

ENTERCOM COMMUNICATIONS CORP.
WINS RADIO, NEW YORK, NEW YORK
QUARTERLY SIGNIFICANT PROGRAMS REPORT
JANUARY 1ST – MARCH 31ST 2021

Station WINS AM (WINS HD, WNEW HD3, NEW YORK) provides an all-news radio service to New York and the surrounding metropolitan area. By its very nature, this service deals with, and is responsive to, significant community issues on a regular basis. A variety of program elements ranging from reports of breaking news events to in-depth reports, commentaries and public service announcements on matters of concern to the community are included.

This report was prepared by Jim Powers and placed in the station's public inspection file on **MARCH 31, 2021** by Ben Mevorach, News Director.



BUSINESS

BUSINESSES CONTINUED TO TAKE A HUGE HIT IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 2021 DUE TO THE CONTINUED SPREAD OF THE VIRUS. AS VACCINES ARRIVED LOCKDOWNS WERE EASED AND THE BUSINESSES STARTED MAKING A COME BACK, BUT WITH A LONG WAY STILL TO GO.

1/1

WHILE A LOT OF OTHER RETAILERS ARE CLOSING THEIR STORES, HOBBY LOBBY WILL OPEN TWO NEW LOCATIONS IN NEW JERSEY SOON, ONE IN PARAMUS THE OTHER IN CHERRY HILL. BOTH WILL BE GOING INTO LOCATIONS VACATED BY BABIES R US. WITH A LOT OF PEOPLE STUCK AT HOME WITH TIME ON THEIR HANDS HOBBY LOBBY'S CRAFT SUPPLIES ARE APPARENTLY IN DEMAND. BOTH LOCATIONS WILL BE HIRING 35 TO 50 EMPLOYEES WITH FULL TIME PAY STARTING AT \$17 AN HOUR.

1/9

A NEW YORK CITY TRADITION WITH A TWIST. THE CITY ANNOUNCED THAT THERE WILL BE A SPECIAL WINTER EDITION OF ITS SIGNATURE NYC RESTAURANT WEEK PROGRAM CALLED NYC RESTAURANT WEEK TO GO. THE PROGRAM WILL TAKE PLACE FROM JANUARY 25TH THROUGH JANUARY 31ST AND MAY EVEN BE EXTENDED TO THE FOLLOWING WEEK. PARTICIPATING BUSINESSES WILL PROVIDE THOSE ORDERING TAKEOUT OR DELIVERY WITH AN ENTREE AND AT LEAST ONE SIDE FOR LUNCH. THERE WILL BE FIXED PRICE MENUS WITH AT LEAST ONE COSTING \$20.21 TO CELEBRATE THE NEW YEAR.

1/15

NEW YORK STATE OK'S INDOOR DINING IN THE ORANGE CLUSTER ZONES WITH CAPACITY LIMITS. IT APPLIES TO OTHER PARTS OF THE STATE & COMES ON THE HEELS OF A STATE SUPREME COURT RULING ON A LAWSUIT ON THE MATTER. DON'T GET TOO EXCITED, NEW YORK CITY FALLS UNDER A SEPARATE BAN, SO IT APPEARS THIS WON'T INCLUDE US.

1/22

AMAZON GETS THE GREEN LIGHT TO BUILD A MASSIVE 200,000 SQUARE FOOT WAREHOUSE ON VACANT LAND IN SYOSSET FROM THE TOWN OF OYSTER BAY PLANNING ADVISORY BOARD BUT AREA RESIDENTS FEAR THE TRAFFIC IT WILL BRING AND THE IMPACT ON THE QUALITY OF LIFE. THEY ALSO RAISED CONCERNS ABOUT POLLUTANTS FROM DECADES OF HEAVY MANUFACTURING BY A WIRE COMPANY.

1/24

GET READY TO DIG IN TOMORROW & GIVE A MUCH-NEEDED SHOT IN THE ARM TO THE CITY'S RESTAURANT INDUSTRY. NYC RESTAURANT WEEK TO-GO STARTS TOMORROW & RUNS THROUGH THE END OF THE MONTH. A

RECORD MORE THAN 570-RESTAURANTS ARE TAKING PART TO HONOR THE NEW YEAR. MANY OF THEM OFFERING AT LEAST ONE BARGAIN \$20.21 MENU. PUTTING THE EMPHASIS ON TAKE-OUT DUE TO THE PANDEMIC.

1/25

AMID ALL THE CLOSINGS IN THE PANDEMIC IT'S NICE TO BE ABLE TO TELL YOU ABOUT AN OPENING. THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY OPENS A NEW BRANCH ON ROOSEVELT ISLAND THIS MORNING. THE 5,200 SQUARE FOOT LOCATION REPLACES A ONE-ROOM BRANCH. SOCIAL DISTANCING RULES WILL BE IN EFFECT AND FOR NOW, SERVICE WILL BE GRAB AND GO.

1/29

WORD TODAY THAT NEW YORK CITY 'RESTAURANT WEEK TO GO' HAS BEEN SUCH A BIG SUCCESS THAT IT IS HAS BEEN EXTENDED THROUGH FEBRUARY 28th. THE COST OF A LUNCH OR DINNER ENTRE IS \$20.21. NYC & COMPANY IS ALSO OPENING REGISTRATION BACK UP FOR RESTAURANTS WHO ARE INTERESTED IN BEING A PART OF THE PROGRAM.

1/30

THE LAST TWO REMAINING TOYS-R-US STORES IN THE COUNTRY HAVE CLOSED. ONE WAS AT THE GARDEN STATE PLAZA THE OTHER IN HOUSTON TEXAS. THE COMPANY ATTEMPTED A COMEBACK IN 2019 AFTER ITS LIQUIDATION IN 2018 BUT WITH THE PANDEMIC ELIMINATING MOST OF THE FOOT TRAFFIC AND HANDS-ON IN-PERSON TOY SHOPPING IT WAS NOT TO BE. THE TOYS R US BRAND LIVES ON AT ITS ONLINE STORE.

2/4

ANOTHER 779,000 AMERICANS FILED FOR FIRST-TIME UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS LAST WEEK. THAT WAS DOWN FROM 812,000 THE WEEK BEFORE BUT STILL A HUGE NUMBER. IN ADDITION, NEARLY 350,000 PEOPLE FILED FOR PANDEMIC UNEMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE. THAT'S AVAILABLE TO THE SELF-EMPLOYED OR GIG WORKERS. ADDED TOGETHER THAT'S 1.2 MILLION WORKERS FILING FIRST-TIME CLAIMS.

2/5

NABISCO IS SHUTTING DOWN ITS FACTORY IN FAIRLAWN NEW JERSEY EXPLAINING IN FLUENT CORPORATESE THAT THE MOVE WILL ALLOW THE COMPANY TO FOCUS ITS U.S. BISCUIT MANUFACTURING FOOTPRINT TO BETTER MEET CHANGING CONSUMER NEEDS & GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES. HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE COULD LOSE THEIR JOBS WITH PRODUCTION EXPECTED TO END THIS SUMMER. MONDELEZ WHICH OWNS NABISCO IS ALSO SHUTTING DOWN A PLANT IN ATLANTA.

2/11

THE NUMBER OF AMERICANS SEEKING UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS FELL SLIGHTLY LAST WEEK TO 793,000. FEDERAL RESERVE CHAIRMAN JEROME

POWELL SAYS THE JOBS PICTURE REMAINS A LONG WAY FROM WHERE IT NEEDS TO BE AND THE CENTRAL BANK IS COMMITTED TO KEEPING INTEREST RATES LOW.

2/13

NEW YORKERS ARE ONCE AGAIN ENJOYING INDOOR DINING BUT WITH RESTRICTIONS. STARTING YESTERDAY ESTABLISHMENTS WELCOMED PEOPLE BACK INSIDE BUT IT'S A 25% CAPACITY LIMIT. CHEF JONATHAN FORGASH IS WITH THE QUEENS TOGETHER RESTAURANT ASSOCIATION. HE SAYS 50% CAPACITY ON INDOOR DINING WOULD REALLY MAKE MORE OF A DIFFERENCE FOR STRUGGLING RESTAURANTS THAN 25.

2/16

A REPORT SAYS 'AMAZON' WILL OPEN A DELIVERY STATION IN LONG ISLAND CITY, THE SAME PLACE WHERE THEY ABANDONED PLANS FOR A NEW HEADQUARTERS. A COMPANY REP CONFIRMS TO THE "PATCH" THAT THE NEW HUB SHOULD OPEN THIS YEAR. THE "LAST MILE" DELIVERY STATION IS WHERE INDEPENDENT CONTRACTORS KNOWN AS "DELIVERY SERVICE PARTNERS" LOAD AMAZON PACKAGES INTO VEHICLES THEN DRIVE THEM TO CUSTOMERS. AMAZON SAYS EIGHT OTHER SUCH DELIVERY STATIONS HAVE OR WILL OPEN IN NEW YORK BY NEXT YEAR.

2/19

CUOMO IS EXPANDING INDOOR DINING IN THE CITY. STARTING A WEEK FROM TODAY CAPACITY CAN INCREASE FROM 25% TO 35% WHICH BRINGS US IN LINE WITH NEW JERSEY. ANDREW RIGIE, THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE NEW YORK CITY HOSPITALITY ALLIANCE SAYS HE APPRECIATES THE INCREASE BUT IS CALLING ON THE GOVERNOR TO INCREASE CAPACITY TO AT LEAST 50% AS SOON AND AS IS SAFELY POSSIBLE.

2/22

GET READY TO MAKE THOSE SATURDAY NIGHT PLANS. GOVERNOR CUOMO ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT STARTING MARCH 5TH MOVIE THEATERS CAN REOPEN AT 25% CAPACITY. YOU'VE GOT TO WEAR A MASK AND THERE WILL BE ASSIGNED SEATING AND SOCIAL DISTANCING WITH FOLKS FROM DIFFERENT PARTIES. THAT BRINGS US IN LINE WITH THE REST OF NEW YORK STATE.

2/23

IN NEW YORK ON FRIDAY NURSING HOMES CAN HAVE INDOOR VISITORS, WHO NEED TO BE TESTED IF THEY'RE IN A REGION WITH A 5 TO 10% POSITIVITY RATE. IF IT'S LOWER, TESTING IS RECOMMENDED BUT NOT MANDATORY. IF IT'S HIGHER, NO VISITING ALLOWED AT ALL. A WEEK FROM FRIDAY, ON MARCH 5TH, MOVIE THEATRES CAN REOPEN AT 25% CAPACITY IN THE CITY. ON MARCH 15TH WEDDINGS & CATERED EVENTS WILL BE ALLOWED 50% CAPACITY.

2/26

NEW YORK CITY RESTAURANTS MAY NOW FILL A FEW MORE TABLES INDOORS. THE CAPACITY LIMIT WENT UP FROM 25 TO 35% TODAY. ONE LOCAL EATERY WANTS INDOOR DINERS TO GET THE FULL RESTAURANT EXPERIENCE.

3/1

FOR THE FIRST TIME IN NEARLY A YEAR EVERY APPLE STORE IN THE U-S IS OPEN AGAIN, AT LEAST IN SOME CAPACITY. LIKE SO MANY OTHER BUSINESSES APPLE CLOSED THE DOORS AT EACH AND EVERY ONE OF THEIR RETAIL OUTLETS AT THE START OF THE PANDEMIC AND IT WAS WEEKS BEFORE THEY STARTED OPENING UP AGAIN. THE LAST ONES ON THE LIST WERE IN DALLAS, HOUSTON AND SAN ANTONIO AND THEY ALL RE-OPENED THEIR DOORS JUST THIS MORNING.

3/4

GET READY FOR SOME LIVE ENTERTAINMENT IN THE CITY THIS SPRING. BROADWAY THEATRES, LINCOLN CENTER AND RADIO CITY WILL BE ALLOWED TO REOPEN AT LOW CAPACITY STARTING APRIL 2ND. VENUES ARE LIMITED TO 100 PEOPLE INDOORS OR 200 PEOPLE OUTDOORS SO MAJOR PRODUCTIONS WON'T BE BACK YET. FANS WILL EXPERIENCE LIVE BROADWAY PERFORMANCES THRU POP-UPS.

3/7

THE CORONA VIRUS VACCINATION SITES ARE NOT JUST ADMINISTERING SHOTS. THEY'RE OFFERING AN ECONOMIC SHOT IN THE ARM OFFERING JOBS. CLOSE TO 2,000 OF THEM TO FILL VARIOUS ROLES AT THE SITES. AMONG THE JOBS, SITE MANAGEMENT, OPERATIONS, AND CLIENT SERVICES. THAT IS ACCORDING TO NEW YORK CITY VACCINE FOR ALL CORPS ADDING HEALTH CARE EXPERIENCE IS NOT REQUIRED FOR MANY SPOTS IN ALL FIVE-BOROUGHES.

3/9

SIGNS OF RECOVERY IN CENTRAL PARK. THE LOEB BOATHOUSE AND ITS RESTAURANT HAVE ANNOUNCED THAT IT WILL REOPEN AT THE END OF MARCH FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE MUCH OF THE CITY SHUTDOWN DUE TO THE PANDEMIC, ONE YEAR AGO. HEALTH PROTOCOLS AND MASK WEARING WILL BE REQUIRED. THE BOATHOUSE ALSO SAYS IT PLANS TO RESTART ROWBOAT RENTALS ONCE THE WEATHER IMPROVES.

3/11

NOT JUST RESTAURANTS, BUT HOTELS HAVE TAKEN A HUGE HIT FROM THE PANDEMIC. 7 CITY HOTELS WHICH RECENTLY WENT INTO FORECLOSURE WERE PUT UP FOR AUCTION AND PURCHASED BY MACK REAL ESTATE. IT'S NOT CLEAR WHAT'LL HAPPEN NOW TO THE HOTELS IN

NEIGHBORHOODS RANGING FROM TIMES TO HERALD SQUARE. NO COMMENT FROM THE REALTOR. SOME 200 OF THE CITY'S 700 HOTELS HAVE CLOSED IN THE COVID CRISIS.

