

Information that may be of interest...

April 20, 2020

This information is provided by The Murray Hill Neighborhood Association. We are sharing it as a service to our members. If this notice does not interest you, please disregard it.

You can also find these weekly newsletters online in PDF (printable) format at www.murrayhillnyc.org in the News section, look for Weekly Eblasts 2020.

Please share this email with a friend, neighbor or colleague. You can sign up for these emails at www.murrayhillnyc.org, scroll down the Also Happening column.

Coronavirus updates

4/17/2020 **The “stay-at-home” PAUSE directive in NY state is extended to May 15.**
NYC is cancelling all permitted events in May and is reviewing June events.

4/19/2020 **New Yorkers must cover their nose and mouth in public**, when they cannot practice social distancing (6' between people).

4/11/2020 **Donate blood if you have recovered from COVID-19**

To help develop an antibody test, Gov. Cuomo is asking all New Yorkers who have recovered from COVID-19 to contact the state and donate blood. Individuals who tested positive and then recovered from the virus may have convalescent plasma in their blood, which has antibodies against the virus and could help with the development of a treatment for the virus. More information about how to donate <https://nybc.org/donate-blood/convalescent-plasma-covid-19-donor-request-form>.

[IRS launches web tool to help non-filers get their coronavirus rebates](#)

April 10, 2020, *thehill.com*, by Naomi Jagoda

The Treasury Department and IRS announced...a web tool to help...people who are not typically required to file tax returns receive their coronavirus relief payments...Additionally, the IRS said that Social Security recipients with children could use the tool to claim their \$500 per child payment, since they will only automatically receive payments of \$1,200. Web tool: irs.gov/coronavirus/non-filers-enter-payment-info-here. A number of lawmakers have been urging Treasury to allow recipients of Supplemental Security Income and Veterans Affairs benefits to also automatically receive their economic impact payments. The IRS said that ...people who receive these benefits can either use the new IRS web tool or wait while the IRS continues to examine its automatic payment options.

[F.D.A. Approves First Coronavirus Antibody Test in U.S.](#)

April 2, 2020, *nytimes.com*, by Apoorva Mandavilli

Such a test may help scientists learn how widespread the infection is, and how long people remain immune after recovering.

Related news: 4/8/2020 Gov. Cuomo, at his mid-day press conference, said that key to getting the Tri-State area back to work will be antibody tests. This echoes the medical experts and researchers who want to see if COVID-19 survivors have the kind of immunity that could shield them from future outbreaks of the coronavirus and allow them to be on the front lines of the nation's economic revival.

National Institutes of Health (NIS) COVID-19 clinical trials: clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/results?cond=COVID-19.

NYU Langone Scientists Track Evolution of Coronavirus in New York City

Source: Email 4/16/2020 from NYU Office of Public Affairs

NYU Grossman School of Medicine researchers have determined the genetic code for 2019 coronavirus virus (COVID-19) taken from 91 New York City patients...The early data suggest that the coronavirus has been spreading in the New York City community for a couple of months and before testing started. Further, the particular genetic codes in most local viral samples indicate that they originated in Europe.

[Nearly All \[Pregnant\] Women With Coronavirus In NYC Study Had No Symptoms](#)

April 16, 2020, *patch.com*, by Anna Quinn

A New York Presbyterian study testing pregnant women for coronavirus found that 33 out of 210 had COVID-19, but only four had symptoms.

U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) guidance about sterilizing PPE [fda.gov/emergency-preparedness-and-response/counterterrorism-and-emerging-threats/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19](https://www.fda.gov/emergency-preparedness-and-response/counterterrorism-and-emerging-threats/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19)

[Collecting #CovidStoriesNYC: Open Call via Social Media for Images Documenting a Socially-Distanced NYC](#). For nearly a century, the Museum of the City of New York has been documenting New York City's stories. The Museum wants to share your stories as experienced through the lens of this COVID-19 crisis. MCNY invites everyone to share photos, taken from an appropriate social distance, documenting personal experiences during this challenging time. Post those images on Instagram using the hashtag #CovidStoriesNYC, and tag @MuseumOfCityNY. Museum staff will review the images on a rolling basis, selecting images that reflect on the impact of this event on life in this dense, creative, and resilient city to repost on our social media feed and other digital channels.

