatening an even greater military onslaught nearly two years into the war sparked by the Oct. 7 attack into Israel. It was unclear how the U.S. and Israel would respond to partial acceptance.

Hamas said it was willing to release hostages according to the plan's "formula," likely referring to the release of Palestinian prisoners. It also reiterated its longstanding openness to handing power over to a politically independent Palestinian body.

But it said aspects of the proposal touching on the future of the Gaza Strip and Palestinian rights should be decided on the basis of a "unanimous Palestinian stance" reached with other factions and based on international law.

The statement also made no mention of Hamas disarming, a key Israeli demand included in Trump's proposal.

Trump appears keen to deliver on pledges to end the war and return dozens of hostages ahead of the second anniversary of the attack on Tuesday. His peace plan has been accepted by Israel and welcomed internationally, but key mediators Egypt and Qatar have also said some elements need further negotiation, without elaborating.

"An Agreement must be reached with Hamas by Sunday Evening at SIX (6) P.M., Washington, D.C. time," Trump wrote Friday on social media. "Every Country has signed on! If this LAST CHANCE agreement is not reached, all HELL, like no one has ever seen before, will break out against Hamas. THERE WILL BE PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST ONE WAY OR THE OTHER."

Under the plan, which Trump unveiled earlier last week alongside Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Hamas would immediately release the remaining 48 hostages — around 20 of them believed to be alive. It would also give up power and disarm.

In return, Israel would halt its offensive and withdraw from much of the territory, release hundreds of Palestinian prisoners and allow an influx of humanitarian aid and eventual reconstruction. Plans to relocate much of Gaza's population to other countries would be shelved.

The territory of some 2 million Palestinians would be placed under international governance, with Trump himself and former British Prime Minister Tony Blair overseeing it. The plan provides no path for eventual reunification with the Israeli-occupied West Bank in a future Palestinian state.

A Hamas official told The Associated Press last week that some elements of the plan are unacceptable and need to be amended, without elaborating. Palestinians long for an end to the war, but many view this and previous U.S. proposals as strongly favoring Israel.

Taylor Swift fans go nuts over star's latest record

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

From Mexico City to Manila, the United Kingdom to the United States, Taylor Swift fans hooted, sobbed happy tears and danced their way through the pop star's latest album release, "The Life of a Showgirl."

Swift's 12th studio offering dropped Friday, and her Swifties were more than ready for it. Many were dripping in the color orange to usher in her latest era at gatherings around the world. Some closed their eyes to take in the fresh dozen tracks amid the chaotic crowds around them.

José María Bastida, a writer, rocked an orange sequin tuxedo jacket at a watch party in a Mexico City restaurant serving Swift-themed cocktails, including a tequila heavy "Ophelia's Juice" and a liquored up "Showgirl Slushy."

"I feel like it's super experimental," he said of the album, "because it's supposed to bring a lot of new stuff and we haven't seen that more sexy side of Taylor Swift."

In Los Angeles, the fervent lined up at midnight at a Target to snap up the new music on vinyl and CD. Maria-Elena Garcia rented a hotel room and drove in from Santa Barbara. "I like a lot of her values and like we have a lot similar values. For example, cats," she said.

In theaters, Swift is schooling AMC on how to treat her fans. The theater chain has granted special permission for moviegoers to sing and dance their way through screenings of "The Official Release Party of a Showgirl," in select theaters for the weekend only. The film is screening around the world. Added bonus: No trailers beforehand.

Fiona Cela, 11, in London woke up at 4:30 a.m. to listen to the album. She then headed out with her mother to the studios of Global's Capital radio, hoping for a glimpse of Swift as she gave an interview there. On her agenda after that: school.

"Taylor as a person is just super kind and loving," she said, her wrists stacked with Swift-themed friendship bracelets. "Her music is so inspiring."

At the Black Dog pub in London, thought to be the location for Swift's song "Black Dog" from her last album, vacationing American Natalie Richmond, 43, showed up to mark the occasion. Her two Swiftie daughters woke her up extra early to listen to the album.

"We actually lived in Nashville early on so we've been following her ever since she began," Richmond said. "She's relatable. She's the person that everybody wants to be friends with. We all listen to her music and think I'd love to go out and hang out with her."

Longtime Swiftie Helen Brabant-Bleakley showed up at the Black Dog to mark her 30th birthday, wearing a teal sash with gold lettering that read: "The Life of a Birthday Girl."

"My good friend Taylor Swift gave me the best present ever by dropping a new album," she said, noting she's already picked a couple of favorite cuts from the album: "Father Figure" and "Elizabeth Taylor."

A Manila mall went full Swift with a drag show, games, raffles and performers. Hundreds of screaming fans dressed in showgirl gear braved rain to celebrate at an outdoor amphitheater.

Among them was Cyril Aviguetero, 18. With a red showgirl head piece complementing his outfit, he was most excited about Track 7, "Actually Romantic." Asked why, he mused: "I'm not sure, but I'm also trying to find what's actually romantic in my life," he said.



CLAUDIA ROSEL

Fans gather to celebrate the release of Taylor Swift's new album, "The Life of a Showgirl," in Mexico City, Thursday.

Other Swift events were held around the Philippines.

