

**‘We’re doing this because the alternative is death.’**

DR. JAMES GASPERINO, chief of critical care at Brooklyn Hospital Center, on making preparations to split ventilators



VICTOR J. BLUE FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Dr. Joshua Rosenberg, center, tended to a coronavirus patient in the intensive care unit of Brooklyn Hospital Center last week.

## A Brooklyn I.C.U. Fighting for Each Life

By SHERI FINK

The night had been particularly tough. Patient after patient had to be intubated and put on a ventilator to breathe. At one point, three “codes” — emergency interventions when someone is on the brink of death — occurred at once.

Dr. Joshua Rosenberg, a critical care doctor, arrived the next morning at the Brooklyn Hospital Center. Within hours, he was racing down the stairwell from the main intensive care unit on the sixth floor to a temporary one on the third, where he passed one of his favorite medical students.

### Beds Fill and Supplies Falter, but the Mission Is Clear

“Shouldn’t you be home?” he asked, registering surprise. Clinical rotations for students had been halted to avoid exposing them to the coronavirus. “My mom’s here,” the student replied.

Dr. Rosenberg, 45, let out an expletive and asked which bed she was in. “I’m rounding there now,” he said and made sure the student had his cellphone number.

Earlier, residents from the I.C.U. had presented their cases to Dr. Rosenberg and others, speaking in shorthand and at auctioneer-like speed. There were so many patients to get through last Monday:

“Admitted for acute hypoxic respiratory failure secondary to likely Covid-19.”

“Admitted for acute hypoxic respiratory failure secondary to confirmed Covid-19.”

“Admitted for acute hypoxic respiratory failure, high suspicion of Covid-19.”

Nearly every person lying in a bed in the new intensive care unit, just as in the

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## Italy May Let Antibodies Say Who Can Work

By JASON HOROWITZ

ROME — There is a growing sense in Italy that the worst may have passed. The weeks of locking down the country, center of the world’s deadliest coronavirus outbreak, may be starting to pay off, as officials announced this week that the numbers of new infections had plateaued.

That glimmer of hope has turned the conversation to the daunting challenge of when and how to reopen without setting off another cataclysmic wave of contagion. To do so, Italian health officials and some politicians have focused on an idea that might once have been relegated to the realm of dystopian novels and science fiction films.

Having the right antibodies to the virus in one’s blood — a potential marker of immunity — may soon determine who gets to work and who does not, who is locked down and who is free.

That debate is in some ways ahead of the science. Researchers are uncertain, if hopeful, that antibodies in fact indicate immunity. But that has not stopped politicians from grasping at the idea as they come under increasing pressure to open economies and avoid inducing a widespread economic depression.

The conservative president of the northeastern Veneto region has proposed a special “license” for Italians who possess antibodies that show they have had, and beaten, the virus. The former

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## For Classmates, Zoom Exposes A Class Divide

By NICHOLAS CASEY

The political science class was called “Forced Migration and Refugees.” Students read accounts of migrants fleeing broken economies and seeking better futures, of life plans drastically altered and the political forces that made it all seem necessary.

Then suddenly, the subject matter became personal: Haverford College shut down and evicted most students from the dormitories as the coronavirus spread through Pennsylvania.

Like many college courses around the country, the class solidified on. The syllabus was revised. The students reconvened on a videoconferencing app.

But as each logged in, not everyone’s new reality looked the same.

One student sat at a vacation home on the coast of Maine. Another struggled to keep her mother’s food truck running while meat vanished from Florida grocery shelves. As one young woman’s father, a private equity executive, urged the family to decamp to a country where infections were falling, another student’s mother in Russia couldn’t afford the plane ticket to bring her daughter home.

“Now Russia is about to close its borders,” Sophie Chochaeva told her classmates, in the days before the country did. She was one of 135 students still on campus, in a dorm room she called “the cozy foxhole,” as the world outside became a ghost town. “This crisis is

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ILLUSTRATIONS BY JOANA AVILLEZ

## 24 Hours in a Pandemic America

From an empty Dodger Stadium to medical tents in Central Park, life goes on, six feet or so apart. Page 8.