How to make a cloth mask (no sewing required) with a T-shirt and safety pins.

[nytimes.com/2020/04/10/well/live/coronavirus-face-masks-guides-protection-personal-protective-equipment.html](https://www.nytimes.com/2020/04/10/well/live/coronavirus-face-masks-guides-protection-personal-protective-equipment.html)

4/17/2020 Stimulus funds: the federal government began distributing stimulus funds. This funding comes from federal legislation, the CARES Act, passed through efforts of our representatives in Congress including Rep. Carolyn Maloney. If you have not filed a 2018 or 2019 tax return, or want to register your children, visit the secure IRS website to register at [irs.gov/coronavirus/get-my-payment](https://www.irs.gov/coronavirus/get-my-payment).

4/18/2020 The stimulus funds sent to New Yorkers will be protected from garnishment for unpaid debt, New York Attorney General Letitia James announced in a guidance issued to banks, creditors and debt collectors Saturday ag.ny.gov/sites/default/files/cares_act_guidance.pdf.

4/17/2020 New York Attorney General Letitia James and New York Governor Andrew M. Cuomo today announced that the state has extended the suspension of collection of medical and student debt owed to the State of New York and that was specifically referred to the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) for an additional 30-day period.

President Trump presented guidelines for 'Opening Up America Again'

April 16, 2020, *thehill.com*, by The Hill Staff

[G]uidelines released by the White House...to reopen the economy recommend that states see a downward trajectory in the number of confirmed coronavirus cases as well as flu-like symptoms before they move to lift stay-at-home orders and other restrictions. The document explicitly states that the outlined steps are implementable statewide at the discretion of individual governors. Read full guidelines whitehouse.gov/openingamerica.

4/17/2020 **Gov. Cuomo's presented a plan on how to gradually open up New York State's economy** (done in conjunction with neighboring states). Summary courtesy of State Sen. Liz Krueger: (1) Do No Harm - step one is to continue controlling the rate of infection, (2) strengthen the healthcare system, (3) testing and contact tracing, (4) phased return to "new normal." (unwinding the steps that got to the "stay-at-home" directive).

Village Seniors Among Most Vulnerable Amid Coronavirus: Stringer

Apr 16, 2020, *patch.com*, by Anna Quinn

A new report by Comptroller Scott Stringer says the city needs to be doing more for thousands of Manhattan seniors who live alone...Among the top neighborhoods were Murray Hill, where 12,887 seniors live alone. Full report: [Protecting NYC's Most Vulnerable Populations During COVID-19](#), April 15, 2020. Comptroller's recommendations for seniors: The State and City must work closely with home health aides and agencies to ensure that aides and nurses have access to medical-grade personal protective equipment. They should also develop a unified safety protocol for home health aides...The City should continue to aggressively ramp up food delivery and make an effort to proactively reach out to every senior in the five boroughs (via robocalls, emails, texts, door hangers, etc.) to ensure that they know how to request home delivered meals...The City should be coordinating with senior service providers across the city to cross-check that every senior they serve is successfully receiving home delivered meals and to ensure that all providers are being fully utilized and leveraged in the City's efforts to ramp up meal delivery and combat social isolation. Pharmacies must prioritize delivery requests to homebound and vulnerable households.

Scientists have turned the structure of the coronavirus into music

April 3, 2020, *sciencemag.org*, by Vineeth Venugopal

It's long, but you can fast-forward to spots that look interesting.

New York State is under a Stay-at-Home (PAUSE) directive until May 15.

What is "Stay-at-Home" or PAUSE?

In general, this means that people should not leave their homes except for essentials such as groceries and medicine or emergencies. When outside, cover your nose and mouth with a scarf, bandanna or mask and practice social distancing (6' between people). Businesses that do not provide essential services must close and send workers home. Businesses considered essential could include grocery stores, restaurants that do take out service, pharmacies, organizations that provide services for vulnerable populations, first responders and hardware stores. Public transportation continues to operate to get nurses, doctors, law enforcement officers, and other essential personnel where they need to go. Everyone else: Limit the use of public transportation to only when necessary.

