

Morning News Digest: October 5, 2012

By [Missy Rebovich](#) | October 5th, 2012 - 6:49am

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Menendez versus Kyrillos in Montclair

State Sen. Joe Kyrillos (R-13) presented himself as the embodiment of change in his NJTV debate with U.S. Sen. Bob Menendez (D-NJ) tonight, while the incumbent Democrat sought to paint his challenger as a return to disastrous economic policies.

"If you think things are okay, you'll choose my opponent. But if you think unemployment and the national debt doubling are unacceptable then you'll choose me," said Kyrillos as part of his opening statement in this NJTV/Bergen Record/Montclair University-sponsored clash.

"The middle class is not doing very well at all," the Republican added. "I read the press releases you put out, but I don't hear any action items about how we're going to do it better. More of the same means the same outcome. Let's do some things differently." (Pizarro, PolitickerNJ)

Stockton Poll: Runyan leads Adler 49-39%

The Stockton Polling Institute today released a poll of the 3rd Congressional District showing Republican incumbent Jon Runyan leading Democratic challenger

today.

The health exchange legislation creates a 10-member volunteer board, appointed by the governor and legislature, that would approve health plans offered to hundreds of thousands of New Jerseyans shopping for health coverage. The exchange also creates a Small Businesses Health Option

New law keeps farmland free of oversized solar project

The Christie administration has made it clear that it wants to steer large grid-supply solar projects away from farmland, but developers haven't gotten the message.

The New Jersey Board of Public Utilities has received at least 65 applications seeking approval to be "grandfathered in" as qualifying for solar credits for the electricity their systems would produce on agricultural land, a designation crucial to making those projects economically viable.

Only 50 applications have been deemed by the state to qualify for consideration under a solar law enacted this past summer. But the total capacity of those projects, if all were built, would top 500 megawatts. That amounts to more than 40 percent of the capacity built in New Jersey over the past decade. (Johnson, NJ Spotlight)

<http://www.njspotlight.com/stories/12/10/04/new...>

Rules for N.J. medical marijuana dispensaries upheld by court

A three-judge panel has upheld state Health Department rules limiting the number of medical marijuana dispensaries and requirements that they all be run by non-profits.

Natural Medical Inc., a for-profit company formed by Nir Shalit in 2010 to open a dispensary, argued that the department had illegally restricted the number of licensed dispensaries in the state to six.

Thursday's ruling comes as the licensed dispensaries – two each for North, Central and South Jersey – have run into intense local opposition.

None are up and running nearly three years after former Gov. Jon Corzine signed the New Jersey Compassionate Use Medical Marijuana Act, which set up the state's medical marijuana system for patients with certain debilitating medical conditions. (Campisi, The Record)

<http://www.northjersey.com/news/health/vv.html>

DOE rescinds administrative leave, reinstates ousted Perth Amboy super

The Christie administration's role in the state's larger urban districts like Newark and Camden has been well-chronicled, but its aggressive intervention in a smaller district like Perth Amboy is becoming just as controversial.

Yesterday, the state Department of Education reinstated for a second time the superintendent of Perth Amboy schools, Janine Caf

which could bring a total of nearly 2,000 megawatts of new natural gas-fueled generation to the state. (Kaltwasser, NJBIZ)

<http://www.njbiz.com/article/20121003/NJBIZ01/1...>

State outreach to Latino-owned business reaps rewards

Goya Foods President Robert Unanue gives New Jersey state officials credit for clearing the way for his company to remain in New Jersey when it had a chance to leave.

Lt. Gov. Kim Guadagno and "the whole administration from top to bottom have been very cooperative," particularly in helping the company locate at a Jersey City site with a rail siding, Unanue said.

Goya is one of the several Latino-owned businesses being highlighted by state officials, including Guadagno, as New Jersey marks Hispanic Heritage Month, which lasts from Sept. 15 to Oct. 15. (Kaltwasser, NJBIZ)

<http://www.njbiz.com/article/20121004/NJBIZ01/1...>

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