



Assemblymember  
**RODNEYSE BICHOTTE**  
Brooklyn Democratic County Leader



## COVID-19 Updates

Subscribe to Newsletter

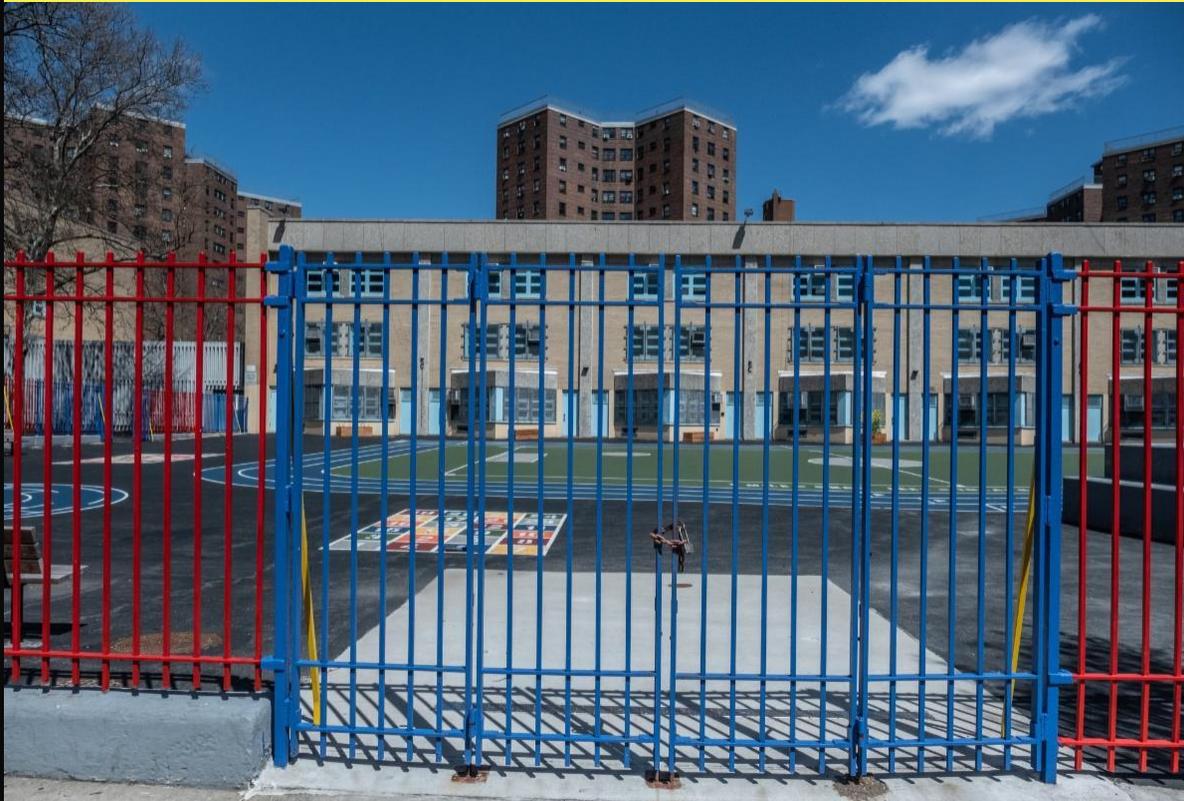


Photo Credit: cnbc.com

**July 9, 2020**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Media Contact:**

Sabrina Rezzy

rezzys@nyassembly.gov

718-940-0428

---

**City Schools Will Not Fully Reopen in September**

*Amid Coronavirus Pandemic*

NY Attorney General Issues Report On NYPD, Recommends More Public Oversight; New Housing Lottery in Flatbush; and more.