The situation changes by the hour as new information and directives come out. As much as possible we are trying to provide links to trusted source information so that you can check the most up-to-date information. Read more about:

[Preventing novel coronavirus \(COVID-19\) and medical information](#)

[Directives for gatherings and facilities](#)

[Transportation and travel](#)

[Legislation and executive orders](#)

[Assistance \(and jobs\) for individuals, homeowners, artists, workers, the unemployed \(and pets\)](#)

[Food assistance resources](#)

[Medical resources and calls for medical professionals and volunteers](#)

[Small business and nonprofits assistance and resources](#)

[Schools and children](#)

[Government offices and resource lists](#)

[Volunteer and donation opportunities](#)

[Online entertainment, culture & learning](#)

[Neighborhood houses of worship, museums, educational and cultural institutions](#)

[Neighborhood restaurants, food & spirits that are open for delivery & pickup](#)

[Neighborhood retail, health care \(including pets\) & services that are open](#)

[Neighborhood businesses that are closed until further notice](#)

Census reminder

New York State is very low on the list of people who have responded to the Census survey. We are in 43rd place with a 44.3% response rate. An accurate count will affect our representation in Congress and how Federal funds are distributed for education, infrastructure and other programs. Respond to the Census survey at <https://www.census.gov>.

Upcoming events

Monday, April 20 9:30am

The Manhattan Borough Board Meeting

The Manhattan Borough Board is a formal body composed of all Council Members and Community Board managers in the borough. It will hold its April meeting online. This is a public meeting that you can watch. Register and you'll receive a reply email with instructions on how to be in the online audience: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_J721vHI3ToyEbnbAggWfQA.

Mondays: 6:30–8:30pm

Lectures on the Lives and Principles of the Founding Founders

These online lectures will explore the evolution in the thinking of six American Founding Fathers, with an emphasis on their views toward rights of property in land. Discussion is anticipated and encouraged. The Lecturer, Edward J. Dodson is a former financial sector executive and a long time faculty member of the Henry George School of Social Science. (4 classes remaining in the series) 4/20, 4/27, 5/4, 5/11. Free, and registration fees are waived during the health crisis. Register at eventbrite.com/e/lectures-on-the-lives-and-principles-of-the-founding-fathers-tickets-100966214666.

Tuesdays 7:30-8:30pm

Get your COVID-19 questions answered LIVE by Councilwoman Carlina Rivera + a special guest

Facebook Live every Tuesday with Councilwoman Carlina Rivera. To submit your questions in advance, send an email to district2@council.nyc.gov, or send a message or comment on Carlina's posts on Facebook or Twitter facebook.com/CouncilwomanCarlinaRivera.

Thursday, April 23 9:30am

NYC Rent Guidelines Board meeting

The initial schedule of meetings has been posted at rentguidelinesboard.cityofnewyork.us/meetings/2020-meetings-and-hearings, with information on how to join them by phone or video conferencing.

Thursday, April 23 2:30-3:30pm

Managing the Impact of COVID-19 on Your Nonprofit

NYN Media, a news source for New York's nonprofits, is hosting the webinar. Click here to register for this free webinar nynmedia.com/events/nyn-medias-webinar-series-managing-impact-covid-19-your-nonprofit.

Thursday, April 23 3pm

Iceland's Response to the Coronavirus: Online Discussion with Dr. Gudrun Aspelund

American-Scandinavian Foundation hosts an online discussion with Dr. Gudrun Aspelund, Head Physician at Centre for Health Security and Communicable Disease Control at the Directorate of Health in Iceland, regarding the nation's response to the coronavirus. With ASF President Edward Gallagher as moderator, Dr. Aspelund will discuss measures that Iceland has taken to prevent the spread of virus, as well as research and findings that impact the broader international response. Please send audience

questions ahead of the discussion to info@amscan.org. Select questions will be chosen for a Q&A following the conversation. The discussion will be streamed concurrently on Facebook Live. Register at https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_15NHas-sS0GeLYXMF1Rgsw

April 23 4pm

Disaster Preparedness Webinar with the American Red Cross

The American Red Cross is hosting online (webex) seminars on emergency preparedness and readiness. The presentation discusses COVID-19 safety and preparedness, and will give a comprehensive overview on how to prepare, respond to and recover from natural and man-made disasters. Each training session lasts 45-90 minutes. [Use this secure link](#) to register and enter the webinar

Event number: 474 661 614, Event password: BRCReady3.