3/12

A NEW POLL'S OUT ON THE PANDEMIC'S EFFECT ON LONG ISLAND BUSINESSES. 34%, MORE THAN ONE IN THREE, SAY THEIR FIRMS WILL BE STRONGER THAN BEFORE. THE LONG ISLAND BUSINESS LEADERS SURVEY SAYS NEARLY ONE IN FOUR EXECUTIVES DO NOT THINK THEIR COMPANIES WILL SURVIVE. 23% SAY THEIR FUTURE'S IN DOUBT.

3/15

WEDDINGS AND CATERED EVENTS WITH UP TO 150 PEOPLE ARE ALLOWED TO RESUME IN NEW YORK STATE TODAY BUT WITH HEALTH AND SAFETY PROTOCOLS. SOME WEDDING VENDORS ARE SKEPTICAL ALL THESE RULES WILL OR CAN BE ENFORCED.

3/17

PEEPS HAVE BEEN IN SHORT SUPPLY DURING THE PANDEMIC. THE COMPANY THAT MAKES THEM, JUST BORN, SHUT DOWN ITS FACTORY FOR 9 MONTHS BUT AFTER MISSING HALLOWEEN & CHRISTMAS THEY'RE BACK IN OPERATION IN TIME FOR EASTER. WHEN IT'S OPERATING AT FULL CAPACITY IT TURNS OUT ABOUT 2 BILLION PEEPS A YEAR, ENOUGH TO CIRCLE THE EARTH TWICE, IF THAT HELPS PUT THAT IN PERSPECTIVE.

3/18

STARTING TOMORROW INDOOR DINING WILL GO TO 50% CAPACITY IN NEW YORK CITY AND 75% IN THE REST OF THE STATE TOMORROW. YOU CAN HEAD BACK TO YOUR FAVORITE FITNESS CLASS ON MONDAY. GOVERNOR CUOMO SAYS ATTENDANCE WILL BE LIMITED. ON APRIL FIFTH THE 11PM CURFEW FOR CASINOS, MOVIE THEATERS, BOWLING ALLEYS, BILLIARD HALLS AND FITNESS CENTERS WILL END. IT WILL REMAIN IN EFFECT FOR BARS AND RESTAURANTS. LIGHTS OUT AT MIDNIGHT AT CATERED EVENTS.

3/19

JET BLUE IS THINKING ABOUT ITS FUTURE. IT WAS FOUNDED HERE IN NEW YORK ABOUT TWO DECADES AGO BUT THE AIRLINE IS NOW CONSIDERING WHETHER TO MOVE ITS HEADQUARTERS TO FLORIDA. A SPOKESWOMAN SAYS A DECISION IS EXPECTED LATER THIS YEAR. MORE THAN 1,300 PEOPLE WORK AT THE HEADQUARTERS IN LONG ISLAND CITY WHERE IT'S CURRENT LEASE EXPIRES IN THE SUMMER OF 2023.

3/23

DOOR DASH WILL NOW BRING YOU YOUR CHOICE OF TWO COVID PCR TESTS WITH SAME DAY DELIVERY. ONE OF THE TESTS WHICH USES

SALIVA INCLUDES A VIRTUAL VISIT WITH A SUPERVISOR TO MAKE SURE YOU ARE COLLECTING YOUR SALIVA CORRECTLY. THE OTHER TEST INVOLVES YOU STICKING A SWAB UP YOUR NOSE AND DOES NOT REQUIRE SUPERVISION ALTHOUGH IT DOES INCLUDE A FREE TELEHEALTH CONSULTATION WITH A DOCTOR FOR ANYONE WHO FEELS THEY NEED IT.

3/26

IT'S NO SECRET THAT SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS IN THE CITY HAVE SUFFERED DURING THE PANDEMIC. BRONX BODEGA OWNER FRANCISCO MARTIN SAYS IT'S ALL ABOUT SURVIVAL AT THIS POINT. A BILL BEFORE THE STATE ASSEMBLY WOULD HELP SMALL BUSINESSES IN THE FORM OF RENT RELIEF. IT WOULD REQUIRE COMMERCIAL LANDLORDS TO ACCEPT EITHER 20% OF A BUSINESS'S REVENUE AS RENT OR ONE THIRD OF THE ACTUAL RENT PAYMENT WITH LANDLORDS THEN RECEIVING COVID STIMULUS AID TO MAKE UP FOR THE RENT LOSS.

ECONOMY

THE CITY ECONOMY CONTINUED TO STRUGGLE AS THE VIRUS SEEMED TO MAKE A RESURGANCE AFTER THE HOLIDAYS. WITH THE ARRIVAL OF THE VACCINE AND CASES SLOWLY DECREASED, COMPANY'S WERE ABLE TO REOPEN AND HELP MAKE A SLIGHT RECOVERY IN THE CITY'S ECONOMY.

1/1

THE MINIMUM WAGE, YOUR BOSSES WAY OF TELLING YOU HE WOULD PAY YOU LESS IF HE COULD, IS GOING UP EFFECTIVE TODAY IN NEW YORK & NEW JERSEY. IN NEW YORK STATE NEW MINIMUM IS 12.50 AN INCREASE OF 70% AN HOUR. IN NEW JERSEY THE NEW MINIMUM WAGE IS \$12 AN HOUR, AN INCREASE OF \$1. BOTH STATES ARE PHASING IN INCREASES TO \$15 AN HOUR WHICH IS ALREADY THE MINIMUM WAGE IN THE CITY.

1/4

NEW EVIDENCE THAT BUSINESSES THAT NEEDED THE MOST HELP DURING THE PANDEMIC WERE AMONG THE LAST TO GET IT. DATA FROM THE PAYCHECK PROTECTION PROGRAM FINDS THOUSANDS OF MINORITY-OWNED SMALL BUSINESSES, STRUGGLED TO FIND BANKS THAT WOULD ACCEPT THEIR APPLICATIONS. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS REPORTS THAT MANY MINORITY OWNERS DESPERATE FOR A RELIEF LOAN, DIDN'T GET IT UNTIL LATE IN THE PROGRAM WHILE MANY MORE WHITE BUSINESS OWNERS GOT THEM EARLY ON. THE PROGRAM HANDED OUT OVER 5-MILLION LOANS WORTH \$525-BILLION, BEFORE IT ENDED IN AUGUST.

1/13

THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION IS TRYING TO HAVE THE LAST WORD ON THE IDEA OF AN EXECUTIVE ORDER TO FORGIVE STUDENT DEBT.

LAWYERS FOR THE ADMINISTRATION SAY THEY'VE CONCLUDED IT WOULD TAKE AN ACT OF CONGRESS TO DO THAT. CONGRESSIONAL DEMOCRATS HAVE BEEN URGING THE INCOMING BIDEN ADMINISTRATION TO TAKE ACTION ON ITS OWN. ABOUT 43 MILLION AMERICANS OWE \$1.6 TRILLION IN FEDERAL STUDENT DEBT. PRESIDENT-ELECT BIDEN HAS SAID HE SUPPORTS WRITING OFF \$10,000 IN DEBT FOR EVERY BORROWER AS PART OF A PACKAGE OF MEASURES TO HELP OUT DURING THE PANDEMIC.

1/15

THE PANDEMIC'S CERTAINLY LEFT A LOT OF PEOPLE UNABLE TO PAY RENT. A NEW SURVEY BY THE COMMUNITY HOUSING IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM SAYS CITY TENANTS OWE 1.1 BILLION IN UNPAID RENT, 20% ARE MORE THAN 2 MONTHS BEHIND ON PAYMENTS. NEW YORK IS EXPECTED TO GET MORE THAN A BILLION IN RENTAL HELP FROM THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AS PART OF THE COVID RELIEF PACKAGE.

1/19

THE PANDEMIC HAS CRUSHED NEW YORK CITY TOURISM. THE TIMES SQUARE ALLIANCE SAYS ITS AUTOMATED COUNTING SYSTEM SHOWS THAT FOOT TRAFFIC IN TIMES SQUARE IS DOWN ABOUT 70%. ONE YEAR AGO, BEFORE THE PANDEMIC KICKED IN, MORE THAN 340,000 PEOPLE WALKED THROUGH TIMES SQUARE. LAST MONTH, THAT NUMBER WAS MORE THAN 100,000. THE CITY'S TOURISM ARM NYC & CO. RECENTLY RELEASED A REPORT PREDICTING THE CITY WOULD LIKELY REACH PRE-PANDEMIC LEVELS OF TOURISTS ABOUT 66 MILLION IN 2019 BY 2024.

1/21

GOVERNOR CUOMO'S 206 PAGE ECONOMIC REVIEW & OUTLOOK FOR NEW YORK IS NOT OVERFLOWING WITH GOOD NEWS. THE REPORT PREDICTS THE STATE WILL RECOVER TO PRE-PANDEMIC EMPLOYMENT LEVELS BUT NOT UNTIL 2025. IT ADDS RECOVERY WILL BE PARTICULARLY SLOW IN THE CITY WHERE LESS THAN 40% OF JOBS LOST IN THE PANDEMIC HAVE RECOVERED SO FAR. THAT COMPARES TO 60% IN THE SUBURBS.

1/28

THINGS ARE GETTING MARGINALLY BETTER ON THE COVID FRONT IN NEW YORK. GOVERNOR CUOMO HAS LOOKED AT THE NUMBERS AND REMOVED ALL THE ORANGE ZONE DESIGNATIONS. JUST A FEW YELLOW CAUTION ZONES REMAIN AND THE GOVERNOR IS WORKING ON A PLAN TO REOPEN NEW YORK CITY RESTAURANTS FOR INDOOR DINING.

1/29

THE BATTLE OVER ANOTHER STIMULUS PACKAGE IS TAKING SHAPE ALONG PARTY LINES. AS PART OF A PACKAGE THE PRESIDENT WANTS ANOTHER \$1,400 DIRECT PAYMENTS TO AMERICANS AND 400-BILLION TO EXPAND VACCINATIONS AND REOPEN SCHOOLS.

1/31

A WORD ABOUT GAS PRICES GOING UP IN NEW JERSEY AND A BIGGER AMOUNT, AROUND THE NATION. ACCORDING TO TRIPLE-A MID-ATLANTIC THE AVERAGE PRICE OF A GALLON OF REGULAR GAS IN NEW JERSEY ON FRIDAY WAS \$2.55, UP A PENNY FROM A WEEK AGO. THE NATIONAL AVERAGE PRICE FOR A GALLON OF REGULAR GASOLINE WAS \$2.42, ALSO UP THREE CENTS FROM LAST WEEK, DESPITE, DECLINING DEMAND.

2/1

SOME GOOD & BAD NEWS ABOUT THE ECONOMY. THE CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE UPDATED ITS FORECAST & SAYS THE ECONOMIC ACTIVITY WILL RETURN TO PRE-PANDEMIC LEVELS BY THE MIDDLE OF THIS YEAR EVEN IF CONGRESS DOESN'T APPROVE ANY MORE FEDERAL AID. HOWEVER, FOR THOSE WHO LOST THEIR JOBS BECAUSE OF THE PANDEMIC IT MAY TAKE YEARS TO FIND A NEW ONE. THE CBO PROJECTS THE U.S. WON'T REACH PRE-PANDEMIC EMPLOYMENT LEVELS UNTIL 2024.

2/2

SOME CORONA RELIEF FROM NEW YORK. THE STATE HAS RENEWED AN ORDER TO STOP THE COLLECTION OF MEDICAL AND STUDENT DEBT OWED TO THE STATE. THE ORDER EXTENDED THRU FEBRUARY 28TH. IT INCLUDES MEDICAL DEBT DUE TO FIVE STATE HOSPITALS AND FIVE STATE VETERANS' HOMES AND STUDENT DEBT OWED TO SUNYS.

2/4

PRESIDENT BIDEN IS STANDING FIRM ON \$1,400 STIMULUS CHECKS TO AMERICANS BUT HE TOLD HOUSE DEMOCRATS IN A MEETING. HE CAN BE FLEXIBLE ON HIS \$1.9 TRILLION COVID RELIEF PLAN. REPUBLICANS WANT A LOWER PRICE TAG SOME 600 BILLION.

2/8

HOUSE DEMOCRATS, TODAY ARE EXPECTED TO UNVEIL A \$3,000 PER CHILD BENEFIT. THIS IS PART OF THE \$1.9 TRILLION COVID RELIEF PACKAGE. THAT'S FOR FAMILIES WITH KIDS AGES 6 TO 17. IT WOULD BE \$3,600 PER CHILD UNDER THE AGE OF 6 FOR SINGLE PARENTS EARNING UP TO \$75,000 ANNUALLY OR COUPLES EARNING UP TO 150,000. PAYMENTS WOULD PHASE OUT AFTER THOSE THRESHOLDS.

2/11

GOVERNOR CUOMO SIGNED OFF ON RESTAURANTS REOPENING TO INDOOR DINING TOMORROW INSTEAD OF WAITING FOR SUNDAY BUT IT'S ONLY AT 10% CAPACITY. TODAY BROOKLYN BOROUGH PRESIDENT ERIC ADAMS AND COUNCILMEMBER YDANIS RODRIGUEZ ARE DEMANDING THAT HE UP THAT TO 50%. THEY ALSO WANT THE 10PM CURFEW EXTENDED TO MIDNIGHT. THEY WERE JOINED OUTSIDE BALBOA

RESTAURANT ON BEDFORD AVENUE BY REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE NEW YORK STATE RESTAURANT ASSOCIATION, LATINO RESTAURANT ASSOCIATION AND BROOKLYN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

2/15

MOVING AHEAD ON THE COVID RELIEF BILL. DEMOCRATS IN CONGRESS ARE WORKING TO GET THE \$1.9 TRILLION PACKAGE THROUGH IN BUDGET RECONCILIATION AND NEW YORK CONGRESSWOMAN CAROLYN MALONEY SAYS IT INCLUDES \$350-BILLION FOR STATES AND COMMUNITIES INCLUDING A BIG CHUNK HERE.

2/16

A STARK REMINDER OF WHAT THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC IS DOING TO THE CITY'S RESTAURANT INDUSTRY. A NEW SURVEY FROM THE HOSPITALITY ALLIANCE FINDS 92% OF MORE THAN 400 RESPONDENTS COULDN'T AFFORD TO PAY THEIR DECEMBER RENT. THAT'S UP FROM 80% IN JUNE, 83% IN JULY, 87% IN AUGUST AND 88% IN OCTOBER. THOUSANDS OF RESTAURANTS AND BARS HAVE ALREADY CLOSED WITH ESTIMATES OF 140,000 JOBS LOST SINCE THE PANDEMIC BEGAN.

