

CBS RADIO, INC
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QUARTERLY SIGNIFICANT PROGRAMS REPORT
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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 Producer James Powers and placed in the station's public inspection file on October 3, 2014 by Ben Mevorach, News Director

BUSINESS

THIS QUARTER A MAJOR TOPIC OF BUSINESS NEWS WAS THE ECONOMY IN ATLANTIC CITY, NEW JERSEY. MULTIPLE CASINOS WENT OUT OF BUSINESSES LAYING OFF THOUSANDS OF CASINO AND HOTEL EMPLOYEES. THIS HAS CAUSED RIPPLE EFFECTS THROUGHOUT THE ECONOMIC CLIMATE IN THE ENTIRE STATE OF NEW JERSEY.

7/1

A BIT OF A SHAKE UP FOR THE SHAKE SHACK IN MADISON SQUARE PARK. IT'S CLOSING FOR FIVE MONTHS SO THE KIOSK CAN GET A MAKEOVER. BUT, DON'T FRET THE PLANNED UPGRADES ARE SLATED FOR THIS WINTER SO YOUR SUMMER BURGER SEASON WILL CONTINUE UNINTERRUPTED.

7/2

THE MAYOR CALLS IT A LANDMARK LABOR AGREEMENT. THE CITY HAS REACHED A CONTRACT DEAL WITH DC 37, ITS LARGEST MUNICIPAL UNION. THE ORGANIZATION REPRESENTS MORE THAN 120,000 WORKERS WHO HAVE BEEN WITHOUT A CONTRACT SINCE 2010. THE MAYOR SAYS THE DEAL REPRESENTS A MAJOR STEP TOWARDS LONGTERM LABOR PEACE IN THE CITY. THE 7 YEAR CONTRACT INCLUDES A 10% RAISE AND \$1,000 RATIFICATION BONUS FOR ALL MEMBERS.

7/9

IT'LL BE THE LAST SONG FOR A PARK SLOPE RECORD STORE. AFTER 42-YEARS, THE FIFTH AVENUE RECORD AND TAPE CENTER WILL CLOSE ITS DOORS NEXT MONTH. 77-YEAR-OLD TONY MIGNONE SAYS HIS LEASE IS UP AT THE END OF AUGUST AND HIS LANDLORD WON'T RENEW IT. NOW HE'S TRYING TO SELL OFF HIS ENTIRE COLLECTION OF NEARLY 20,000 RECORDS, VHS-TAPES, 8 TRACKS AND CASSETTES BEFORE HE CLOSSES.

7/11

TWO OF AMERICA'S BIGGEST TOBACCO COMPANIES MIGHT MERGE. REYNOLDS AMERICAN INC AND LORILLARD INC. SAYS THEY ARE TALKING MERGER, BUT IT'S NOT DONE YET. IT WOULD BE FORMIDDABLE NUMBER TWO TO RIVAL ALTRIA GROUP, WHICH OWNS PHILIP MORRIS.

7/14

ANOTHER BIG BANK IS SETTLING UP WITH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT. ATTORNEY GENERAL ERIC HOLDER SAYS CITIGROUP COMMITTED SERIOUS FINANCIAL FRAUD THAT HURT MANY PEOPLE. IN THE DEAL, CITIGROUP WILL PAY \$4-BILLION TO THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT AND ANOTHER HALF-BILLION TO THE FDIC AND STATE ATTORNEYS GENERAL. THE OTHER 2 AND A HALF BILLION WILL GO FOR CONSUMER RELIEF. IT

WILL INCLUDE FINANCING FOR BUILDING OR PRESERVING AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND ADJUSTING THE TERMS OF SOME HOME LOANS.

7/15

THEY'RE LIGHTING UP IN WINSTON-SALEM. REYNOLDS AMERICAN HAS REACHED A DEAL TO BUY LORILLARD, UNITING TWO OF AMERICA'S LARGEST TOBACCO COMPANIES. THE DEAL IS WORTH MORE THAN \$27-BILLION. REYNOLDS WILL PAY NEARLY \$69 FOR EACH SHARE OF LORILLARD. A SECOND PART OF THE DEAL HAS IMPERIAL TOBACCO BUYING SEVERAL BRANDS FROM THE COMBINED COMPANY, INCLUDING KOOL, SALEM, WINSTON AND BLUE E-CIGARETTES.

7/18

IF YOU JUST LOVE TO READ, THIS DEAL MAY BE FOR YOU. AMAZON IS OFFERING A NEW SUBSCRIPTION SERVICE STARTING TODAY. IT'S CALLED "KINDLE UNLIMITED". FOR \$9.99 A MONTH, YOU GET UNLIMITED ACCESS TO 600,000 BOOKS AND AUDIOBOOKS. ELIGIBLE TITLES WILL HAVE A SPECIAL LOGO.

7/24

IF YOU HAVEN'T EXPERIENCED IT YET, EXPECT TO GET A LITTLE NUDGE SOON AT 'DUNKIN DONUTS' TO BUY SOMETHING YOU DIDN'T PLAN ON. THE COMPANY IS PUSHING FOR ITS FRANCHISEES TO GET CASHIERS TO 'UPSELL' TO AFTERNOON CUSTOMERS. IT'S PART OF AN EFFORT TO INCREASE SALES AFTER STORES HAVE EMPTIED OUT AFTER THE MORNING RUSH. IN THE AFTERNOON, CUSTOMERS WHO DO COME IN ARE MOSTLY JUST SEARCHING FOR A DRINK, LIKE AN ICED COFFEE.

7/25

AT&T WILL BE THE FIRST TO OFFER AMAZON'S FIRE PHONE, DESIGNED TO CUT INTO THE SMARTPHONE MARKET DOMINATED BY APPLE AND SAMSUNG. IN ADDITION TO MAKING IT EXTRA EASY TO BUY THINGS FROM AMAZON IT HAS A 3D DISPLAY, ALTHOUGH ONLY A FEW APPS CAN REALLY TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THAT AT THIS POINT AND REVIEWERS SAY THE LEARNING CURVE ON THE PHONE IS ON THE STEEP SIDE. PRICING STARTS AT \$199.99 WITH THE USUAL CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS.

8/4

IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR A BUSINESS IN NEW YORK YOU SOON MAY BE ABLE TO GO TO A WEBSITE THAT'S BIG APPLE SPECIFIC. THE WEBSITE ENDING - DOT-N-Y-C IS AVAILABLE TO BUSINESSES STARTING TODAY. ONLY BUSINESSES THAT CAN PROVE THEY'RE BASED IN THE CITY WILL BE PERMITTED TO OBTAIN THE EXTENSION. THE INTERNATIONAL NON-PROFIT THAT REGULATES DOMAIN NAMES STARTS TAKING BIDS TODAY.

8/9

O-T-B MACHINES MAY BE MAKING A COMEBACK. REPORTS SAY THE NEW YORK RACING ASSOCIATION IS PUSHING A PLAN WHICH WOULD INSTALL ABOUT 50 OF THE MACHINES IN BARS AND RESTAURANTS AROUND THE CITY. INITIALLY, THOSE MACHINES WOULD ONLY BE AVAILABLE TO PEOPLE WHO ALREADY HAVE NYRA ACCOUNTS, WHICH MEANS NO NEW LEGISLATION WOULD BE NEEDED. ANY FURTHER EXPANSION WOULD REQUIRE AN OK FROM THE STATE. THE MACHINES HAVE BEEN GONE FROM THE CITY SINCE O-T-B PARLORS WERE CLOSED IN 2010.

8/20

HUNDREDS OF ATLANTIC CITY CASINO WORKERS PRAY FOR HELP TO KEEP THEIR JOBS. EMPLOYEES OF REVEL, THE SHOWBOAT AND TRUMP PLAZA WILL ALL ATTEND A PRAYER SERVICE AT A NEARBY CHURCH FOLLOWING A RALLY THIS AFTERNOON. SHOWBOAT AND REVEL ARE DUE TO CLOSE OVER LABOR DAY WEEKEND. TRUMP PLAZA SHUTS DOWN SEPTEMBER 16TH. THE STATE GAMING ENFORCEMENT DIVISION, BY THE WAY, GAVE FINAL APPROVAL TO REVEL'S SHUTDOWN.

8/22

THE CUPCAKE CHAIN, CRUMBS, CLOSED ITS DOORS LAST MONTH AND SOUGHT CHAPTER 11 BANKRUPTCY PROTECTION. NOW, THERE'S WORD T-V PERSONALITY MARCUS LEMONIS AND DIPPIN' DOTS OWNER FISCHER ENTERPRISES LLC, ARE TAKING OVER. A DEADLINE TO TRUMP THEIR \$6.5 MILLION OFFER FOR THE CHAIN PASSED WITH NO OTHER BIDDERS EMERGING. THE GOOD NEWS IS LEMONIS, THE HOST OF A CNBC PROGRAM AIMED AT TURNING AROUND STRUGGLING BUSINESSES, INDICATED HE AND HIS PARTNERS WERE WORKING ON REOPENING CRUMBS STORES AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE. THE BAD NEWS IS HOLDERS OF CRUMBS SHARES, WHICH STILL TRADES OVER-THE-COUNTER, WOULD BE LEFT WITH WORTHLESS STOCK.

8/26

THE REVEL CASINO'S LUCK ISN'T ALL BAD. THE ATLANTIC CITY CASINO AND HOTEL WILL CLOSE NEXT WEEK, BUT IT WON'T BE OUT \$21,000 DOLLARS THAT FELL OFF THE ROOF OF AN ARMORED CAR EARLIER THIS MONTH. GARDA-WORLD HAS AGREED TO REIMBURSE REVEL. VIDEO SHOWED THE TRUCK PULLING AWAY FROM THE CASINO WITH A MONEY BAG STILL ON ITS ROOF. A SEARCH FAILED TO RECOVER THE CASH.

8/28

FRIDAY'S THE BIG DAY, WHEN THE FIRST EVER DENNY'S OPENS IN MANHATTAN. DOORS OPEN AT 5AM SHARP IN LOWER MANHATTAN AT 150 NASSAU STREET. BUT IT WON'T BE YOUR AVERAGE DENNY'S. THIS ONE PROMISES TO BE 'HIGH END, WITH EXPOSED BRICK, A TIN CEILING, AND LEATHER BOOTHS. THERE WILL ALSO BE A FULL BAR.

9/2

THE TRUMP PLAZA IN ATLANTIC CITY GOT THE GREEN LIGHT FROM STATE REGULATORS TODAY TO SHUTDOWN IN TWO WEEKS. IT WILL BE THE FOURTH ATLANTIC CITY CASINO TO GO OUT OF BUSINESS THIS YEAR. THE REVEL CASINO, WHICH OPENED ONLY TWO YEARS AGO AT A COST OF \$2.4 BILLION, CLOSED ITS DOORS AS OF SIX O'CLOCK THIS MORNING COMPLETING A TWO DAY SHUTDOWN. THE SHOWBOAT SHUT DOWN ON SUNDAY. EIGHT ATLANTIC CITY CASINOS, REMAIN.

9/4

FORTUNOFFS WENT BANKRUPT AND CLOSED FIVE YEARS AGO, BUT NOW FORTUNOFFS IS COMING BACK, AT LEAST IN NAME. FORTUNOFF FINE JEWELRY WILL OPEN IN WESTBURY TWO WEEKS FROM TODAY. WESTBURY WAS THE HOME TO FORTUNOFFS FLAGSHIP DEPARTMENT STORE. ESTHER FORTUNOFF, 59, IS IN CHARGE, SHE'S THE GRAND DAUGHTER OF FOUNDERS MAX AND CLARA FORTUNOFF. AND DALLAS BASED NEIMAN MARCUS IS FINALLY COMING TO NEW YORK. AFTER 107 YEARS IN BUSINESS, IT WILL OPEN A STORE IN THE HUDSON YARDS DEVELOPMENT ON THE FAR WEST SIDE. MARK YOUR CALENDAR, THE STORE WILL OPEN IN 2018.

9/5

'STARBUCKS' HAS A NEW PLAN TO WIN OVER COFFEE SNOBS AND COMMUTERS. THEY'RE PLANNING TO EXPAND ITS STORE FORMAT NEXT YEAR WITH THE LAUNCH OF SMALLER, EXPRESS SHOPS, INCLUDING ONE IN MANHATTAN, OFFERING SPEEDY SERVICE. IN DECEMBER, THE COMPANY WILL OPEN A 'STARBUCKS RESERVE ROASTERY AND TASTING ROOM' IN ITS HOME TOWN OF SEATTLE, WHERE CONSUMERS CAN LEARN MORE ABOUT COFFEE ROASTING AND TASTE SPECIALITY COFFEES. THE MOVES COME AS 'STARBUCKS' FACES INCREASED COMPETITION FROM UPSCALE COFFEE SELLERS, AS WELL AS FROM FAST-FOOD CHAINS, INCLUDING MCDONALD'S AND DUNKIN DONUTS.

9/10

TRUMP ENTERTAINMENT RESORTS IS BACK IN BANKRUPTCY COURT TODAY. THIS IS THE FOURTH CHAPTER ELEVEN FILING FOR THE GAMING COMPANY OR ITS CORPORATE PREDECESSOR. ALREADY, THE TRUMP PLAZA IN ATLANTIC CITY IS SCHEDULED TO CLOSE NEXT WEEK. THE COMPANY IS THREATENING TO CLOSE ITS TAJ MAJAL CASINO IN NOVEMBER IF IT DOESN'T WIN SALARY CONCESSIONS FROM UNION WORKERS. THREE OTHER CASINOS IN ATLANTIC CITY HAVE ALREADY CLOSED THIS YEAR...PUTTING THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE OUT OF WORK. A JOB FAIR IS BEING HELD AT THE CONVENTION CENTER TODAY. MORE THAN 50 EMPLOYERS ARE ATTENDING.

9/13

A FEDERAL BANKRUPTCY TRUSTEE IS OBJECTING TO THE PROPOSED AUCTION DATE FOR THE REVEL CASINO IN ATLANTIC CITY. SHE SAYS SEPTEMBER 23RD IS TOO SOON FOR ALL INTERESTED PARTIES TO SUBMIT BIDS. ROBERTA DEANGELIS ALSO OBJECTS TO THE \$3-MILLION BREAKUP FEE WHICH WILL BE PAID TO A FLORIDA DEVELOPER, IF HE'S OUTBID FOR THE PROPERTY. GLENN STRAUB HAS ALREADY OFFERED \$90-MILLION FOR THE REVEL, WHICH WENT OUT OF BUSINESS EARLIER THIS MONTH.

9/15

THE LOEWS KINGS THEATRE ON FLATBUSH AVENUE IN BROOKLYN WAS MODELED ON THE PALACE OF VERSAILLE. BOB HOPE PLAYED BACK IN THE DAY AND A YOUNG BARBRA STREISAND VOWED THAT ONE DAY HER NAME WOULD BE UP ON THE MARQUEE IN LIGHTS. THE THEATRE HAS BEEN EMPTY SINCE 1977, BUT IT WILL REOPEN IN JANUARY AFTER NEARLY \$94 MILLION WORTH OF RENOVATION AND RESTORATION. WHEN IT DOES REOPEN ITS EXPECTED TO BE THE SITE OF MORE THAN 200 EVENTS PER YEAR INCLUDING CONCERTS, DANCE PERFORMANCES, MUSICALS AND COMEDY SHOWS.