If you would like to organize this training or see the full schedule visit:

<https://www.redcross.org/local/new-york/greater-new-york/about-us/our-work/preparedness-training.html>

Thursdays 6:30–8:30pm

Rethinking Economics

Today, the general consensus is that economics as a discipline is in need of a major rethink. This 5-session online course, challenges the dominant neoclassical paradigm and explores new perspectives that capture the complexity of current economic reality. The course will be based on Kate Raworth's Doughnut Economics. Recommend that participants familiarize themselves with the material before the beginning of classes. Instructor: Dr. Marty Rowland. Free and registration fees are waived during the health crisis. Dates: 4/23, 4/30, 5/7, 5/14 (it's OK to register after 4/16). Link will be shared after registration. Register at eventbrite.com/e/rethinking-economics-tickets-101569914348.

Thursday, April 23 7-8pm

State Sen. Liz Krueger's Town Hall: Chasing COVID: Part 1 - Understanding the Impact of the Virus on Community Health

Virtual Town Hall. Join Senator Krueger and Dr. Denis Nash, Distinguished Professor of Epidemiology, Executive Director CUNY Institute for Implementation Science and Population Health. The event will feature a question and answer session with Dr. Nash. If you have any questions please submit them when you register. Once you register for the event, you will receive a confirmation email with the call-in information. View the event online through Facebook (no account needed) or listen by calling in. Register at lizkrueger.com/town-hall-rsvp. [Learn more](#). To view the virtual event, visit facebook.com/statesenatorlizkrueger.

April 28 6:30pm

A virtual forum on tenants rights during the COVID-19 pandemic

Hosted by Manhattan Community Board 4 & Housing Conservation Coordinators. Speakers: U.S. Congressman Jerry Nadler, State Senators Brad Hoylman and Robert Jackson, Assemblymember Linda B. Rosenthal, Assemblymember Dick Gottfried, Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer and City Council Speaker Corey Johnson. Register (Zoom) at

https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_fZra8MjbTtaYlwVDO_-cig

Thursday, May 7 7pm

You're Invited! The Murray Hill Neighborhood Association's Virtual Happy Hour!

Meet your fellow Murray Hill neighbors in our virtual happy hour! * Serve yourself your favorite cocktail and join us in the comfort of your own home * Join via Zoom with your laptop, phone, or computer *

Feel free to invite your fellow neighbor. RSVP:

[zoom.us/meeting/register/u5YlceihqTMrCbR5xxNc_99qjOHQYWnfPw](https://zoom.us/join/zoom.us/meeting/register/u5YlceihqTMrCbR5xxNc_99qjOHQYWnfPw).

See you then! murrayhillnyc.org, info@murrayhillnyc.org.

Virtual Happy Hour on Zoom



Black and White exhibit at Gallery35 is online!

To see in color is a delight for the eye but to see in BLACK AND WHITE is a delight for the soul.

— Andri Cauldwell

Eleven Gallery35 artists present work in black and white using a variety of media including monoprints, photography and stained glass. Works by Marsha Peruo, Pat Gericke, Ingrid Sletten, Juanita Gilmore, Ellen Mandelbaum, Virginia Asman, John Devaney.

Take a virtual tour at gallery35nyc.com. All works are available for purchase. Gallery35, 30 East 35th Street, gallery35ny@gmail.com, 917-566-0708.

Kudos!

April 16, 2020, Fifty-five years of landmarks preservation!

On April 19, 1965, Mayor Wagner signed the *Landmarks Law*. Celebrate with a tour through the NYC Landmarks Preservation Commission's work over the past 55 years!

storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/981732666b194d63ab291a64b9543080

Traffic notice

Park Avenue Tunnel Restoration Project

Starting April 17 and continuing for 2 weeks, a new traffic rail will be installed along both sides of the Park Avenue Tunnel between 33rd Street and 34th Street. One lane of traffic on each side of Park Avenue will be closed to facilitate the work. [Flyer](#).

Murray Hill (and Kips Bay) in the news

[Stabbing Kills Woman In Kips Bay Liquor Store](#)

April 9, 2020, *patch.com*, by Adam Nichols

A woman was stabbed to death in a Kips Bay liquor store Wednesday night, police said. The attack happened at 333 Third Avenue...the address of Wine Heaven near East 25th St., shortly after 10 p.m. The 64-year-old victim was stabbed in her chest and was rushed to Bellevue Medical Center, where she was pronounced dead. The New York Post reported that the suspect climbed onto a nearby roof and threatened to jump before being taken into custody.

