

GEORGE LATIMER, Westchester County Executive

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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LATIMER ANNOUNCES FREE FLU VACCINE CLINIC FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS *Health Commissioner Urges All Residents to Schedule a Flu Shot*

(White Plains, NY) – County Executive George Latimer announced that the County Health Department will offer free flu vaccines to students attending any college on Tuesday, October 29, at Westchester Community College.

Latimer said: “Make your health a priority by taking advantage of this free clinic, so you can get through finals and all those late-night study sessions. Flu can make you feel miserable, and this vaccine will help you stay healthier throughout flu season.”

Register online at www.health.ny.gov/gotoclinic/60.

The student clinic will be held at the Westchester Community College Technology Building Student Lounge, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The campus is accessible by Bee-Line bus and car.

The County will hold a free flu clinic for the general public at a date to be announced next month. Flu shots are also available for a fee from many area pharmacists and medical offices.

The County Health Department plans to provide more than 2,000 flu vaccines this fall. It has focused its public vaccination efforts on people who lack the means to get vaccinated elsewhere by bringing flu shots to homeless shelters, soup kitchens and food pantries throughout Westchester.

Health Commissioner Sherlita Amler, MD, said: “Everyone six months and older should get an annual flu shot. Flu can make otherwise healthy adults and children very ill and it can be fatal. When healthier people get an annual flu shot, they help protect the people around them, including infants too young to be vaccinated, seniors and people with chronic health conditions, who are more vulnerable to flu complications.”

Flu activity is usually highest between December and February, but can last into May. One flu vaccine now provides protection all season long and can prevent illness or reduce the severity of flu symptoms. The vaccine becomes fully effective after about two weeks.

Dr. Amler said that anyone who does get a respiratory infection should cough or sneeze into their elbow, wash their hands frequently with soap and water, stay home until 24 hours after their fever subsides to avoid spreading germs, clean surfaces they touch frequently, such as doorknobs, water faucets, refrigerator handles and telephones, and get plenty of rest.

About Westchester County

Westchester County, located in the heart of the historic Hudson Valley, covers 500 square miles and has a population of just under a million. Originally home to Native Americans, who were members of the Lenape tribe, it is today a rich mix of many cultures and landscapes. The County is a blend of bustling cities, quaint villages and picturesque towns as well as open spaces and a network of beautiful parks. Westchester is made up of 6 cities, 19 towns and 20 villages. Westchester County is known for top-notch public schools, and a high quality of life. The County is also an intellectual capital, boasting a highly educated workforce, competitive colleges and universities, Fortune 500 companies, world changing non-profits, and cutting-edge research centers. Westchester is led by County Executive George Latimer, who took office in January 2018 as the ninth County Executive. Using inclusion and openness as a foreground, Latimer is fighting to make Westchester a destination for all people to live, work and enjoy. Learn more about Westchester County by visiting www.westchestergov.com

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