

WEATHER



TODAY
HI 44° LO 29°
Rain



TOMORROW
HI 41° LO 29°
Sunny



THURSDAY
HI 38° LO 28°
Mostly cloudy

HOT LIST



Morning fitness

Strengthen your core just after sunrise in Fort Tryon Park in Washington Heights on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m.



Demetri Martin at the Bell House

Demetri Martin's "Point Your Face at this Tour" is at the Bell House, 149 7th St. in Brooklyn, tonight. Shows are 7:30 and 10 p.m. and tickets are \$35, if you can get them.

Rangers vs. Devils

The Rangers will play the rival Devils in a key game tonight at 7 in Newark.



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'Stop and frisk' suit sees first day in court

The NYPD's "stop and frisk" crime-fighting tactics were a "frightening and degrading experience" for four black men who are suing the city, their lawyers argued yesterday, saying the practice

was a racist violation of their constitutional rights.

The stops "are not just a minor inconvenience," Darius Charney, an attorney for the plaintiffs suing the city in a class-action lawsuit, said in the first

day of the federal trial in U.S. District Court in Manhattan. The four men who filed the lawsuit in 2008 include David Floyd, a medical student who was living in the Bronx and was stopped twice.

They claim police improperly targeted them because of their race. The suit also calls the tactic a violation of the right against unreasonable searches.

The class-action suit is considered the broadest legal challenge yet to the tactic in which city police stop people they suspect of unlawful activity and frisk those they suspect are carrying weapons.

Advocates of "stop and frisk" say it has helped to reduce crime. (REUTERS)



Jesse Jackson takes part in a protest against the NYPD's controversial practice yesterday.

Hillary changes stance, supports gay marriage

Making a switch from her former stance, Hillary Clinton officially supported same-sex marriage for the first time yesterday.

Now that she has left public office, the former secretary of state explained she believed "personally and as a matter of policy and law" that gay and lesbian couples should be able to marry, in a video posted by Human Rights Campaign.

"They are

full and equal citizens and deserve the rights of citizenship. That includes marriage," said Clinton, a former senator from New York.

The position is a switch from 2008, when as a candidate for president she opposed same-sex marriage. But she credited her change in sup-

port to the people in her life, her time as the country's top diplomat, her faith and her "devotion to law and human rights."

"Like so many others" — such as President Barack Obama and her husband, Bill Clinton — "my personal views have been shaped over time."

While she's been mum on a possible run for the White House in 2016, recent polls have Clinton as an early favorite in the race. (DAN RIVOLI)



Former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton

Dropping mayoral run, Allon buys media biz

The ever-growing list of mayoral candidates became smaller yesterday when Tom Allon announced he would end his campaign to focus on his media pursuits.

The Manhattan Media publisher, who was going to run on the GOP ticket, purchased City and State Media yesterday, which publishes a bimonthly paper on city politics as well as news updates online.

Although Allon said he will leave the race, he said he would push the candidates on both sides of the

aisle for political reform for the city.

"While no longer a candidate, I will continue to passionately and relentlessly pursue a reform agenda as an education activist, a columnist and blogger, and parent of three teenagers," he said in a statement.

Allon was considered a long shot and didn't raise as much money as other candidates like Christine Quinn, Joe

Lhota, Bill de Blasio or John Catsimatidis.

Others who are in the running include former Bronx Borough President

Adolfo Carrión Jr., City Comptroller John Liu and former City Comptroller Bill Thompson.

In October, Allon changed parties from Democrat to Republican.

Allon wouldn't say if he would make an endorsement in the race.

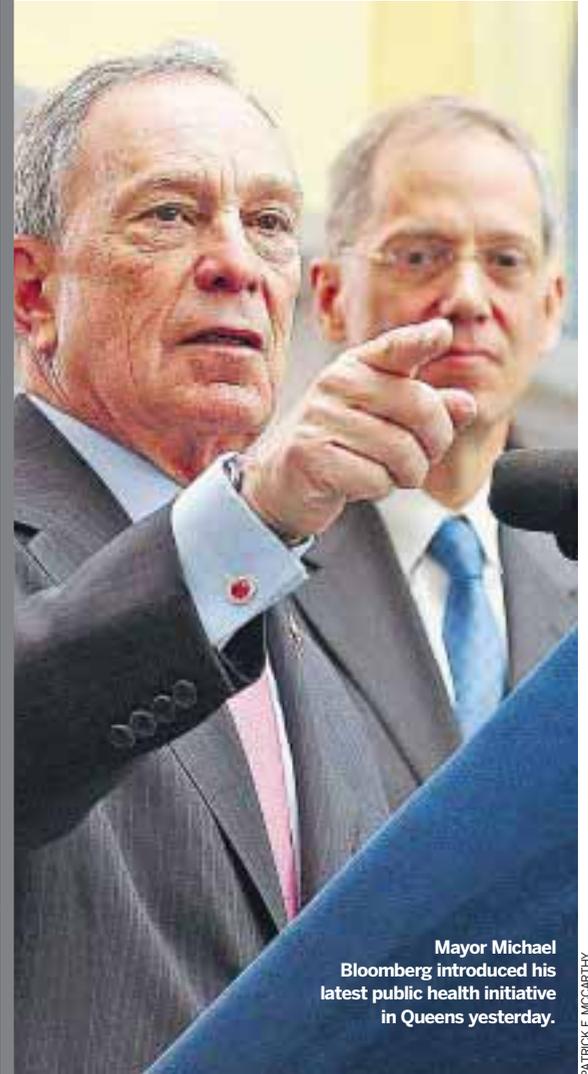
(IVAN PEREIRA)



Tom Allon

Mayor:

Introducing bill that would bar stores from having smokes on display



Mayor Michael Bloomberg introduced his latest public health initiative in Queens yesterday.