**NYS Confirmed: 399,513**  
**NYS Deaths: 24,959**  
**NYC Confirmed: 218,052**  
**Brooklyn Confirmed: 60,461**

## NYS: GOVERNOR CUOMO



Photo Credit: Courtesy Newport Centre

- **Governor Cuomo** announced that the state will decide if schools will reopen and that decision will be announced during the **first week of August**.
  - The state is receiving guidance from **stakeholders**, which they will have finalized by **July 13**.
  - Districts must submit plans for reopening by **July 31st**.
- **Long Island** entered **Phase 4** of reopening today.
- **Malls in Phase 4** regions can open if they have implemented enhanced **HVAC systems** based on previously issued guidelines.
  - Such systems must have filters with a Minimum Efficiency Reporting Value (MERV) rating that can filter out the COVID-19 virus.
- **Casinos and movie theaters** will remain closed while the government reviews the facts.
- **County fairs** are canceled until further notice. Read more [here](#).
- **New York** is experiencing a **slight uptick** in metrics like hospitalizations, but still doing well compared to other states experiencing a large wave of new cases. Read more here.

## NYC: MAYOR DE BLASIO



Photo Credit: NYC Mayor Bill de Blasio (Luiz C. Ribeiro/for New York Daily News)

- **Mayor de Blasio** announced a **Hyper-Local COVID-19 testing plan** which includes community partnership.
  - This plan will target communities affected heavily by the virus.
  - The mayor will mobilize city resources and supportive services to target areas showing low testing rates and high positive tests results.
  - In addition the plan will provide grants ranging from **\$50,000** to **\$750,000** to community-based organizations from a **\$10 million** fund. This funding is intended to encourage people in these communities to get tested and engage in contact tracing.
  - These new resources will first target the 10457 zip code in **Tremont, Bronx** to test a minimum of **2,500** people over two weeks. Those who test positive will be provided with resources and close contacts will be identified.
  - For access to on-site resource navigators who connect those in need to proper services, click [here](#).
- **Mayor de Blasio** canceled all large events requiring city permits through **September 30th**.
  - This is an effort to give space to the public who needs it.
  - Any event requiring a permit that interferes with **Open Streets** or **Open Restaurants** will be denied.

- Events spanning more than one block, street fairs, events in parks, and events requiring amplification resulting in space not being able to be used by the public will be denied.
- To apply for a permit for events falling within the guidelines, click [here](#).
- **NYC Zoo's and Aquariums** are scheduled to begin reopening on **July 24**, with proper safety protocols.
  - Reopening guidelines and the list of facilities set to open can be found [here](#).
- The mayor and **Chancellor Richard Carranza** laid out a plan for city schools to reopen in the Fall. While there are still a lot of questions that need to be addressed, it is clear that students will not be resuming a full schedule of in-person classes come September. Here are some of the highlights:
  - The plan for K-12 students will involve "**blended learning.**" Students will learn **5 days** a week through a mix of in-person and remote education.
    - Most students will be in school **2-3 days** a week.
    - Face coverings and PPE are required for students and staff.
    - There will be nightly deep cleans, as well as cleaning throughout the day.
    - There will be fewer students in each classroom.
  - For **Pre-k** students:
    - District schools/DOE Pre-K Centers will follow the elementary school model.
    - Center-based programs in community-based organizations will follow DOHMH and State guidance for child care centers. DOE will distribute more detailed guidance in the coming days.
    - The Board of Health voted to **lift the closure order** for **child care centers**. Some center-based programs will open as early as **7/13** if they are contracted with the DOE to provide child care in the summer. DOE will provide direct support to help these 12-month programs to reopen as soon as they are ready.
  - Read more [here](#).
- Mayor de Blasio unveiled another **Black Lives Matter** mural today; this one, in front of **Trump Tower** on Fifth Avenue. Read more [here](#).