2/19

HOUSE DEMOCRATS HAVE UNVEILED A \$1.9 TRILLION COVID RELIEF BILL WHICH INCLUDES RAISING THE FEDERAL MINIMUM WAGE TO \$15 AN HOUR. AMERICANS MAKING \$75,000 A YEAR OR LESS WOULD GET \$1,400 CHECKS. A VOTE IS EXPECTED ON THE HOUSE FLOOR NEXT WEEK. DEMOCRATS HAVE A NARROW MARGIN TO PASS THE PACKAGE.

2/21

RESTAURANTS IN THE CITY ARE FINALLY GETTING TO BRING BACK SOME INDOOR CAPACITY BUT MANY RESTAURANTS ACROSS NEW YORK ARE STILL BARELY HANGING ON WITHOUT BEING ABLE TO FULLY OPERATE NORMALLY. WILL THEY SEE ANY FINANCIAL RELIEF AND WHAT HAPPENS IF THEY DON'T? CITY INDOOR DINING WILL GO UP TO 35% ON FRIDAY

2/23

GOVERNOR MURPHY UNVEILED HIS \$45-BILLION BUDGET PLAN TODAY IN A VIRTUAL ADDRESS. MURPHY SAYS HIS BUDGET DOES NOT INCLUDE ANY NEW TAXES AND WILL ONLY MAKE CUTS TO UNDERUSED PROGRAMS. HE SAYS IT WILL INSTEAD BE FINANCED IN LARGE PART BY A DRAWDOWN IN THE STATE'S SURPLUS.

2/27

BIG MOVE IN THE U-S HOUSE EARLY TODAY. SPEAKER NANCY PELOSI ANNOUNCING THE VOTE ON THE \$1.9-TRILLION STIMULUS PACKAGE. THE HOUSE BILL CONTAINS THE \$15 INCREASE IN THE MINIMUM WAGE THAT THE SENATE PARLIAMENTARIAN HAS RULED CANNOT BE IN A

RECONCILIATION BILL SO IT WILL PROBABLY BE TAKEN OUT BEFORE SENATORS CONSIDER THE MEASURE. THE MEASURE DOES INCLUDE \$1,400 CHECKS TO AMERICANS MAKING LESS THAN \$75,000 A YEAR.

3/7

YES, VIRGINIA, THERE IS A STIMULUS PACKAGE. AFTER DAYS OF WRANGLING IN THE SENATE THEY PASSED A MASSIVE \$1.9-TRILLION COVID RELIEF BILL YESTERDAY. IT'S SEEN AS A BIG VICTORY FOR PRESIDENT BIDEN. THE FINAL VOTE ENDED UP BEING ALONG PARTY LINES 50-TO-49. ONE SENATOR WAS OUT OF TOWN. NOT ONE REPUBLICAN VOTED FOR THE BILL. IT NOW HEADS BACK TO THE HOUSE TUESDAY WHERE IT WILL LIKELY PASS WITHOUT ANY ISSUE.

3/14

FOR MANY PEOPLE, DRIVING OFF ON A TRIP IS STILL A DISTANT DREAM BUT IN THE MEANTIME, GAS PRICES CONTINUE TO RISE. AAA MID-ATLANTIC SAYS THE AVERAGE PRICE OF REGULAR GAS IN NEW JERSEY ON FRIDAY WAS UP FOUR CENTS FROM THE WEEK BEFORE AT \$2.90. A YEAR AGO, DRIVERS WERE PAYING ALMOST 50 CENTS A GALLON LESS. THE NATIONAL AVERAGE IS \$2.83 UP FROM \$2.32 THIS TIME IN MARCH OF 2020. WHAT'S PUSHING PRICES UP? ANALYSTS PUT THE BLAME ON RISING CRUDE OIL PRICES, TIGHTENING GAS SUPPLIES AND INCREASED DEMAND.

3/17

MORE AMERICANS ARE RECEIVING STIMULUS CHECKS FROM THE \$1.9-TRILLION AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN SIGNED BY PRESIDENT BIDEN. BANKING INDUSTRY GROUPS SAY THE PAYMENTS COULD ARRIVE IN 90 MILLION BANK ACCOUNTS TODAY FOR PEOPLE WITH IRS DIRECT DEPOSIT. THE IRS HAS ALSO MAILED ANOTHER 150,000 CHECKS WITH A PAYMENT DATE OF MARCH 19TH. THE PAYMENTS INCLUDE \$1,400 FOR MOST SINGLE TAXPAYERS, OR \$2,800 FOR MARRIED COUPLES.

3/18

THE LABOR DEPARTMENT SAYS THE NUMBER OF AMERICANS SEEKING UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS ROSE LAST WEEK TO 770,000. THAT IS A SIGN THAT LAYOFFS REMAIN HIGH EVEN AS MUCH OF THE US ECONOMY IS SLOWLY RECOVERING FROM THE PANDEMIC.

3/19

THE TRI-STATE TAKES ANOTHER STEP TOWARD A RETURN TO NORMALCY TODAY WITH MORE PEOPLE ALLOWED TO DINE INSIDE RESTAURANTS. THE NEW CAPACITY LIMIT IN THE CITY IS 50% AND IT'S THE SAME IN NEW JERSEY. IN THE REST OF NEW YORK STATE, IT'S 75%.

3/20

TIMES SQUARE IS STARTING TO LOOK A LITTLE LIKE ITS OLD SELF WITH MORE FOOT TRAFFIC AND TOURISTS RETURNING AFTER A YEAR OF RELATIVE QUIET. ACTING PRESIDENT OF THE TIMES SQUARE ALLIANCE TOM HARRIS REPORTS AN INCREASE THIS PAST WEEK, THANKS TO WARMER WEATHER AND VACCINES, SAYS THEY'VE BEEN TRACKING VISITOR TRAFFIC DAILY AND SAID THE AVERAGE SINCE SEPTEMBER WAS 100,000 VISITORS PER DAY. THIS PAST WEEK THAT AVERAGE WENT UP TO 115,000. HARRIS SAY TIMES SQUARE HAS A WAY TO GO BUT IS OPTIMISTIC SAYING THINGS WILL BE BETTER AND STRONGER GOING FORWARD.

3/22

WITH THE COVID STIMULUS NEGOTIATIONS BEHIND THEM, IT'S ON TO THE NEXT BIG BILL FOR THE BIDEN ADMINISTRATION. SOURCES ARE TELLING THE NEW YORK TIMES THAT ADVISERS TO THE PRESIDENT ARE PREPARING TO RECOMMEND A PLAN TO SPEND AS MUCH AS \$3 TRILLION ON MEASURES AIMED AT BOOSTING THE ECONOMY, REDUCING CARBON EMISSIONS AND NARROWING ECONOMIC INEQUALITY. THE PLAN REPORTEDLY STARTS WITH A LARGE INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN, FINANCED, IN PART BY RAISING TAXES ON CORPORATIONS AND THE RICH.

3/23

FEDERAL OFFICIALS HAVE STARTED THE PROCESS OF DISTRIBUTING THE SECOND BATCH OF CORONAVIRUS RELIEF PAYMENTS. SOME PEOPLE WILL HAVE THE MONEY DIRECTLY DEPOSITED. SOME WILL GET A PRE-PAID DEBIT CARD AND SOME WILL GET A PHYSICAL CHECK IN THE MAIL.

3/29

DEMOCRATS ARE MOVING TOWARD A LONG-HELD GOAL OF LOWERING DRUG PRICES. 'THE HILL' REPORTS HOUSE LEADERS WANT TO INCLUDE A MEASURE IN THE UPCOMING \$3-TRILLION INFRASTRUCTURE BILL THAT WOULD ALLOW THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES TO NEGOTIATE LOWER PRICES FOR PRESCRIPTION DRUGS. HOUSE SPEAKER NANCY PELOSI GAVE A VOTE OF CONFIDENCE TO THE IDEA LAST WEEK SAYING 'WE WOULD BE MISSING AN OPPORTUNITY IF WE DID NOT INCLUDE LOWERING THE COST OF PRESCRIPTION DRUGS.'

EDUCATION

SCHOOLS IN THE CITY CONTINUED TO STRUGGLE WITH THE VIRUS IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 2021. MANY SCHOOLS RETURNED TO REMOTE LEARNING AFTER A POST-HOLIDAY SURGE. AS CASES SLOWED IN MARCH, THE CITY STARTED OPENENING UP IN-CLASS LEARNING.

1/3

NEW YORK POST IS REPORTING THAT THE COMPANY THAT PROVIDES THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION WITH TRANSCRIPTS FOR HEARINGS ON

EDUCATORS ACCUSED OF INCOMPETENCE OR MISCONDUCT WAS HIT BY A CYBERSECURITY INCIDENT IN EARLY DECEMBER & HAS SUBSEQUENTLY SHUT DOWN ITS I.T. SYSTEMS. A DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SPOKESPERSON ISSUED A STATEMENT, SAYING THE D.O.E. DOES NOT CONTRACT WITH THE COMPANY TO RECORD SUCH HEARINGS. THE D.O.E. SAYS IT IS WORKING DIRECTLY WITH THE STATE AND THE TEACHER'S UNION TO RESCHEDULE SOME HEARINGS, AS EARLY AS THIS WEEK.

1/4

KIDS WERE BACK IN CLASS TODAY IN THE CITY BUT NOT ALL DOING IN-PERSON LEARNING WERE ABLE TO GO BACK. THAT'S BECAUSE 128-SCHOOL BUILDINGS REMAIN CLOSED AFTER STAFFERS TESTED POSITIVE. MEANWHILE, A GROUP OF TEACHERS CALLING THEMSELVES THE "SOLIDARITY CAUCUS" WANT SCHOOLS TO GO ALL REMOTE, UNTIL VIRUS INFECTION LEVELS DROP & VACCINATIONS ARE MORE WIDESPREAD.

1/5

WORKING PARENTS WHO'VE BEEN EYEING THAT CORONA POSITIVITY RATE CAN BREATHE A SIGH OF RELIEF. UFT PRESIDENT MICHAEL MULGREW SAYS IF THE CITY RATE HITS 9% THE SAFE THING TO DO IS TO CLOSE THE SCHOOLS, EVEN IF THE IN-SCHOOL RATE IS LOWER. THE REAL ANSWER, HE SAYS, IS MAKING THE VACCINE IMMEDIATELY AVAILABLE TO ALL SCHOOL PERSONNEL.

1/11

GOVERNOR MURPHY ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT HE'S SIGNING AN EXECUTIVE ORDER TO MODIFY A FEW STATE SCHOOL POLICIES BECAUSE OF THE PANDEMIC. THEY INCLUDE A WAIVING OF THE GRADUATION ASSESSMENT TEST REQUIREMENTS FOR 12TH GRADERS. MURPHY'S EXECUTIVE ORDER WILL ALSO REMOVE THE "STUDENT GROWTH OBJECTIVES" FROM EDUCATOR EVALUATIONS MEANING TEACHERS WILL BE RATED ENTIRELY ON THE OPINION OF THEIR SUPERVISORS.

1/14

NEW YORK CITY STUDENTS ARE SLOWLY RETURNING TO SCHOOLS WHICH HAD BEEN SHUT DOWN. MAYOR DE BLASIO UPDATES THE NUMBERS SAYING LESS THAN A THIRD OF SCHOOLS OPEN FOR IN-PERSON LEARNING OFFER FIVE DAYS A WEEK THOUGH ALMOST ALL SCHOOLS ARE OFFERING AT LEAST SOME IN-CLASS TEACHING.

1/19

THE COLLEGE BOARD SAYS IT WILL ELIMINATE THE OPTIONAL ESSAY FROM THE "SAT" AND DO AWAY WITH SUBJECT TESTS AMID A CHANGING COLLEGE ADMISSIONS LANDSCAPE. IN A STATEMENT, THE NON-PROFIT SAYS THE PANDEMIC HAS "HIGHLIGHTED THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING INNOVATIVE AND ADAPTIVE TO WHAT LIES AHEAD." THE SUBJECT TESTS

WILL IMMEDIATELY END FOR US STUDENTS AND WILL BE PHASED OUT FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS BY JUNE. THE OPTIONAL ESSAY WILL BE DISCONTINUED AFTER JUNE TESTING SESSIONS.

1/21

COVID POSITIVITY RATES IN NEW YORK CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS REMAIN RELATIVELY LOW BUT MORE SCHOOLS ARE CLOSING BECAUSE OF CONFIRMED CASES. AS OF YESTERDAY 373 BUILDING WHICH HAD BEEN OFFERING IN PERSON CLASSES ARE NOW CLOSED, MOST OF THEM FOR 10 DAYS & THAT DOESN'T INCLUDE MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOLS WHICH HAVE BEEN CLOSED SINCE NOVEMBER. THE MAYOR SAYS HE EXPECTS THE CLOSURES TO SUBSIDE AS MORE TEACHERS & STAFF GET VACCINATED.

1/26

WITH SO MANY CHANGES TO SCHOOLING DURING THE PANDEMIC, THE NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT IS NOW ASKING THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT FOR PERMISSION TO CANCEL STANDARDIZED TESTING THIS SPRING. THE STATE IS ARGUING THAT IT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE TO MOVE AHEAD WITH THE TESTS WITH VARYING CIRCUMSTANCES IN EACH DISTRICT. STATE EXAMS ARE USUALLY HELD IN THE SPRING FOR STUDENTS IN GRADES 3 THRU 8. REGENTS FOR HIGH-SCHOOLERS HAVE ALREADY BEEN CANCELED FOR THIS MONTH.

1/28

A REPORT CARD, OF SORT, FOR NEW YORK CITY SCHOOLS. THE CITY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SAYS PUBLIC SCHOOLS HAVE LOST 43,000 KIDS THIS YEAR, 4% OF OVERALL ENROLLMENT. BIRTH RATES WERE ALREADY SHRINKING AND CHARTER SCHOOLS WERE BECOMING MORE POPULAR, BUT CORONA SPEEDED THE DECLINE.