9/22

IT'S BEEN BIG WEEK FOR APPLE. THE COMPANY SAYS IN JUST 3-DAYS, IT SOLD MORE THAN 10-MILLION IPHONE 6 AND 6-PLUS PHONES. THAT'S A RECORD FOR A NEW MODEL. A YEAR AGO, APPLE SOLD 9 MILLION OF THE THEN-NEW IPHONE 5C AND 5S MODELS. THE IPHONE IS AVAILABLE IN THE U.S., U-K, AUSTRALIA, CANADA, FRANCE, GERMANY, HONG KONG, JAPAN, PUERTO RICO AND SINGAPORE. IT WILL GO ON SALE IN 20 MORE COUNTRIES ON SEPTEMBER 26TH AND OTHERS, BY THE END OF THE YEAR.

9/26

IMAGINE YOUR POSTAL WORKER DELIVERING GROCERIES ALONG WITH YOUR MAIL? THE U-S POSTAL SERVICE, LOOKING FOR NEW WAYS TO INCREASE REVENUE, IS SEEKING APPROVAL OF A TWO YEAR TEST OF A PLAN TO DELIVER GROCERIES FOR AMAZON AND OTHER RETAILERS. THE AGENCY HAS BEEN CONDUCTING A 60-DAY TRIAL WITH AMAZON IN SAN FRANCISCO. IT SAYS THE EXPANDED TEST COULD BRING IN REVENUE OF MORE THAN \$10-MILLION A YEAR.

ECONOMY

7/1

THE LATEST ON EVER-INCREASING REAL ESTATE PRICES IN BROOKLYN? A NEW REPORT SHOWS THE AVERAGE COST OF CONDOS IN THE BOROUGH'S MOST POPULAR NEIGHBORHOODS HAS TOPPED \$1 MILLION FOR THE FIRST TIME. REPORTS SAY THE SUPPLY FOR TOWNHOUSES HAS BEEN RUNNING LOW, FORCING BUYERS TO DIG EVEN DEEPER. THE HEAD OF THE

BROKERAGE FIRM THAT CRUNCHED THE NUMBERS TELLS THE PAPER HE WISHES HE HAD A CRYSTAL BALL TO SEE WHAT HAPPENS NEXT.

7/14

THE NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS IS GOING AFTER SHADY EMPLOYMENT AGENCIES. IT HAS ISSUED MORE THAN 100 SUBPOANAS IN AN INVESTIGATION OF 23 AGENCIES THAT IT SUSPECTS OF CONNING DESPARATE JOB-SEEKERS. THEY TYPICALLY ASK FOR CASH UP-FRONT FOR INTERVIEWS OR APPLICATIONS FOR NON-EXISTANT JOBS.

7/17

BIT COIN IS VIRTUAL CURRENCY. NOW NEW YORK STATE IS MOVING TO REGULATE IT. THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL SERVICES IS PROPOSING A FRAMEWORK FOR COMMERCE IN VIRTUAL CURRENCY THAT WOULD APPLY TO FIRMS INVOLVED IN RECEIVING, TRANSMITTING AND STORING IT, AND RETAIL CONVERSIONS. THE PROPOSAL WOULD ESTABLISH A SO-CALLED "BITLICENSE" FOR THOSE BUYING AND SELLING THE CURRENCY.

7/23

THE BIG APPLE HAS BIG MONEY. ONE IN 25 NEW YORKERS IS A MILLIONAIRE, ACCORDING TO THE CONSULTING FIRM WEALTH-IN-SIGHT AND "SPEARS," A MAGAZINE THAT CATERS TO THE ULTRA RICH. AND THAT'S ENOUGH TO PLACE THE CITY FOURTH ON THE LIST OF MILLIONAIRE DENSE CITIES. MONCAO IS TOPS, WITH ZURICH AND GENEVA IN SECOND AND THIRD PLACE.

7/24

PUBLIC HEARINGS WILL BE HELD ON REGULATIONS GOVERNING SERVICE WORKERS WHO GET TIPS AND HAVE BASE PAY LOWER THAN THE STATE'S HOURLY MINIMUM WAGE. GOVERNOR CUOMO HAS DIRECTED LABOR OFFICIALS TO CONVENE A 'WAGE BOARD' TO RECOMMEND CHANGES IN LIGHT OF STATUTORY INCREASES IN THE MINIMUM PAY FOR OTHER WORKERS TO \$8 THIS YEAR, \$8.75 LATER THIS YEAR AND \$9 NEXT YEAR. TIPPED WORKERS ARE PAID A REQUIRED BASE RATE, CURRENTLY \$5 AN HOUR FOR FOOD SERVICE, ASSUMING TIPS EQUAL AT LEAST \$3 AN HOUR. AFTER THE 'WAGE BOARD' MAKES RECOMMENDATIONS, THE STATE'S LABOR COMMISSIONER IS EXPECTED TO ISSUE A DECISION BY FEBRUARY.

8/1

GOVERNOR CHRISTIE IS LOOKING FOR INPUT FOR SOLUTIONS TO THE STATE'S BUDGET WOES. HE'S EXPECTED TO SIGN AN EXECUTIVE ORDER CONVENING A NON-PARTISAN BLUE RIBBON COMMISSION TASKED WITH MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS TO TACKLE THE STATE'S RISING PENSION AND HEALTH BENEFITS COSTS. CHRISTIE SAYS A SERIES OF REFORMS IN 2011 DIDN'T GO FAR ENOUGH, SAYING THE STATE AND ITS PUBLIC PENSION FUNDS WILL GO BANKRUPT UNLESS CHANGES ARE MADE.

8/4

THE STATE OF NEW YORK CAME INTO SEVERAL FINANCIAL SETTLEMENTS WITH BANKS AND INSURANCE COMPANIES. THE TOTAL: ABOUT \$4.2 BILLION AND IT'S CREATED A BUDGET SURPLUS. GOVERNOR ANDREW CUOMO'S ADMINISTRATION SAYS IT'S LOOKING AT OPTIONS FOR THE "UNANTICIPATED" EXTRA MONEY. POSSIBILITIES INCLUDE PAYING DOWN STATE DEBT, OR MAYBE EVEN COVER THE COSTS OF THE NEW TAPPAN ZEE BRIDGE, WHICH IS EXPECTED TO COST JUST UNDER \$4-BILLION.

8/5

PSEG LONG ISLAND HAS ANNOUNCED THAT AFTER MONTHS OF INCREASES IN RESIDENTIAL ELECTRIC BILLS. RATEPAYERS WHO USE AROUND 775 KILOWATT HOURS COULD SEE AN AVERAGE \$13 REDUCTION IN THEIR BILLS THIS MONTH. THIS IS THE RESULT OF LOWER DEMAND FOR NATURAL GAS DUE TO COOLER SUMMER WEATHER RESULTING IN LOWER ELECTRICAL USAGE, INCLUDING AIR CONDITIONERS.

8/9

A DISPUTE BETWEEN THE MAYOR'S OFFICE AND CITY COUNCIL OVER A LIVABLE HOURLY WAGE HAS ENDED. THE BLOOMBERG ADMINISTRATION HAD OPPOSED A CITY COUNCIL BILL THAT INCREASED HOURLY WAGES FOR MANY TRADES IN THE CITY. MAYOR BILL DE BLASIO SUPPORTS THE LIVABLE WAGE LAW. A MANHATTAN JUDGE SIGNED OFF ON AN AGREEMENT TO END THE MAYOR CITY COUNCIL DISPUTE. THE LAW GUARANTEES \$20 AN HOUR FOR SECURITY GUARDS, JANITORS AND OTHER WORKERS AT BUILDINGS THAT GET MORE THAN \$1-MILLION IN CITY SUBSIDIES. BLOOMBERG VETOED THE MEASURE IN 2012 SAYING IT WOULD DISCOURAGE COMPANIES FROM DOING BUSINESS IN THE CITY.

8/21

ATTORNEY GENERAL ERIC HOLDER HAS ANNOUNCED A MAJOR FINANCIAL FRAUD SETTLEMENT WITH A MAJOR BANK. THE SETTLEMENT STEMS FROM BANK OF AMERICA'S SALE OF RISKY MORGAGE-BACKED SECURITIES WHICH CONTRIBUTED TO THE 2008 ECONOMIC COLLAPSE. THE DEAL CALLS FOR BILLIONS OF DOLLARS GOING TO REDUCE MORTGAGE PAYMENTS FOR STRUGGLING HOMEOWNERS AND CONSUMER RELIEF.

8/28

STOCKS ARE HITTING NEW HIGHS, MORE JOBS ARE BEING CREATED AND UNEMPLOYMENT HAS DROPPED. BUT A NEW RUTGERS SURVEY SAYS THE AVERAGE AMERICAN WORKER IS NOT IMPRESSED. SEVEN IN TEN AMERICANS BELIEVE THE U.S. ECONOMY HAS UNDERGONE PERMANENT CHANGES FOR THE WORSE. PROFESSOR CARL VAN HORN SAYS FEW

PEOPLE BELIEVE JOB OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE NEXT GENERATION WILL BE BETTER THAN THEIRS. THE SURVEY ALSO FOUND JUST 14 PERCENT IS HAPPY AT WORK AND 18 PERCENT BELIEVE THEY'RE WELL PAID.

9/4

FAST FOOD WORKERS SAY EFFORTS TO RAISE THEIR WAGES ARE MOVING TOO SLOW. MCDONALD'S, BURGER KING, K-F-C, DOMINO'S, AND WENDY'S WORKERS ARE AMONG THOSE IN SEVERAL CITIES, INCLUDING NEW YORK, EXPECTED TO WALK OFF THEIR JOBS TODAY. THE WORKERS WANT \$15 AN HOUR AND THE RIGHT TO FORM A UNION. CITY FAST-FOOD WORKERS WILL BE JOINED BY ST. LOUIS FAST-FOOD WORKERS, WHO DECIDED NOT TO STRIKE IN ST. LOUIS GIVEN THE EVENTS IN FERGUSON. THE FIRST ACTION IS THIS MORNING AT THE MC DONALD'S IN TIMES SQUARE. A SECOND STRIKE IS AT THE MC DONALD'S ON 8th AVENUE AND 5th STREET.

9/5

THE AUGUST JOBS NUMBERS ARE IN AND THEY AREN'T AS GOOD AS HOPED. U.S. EMPLOYERS ADDED JUST 142,000 JOBS IN AUGUST, SNAPPING A SIX-MONTH STREAK OF HIRING ABOVE 200,000 AND POSTING THE SMALLEST GAIN IN EIGHT MONTHS. THE LABOR DEPARTMENT SAYS THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE FELL TO 6.1% FROM 6.2%, BUT THE RATE DROPPED BECAUSE FEWER PEOPLE WERE WORKING OR SEEKING JOBS. EMPLOYERS ALSO ADDED 28,000 FEWER JOBS IN JUNE AND JULY THAN THE GOVERNMENT HAD PREVIOUSLY ESTIMATED. CONSUMER SPENDING DIPPED IN JULY, THE FIRST DECLINE SINCE JANUARY.

9/10

STORM CLOUDS MAY BE ON THE HORIZON FOR NEW JERSEY'S FISCAL OUTLOOK. THE STATE TREASURY DEPARTMENT WARNS THAT STATE REVENUES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR THAT ENDED JUNE 30TH WERE \$275 MILLION BELOW EXPECTATIONS. THAT'S ON TOP OF A ONE BILLION DOLLAR DOWNWARD REVISION EARLIER. THE CHRISTIE ADMINISTRATION HAD BRIDGED THE BUDGET GAP MOSTLY BY REDUCING PAYMENTS TO THE PENSION SYSTEM FOR PUBLIC WORKERS. THE REPORT SAYS THAT WHILE REVENUE FROM INCOME TAXES WAS SLIGHTLY ABOVE THE REVISED PROJECTIONS. BUSINESS TAX, LOTTERY AND PAYMENTS FROM ATLANTIC CITY CASINOS WERE ALL BELOW EXPECTATIONS.

9/12

WHEN IT COMES TO RAISING A BABY, NEW YORK IS ONE OF THE WORST CHOICES. ACCORDING TO A WALLETHUB STUDY THAT FINDS NEW YORK RANKS 7TH WORST IN THE NATION, BECAUSE OF THE HIGH COST OF LIVING AND THE LACK OF CHILD CARE. NORTH CAROLINA RANKED NUMBER 1 AS THE WORST PLACE TO RAISE A KID, WITH VERMONT RATED THE BEST. A FEDERAL GOVERNMENT REPORT PREDICTS THE COST TO A MIDDLE-CLASS FAMILY TO RAISE A KID BORN IN 2013 WAS \$240,000.

9/15

A BANKRUPTCY COURT JUDGE IS SET TO APPROVE A FLORIDA DEVELOPER'S BID FOR ATLANTIC CITY'S JUST-CLOSED REVEL CASINO. AN ATTORNEY FOR DEVELOPER GLENN STRAUB SAYS PARTS OF THE REVEL BUILDING COULD ACTUALLY RE-OPEN A FEW WEEKS AFTER THAT HAPPENS. STRAUB, HIMSELF HAS SAID THAT HE EXPECTS A CASINO TO OPEN THERE AT SOME POINT DOWN THE LINE.

9/16

THE TRUMP PLAZA HOTEL IN ATLANTIC CITY IS NOW HISTORY. IT CLOSED ITS DOORS AT 6 O'CLOCK THIS MORNING BECOMING THE FOURTH A-C CASINO TO GO OUT OF BUSINESS THIS YEAR. THE PARENT COMPANY SAYS THE SISTER CASINO, TRUMP TAJ MAHAL, COULD CLOSE IN NOVEMBER.

9/24

THE FAILED REVEL CASINO IN ATLANTIC CITY IS BEING AUCTIONED OFF IN BANKRUPTCY COURT HERE IN NEW YORK TODAY. IT COST \$2.4 BILLION TO BUILD AND HAD BEEN OPEN FOR JUST OVER TWO YEARS BEFORE THE DOORS WERE CLOSED EARLIER THIS MONTH. THE FORMER CASINO'S MANAGEMENT HAS RECEIVED MULTIPLE BIDS. WE KNOW OF ONE, SO FAR. A FLORIDA DEVELOPER HAS OFFERED \$90 MILLION.

9/25

NEW JERSEYS' "UNFUNDED" HEALTH BENEFIT AND PENSION LIABILITIES ARE THREATENING TO PUT A MULTI-BILLION DOLLAR STRAIN ON THE STATES FUTURE WALLET. THAT'S THE WORD RELEASED TODAY, BY A PANEL CONVENED BY GOVERNOR CHRISTIE TO LOOK AT THE SITUATION AND COME UP WITH SUGGESTIONS FOR "REELING IN" THE STATES PENSION AND BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS TO PUBLIC WORKERS. THEY'RE TALKING \$90-BILLION. THE REPORT CALLS FOR ACTION, BUT IT DOESN'T SAY "WHAT KIND OF ACTION." GOVERNOR CHRISTIE HAS WARNED THAT THE STATE CAN'T KEEP UP ITS CURRENT OBLIGATIONS, DESPITE A ROUND OF CONCESSIONS FROM WORKERS 3 YEARS AGO.

