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YOUR REGION, 5A

New Jersey Herald

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State seeks to block ICE detention center in Roxbury

William Westhoven

Morristown Daily Record

USA TODAY NETWORK - NEW JERSEY

State and local authorities are turning up the heat in their legal battle to prevent the Trump administration from opening a Department of Homeland Security immigrant detention center in Roxbury.

Emphasizing the harm the project would allegedly do to local infrastructure, New Jersey Attorney General Jennifer Davenport asked a federal court April 7 for an injunction to halt any onsite construction at the 470,000-square-foot warehouse off Route 46 in Morris County.

DHS has proposed converting the building into an Immigration and Customs Enforcement center that would house an estimated 1,500 detainees, supervised by an additional 1,000 staff members, according to the state.

In a motion filed in U.S. District Court in Newark, the state said it needs "emergency judicial relief" as DHS plans to start construction "as early as late May." It cited a decision by another federal court that plans for a similar warehouse-to-detention-center conversion were "likely illegal."

A DHS official has "announced its intent to run its immigration detention operations 'like (Amazon) Prime, but

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Gas prices may take time to recover amid ceasefire

Daniel Munoz

NorthJersey.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - NEW JERSEY

New Jersey gas prices could take months to go down after hitting \$4 a gallon for the first time since 2022 amid global fuel shortages caused by the U.S.-Israeli war against Iran.

The U.S. and Iran announced a two-week ceasefire on the evening of April 7 that would see the narrow Strait of Hormuz reopen.

"Gas prices could start reversing nationally in 48 hours or so — by a few cents every day," Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy.com, the real-time gas price tracker, said on X. "The national average for gasoline could fall below \$4 in one to two weeks."

But the "full restoration of flows will take months," Tristan Abbey, head of the U.S. Energy Information Administration, said in an April 7 statement. "Our modeling indicates that fuel prices will continue to rise until these variables resolve."

Analysts are also noting that rising prices haven't led to a dip in demand.

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Dr. Julie Bryan Johnson hands a rescue dog to volunteers as at-risk shelter pets arrive April 7 at Morristown Airport from New Orleans. This "Save a Heart" flight is a joint initiative from Greater Good Charities and Boehringer Ingelheim, a German pharmaceutical company. PHOTOS BY JULIAN LESHAY GUADALUPE/NORTHJERSEY.COM

45 at-risk pets touch down in Morristown



Longtime volunteer Patty Millin helps load pets into transport vans as they arrive at Morristown Airport.



Rescued dogs sit in their crate after they arrived from New Orleans.

Dems are pulling out all stops to elect Mejia



Political Stile

Charles Stile

USA TODAY NETWORK

CHATHAM BOROUGH — It came as no surprise that former Rep. Tom Malinowski, who carried this affluent Morris County suburb of 10,000 in February's special primary election, was cheered with a standing ovation at a town hall rally on Monday, April 6.

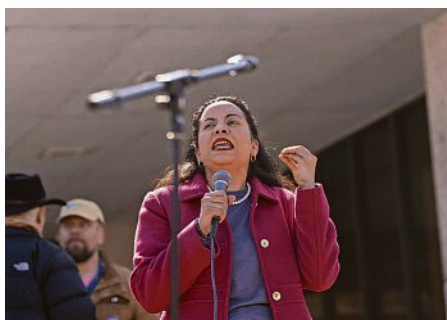
The rally was not to celebrate Malinowski, but rather to showcase the upstart victor in the 11th Congressional District Democratic primary contest, Analilia Mejia, a Latina who managed Bernie Sanders' presidential run. Mejia is a proud organizer with a swaggering street sensibility who often addresses groups as "y'all."

On Monday, at her rally in the borough of Chatham, Mejia shared the stage with U.S. Rep. Jamie Raskin, the

popular Maryland Democrat and constitutional law professor who was recently derided by the now discarded-U.S. Attorney General Pam Bondi as a "washed-up, loser lawyer."

On one level, Mejia's rally was an act of catharsis for Democrats in New Jersey's 11th Congressional District — a venting of anxiety about the second administration of President Donald Trump and his MAGA-fueled shredding of long-held political norms in our democratic republic. Mejia, Malinowski and Raskin walked the audience through the dangers of the desperate Republican effort to hold power through a bill requiring proof of citizenship for voting; the threat of unregulated campaign cash; Trump's "stupid war" in Iran, as Malinowski called it; and the violent legacy of Trump's deportation dragnet.

But the rally was not just a group therapy session for anti-Trump angst. The event was an attempt to telegraph to the Democratic faithful that Mejia, joined on stage by two pillars of the left-of-center Democratic establishment,



Analilia Mejia, the Democratic nominee for Congress in NJ-11, speaks Feb. 18 at a Roxbury town hall during a protest against an ICE plan to use a Morris County warehouse as a detention center.

MICHAEL KARAS/NORTHJERSEY.COM

would not become some show-horse member of the "The Squad" once she enters Congress. Instead, the message was that Mejia will be a reliable, focused ally in prosecuting the case against Trump

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