



## What does Eric Adams' absence means in NYC

NEWS, 3A



# The LEADER

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This new Syracuse house was put up for sale at \$180,000 through a new program that aims to install and sell up to 200 premade starter homes around New York at similar prices. PROVIDED BY THE OFFICE OF GOV. KATHY HOCHUL

## NY program funds 200 premade starter homes

**Chris McKenna**  
New York State Team  
USA TODAY NETWORK

Up to 200 new houses will crop up around New York at rock-bottom prices over the next year through a new state program that's funding a batch of modular starter homes.

The ranch-style, factory-built homes will be installed on vacant lots in as many as 15 communities and marketed at prices ranging from \$170,000 to \$210,000, state officials say. Eligible to buy them are peo-

ple earning between 70% and 130% of the median income levels for their areas.

Gov. Kathy Hochul announced the launch of the MOVE-IN NY program on Monday, Sept. 22, pitching it as a promising new approach to ease the struggles of first-time buyers and downsizing older couples in the midst of a brutal housing market.

"This groundbreaking initiative has the potential to revolutionize the way we create high-quality, beautifully designed starter homes in New York," she said in a statement.

### How NY's new modular home program works

The state commissioned three modular homes in Syracuse, Schenectady and the town of Newcomb in Essex County as a test for the new program. That pilot demonstrated they could be manufactured and installed within six months, just a third of the time it takes to build a house from the ground up. Each cost about \$250,000 to build, compared to

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## Schuyler County crash kills teen, injures driver

**Jeff Murray**  
Elmira Star-Gazette  
USA TODAY NETWORK

A Tompkins County teen was killed, and another was injured in a one-vehicle crash Sept. 29 in the Schuyler County Town of Hector.

The crash took place around 11:46 a.m. Monday on County Road No. 1 in Hector, according to the Schuyler County Sheriff's Office.

Arriving deputies located a 2010 Ford Fusion that failed to negotiate a curve, left the roadway and struck some trees, the sheriff's office said.

The driver of the vehicle, 18-year-old Michael Blake, of Ithaca, was taken by helicopter to Upstate Medical Center in Syracuse for treatment of his injuries. A passenger in the Fusion, 17-year-old Marcus Knight, of Trumansburg, was pronounced deceased at the scene.

The Schuyler County Coroner's Office, Trumansburg Fire Department, Enfield Fire Department, Trumansburg Ambulance, and New York State Police accident reconstruction team assisted at the scene.

The crash remains under investigation by the Schuyler County Sheriff's Office.

## Free fan appreciation event at Watkins Glen Oct. 11

**Jeff Smith**  
Elmira Star-Gazette  
USA TODAY NETWORK

Embers and Engines, a free admission event featuring live music, wine tastings, drifting in the grove and much more, is expected to draw a large crowd Oct. 11 to Watkins Glen International.

Dawn Burlew, president of Watkins Glen International, said the event, which will run from 3 to 10 p.m. Oct. 11, is geared to thank the community for coming out and being part of The Glen during the 2025 season.

"We are going to have bands, local wines and beer, drifting, food trucks and much more at the event," Burlew said. "It's basically a thank you to the community and we are looking forward to 2026. It's going to be a really cool event."

- Attractions include music, drifting, campfires in the Grove, s'mores and more.
- Food and beverages will be available for purchase.
- Double Barrel will perform a live concert at the Grove from 7 to 10 p.m.

Burlew said fans will be directed to enter WGI through Gate 2 to attend the free event.

## Bills-themed ice cream available at Wegmans

**Emily Barnes**  
New York Connect Team  
USA TODAY NETWORK

The Buffalo Bills and Wegmans are collaborating ahead of the team's Rivalries game against the New England Patriots on Oct. 5 to bring fans some exclusive items.

A limited-edition "Bring the Storm" ice cream is available now in Wegmans stores in Buffalo, Rochester, Syracuse, New York's Southern Tier and Erie, Pennsylvania while supplies last.

The specialty ice cream is blue, cake-flavored ice cream with vanilla cake pieces and white sprinkles, according to Wegmans. Shoppers can try the limited-edition ice cream in stores on Oct. 4 and 5.

A Bills sweepstakes for a Rivalries Prize Pack consisting of exclusive Bills Rivalries products and a Wegmans gift card is also taking place. One winner will be picked each month for three months or while supplies last. To find out more, scan the QR code in stores or visit BuffaloBills.com.



The Buffalo Bills and Wegmans have teamed up ahead of the Oct. 5 Rivalries game vs. the New England Patriots by offering a limited-edition "Bring the Storm" ice cream in select stores. PROVIDED BY WEGMANS

Emily Barnes reports on consumer-related issues for the USA TODAY Network's New York Connect Team, focusing on scam and recall-related topics. Follow her on X and Instagram @byemilybarnes. Get in touch at ebarnes@gannett.com.

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