9/26

THE PRELIMINARY REPORT FROM A PANEL APPOINTED BY GOVERNOR CHRISTIE TO DETERMINE HOW TO FIX THE STATE'S UNDERFUNDED PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PENSION AND HEALTH BENEFITS SYSTEMS IS IN. NOT SURPRISINGLY, IT DOESN'T DIFFER MUCH FROM WHAT THE GOVERNOR HAS BEEN SAYING. THE PANEL DETAILS THE SHORTFALLS, WARNED THAT CHANGES HAVE TO BE MADE, BUT OFFERED NO SPECIFIC SOLUTIONS. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE UNIONS ARE SUING CHRISTIE OVER HIS DECISION TO STRIP OVER ONE A HALF BILLION FROM THE PLANNED PAYMENT FOR THE CURRENT FISCAL YEAR TO HELP CLOSE A BUDGET SHORTFALL.

9/26

IT'S A LITTLE BETTER, BUT IT'S STILL TIGHT. THAT'S THE ASSESSMENT CONCERNING SUFFOLK COUNTY FINANCES, FROM THE STATE COMPTROLLER. THE REPORT NOTES A NUMBER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS THAT ARE STRUGGLING ON SOME LEVEL, INCLUDING GLEN COVE AND THE TOWNS OF HEMPSTEAD AND OYSTER BAY. SUFFOLK COUNTY IS FACING A \$170-MILLION DEFICIT THROUGH THE END OF NEXT YEAR. WHILE THAT'S A SIGNIFICANT AMOUNT, IT'S ALSO SIGNIFICANTLY DOWN FROM THE \$500-MILLION DEFICIT IT WAS FACING LAST YEAR.

9/29

A NEW SURVEY FINDS YOU'RE LIKELY BEING HIT WITH BIGGER FEES IF YOU USE AN OUT OF NETWORK BANK ATM. BANKRATE.COM SAYS THE AVERAGE FEE HAS CLIMBED 5% OVER THE PAST YEAR TO A NEW HIGH OF \$4.35 PER TRANSACTION. OVERDRAFT FEES ARE UP TO NEARLY \$33. THE INCREASES FOLLOW CHANGES IN FEDERAL BANKING LAWS.

9/30

MAYOR DEBLASIO SIGNS AN EXECUTIVE ORDER, TODAY EXPANDING THE CITY'S LIVING WAGE LAW. IT WOULD INCREASE THE HOURLY RATE FROM \$11.90 TO \$13.13 AN HOUR FOR WORKERS WHO DO NOT RECEIVE BENEFITS. THE NEW YORK TIMES SAYS THE ORDER WOULD COVER EMPLOYEES WORKING ON COMMERCIAL PROJECTS THAT RECEIVE MORE THAN A MILLION DOLLARS IN SUBSIDIES FROM THE CITY. ABOUT 18,000 WORKERS ARE EXPECTED TO BENEFIT OVER THE NEXT FIVE YEARS. THE ORDER ALSO IS EXPECTED TO HAVE A SIGNIFICANT EFFECT ON FAST-FOOD AND RETAIL WORKERS WHO EARN A MINIMUM WAGE OF \$8 AN HOUR.

EDUCATION

7/1

ARTS EDUCATION IN THE CITY IS GETTING A BOOST. MAYOR DEBLASIO HAS ANNOUNCED \$23-MILLION IN NEW FUNDING TO HIRE 120 NEW ART TEACHERS AT UNDERSERVED MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOLS, IMPROVE FACILITIES THROUGHOUT THE CITY AND TO CREATE NEW PARTNERSHIPS WITH CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS ACROSS THE FIVE BOROS. THE MAYOR SAYS THE MONEY WILL HELP THOUSANDS OF STUDENTS GET INVOLVED IN MUSIC, DANCE, THEATER AND VISUAL ARTS.

7/7

A NEW CALENDAR FOR SOME NEW YORK CITY SCHOOLS. 62 SCHOOLS, MOST OF THEM HIGH SCHOOLS, HAVE BEEN SELECTED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE "PROSE" PROGRAM, FOR "PROGRESSIVE REDESIGN OPPORTUNITY SCHOOLS FOR EXCELLENCE." THE PROGRAM WILL STAGGER THE SCHOOL DAY TO MEET STUDENT NEEDS AND THAT INCLUDES SOME SCHOOLS

HAVING YEAR ROUND CLASSES WITHY A WEEK OFF EACH MONTH INSTEAD OF SUMMER VACATION.

7/9

ONE THIRD OF THE CITY'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS WERE OVERCROWDED LAST YEAR, BUT THERE'S STILL NO CLEAR PLAN BY SCHOOL OFFICIALS TO DEAL WITH THE PROBLEM. THAT'S THE ASSESSMENT OF CONTROLLER SCOTT STRINGER, WHO'S RELEASING HIS REPORT TODAY. STRINGER SAYS THE ENROLLMENT FIGURE OF 138 PERCENT OF CAPACITY UNDERESTIMATES THE PROBLEM, BECAUSE THE DEPARTMENT OF ED'S OFFICIAL CENSUS NUMBERS ARE WRONG, BECAUSE THEY'RE NOT COUNTING THOUSANDS OF STUDENTS IN TEMPORARY TRAILERS.

7/18

LIFE EXPERIENCE SHOULD COUNT FOR SOMETHING AND FIVE NEW JERSEY COLLEGES AGREE. IN FACT, THOMAS EDISON STATE COLLEGE, ESSEX COUNTY COLLEGE, NEW JERSEY CITY UNIVERSITY, THE NEW JERSEY INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY AND ROWAN UNIVERSITY ARE ALL PARTICIPATING IN A PILOT PROGRAM, TO OFFER STUDENTS COLLEGE CREDIT FOR WHAT YOU'VE LEARNED FROM JOBS AND LIFE EXPERIENCE. THE IDEA IS TO HELP STUDENTS EARN THEIR DEGREES MORE QUICKLY AND AT A LOWER COST. APPLICANTS WILL NEED TO TAKE EXAMS OR PREPARE PORTFOLIOS OF THEIR WORK TO EARN THOSE CREDITS.

7/23

THE U-S EDUCATION DEPARTMENT IS INVESTIGATING ALLEGATIONS BY PARENTS THAT NEWARK'S SCHOOL RE-ORGANIZATION PLAN, CALLED "ONE NEWARK," DISCRIMINATES AGAINST BLACK STUDENTS. PARENTS AND A CIVIL RIGHTS GROUP FILED A COMPLAINT IN MAY AGAINST THE PLAN TO CONSOLIDATE OR RELOCATE NEARLY A THIRD OF THE CITY'S SCHOOLS. THE PLAN WOULD ALSO CONVERT TWO DISTRICT SCHOOLS INTO CHARTER SCHOOLS. THE STATE TOOK OVER CONTROL OF NEWARK'S SCHOOLS 20 YEARS AGO, BUT THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION VOTED LAST MONTH TO RETURN FINANCIAL CONTROL RTO THE DISTRICT'S ADVISORY SCHOOL BOARD.

8/7

THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION WANTS TO MAKE IT EASIER FOR STUDENTS WITH TROUBLED CREDIT HISTORIES TO GET COLLEGE LOANS. NEW RULES WOULD EASE RESTRICTIONS IN THE GOVERNMENT'S DIRECT LOAN PROGRAM. THE CHANGE WOULD LET STUDENTS GET LOANS EVEN IF THEY HAVE UP TO \$2,085 IN BAD DEBT AND WOULD SHORTEN THE LENGTH OF TIME THEIR HISTORY OF BAD DEBT IS SCRUTINIZED FROM 5 YEARS TO TWO.

8/8

IT MAY SOON BE A LOT EASIER TO GET AN "A" AT PRINCETON. THE UNIVERSITY IS REPORTEDLY SET TO DROP THE POLICY LIMITING THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS WHO CAN GET TOP MARKS, WHICH WAS INTENDED TO PREVENT GRADE INFLATION, BUT DREW PLENTY OF FIRE FROM STUDENTS. SINCE 2004 A'S HAVE BEEN CAPPED AT 35% OF GRADES PER COURSE. NOW REPORTS SAY THEY'RE LOOKING TO ALLOW EACH DEPARTMENT TO SET GRADING STANDARDS. AND YOU CAN HEAR THE STUDENTS SIGH OF RELIEF FROM MIDTOWN.

8/9

THE CITY'S TEACHERS UNION SAYS MATH AND READING SCORES IN GRADES THREE THROUGH EIGHT HAVE GONE UP. ALTHOUGH THE REPORT BY THE UNITED FEDERATION OF TEACHER MAY SEEM NICE, THE UNION SAYS TWO THIRDS OF SCHOOL KIDS STILL CAN'T WORK AT GRADE LEVEL. THE TEACHERS UNION SAYS 28% OF STUDENTS READ AT GRADE LEVEL AND 33% DO MATH AT GRADE LEVEL. EACH OF THE NUMBERS ARE UP TWO OR THREE POINTS. THE UNION SAYS THE IMPROVEMENT COULD BE SLOWED BY THE NEW COMMON CORE CURRICULUM THAT BEGAN LAST YEAR AND IS HARDER THAN PREVIOUS MATH AND READING PROGRAMS.

8/20

AN ANNOUNCEMENT FROM STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL ERIC SCHNEIDERMAN TODAY THAT OFFICERS ON 11 SUNY CAMPUSES WILL BE PROVIDED WITH AN ANTI-DOTE TO REVERSE THE POTENTIALLY DEADLY EFFECTS OF A HEROIN OVERDOSE. HE SAYS THE DRUG 'NALOXONE' WILL BE PAID FOR WITH GRANTS FROM HIS OFFICE'S COMMUNITY OVERDOSE PREVENTIONAL PROGRAM. SCHNEIDERMAN SAYS IN THE PAST YEAR THERE HAVE BEEN MULTIPLE STUDENT OVEDOSES, ON SUNY CAMPUSES.

8/25

IT'S ALMOST BACK-TO-SCHOOL TIME IN NEW YORK CITY, AND THIS YEAR, THE SUSPECT IS FACING A BIG CHALLENGE. IT IS EXPANDING ITS PRE-K PROGRAM TO 50,000 CHILDREN. THAT'S UP FROM 20,000 LAST YEAR. THIS IS THE NEXT STEP IN MAYOR BILL DEBLASIO'S PLAN FOR UNIVERSAL PRE-K. THAT WILL COME NEXT YEAR, WHEN ABOUT 70,000 CHILDREN WILL BE ENROLLED. THIS IS ONE OF THE LARGEST GOVERNMENT UNDERTAKINGS IN RECENT YEARS AND A CENTERPIECE OF THE MAYOR'S AGENDA.

8/28

CONNECTICUT IS TRYING TO GET SOME DROP-OUTS TO DROP BACK IN. STUDENTS WHO TOOK COLLEGE COURSES BEFORE DECEMBER 1ST OF 2012, BUT LEFT AFTER COMPLETING THEIR DEGREE, ARE BEING GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO GET UP TO THREE COURSES AT ONE OF CONNECTICUT'S 17 COMMUNITY COLLEGES OR UNIVERSITIES ABSOLUTELY FREE. OFFICIALS SAY MORE THAN 6,000 STUDENTS HAVE EXPRESSED INTEREST.

9/3

A DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TEAM IS DOING WALKTHROUGH OF EVERY ONE OF THE NEW PRE-K LOCATIONS IN THE CITY, THE ONES THAT WILL BE OPENING ANYWAY. THE MAYOR ANNOUNCED YESTERDAY THAT 9 PRE-K LOCATIONS WON'T BE OPENING DUE TO SAFETY AND INTEGRITY CONCERNS. CONTRACTS FOR THOSE LOCATIONS HAVE BEEN REVOKED. AND THE MAYOR SAYS 36 OTHER LOCATIONS HAVE DELAYED OPENINGS. THE STUDENTS INVOLVED WILL BE ASSIGNED TO ONE OF THE 1700 OTHER SITES THAT WILL BE OPENING TOMORROW, THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL.

9/4

SCHOOL BELLS ARE RINGING FOR THE COUNTRY'S LARGEST PUBLIC EDUCATION SYSTEM. THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR STARTS TODAY. OVER A MILLION STUDENTS ARE ENROLLED IN MORE THAN 1,800 CITY SCHOOLS. THIS NEW YEAR INCLUDES SOMETHING NEW: UNIVERSAL PRE-KINDERGARTEN FOR OVER 50,000 4-YEAR OLDS. IT'S ONE OF MAYOR DE BLASIO'S TOP PRIORITIES AND HE'LL KICK OFF THE LAUNCH WITH A FIVE BORO TOUR. THERE ARE A SOME CHANGES AHEAD FOR CITY SCHOOLS. MANY STUDENTS WILL BE STARTING CLASSES EARLIER SO SCHOOLS CAN MAKE TIME FOR MORE TEACHER TRAINING AND PARENT INTERACTION.

9/10

THE FOUNDER OF A HEDGE FUND HAS DONATED ANOTHER \$25-MILLION TO STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY. THE GIFT, FROM JAMES SIMONS AND HIS WIFE, MARILYN, WILL BE USED FOR RESEARCH AT "THE SIMONS CENTER FOR GEOMETRY AND PHYSICS," WHICH WAS FOUNDED IN 2008. IN ALL, THE COUPLE HAS DONATED MORE THAN A \$100-MILLION DOLLARS TO THE CENTER THAT BEARS THEIR NAME.

9/11

MAYOR DEBLASIO HAS AGREED TO FIND SPACE IN PUBLIC SCHOOL BUILDINGS FOR FOUR CHARTER SCHOOLS THAT WANT TO OPEN OR EXPAND NEXT YEAR. THE EXACT LOCATIONS HAVE YET TO BE DETERMINED, BUT THE NEW YORK TIMES SAYS THEY INCLUDE TWO CHARTER SCHOOLS RUN BY EVA MOSKOWITZ'S "SUCCESS ACADEMY": ONE IN THE BRONX AND ANOTHER IN BROOKLYN. THE CITY SAYS IT CANNOT ACCOMMODATE A FIFTH SCHOOL, WHICH IS CURRENTLY OPERATING IN A PRIVATE SPACE IN UPPER MANHATTAN.

9/12

BOYS WHO ARE PHYSICALLY ACTIVE SEEM TO BE BETTER STUDENTS. THAT'S ACCORDING TO A NEW FINNISH STUDY. RESEARCHERS AT THE 'UNIVERSITY OF EASTERN FINLAND' FOUND, IN THEIR FIRST THREE YEARS OF SCHOOL, BOYS WHO WERE HIGHLY PHYSICALLY ACTIVE HAD STRONGER READING AND MATH SKILLS THAN THOSE WHO WEREN'T.

PARTICIPATION IN GROUP SPORTS WAS TIED TO BETTER TEST SCORES IN MATH. RECESS PLAY WAS LINKED TO A BETTER PERFORMANCE IN READING. BUT FOR GIRLS, HIGHER LEVELS OF PHYSICAL ACTIVITY WERE ACTUALLY ASSOCIATED WITH NOT-SO-GREAT ACADEMICS. IT'S IMPORTANT TO NOTE; THE STUDY DOES NOT SAY THAT PHYSICAL ACTIVITY CAUSES HIGHER ACHIEVEMENT IN SCHOOL, ONLY THAT THE TWO APPEAR TO BE CONNECTED.

