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Assemblymember
RODNEYSE BICHOTTE
Brooklyn Democratic County Leader

COVID-19 Updates



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Photo Credit: Erik McGregor/Sipa USA/Reuters

July 16, 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NYS Launches COVID Rent Relief Program; Application Is Now Live!

Amid Coronavirus Pandemic

NYS Extends Special Enrollment Period for Health Insurance Coverage; NYS to Provide Assistance to Atlanta; Mayor Launches Central Brooklyn Violence Plan and more!

NYS Confirmed: 404,775
NYS Deaths: 25,014
NYC Confirmed: 220,367

Brooklyn Confirmed: 61,124

NYS: GOVERNOR CUOMO



Photo Credit: Office of Governor Andrew Cuomo; Governor Cuomo with Atlanta Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms

- **Governor Cuomo** announced that the **Special Enrollment Period** for uninsured New Yorkers will be extended for another 30 days, through **August 15, 2020**.
 - You can apply for coverage through NY State of Health [here](#) or by phone at 1-855-355-5777.
 - For more assistance, you can also connect with a free enrollment counselor [here](#).
- The governor announced that New York State will send PPE and test kits to **Atlanta** to help them as they deal with a rise of COVID-19 cases.
 - The initial delivery of the following equipment will be delivered to Atlanta by Friday:
 - **7,500** VTM Test Kits
 - **7,500** Gowns
 - **7,500** Gloves
 - **7,500** N95 Masks
 - **7,500** Face Shields
 - **2.5** pallets of Styrofoam Coolers
 - **1,250** Gallons of Hand Sanitizer
- The governor announced that **four** additional states qualify for the travel advisory quarantine mandate. Individuals must quarantine for **14 days** if they

are traveling from the states previously listed, or the new states: **Minnesota, New Mexico, Ohio and Wisconsin**. Delaware has been removed from the list. View full list of qualifying states [here](#).

- Travelers will be required to fill out a **traveler form** upon entering New York.
- "Travelers who leave the airport without completing the form will be subject to a **\$2,000 fine** and may be brought to a hearing and ordered to complete mandatory quarantine." Read more [here](#).
- A new **electronic version of the traveler form** is now also available. To access the form, visit [here](#).
- The governor announced a new **\$2 million** outdoor recreation center is opening at **Letchworth State Park**. Read more [here](#).
- New York City is on track to move to **Phase IV** on Monday, but it will do so without the reopening of any new indoor venues like malls, museums and more.
- The governor announced **restaurants** can no longer serve **alcohol** without the purchase of food, to limit crowds. Read more [here](#).

NYC: MAYOR DE BLASIO



Photo Credit: Mayor Bill de Blasio; Michael Appleton/Mayoral Photography Office

- **Mayor de Blasio** announced a **Central Brooklyn Violence Prevention** plan due to a rise in gun violence. The plan includes:

- An increased police presence in the **77th and 79th precincts** in Crown Heights;
- A community effort to occupy the hot spots in 7 at-risk locations;
- Peace marches by community and clergy;
- Open Streets resource fairs, with information on housing, jobs, youth services; and
- Mobile trauma units that will provide mental health and support services.
- The **Bed-Stuy Anti-Gun Violence Task Force** will have their first meeting next week to determine a long term strategy.
- The mayor signed into law several police reform bills, including a ban on chokeholds. Read more [here](#).
- The mayor announced that the **City Planning Commission** will start holding remote meetings in August. Information about how to participate in the public hearings is available [here](#).
- Mayor de Blasio and First Lady Chirlane McCray announced that the **Mayor's Fund to Advance New York City** has raised **\$54.5 Million** thus far to support COVID-19 recovery efforts. Read more [here](#).
- As the Department of Education discusses its option to have students attend in-person classes 2 to 3 days a week in the fall, the mayor announced that NYC will provide **childcare** to **100,000** children.
 - NYC is working with partners to identify possible locations and staff.
 - Early childhood programming will be available for children **ages 3 and 4**.
 - DYCD youth programming will be provided to children grades **K through 8** both during and after school hours daily.