## The Silent Killer of 1918: A Philadelphia Story

By DAN BARRY  
and CAITLIN DICKERSON

PHILADELPHIA — At Sunday family dinners, the grandchildren would beg to hear that story again, the one about her twins in the baby carriage, and one of them was dead, and what did she do. This was when Sarah Jane Anderson would add to the collective memory of a Philadelphia nightmare.

*Well, children . . .*

It was October 1918, and the raging flu epidemic had killed 18-

### Ravages of Spanish Flu Live On in Memories

month-old Augusta, but spared her twin, Eleanor. Funeral parlors could not meet the demands of the dead; caskets were stacked on the sidewalks. But Ms. Anderson had a plan: She knew an undertaker in Northeast Philadelphia.

She tucked the twins — one alive, one dead — in a baby carriage, left their rowhouse in Cam-

den, N.J., and took the Delaware River ferry to Philadelphia. As she wheeled her sorrow north, fearful that she might be arrested for moving a body across state lines, people kept peeking into the carriage to admire how peacefully the toddlers were sleeping.

*Twins? Aren’t they cute?*

Six miles later, Ms. Anderson reached the undertaker; he accepted the tiny body. She then retraced her steps with little Eleanor, who grew up to become the mother of Janice Williams, who heard her grandmother tell this

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## Trump Purges His Enemies, A Crisis Aside

By PETER BAKER

WASHINGTON — Remember the impeachment? President Trump does. Even in the middle of a deadly pandemic, he made clear on Saturday that he remained fixated on purging the government of those he believes betrayed him during the inquiry that led to his Senate trial.

The president’s under-cover-of-darkness decision late the night before to fire Michael K. Atkinson, the intelligence community’s inspector general who insisted last year on forwarding a whistle-blower complaint to Congress, swept away one more official deemed insufficiently loyal as part of a larger purge that has already rid the administration of many key figures in the impeachment drama.

Mr. Trump made no effort at a news briefing on Saturday to pretend that the dismissal was anything other than retribution for Mr. Atkinson’s action under a law requiring such complaints be disclosed to lawmakers. “I thought he did a terrible job, absolutely terrible,” Mr. Trump said. “He took a fake report and he brought it to Congress.” Capping a long, angry denunciation of the impeachment, he added, “The man is a disgrace to I.G.s. He’s a total disgrace.”

Mr. Trump’s hunt for informers and turncoats proceeds even

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Tribunal members in the state of Assam in India say they felt pressured to declare Muslims noncitizens. PAGE 18

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The war court where the 9/11 defendants are on trial operates under classification rules that are inconsistent, complex and sometimes absurd. PAGE 19

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In “Hidden Valley Road,” by Robert Kolker, schizophrenia strikes six of a Colorado family’s 12 children. PAGE 1



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Even in places like a remote corner of Oregon where social distancing was already a way of life, the pandemic has begun to reshape the economy. PAGE 1

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#### Charlie Warzel

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Jeff Schoep led America’s largest neo-Nazi group; now says he wants to help destroy it. Some are skeptical. PAGE 21

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The documentary series on Netflix left viewers wondering what happened next and where they are now. Here are some answers. PAGE 24

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A coach’s conviction for sexual abuse raises doubts about the oversight supplied by tennis’s governing body. PAGE 1

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Who better than Larry David of “Seinfeld” and “Curb Your Enthusiasm” to guide us through being together alone, Maureen Dowd writes. PAGE 1

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Some of us are mating in captivity. Some of us not at all. What is considered safe sex right now? PAGE 4

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#### Kim Kardashian, Prison Activist

The reality TV star has become a force in criminal justice, while continuing to sell beauty products online. PAGE 8



### TRAVEL

#### Recalling a Fearful Lockdown

In 1966, the writer Paul Theroux was in Uganda at a time of curfew and violence. It shaped his thinking about the imperative of bearing witness. PAGE 6