9/24

THEY'RE STARTING TO HAND OUT LAPTOPS TODAY AT HIGH SCHOOLS IN RIDGEWOOD, NEW JERSEY. THIS SUMMER, THE RIDGEWOOD BOARD OF EDUCATION SIGNED A \$485,000, 5-YEAR LEASE AGREEMENT FOR 17-HUNDRED GOOGLE CHROMEBOOKS. THAT'S ONE FOR EACH HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT. THE PROGRAM PROHIBITS SOCIAL MEDIA INTERACTION BETWEEN STUDENTS AND TEACHERS AND CORRESPONDENCE USING THE DISTRICT'S EMAIL SYSTEM IS SUBJECT TO REVIEW. THE KIDS MUST RETURN THE CHROMEBOOKS AT THE END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR.

9/29

MAYOR DE BLASIO HAS ANNOUNCED A MAJOR INVESTMENT IN SOLAR POWER AT CITY SCHOOLS. THE CITY WILL INVEST \$23-MILLION, ALONG WITH ABOUT 5 MILLION FROM THE STATE, TO FUND 24 INSTALLATIONS. THIS TRIPLES THE AMOUNT OF SOLAR CURRENTLY PLANNED FOR CITY-OWNED BUILDINGS. THE NEW SOLAR PROJECTS ARE PART OF A LARGER PLAN THE MAYOR ANNOUNCED LAST WEEK TO MAKE CITY BUILDINGS MORE ENERGY EFFICIENT.

HEALTH

THIS QUARTER SAW THE INTRODUCTION OF SEVERAL HEALTH RISKS IN THE TRI-STATE AREA. AUGUST SAW REPORTS OF CHIKUNGUNYA BEING REPORTED IN THE UNITED STATES. IN SEPTEMBER, THE WORLD WIDE THREAT OF A GROWING EPIDEMIC OF THE EBOLA VIRUS OUTBREAK IN WESTERN AFRICA WAS A HOT TOPIC. SEPTEMBER IS ALSO THE BEGINNING OF PREPERATION FOR THE FLU SEASON. PEOPLE ARE ENCOURAGED TO GET THE FLU VACCINE EARLY TO HELP FIGHT AGAINST THE COMING SEASON. ALSO IN SEPTEMBER WAS THE SPREAD OF THE ENTERO-VIRUS, ALSO KNOWN AS EV-D68 IN CHILDREN. IT BEGAN IN THE MIDWEST AND SPREAD ACROSS THE COUNTRY, INCLUDING THE NEW YORK CITY AREA.

7/1

THERE'S A NEW STUDY THAT FINDS ATTRACTIVE PEOPLE TEND TO BE HEALTHIER PEOPLE. RESEARCHERS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CINNCINNATTI FOUND THE MORE PHYSICALLY ATTRACTIVE MEN AND WOMEN ARE RATED, THE MORE UNLIKELY THEY ARE TO SUFFER FROM A WIDE RANGE OF HEALTH PROBLEMS, FROM HIGH CHOLESTEROL TO

DEPRESSION. BUT WAIT! THERE'S MORE! THEY ALSO FEEL HEALTHIER, TAKE FEWER SICK DAYS AND ARE DIAGNOSED WITH FEWER PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH CONDITIONS DURING THEIR LIFETIME. THE RESEARCHERS SAY ATTRACTIVENESS MAY BE A MARKER OF GOOD GENES, WHICH IS ALSO A SIGNAL OF GOOD HEALTH.

7/6

THE NUMBER OF RABIES CASES ON STATEN ISLAND SKYROCKETED LAST YEAR. THAT'S AN INCREASE OF 800% ACCORDING TO REPORTS. THE CITY'S DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH HAS SENT ALERTS TO VETS ON THE ISLAND, AND IS OFFERING FREE VACINATIONS FOR PET OWNERS.

7/7

THE ACTUAL BILL WAS SIGNED SATURDAY, BUT GOVERNOR CUOMO WILL BE AT THE NEW YORK ACADEMY OF MEDICINE EARLY THIS AFTERNOON FOR A CEREMONIAL SIGNING OF THE COMPASSIONATE CARE ACT LEGALIZING MEDICAL MARIJUANA. NEW YORK IS THE 23RD STATE TO ENACT SUCH A LAW BUT IT WON'T INCLUDE SMOKED POT. THE REGULATIONS SAY IT WILL HAVE TO BE TAKEN THROUGH A VAPORIZER OR OIL BASE AND WILL ONLY BE AVAILABLE TO PATIENTS WITH ONE OF 10 DISEASES, INCLUDING AIDS, M.S. AND PARKINSON'S.

7/14

FOR THE FIRST TIME THIS SEASON THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT HAS DETECTED A CASE OF WEST NILE, IN MOSQUITOES. THE INFECTED INSECTS WERE COLLECTED FROM THE DOUGLASTON AND COLLEGE POINT NEIGHBORHOODS IN QUEENS AND OLD TOWN FROM STATEN ISLAND. NO HUMAN CASES HAVE BEEN REPORTED THUS FAR THIS SEASON. THEY'RE REMINDING EVERYBODY TO TAKE PRECAUTIONS TO PREVENT MOSQUITO BITES INCLUDING BUG REPELLANT AND ELIMINATING STANDING WATER AROUND YOUR HOUSE ESPECIALLY WITH THE RAINS WE KEEP GETTING.

7/17

SOME NEW YORK OFFICIALS ARE PROPOSING A MEASURE THAT WOULD HELP CONTINUE INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR CONTRACEPTIVES DESPITE THE RECENT U-S SUPREME COURT RULING THAT BUSINESSES WITH RELIGIOUS OBJECTIONS CAN OPT OUT OF PAYING FOR BIRTH CONTROL IN THEIR EMPLOYEE HEALTH PLANS. ATTORNEY GENERAL ERICK SCHNEIDERMAN AND SENATE DEMOCRATIC CONFERENCE LEADER ANDREA STEWART-COUSINS SAY THE MEASURE WOULD REQUIRE EMPLOYERS TO GIVE CURRENT EMPLOYEES 90 DAYS' NOTICE BEFORE CHANGING CONTRACEPTIVE COVERAGE AND TO NOTIFY PROSPECTIVE EMPLOYEES OF ANY CONTRACEPTIVE COVERAGE THEY DO OFFER.

7/19

A NEW GOVERNMENT STUDY SAYS THE RATE OF H-I-V INFECTIONS DIAGNOSED IN THE U-S-A EACH YEAR HAS FALLEN BY 33% OVER THE PAST DECADE. THE WHY'S OF THIS AREN'T CLEAR. IT COULD BE THAT FEWER PEOPLE ARE BEING INFECTED OR THAT MOST OF THOSE PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN INFECTED HAVE ALREADY BEEN DIAGNOSED. THE STUDY, RELEASED TODAY BY THE JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, JUST AHEAD OF THE INTERNATIONAL AIDS CONFERENCE THAT BEGINS TOMORROW IN MELBOURNE AUSTRALIA. THE RESULTS TABULATED FROM HEALTH DEPARTMENTS IN ALL 50 STATES.

7/20

IF YOU HAVEN'T HEARD ABOUT THIS VIRUS BEFORE, IT'S NAME IS NOT A JOKE. THE TROPICAL INFECTION IS CALLED CHIKUNGUNYA. IT'S TRANSMITTED BY MOSQUITOES. AND THERE'S AN EPIDEMIC UNDERWAY IN THE CARIBBEAN. REPORTS SAY THREE LONG ISLANDERS WHO'D TRAVELED THERE CAME HOME WITH THE VIRUS AND WERE DIAGNOSED AT NORTH SHORE UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL. CHIKUNGUNYA CAUSES FEVER AND SEVERE JOINT PAIN THAT CAN COME AND GO FOR YEARS. DOCTORS SAY THERE ARE NO APPROVED VACCINES OR DRUG THERAPIES.

7/23

ARE YOU HAPPY LIVING IN THE BIG APPLE? A NEW STUDY FINDS FOLKS IN NEW YORK CITY ARE THE UNHAPPIEST IN AMERICA, ACCORDING TO THE NATIONAL BUREAU OF ECONOMIC RESEARCH. NEW YORK WAS RANKED THE LEAST HAPPY CITY IN THE LAND TAKING INTO ACCOUNT INCOME, HOUSING PRICES, AGE, AND OTHER FACTORS. JERSEY CITY WAS ALSO ONE OF THE LEAST HAPPY. THE HAPPIEST CITIES WERE ROCHESTER, MINNESOTA, CORPUS CHRISTI, AND LAKE CHARLES, LOUISIANA.

7/24

THERE'S BEEN AN INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF TEEN GIRLS GETTING A CONTROVERSIAL CERVICAL CANCER VACCINE, BUT IT'S NOT MUCH. FOR GIRLS AGES 13 TO 17, THE 'CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION' SAYS THE RATE IS NOW UP TO ABOUT 38% FROM 33%. THE RISE FOLLOWS A COUPLE OF YEARS WHEN THE H-P-V VACCINATION RATE WAS FLAT. THE VACCINE PROTECTS AGAINST THE SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED HUMAN PAPILOMAVIRUS, WHICH THE C-D-C SAYS CAN CAUSE CERVICAL CANCER, GENITAL WARTS AND OTHER ILLNESSES. IT'S BEEN AVAILABLE SINCE 2006.

7/30

NO MORE WORKING SICK. THAT'S WHAT CITY OFFICIALS ARE SAYING AS THE NEW PAID SICK LEAVE LAW GOES INTO EFFECT. IT APPLIES TO MOST WORKERS WHO OTHERWISE AREN'T ENTITLED TO PAID LEAVE THROUGH THEIR JOBS. IF YOU WORK MORE THAN 80 HOURS A YEAR IN THE CITY, YOU CAN EARN UP TO 40 HOURS OF SICK TIME EACH YEAR TO CARE FOR

YOURSELF OR A FAMILY MEMBER. ALL CITY EMPLOYERS WITH FIVE OR MORE WORKERS HAVE TO PROVIDE PAID LEAVE, UNPAID LEAVE FOR FEWER THAN FIVE, AND DOMESTIC WORKERS WHO'VE BEEN WITH AN EMPLOYER FOR MORE THAN A YEAR GET TWO DAYS OF PAID SICK LEAVE. THE CITY'S LAUNCHED A HOTLINE AND A BIG P-R BLITZ TO MAKE SURE PEOPLE KNOW ABOUT THE LAW.

7/31

LOSING WEIGHT, IT COULD BE AS EASY AS TURNING DOWN THE THERMOSTAT. A NEW STUDY, PUBLISHED BY THE AMERICAN DIABETES ASSOCIATION, SHOWS THAT SLEEPING IN A COOL ROOM CAN REV UP YOUR METABOLISM AND AID IN WEIGHT LOSS. YOGA CAN BOOST YOUR METABOLISM TOO, AS MUCH AS 40%, AND GETTING MASSAGES, HITTING THE SAUNA, OR EATING SPICES LIKE GINGER, CAN HELP AS WELL.

8/1

WHILE U.S. HEALTH OFFICIALS WARN AMERICANS NOT TO TRAVEL TO THE THREE WEST AFRICAN COUNTRIES HIT BY AN EBOLA OUTBREAK, TWO AMERICAN MISSIONARIES WHO CONTRACTED THE VIRUS IN LIBERIA ARE BEING FLOWN HOME. ONE IS APPARENTLY ALREADY ENROUTE. THERE'S WORD AT LEAST ONE OF THE PATIENTS WILL BE TREATED AT EMORY UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL IN ATLANTA IN A SPECIAL ISOLATION UNIT. EBOLA HAS BEEN BLAMED FOR NEARLY 700 DEATHS THROUGHOUT WESTERN AFRICA. SIERRA LEONE PRESIDENT ERNEST BAI KOROMA SAYS HE WILL CALL IN SECURITY FORCES TO QUARANTINE "EPICENTRES" OF THE VIRUS. THE CDC HAS ABOUT TWO DOZEN STAFFERS IN WEST AFRICA TO HELP TRY TO CONTROL THE OUTBREAK AND PLANS TO SEND MORE.

8/6

UPDATE ON THAT PATIENT AT MT SINAI THEY'VE BEEN CHECKING FOR EBOLA, AND THE UPDATE IS WE'RE STILL WAITING FOR FINAL TEST RESULTS. DEPUTY HEALTH COMMISSIONER DR. MARY TRAVIS BASSETT SAYS THE GOOD NEWS IS THAT MEDICAL AUTHORITIES ARE ON TOP OF THE SITUATION. THE PATIENT AT MT SINAI HAD RECENTLY BEEN TO ONE OF THE WEST AFRICAN COUNTRIES WHERE EBOLA IS NOW RAMPANT. THE FINAL RESULTS WILL COME FROM THE CDC. DOCTORS AT MT SINAI HAVE SAID THEY'RE PRETTY SURE THAT WAS THIS PATIENT HAS IS NOT EBOLA.

8/7

IT IS A VIRUS CALLED CHIKUNGUNYA AND DR. DINA FONSECA AT RUTGERS SAYS IT'S SPREAD BY MOSQUITOS AND IT CAN CAUSE FEVER RASH AND SEVERE JOINT PAIN. IT CAN LAST FOR MONTHS. SO FAR AT LEAST 20 PEOPLE HAVE TESTED POSITIVE FOR CHIKUNGUNYA IN NEW JERSEY THIS SUMMER AND THAT'S WHY PETER RENDINE OF BERGEN COUNTY MOSQUITO CONTROL IS TURNING UP THE HEAT ON HOMEOWNERS WHO HAVE STANDING WATER ON THEIR PROPERTY.

THERE'S BEEN A CHIKUNGUNYA EPIDEMIC IN THE CARRIBBEAN, BUT THE FIRST CASES IN THE U.S. DIDN'T TURN UNTIL THIS MONTH IN FLORIDA.

8/7

AS EXPECTED, THE MAN BEING TESTED FOR EBOLA AT MT SINAI DOES NOT HAVE IT BUT HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE IN AFRICA DO, COMPOUNDING THE PROBLEM THERE, DISTRUST OF HEALTH CARE WORKERS, ESPECIALLY THOSE WHO ARE TRYING TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF FURTHER INFECTION THROUGH HANDLING OF CORPSES. AT LEAST 932 DEATHS EBOLA DEATHS HAVE BEEN REPORTED NOW IN FOUR COUNTRIES AND THERE ARE AT LEAST FIVE CASES IN NIGERIA, IN LAGOS, A CITY OF 21 MILLION PEOPLE. ALL THOSE VICTIMS ARE SAID TO HAVE DIRECT CONTACT WITH ONE INFECTED MAN.

8/8

DR MARGARET CHAN, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION SAYS THE COUNTRIES AFFECTED WITH EBOLA DO NOT HAVE THE CAPACITY TO MANAGE THE OUTBREAK AND THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY SHOULD PROVIDE SUPPORT ON THE MOST URGENT BASIS POSSIBLE, BUT THE IMPACT THIS DECLARATION WILL HAVE IS UNCLEAR. THE COUNTRIES INVOLVED HAVEN'T IMPLEMENTED MANY OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS THE ORGANIZATION MADE MONTHS AGO. MEANTIME DOCTOR TOM FRIEDEN HEAD OF THE CDC TOLD A CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE THIS OUTBREAK OF EBOLA IS ON TRACKEN TO SICKEN MORE PEOPLE THAN ALL PREVIOUS OUTBREAKS COMBINED AND HE SAID THE CDC IS SENDING MORE WORKERS TO THE HOT ZONE TO HELP CONTAIN THE OUTBREAK.

