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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The USNS Comfort Has Arrived!

Today, the USNS Hospital Ship docked at NY Harbor, Pier 90

Amid Coronavirus Pandemic

Javits center accepting patients; new state-wide public hospital plan; new COVID-19 FDA approved test; senior congregate meal operation; and more!

NYS Confirmed: 66,497

NYS deaths: 1,218
NYC confirmed: 37,453
Brooklyn confirmed: 10,171

**NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION No.
854**



Photo Credit: New York State Assembly

Today, the New York State Assembly and Senate [passed E.854](#), adopting a special procedure during a state or national emergency to **allow expedited voting and remote voting**. This special remote voting is for legislators to ensure that members can safely and efficiently legislate in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic.

NYS: GOVERNOR CUOMO



Photo Credit: Gotham Gazette

- New **statewide public-private hospital plan** to fight COVID-19. System will create a **command center** for sharing info about supplies, staff and other resources. For more information visit [here](#).
- **Call for assistance** from healthcare workers around the county. Willing to return the favor as crisis shifts.
- Total hospitalizations: **9,517**.

NYC: MAYOR DE BLASIO



Photo Credit: Ali Mansuri | CNBC

- USNS Comfort and Javits Center will allow us to take in more patients. **Need to triple hospital beds by May.**
- Will **not make health care cuts** to City Budget.
- Asked President Trump for **400 ventilators.**
- **NYPD will fine** individuals who **disobey** social distancing orders. Fines will be between **\$250 - \$500.**

US: PRESIDENT TRUMP



Photo Credit: narvik/iStock

- The **U.S Food and Drug Administration (FDA)** issued an **emergency authorization** to allow the use of **anti-malaria drugs, hydroxychloroquine and chloroquine**, for coronavirus treatment. The FDA has already **allowed New York state** to administer the medication to "seriously ill patients." For more information visit [here](#).
- The FDA authorized the use of a new test named the **Abbott ID NOW COVID-19 test**. This test will allow individuals to receive COVID-19 **results between 5 to 15 minutes**. The test will be a "lab in a box and will be the size of a small kitchen appliance." **The test will begin production next week**. For more information visit [here](#).
- Army Corp of Engineers built **2,900-bed hospital** in less than a week for New York City.
- **60** ambulances were sent to New York.

JACOB K. JAVITS CONVENTION CENTER



Photo Credit: Fox 10 Phoenix

The **Jacob K. Javits Convention Center** opened today and is **accepting non-COVID-19 patients**. According to Governor Cuomo, "The treatment of non-COVID-19 patients is designed to make it easier for medical facilities in New York to focus treatment on patients infected with the virus ." The center includes **2,500** hospital beds. For more information visit [here](#).

NATIONAL DOCTORS' DAY

National **DOCTOR'S DAY**

March 30



Photo Credit: Digestive Health Specialists PA

Today is **National Doctors' Day**. We thank our healthcare workers for their tireless commitment to keeping our communities healthy and safe.


SENIORS



Photo Credit: iStock

Starting today, the Department for the Aging's **congregate meal operation** will deliver a five-meal package directly to the homes of seniors. To receive this service, seniors should reach out to their local senior center. They can also **call 311** or DFTA's Aging Connect at **212-AGING-NYC** (212-244-6469).

THANK YOU ESSENTIAL WORKERS



**You do tough
work that helps
stop the spread
of disease.**

**Thank you
sanitation workers.**

Photo Credit: ministryofsport.com

During these unprecedented and difficult times, **we thank our essential workers** who are serving on the front lines. This week we thank our **Sanitation Workers** for keeping our communities clean.

AVOID SCAMS



Photo Credit: Pixabay/CDC

- Notify NYC: Beware of COVID19 scams!
- Report **price gouging** to 311 or [NYC.gov/dcwp](https://www.nyc.gov/dcwp). You can also file a complaint to the Attorney General's office, fill out a [complaint form](#).
- CDC staff will **NOT** go door-to-door. If you experience this, call 911.

SERVICES AND RESOURCES



Photo Credit: Ansi.org

Due to the impact of COVID-19 on New York City's workforce, the City of New York has developed a list of resources for those who may be unemployed due to COVID-19 or are seeking additional assistance. The list below will be updated frequently.

It has information on the following categories:

- **Employment Resources**
- **Food Assistance**
- **Health & Medical Assistance**
- **Financial Assistance**
- **Rent Arrears and Public Assistance**
- **Emotional Support & Spiritual Care**
- **Other Assistance**

Visit this [website](#) for resources.