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT



Photo Credit: Anik Rahman/Nurphoto

- The Trump administration will no longer require **international students** to attend in-person classes in the fall in order to remain in the country. Read more [here](#).
- Hospitals have been ordered "to bypass the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and send all patient information to a central database in Washington D.C." Read more [here](#).
- The Trump administration signaled they are open to approving an extension of enhanced **unemployment benefits**. Read more [here](#).
- **Washington State**, the state with first confirmed case of the coronavirus in the country, has once again increased in the number of infection cases. Read more [here](#).
- **Georgia Governor Brian Kemp** has issued an **executive order** to prohibit local municipalities across the state from mandating masks.
 - "The move effectively voided orders issued by at least **15** local governments across the state." Read more [here](#).

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION REOPENING CALL

Attention Parents!

The NYC Department of Education invites you to a:

RETURN TO SCHOOL FAMILY AND STUDENT INFORMATION SESSION

with Chancellor Richard A. Carranza



Attend to learn more about the Department of Education plans for the 2020–21 school year.

Thursday, July 16th

6:30 p.m.–7:30 p.m.

Please register for this event at:

schools.nyc.gov/returntoschool2020

English Conference Line: Dial 888 475 4499 (Toll Free) and enter Webinar ID: 882 1418 6470

Spanish Conference Line: Dial 888-475-4499 (Toll Free) and enter PIN 735-255-0102

Mandarin Conference Line: Dial 888-475-4499 (Toll Free) and enter PIN 933-059-6663

   /NYCSchools

NYC Department of
Education
Chancellor Richard A. Carranza

- Register for this event [here](https://schools.nyc.gov/returntoschool2020).

COVID RENT RELIEF PROGRAM



Video Credit: NYS Housing and Community Renewal

- The **COVID Rent Relief Program application is now live.** The program will provide eligible households with a "**one-time rental subsidy** that will be sent directly to the household's landlord. Applicants will **not need to repay** this assistance." The deadline to apply is two weeks from today. You can apply [here](#). For more information, please watch the video above.

TENANTS' RIGHTS HOTLINE

PROBLEMS WITH YOUR LANDLORD?



YOU ARE NOT ALONE.

COME ASK QUESTIONS AND LEARN YOUR
RIGHTS WITH MET COUNCIL ON HOUSING

TENANTS' RIGHTS HOTLINE

English & Spanish

212-979-0611

Mon & Wed: 1:30-8:00PM

Tue: 5:30-8:00PM

Fri: 1:30-5:00PM



BYOB HAND SANITIZER REFILL EVENT

GrowNYC
in partnership with
NYS ASSEMBLY MEMBER RODNEYSE BICHOTTE
& NYC COUNCIL MEMBER FARAH N. LOUIS

BRING YOUR OWN BOTTLE HAND SANITIZER REFILL

BRING ANY REFILLABLE BOTTLE UP TO 3.4 OUNCES



Saturday, July 18th

10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Location: Flatbush Brooklyn Junction
in front of HSBC Bank

At the same location:

Buy produce and support local farmers at the
GrowNYC's Youth Market.

9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Complete the US Census in less than
10 minutes with a representative.

10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Contact: District45@council.nyc.gov (718) 629-2900

- Join **Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte, Councilmember Farah Louis** and **Grow NYC** on **Saturday, July 18th** for a "**Bring Your Own Bottle: Hand Sanitizer Refill**" event. The event will be from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in front of HSBC bank on Flatbush Junction.

COVID-19 TESTING

get tested for
COVID-19
July 13th - July 17th
9 am - 5 pm

FREE TESTING
NO APPOINTMENT NEEDED!

SALEM MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
305 E 21ST STREET, BKLYN, NY 11226
IN THE CHURCH PARKING LOT

MUST HAVE ID. NO INSURANCE NEEDED.
A PEDIATRIC CLINICIAN WILL BE ON SITE TO SWAB TEST CHILDREN.



Dr. James A. Thornton, Pastor

- COVID-19 testing will be available at **Salem Missionary Baptist Church** through **Friday, July 17th**. Testing will be from **10 a.m. - 4 p.m.** at 305 East 21st Street, Brooklyn NY 11226.