8/9

THEY ARE RIDING THE SUBWAYS WITHOUT USING A METRO CARD. THE TRANSIT SYSTEM IS COMBATING BEDBUGS ON VARIOUS TRAINS. THE LATEST IS A NUMBER 5 TRAIN TAKEN OUT OF SERVICE AFTER A RIDER SAW A BEDBUG FALL OFF A HOMELESS MAN. BEDBUGS HAVE ALSO BEEN SPOTTED ON THE NUMBER 4 TRAIN. THE M-T-A HAS FUMIGATED THREE 'N' TRAINS AND A TWO LOCKER-ROOMS USED BY CREWS.

8/20

HAPPY AND HEALTHY; THEY CAN GO TOGETHER WHEN IT COMES TO FAST FOOD. CITY COUNCILMAN BEN KALLOS WILL INTRODUCE A BILL THAT WILL SET STRICTER NUTRITION STANDARDS FOR CERTAIN KIDS' MEALS. IT WILL BAR FAST-FOOD JOINTS FROM OFFERING FREE TOYS, COUPONS AND OTHER INCENTIVES WITH A KIDS' MEAL IF THE FOOD SERVED CONTAINS MORE THAN 500 CALORIES AND MORE THAN 600 MG OF SODIUM. IN ADDITION, THE MEAL MUST CONTAIN AT LEAST HALF A CUP OF FRUIT, VEGETABLES OR A SERVING OF WHOLE-GRAIN PRODUCTS.

8/21

NEARLY 20 BODEGAS IN JAMAICA HAVE JOINED AN INITIATIVE TO PROMOTE HEALTHIER FOOD OPTIONS OVER JUNK FOOD. ORGANIZERS SAY JAMAICA HAS VERY FEW HEALTHY FOOD STORES AND RESIDENTS STRUGGLE WITH OBESITY AND DIABETES. THE BODEGAS WILL DISPLAY FRESH FRUIT NEAR THE COUNTER, PLACE WATER AT EYE LEVEL, OFFER LOW SODIUM NUTS AND DRIED FRUIT AND ADD WHEAT BREAD, LOW FAT MILK AND BAKED CHIPS TO THEIR INVENTORY.

8/25

THE AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION HAS KEPT QUIET ON ELECTRONIC CIGARETTES, UNTIL NOW. THE GROUP SAYS THERE NEEDS TO BE MORE REGULATION OF E-CIGS, ESPECIALLY FOR TEENS. BUT FOR EVERYONE ELSE, THE HEART ASSOCIATION SUGGESTS IF PROVEN SMOKING CESSATION METHODS FAIL, IT'S REASONABLE TO CONSIDER THE NICOTINE-VAPOR SUBSTITUTES. THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY TOOK A SIMILAR POSITION LAST MAY.

8/29

THE F-D-N-Y HAS SEEN MORE THAN A DOZEN CASES OF MRSA AT ITS FIRE ACADEMY ON RANDALL'S ISLAND AND IT WANTS NO MORE. THE DEPARTMENT IS BRINGING IN A SPECIALIZED CLEANING COMPANY THIS HOLIDAY WEEKEND TO DISINFECT HIGH RISK AREAS LIKE SHOWERS. IT'S ALSO CHANGING TRAINING PROCEDURES. TRAINEES GOT MOST OF THEIR INFECTIONS THROUGH OPEN KNEE WOUNDS, SO FUTURE ACADEMY MEMBERS WILL WEAR KNEE PADS WHEN CRAWLING. THEY ALSO WON'T BE ON ASPHALT ANY MORE. THEY'LL BE CRAWLING ON RUBBER MATS AND ALL GEAR WILL BE WASHED WITH A SUBSTANCE THAT KILLS MRSA.

9/2

A NEW STUDY HAS FOUND THAT WHAT YOU WATCH ON T-V MAY DETERMINE HOW MUCH YOU EAT. CORNELL UNIVERSITY RESEARCHER ANER TAL SAYS HIS RESEARCH FOUND THAT SUBJECTS WATCHING AN ACTION PACKED TV ADVENTURE WILL EAT MORE SNACKS THAN THOSE WATCHING A SLOWER PACED PROGRAM, LIKE A TALK SHOW.

9/5

CANCER RESEARCHERS IN SEATTLE SAY THEY'VE PUT TO REST THE MYTH THAT SOME PEOPLE BELIEVED LINKED BRAS WITH BREAST CANCER. THEY FOLLOWED THE BRA WEARING HABITS OF MORE THAN 1,500 POST MENOPAUSAL WOMEN AND FOUND NO DIFFERENCES IN THOSE WITH AND WITHOUT A HISTORY OF BREAST CANCER.

9/5

NEXT THURSDAY IS THE 13TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE 9/11 ATTACKS AND IT'S ALSO THE DEADLINE TO SIGN UP FOR NEW YORK WORKER COMPENSATION BENEFITS. ELECTED OFFICIALS AND UNION ACTIVISTS ARE URGING SEPTEMBER 11TH FIRST RESPONDERS TO TAKE ACTION. THOSE WHO WORKED AROUND THE WORLD TRADE CENTER SITE SHOULD ENROLL, AND OFFICIALS SAY EVEN PEOPLE WHO ARE NOT SICK SHOULD REGISTER, BECAUSE IT PRESERVES THEIR RIGHT TO GET WORKERS COMP IN THE FUTURE, IF THEY DO FALL ILL.

9/11

A NEW STUDY, AT JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY, HAS FOUND THAT MAGIC MUSHROOMS HELPED LONG TERM SMOKERS QUIT. THE STUDY, REPORTED BY BLOOMBERG NEWS, FOUND THAT A DOZEN LONG TERM SMOKERS WERE AIDED IN GIVING UP CIGARETTES BY HAVING TWO OR THREE EXPERIENCES WITH PILLS CONTAINING SILLO-CYBIN, THE HALLUCINOGEN FOUND IN MUSHROOMS AND THAT THE MUSHROOM APPEARED TO SUCCEED WHETHER OTHER ANTI-SMOKING MEASURES FAILED. 12 OF THE 15 VOLUNTEERS WHO TOOK PART IN THE STUDY REMAINED SMOKE FREE SIX MONTHS LATER. BY COMPARISON, CHANTIX HAS A SUCCESS RATE OF 35% AFTER SIX MONTHS. THE STUDY IS PUBLISHED IN THE JOURNAL PSYCHO-PHARMACOLOGY.

9/12

THE RESPIRATORY VIRUS THAT IS CAUSING SEVERE BREATHING PROBLEMS IN CHILDREN HAS NOW LANDED IN NEW YORK STATE. THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT SAYS THERE ARE MORE THAN DOZEN CHILDREN INFECTED SO FAR WITH ENTERO-VIRUS, ALSO KNOWN AS EV-D68. LET ME STRESS THE CASES ARE NOT IN NYC OR THE NY SUBURBS, RATHER THERE ARE IN CENTRAL NEW YORK AND THE CAPITAL REGION. THE CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION SAID THIS YEAR'S OUTBREAK IS UNUSUALLY SEVERE. IT STARTS OUT WITH MILD COLD-LIKE SYMPTOMS THAT LAST ABOUT A WEEK AND MOST CHILDREN RECOVER WITHOUT A PROBLEM. OTHERS HAVE BEEN HOSPITALIZED. THERE'S NO VACCINE. PREVENTION INCLUDES THOROUGHLY WASHING YOUR HANDS AND DISINFECTING SURFACES.

9/13

YOU CAN RELAX OVER THE LATEST LOCAL EBOLA SCARE. THE MAYOR OF ROSELLE SAYS A NEW JERSEY MAN WHO WAS BEING EVALUATED FOR EBOLA AT ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL WAS ACTUALLY SUFFERING FROM MALARIA. THE MAN HAD TRAVELED TO NIGERIA AND WAS TAKEN TO THE HOSPITAL VOMITING AND WITH A FEVER. ROSELLE MAYOR JAMEL HOLLEY SAYS THE CONCERN WAS THAT THE MAN SPENT A YEAR IN NIGERIA AND TWO WEEKS IN CAMEROON.

9/15

THE TREND LINE HAS TURNED WHEN IT COMES TO SMOKING IN NEW YORK CITY. THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT SAYS THAT FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE 2007, THERE ARE MORE THAN A MILLION SMOKERS IN THE CITY, WITH 16% OF ADULTS LIGHTING UP. THAT'S A TWO PERCENTAGE POINT INCREASE FROM 2010. WITH THAT IN MIND, MAYOR DEBLASIO HAS AUTHORIZED A NEW ANTI-SMOKING CAMPAIGN. IT WILL FOCUS ON THE NEGATIVE HEALTH IMPACTS OF THE HABIT, EVEN FOR THOSE WHO ONLY HAVE A CIGARETTE ONCE IN A WHILE.

9/16

YOUR MOTHER WARNED YOU THAT EATING TOO MUCH CANDY WILL GIVE YOU CAVITIES AND NOW BRITISH RESEARCHERS SAY MOM WAS RIGHT. THEY LOOKED AT PUBLIC HEALTH RECORDS FROM AROUND THE WORLD AND FOUND THAT IN THE U.S., TOOTH DECAY FROM SUGAR WAS VERY HIGH: WITH 60% TO 90% OF SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN, AND 92% OF ADULTS HAVING EXPERIENCED TOOTH DECAY. THE STUDY CONCLUDED, THERE'S A NEED TO DEVELOP A RADICAL PREVENTION POLICY THAT INCLUDES A SIGNIFICANT REDUCTION IN SUGAR CONSUMPTION.

9/17

PETA HAS NAMED NEW YORK CITY AS THE MOST VEGAN FRIENDLY CITY FOR 2014. THE ANNOUNCEMENT WAS MADE ON THE STEPS OF CITY HALL. ACTOR ALAN CUMMING PRESENTED A VEGETABLE DEPICTION OF THE MANHATTAN SKYLINE TO MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL. COUNCILMAN COREY JOHNSON WELCOMES THE HONOR SAYING NEW YORK BOASTS MORE THAN 140 VEGETARIAN RESTAURANTS, VEGGIE-FRIENDLY ESTABLISHMENTS, AND THE FIRST VEGETARIAN PUBLIC SCHOOL.

9/17

HEALTH OFFICIALS HAVE CONFIRMED NEW JERSEY'S FIRST CASE OF A RESPIRATORY VIRUS THAT'S BEEN SICKENING CHILDREN ACROSS PARTS OF THE SOUTH AND MIDWEST. STATE HEALTH COMMISSIONER MARY O'DOWD SAYS THE CHILD, WHO HAS NOT BEEN IDENTIFIED BY AGE, NAME OR TOWN HAS IMPROVED, AND IS OUT OF THE HOSPITAL. WORD OF THIS COMES ON CONCERN THAT "ENTEROVIRUS 68" MAY HAVE APPEARED IN WESTCHESTER COUNTY. THE WESTCHESTER MEDICAL CENTER IS TREATING A NUMBER OF YOUNG ASTHMA PATIENTS, RANGING IN AGE FROM 6 MONTHS TO 6 YEARS. IT'S NOT CLEAR, HOWEVER, IF THEY'RE INFECTED WITH THIS VIRUS. DOCTORS SAY ANY CHILD WHO HAS FITS OF COUGHING, LABORED BREATHING, SHORTNESS OF BREATH OR IS WHEEZING SHOULD GO STRAIGHT TO THE DOCTOR'S OFFICE, AN URGENT CARE CENTER, OR EMERGENCY ROOM.

9/18

WE'RE HEADING INTO FLU SEASON AND THE 'CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION' IS URGING AMERICANS TO GET THEIR FLU

SHOTS. THE AGENCY SAYS INFLUENZA HOSPITALIZED A SURPRISINGLY HIGH NUMBER OF YOUNG AND MIDDLE AGED ADULTS LAST WINTER AND THAT JUST A THIRD OF HEALTHY ADULTS, AGES 18-TO-64, GOT VACCINATED LAST YEAR. IN CONTRAST, 70% OF CHILDREN YOUNGER THAN 5 GOT A FLU VACCINE AND 65% OF SENIORS. FLU VACCINE IS RECOMMENDED FOR NEARLY EVERYONE AGE 6 MONTHS OR OLDER.

9/20

HERE'S AN UNUSUAL STAT. THE TOP REASON TO VISIT THE KINGS COUNTY HOSPITAL EMERGENCY ROOM IN 2014 WAS HEADACHES. THE HOSPITAL SAYS THERE WERE 2,573 PEOPLE COMING INTO THE E-R WITH HEADACHES. THAT IS A FIVE YEAR HIGH. HOWEVER, SOME DOCTORS SAY SOME PATIENTS WERE LIKELY DRUG ADDICTS USING HEADACHES AS A BOGUS EXCUSE TO GET NARCOTICS. BUT DOCTORS ADD THE HEADACHES ARE TREATED SERIOUSLY BECAUSE THEY COULD BE A SYMPTOM OF A MORE SERIOUS AILMENT SUCH AS BRAIN INJURY OR STROKE.

9/21

AS THAT RESPIRATORY VIRUS KNOWN AS 'ENTERO-VIRUS 68' REACHES THE CITY AND LONG ISLAND, SENATOR CHARLES SCHUMER IS CALLING FOR BETTER TRACKING AND INFORMATION ABOUT THE ILLNESS. HE'S ALSO URGING THE CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL & PREVENTION TO PROVIDE RESOURCES TO ENSURE THE VIRUS IS QUICKLY RECOGNIZED, DIAGNOSED AND TREATED. THE C-D-C REPORTS AT LEAST 160 LAB-CONFIRMED CASES OF THE VIRUS ACROSS 22 STATES. SENATOR SCHUMER SAYS NEW YORK HAS MANY ASTHMATIC CHILDREN WHO ARE ESPECIALLY VULNERABLE.

9/24

ENCOURAGING NEWS FROM THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION, WHICH SAYS A VACCINE, MIGHT BE AVAILABLE IN LARGE ENOUGH QUANTITIES BY THE END OF THE YEAR, TO HELP CONTROL THE EBOLA OUTBREAK IN WEST AFRICA. THERE IS CURRENTLY NO LICENSED TREATMENT OR VACCINE FOR EBOLA, ALTHOUGH SCIENTISTS ARE TESTING TWO VACCINES. EBOLA IS BELIEVED TO HAVE SICKENED MORE THAN 5,800 PEOPLE IN 5-COUNTRIES.

9/25

SURPRISING RESULTS IN A NEW CANCER STUDY. IT FOUND A WOMAN'S RISK OF DEVELOPING BREAST CANCER AFTER MENOPAUSE MAY BE TIED TO CHANGES IN HER WAIST SIZE. THE STUDY BY BRITISH RESEARCHERS IS BELIEVED TO BE THE FIRST TO LOOK AT THE ASSOCIATION BETWEEN CHANGE IN SKIRT SIZE AND BREAST CANCER, INDICATES THAT A THICKENING OF THE WAIST COULD BE PARTICULARLY HARMFUL.