Calls for donations

Help purchase PPE for front line medical staff

Murray Hill's **Kalvig & Shorter Veterinary Associates** (KSV) are purchasing KN95/ N95 masks, gloves, gowns, face gear, and other important PPE supplies for direct delivery to NYC heroes in human healthcare who are fighting COVID-19 every day with dedication, bravery, and great risk to their lives. You can help by donating to this fund gofundme.com/f/wa5nrb-donate-a-mask-to-the-front-line. Every dollar will go to help our NYC heroes on the front line in the fight against COVID-19. As an essential health care facility, the KSV veterinary hospital has continued to operate with strict safety protocols for staff and public safety during this difficult time. They will continue to help their canine and feline patients in need, their clients, and our community however they can.

Changes in the neighborhood

[Garbage Pickups Tell a Tale of Two cities, with Part of Manhattan Shrinking](#)

April 12, 2020, *thecity.nyc*, by Gabriel Sandoval, Ann Choi and Rosa Goldensohn

Map: Change in tons of household waste collected, March 2020 vs. March 2019

[Murray Hill and surrounding districts] CD6 -2.6%, CD3 -5%, CD5 +2.5%. Trash experts say the light trash loads in neighborhoods...could reflect residents departing those areas as coronavirus spread.

[Editor's note: This map shows only residential trash.]



[One Vanderbilt's Glass Crown Takes Shape In Midtown East](#)

April 13, 2020, *newyorkyimby.com*, by Michael Young
Glass paneling is steadily enclosing the tiered crown of Kohn Pedersen Fox's One Vanderbilt as the supertall inches closer to completion. Developed by SL Green, the 77-story, 1,401-foot-tall commercial office tower is by far the largest construction project underway in Midtown East and is among the most prominent new additions to the New York skyline...Meanwhile, installation is continuing on the windows that enclose the 1,000-foot-high public observatory, called The Summit. Designed by Snohetta and managed by SL Green, the three-story facility is located around the first setback on the southern elevation. This space can be seen in the ... photo adjacent to the Chrysler Building's crown, indicated by the more transparent glass panels....One Vanderbilt is slated to finish and open on August 4, 2020, while The Summit is expected to open sometime in 2021. Photo by Michael Young



[YIMBY Stops By The Site Of ODA's 303 East 44th Street Skyscraper In Midtown East](#)

April 19, 2020, *newyorkyimby.com*, by Michael Young
303 East 44th Street. Rendering by ODA Architects

Traffic and transportation

4/16/2020 **The Metropolitan Transportation Authority** issued a request for another \$3.9 billion in emergency federal aid in response to plummeting fare revenues and increased operation costs related to coronavirus safety...the MTA estimated its losses could reach \$8.5 billion this year.

Schools

4/6/2020 **The New York State Board of Regents is cancelling the High School Regents exams in June.** Emergency regulations from the Board of Regents:

nysed.gov/news/2020/board-regents-acts-series-emergency-regulations-ease-burdens-educators-students-and-0

NYC gives the OK to shrink special education services amid coronavirus upheaval

April 8, 2020, *chalkbeat.org*, by Alex Zimmerman

Homeless

4/22/2020 New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio is turning to **hotels to provide free housing** to at least 11,000 people who are infected with the coronavirus and have nowhere else to self-isolate.

6K Homeless NYers To Move Into Hotels As Coronavirus Precaution

April 11, 2020, *patch.com*, by Anna Quinn

Budget & taxes

4/16/2020 New York City Executive Budget

Mayor Bill de Blasio released the [\$89.3 billion] FY2021 Executive Budget for New York City. The City projects significantly decreased revenues, with a 3.5% hit in the current year and 8.3% in the coming one. The Mayor included significant cuts to education, health, and social services programs, as well as the postponement of capital projects and non-essential programs in a wide variety of governmental areas. The City has also increased reserve levels in its budget to account for unexpected costs. Detailed summary of the Mayor's budget proposal: www1.nyc.gov/office-of-the-mayor/news/259-20/facing-unprecedented-crisis-mayor-de-blasio-budget-plan-protects-new-yorkers-by.