2/5

A GROUP OF NEW YORK LAWMAKERS ARE PUSHING WHAT THEY CALL 'A NEW DEAL' FOR THE CUNY CAMPUSES IN THE CITY. BROOKLYN STATE SENATOR ANDREW GOUNARDES SAYS LEGISLATION INTRODUCED TODAY WOULD ELIMINATE TUITION FEES FOR STUDENTS BEGINNING IN 2022 TO MAKE IT EASIER FOR THEM TO THRIVE WITHOUT DEBT. THE MEASURE WOULD ALSO INCREASE INVESTMENT CUNY, IMPROVE WORKING CONDITIONS FOR ADJUNCT STAFFERS, AND SPEND MORE THAN \$5-BILLION TO REPAIR CRUMBLING INFRASTRUCTURE.

2/6

POSSIBLE NEW RULES FOR WHEN CITY SCHOOLS HAVE TO CLOSE BECAUSE OF COVID. RIGHT NOW IF THERE ARE 2 OR MORE CASES IN THE SAME WEEK A BUILDING WILL BE CLOSED FOR UP TO 10 DAYS. MAYOR DE BLASIO SAYS AFTER COMPLAINTS FROM PARENTS THAT THE POLICY IS TOO STRICT AND IS HAMPERING IN-PERSON LEARNING, HE'S CONSIDERING

CHANGES. HOWEVER, TEACHERS UNION CHIEF MICHAEL MULGREW SAYS HE OPPOSES ANY MODIFICATIONS TO THE CLOSURE POLICY SAYING THE CURRENT PROTOCOLS HAVE KEPT STUDENTS & STAFF SAFE.

2/8

MORE NEW YORK CITY SCHOOLS WILL BE OPEN BEFORE THE MONTH IS OUT. MAYOR DEBLASIO HAS DECIDED TO REOPEN MIDDLE SCHOOL BUILDINGS. SCHOOLS CHANCELLOR CARRANZA IS THE MAYOR'S GUEST AT HIS DAILY BRIEFING THIS MORNING. OFFICIALS SAY ABOUT 62,000 STUDENTS, WHO PREVIOUSLY OPTED IN FOR IN-PERSON LEARNING, WILL BE ABLE TO RETURN TO THE CLASSROOM STARTING FEBRUARY 25TH. THAT WOULD LEAVE ONLY HIGH SCHOOLS REMAINING CLOSED.

2/15

THE CDC HAS ISSUED ITS GUIDANCE FOR REOPENING SCHOOLS BUT SOME TEACHERS MAY NOT AGREE WITH THE PART THAT SAYS THEY CAN GO BACK TO WORK WITHOUT BEING VACCINATED FIRST, EVEN THOUGH DR FAUCI SAYS IT'S OKAY. ABOUT 99% OF CHILDREN IN THE US LIVE IN A COUNTY CONSIDERED A "RED" ZONE WITH HIGH LEVELS OF COVID-19 TRANSMISSION ACCORDING TO THIS CDC GUIDANCE AND THAT MEANS SPORTS ARE A NO GO IN MOST OF THESE PLACES UNDER THE GUIDELINES.

2/16

HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS HEADING INTO COLLEGE TO STUDY SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND MATH NEXT YEAR HAVE MORE TIME TO APPLY FOR A BIG SCHOLARSHIP. THE FUTURE OF STEM SCHOLARS INITIATIVE DUBBED FOSSI HAS EXTENDED THE DEADLINE UNTIL MARCH FIRST. WINNERS NOT ONLY GET \$40,000 OVER FOUR YEARS. THEY'LL HAVE ACCESS TO INTERNSHIPS, CAREER TRAINING, MENTORING AND MORE.

2/18

NEW YORK CITY SCHOOLS CAN AGAIN REQUIRE A COVID TEST FOR THOSE ATTENDING IN-PERSON CLASSES. THE STATE HEALTH DEPARTMENT HAD BARRED THE POLICY EARLIER IN THE WEEK BUT REVERSED COURSE AFTER PUSHBACK FROM CITY OFFICIALS & THE TEACHERS UNION. THE NEW POLICY ALLOWS DISTRICTS TO REQUIRE COVID TESTING AS LONG AS THEY HAVE APPROVAL FROM THE HEALTH OFFICIALS IN THEIR AREA.

2/25

NEW YORK CITY MIDDLE SCHOOLS ARE OPEN AGAIN WITH THOUSANDS OF 6TH-8TH GRADE STUDENTS BACK IN CLASSROOMS FOR IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION. MOST ARE STILL LEARNING REMOTELY. MAYOR DEBLASIO SAYS THIS IS AN IMPORTANT MOMENT. THE MAYOR WAS AT THE LEADERS OF TOMORROW MIDDLE SCHOOL IN THE BRONX. WILL THE HIGH SCHOOLS BE NEXT? MAYBE NOT. UFT PRESIDENT MIKE MULGREW SAYS THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION HASN'T SHOWN YET THEY HAVE THE

CAPACITY TO DO THE TESTING THAT WOULD BE REQUIRED. ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS HAVE BEEN BACK IN SESSION SINCE DECEMBER.

3/5

NEW YORK CITY HIGH SCHOOLERS CAN START GETTING THEIR BACKPACKS READY. MAYOR DE BLASIO SAID DURING HIS WEEKLY RADIO APPEARANCE TODAY THAT HE'LL ANNOUNCE A TIMELINE FOR THE RE-OPENING OF THE CITY'S PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS NEXT WEEK. CITY HIGH SCHOOLS HAVE BEEN CLOSED FOR IN-PERSON CLASSES SINCE THE COVID SPIKE IN NOVEMBER. THE MAYOR ALSO SHOWED SOME OPTIMISM FOR THE FALL SAYING THERE WILL BE FIVE DAY A WEEK INSTRUCTION FOR EVERYONE IN SEPTEMBER PERIOD.

3/9

A LAWSUIT FILED TODAY BY CIVIL RIGHTS ATTORNEYS COULD LEAD TO THE RESTRUCTURING OR ELIMINATION OF CURRENT ADMISSIONS POLICIES FOR SELECTIVE SCHOOLS IN THE NEW YORK CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM. THAT INCLUDES THE GIFTED AND TALENTED PROGRAMS. THE SUIT ARGUES THAT CITY SCHOOLS HAVE REPLICATED AND WORSENERED RACIAL INEQUALITY BY SORTING CHILDREN INTO DIFFERENT ACADEMIC TRACKS AT AN EARLY AGE.

3/11

MAYOR DE BLASIO'S CONSIDER A CHANGE TO CORONA SCHOOL CLOSINGS. RIGHT NOW, A SCHOOL IS TEMPORARILY CLOSED IF TWO OR MORE UNRELATED CORONA CASES ARISE IN THE SAME BUILDING. THE MAYOR SAYS A RE-EVALUATION IS ON THE TABLE, THEY'RE WORKING ON IT IN AND SHOULD HAVE MORE TO SAY IN THE COMING DAYS.

3/15

THERE'S A NEW SCHOOLS CHANCELLOR AT THE HELM OF THE NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION. MEISHA PORTER TAKES OVER FOR RICHARD CARRANZA WHO RECENTLY STEPPED DOWN. PORTER, A 20-YEAR DOE VETERAN, STARTED HER DAY WITH A VISIT TO PS-15 IN RED HOOK, BROOKLYN.

3/19

NEW YORK CITY HIGH SCHOOLS RETURN TO IN-PERSON LEARNING ON MONDAY FOR 55,000 TEENAGERS. THAT'S ABOUT 20% OF THE CITY'S 282,000 STUDENTS. 17,000 SCHOOL PERSONNEL ALSO RETURN. THE CITY HAS HIRED ADDITIONAL CORONAVIRUS-TESTING STAFF AND OPENED BUILDINGS TO SCHOOL EMPLOYEES THIS WEEK TO PREPARE FOR THE RETURN OF STUDENTS.

3/22

NEW YORK CITY PUBLIC SCHOOL KIDS WILL GET ANOTHER CHANCE TO RETURN TO IN PERSON CLASS THIS WEEK. MAYOR DE BLASIO SAYS THE YOUNGEST KIDS AND DISTRICT 75 WILL BE ABLE TO RETURN TO CLASSROOMS IN APRIL. NO TIME LINE'S BEEN RELEASED YET FOR MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS, ALTHOUGH THEY CAN OPT IN THIS WEEK.

3/24

STARTING TODAY SCHOOL KIDS & PARENTS GET ANOTHER CHANCE TO OPT-IN FOR IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION. ONLY YOUNGER CHILDREN WHO CHOOSE TO RETURN TO THE CLASSROOM WILL DO SO, AT FIRST BUT MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOLERS ARE ALSO ENCOURAGED TO MAKE THEIR WISHES KNOWN SO THE DEPARTMENT OF ED CAN PLAN FOR THEM.

3/26

MAYOR DE BLASIO SAYS NEARLY 25,000 PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS HAVE OPTED BACK IN TO IN PERSON LEARNING SINCE ANOTHER ENROLLMENT PERIOD WAS ANNOUNCED. PARENTS HAVE UNTIL APRIL 7TH TO OPT-IN. THE YOUNGEST KIDS WILL RETURN TO CLASS FIRST.

HEALTH

AS WITH LAST YEAR, HEALTH NEWS THIS FIRST QUARTER CONTINUED TO BE DOMINATED BY STORIES ABOUT THE CORONA VIRUS. AFTER THE HOLIDAY SEASON, MANY AREAS SAW A HUGE INCREASE IN CASES. VACCINES BEGAN BEING DISTRIBUTED AND THAT HELPED TO SEE A DECLINE IN CASES AND SPREADING OF THE VIRUS.

1/1

THE 'WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION' IS OUT WITH NEW GUIDELINES ON HOW MUCH EXERCISE ADULTS SHOULD GET. THE 'WHO' SAYS YOU SHOULD AIM FOR ABOUT 2 1/2 - 5 HOURS OF MODERATE EXERCISE A WEEK OR AN HOUR AND 15 MINUTES TO 2 1/2 OF VIGOROUS PHYSICAL ACTIVITY EACH WEEK. THE REPORT APPEARS IN THE 'BRITISH JOURNAL OF SPORTS MEDICINE.' AS ALWAYS START GRADUALLY IF YOU'RE OUT OF SHAPE.

1/2

WE HAVE A LOT OF HOPE FOR 2021 BUT THE PANDEMIC IS STILL FAR FROM OVER. NEW YORK BEGAN THE YEAR WITH THE HIGHEST ONE-DAY DEATH TOLL SINCE MAY, 166. HOSPITALIZATIONS ARE DOWN SLIGHTLY BUT THE EFFECTS OF CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEARS GATHERINGS ARE EXPECTED TO BE REFLECTED IN THE NUMBERS A FEW WEEKS FROM NOW. 49 NEW YORK CITY ZIP CODES NOW HAVE A POSITIVITY RATE ABOVE 10%.

1/3

MORE THAN ONE MILLION CASES OF COVID-19. THAT'S THE STUNNING MILESTONE THE STATE OF NEW YORK PASSED YESTERDAY. THE HEALTH

DEPARTMENT SAYS 15,000 NEW CASES CONFIRMED ON FRIDAY BROUGHT THE STATE NUMBER TO MORE THAN ONE MILLION FIVE THOUSAND. MORE THAN 30,000 NEW YORKERS HAVE DIED SINCE MARCH. THE STATE POSITIVITY RATE IS 7.45. YESTERDAY'S NUMBERS IN THE CITY: 201 NEW HOSPITALIZATIONS, 3,600 NEW CASES AND A 9.39% POSITIVITY RATE.

1/4

CALLS FOR NYC TO PICK UP THE PACE, IN GETTING THE CORONAVIRUS SHOT INTO THE ARMS OF AT-RISK NEW YORKERS. SOME CITY OFFICIALS WANT TO SEE THE VACCINE BEING GIVEN AROUND THE CLOCK AFTER WORD THAT SCORES PEOPLE WHO ARE ELIGIBLE FOR THE SHOTS, STILL HAVEN'T GOTTEN THEM. IN FACT WORD NOW THAT ALMOST 70% OF THE STATE'S AVAILABLE VACCINES HAVEN'T BEEN GIVEN OUT YET.

1/5

ON LONG ISLAND TODAY NASSAU'S FIRST VACCINE DISTRIBUTION CENTER STARS GIVING COVID VACCINES TODAY. COUNTY EXECUTIVE LAURA CURRAN GIVES A TOUR. HEALTH CARE AND FRONTLINE WORKERS CAN GET THE SHOT.

1/8

NEW YORK REPORTED 197 NEW COVID-19-RELATED FATALITIES ON THURSDAY, MARKING THE HIGHEST DAILY DEATH TOLL THE STATE HAS RECORDED SINCE THE BEGINNING OF MAY. TWELVE LIVED IN THE BRONX; 18 LIVED IN BROOKLYN; SIX LIVED IN MANHATTAN; SEVEN LIVED IN NASSAU COUNTY; 14 LIVED IN QUEENS; FIVE LIVED ON STATEN ISLAND; 22 LIVED IN SUFFOLK COUNTY AND 14 LIVED IN WESTCHESTER COUNTY.

1/11

ELI LILLY SAYS AN EXPERIMENTAL ALZHEIMER'S DRUG HELPED PATIENTS IN A SMALL TRIAL. THE DRUG SLOWED THE DECLINE IN MEMORY AND ABILITY TO PERFORM ACTIVITIES OF DAILY LIVING BY 32% AFTER 18 MONTHS AMONG PEOPLE WHO RECEIVED THE DRUG COMPARED WITH THOSE WHO GOT A PLACEBO. THE DRUG IS CALLED "DONAN-EMAB" AND ELI LILLY SAYS IT MADE ITS PRIMARY GOAL OF THE STUDY.

1/12

THE RATE OF CANCER-RELATED DEATHS CONTINUES TO DECLINE IN THE U-S. IT'S DOWN 31% OVER THE LAST TWO DECADES. NOW THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY SAYS IT WENT DOWN ANOTHER 2.4% FROM 2017 TO 2018. THE RATE OF DIAGNOSIS, THOUGH, REMAINS BASICALLY THE SAME.