9/26

PRESIDENT OBAMA SAYS THAT IN AN INTERCONNECTED WORLD, OUTBREAKS OF DEADLY VIRUSES LIKE EBOLA HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO AFFECT EVERY NATION. SPEAKING AT THE GLOBAL HEALTH SECURITY SUMMIT AT THE WHITE HOUSE, THE PRESIDENT SAID THE US IS SETTING UP AN AIR BRIDGE FOR DOCTORS TO WEST AFRICA, HOPING TO HELP QUELL THE EBOLA EPIDEMIC. MR. OBAMA ANNOUNCED LAST WEEK THAT THE U.S. WAS DISPATCHING 3,000 MILITARY PERSONNEL TO THE REGION TO HELP CONTAIN THE OUTBREAK. MORE THAN 6,200 PEOPLE HAVE BEEN SICKENED BY EBOLA, AND ABOUT HALF OF THOSE HAVE DIED.

9/26

FOUR CASES OF ENTEROVIRUS D-68 HAVE BEEN CONFIRMED IN SUFFOLK COUNTY. ALL INVOLVED CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF 9. THE YOUNGSTERS WERE HOSPITALIZED AND COUNTY HEALTH OFFICIALS SAY ALL HAVE BEEN ABLE TO GO HOME. THE STATE LABORATORY IS TESTING SEVERAL OTHER SAMPLES FROM SUSPECTED CASES WHILE LOCAL AUTHORITIES GET THE WORD OUT TO TAKE PRECAUTIONS AGAINST SPREADING THE VIRUS. FOR MOST PEOPLE, THE SYMPTOMS RESEMBLE A COMMON COLD, BUT FOR SOME CHILDREN WITH ASTHMA AND OTHER RESPIRATORY PROBLEMS, IT CAN MEAN SERIOUS COMPLICATIONS.

9/26

IF YOU'RE ON A GLUTEN FREE DIET BECAUSE OF CELIAC DISEASE, A HOOKWORM MAY BE JUST WHAT YOU NEED TO START EATING WHEAT AGAIN. A STUDY FOUND THAT PATIENTS INFECTED WITH HOOKWORMS WERE ABLE TO EAT A BOWL OF PASTA WITH NO SIDE EFFECTS. 12 PARTICIPANTS TOOK PART IN THE YEAR-LONG STUDY CARRIED OUT BY JAMES COOK UNIVERSITY IN AUSTRALIA. THE STUDY WAS PUBLISHED IN THE JOURNAL OF ALLERGY AND CLINICAL IMMUNOLOGY.

9/30

TWO MORE CASES OF ENTEROVIRUS 68 HAVE BEEN CONFIRMED IN NEW JERSEY. ONE IN ESSEX COUNTY AND THE OTHER IN PASSAIC. HEALTH OFFICIALS SAY, IN BOTH CASES, THE CHILD HAS BEEN RELEASED FROM THE HOSPITAL AND IS RECOVERING. AS IS THE CASE WITH THE FIRST CHILD INFECTED IN THE STATE. AUTHORITIES ARE NOT RELEASING ANY INFORMATION ABOUT THE PATIENTS, OTHER THAN THEY ARE PRESCHOOL OR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AGE. ACCORDING TO THE C-D-C, THERE HAVE BEEN 443 CASES CONFIRMED NATIONWIDE SINCE MID AUGUST.

TAXES

7/1

GOVERNOR CHRIS CHRISTIE HOLDS ANOTHER TOWN HALL MEETING TODAY, THIS TIME AT THE CALDWELL COMMUNITY CENTER. CHRISTIE WILL TRY TO SELL HIS JUST SIGNED \$32-BILLION BUDGET IN WHICH HE

USED A LINE ITEM VETO TO CUT MORE THAN \$1-BILLION IN SPENDING AND NEW TAXES APPROVED BY DEMOCRATIC CONTROLLED STATE LEGISLATURE. THE BUDGET DOES NOT MAKE A PLANNED \$900-MILLION PENSION PAYMENT, WHICH CRITICS SAY WILL MAKE FUNDING PENSIONS MUCH MORE EXPENSIVE IN THE YEARS AHEAD. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE UNIONS ARE PLANNING A LEGAL CHALLENGE.

7/21

DESPITE THE PUBLIC THREATS FROM SOME TO MOVE OUT OF STATE BECAUSE OF THE HIGH TAXES, A NEW REPORT SAYS MOST WEALTHY NEW YORKERS ARE STAYING PUT. THE NEW YORK TIMES SAYS THE STUDY, BY THE CITY'S INDEPENDENT BUDGET OFFICE, FOUND NO DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE PERCENTAGE OF WEALTHY NEW YORKERS THAT MOVED OUT OF TOWN IN 2012 AND THE PERCENTAGE OF LOWER-INCOME RESIDENTS WHO MOVED. AT THE SAME TIME 42% OF THE WEALTHY HOUSEHOLDS THAT DID MOVE STAYED WITHIN NEW YORK STATE. ANOTHER 22% MOVED TO NEW JERSEY AND 12% WENT TO CONNECTICUT, BOTH OF WHICH HAVE HIGH TAX RATES.

7/28

WHAT WOULD YOU DO WITH \$443 DOLLARS? THAT'S THE QUESTION THAT MEMBERS OF THE RIDER'S ALLIANCE WERE ASKING SUBWAY RIDERS YESTERDAY IN BROOKLYN. REBECCA BAILIN, WITH THE ALLIANCE, SAYS THAT'S THE AVERAGE AMOUNT COMMUTERS WOULD SAVE EACH YEAR IF THEY PAY WITH PRE-TAX DOLLARS. THE CITY COUNCIL IS CONSIDERING A BILL THAT WOULD ALLOW MORE COMMUTERS TO DEDUCT FROM THEIR PAYCHECKS, BEFORE TAXES, MONEY TO PAY FOR METROCARDS.

7/30

TAX PREPARERS URGE PEOPLE TO FILE THEIR TAXES ON TIME AND IT TURNS OUT SOME OF THEM AREN'T FOLLOWING THEIR OWN ADVICE. NEW YORK STATE HAS SUSPENDED THE LICENSES OF 40 TAX PREPARERS WHO AUTHORITIES SAY NEVER FILED THEIR OWN RETURNS IN 2011 AND 2012. GOVERNOR CUOMO SAYS THE DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS ARE PART OF THE STATE'S EFFORT TO REGULATE THE TAX PREPARATION INDUSTRY WITH MORE THAN 7 MILLION NEW YORKERS USING TAX PREPARERS. UNDER STATE REGULATIONS, ANY PREPARER WHO FAILS TO FILE THEIR OWN PERSONAL RETURN CAN FACE A LICENSE SUSPENSION.

8/6

AN ABOUTFACE FROM WALGREENS. IT ANNOUNCED IT WILL KEEP ITS CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS IN THE U.S. ILLINOIS DEMOCRATIC SENATOR DICK DURBIN PRAISED THE MOVE. WALGREENS HAD BEEN CONSIDERING A SO CALLED "INVERSION" ALLOWING THE COMPANY TO REORGANIZE OVERSEAS TO AVOID PAYING SOME TAXES. DURBIN HAS BEEN PUSHING LEGISLATION TO PREVENT COMPANIES FROM DOING IT.

8/7

THE ATLANTIC CITY COUNCIL HAS APPROVED A BUDGET PLAN THAT WILL BOOST PROPERTY TAXES BY 29 PERCENT. MAYOR DON GUARDIAN SAID THE INCREASE IS A COMPROMISE BECAUSE ATLANTIC CITY WILL ACCEPT \$20 MILLION FROM THE STATE. HE SAYS WITHOUT THAT AID TAXES WOULD HAVE JUMPED 47 PERCENT. A-C HAS BEEN HURT BY DECLINING TAX REVENUES WITH BUSINESS DOWN AT CASINOS AND HOTELS.

8/11

MAYOR DE BLASIO IS HOSTING OTHER U.S. MAYORS TODAY. THEY SERVE ON THE 'OPPORTUNITY TASK FORCE' OF THE U.S. CONFERENCE OF MAYORS. THE NEW YORK TIMES SAYS THEY WILL RELEASE A REPORT, SHOWING A GROWING GAP BETWEEN THE WEALTHIEST AMERICANS AND THOSE IN THE MIDDLE AND LOW-INCOME CLASSES. THE STUDY WAS PREPARED BY IHS GLOBAL INSIGHT. IN 2012, THE POOREST 20% OF U.S. HOUSEHOLDS ACCOUNTED FOR 3.2% OF THE NATION'S INCOME. THE HIGHEST 20% HAD 51% AND TREND LINES ARE DIVERGING. MAYOR DE BLASIO TRIED TO RAISE INCOME TAXES ON THE WEALTHY TO PAY FOR UNIVERSAL PRE-K, BUT COULDN'T GET ENOUGH SUPPORT FOR THE PLAN IN ALBANY. THE STATE KICKED IN \$300-MILLION FOR UNIVERSAL PRE-K.

8/12

A SIENA COLLEGE POLL FINDS MANY NEW YORKERS BELIEVE CORRUPTION IS A SERIOUS PROBLEM IN ALBANY, BUT IT RANKS FAR DOWN ON A LIST OF IMPORTANT ISSUES IN THIS FALL'S ELECTION FOR GOVERNOR. 28% SAID JOBS IS THE NUMBER ONE ISSUE FOLLOWED BY TAXES, EDUCATION AND CORRUPTION. 67% SAY THEY WERE UNFAMILIAR WITH THE MORELAND ETHICS COMMISSION APPOINTED BY GOVERNOR CUOMO WHICH HE LATER DISMANTLED - AND THE CURRENT INVESTIGATION SURROUNDING HIS ACTIONS.

8/19

A STATEN ISLAND MAN WHOSE COMPANY IMPORTS CIGARS INTO NEW YORK, HAS BEEN ACCUSED OF "STIFFING THE GOVERNMENT" OUT OF MORE THAN \$6-MILLION IN TAXES. STATE ATTORNEY-GENERAL ERIC SCHNEIDERMAN SAYS AN INDICTMENT HAS BEEN UNSEALED AGAINST AMIR SULEMAN. HE FACES CHARGES OF CRIMINAL TAX FRAUD AND FALSIFYING BUSINESS RECORDS. AUTHORITIES SAY HIS COMPANY BROUGHT IN MILLIONS OF CIGARS FROM PENNSYLVANIA AND THEN RE-SOLD THEM IN NEW YORK WITHOUT PAYING THE TAXES. AUTHORITIES SAY BETWEEN MARCH AND NOVEMBER OF LAST YEAR, SULEMAN ONLY PAID ABOUT \$100,000 IN TAXES WHEN HE ALLEGEDLY \$6.1 MILLION. THE 45 YEAR OLD SULEMAN FACES 25 YEARS IN PRISON IF CONVICTED.

9/15

THE NEW YORK GUBERNATORIAL RACE IS STARTING TO HEAT UP. GOVERNOR CUOMO HAS BEEN CALLING ON ROB ASTORINO TO RELEASE FIVE YEARS OF TAX RETURNS. TODAY, THE ASTORINO CAMPAIGN RESPONDED TO THAT CALL, BUT SAID THEY'LL ONLY RELEASE LAST YEAR'S RETURN. THEN, THEY CALLED ON CUOMO TO RELEASE THE PERMITS FOR THE RENOVATIONS TO THE HOME HE SHARES WITH HIS GIRLFRIEND. SO FAR, THERE'S BEEN NO RESPONSE TO THAT. THE ASTORINO CAMPAIGN ACCUSES CUOMO OF REFUSING TO LET A TAX ASSESSOR SEE THE RENOVATIONS.

9/16

WHEN NASSAU COUNTY EXEC ED MANGANO RAN FOR REELECTION LAST YEAR ONE OF HIS BIG SELLING POINTS WAS THAT HE HAD NEVER RAISED PROPERTY TAXES. NOW THERE'S WORD HE WILL TRY TO RAISE THEM NEXT YEAR. HOWEVER MANGANO SAYS NOT TO WORRY MOST TAXPAYERS WILL HAVE THE INCREASE REIMBURSED BY THE STATE UNDER THE PROPERTY TAX FREEZE CREDIT PROGRAM, WHICH GIVES REFUNDS FOR LOCAL PROPERTY TAX INCREASES AS LONG AS THEY'RE UNDER THE STATE CAP. MANGANO BLAMES THE NEED FOR THE PROPERTY TAX INCREASE ON AN UNEXPECTED \$51-MILLION DECREASE IN SALES TAX REVENUES.

9/20

WHERE WILL THE MONEY COME FROM TO REPAIR THE CRUMBLING BUILDINGS IN MUCH OF THE CITY'S PUBLIC HOUSING? ACCORDING TO CITY COMPTROLLER, WEALTHY PEOPLE. SCOTT STRINGER HAS PUT OUT A RELEASE SAYING MONEY FROM THE BATTERY PARK CITY AUTHORITY RENTS SHOULD BE SENT TO NY-CHA. RENTERS FROM BATTERY PARK CITY AUTHORITY, COMMERCIAL AND PRIVATE, GET A BREAK ON TAXES FOR RENTING THERE. STRINGER ESTIMATES BATTERY PARK WILL TAKE IN \$400 MILLION IN THE NEXT 10 YEARS AND THAT COULD PAY FOR A LOT OF REPAIRS FOR THE CITY'S PUBLIC HOUSING.

9/23

THE DEBLASIO AMINISTRATION IS SAID TO BE MULLING OVER A NEW WAY TO TAX THE RICH. IT INVOLVES GOING AFTER NON-RESIDENTS WHO OWN EXPENSIVE CO-OPS AND CONDOS IN THE CITY. THE FISCAL POLICY INSTITUTE HAS REPORTEDLY RECOMMENDED A TAX OF UP TO 4 PERCENT ON APARTMENTS WORTH MORE THAN \$5-MILLION DOLLARS. IT SAYS THE TAX WOULD GENERATE MORE THAN \$600-MILLION A YEAR. THE MAYOR'S OFFICE SAYS IT IS REVIEWING THE IDEA. THE REAL ESTATE BOARD OF NEW YORK, WHICH REPRESENTS LARGE REAL ESTATE DEVELOPERS, SAYS THIS TAX WOULD BE AN 'ADMINISTRATIVE NIGHTMARE'.

9/24

THE STATE'S TOP COURT HAS AFFIRMED THAT NASSAU COUNTY TOWNS IMPROPERLY TAXED UTILITY COMPANIES FOR TRASH SERVICES, BUT THOSE TOWNS AREN'T ON THE HOOK, THE COUNTY IS, FOR PERHAPS HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS OF DOLLARS IN REFUNDS UNDER A LOCAL LAW KNOWN AS COUNTY GUARANTY. THE PROBLEM WAS THAT THE TRASH COLLECTION TAXES WERE APPLIED TO PROPERTY THAT DIDN'T REQUIRE TRASH PICKUP. THE CASE GOES BACK MORE THAN A DECADE AND INVOLVED VERIZON AND ITS FORERUNNER, NEW YORK TELEPHONE AS WELL KEYSpan AND ITS FORERUNNER, LILCO.