The City has spent over \$700 million since the beginning of the COVID-19 crisis. The City expects to spend \$3.5 billion by the end of the calendar year, including significant investments in food security, in Health + Hospitals, and in support of new technology and small business. The NYC Council will review and approve the budget, negotiating items where there is disagreement.

[NOTE: Mayor de Blasio has asked the Federal government for funds to fill the gap.]

10 Ways the New State Budget Impacts New York City

April 6, 2020, *gothamgazette.com*, by Samar Khurshid

NYC Council will be working online due to coronavirus, Johnson says

Government, legislation, rules, policies (including pending)

April 9, 2020, *nypost.com*, by Rich Calder

New York's City Council will conduct its first-ever online hearings later this month as they try to keep the city's massive \$94 billion budget on schedule...2021 budget hearings will begin on schedule (via videoconference), which will pave the way for an on-time budget as required by the charter.

Elections

All New Yorkers will be able to vote by mail in the June 23 primary election

4/10/2020 Per an Executive Order issued by Governor Cuomo, when you apply for an Absentee Ballot, Indicate "temporary illness" as the reason in question 1. You can indicate a date range for the temporary illness, such as a start date of 4/10/2020 (for example) and an end date after November 3, so that the absentee ballot will also cover the general elections. Mail the completed application form to your borough's Board of Elections by **June 16**. The addresses are on the form:

vote.nyc.ny.us/downloads/pdf/forms/boe/absenteevoting/absenglish.pdf

New York lawmakers seek to prevent 'tidal wave' of evictions

April 7, 2020, *ny.curbed.com*, by Caroline Spivack

The "Tenant Safe Harbor Act," which was introduced Tuesday by State Sens. Brad Hoylman and Liz Krueger along with Assembly member Jeffrey Dinowitz, would prohibit landlords from evicting tenants for non-payment of rent during New York's current state of emergency and for six months after its eventual end.

11 issues the state Legislature could still take up this year

April 10, 2020, *cityandstateny.com*, by Julia Agos

Although the legislative session is in limbo, here's what state lawmakers want to address: budget cuts, recreational marijuana, extending the child victims act, tenant protections, mobile sports betting, gig worker protections, climate and community investment act, pharmacy benefit managers, single-payer health care, rape intoxication loophole, sex worker decriminalization.

[Editor's note: If these legislative issues are taken up safely by our state representatives via remote meetings and voting, it would be good if there also were ample opportunities for public discussion, including virtual Town Halls and publicized ways to submit testimonies. We don't need poorly thought-out bills that result in many unintended negative side effects.]

Location tracking for coronavirus

Source: *City & State e-newsletter*, April 12, 2020, editor@cityandstateny.com

As governments around the world weigh the possibility of using cellphone and other location data to track how people infected with the coronavirus have moved around and who they've been in contact with, Assemblyman Dan Quart has introduced legislation that would ban geolocation tracking in the state. Privacy-minded advocates support the bill and say that this power should not be given to police although it might be appropriate for public health officials. **Related information:** [Bill A10246 sponsored by Assembly Member Dan Quart](#)

Public service notices & scams

[Stay safe while video conferencing](#)

April 16, 2020, *consumer.ftc.gov*, by Rosario Méndez, Division of Consumer and Business Education, FTC
Have you been video conferencing in these days of social distancing?

Basic safety tips. Use passwords and/or unique ID numbers for each meeting. Keep the video conferencing software up to date. Don't open unexpected video conference invitations. Protect your privacy.

A note about telehealth conferencing. If you're conferencing remotely with a health care provider, ask about dedicated telehealth conferencing services that can include more safeguards to keep information private.

Video conferencing as part of your business operations. You'll want to read the business blog, Video conferencing: 10 privacy tips for your business. [ftc.gov/news-events/blogs/business-blog/2020/04/video-conferencing-10-privacy-tips-your-business](https://www.ftc.gov/news-events/blogs/business-blog/2020/04/video-conferencing-10-privacy-tips-your-business).