1/14

MORE PEOPLE ARE ELIGIBLE FOR THE COVID VACCINE BUT SCHEDULING AN APPOINTMENT TO GET IT IS PROVING TO BE A CHALLENGE. GOVERNOR CUOMO SAYS IT COULD TAKE NEW YORKERS 14 WEEKS OR MORE TO GET

ON THE VACCINATION CALENDAR. HE SAYS THE STATE ONLY GETS 300,000 DOSES A WEEK AND THAT MUST INCREASE RIGHT AWAY.

1/15

MAYOR DEBLASIO TWEETING TODAY THERE ARE MORE THAN 4,600 NEW COVID CASES IN THE CITY AND ANOTHER 286 PATIENTS ADMITTED TO HOSPITALS. THE CITY'S 7 DAY ROLLING AVERAGE TEST POSITIVITY RATE IS 8.7%. NEW JERSEY HEALTH OFFICIALS REPORT NEARLY 6,000 NEW COVID CASES AND 94 ADDITIONAL DEATHS.

1/17

NEW YORK STATE HAS ADMINISTERED 83% OF THE VACCINE IT'S BEEN GIVEN ACCORDING TO STATE HEALTH OFFICIALS WITH NEW YORK CITY LAGGING BEHIND THE REST OF THE STATE, IT'S ONLY USED 74% OF WHAT ITS BEEN GIVEN. 7 MILLION NEW YORKERS ARE NOW ELIGIBLE. THE STATE HAS BEEN GIVEN LESS THAN A MILLION DOSES & EVERYONE WILL NEED TWO DOSES IF THEY GET THE PFIZER OR MODERNA VACCINES.

1/18

ANOTHER CASE OF THE COVID 19 VARIANT HAS TURNED UP IN NEW YORK IN WESTCHESTER COUNTY BRINGING THE TOTAL NUMBER OF CASES IN THE STATE TO 18. SOME ENCOURAGING NEWS. THE STATE'S POSITIVITY RATE IS DOWN TO 5.6% AND HOSPITALIZATIONS HAVE DROPPED. THERE ARE 172 ADDITIONAL DEATHS. NEW JERSEY HAS 26 NEW CONFIRMED DEATHS. THE STATE POSITIVITY RATE IS BELOW 10%.

1/21

SCIENTISTS AT ROCKEFELLER UNIVERSITY HERE IN NEW YORK SAY RECENT VARIANTS OF COVID 19 VIRUS MAY MODESTLY CURB THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE VACCINES FROM MODERNA AND PFIZER BUT THEY STRESS THAT THE SHOTS STILL PROTECT AGAINST THE DISEASE.

1/22

THE HOTTEST TICKET IN TOWN IS AN APPOINTMENT TO RECEIVE A FIRST SHOT OF THE COVID VACCINE. GOVERNOR CUOMO SAYS 96,000 PEOPLE WERE VACCINATED ACROSS NEW YORK STATE YESTERDAY AND WE HAVE THE OPERATIONAL CAPACITY TO DO MORE BUT THE DOSES JUST AREN'T THERE. THE CITY SAYS 15 VACCINATION CENTERS IT OPERATES HAVE POSTPONED ALL FIRST-DOSE APPOINTMENTS AND OTHER SITES HAVE STOPPED MAKING APPOINTMENTS.

1/27

NEW JERSEY IS REPORTING SEVERAL MORE CASES OF THE UK VARIANT INCLUDING A FATALITY. STATE HEALTH COMMISSIONER JUDY PERSICILLI SAYS SIX MORE CASES HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED FOR A TOTAL

OF EIGHT IN THE STATES. AT LEAST ONE OF THOSE INFECTED HAD A HISTORY OF INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL.

1/28

SOME GOOD NEWS FROM MAYOR DEBLASIO CONCERNING THE CITY'S VACCINE SUPPLY. HE SAYS THE CITY WILL BE GETTING A 30% INCREASE IN SHIPMENTS OF THE MODERNA VACCINE STARTING NEXT WEEK AND THAT WILL COME HANDY AT A VACCINATION SITE IN WASHINGTON HEIGHTS WHICH HAS BEEN DRAWING PEOPLE FROM ALL OVER EVEN THOUGH IT'S NOT REALLY SUPPOSED TO BE DOING THAT.

2/2

GOVERNOR CUOMO SAYS THERE'S MIXED NEWS IN THE LATEST CORONAVIRUS NUMBERS. HE SAYS THE STATE'S INFECTION RATE TICKED UP TO 4.86% ENDING A 23 DAY DECLINE. THE GOOD NEWS IS THE HOLIDAY SPIKE IS OVER & EXPERTS SAY WE'RE ON A DOWNWARD TRAJECTORY. NEW YORK HAS OVER 8,000 COVID HOSPITALIZATIONS & 131 DEATHS.

2/3

NOW THAT THE STORM IS DONE VACCINE CENTERS AROUND THE CITY ARE OPEN AGAIN AND NEW YORK IS IN LINE TO GET SOME ADDED VACCINE FROM THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT. THAT HAS ALLOWED GOVERNOR CUOMO TO SUGGEST THAT LOCAL GOVERNMENTS MAKE MORE PEOPLE ELIGIBLE. MAYOR DEBLASIO HAS SIGNED OFF ON QUALIFYING RESTAURANT WORKERS AND FOR-HIRE DRIVERS.

2/5

THE CDC HAS ISSUED GUIDELINES AHEAD OF SUNDAY'S GAME. FIRST OFF DON'T HOST A PARTY WITH PEOPLE FROM OUTSIDE YOUR IMMEDIATE HOUSEHOLD. BUT, IF YOU DO, AVOID CHANTING OR CHEERING. SUBSTITUTE STOMPING, CLAPPING AND HAND HELD NOISEMAKERS. IT ALSO SUGGESTS LIMITING ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION BECAUSE DRINKING MAY MAKE YOU LESS LIKELY TO FOLLOW COVID SAFETY MEASURES.

2/6

IT'S BEEN ONE YEAR SINCE THE FIRST COVID-19 DEATH IN THE UNITED STATES. SINCE THEN MORE THAN 459,000 PEOPLE IN THE U-S HAVE DIED AFTER BEING INFECTED WITH THE VIRUS. THAT'S MORE THAN THE NUMBER OF AMERICANS KILLED IN WORLD WAR TWO. NEW YORK STATE'S TEST POSITIVITY RATE IS SLOWLY DECLINING, IT'S DOWN TO 4.31% WITH 158 NEW DEATHS REPORTED IN THE LAST DAY.

2/7

THE NUMBERS OF NEW COVID CASES AROUND THE US CONTINUE A SLOW DECLINE, HOWEVER, THE VIRUS IS STILL KILLING MORE THAN 3,000 AMERICANS A DAY. THE NATION'S CONFIRMED TOTAL DEATH TOLL IS

460,000 THIS WEEKEND. IN NEW YORK THE STATEWIDE TEST POSITIVITY RATE IS DOWN TO 4% FOR THE DAY, 4 1/2% FOR THE SEVEN DAY AVERAGE WITH 143 NEW DEATHS REPORTED TODAY IN NEW YORK STATE.

2/9

USUALLY THIS TIME OF YEAR WE HEAR A LOT ABOUT THE FLU. CDC OFFICIALS SAY THIS YEAR THERE IS VERY LITTLE INFLUENZA ACTIVITY. THEY CAUTION HOWEVER THAT THINGS COULD GO DOWNHILL BUT SO FAR SO GOOD.

2/11

ON THE CORONA VACCINATION FRONT THE GOVERNOR IS ANNOUNCING NEW SITES IN BROOKLYN AND QUEENS OPENING FEBRUARY 24TH. THE SITES: YORK COLLEGE IN JAMAICA. MEDGAR EVERS COLLEGE IN CROWN HEIGHTS, BROOKLYN. CUOMO SAYS THE IDEA IS TO GET THE SHOT TO PEOPLE IN WHAT HE CALLS SOCIALLY VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES.

2/13

FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE AROUND THANKSGIVING NEW YORK STATE'S 7-DAY COVID TEST POSITIVITY AVERAGE IS BELOW 4% TO 3.9%. GOVERNOR CUOMO TODAY ALSO NOTING A LOWER NUMBER OF HOSPITALIZATIONS THE LOWEST SINCE CHRISTMAS DAY. 125 NEW DEATHS REPORTED IN THE LAST DAY. THE CITY'S LATEST NUMBERS PUT THE 7-DAY AVERAGE POSITIVITY RATE AT 7.53% IN THE 5 BOROS.

2/14

THE TEAM FROM THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION INVESTIGATING THE ORIGINS OF CORONAVIRUS IN WUHAN, CHINA HAS FOUND THERE WERE MORE THAN A DOZEN VARIANTS ALREADY IN THAT CITY BACK IN DECEMBER. THAT MAY INDICATE COVID-19 HAD BEEN AROUND FOR MUCH LONGER THAN A MONTH, SOMETHING SOME VIROLOGISTS HAVE BEEN SAYING FOR A LONG TIME.

2/17

THE CITY OPENED A NEW COVID 19 VACCINATION SITE TODAY IN BROOKLYN. IT IS LOCATED AT TEACHERS PREPARATORY HIGH SCHOOL ON BRISTOL STREET TO SERVE BOTH THE BROWNSVILLE AND EAST NEW YORK COMMUNITIES. THE HOURS ARE 8AM TO 8PM. ANOTHER SITE, AT EMPIRE OUTLETS ON STATEN ISLAND OPENS TOMORROW. MAYOR DEBLASIO SAYS THE CITY IS DOUBLING DOWN ON THE VACCINATION EFFORTS AMONG THE CITY'S MOST VULNERABLE POPULATIONS.

2/19

A NEW STUDY SAYS THAT NEARLY A THIRD OF PEOPLE WHO HAD 'MILD' CASES OF COVID 19 STILL HAVE SYMPTOMS MONTHS LATER. FOR SOME THE SYMPTOMS COME AND GO. RESEARCHERS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF

WASHINGTON KEPT TABS ON 177 PEOPLE FOR ABOUT 9 MONTHS. THE MOST COMMON PERSISTENT SYMPTOMS: FATIGUE AND LOSS OF SMELL OR TASTE. 30% SAID THEIR QUALITY OF LIFE IS WORSE ALL THESE MONTHS LATER THAN IT WAS BEFORE THEY GOT SICK.

2/20

A NEW MEGA VACCINATION CENTER HAS OPENED ON STATEN ISLAND. THE MAYOR SAYS THERE ARE SHORTAGES OF VACCINE BUT HE IS HOPEFUL THAT WILL CHANGE. THE CITY'S '7 DAY AVERAGE' POSITIVITY RATE IS 7.29%. STATEWIDE THERE ARE 6,155 PEOPLE HOSPITALIZED FOR COVID. THAT'S THE LOWEST NUMBER SINCE DECEMBER 17TH. THE STATE'S POSITIVITY RATE IS 3.49%, 116 ADDITIONAL COVID RELATED DEATHS IN NEW YORK STATE.

2/21

MORE VACCINE ON THE WAY. THAT'S THE WORD FROM GOVERNOR CUOMO AS THE CITY SAYS IT HAS LESS THAN 1,000 FIRST DOSES ON HAND. CUOMO SAYS THE STATE HAS ADMINISTERED 90% OF THE FIRST DOSES IT HAD AND 60% OF THE ALLOCATION WAS DELAYED BY THE STORMS. BUT, HE SAYS THE DOSES SHOULD BE DISTRIBUTED BY TODAY. THIS AS THE MAYOR'S OFFICE SAID THE SHORT SUPPLY BROUGHT THE VACCINATION EFFORT TO A STANDSTILL.

2/24

THE NEW YORK CITY HEALTH DEPARTMENT IS NOW PUBLICLY REPORTING DATA ON THE VARIOUS COVID VARIANTS. IT SAYS 59 CITY RESIDENTS TESTED POSITIVE FOR THE UK VARIANT. SO FAR, NO ONE HAS THE SOUTH AFRICA VARIANT BUT IT HAS TURNED UP ELSEWHERE IN NEW YORK STATE A COUPLE OF TIMES. LABS ARE ALSO MONITORING FOR THE BRAZILIAN STRAIN. IN RECENT WEEKS, NEW YORK CITY HAS MORE THAN TRIPLED THE NUMBER OF SPECIMENS BEING SEQUENCED.

2/25

THE COMPANIES THAT MAKE THE VACCINES ARE EXPERIMENTING WITH WAYS TO COUNTER NEW VARIANTS. THEY ARE CONSIDERING ADJUSTMENTS TO THE CURRENT VACCINES TO TARGET SPECIFIC VARIANTS. PFIZER IS RUNNING A TEST TO DETERMINE WHETHER A 3RD DOSE OF ITS EXISTING VACCINE AT 6 -12 MONTHS MIGHT BE EFFECTIVE.

2/27

OFFICIALS IN THE U.S. ARE TAKING PRECAUTIONS AGAINST ANOTHER DEADLY VIRUS. THE CENTERS FOR DISEASE IS ANNOUNCING TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS FOR COUNTRIES WITH RECENT OUTBREAKS OF EBOLA. PEOPLE COMING FROM GUINEA AND THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO WILL BE DIRECTED TO SIX U.S. AIRPORTS TO BE SCREENED. THEIR

CONTACT DATA WILL BE SHARED WITH THE CDC AND LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS FOR MONITORING PURPOSES.

3/1

A NEW ALZHEIMER'S DRUG EXTRACTED FROM SEAWEED IS BEING TESTED IN NEW JERSEY. EVIDENCE SUGGESTS IT MAY REDUCE INFLAMMATION IN THE BRAIN IN A WAY THAT BENEFITS PEOPLE WITH MILD TO MODERATE CASES OF THE DISEASE. DR. MICHELLE PAPKA IS RUNNING TRIALS ON THE DRUG AT THE COGNITIVE AND RESEARCH CENTER OF NEW JERSEY IN SPRINGFIELD. SHE TELLS NJ.COM THAT SHE'S LOOKING FOR ADULTS BETWEEN THE AGES OF 50 AND 85 WHO HAVE MILD OR MODERATE ALZHEIMER'S TO PARTICIPATE IN THE DRUG TRIAL.

