

NEWS

ON THE RUN

LEVEL ONE: MARCH 30, 2020



White House News



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Features



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NEWS AROUND THE WHITE HOUSE



VOTING IN CONGRESS

The main job of Congressmen is to vote on laws. Congress has a rule that Congressmen may vote only inside the Capitol building. They can't send in their votes by telephone or email.



House Democrats crowd into an elevator as they rush to the chamber for a vote.

Now, Congress has a problem. Some members of Congress got Coronavirus. They can't come to the Capitol to vote!

For years, Senators wanted to pass a law that would allow Congressmen to vote from outside the Capitol. The law never passed because most Congressmen wanted to stick with the old way of doing things.

It's getting difficult to keep Congress open. Senators had to stay far away from each other. They were also given a list of health rules to follow while inside the Capitol.

On Friday, members of the House of Representatives were allowed to vote from home, by voice message, because some members didn't feel well.



CORONAVIRUS HITS THE EAST COAST

One fourth of the world's people have been ordered to stay home. In half of US states, governors have ordered residents to stay at home.



People have been told to stay indoors as much as possible.

Some states have started saying they will give jail time for those who don't listen to coronavirus orders.

At least 7,300 National Guard members have gone out to all 50 states, especially New York, California and Washington. National Guardsmen are American officers who help Americans.



The National Guardsmen have moved into cities across the United States to help by giving out food, cleaning public areas, and building temporary hospitals for Corona patients.

Grocery stores have been extremely busy. Many had to close earlier to give workers more time to clean and restock.





MASKS SHIPPED TO HOSPITALS

American clothing companies like Hanes, Fruit of the Loom and American Giant will start making masks for doctors and nurses.



The companies will be making about 10 million masks in about a month.

There are not enough masks in some parts of the country. Doctors and nurses have had to reuse masks or make their own from office supplies. That's not safe!

Hanes brands will make the masks in factories that normally make T-shirts, underwear, socks and sweatshirts.

These factories are in El Salvador, Honduras and the Dominican Republic.

Officials have promised New York City and the other cities with many cases that supplies like masks will not run out.



NEWS TIDBITS

BORO PARK: SAFEST NYC NEIGHBORHOOD

The New York Police Department studied which neighborhoods in New York City have the most and the least crime.

The police department announced that Boro Park, a neighborhood in the borough of Brooklyn, has the least crime!

Second place were the neighborhoods of Gravesend and Bensonhurst. The safest borough in New York City is Staten Island.





FINLAND: HAPPIEST PLACE TO LIVE



Where is the happiest place to live in the world? It's the country of Finland!

The United Nations makes a World Happiness Report every year. The report asks people in 156 countries how happy they are based on where they live. The people in Finland came out on top.

The runner ups are Denmark, Switzerland, Iceland, and Norway.

The United States came in 18th place.

Some of the least happy places to live were Afghanistan, South Sudan and Zimbabwe. All those unhappy places have had wars or hungers recently.



LATE TOKYO OLYMPICS



The Tokyo (Japan) Olympics were supposed to happen in 2020. Because of Coronavirus, they will be late. They will be pushed off one year until 2021.

Olympics are sports events. During the Olympics, thousands of people from around the world have all sorts of sports contests. The people in the contests are experts at their sports.

The Olympic organizers decided to delay the Olympics after they spoke with Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe. It is not clear whether the games will be moved to the summer of 2021 or the spring. The spring is when Japan's famous cherry trees are in bloom.

The Olympics have never been late. The organizers said they hope the world will have time to get in shape after Corona before the late Olympics begin. We hope so too!



SCOTT KELLY'S TIP ONE YEAR IN SPACE



Scott Kelly used to be a NASA astronaut. He spent almost a year in space on the International Space Station, from March 27, 2015, to March 2, 2016.

Scott knows what it feels like to have to stay in one place all the time without company!

He has a few tips for all of you stuck at home:

Firstly, follow a schedule.

He says, "On the space station, my time was scheduled tightly, from the moment I woke up to when I went to sleep."

What can be part of your schedule?



School teleconferences, chores at home, and arts-n-crafts are all great ideas.

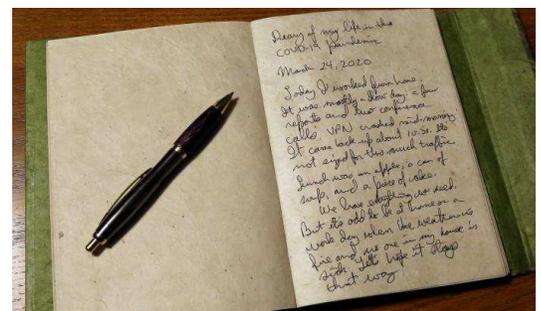
Remember to follow a bedtime! Going to sleep on time makes it easier to wake up on time, and waking on time is healthy.

Secondly, he suggests making time for fun activities. He said that on the space station, he used to play games with other astronauts.

When an astronaut goes outside, he takes a lot of preparation. For you, going outside is easy! Spending time outdoors helps us feel wealthy and well.



Next, Scott Kelly advises you to keep a journal. In a few years, you'll enjoy reading your diary about this unique time.



Lastly, Kelly says to try to think about how you can help other people. It might be as easy as a phone call to your grandparents or elderly neighbor.

There's always something you can do to make people feel better.



HISTORIC FLASHBACK



On **April 3, 1860**, the *Pony Express* Service began. The Pony Express was a mail delivery service that ran between Missouri and California.

With the horse carriage it took mail weeks to arrive. Mail could be delivered in ten days. Riders carried the mail and changed horses at each station. Every 75 to 100 miles they changed riders. This helped the mail move at a quicker speed. The riders worked hard, riding in bad weather and in dangerous situations.

In order to keep the weight down, riders had to weigh less than 125 pounds.

Riders were willing to face the dangers of the ride for the excitement and money they could earn.

The Pony Express closed in 1861, after the opening of the telegraph which sent the mail faster at a lower price.



PONY EXPRESS



Why don't we use the Pony Express to deliver mail today?