Photo Credit: Jim Watson/AFP/Getty Images

- The United States has now exceeded **3 million** confirmed COVID-19 cases, just one month following **2 million** confirmed cases. More information can be found [here](#).
- Rising cases in states such as **California, Texas,** and **Florida** caused a new record of **single-day infections** amounting to **60,000**. For more, read [here](#).
- Scientists are looking into cases where **previous patients** of COVID-19 are testing positive again or showing symptoms. For more on the study read [here](#). Still, [other reports](#) suggest that the hardest-hit neighborhoods might be developing **herd immunity**.
- It was another big week for the Supreme Court, which handed down several important decisions:
  - Today, in a **7-2** opinion, the court **rejected** President Trump's claim of 'absolute immunity' from grand jury subpoena for **tax returns**. The president may object on other grounds, but the decision declares he is not above the law in this regard.
  - In a separate ruling made earlier in the week, the court decided that employers have the right to **opt out** of **birth control** coverage. Read more [here](#).

**NYPD REPORT**



Photo Credit: Newsday/Charles Eckert

- New York **Attorney General Letitia James** released a report Wednesday recommending more public oversight of the NYPD. The recommendations include:
  - Diluting the authority given to the police commissioner by establishing a commission with powers over its budget and promotions above the rank of captain;
  - How the department should discipline officers;
  - A redesign of public safety and the role of police in society;
  - Increasing the authority of the **Civilian Complaint Review Board**; and
  - Setting up a statewide certification system for cops to ensure accountability and establishing a uniform use-of-force policy.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

**TROPICAL PARADISE RESTAURANT GRAND  
RE-OPENING**



# *Cajun Seafood By Tropical Paradise Restaurant*

---

## GRAND RE-OPENING

Date: July 11, 2020 • Time: 4:00PM  
Location: 888 Utica Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11203  
Telephone: (718) 628-3500



---

**Come And Taste Free Samples Of The Best Cajun Seafood  
In East Flatbush!!**

**SMALL BUSINESS PPE GIVEAWAY**



*Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte at Ovi's Place.*



*Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte and Kenneth Mbonu, Executive Director of Flatbush/Nostrand Junction BID at Fine Fare Fresh.*



*Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte and Kenneth Mbonu at McBean's Restaurant.*



*Assemblymember Rodney Bichotte and Kenneth Mbonu at Exquisite Supreme Restaurant.*



*Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte at L&L Unisex Beauty Salon.*

## **FLATBUSH SENIOR HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES**



Photo Credit: Brownstoner

For seniors looking for affordable housing, applications are now being accepted for **new housing** units in Flatbush at **1921 Cortelyou road, Brooklyn, NY 11226**, (corner of Ocean Avenue). For additional details on amenities visit [here](#). The deadline to apply online here or have your [application](#) postmarked is **August 18, 2020**. To request an application through mail, send a self-addressed envelope here:

1921 Cortelyou Road  
C/O MHANY Management  
470 Vanderbilt Avenue, 9th Floor  
Brooklyn, NY 11238

## INSIDE CITY HALL WITH ERROL LOUIS



Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte appears as a guest on **Inside City Hall** with **Erroll Louis** to discuss issues with absentee ballots.

## ALTERNATE-SIDE PARKING



Photo Credit: Pix11

**Alternate Side Parking Schedule (through July 12th):**

- **July 6 - July 11:** ASP suspended; meters and all other parking rules are in effect.
- **July 12:** ASP and meters are not in effect; all other parking rules are in effect.

The City may extend the suspension past **July 12th** based on street cleanliness and workforce availability.

**COVID-19 TESTING IN FLATBUSH**



Assemblymember  
**Rodneyse Bichotte**  
42nd Assembly District



# FLATBUSH AVENUE WALK-IN COVID-19 TESTING SITE

*This testing site is **by appointment only**.*

You **must** contact the  
**NYS Department of Health**  
at **1-888-364-3065** to  
schedule an appointment.

## **Brookdale Family Care Center**

1095 Flatbush Avenue  
Brooklyn, NY 11226

For more information about this or any community concern,  
contact Assemblymember Bichotte's district office  
718-940-0428 | [bichotter@nyassembly.gov](mailto:bichotter@nyassembly.gov) | [www.nyassembly.gov/mem/Rodneyse-Bichotte](http://www.nyassembly.gov/mem/Rodneyse-Bichotte)

We have a COVID-19 testing site in the **42nd Assembly District**. **You must make an appointment before visiting the center or you will be turned away.** To make an appointment you **must** contact the NYS Department of Health at **888-364-3065**.

