

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

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Let's rethink our infrastructure

Manhattan: The Daily News is "right on the money" in urging the newly designated U.S. Department of Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg to rethink the "vastly overblown Hudson River tunnel repair project" ("Pete, Marcia and NYC," editorial, Dec. 17). Coming from the financial world, Buttigieg should use his cost-benefit skills to ease the burden on hard-pressed taxpayers in New York and New Jersey and examine the merits of less costly options that would actually produce better results.

Also, routing the new tunnels by way of Hoboken and using existing rail lines and bridges instead of duplicating the existing Amtrak line across the Meadowlands not only saves a pile of money but allows the complete reuse of the Hoboken Waterfront rail yard for the development of affordable housing and new, more equitable economic development. This would be a great opportunity for Congresswoman Marcia Fudge, designated to run the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, to showcase an environmentally sensible development in the core of an older city.

A double win for the new Biden administration.

George Haikalis, president, Institute for Rational Urban Mobility



Snow shovel Samaritans

Brooklyn: Special thanks to the three wonderful young men in a BMW with New Jersey plates who parked in front of the house next door and jokingly asked us (two 70-something Brooklynites) if we could use any help as we were shoveling the snow in front of our house on Thursday. They took our shovels, quickly cleared the ice mountain created by snowplows and refused to take anything for doing it. When they finished, they walked across the street where a car with Pennsylvania plates was stuck — evidently someone they knew — and what must have brought them to Midwood. They got that car started and then both cars drove away.

Alice and Martin Garelick

Competent response

Richmond Hill: An hour after the last flake of snow hit the pavement, it seemed as if New York City had not experienced a blizzard at all. Kudos to the Department of Sanitation on the cleanup.

Franchisko Perez

Feeling vulnerable

Ridgewood, N.J.: This last storm reminded me of my own fragility. I am going on 74, have a bad and weakening heart, non-functioning kidneys and bad knees. I suspect the Congress will not aid Americans in this time of need unless they are directly affected. Seniors who expect aid from Congress are senile. Seniors who have family, neighbors or friends who aid them are blessed.

Peter J. Peirano

Callous carelessness

Manhattan: I went to do laundry at 5 a.m. so I could avoid people. There was a woman in the laundry room without a

mask. I waited by the elevator to go back upstairs. When the elevator arrived, a man exited the elevator not wearing a mask. When I got up to my floor, a woman was walking down the hallway towards me to throw out her garbage. She wasn't wearing a mask. This is the problem. These maskless individuals are all breathing and expelling droplets into the air through which I have to pass. As long as each person continues to believe they're not harming anyone, we will remain in this pandemic.

Cindy Roberts

Nobody at the wheel

Whiting, N.J.: I, like many others, am concerned about the transition for the incoming administration. While our sitting president (and does he do anything other than sit lately?) does little else other than try to overturn the validated election results, COVID rages, Russians hack with impunity, unemployment rises and our country sinks further into the abyss. Biden will have his hands full trying to tackle this and many other issues with limited cooperation from Trump. Time for Republicans to acknowledge that Joe Biden is our new leader and repudiate Donald Trump. It also might be a good idea to count the White House silverware on Jan. 20, as this grifter and his family would not be beneath taking anything that isn't nailed down from the White House.

Bill McConnell

For Russia With Love

Utica, N.Y.: Are you kidding? How is it even possible that anyone could still be surprised, let alone outraged by reports of major Russian hacking of our government? If anyone has been

paying attention, they would know that Trump has been working for/with Putin and against America for the past four years. They don't have to hack us, all they have to do is ask Trump for our secrets or our passwords. His answer will always be, "Da, how much?"

Jeff and Joan Ganeles

Which is it?

Palm Bay, Fla.: Donald Trump's supporters seem to think the Democrats are too inept to run the country. The same people also think these inept Democrats are somehow competent enough to perpetrate the "greatest fraud" in history, involving hundreds of thousands of votes across dozens of counties in multiple states, counted, re-counted and re-re-counted by hundreds of people, and affirmed by dozens of election officials and judges both Democrat and Republican, some of whom were appointed by Trump, up to and including the Supreme Court. I suggest that Trump supporters stop drinking the Kool-Aid and escape from the cult that has brainwashed them into believing such nonsense. Trumpty Dumpty fell off his wall and no amount of lawyers and belly-aching supporters can put him back together again.

David Swanson

Unnecessary roughness

Brooklyn: To Voicer Joe Santo: Your comment is one of the reasons Democrats are not ready to "reach across the aisle." How much kinder it would have been for you to wish our president-elect good health.

June Lowe

Playing with statistics

Chirside Park, Australia: Yes, Donald Trump's attitude toward COVID-19 has been cavalier at times! However, point-scoring and Trump denigrating — so gleefully delivered cries of the assorted Trump-haters — pushes a narrative: "America under Trump has had more coronavirus deaths than any other country in the world!" Relative to population, America (with a population of some 340 million people) has had far fewer coronavirus deaths relative to population than many advanced-society European countries like Spain and Italy. Also, it's America's individual states that have the most responsibility for border protection, health regulations, social distancing, coronavirus contact tracing, etc.

Howard Hutchins

And so it begins

Massapequa Park, L.I.: With President-elect Biden preparing to take office, it is hard not to see the radical left pushing their agenda. The bill now being pushed forward is the elimination of up to \$50,000 of student debt. First, where will this money come from, the taxpayers? Second, any school that has an endowment larger than a lot of small countries should be forced to absorb some of this burden. Third, student loan agencies that have been allowed to set interest rates must also be held accountable and also absorb some of this debt. I find it hard

to believe that most Americans back this radical agenda. If you cannot afford to go to college, the military offers job training in many avenues, plus pay and possible employment and pension.

Raymond P. Moran

Keep calm and kettle on

Howard Beach: So the recent Department of Investigation report that says the police heightened tensions and did not have a clearly defined strategy is a complete joke. You can stand there, get spit at, called disgusting names about your family and have rocks and bottles thrown at you. So the officers are supposed to say, "Excuse me, can I talk to you and we come to a solution?" This was a riot, plain and simple, and until NYC realizes it and takes a stand against the people who destroy the city, more people will move away and never come back.

Manny Agostini

Less for more

Bayside: The price goes up while the features diminish. Not an intelligent way to run a newspaper. Are the owners not concerned about profit? Does anyone remember a fascinating page, The Inquiring Photographer, or the TV magazine "Vue," plus five pages of quality comics? We enjoyed more and paid less. Do the owners, indeed, care nothing about profit? I don't comprehend any of this. I won't even try. I only know: Shape up, Daily News, or I will ship out.

Sarah Alboher