PATRICK E. MCCARTHY

Mike's 11 yrs. of health plans

Mayor Michael Bloomberg has endorsed and pushed for many health initiatives over the years:

and restaurants in the city. The ban went into effect in 2003, and is still considered one of the toughest nationwide.

2002

• At the end of his first year in office, Bloomberg signs into law a ban on smoking in almost all bars

2006

• Bloomberg pushes for a ban on using artificial trans-fats in foods. The measure is passed by the

Hide the cigs

BY IVAN PEREIRA AND SHEILA ANNE FEENEY
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After being dealt a setback in his bid to ban big sodas, the mayor is going after an old foe: cigarettes.

Mayor Michael Bloomberg is introducing a bill tomorrow that would bar stores from displaying cigarettes on their shelves, particularly to keep them out of sight of youngsters.

"We know 'out of sight' doesn't always mean 'out of mind' but in many cases it can," he said.

The "Tobacco Product Display Restriction" would force store owners to keep cigarettes out of view and place them in cabinets, drawers or behind a curtain. Stores that only sell cigarettes and cigars would be exempt and businesses could have signage that tell consumers they sell cigarettes.

If it's passed by the City Council, New York would be the first city in the U.S. to hide packs from customers. Canada, however, already has a similar law in effect.

Bloomberg and Health Commissioner Thomas Farley, who announced the legislation yesterday, said even though smoking among NYC public high school students is down by 10% since 2001, there were 19,000 smokers younger than 18 in 2011.

Keeping packs off store shelves would cut down that figure more, according to the mayor, who has already banned smoking in parks, beaches and restaurants.

Store owners weren't pleased with the idea.

Emon Hossain, a manager of the Rainbow Convenience Store in midtown, said many of his customers buy goods simply because



they see them.

He said the mayor needs to trust store owners and focus on other ways to stop teens from smoking.

"We ask them for ID and don't sell to anyone under 18," he said.

A second bill, the "Sensible Tobacco Enforcement," would create tougher penalties for stores that violate city and state tobacco tax laws and for those who sell packs for less than \$10.50 after taxes. The bill would also prohibit retailers from accepting coupons or dis-

counts on cigarettes and cigars.

"We think it will be effective because high prices tend to discourage young people from smoking," Bloomberg said.

Some young smokers said that for them, money is not an issue.

"I wake up in the morning cranky, and think, 'Damn! I need a

cigarette!'" said student Ching Cash, 20.

The bills have support from many council members, but it's unclear if they will be passed.

Cigarette giant Philip Morris International said it opposed the bills because the federal government already imposes many regulations that limit sales. "To the extent that this proposed law would ban the display of products to adult tobacco consumers, we believe it goes too far," a spokesman for the company said.



21.5%

of NYC adults, or 1,305,000 people, were smokers in 2002

14.8%

of NYC adults, or 930,000 people, were smokers in 2011

20.9%

of NYC adults, or 1,281,000 people, were former smokers in 2011

8.5%

Youth smoking rate since 2007

Source: Department of Health

Cigarettes behind the counter of the Sunrise Optimo store at 304 Court St. in Carroll Gardens

LINDA ROSIER

Audrey Silk, the founder of smokers' rights group NYC Citizens Lobbying Against Smoker Harassment (CLASH), said both proposals hurt consumer rights.

"I'm sorry, tobacco is legal and it's staying. To use censorship of this form is not free will in this country," she said.

Silk noted that like the mayor's failed plan to ban large sugary sodas, the smoking measures are targeting one unhealthy vice.

"Kids don't go into a store and look at a beer and say, 'Hey, let's get a beer.' Just enforce the law and don't sell it to them," she said.

Board of Health and by 2008, all restaurants and stores completely removed artificial trans-fats from food, though products with them could be served in the manufacturer's packaging.

Health officials approve a measure to post calorie counts for products in fast-food restaurants. A judge struck down the measure, but a

slightly different law was passed in 2007, requiring chain restaurants with 15 or more stores to display calorie information. The counts have been displayed since the law went into effect in 2008.

2008

As part of the National Salt Reduction Initiative, Bloomberg pushes for a 25% salt reduc-

tion in packaged and restaurant foods over five years. Bloomberg announced 21 companies, including Subway and Nabisco, reduced salt in their products voluntarily.

2009

Bloomberg's then-health Commissioner Thomas Frieden announces plans to post food-inspection letter grades



on all restaurants in July 2010. The future of the grade postings is unclear, though they are still used today.

2011

The City Council bans smoking in city parks and other public spaces. While a similar ban was suspended for state parks the following year, Bloomberg defends the regulation and it still remains in effect.

2012

Bloomberg proposes a ban on sugary drinks larger than 16

oz. A judge invalidated the ban this month, just one day before it was to go into effect. The city is currently appealing the ruling.

2013

In his final State of the City address, Bloomberg proposed a ban on Styrofoam, which "may be hazardous to our health."

(ANNA SANDERS)