NYS Department of Health Hotline for people who want to be assessed and get appointment for test (888-364-3065).
NYC residents should call (844-692-4692).

Volunteer to Support

Others: https://www1.nyc.gov/site/helpnownyc/resources/covid-19-relief.page#healthcare_workers.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU ARE SICK WITH COVID-19



What to do if you are sick with coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)

If you are sick with COVID-19 or suspect you are infected with the virus that causes COVID-19, follow the steps below to help prevent the disease from spreading to people in your home and community.

Stay home except to get medical care

You should restrict activities outside your home, except for getting medical care. Do not go to work, school, or public areas. Do not use public transportation, ride-sharing, or taxis.

Separate yourself from other people in your home

As much as possible, you should stay in a specific room and away from other people in your home. Also, you should use a separate bathroom, if available.

Call ahead before visiting your doctor

If you have a medical appointment, call the healthcare provider and tell them that you have or may have COVID-19. This will help the healthcare provider's office take steps to keep other people from getting infected or exposed.

Wear a facemask

You should wear a facemask when you are around other people (e.g., sharing a room or vehicle) and before you enter a healthcare provider's office. If you are not able to wear a facemask (for example, because it causes trouble breathing), then people who live with you should not stay in the same room with you, or they should wear a facemask if they enter your room.

Cover your coughs and sneezes

Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw used tissues in a lined trash can and wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, immediately clean your hands with an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol, covering all surfaces of your hands and rubbing them together until they feel dry. Soap and water should be used preferentially if hands are visibly dirty.

Clean your hands

Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, clean your hands with an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol, covering all surfaces of your hands and rubbing them together until they feel dry. Soap and water should be used preferentially if hands are visibly dirty. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

Avoid sharing personal household items

You should not share dishes, drinking glasses, cups, eating utensils, towels, or bedding with other people in your home. After using these items, you should wash them thoroughly with soap and water.

Monitor your symptoms

Seek prompt medical attention if your illness is worsening (e.g., shortness of breath or difficulty breathing). **Before** seeking care, call your healthcare provider and tell them that you have, or are being evaluated for, COVID-19. Put on a facemask before you enter the facility. These steps will help the healthcare provider's office keep other people from getting infected or exposed.

Ask your healthcare provider to call the local or state health department. Persons who are placed under active monitoring or facilitated self-monitoring should follow instructions provided by their local health department or occupational health professionals, as appropriate. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/risk-assessment.html>.

Discontinuing home isolation

Patients confirmed to have COVID-19 should remain under home isolation precautions until the risk of secondary transmission to others is thought to be low. The decision to discontinue home isolation precautions should be made on a case-by-case basis, in consultation with healthcare providers and state and local health departments. Current information on COVID-19 is limited; home precautions are conservative and based on general recommendations for other diseases, like Middle Eastern Respiratory Syndrome (MERS).



For more information: www.cdc.gov/COVID19

STAY INFORMED

STAY INFORMED

about
coronavirus



Health officials are working tirelessly to protect public health and contain this virus. And, as your representative in Albany, I am working to ensure that our state is putting the health and safety of our families first.

Remember COVID-19 can affect any community and we must stand by one another during this time, not alienate, threaten or discriminate against others.

For questions you can also reach out to the New York State's novel coronavirus hotline at **1-888-364-3065**. For continuous updates, you can visit the following websites:

- [Center for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#)
- [World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#)

The CDC also now has the option for you to sign up for weekly updates on COVID-19.

New Yorkers Can Sign Up for Email Updates [Here](#) and Ask Questions About COVID-19 [Here](#)

New Yorkers Can Find More Information About the New COVID-19 Paid Sick Leave Law [Here](#)

Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte represents the 42nd Assembly District in Brooklyn covering Ditmas Park, Flatbush, East Flatbush and Midwood. She is currently the **Chair of the Subcommittee on Oversight of Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises (MWBES)** , and serves on the following committees: **Housing, Government Operations, Education , Banks, Health, and Higher Education** . She is also a member of the Task Force on Women's Issues and sits on **Governor Cuomo's Domestic Violence Advisory Council and Mayor De Blasio's MWBE Task Force.**

As a current Assemblymember, District Leader, and Chair of Brooklyn Democratic Party, Rodneyse Bichotte has been an outspoken advocate on issues concerning **immigration, education, economic development, unemployment, education reform, health care access, senior citizen centers, affordable housing, school safety, women's and LGBTQ rights** , as well as other issues affecting the quality of life in the community.

Learn more about
Rodneyse Bichotte by visiting her website:
<http://nyassembly.gov/mem/Rodneyse-Bichotte>

STAY CONNECTED