**MULTISYSTEM INFLAMMATORY SYNDROME IN  
CHILDREN (MIS-C)**



Photo Credit: Norton Children's

Governor Cuomo announced that a new investigation is underway regarding potential COVID-19 related **cases in children**. Symptoms can be compared to Kawasaki disease and toxic shock-like syndrome. The Department of Health issued an advisory of what's called the Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children, or MIS-C, and now **requires** health care providers to **immediately report** all related cases. The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene released a [health advisory](#) detailing current findings.

- New Yorkers should **seek immediate** care if a child has:
  - Prolonged fever (more than five days)
  - Difficulty feeding (infants) or is too sick to drink fluids
  - Severe abdominal pain, diarrhea or vomiting
  - Change in skin color - becoming pale, patchy and/or blue
  - Trouble breathing or is breathing very quickly
  - Racing heart or chest pain
  - Decreased amount of frequency in urine
  - Lethargy, irritability or confusion

**THANK YOU ESSENTIAL WORKERS**

*Always there when we need them.*

**Thank you  
first responders!**

During these unprecedented and difficult times, **we thank our essential workers** who are serving on the front lines. Today, we thank our **first responders** for being there in our times of greatest need.

**COMPLETE THE 2020 CENSUS**



As we face unprecedented challenges in the fight against COVID-19, we must remember to complete the **2020 Census** . The census asks just 10 simple questions that can be answered in just a few minutes online by visiting [here](#) or by calling [844-330-2020](tel:844-330-2020).