3/3

WE WILL START TO SEE THE IMPACT OF THE JOHNSON AND JOHNSON VACCINE PRETTY SOON. LONG ISLAND HAS ALREADY BEGUN ADMINISTERING THE VACCINE. NEW YORK CITY GETS ITS FIRST SHIPMENT TOMORROW & THAT'S WHEN THE STATE VACCINATION CENTERS AT YANKEE STADIUM AND THE JAVITS CENTER WILL BEGIN GIVING SHOTS WITH THE J&J VACCINE AND EXPAND INTO OVERNIGHT HOURS.

3/4

ON THE LOCAL VACCINE FRONT TODAY NEW YORK CITY HAS OPENED A MEGA VACCINATION-SITE IN CO-OP CITY. IT'S DESIGNED TO ADDRESS DISPARITIES IN INOCULATION RATES ALONG RACIAL, ETHNIC AND SOCIOECONOMIC LINES. ONE IN 13 RESIDENTS OF CO-OP CITY AND NEARBY AREAS HAS BEEN INFECTED. WHILE COOP CITY WILL, EVENTUALLY LIVE UP TO ITS BILLING AS A MEGA-SITE, IT ONLY HAS A LIMITED SUPPLY OF VACCINE RIGHT NOW.

3/5

THE CDC HAS AN ANSWER FOR PEOPLE ASKING WHY THEY NEED TO WEAR A MASK IN PUBLIC. A NEW STUDY SHOWS THAT COUNTIES IN THE US WHERE MASKS ARE REQUIRED HAVE LOWER RATES OF COVID CASES AND DEATHS AND IN COUNTIES WHERE INDOOR DINING IS ALLOWED THE RATES ARE HIGHER.

3/8

WITH GOVERNOR CUOMO FACING SCRUTINY OVER COVID IN NEW YORK NURSING HOMES NEW JERSEY GOVERNOR PHIL MURPHY IS BEING ASKED ABOUT WHAT HIS STATE DID. MURPHY SAYS HE DID ORDER LONG TERM CARE FACILITIES TO ADMIT PEOPLE WHO TESTED POSITIVE FOR COVID, BUT HE SAYS PATIENTS HAD TO BE SEPARATED ON THEIR OWN FLOOR, OWN WING, OWN BUILDING WITH THEIR OWN STAFF.

3/9

IF YOU ARE OVER 60 BUT NOT YET 65 TOMORROW IS YOUR LUCKY DAY. GOVERNOR CUOMO SAYS THAT'S WHEN YOU WILL BECOME ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE THE COVID VACCINE. NEW YORKERS 60 AND OVER MAY BEGIN MAKING APPOINTMENTS AT EIGHT TOMORROW MORNING. ONE WEEK FROM TOMORROW, THE GOVERNOR SAYS HE'LL TAKE THE RESTRICTIONS OFF SOME VACCINE SITES.

3/10

NEW YORK IS NOW MAKING VACCINE APPOINTMENTS FOR PEOPLE AS YOUNG AS 60. THAT BEGAN AT 8 THIS MORNING AND STARTING ONE WEEK FROM TODAY YOU'LL BE ABLE TO GET VACCINATED AT ANY OF THE VACCINATION SITES NOT JUST ONE IN YOUR BORO. PHARMACIES, HOWEVER, WILL STILL ONLY VACCINATE PEOPLE OVER 60 OR TEACHERS.

3/14

A DISTURBING HEALTH TREND BEING REPORTED AMID THE PANDEMIC. REPORTS ACCORDING TO THE NEW YORK POST OF SURGING CASES OF MYOPIA, OR NEAR-SIGHTEDNESS, HERE IN THE CITY AMONG ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS DUE TO THE INCREASED SCREEN TIME DURING LOCKDOWN. ONE OPHTHALMOLOGIST TELLING THE POST THEY ARE SEEING AN UPTICK OF CASES.

3/17

STARTING TODAY WORKERS WHO DEAL WITH THE PUBLIC ARE ELIGIBLE FOR COVID VACCINE IN NEW YORK. THAT INCLUDES GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES, NOT-FOR-PROFIT WORKERS & ESSENTIAL BUILDING SERVICE WORKERS. MAYOR DEBLASIO WANTS TO CUT OUT THE MIDDLEMAN, GOVERNOR CUOMO AND THE STATE, TO GET MORE VACCINES ROLLING IN THE CITY WITH A DIRECT APPEAL TO THE BIDEN ADMINISTRATION.

3/18

SOME ENCOURAGING NEWS ON THE COVID 19 VACCINES. THE NEW YORK BLOOD CENTER DID AN ANALYSIS AND FOUND THE JOHNSON AND JOHNSON, PFIZER AND MODERNA VACCINES ARE EFFECTIVE AGAINST COVID VARIANTS. A POP-UP VACCINATION SITE FOR SENIORS OPENS TODAY IN AT UJA-FEDERATION AT 'THE COMMON POINT QUEENS HUB' ON QUEENS BOULEVARD IN ELMHURST.

3/19

IS IT SAFE DURING THE PANDEMIC TO USE AIR HAND DRYERS YOU MIGHT FIND IN RESTROOMS? A NEW STUDY IN THE UK RAISES QUESTIONS. IT SAYS THE HIGH-SPEED AIR CAN SPREAD BACTERIA FROM POORLY WASHED HANDS TO CLOTHING AND SURFACES BEYOND THE BATHROOM. RESEARCHERS CONCLUDED PAPER TOWELS AND HAND SANITIZERS WERE MORE EFFECTIVE AT STOPPING THE SPREAD OF GERMS.

3/20

GOVERNOR CUOMO ANNOUNCED THE DISCOVERY OF THE FIRST CASE OF THE COVID 19-P1 VARIANT, ALSO KNOWN AS THE BRAZILIAN VARIANT. THE CASE WAS IDENTIFIED BY SCIENTISTS AT MOUNT SINAI HOSPITAL IN NEW YORK CITY. THE PATIENT IS A BROOKLYN RESIDENT IN THEIR 90'S WITH NO TRAVEL HISTORY. DOH IS WORKING WITH THE NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE TO LEARN MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE PATIENT AND POTENTIAL CONTACTS.

3/24

CITING THE NEW SOCIAL DISTANCING GUIDELINES FOR STUDENTS FROM THE CDC GOVERNOR MURPHY IS URGING SCHOOLS IN NEW JERSEY TO START REOPENING. MURPHY SAYS THE NEW RECOMMENDATIONS APPLY TO ALL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS IN THE STATE ALONG WITH MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS IN AREAS DEEMED 'LOW' OR 'MODERATE' RISK. STUDENTS WILL STILL NEED TO STAY SIX FEET APART IN GYM CLASS OR WHILE EATING.

3/26

WE KNOW THE COVID VACCINES HAVE SHOWN TO BE EFFECTIVE AGAINST THE MOST SERIOUS SYMPTOMS OF THE VIRUS AND OFFER STRONG PROTECTION AGAINST HOSPITALIZATION AND DEATH. NOW DR. ANTHONY FAUCI SAYS THE WHITE HOUSE COVID TASK FORCE HAS COMMISSIONED A STUDY TO DETERMINE WHETHER VACCINATED PEOPLE CAN STILL SPREAD COVID-19. HE SAYS THE 5-MONTH STUDY WILL FOCUS ON 12,000 STUDENTS AND THEIR CONTACTS.

3/27

DESPITE RECORD DAILY NUMBERS OF VACCINATIONS THE COUNTRY'S OVERALL COVID INFECTION RATE HAS BEEN RISING THE PAST 2 WEEKS & NEW YORK REPORTED MORE INFECTIONS IN THE PAST WEEK THAN THE WEEK BEFORE. OFFICIALS BLAME MORE AGGRESSIVE VARIANTS.

3/28

THE CDC IS WARNING THAT WHILE VACCINATIONS INCREASE, THE RISK OF ANOTHER COVID SURGE REMAINS BUT IS ALSO AVOIDABLE. CDC DIRECTOR DR. ROCHELLE WALENSKY SAYS IT'S NO TIME TO LET DOWN YOUR GUARD URGING INDIVIDUALS AND OFFICIALS TO DOUBLE DOWN ON SAFETY MEASURES & NOT EASE PANDEMIC RESTRICTIONS TOO MUCH. IN NEW YORK CITY, THERE'S A BIG PUSH ON TO VACCINATE ALL CITY WORKERS, INCLUDING A SPECIAL EFFORT AT THE METS HOME CITI FIELD.

3/30

THIRTY IS TODAY'S LUCKY NUMBER. THAT'S NOW THE LOWER AGE LIMIT TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR A COVID SHOT IN NEW YORK. ONE WEEK FROM TODAY, IT WILL DROP TO 16. SO BEFORE MORE PEOPLE JOIN THE QUEUE,

YOU MAY WANT TO JUMP ON THE OPPORTUNITY TO SCHEDULE YOUR VACCINATION. GRANTED, THAT CAN STILL BE TOUGH BUT KEEP TRYING.

3/31

PFIZER ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT ITS COVID-19 VACCINE IS 100% EFFECTIVE IN CHILDREN AGES 12 TO 15. IT SAYS THIS IS THE FIRST VACCINE TO SHOW DATA IN CHILDREN AND A PROMISING FIRST STEP TOWARDS VACCINATING YOUNGER AND YOUNGER PEOPLE. OVER 15% OF AMERICANS ARE NOW FULLY VACCINATED AGAINST COVID BUT DOES THAT INCLUDE THE VARIANTS?

TAXES

WITH MANY PEOPLE CONTINUING TO WORK REMOTELY IT RAISED MANY QUESTIONS ALL QUARTER AS PEOPLE BEGAN PREPARING THEIR TAX RETURNS. HOW DID REMOTE WORK EFFECT PEOPLE'S TAX RETURNS? WHAT CAN PEOPLE CLAIM IF THEY ARE WORKING FROM HOME? THESE AMONG MANY OTHER QUESTIONS RAISED AS THE PANDEMIC ERA TAX FILING DEADLINE APPROACHED.

1/1

WITH 2020 OVER, IT'S TIME TO START TAKING A LOOK AT YOUR TAXES IN THIS STRANGE ERA TO MAKE SURE YOU AVOID AN UNEXPECTED AND LARGE TAX BILL AND IN CASE YOU'RE WONDERING THAT MONEY IS NOT CONSIDERED TAXABLE INCOME. THAT'S BECAUSE IT'S ACTUALLY A TAX CREDIT THAT YOU RECEIVED IN ADVANCE.

1/4

BROOKLYN BOROUGH PRESIDENT & MAYORAL CANDIDATE ERIC ADAMS IS OUT WITH A 100-POINT PLAN TO MOVE NEW YORK CITY FORWARD. THEY TOUCH ON EVERYTHING FROM IMPROVING THE ECONOMY TO PUBLIC SAFETY, EDUCATION, TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING, THE ENVIRONMENT HEALTH AND THE COVID-19 RESPONSE. AMONG HIS IDEAS HAVING COMMUNITY GROUPS SELECT POLICE PRECINCT COMMANDERS AND MAKING PUBLIC THE NAMES OF COPS BEING MONITORED FOR BAD BEHAVIOR. ON THE ECONOMIC FRONT HE WANTS TAXES HIKED ON THOSE WHO EARN MORE THAN \$5-MILLION AND HE WANTS TO ESTABLISH "SALES TAX-FREE TUESDAYS" TO ENCOURAGE PEOPLE TO SHOP LOCALLY.

1/7

GOVERNOR MURPHY HAS SIGNED THE BILL AUTHORIZING OVER \$14-BILLION IN TAX CREDITS FOR THE STATE'S BUSINESSES. THE BREAK, WHICH WILL BE SPREAD OVER AS MANY AS SEVEN YEARS, IS MEANT TO GIVE A BOOST TO BUSINESSES STRUGGLING FROM THE COVID SHUTDOWNS. IT WAS PASSED IN TRENTON WITH BI-PARTISAN SUPPORT BUT IS NOT UNIVERSALLY LIKED. CRITICISMS RANGE FROM THE TAX

BREAK BEING TOO BIG OF A GIVEAWAY TO IT NOT DOING ENOUGH TO HELP SMALL BUSINESS.

1/11

GOVERNOR CUOMO STOPPED SHORT OF PROPOSING HIGHER TAXES ON MILLIONAIRES BUT HE DID HAVE SOME PROPOSALS TO HELP STIMULATE NEW YORK STATE'S COVID-RAVAGED ECONOMY IN THE FIRST PART OF HIS "DAYS LONG" STATE OF THE STATE ADDRESS.

1/19

GOVERNOR CUOMO DELIVERS HIS BUDGET ADDRESS LATER THIS MORNING VIRTUALLY. HE'LL ANNOUNCE PLANS TO FILL THE BIGGEST BUDGET DEFICIT OF HIS TIME IN OFFICE, \$15 BILLION. CUOMO HAS SAID EVEN WITH HELP, TAXES MIGHT HAVE TO BE RAISED. HE HASN'T SPECIFIED, BUT DEMOCRATS IN ALBANY HAVE BEEN LOOKING AT TAX HIKES FOR HIGH-INCOME EARNERS.

1/27

NEW JERSEY CONGRESSMAN BILL PASCRELL WAS A NO-SHOW AT A PRESS CONFERENCE TODAY. THAT'S BECAUSE THE 84-YEAR-OLD LAWMAKER IS IN QUARANTINE, AFTER FINDING OUT HE WAS EXPOSED TO SOMEONE WHO'S TESTED POSITIVE FOR THE CORONAVIRUS. NO WORD OF THE CONGRESSMAN HAVING ANY SYMPTOM. PASCRELL WAS SUPPOSED TO ADDRESS EFFORTS TO RESTORE THE FULL FEDERAL DEDUCTION FOR STATE AND LOCAL TAXES, AT THAT PRESS CONFERENCE HE HAD TO SKIP.

2/2

NEW YORK SALES TAX COLLECTIONS DROPPED BY \$1.8 BILLION OR 10% IN 2020 COMPARED TO 2019. THAT'S ACCORDING TO STATE COMPTROLLER TOM DINAPOLI WHO SAID THE NUMBER IS MORE THAN IN THE 2009 RECESSION, WHEN COLLECTIONS DROPPED 6%. SALES TAX REVENUE DROPPED MOST SHARPLY IN THE SECOND QUARTER AS NONESSENTIAL BUSINESSES WERE SHUTDOWN STATEWIDE. COLLECTIONS PLUMMETED 27.1% FROM APRIL TO JUNE COMPARED TO THE PREVIOUS YEAR. DROPS IN SALES TAX COLLECTION IN NEW YORK CITY.