9/25

ONE THING MOST PEOPLE LIKE ABOUT NEW JERSEY IS THAT THE GASOLINE TAX IS LOW THERE, SECOND LOWEST IN THE NATION. IT HASN'T GONE UP IN OVER TWO DECADES, BUT SOME STATE LAWMAKERS IN JERSEY SEE THAT AS A BUG RATHER THAN A FEATURE. ASSEMBLYMAN JOHN WISNIEWSKI SAYS NEW JERSEYS TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE IS IN HORRIBLE SHAPE AND HE AND OTHER LAWMAKERS WANT THE 14.5 CENT A GALLON TAX INCREASED TO PAY FOR NECESSARY FIXES. HOWEVER NOBODY IS COMMITTING TO AN ACTUAL NUMBER AT THIS POINT AND WHILE GOVERNOR CHRISTIE HAS RESISTED EFFORTS TO INCREASE THE TAX IN THE PAST HE DID INDICATE RECENTLY THAT NOTHING WAS OFF THE TABLE FOR REPLENISHING THE STATE'S TRANSPORTATION TRUST FUND.

9/26

THE CHECK IS IN THE MAIL, FOR REAL, FOR A NUMBER OF NEW YORKERS WHO ARE GETTING \$350 TAX REBATES. IF YOU CLAIMED AT LEAST ONE CHILD UNDER AGE 17 ON YOUR 2012 TAX RETURN AND YOUR ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME IS BETWEEN \$40,000 AND \$300,000 YOU'RE DUE FOR THE REBATE. NO NEED TO FILE ANYTHING NEW. THE REBATES ARRIVE AUTOMATICALLY. NEXT MONTH THE STATE WILL SEND OUT PROPERTY TAX REBATE CHECKS TO HOMEOWNERS IN COMMUNITIES WHOSE SCHOOL DISTRICTS STAYED BELOW THE STATE'S NEW TAX CAP.

TRANSPORTATION

A HOT TOPIC THIS QUARTER WAS THE LOOMING POSSIBLTY OF A STRIKE BY ONE OF THE MAJOR RAILROADS THAT SERVICES THE NEW YORK CITY AREA. A GOOD PART OF THE MONTH OF JULY WAS SPENT ON NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE LONG ISLAND RAILROAD (LIRR) AND THE UNIONS OF THE WORKERS. A STRIKE, HAD IT NOT BEEN AVERTED, WOULD HAVE BEEN DISASTEROUS FOR COMMUTERS IN THE TRI-STATE AREA.

7/1

LOOKS LIKE YOU'LL STILL BE LOOKING FOR PARKING IF YOU LIVE IN NEW YORK. THE CITY COUNCIL HAS BEEN TOLD TO BACK OFF ON A PROPOSAL TO LOOSEN ALTERNATE SIDE PARKING RULES. THE SANITATION DEPARTMENT OBJECTED TO A PROPOSED LAW THAT WOULD LET DRIVERS RETURN TO PARKING SPACES AFTER STREET SWEEPERS PASSED SAYING IT WOULD LEAD TO DIRTIER STREETS. SOME COUNCIL MEMBERS MAY BUCK THE ORDER CALLING IT A MUCH NEEDED BREAK FOR DRIVERS.

7/6

TALKS AIMED AT AVERTING A STRIKE BY LIRR UNION WORKERS RESUME THIS WEEK. FEDERAL MEDIATORS HAVE AGREED TO JOIN THE TALKS BETWEEN THE MTA AND THE UNION, WHICH IS SEEKING A 17% RAISE OVER 6 YEARS WHILE LEAVING WORK RULES AND PENSIONS ALONE. THE MTA IS OFFERING THE INCREASE OVER 7 YEARS AND WANTS WORKERS TO PAY MORE OF THEIR HEALTH CARE COSTS. MTA CHAIRMAN THOMAS PRENDERGAST SAYS HE FEELS THE UNION WORKERS ARE DETERMINED TO STRIKE, COUNTING ON CONGRESS TO STEP IN AND IMPOSE THE CONTRACT THE UNION IS DEMANDING. THE UNION REPRESENTING THE 5,400 WORKERS HAS THREATENED TO WALK OFF THE JOB ON JULY 20th IF NO DEAL IS REACHED. TALKS ARE SCHEDULED FOR THIS TUESDAY.

7/9

NEW JERSEY LAWMAKERS ARE PUTTING ON PRESSURE TO UPGRADE THE PORT AUTHORITY BUS TERMINAL. STATE SENATOR LORETTA WEINBERG SAYS THE COMPLAINTS POUR IN, ESPECIALLY ABOUT THE LENGTHY DELAYS AND LACK OF COMMUNICATION FOR PASSENGERS. SHE AND SENATE PRESIDENT STEVE SWEENEY SAY NEW JERSEY TRANSIT AS A MAJOR TENANT OF THE TERMINAL CAN FORCE CHANGES. PORT AUTHORITY OFFICIALS SAY THEY INTEND TO USE 90 MILLION DOLLARS FROM THE CAPITAL PLAN TO MAKE UPGRADES LATER THIS YEAR.

7/9

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF NEW JERSEY TRANSIT IS MEETING THIS MORNING AND IS EXPECTED TO APPROVE A BUDGET THAT INCLUDES NO FARE HIKES. THAT WOULD BE THE FIFTH STRAIGHT YEAR. THE OPERATING BUDGET TOTALS ABOUT \$2-BILLION AND THE CAPITAL BUDGET WOULD BE 1.2 BILLION. 180 MILLION WOULD GO FOR INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS.

7/10

THERE HAVE BEEN PLENTY OF PROBLEMS WITH THE CITI-BIKE PROGRAM AND ONE OF THE MOST FRUSTRATING FOR RIDERS IS WHAT'S BEING CALLED DOCK BLOCKING. THAT'S WHEN RACKS FILL UP AND MANY SAY ITS SEEMS TO HAPPEN WHEN USERS ARE ALREADY LATE. IN RESPONSE, CITI-BIKE HAS STARTED A NEW SERVICE ON AVENUE A, AND 7TH STREET THAT WILL RESHUFFLE BIKES BETWEEN 7 AND 11 PM. WORKERS WILL USE

LARGE TRI-CYCLES TO RELOCATE UP TO FOUR CITI-BIKES AT A TIME. WHICH OFFICIALS SAY IS MORE EFFICIENT THAN THE LARGE TRUCKS NORMALLY USED TO MOVE THE BIKES. THE PILOT PROGRAM WILL LAST THROUGH LABOR DAY AND BE EXPANDED TO OTHER NEIGHBORHOODS IF IT PROVES SUCCESSFUL.

7/11

THE NEW YORK STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL SAYS A COURT HAS GRANTED A TEMPORARY INJUNCTION PREVENTING RIDE SHARING APP "LYFT" FROM LAUNCHING IN BROOKLYN AND QUEENS TONIGHT. LYFT SAYS IT HAS SIGNED UP 500 CUSTOMERS IN THE CITY AND IT'S READY TO ROLL. A-G ERIC SCHNEIDERMAN HAS SUED TO STOP LYFT SAYING THE COMPANY ACTUALLY OPERATES AS A TRADITIONAL FOR-HIRE LIVERY SERVICE USING MOBILE TECHNOLOGY, NOT A PEER-TO-PEER TRANSPORTATION PLATFORM AS CLAIMED. HE SOUGHT THE INJUNCTION UNTIL THE SUIT IS RESOLVED.

7/13

TALKS IN THE LONG ISLAND RAILROAD CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS WILL GET BACK ON TRACK TOMORROW. REPORTS SAY THE M.T.A. MANAGEMENT AND LABOR REPS ARE SEEKING TO RESOLVE AN IMPASSE THAT COULD AFFECT 300,000 COMMUTERS IF A STRIKE IS CALLED ON JULY 20TH. THE UNIONS ARE LOOKING FOR A SIX YEAR DEAL WITH RAISES TOTALING 17 PERCENT. THE M.T.A. WANTS THOSE RAISES OVER SEVEN YEARS AND CONCESSIONS FROM FUTURE WORKERS.

7/17

APPARENTLY CITIBIKES HAVE BECOME POPULAR IN EAST NEW YORK, BROWNSVILLE AND CROWN HEIGHTS. THAT'S WHERE REPORTS SAY PEOPLE WHO'VE STOLEN THE BIKES FROM MANHATTAN ARE DUMPING THEM AFTER GOING ON A ONE WAY JOYRIDE. THEY SAY THE THIEVES WAIT FOR RIDERS TO IMPROPERLY DOCK THE BIKE, STEAL IT, RIDE IT TO BROOKLYN AND THEN DUMP IT. SO FAR REPORTS SAY AT LEAST 62 BIKES HAVE BEEN DITCHED. A CITIBIKE SPOKESWOMAN COULDN'T CONFIRM THAT NUMBER, BUT SAID NEARLY ALL OF THEIR BIKES ARE BACK IN THEIR SYSTEM, WITHIN 24 HOURS AFTER BEING CHECKED OUT.

7/17

THE GOOD NEWS IS THAT THE MTA AND LIRR UNIONS ARE BACK AT THE BARGAINING TABLE. THE BAD NEWS IS THEY'RE RUNNING OUT OF TIME. THE STRIKE DEADLINE IS SUNDAY. THE STRIKE COULD MEAN BIG BUSINESS FOR CITY HOTELS AND RESTAURANTS, BUT FOR THOSE INSIDE PENN STATION, IT COULD BE DISASTROUS TO THE BOTTOM LINE. A LONG ISLAND LAWYER POSTED AN AD ON CRAIGSLIST LOOKING FOR A PLACE TO STAY IN THE EVENT OF A STRIKE, PROMISING "A COUPLE OF GLORIOUS NIGHTS". HE'S NOT PICKY HE'LL SHARE SHEETS WITH MALE OR FEMALE. HE SAYS HE'S OPEN MINDED. HOPE HIS WIFE IS TOO HE'S MARRIED.

7/17

WE NOW KNOW WHERE SOME OF THE FUNDING FOR THE NEW TAPPAN ZEE BRIDGE WILL BE COMING FROM, A STATE BOARD IN ALBANY APPROVING A \$256 MILLION DOLLAR FIVE YEAR NO INTEREST LOAN FROM THE ENVIRONMENTAL FACILITIES CORPORATION. THIS WAS PART OF THE GOVERNORS PLAN TO USE CLEAN WATER FUNDS TO HELP FINANCE CONSTRUCTION. THERE WAS SOME OPPOSITION TO THIS PLAN. ENVIRONMENTALIST SAY MONEY FROM THE CLEAN WATER FUND SHOULD BE USED FOR WATER AND SEWAGE TREATMENT PROJECTS. THE THRUWAY AUTHORITY'S WILL REQUEST A SECOND \$256 MILLION LOAN AT 4% INTEREST SOMETIME NEXT YEAR.

7/18

IF YOU DRIVE THE PALISADES PARKWAY, HERE'S A HEADS-UP. STARTING MONDAY NIGHT WORKERS WILL BEGIN A REPAVING PROJECT ALONG AN ELEVEN MILE STRETCH FROM THE GEORGE WASHINGTON BRIDGE TO THE NEW YORK STATE LINE. THE CONTRACTOR WILL BE ALLOWED TO CLOSE ONE TRAVEL LANE DURING OFF-PEAK HOURS. IT'S BEEN ABOUT TEN YEARS SINCE THE LAST REPAVING.

7/20

DON'T EXPECT CONNECTICUT TRANSPORTATION OFFICIALS TO AGREE WITH A WHITE HOUSE REPORT SAYING 41% OF THE STATE'S ROADS ARE IN POOR CONDITION. THE REPUBLICAN-AMERICAN REPORTS THE FEDS USED DATA FROM THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS TO POINT UP THE NEED FOR CONGRESSIONAL BACKING FOR AN INFUSION OF MONEY INTO THE HIGHWAY TRUST FUND. BUT A CONNECTICUT TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAYS THE AGENCY IS INCREASING THE MILES OF REPAVING IT DOES EVERY YEAR, SPENDING MORE THAN \$70-MILLION. HE ADDS THOUGH THAT THERE'S NOT ENOUGH MONEY OR MANPOWER TO PAVE EVERY ROAD THAT NEEDS IT.

7/23

THE MTA'S LATEST EFFORT TO FIX UP THE SUBWAY SYSTEM WILL INVOLVE AN INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF WORKERS AVAILABLE TO DEAL WITH EQUIPMENT FAILURES IN THE SYSTEMS BUSIEST ZONE, THE CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT OF MANHATTAN. REPORTS SAY THE WORKERS WILL BE STATIONED AT VARIOUS POINTS ALONG THE LINES SO THEY CAN DRIVE NORTH OR SOUTH TO GET TO A PROBLEM INSTEAD OF HAVING TO GO CROSSTOWN. A COUPLE OF BUS LINES ARE GOING TO BE EXTENDED IN BROOKLYN, WITH THE B13 AND B83 NOW GOING TO THE EXPANDED GATEWAY CENTER MALL IN SPRING CREEK.

7/24

LOOKS LIKE CITI BIKE IS ABOUT TO GET A BIG BOOST. REPORTS SAY AN AFFILIATE OF THE REAL ESTATE GIANT "RELATED COMPANIES" IS CLOSE TO AN AGREEMENT THAT COULD GREATLY ENLARGE THE CITI BIKE PROGRAM. IT COULD PUMP IN TENS OF MILLIONS OF DOLLARS ALLOWING CITI BIKE TO EXPAND TO UPPER MANHATTAN, INTO QUEENS AND FURTHER INTO BROOKLYN OVER THE NEXT FEW YEARS. THE NUMBER OF CITI BIKES COULD DOUBLE TO ABOUT 12,000 AND THE \$95 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEE WOULD LIKELY RISE TO \$140 OR MORE.

7/25

G-TRAIN RIDERS WON'T LIKE IT, BUT BEGINNING TONIGHT, MAJOR CHANGES ARE COMING TO THE LINE FOR THE NEXT FIVE WEEKS. THE G TRAIN WILL STOP RUNNING BETWEEN COURT SQUARE IN QUEENS AND NASSAU AVENUE IN GREENPOINT SO CREWS CAN FIX EQUIPMENT IN A TUNNEL DAMAGED BY HURRICANE SANDY. DURING THE SHUTDOWN THE MTA SAYS BUS SHUTTLE SERVICE WILL BE AVAILABLE.

7/25

THE RIDER SHARING SERVICE CALLED 'LYFT' IS READY TO ROLL BEGINNING TONIGHT. THE COMPANY WILL BEGIN RESPONDING TO RIDE-HAILS IN ALL FIVE BOROS STARTING AT 7 O'CLOCK, AFTER REACHING A DEAL WITH THE STATE AND THE 'TAXI AND LIMOUSINE COMMISSION.' THE AGREEMENT INCLUDES USING DRIVERS WHO ARE ALREADY LICENSED BY THE T-L-C AND SHUTTING DOWN PREVIOUSLY LAUNCHED SERVICES IN BUFFALO AND ROCHESTER BY AUGUST 1ST. 'LYFT' TRIED TO START ITS OPERATIONS IN THE CITY TWO WEEKS AGO BEFORE THE CITY AND STATE SUED CLAIMING IT WAS ILLEGAL. THE START-UP CAR SERVICE FEATURES MOBILE PHONE APP TECHNOLOGY AND VEHICLES WITH FUZZY PINK MUSTACHES ON THE CAR GRILLS.

7/31

IT'S NUMBER 2 BUT IT APPARENTLY DOESN'T TRY HARDER. THE WORST TRAIN IN THE SUBWAY SYSTEM IS THE NUMBER "2" LINE. THIS IS ACCORDING TO THE STRAPHANGERS CAMPAIGN'S STATE OF THE SUBWAYS REPORT CARD. THE BEST SUBWAY LINE ACCORDING TO THIS SURVEY IS THE 7 TRAIN.