**AVOID SCAMS**

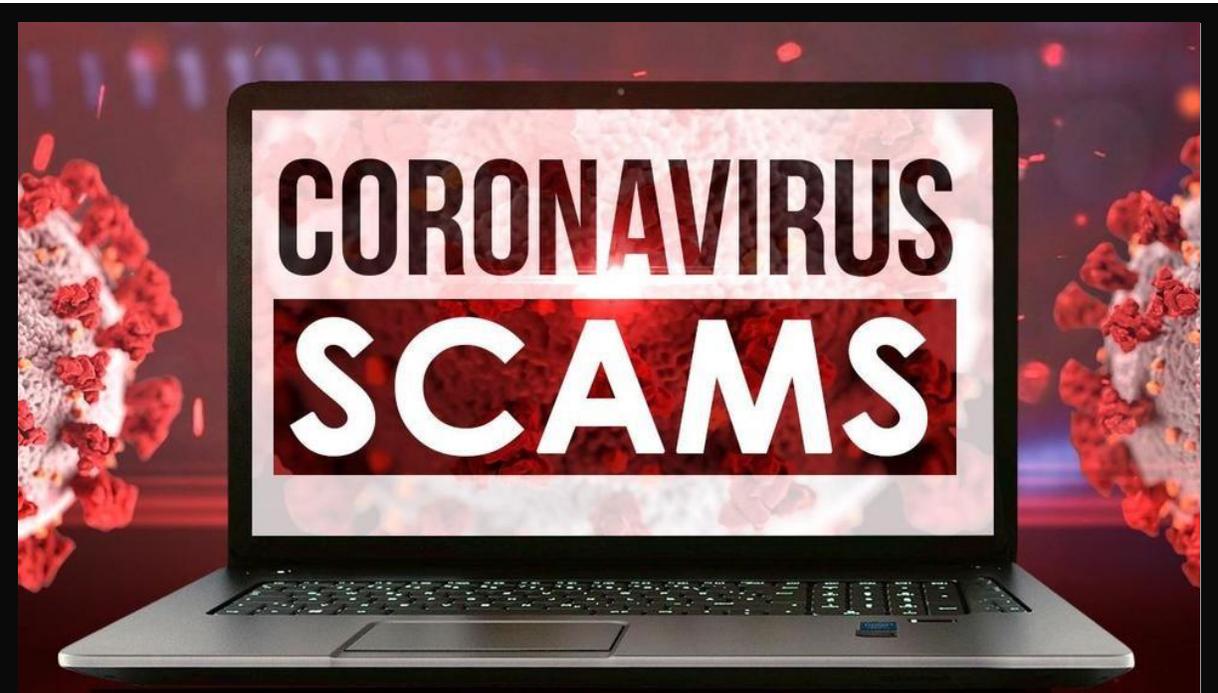


Photo Credit: Pixabay/CDC

- Notify NYC: Beware of COVID-19 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 by filling out a [complaint form](#).
- **NYS Price Gouging Hotline: 800-697-1220.**
- 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](tel:888-364-3065) ). NYC residents should call ([844-692-4692](tel:844-692-4692) ).

### **Volunteer to Support**

**Others:** [https://www1.nyc.gov/site/helpnownyc/resources/covid-19-relief.page#healthcare\\_workers](https://www1.nyc.gov/site/helpnownyc/resources/covid-19-relief.page#healthcare_workers).

### **Free Internet Services:**

[Charter](#) is offering free spectrum broadband and WiFi access for **60 days to household with K-12 and/or college students** who do not already have Spectrum broadband subscription. To enroll, call **[844-488-8395](tel:844-488-8395)** . Until further notice, all Xfinity WiFi Public Hotspots are now open to everyone on the "xfinitywifi" SSID. For more information visit [here](#).

### **FreshDirect meals:**

**Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams** in partnership with **FreshDirect** is providing free food packages. Each box contains the following:

- Rice, 2 bags, 16oz
- Pasta, 2 boxes, 16oz
- Canned beans, 2 cans, 10-16oz
- Canned Meat/Fish, 2 cans, 3 to 5 oz
- Canned Vegetable, 2 cans, 8 to 15 oz
- Raisins / Dry Fruit, 4 boxes, 2 oz per box
- Cereal/Oatmeal, 1 Box, 10 to 20 oz
- Milk / Milk Substitute, 1 container, 32 oz
- Corn, 2 ears
- 2 Potatoes
- 1 Onion
- 1 Carrot
- Orange / Apple, 2 in total



from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Visit their [website](#) for more information.

- **Open Society Foundation** has established the **Immigrant Emergency Relief Program** which is a \$20 million fund that will provide 20,000 undocumented immigrants with a one-time monetary emergency relief.
  - \$400/individual
  - \$800/couple or single parent with children
  - \$1,000/family with multiple adults and children
  - for more information, click [here](#).

### **SMALL BUSINESS**

- The Federal Government is offering programs to support small businesses:
  - **Paycheck Protection Program** provides a loan that will be forgiven if employees are retained on payroll for a period of time. For more information, click [here](#).
  - **Economic Injury Disaster Loan** is a low interest loan to cover expense beyond payroll costs. For more information, click [here](#).
- New York City Small Business Services has a host of other services for small businesses including grant and loan opportunities. For more information, click [here](#).

**In-District Businesses open/closed** provided by **Flatbush Avenue BID and Church Avenue BID**: Visit Flatbush Avenue Business Directory [here](#) and Church Avenue Business directory [here](#). Businesses open/closed list provided by **Flatbush Development Corporation**: Visit Flatbush Business Corridor Directory [here](#) . Includes businesses located in:

- Cortelyou Road (Coney Island Ave. - Ocean Ave.)
- Coney Island Avenue (Cortelyou Road - Foster Ave.)
- Newkirk Plaza
- Newkirk Avenue (Coney Island Ave. - Ocean Ave.)
- Foster Avenue (Coney Island Ave. - Ocean Ave.)
- Ditmas Park

**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](http://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 (MWBs)** , 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 websites:  
<http://nyassembly.gov/mem/Rodneyse-Bichotte>  
and [www.rodneysebichotte.net](http://www.rodneysebichotte.net)

**STAY CONNECTED**