[Avoid scams while finding help during quarantine](#)

April 7, 2020, *consumer.ftc.gov*, by Lois Greisman, FTC, Elder Justice Coordinator, and Michael Herndon, CFPB, Acting Assistant Director, Office for Older Americans

If you...need help picking up groceries, prescriptions, and other necessary [and] someone you don't know offers to help, be wary. Some scammers offer to buy supplies but never come back with the goods or your money. It's usually safer to find a trusted friend or neighbor or arrange a delivery with a well-known company. If you're ordering supplies online, know who you're buying from. Online sellers may claim to have in-demand products, like cleaning, household, and medical supplies when, in fact, they don't. Use an established delivery service, or order directly from the store. Many grocery stores and pharmacies are offering contactless delivery.

[Google reports 18M coronavirus-related malware and phishing emails being sent daily](#)

April 17, 2020, *thehill.com*, by Chris Mills Rodrigo

The company says its machine learning software has been able to "block more than 99.9% of spam, phishing, and malware."...The company recommends that users avoid downloading files they don't recognize, check URLs before providing login info and avoid phishing emails.

Stories we are following

[Before pandemic, New York agencies had another crisis: a computer hack](#)

April 13, 2020, *timesunion.com*, by Rick Karlin

About a month before the current coronavirus pandemic...state officials were dealing with a different, previously unreported emergency, in the form of a massive cyber-attack that disabled some state agency information systems and took nearly a month to resolve.

The MHNA Discount Program

Please be prepared to show proof of membership when you ask for a discount.

[Restaurant and Food Discounts](#)

[General Discounts](#)

Our government representatives

When contacting your representative, be sure to state your address so that they know that you are a constituent. You can see the District maps and sign up for their emails on their websites.

Manhattan Community Board 5: www.cb5.org, 212-465-0907, office@cb5.org

Manhattan Community Board 6: cbsix.org, 212-319-3750, office@cbsix.org

NYC Councilwoman Carlina Rivera, Council District 2: council.nyc.gov/carlina-rivera, 212-677-1077, District2@council.nyc.gov

NYC Council Speaker, Corey Johnson, Council District 3: council.nyc.gov/district-3, 212-564-7757, SpeakerJohnson@council.nyc.gov

NYC Council Member Keith Powers, Council District 4: council.nyc.gov/keith-powers, 212-818-0580, KPowers@council.nyc.gov

Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer: manhattanbp.nyc.gov, 212-669-8300, info@manhattanbp.nyc.gov

Public Advocate Jumaane Williams, #GetHelp, The Office of the Public Advocate assists with complaints and inquiries involving government-related services and regulations. Telephone Hotline: 212-669-7250, email: GetHelp@advocate.nyc.gov

Mayor Bill de Blasio: www1.nyc.gov/office-of-the-mayor, 311, online message:
<https://www1.nyc.gov/office-of-the-mayor/mayor-contact.page>

Landmarks Preservation Commission: <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/lpc/about/contact-us.page>

NY State Senator Liz Krueger, 28th Senate District: www.nysenate.gov/senators/liz-krueger, 212-490-9535, lkrueger@nysenate.gov

NY State Senator Brad Hoylman, 27th Senate District: <https://www.nysenate.gov/senators/brad-hoylman>, 212-633-8052, hoylman@nysenate.gov

NY State Assembly Member Dan Quart, Assembly District 73, www.nyassembly.gov/mem/Dan-Quart, 212-605-0937, quartd@nyassembly.gov

NY State Assembly Member Harvey Epstein, Assembly District 74, www.nyassembly.gov/mem/Harvey-Epstein, 212-979-9696, epsteinh@nyassembly.gov

NY Assembly Member Richard N. Gottfried, Assembly District 75, www.nyassembly.gov/mem/Richard-N-Gottfried, 212-807-7900, GottfriedR@nyassembly.gov

U.S. Representative Carolyn Maloney, New York's 12th Congressional District:
<https://maloney.house.gov>, 212-860-0606, website contact form:
<https://maloney.house.gov/contact-carolyn/email-me>

U.S. Senator Chuck Schumer: www.schumer.senate.gov, 212-486-4430, website contact form:
<https://www.schumer.senate.gov/contact/email-chuck>

U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand: www.gillibrand.senate.gov, 212-688-6262, website contact form:
www.gillibrand.senate.gov/contact/email-me

U.S. President Donald Trump: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/people/donald-j-trump> website contact form:
<https://www.whitehouse.gov/contact>

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