2/7

THE HEIGHT OF CHUTZPAH. THAT'S HOW ONE STATE SENATOR DESCRIBES A CITY PROPERTY TAX INCREASE THIS YEAR. SENATOR SIMKA FELDER SENT A LETTER TO MAYOR DE BLAZIO AND COUNCIL SPEAKER COREY JOHNSON CALLING FOR A PROPERTY TAX FREEZE SAYING HOMEOWNERS ARE OVER-BURDENED AND IT'S UNFAIR TO RAISE TAXES AT THE PEAK OF THE PANDEMIC AFTER NEW YORKERS HAVE BEEN ASKED TO SACRIFICE SO MUCH. NO COMMENT FROM THE MAYOR OR JOHNSON SO FAR.

2/8

IT'S GETTING MORE AND MORE EXPENSIVE TO LIVE IN NEW JERSEY. THE LATEST DATA FROM THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS SHOWS THE AVERAGE PROPERTY TAX BILL HAS BROKEN THE \$9,000 MARK, FOR THE FIRST TIME EVER. ONLY A FEW COUNTIES ARE DRIVING THAT STATE-WIDE AVERAGE INCLUDING UNION AND ESSEX, WHERE HOMEOWNERS PAY OVER \$12,000 A YEAR IN PROPERTY TAXES, ON AVERAGE. IN PASSAIC, SOMERSET, HUNTERDON AND MORRIS COUNTIES, THE ANNUAL TAX BILL AVERAGES MORE THAN \$10,000.

2/17

SEVERAL NEW YORK LAWMAKERS ARE PROPOSING A TAX HIKE FOR INDIVIDUALS MAKING AT LEAST \$300,000 PER YEAR IN HOPES OF BRINGING IN AN ESTIMATED \$15 BILLION IN ANNUAL REVENUE. THE BILL'S BACKERS INCLUDE STATE SENATE MICHAEL GIANARIS OF QUEENS, NEW YORK CITY PUBLIC ADVOCATE JUMAANE WILLIAMS & THE WORKING FAMILIES PARTY. SUPPORTERS SAY THE TAX HIKE WOULD HELP RELIEVE THE DRAIN ON STATE REVENUE CAUSE BY THE PANDEMIC BUT A SPOKESMAN FOR GOVERNOR CUOMO'S BUDGET OFFICE SAYS RAISING TAXES WOULD BE BEST DONE AT THE FEDERAL LEVEL SO AS NOT TO PIT ONE STATE AGAINST ANOTHER.

2/21

PRESIDENT BIDEN'S PANDEMIC RELIEF BILL IS EXPECTED TO INCLUDE \$70 BILLION FOR NEW YORK. OFFICIALS GATHERED SATURDAY TO DISCUSS THE BILL. THE COST OF THE PANDEMIC FOR MUNICIPALITIES HAS BEEN A CONSIDERATION OF CUTTING ESSENTIAL SERVICES OR A BIG TAX HIKE.

2/24

DESPITE EVERYTHING GOING ON NEW JERSEY IS LOOKING AT A BUDGET SURPLUS AND GOVERNOR MURPHY SAYS THAT WILL ENABLE HIM TO RAISE SPENDING IN THE NEXT BUDGET BY ABOUT 10% WITHOUT RAISING ANY TAXES OR FEES. REPUBLICANS SAY ONE REASON NEW JERSEY IS RUNNING A SURPLUS IS THAT THE STATE UNNECESSARILY BORROWED \$4-BILLION LAST NOVEMBER AND THEY ACCUSE MURPHY OF PURPOSELY LOWBALLING REVENUE PROJECTIONS TO BUILD UP A LARGE SURPLUS.

3/1

SOME DEMOCRATS WANT TO ADDRESS INCOME INEQUALITY. MASSACHUSETTS SENATOR ELIZABETH WARREN AND HOUSE MEMBERS, PRAMILA JAYAPAL OF WASHINGTON AND BRENDAN BOYLE OF PENNSYLVANIA ARE LEADING THE EFFORT. THEY'RE PROPOSING THE ULTRA-MILLIONAIRE TAX ACT. IT WOULD LEVY A 2% ANNUAL TAX ON THE NET WORTH OF HOUSEHOLDS AND TRUSTS BETWEEN \$50 MILLION AND \$1 BILLION AS WELL AS A 1% ANNUAL SURTAX ON ASSETS ABOVE \$1 BILLION, FOR A 3% TAX OVERALL ON BILLIONAIRES.

3/2

A \$15 MINIMUM WAGE WON'T BE PART OF THE CORONA STIMULUS PLAN WHICH THE SENATE COULD START DEBATING TODAY. DEMOCRATS ALSO GAVE UP ON TAXING BIG COMPANIES THAT DON'T PAY THEIR EMPLOYEES MORE. MADELEIN RIVERA REPORTS DEMOCRATS LIKE THE SENATE MAJORITY LEADER, NEW YORK'S CHUCK SCHUMER, WANT THE PLAN PASSED BY THE 14TH, WHEN EMERGENCY JOBLESS BENEFITS RUN OUT.

3/7

INCLUDED IN THE COVID RELIEF BILL IS THE EXPANSION OF THE CHILD TAX CREDIT WHICH WOULD EXTEND THE CREDIT TO MORE FAMILIES OVER TIME. THE CURRENT BILL INCREASES THE EXISTING CHILD TAX CREDIT TO AS MUCH AS 3,600 PER CHILD ACCORDING TO CONGRESSMAN RITCHIE TORRES. THE EXPANSION COULD HELP REDUCE CHILD POVERTY BY NEARLY HALF.

3/15

DEMOCRATS IN ALBANY WANT TO RAISE TAXES ON THE RICH AND BUSINESSES PROPOSED BUDGETS INCLUDE ABOUT \$7 BILLION WORTH OF INCREASES AND A 22.6% INCREASE IN STATE SPENDING, MORE THAN 10% HIGHER THAN WHAT THE GOVERNOR IS PROPOSING. PROPOSALS INCLUDE RAISING TAXES ON THE STATE HIGHEST EARNERS A YEAR BUT ABOUT 3% TO 11.85%. THAT'S EXPECTED TO RAISE MORE THAN \$4 BILLION ASSUMING THE PEOPLE BEING TAXED AT THAT RATE DON'T MOVE OUT OF THE STATE TO SOMEPLACE LIKE FLORIDA WHERE THERE IS NO STATE INCOME TAX. IN VIEW OF THAT POSSIBILITY THERE'S ALSO A PROPOSAL TO TAX ANYTHING USED AS A SECOND HOME IN NEW YORK.

3/17

IT LOOKS LIKE YOU MIGHT GET SOME MORE TIME TO FILE YOUR TAXES. SOURCES TELL BLOOMBERG NEWS THAT THE I.R.S. IS PLANNING TO DELAY THE APRIL 15TH FILING DEADLINE UNTIL THE MIDDLE OF MAY. THERE'S BEEN NO WORD YET ON AN EXACT DATE. THE EXTENSION WOULD GIVE TAXPAYERS MORE TIME TO MEET THEIR OBLIGATIONS AMID ONE OF THE MORE COMPLICATED TAX SEASONS IN DECADES.

3/18

FORGET APRIL 15TH YOU HAVE UNTIL MAY 17TH TO FILE TAXES. MORE THAN 100 HOUSE LAWMAKERS SENT A LETTER TO THE IRS ASKING FOR THE DELAY. THE NEW COVID RELIEF BILL INCLUDES TAX CODE CHANGES. LAST YEAR'S FILING DEADLINE WAS PUSHED BACK TO JULY 15TH.

3/22

IT'S BUDGET TIME IN ALBANY. THE STATE'S BUDGET IS SUPPOSED TO BE FINALIZED BY APRIL 1ST. THE CUOMO ADMINISTRATION IS SIGNALING THERE IS NOT A NEED FOR QUOTE: "SIGNIFICANT" INCREASES IN TAXES.

BUDGET DIRECTOR ROBERT MOOHEEKAH IN A CONFERENCE CALL SAID THE GOAL IS TO RESTORE SOME OF THE CUTS FIRST PROPOSED IN JANUARY.

3/27

TRANSPORTATION SECRETARY PETE BUTTIGEDGE HAS AN IDEA HOW TO FINANCE THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S MULTI TRILLION DOLLAR INFRASTRUCTURE PROPOSAL, A VEHICLE MILEAGE TAX. BUTTIGEDGE ON CNBC SAID THE MILEAGE TAX WOULD ASSESS CHARGES BASED ON HOW FAR PEOPLE TRAVEL RATHER THAN HOW MUCH GAS THEY USE. THE FUNDS COULD HELP TO REBUILD THE NATION'S ROADS, BRIDGES AND WATERWAYS WOULD LEAD TO A NET GAIN FOR THE U.S. TAXPAYER, NOT A NET EXPENSE. HE SAYS IT'S JUST ONE OF THE IDEAS BEING DISCUSSED.

3/30

A VOTE IS EXPECTED TODAY IN ALBANY ON THE MEASURE TO IMPLEMENT THE SALE AND USE OF RECREATIONAL MARIJUANA. THE LEGISLATION WOULD ALLOW POSSESSION OF UP TO THREE OUNCES AND PEOPLE COULD GROW AS MANY AS SIX PLANTS AT HOME. PRODUCTS SOLD AT DISPENSARIES WOULD BE TAXED AT 13 PERCENT. POLICE AND DA'S WORRY THAT THE BILL DOESN'T DO ENOUGH TO ADDRESS THE ISSUE OF DRIVING WHILE IMPAIRED.

TRANSPORTATION

TO COMMUTE OR NOT TO COMMUTE. THAT QUESTION WAS ON THE MINDS OF MANY PEOPLE AS SOME BUSINESSES BEGAN RE-OPENING, SCHOOLS SLOWLY REOPENED IN CLASS LEARNING AND WORK PLACES WELCOMED PEOPLE BACK TO SOME OFFICES.

1/1

LIKE TOKENS BEFORE THEM, METRO CARDS WILL SOON BE A THING OF THE PAST. THE PLAN IS TO PHASE THEM OUT ENTIRELY BY 2023 IN FAVOR OF THE CONTACTLESS OMNY SYSTEM WHICH IS NOW IN PLACE AT ALL 472 SUBWAY STATIONS IN THE CITY IN ADDITION TO ALL 5800 BUSES. INTERIM CITY TRANSIT PRESIDENT SARAH FEINBERG NOTES THAT THE ROLLOUT HAS BEEN PRETTY FAST.

1/2

FOR THOSE STILL TRAVELING BY AIR, DESPITE WARNINGS TO STAY HOME DURING THIS PANDEMIC ARE FACING ANOTHER STUMBLING BLOCK IN THE FORM OF A SEVERE WINTER STORM DUMPING SNOW AND ICE IN THE MIDDLE PART OF THE COUNTRY FORCING AIRLINES TO CANCEL HUNDREDS OF FLIGHTS DURING HIS HOLIDAY WEEKEND. TOMORROW IS EXPECTED TO BE THE NATION'S BUSIEST TRAVEL DAY.

1/3

DESPITE THE REPEATED PLEAS OF PUBLIC OFFICIALS AND HEALTH EXPERTS, MILLIONS OF AMERICANS TRAVELED OVER THE HOLIDAYS. ALMOST 1.2. MILLION PEOPLE PASSED THROUGH SECURITY CHECKPOINTS YESTERDAY AT AMERICAN AIRPORTS, MORE PROJECTED TODAY. MORE THAN 14 MILLION PEOPLE PASSED THROUGH TSA CHECKPOINTS SINCE FRIDAY DECEMBER 18TH.

1/5

THE MTA SAYS DESPITE CHALLENGES POSED BY THE PANDEMIC, IT REMAINS ON SCHEDULE TO COMPLETE THE \$2.6 BILLION PROJECT TO ADD A THIRD TRACK TO THE LONG ISLAND RAIL ROAD'S MAIN LINE FROM FLORAL PARK TO HICKSVILLE IN 2022. BEFORE THE PANDEMIC THE ROUTE CARRIED ABOUT 40% OF THE LIRR'S 300,000 WEEKDAY PASSENGERS. WEEKDAY RIDERSHIP REMAINS DOWN MORE THAN 75%.

1/9

MAYOR DEBLASIO & THE MTA SAY THE OVERNIGHT SUBWAY CLOSURES WILL CONTINUE. WHEN ASKED ABOUT IT THE MAYOR SAID THE CLEANING BETWEEN 1 & 5 IN THE MORNING HAS BEEN A REAL SUCCESS & THAT THE STATE & CITY ARE ON THE SAME PAGE & HAVE WORKED TOGETHER. THE MTA IN A STATEMENT, AGREED, NOTING THE PANDEMIC IS FAR FROM OVER & WITH A SIGNIFICANTLY MORE CONTAGIOUS STRAIN IN THE STATE, IT WILL CONTINUE TO ATTACK BOTH SURFACE & AEROSOL TRANSMISSION. THERE IS EXTRA BUS SERVICE DURING THOSE HOURS.

1/13

ABOUT YOUR DRIVE TO WORK NOW, THE CITY COUNCIL IS OUT WITH A REPORT THAT SAYS THE STREETS OF MANHATTAN WOULD BE LESS CROWDED IF UBERS AND LYFTS WOULD BE CHARGED 11 CENTS FOR EVERY MINUTE THE CARS SPEND EMPTY BELOW 96TH STREET DURING PEAK TIMES. FEES, WHICH WOULD BE PASSED ALONG TO PASSENGERS COULD GENERATE 80-MILLION A YEAR FOR THE CITY.

1/21

THE MTA BOARD IS MEETING TODAY. IT IS EXPECTED TO DECIDE NOT TO GO AHEAD WITH PLANNED TRANSIT FARE HIKES OF 4% AND AN INCREASE IN BRIDGE AND TUNNEL TOLLS. MTA CHAIRMAN PAT FOYE HAS SAID THE BOARD HEARD FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE STRUGGLING TO MAKE ENDS MEET DURING THE PANDEMIC.

