

General News

TROY

Officer Cachioli Retires

Submitted by the Rensselaer County Sheriff's Office

There was a walk out ceremony and a time for congratulations on Friday, May 7 for Senior Rensselaer County Corrections Officer Michael Cachioli. Officer Cachioli began his career in corrections with the Rensselaer County Sheriff's Office on February 06, 1998 and was assigned to the transportation unit in 2001. In his tenure Officer Cachioli was a member of the Sheriff's Office Honor Guard and senior member of the Sheriff's Office Emergency Response (SERT) Team. Officer Cachioli was a General Topics Instructor and Taser trainer, working with new recruits as well as veteran staff and trained with many local, state and federal agencies throughout his career teaching self-defense, tactical response, evidence collection and hostage negotiations. As an integral member of the SERT team, Officer Cachioli responded to many critical incidents in his career lending his expertise and assistance without pause.

A Life Saving Transplant

Being a Corrections Officer is stressful enough, but Officer Cachioli faced an even bigger challenge when he fell ill in September of 2019 and underwent a life saving heart transplant in November of that year. Spe-



Officer Cachioli at his retirement ceremony. L-R: Undersheriff PJ Higgitt, Michael Cachioli, Chief of Corrections David Hetman, Sheriff Patrick Russo. Photo courtesy of RCSO.

cial recognition should be given to the Westchester Medical Center and Donate Life of New York State. Without the expertise of teams of medical personnel with advanced training and technology as well as the unexpected match and generous gift and sacrifice of the donor and their family, this day would not be possible.

Farewell

Congratulations to officer Cachioli on his retirement and nearly 23-years of service to the Rensselaer County Sheriff's Office. He will be missed and we wish him and his family well in any and all future endeavors.

Protecting Those Who Protect Us

Submitted by the Office of Senator Jordan

Senate Republican Leader Rob Ort, along with Senator Daphne Jordan, and members of the Senate Republican Conference have unveiled a package to protect and honor the brave members of law enforcement all across New York, and safeguard law-abiding New Yorkers against the disastrous results of One-Party Rule's criminal justice "reforms." David Bartlett, Columbia County Sheriff and President of the New York State Sheriffs' Association, was in attendance and spoke during today's press conference in Albany.

"It is nearly impossible to overstate the critical importance of strong public support for law enforcement and how public trust helps us do our job of serving and protecting all New Yorkers," said Sheriff Bartlett. "Law enforcement is difficult, demanding, often dangerous work. I can say for a fact that the men and women who wear the uniform do so proudly, believe deeply in public safety and recognize

the importance of public service and making our state safer and more secure for everyone.

Whether it's disturbing increases in felony assaults, robberies and shootings, or 70 percent of New Yorkers being rightly concerned about their safety, the verdict is in concerning the Senate Democratic Majority's so-called criminal justice reforms: guilty! Senator Daphne Jordan also said their policies are guilty of recklessly endangering the lives of New Yorkers and making our state less safe. One-Party Rule and the Senate Democrats' 'no criminal left behind' agenda is dangerous, irresponsible, and has foolishly undone decades of real progress in reducing violent crime, especially in New York City that's been engulfed in a wave of violence. Instead of promoting criminal-coddling policies, as well as disrespecting and defunding our police, Democrats should follow our lead and stand with law enforcement."

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Gillibrand Pushes Universal Free Lunch Legislation

Submitted by the Office of Senator Gillibrand

U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, member of the Senate Agriculture Committee, has introduced bicameral legislation to permanently implement a Universal School Meals program which would provide free school meals for all students. While the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) currently provides free schools meals through COVID-19 waivers through the 2021-2022 school year, the Universal School Meals Program Act of 2021 would deliver permanent relief to millions of food-insecure families by eliminating school meal debt, encouraging the use of local foods in school meal programs and providing free breakfast, lunch, dinner and a snack to all school children regardless of their socioeconomic background. Gillibrand is pushing for the inclusion of the Universal School Meals Program Act of 2021 in the upcoming Child Nutrition Reauthorization currently being negotiated by the Senate Agriculture Committee.

According to Feeding America, 22 million kids rely on the National School Lunch Program for free and reduced-price meals. The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated the challenges for food insecure families and limited access to no-cost meals, especially in rural, tribal and communities of color. It is estimated that 1 in 4 children in New York State faced hunger in 2020. Senator Gillibrand's legislation would make the bold and permanent changes needed to support schools and deliver cost-effective solutions to ensure no child is denied a school meal.

County Lawmakers Say Yes To 12 And 13-Year Olds Hunting Deer with Firearms ... Continued from page 1

new opportunity allows experienced, licensed adult hunters to introduce the value of hunting to the next generation. Furthermore, teaching young people safe, responsible and ethical hunting practices will ensure a rewarding experience for the youth, while providing quality food to families and contributing to important deer management population control practices.

One of the sponsors of the law is Brunswick lawmaker Dan Casale, who tells *The Eastwick Press* "this law allows interested youths to participate in the effectiveness of hunters in managing deer populations throughout the state. This early involvement and participation in New York's hunting tradition cultivates a conservation ethic among young people, encouraging appreciation for the state's abundant natural resources and developing the responsibility to act as stewards to protect these resources for future generations."

Eagle Bridge legislator Bruce Patire said "it's good to see bipartisan support for the belief in proper training and respect for nature that hunting can nurture in our youth. I was also very pleased to see that the majority was able to approve a resolution in support of Rensselaer County as a sanctuary county for the second amendment as our constitutional rights are under constant attack."

The local law will now face a public hearing before it goes to County Executive Steve McLaughlin's desk for his signature or veto.

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