JUSTICE THROUGH CODE

Apply Now! <https://rebrand.ly/JTC>

Are you formerly incarcerated and want to learn how to code and explore jobs in the tech industry? We are currently accepting students for our Justice Through Code program for the fall semester. Applications are due July 31st. Program is free for participants.

Questions? Email: aedan.macdonald@columbia.edu

- Apply [here](#). Email questions [here](#).

STREET SAFETY BUREAU



Photo Credit: NY Daily News

- **Brooklyn District Attorney Eric Gonzales** announced the creation of the **Street Safety Bureau** to address "traffic violence cases." The Bureau will also work with legislators to create bills to combat **vehicular violence**. Read more [here](#).

COMMUNITY EVENTS

P.S. 152/315 PLAYGROUND GARDEN PLANTING DAY

Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte and **Councilmember Farah Louis** attended the P.S 152/315 playground garden planting day.



Community members with Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte and Councilmember Farah Louis.



Councilmember Farah Louis, children on the slide, and Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte.



Councilmember Farah Louis, Environmental Activist Susannah Laskaris and Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte.

ALTERNATE-SIDE PARKING



Alternate Side Parking (ASP) regulations are suspended through Sunday, **July 19**, 2020. All other parking rules remain in effect.

COVID-19 TESTING IN FLATBUSH



Assemblymember
Rodneyse Bichotte
42nd Assembly District



FLATBUSH AVENUE WALK-IN COVID-19 TESTING SITE

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

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

Brookdale Family Care Center

1095 Flatbush Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11226

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

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

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



Photo Credit: Norton Children's

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

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

THANK YOU ESSENTIAL WORKERS

You work hard every day
to put food on our tables.

**Thank you
farmers.**



During these unprecedented and difficult times, we thank our **essential workers** who are serving on the front lines. Today, we thank our **Farmers** for their daily effort in keeping us fed.