8/3

MAYOR DE BLASIO'S "VISION ZERO" PLAN TO CUT TRAFFIC FATALITIES TAKES CONCRETE FORM TOMORROW AS TWO NEW SLOW ZONES ARE ADDED. THAT'S WHERE THE SPEED LIMIT IS REDUCED FROM 30 TO 25 MILES AN HOUR TO TRY AND PREVENT PEDESTRIAN DEATHS. ONE ZONE WILL BE ON BROADWAY FROM WEST 59TH TO WEST 220TH STREETS. THAT INCLUDES THE SECTION AROUND WEST 95TH AND 96TH WHERE FOUR PEOPLE HAVE DIED ALREADY THIS YEAR. THE SECOND NEW SLOW

ZONE GOES INTO THE BRONX ON SOUTHERN BOULEVARD BETWEEN BRUCKNER AND EAST FORDHAM ROAD.

8/4

IF THE VERRAZANO BRIDGE IS IN YOUR TRAVEL PLANS, BETTER FIGURE THIS IN TOO. STARTING TONIGHT THE UPPER LEVEL OF THE BRIDGE WILL BE CLOSED FROM 9PM TO 6AM, ALTHOUGH THE UPPER LEVEL TO BROOKLYN WILL REOPEN AT 5AM. THIS IS TO PUT IN NEW SIGNS AND OTHER UPGRADES. THE WORK IS SUPPOSED TO BE DONE BY AUGUST 20TH

8/6

TOMORROW AROUND THIS TIME, YOU PROBABLY DON'T WANT TO BE ANYWHERE NEAR THE BAYONNE BRIDGE. THE PORT AUTHORITY'S GOING TO SHUT IT DOWN TOMORROW AT 10 AM AND AGAIN AT 11 AM. FOR TWENTY MINUTES AT A TIME, WHILE WORKERS MOVE SOME OVERSIZED TRAILERS. IT'S PART OF THE \$1.2-BILLION PROJECT TO RAISE THE ROADWAY, SO LARGED SHIPS CAN SAIL UNDERNEATH IT. HEAD FOR THE GOETHALS AND KEEP IT LOCKED TO 1010 WINS FOR TRAFFIC AND TRANSIT ON THE ONE. IN CASE IT DOESN'T NECESSARILY GO AS PLANNED,

8/7

THIS IS A LITTLE LATE TO BE A WARNING, BUT THIS IS NO TIME TO BE IN LINE TO GET ONTO THE BAYONNE BRIDGE. TRAFFIC IS BEING STOPPED IN BOTH DIRECTIONS FOR ABOUT 20 MINUTES THIS HOUR WHILE WORKERS GET OVERSIZED TRAILERS INTO POSITION ON THE SPAN. YOU'RE ADVISED TO USE THE GOETHALS BRIDGE TO AVOID DELAYS. THE SHUTDOWN IS PART OF THE \$1.2 BILLION PROJECT TO RAISE THE ROADWAY TO GIVE BIGGER SHIPS ACCESS TO NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY PORTS.

8/9

THERE ARE ALREADY SOME NEW YORK STREETS SPORTING A NEW LOWER SPEED LIMIT, 25 MILES PER HOUR, PART OF MAYOR BILL DIBLASIO'S VISION ZERO PROGRAM, BUT TODAY, AT THE JACOB JAVITTS CONVENTION CENTER, IN FRONT OF AN AUDIENCE THAT INCLUDED FOLKS WHO'D LOST LOVE ONES IN ACCIDENTS, GOVERNOR ANDREW CUOMO SIGNED LEGISLATION THAT WILL MAKE 25 THE SPEED LIMIT ON ALL NEW YORK CITY STREETS. THE NEW LIMIT WILL TAKE EFFECT IN THREE MONTHS. THE GOVERNOR SAYS THIS LAW IS ACTUALLY TELLING NEW YORKERS TO SLOW DOWN AND SAVE A LIFE. LAST YEAR ALONE, 176 PEOPLE DIED TRYING TO CROSS CITY STREETS. THE GOVERNOR SAID A REDUCTION OF JUST 5 MILES PER HOUR CUTS THE LIKELYHOOD SOMEONE STRUCK WOULD BE KILLED IN HALF. THE MAYOR PRAISED THE GOVERNOR FOR SIGNING THE BILL INTO LAW.

8/20

THE CITY COUNCIL IS CONSIDERING A BILL THAT WOULD SEND INSTANT NOTIFICATIONS VIA E-MAIL TO DRIVERS WHO GET A SUMMONS ON THEIR VEHICLE. DRIVERS COULD VOLUNTARILY REGISTER TO GET THE E-MAILS. THE BILL'S SPONSOR, MANHATTAN COUNCILWOMAN HELEN ROSEN, SAYS THE SYSTEM WOULD BE SIMILAR TO ONE ALREADY IN PLACE FOR COMMERCIAL VEHICLES.

8/21

NEW JERSEY TRANSIT'S NEW COMPUTERIZED SYSTEM FOR TRACKING BUSES HAS REVEALED THAT THEY ARRIVE ON TIME, 68% OF THE TIME. 'ON TIME' ALLOWS FOR A SEVEN MINUTE WINDOW AROUND THE SCHEDULED STOP TIME. NJT IS PLANNING TO MAKE IMPROVEMENTS ALONG 33 OF ITS BUS ROUTES.

8/22

THE CITY WILL BE GETTING MORE OF THOSE GREEN OUTER BORO TAXIS, TWICE AS MANY AS ARE ROAMING THE STREETS NOW. THE TAXI AND LIMOUSINE COMMISSION IS SELLING PERMITS FOR ANOTHER 6,000 GREEN CABS, ON TOP OF THE 6,000 OR SO ALREADY OUT THERE AND DEMAND FOR THE 3,000 PERMITS IS SAID TO BE SKY HIGH. THERE WILL BE A THIRD WAVE OF GREEN CAB PERMITS, ANOTHER 6,000 TO BE ISSUED NEXT YEAR, BRINGING THE FLEET UP TO 18,000 AND HALF OF THOSE CABS ARE SUPPOSED TO BE WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE.

8/25

THE PATH TRAIN SYSTEM IS TINY COMPARED TO THE NEW YORK CITY SUBWAY SYSTEM. BUT BLOOMBERG NEWS SAYS IT COSTS ABOUT THREE TIMES AS MUCH, ON AN HOURLY BASIS, TO OPERATE THE PATH TRAINS. AN ANALYSIS OF INFORMATION FROM THE NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION DATABASE FOUND THAT THE PORT AUTHORITY SPENDS MORE THAN \$575 AN HOUR FOR PATH SERVICE, COMPARED TO JUST UNDER \$200 AN HOUR THAT THE MTA SPENDS TO OPEARTE THE SUBWAYS. MIKE MARINO OF THE PATH SYSTEM SAYS IT'S MORE EXPENSIVE TO OPERATE BECAUSE ITS REGULATED BY THE FEDERAL RAILROAD ADMINISTRATION AND ITS STANDARDS ARE MORE STRINGENT THAN THOSE OF THE FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION WHICH REGULATES THE SUBWAYS.

8/27

THE FREE TRANSFER FROM THE G TRAIN TO THE J-AND-M IN BROOKLYN IS A HIT AND RIDERS DON'T WANT TO SEE IT END. IT WAS TEMPORARILY IMPLEMENTED BY THE MTA WHILE THE G-TRAIN TUNNEL IS UNDER CONSTRUCTION. BUT THAT GRACE PERIOD ENDS NEXT WEEK. RECCA BAILIN WITH THE RIDERS ALLIANCE SAYS IT MAKES SENSE TO KEEP THE FREE TRANSFER BETWEEN BROADWAY AND LORIMER. THE GROUP WILL

RALLY TO KEEP THE FREE TRANSFER THIS MORNING AT TEN AT THE CORNER OF BROADWAY AND UNION AVENUE.

9/1

SOME NEW BUS ROUTES ARE BEING ROLLED OUT IN THE CITY. THE WEST SIDE NOW HAS A LINE TO COVER THE WEST VILLAGE TO COLUMBUS CIRCLE. IN QUEENS, SOUTH JAMAICA, AND FAR ROCKAWAY ARE NOW CONNECTED. STARTING TOMORROW, BROOKLYN AND STATEN ISLAND WILL GET NEW CONNECTING ROUTES, BOTH AT MIDDAY AND IN THE EVENING.

9/2

THE MTA SAID THE G TRAIN WOULD BE BACK AND IT IS, AFTER MASSIVE REPAIRS TO THE GREENPOINT SUBWAY TUNNEL WHICH TOOK IN 15 FEET OF SALTWATER DURING SANDY. THE TUNNEL IS SUPPOSED TO BE REOPENING RIGHT ABOUT NOW AFTER A 5 WEEK SHUTDOWN. RIDERS HAD BEEN GETTING ALONG ON SHUTTLE BUSES DURING THE SHUTDOWN, BUT AS GENE RUSSIANOFF OF THE STRAPHANGERS CAMPAIGN POINTS OUT, SHUTTLE AND BUS WHEN COMBINED ARE TWO OF THE SCARIEST WORDS IN THE TRANSIT LEXICON. EVEN HE ACKNOWLEDGES THAT THE TUNNEL REPAIR WORK AND THE RESULTING SHUTDOWN SEEMED NECESSARY.

9/4

HERE'S SOMETHING YOU DON'T SEE, OR HEAR, EVERYDAY. THE R-F-K BRIDGE'S MANHATTAN-QUEENS RAMP PROJECT HAS BEEN COMPLETED, AHEAD OF SCHEDULE AND UNDER BUDGET. THE 78-YEAR-OLD SPAN, WHICH INCLUDES THREE BRIDGES, A VIADUCT AND 14 MILES OF APPROACH ROADS, CONNECTS MANHATTAN, THE BRONX AND QUEENS AND CARRIES AN AVERAGE 170-THOUSAND VEHICLES DAILY.

9/11

TOYOTA IS RECALLING ABOUT 130,000 TUNDRA FULL-SIZE PICK-UP TRUCKS BECAUSE A PLASTIC TRIM PIECE CAN INTERFERE WITH THE SIDE AIR BAGS. THE RECALL AFFECTS 'CREW MAX' AND 'DOUBLE CAB' VERSIONS IN THE U.S. FROM THE 2014 MODEL YEAR. TOYOTA SAYS IT DOESN'T KNOW OF ANY CRASHES OR INJURIES CAUSED BY THE PROBLEM.

9/14

GOVERNOR CUOMO MAKES IT OFFICIAL TODAY, ANNOUNCING THAT THE N AND R TRAINS WILL START RUNNING THRU THE MONTAGUE TUNNEL AGAIN TOMORROW, TWO WEEKS AHEAD OF SCHEDULE. THE TUNNEL'S BEEN CLOSED SINCE LAST SUMMER FOR HURRICANE SANDY REPAIRS AND STRAPHANGERS HAVE BEEN PAINFULLY WORKING THEIR WAY AROUND IT. THE GOV IS DUE TO TOUR THE TUNNEL AND SHOW OFF THE REPAIRS.

THE TRAINS START RUNNING TOMORROW MORNING AND OF COURSE, KEEP IT LOCKED TO 1010 WINS FOR TRAFFIC AND TRANSIT ON THE ONES.

9/15

METRO-NORTH RAILROAD IS LAUNCHING A PILOT PROGRAM TO EXPAND BICYCLE RACKS ON TRAINS. TWO BIKE RACKS WILL BE INSTALLED ON 50 CARS BY NOVEMBER. OFFICIALS SAY DEPENDING ON USE, THE STATE COULD DECIDE TO OUTFIT THE ENTIRE RAIL CAR FLEET. BICYCLES WILL STILL BE BANNED BETWEEN 6 A.M. AND 10 A.M. AND 4 P.M. TO 8 P.M.

9/17

THE PORT AUTHORITY HAS GIVEN SOME DETAILS ABOUT THE BUS TERMINAL'S \$90 MILLION MAKEOVER. THE FACELIFT WILL INCLUDE NEW BATHROOMS, CEILINGS THAT DON'T LEAK, AS WELL AS CHANGES TO MAKE BUSES RUN CLOSER TO SCHEDULE. ABOUT 220,000 PEOPLE COME IN AND OUT OF THE PORT AUTHORITY BUS TERMINAL EVERY DAY.

9/19

IT MAY BE HARDER TO FIND A PARKING SPOT TODAY. THAT'S BECAUSE IT'S PARKING DAY. IT'S THE DAY WHERE PARKING SPACES ARE TRANSFORMED INTO MINI PARK SPACES. IN PAST YEARS THAT'S INCLUDED LITTLE LIBRARIES, MINI GOLF COURSES, YOGA SPACES AND EVEN FAUX FORESTS. FRANKLY, I DON'T THINK DRIVERS WILL CARE IF THEY PARK IN A FAUX FOREST AS LONG AS THEY GET TO PARK.

9/21

THE STATEN ISLAND RAILWAY IS READY FOR A NEW FLEET OF TRAINS. ACCORDING TO THE ADVANCE, BORO PRESIDENT JAMES ODDO AND COUNCILMAN VINCENT IGNIZIO SAY THE M-T-A IS PUTTING \$300-MILLION INTO NEW TRAINS FOR THE S-I-R IN ITS PROPOSED CAPITAL PLAN. THE NEW TRAINS ARE SUPPOSED TO GIVE RIDERS A SMOOTHER, QUIETER RIDE AND LET THEM KNOW WHEN THEY'RE COMING. ODDO SAYS THE CITY DEFINITELY GOT ITS MONEYS WORTH OUT OF THE OLD CARS.

9/23

THERE'S BIG PLANS IN THE WORKS FOR METRO NORTH. THE MTA IS SAID TO BE MOVING FORWARD WITH THE PLAN TO EXTEND METRO NORTH TO PENN STATION. THE AGENCY'S 5-YEAR CAPITAL PLAN ALSO CALLS FOR FOUR NEW STATIONS IN THE BRONX. SO FAR NO WORD HOW THEY'LL PAY FOR THIS. THE BOARD IS EXPECTED TO DISCUSS IT TOMORROW.

9/30

CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW TAPPAN ZEE BRIDGE WILL MEAN A LITTLE MORE CROWDING FOR DRIVERS NEAR THE OLD ONE. WESTBOUND LANES ARE GOING TO BE NARROWED FOR A QUARTER MILE STRETCH FROM EXIT NINE TO THE BRIDGE AND THE SPEED LIMIT WILL BE REDUCED TO 45

MILES AN HOUR. THIS ADJUSTMENT WILL BE IN PLACE UNTIL 2016 AS CREWS WORK TO BUILD THE WESTCHESTER LANDING FOR THE NEW BRIDGE. THERE WILL ALSO BE SOME LANE AND RAMP CLOSURES DURING NIGHTTIME HOURS THIS WEEK. LOCK IT IN TO 1010 WINS FOR DETAILS IN THE TRAFFIC REPORTS.

1010 WINS website (WWW.1010WINS.com) regularly offers links to sites providing valuable consumer information to listeners, including health, product recalls, crime prevention, etc.

President Obama's regular Saturday radio address is presented live each week on WINS.

A medical report airs 9 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 Catholic Archdiocese of Brooklyn; Roy Lloyd, of the New York Council of Churches, and Rabbi Joseph Potasnik of the New York Board of Rabbis.