Kansas City's Union Station was lit up in orange and teal in celebration. Musician Chloe Rose entertained Swift fans with four hours of covers at a spot there ahead of the release as the crowd made friendship bracelets and sipped on themed cocktails.

Number balloons for "12" floated around as Rose sang and played guitar and keyboards. Fan Tara Pickarell showed up but chose solitude to later take in the new work. "I have to be in my own space to listen to it. I need my own little bubble."

Pickarell is happy the album is pop heavy.

"I do like her slower songs, but I'm excited to get back to like 1989 'Reputation' vibes," she said.

In New York, hundreds of fans lined up to walk through a three-day Spotify pop-up offering five showgirl-themed rooms. They took photos with feathery boas and other props.

"I feel like there's so few moments like this where you actually get to connect with other fans," said Ali Meehan. "Like we all kind of listen in our rooms, alone in our houses."

Dems' shutdown efforts not about 'health care for illegals'

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

President Donald Trump and other high-ranking Republicans claim Democrats forced the government shutdown fight because they want to give free health care to immigrants in the U.S. illegally.

Democrats are trying to extend tax credits that make health insurance premiums more affordable on marketplaces established by the Affordable Care Act, commonly known as Obamacare, and reverse Medicaid cuts in Trump's big bill passed this summer. But immigrants who entered the country illegally are not eligible for either program.

Here's a closer look at the facts:

CLAIM: Democrats shut down the government because they want to give free health care to immigrants who entered the U.S. illegally.

THE FACTS: This is false. Democrats say they are pushing for the inclusion of key health care provisions in the next congressional spending package. In particular, they are seeking an extension of tax credits that millions of Americans use to buy insurance on the Affordable Care Act exchange and a reversal of Medicaid cuts made in the bill Trump signed into law in July. However, immigrants in the U.S. illegally are not eligible for any federal health care programs, including insurance provided through the Affordable Care Act and Medicaid. Hospitals do receive Medicaid reimbursements — which would be reduced under Trump's bill — for emergency care that they are obligated to provide to people who meet other Medicaid eligibility requirements but do not have an eligible immigration status, according to KFF, a nonprofit health policy research, polling and news organization. This spending accounted for less than 1% of total Medicaid spending between fiscal years 2017 and 2023.

Sabrina Corlette, founder and co-director of Georgetown University's Center on Health Insurance Reforms, called the Republicans' claims "a flat-out lie."

"The law is very clear," Corlette said.

Speaking in the Oval Office on Tuesday about a deal with Pfizer to lower drug prices, Trump predicted the shutdown and made the false claim: "We'll probably have a shutdown because one of the things they want to do is they want to give incredible Medicare, Cadillac, the Cadillac Medicare, to illegal immigrants." He added later that "they want to have illegal aliens come into our country and get massive health care at the cost to everybody else."

Asked by a reporter to clarify what his comments referred to, Trump said "when an illegal person comes, a person who came into our country illegally, therefore breaking the law," adding that "we just as a country cannot afford to take care of millions of people who have broken the law coming in."

Other Republicans, including Vice President JD Vance and House Speaker Mike Johnson, have made similar claims.

The Senate's Democratic leader, Sen. Chuck Schumer, rebutted these allegations, calling them "a lie, plain and simple."

Immigrants in the U.S. illegally are not eligible for insurance bought on the Affordable Care Act exchange or for Medicaid. To qualify for the former, an enrollee must live in the U.S., be a U.S. citizen or have another lawful status and not be incarcerated. A Medicaid enrollee must meet certain financial requirements, be a resident of the state in which Medicaid is being received and be a U.S. citizen or have a qualifying lawful status.

Health care premiums for millions of Americans could skyrocket if Congress fails to extend tax credits that many people use to buy insurance through Affordable Care Act marketplaces. Those subsidies were put in place during the COVID-19 pandemic but are set to expire.

Among the Medicaid cuts Democrats are seeking to reverse is a reduction to reimbursements hospitals receive when they perform emergency care they are legally mandated to provide on people who would qualify for Medicaid if not for their immigration status. This would affect the 40 states, plus Washington, D.C., that have adopted a Medicaid expansion created by the Affordable Care Act.

The law Trump signed would also restrict the eligibility of lawfully present immigrants such as refugees and asylees for insurance through the Affordable Care Act, Medicaid and Medicare.

Some states use their own money, not federal funds, to provide health care to immigrants who don't have lawful status. An earlier version of Trump's tax breaks and spending cuts bill tried to curb these programs, but the provisions did not make it into the final version.

"It's a compelling talking point to say that Democrats want to provide health care to undocumented immigrants, but it's just not true in terms of the cuts they're trying to reverse," said Larry Levitt, executive vice president for health policy at KFF.

This story was first published on Oct. 1, 2025. It was published again on Oct. 3, 2025, to correct that to qualify for insurance bought on the Affordable Care Act exchange, not for Medicaid, an enrollee must live in the U.S., be a U.S. citizen or have another lawful status and not be incarcerated.

PUBLIC STATEMENT HEARINGS TO BE HELD IN PSC CASES 25-E-0375, 25-G-0378, 25-E-0379, 25-G-0380 – NEW YORK STATE ELECTRIC & GAS CORPORATION AND ROCHESTER GAS AND ELECTRIC CORPORATION FOR ELECTRIC AND GAS SERVICE

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