1/22

MTA CHAIRMAN PAT FOYE SAYS PLANNED FARE AND TOLL HIKES MAY HAVE BEEN DELAYED, BUT THEY HAVEN'T GONE AWAY. HE TELLS 1010 WINS, THEY WILL BE UP FOR REVIEW AT NEXT MONTH'S BOARD MEETING. FOYE SAYS THEY WANT MORE RIDES TO RETURN TO THE BUSES AND

SUBWAYS. HE SAYS THE TRANSIT SYSTEM HAS NOT BEEN LINKED TO A RISE IN THE SPREAD OF CORONAVIRUS AND A BIG REASON FOR THAT IS THE REQUIREMENT TO WEAR A MASK. THE OVERNIGHT CLEANING OF BUSES AND SUBWAYS WILL CONTINUE.

1/24

WITH RIDERSHIP STILL DOWN AND MORE TRACK WORK GETTING UNDERWAY, THE LIRR TOMORROW WILL CUT RUSH HOUR SERVICE BY 10%. THAT'S ON TOP OF THE 10% FEWER TRAINS ALREADY BECAUSE OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC. THE CHANGES AFFECT MOST OF THE RAILROAD'S 11 BRANCHES. GO TO THE LIRR'S WEBSITE OR THE LIRR TRAIN TIME APP FOR SPECIFICS.

1/26

SOME CHANGES ARE COMING AT N.J. TRANSIT. IT IS RE-DESIGNING 38 BUS ROUTES AND A DRAFT'S EXPECTED THIS SPRING. FIRST STEPS WERE TAKEN YESTERDAY WITH AN ON-LINE RIDER SURVEY.

1/28

A BROKEN WATER MAIN CREATED A REAL MESS IN LONG ISLAND CITY, QUEENS THIS MORNING. WATER AND SEWAGE FLOODED CARS AND HOMES ALONG TWO BLOCKS OF VERNON BOULEVARD BETWEEN 41ST AND 43RD AVENUES. WATER SERVICE IN THE AREA HAD TO BE CUT OFF.

2/1

WHEN THE STORM'S OVER AND WE'RE TRAVELING AGAIN, SOME NEW CORONA RULES WILL BE IN EFFECT AT THE AIRPORT. THE TSA WILL NOW BE ENFORCING PRESIDENT BIDEN'S TRANSPORTATION MASK MANDATE. STARTING AT A MINUTE BEFORE MIDNIGHT TONIGHT, YOU HAVE TO WEAR A MASK IF YOU WANT TO GET ON ANY PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION INCLUDING PLANES, TRAINS, BUSES, SUBWAYS AND RIDE-SHARES. THE PRESIDENT WANTS AMERICANS TO WEAR A MASK FOR 100 DAYS TO STOP THE SPREAD OF CORONA.

2/3

THE MOPED SHARING COMPANY REVEL HAS ANNOUNCED THAT IT IS BUILDING A CHARGING HUB FOR ELECTRIC VEHICLES IN BROOKLYN THIS SPRING. IT SAYS THE FACILITY WILL BE THE FIRST IN A NETWORK OF CAR-CHARGING HUBS PLANNED FOR NEW YORK CITY TO PROMOTE THE USE OF ELECTRIC VEHICLES. THE INITIAL CHARGING HUB WILL BE LOCATED AT THE SITE OF THE FORMER PFIZER BUILDING IN WILLIAMSBURG AND WILL HAVE 30 STATIONS CAPABLE OF DELIVERING 100 MILES OF CHARGE TO VEHICLES IN JUST ABOUT 20 MINUTES.

2/10

MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL JOINED WITH TRANSIT ADVOCATES TODAY TO CALL ON GOVERNOR CUOMO TO RESTORE OVERNIGHT SUBWAY SERVICE. THEY ARGUE THE CONTINUING SHUTDOWN HURTS ESSENTIAL WORKERS AND THE VAST MAJORITY OF THOSE EFFECTED ARE BLACK, HISPANIC OR PEOPLE WITH LOW INCOMES. CRITICS SAY THERE IS CLEAR EVIDENCE SHOWING SURFACE CLEANING DOES LITTLE TO COMBAT THE SPREAD OF CORONAVIRUS AND THE CLOSURES DO NOT SAVE THE MTA MONEY.

2/18

CROSSING SEVERAL OF THE CITY'S BRIDGES AND TUNNELS IS ABOUT TO GET MORE EXPENSIVE. THE MTA BOARD HAS APPROVED A ROUND OF TOLLHIKES THAT WILL RAISE THE PRICE TO USE THEIR CROSSINGS TO \$6.55 FOR CITY RESIDENTS WITH AN E-Z PASS AND \$10.17 FOR EVERYONE ELSE. THE TOLLS ON THE HENRY HUDSON, CROSS BAY AND MARINE PARKWAY BRIDGES WILL REMAIN LOWER THAN THE REST BUT WILL STILL GO UP. ALL OF THE TOLL HIKES TAKES EFFECT SOMETIME IN APRIL.

2/21

IT'S WHAT A LOT OF NIGHT-SHIFT WORKERS HAVE BEEN WAITING TO HEAR: SUBWAY SERVICE IS EXPANDING STARTING TOMORROW. THE MTA SAYS THEY'LL ADD 2 MORE HOURS FOR A TOTAL OF 22-HOURS A DAY. NOW THE SYSTEM WILL ONLY BE CLOSED BETWEEN 2AM AND 4AM. OF COURSE, FOR ALL OF THE LATEST INFO ON YOUR TRIP.

2/25

RIDERSHIP LEVELS ON THE LIRR ARE STILL VERY LOW, ABOUT 24% OF PRE PANDEMIC LEVELS SO SERVICE WILL BE CUT BACK AGAIN NEXT MONTH WITH WEEKDAY SERVICE STARTING TO LOOK LIKE WEEKEND SERVICE ABOUT 75% OF PRE PANDEMIC LEVELS. AMONG THOSE COMPLAINING ABOUT THIS, ANTHONY SIMON, HEAD OF THE RAILROADS LARGEST UNION. HE SAYS THE SERVICE CUTS MAKE NO SENSE AS NEW YORK IS MOVING TOWARD REOPENING AND THE MTA SHOULD BE INCENTIVIZING PEOPLE TO GET BACK ON BOARD.

2/27

STATEN ISLAND'S NEW CONGRESSWOMAN HAS INTRODUCED HER FIRST BILL INTENDED TO GIVE MONEY GENERATED FROM "SPLIT TOLLING" BACK TO STATEN ISLANDERS. IN DECEMBER THE MTA SPLIT THE PREVIOUS ONE-WAY TOLL ON THE VERRAZANO IN HALF & STARTED CHARGING IT IN BOTH DIRECTIONS. THE MTA SAYS IT WILL REVIEW IT.

3/1

A NEW PUSH TO GET MORE CARS OFF THE ROAD IN THE BIG APPLE. THE GROUP "TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES" IS OUT WITH A PLAN THAT WOULD CONVERT 25% OF PUBLIC SPACE CURRENTLY SET ASIDE FOR

CARS INTO MORE ROOM TO WALK, BIKE AND RIDE THE BUS BY THE YEAR 2025. MAYOR DE BLASIO SAYS HE'S YET TO SEE THE PROPOSAL BUT HE AGREES THAT FOCUSING ON A FUTURE OF SURFACE TRANSPORTATION WITHOUT CARS IS A NECESSARY DIRECTION FOR THE CITY.

3/4

THE WINTER TOOK A BIG TOLL ON LOCAL ROADS WITH POTHOLEES JUST ABOUT EVERYWHERE. THE NEW JERSEY D.O.T. STARTED TARGETING POTHOLEES & SAYS MORE EXTENSIVE REPAIRS WILL COME ONCE IT WARMS UP. OFFICIALS SAY IN THE PAST 8-MONTHS, CREWS FILLED 90,000 POTHOLEES IN THE GARDEN STATE. NEW JERSEY MOTORISTS CAN REPORT ONES BY CALLING 1-800-POTHOLE OR ONLINE AT THE STATE WEBSITE.

3/8

IF YOU RIDE THE LIRR GET READY FOR SCHEDULE CHANGES. MIDDAY TRAIN SERVICE WILL BE HOURLY ONLY ON THE RONKONKOMA, HEMPSTEAD, FAR ROCKAWAY, PORT WASHINGTON AND LONG BEACH BRANCHES AND HALF HOURLY ON THE BABYLON AND HUNTINGTON LINES. THE MTA CITES LOW RIDERSHIP BECAUSE OF THE PANDEMIC.

3/9

PANDEMIC OR NO PANDEMIC WE'RE STILL NUMBER ONE WHEN IT COMES TO TRAFFIC. THE NEW YORK METRO AREA RANKED AS THE MOST CONGESTED CITY IN THE LAND IN 2020 WITH THE AVERAGE COMMUTER IN THE METRO AREA LOSING 100 HOURS DUE TO CONGESTION. WHILE THAT WAS DOWN 28% FROM 2019 ACCORDING TO THE ANNUAL "GLOBAL TRAFFIC SCORECARD" IT'S STILL MORE THAN 4-DAYS OF YOUR LIFE. PHILADELPHIA AND CHICAGO WERE SECOND AND THIRD IN TIME LOST TO CONGESTION BUT THEY SAW A DROP FROM 2019 AS WELL.

3/18

THE MTA REDUCED SUBWAY SERVICE WHEN THE PANDEMIC HIT LAST YEAR. WHILE REGULAR SERVICE HAS RESUMED ON MOST LINES, THE C AND F TRAINS ARE STILL RUNNING LIMITED SERVICE. THE MTA PLANS TO KEEP IT THAT WAY FOR THE TIME BEING. TWU LOCAL 100 HAS FILED A LAWSUIT AGAINST THE MTA SAYING IT FAILED TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARINGS AS REQUIRED.

3/22

PEOPLE ARE FEELING MORE CONFIDENT ABOUT TRAVELING. MORE THAN 1 & A HALF MILLION PEOPLE PASSED THROUGH TSA CHECKPOINTS AT U.S. AIRPORTS YESTERDAY. IT WAS THE FIRST TIME THAT NUMBER TOPPED 1.5 MILLION SINCE MARCH 15TH OF LAST YEAR. YESTERDAY WAS ALSO THE 11TH CONSECUTIVE DAY OF TSA VOLUME ABOVE 1 MILLION PASSENGERS.

3/24

THE LONG ISLAND RAILROAD IS PLANNING TO IMPLEMENT NEW SCHEDULES NEXT WEEK. TODAY, PRESIDENT PHILIP ENG WILL DISCUSS SEVERAL NEW TECHNOLOGICAL FEATURES. IT'S CALLED THE LIRR 'DIGITAL EXPERIENCE' AND IT WILL INCLUDE NEW DISPLAYS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS AT STATIONS AND NEW FUNCTIONS ON THE LIRR MOBILE APP, INCLUDING PASSENGER COUNTS FOR EACH CAR AND THE REAL-TIME LOCATION OF THE NEXT SEVERAL TRAINS.

3/26

NEW TRANSPORTATION SECRETARY PETE BUTTIGIEG SAYS THE BIDEN ADMINISTRATION WILL APPROVE THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR THE NEW RAIL TUNNEL UNDER THE HUDSON, THE GATEWAY TUNNEL PROJECT. THE PLAN IS TO COMPLETE THE STATEMENT BY JUNE. NO WORD ON WHEN THE ACTUAL MIGHT GET BUILT.

3/28

THREE WEEKS AFTER THE LIRR ADOPTED A REDUCED SERVICE PLAN DESIGNED TO RUN FOR 3 MONTHS, THE RAILROAD IS ADDING TRAINS. THE SCALED-BACK SCHEDULE HAD DROPPED WEEKDAY SERVICE TO NEAR-WEEKEND LEVELS PROMPTED A LOT OF BACKLASH FROM OFFICIALS & RIDERS WHO COMPLAINED ABOUT OVERCROWDING. AS OF TOMORROW 68 MORE TRAINS ARE BEING ADDED TO THE WEEKDAY SCHEDULE.

3/30

NEW YORK CITY'S EFFORT TO GET CONGESTION PRICING HAS GOTTEN A GREEN LIGHT FROM THE BIDEN ADMINISTRATION. THE FEDERAL DOT HAS CLEARED THE WAY FOR AN ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT OF THE PLAN WHICH WOULD CHARGE MOTORISTS COMING INTO CERTAIN PARTS OF MANHATTAN TO PROVIDE MORE MONEY FOR TRANSIT. GOVERNOR CUOMO CALLS IT AN INTERNATIONALLY PROVEN METHOD TO REDUCE CONGESTION, ENHANCE PUBLIC TRANSIT & IMPROVE AIR QUALITY.

3/31

CHANGES ARE COMING TO GOOGLE MAPS. THE COMPANY IS ROLLING OUT A NEW FEATURE WITH ECO-FRIENDLY OPTIONS. DRIVERS CAN CHOOSE THE QUICKEST DIRECTIONS OR CHOOSE DIRECTIONS THAT WOULD ADD TRAVEL TIME BUT CUT BACK ON CARBON EMISSIONS. GOOGLE WILL BOOST THE VISIBILITY OF PUBLIC TRANSIT & BIKE OPTIONS IN MAPS.

THE 1010 WINS WEBSITE (WWW.1010WINS.COM) REGULARLY OFFERS LINKS TO SITES PROVIDING VALUABLE CONSUMER INFORMATION TO LISTENERS INCLUDING HEALTH, PRODUCT RECALLS AND CRIME PREVENTION.

PRESIDENT BIDEN'S REGULAR SATURDAY RADIO ADDRESS IS PRESENTED LIVE EACH WEEK ON WINS WHEN AVAILABLE.

A MEDICAL REPORT AIRS SEVERAL TIMES DAILY WITH REPEAT PLAYS ON SUNDAY. TOPICS COVERED INCLUDE A WIDE ARRAY OF HEALTH ISSUES OF CONCERN TO WINS LISTENERS INCLUDING DIABETES, BREAST CANCER, CHILDHOOD DISEASES AND OTHER TOPICAL HEALTH ISSUES.

ON SUNDAYS, RELIGIOUS COMMENTARIES ARE OFFERED BY SISTER CAMILLE D'ARIENZO, OF THE SISTERS OF MERCY, AND RABBI JOSEPH POTASNIK OF THE NEW YORK BOARD OF RABBIS.