COMPLETE THE 2020 CENSUS



Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte

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

AVOID SCAMS

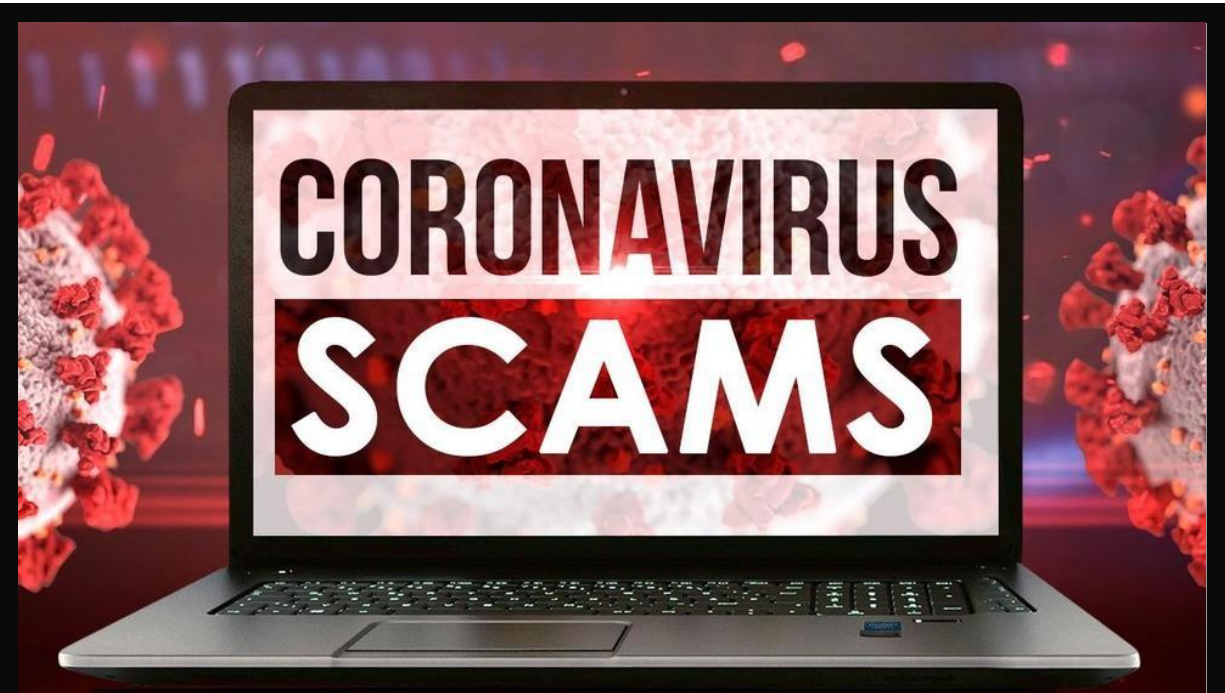


Photo Credit: Pixabay/CDC

- Notify NYC: Beware of COVID-19 scams!
- Report **price gouging** to 311 or [NYC.gov/dcwp](https://www.nyc.gov/dcwp). You can also file a complaint to the Attorney General's office by filling out a [complaint form](#).
- **NYS Price Gouging Hotline: 800-697-1220.**
- CDC staff will **NOT** go door-to-door. If you experience this, call 911.

SERVICES AND RESOURCES



Photo Credit: Ansi.org

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

It has information on the following categories:

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

Visit this [website](#) for resources.

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

Volunteer to Support

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

Free Internet Services:

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

FreshDirect meals:

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

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

The packages will arrive by FreshDirect vehicles to locations listed [here](#) . If you have any questions, call (718) 802-3700.

Adult Education: Access to free adult education programs are accessible starting July 6th to August 14th. Register by calling 917-612-7831 or emailing [here](#).

Don't Go Hungry!



Brooklyn Museum

Hello neighbors!

Help is on the way as the **Brooklyn Museum** launches a partnership with **The Campaign Against Hunger** to offer food distribution starting on **Monday, June 1, 3-5 pm**.

To ensure we have the right amount of food, **sign-up by emailing is required:** healthymeals@brooklynmuseum.org

The Campaign Against Hunger (TCAH) is one of the most trusted nonprofits working to end hunger and build health in our local communities. As we witness the vastly disproportionate economic and social impacts of COVID-19 on already-struggling New Yorkers, we know many of our neighbors are in need of emergency food for their families. Learn more at <https://www.tcahnyc.org>.

🏠 Where

Brooklyn Museum
Biergarten (in the parking lot behind the Museum)
200 Eastern Parkway
Brooklyn, NY 11238

🕒 When

Weekly starting
Monday, June 1,
3-5 pm

Spread the word!

healthymeals@brooklynmuseum.org
healthymeals@brooklynmuseum.org
healthymeals@brooklynmuseum.org
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IMMIGRATION

- If you or a loved one is in need of free immigration assistance, please call **CUNY Citizenship Now** at 646-664-9400 or text at 929-334-3784, Monday to Friday

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

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

SMALL BUSINESS

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

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

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

WHAT TO DO IF YOU ARE SICK WITH COVID-19



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

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

Stay home except to get medical care

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

Separate yourself from other people in your home

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

Call ahead before visiting your doctor

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

Wear a facemask

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

Cover your coughs and sneezes

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

Clean your hands

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

Avoid sharing personal household items

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

Monitor your symptoms

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

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

Discontinuing home isolation

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



For more information: www.cdc.gov/COVID19

STAY INFORMED

STAY INFORMED

about
coronavirus



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Assemblymember Rodneyse Bichotte represents the 42nd Assembly District in Brooklyn covering Ditmas Park, Flatbush, East Flatbush and Midwood. She is currently the **Chair of the Subcommittee on Oversight of Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises (MWBs)** , and serves on the following committees: **Housing, Government Operations, Education , Banks, Health, and Higher Education** . She is also a member of the Task Force on

Women's Issues and sits on **Governor Cuomo's Domestic Violence Advisory Council and Mayor De Blasio's MWBE Task Force.**

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

Learn more about
Rodneyse Bichotte by visiting her websites:
<http://nyassembly.gov/mem/Rodneyse-Bichotte>
and www.rodneysebichotte.net

STAY CONNECTED

