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NEW YORK, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22, 2020

Today, mostly sunny, breezy, cooler, high 52. **Tonight**, clouds building in, low 40. Tomorrow, mostly cloudy skies, a little rain in the afternoon, high 52. Weather map, Page B12.

\$3.00

Trump to Order A 60-Day Stop Of Green Cards

Backs Off His Broader Ban on Work Visas

This article is by Michael D. Shear, Zolan Kanno-Youngs and Caitlin Dickerson.

WASHINGTON President Trump said on Tuesday that he would order a temporary halt in issuing green cards to prevent people from immigrating to the United States, but he backed away from plans to suspend guest worker programs after business groups exploded in anger at the threat of losing access to foreign

Mr. Trump, whose administration has faced intense criticism in recent months for his handling of the coronavirus crisis, abruptly sought to change the subject Tuesday night by resuming his assault on immigration, which animated his 2016 campaign and became one of the defining issues of his presidency

JAN.

He cast his decision to "suspend immigration," which he first announced on Twitter Monday night, as a move to protect American jobs. But it comes as the United States economy sheds its work force at a record rate and when few employers are reaching out for workers at home or abroad. More than 22 million Americans have lost their jobs in the economic devastation caused by the virus and efforts to contain

Mr. Trump said that his order would initially be in effect for 60 days, but that he might extend it "based on economic conditions at the time.

"We can do that at a little bit different time if we want," he said of a second executive order that could further restrict immigration.

While numerous studies have concluded that immigration has an overall positive effect on the American work force and wages for workers, Mr. Trump ignored that research on Tuesday, insisting that American citizens who have lost their jobs in recent weeks should not have to compete with foreigners when the economy reopens.

"By pausing immigration, we will help put unemployed Americans first in line for jobs as America reopens. So important," the president said. "It would be wrong and unjust for Americans laid off by the virus to be replaced with new immigrant labor flown in from abroad. We must first take care of the American worker."

Lawyers at the Justice Department were still studying whether the president had the legal authority to unilaterally suspend the issuance of green cards, an order that caught officials at the Defense Department and the Department of Homeland Security off guard, according to people with knowledge of the announcement.

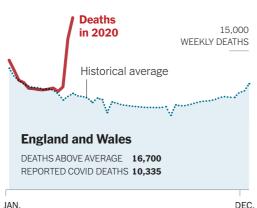
The decision not to block guest worker programs - which provide specific visas for technology workers, farm laborers and others is a concession to business groups, which assailed the White House on Tuesday. Jason Oxman, the president of the Information Technology Industry Council, a trade group, said in a statement earlier in the day that "the United

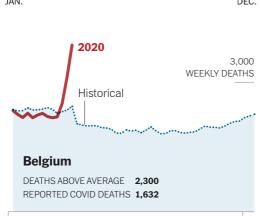
Continued on Page A26

Tracking the True Toll of the Pandemic

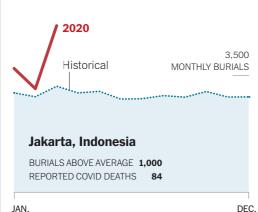
DEC.

At least 25,000 more people died over the last month than the official Covid-19 death counts report, a review of mortality data from 11 countries suggests. Article on Page A7.



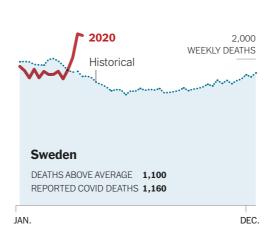


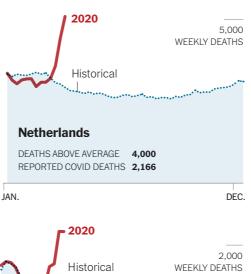




include those for all of Turkey, as city-level data has not been made public Source: New York Times analysis of mortality data

2020 10.000 WEEKLY DEATHS Historical **Spain** DEATHS ABOVE AVERAGE 19,700 REPORTED COVID DEATHS 12,401 JAN. DEC.







Charts are scaled to show relative trends across countries. Istanbul reported deaths

JIN WU AND ALLISON MCCANN/THE NEW YORK TIMES

Mapping Path of Virus From First U.S. Foothold

By MIKE BAKER and SHERI FINK

SEATTLE - As the coronavirus outbreak consumed the city of Wuhan in China, new cases of the virus began to spread out like sparks flung from a fire.

Some landed thousands of miles away. By the middle of January, one had popped up in Chicago, another one near Phoenix. Two others came down in the Los Angeles area. Thanks to a little luck and a lot of containment, those flashes of the virus appear to have been snuffed out before they had a chance to take hold.

But on Jan. 15, at the international airport south of Seattle, a 35-year-old man returned from a visit to his family in the Wuhan region. He grabbed his luggage and



A flow cell used for sequencing the coronavirus at a Seattle lab.

booked a ride-share to his home north of the city.

The next day, as he went back to his tech job east of Seattle, he felt the first signs of a cough — not a bad one, not enough to send him home. He attended a group lunch

with colleagues that week at a seafood restaurant near his office. As his symptoms got worse, he went grocery shopping near his

Days later, after the man became the first person in the United States to test positive for the coronavirus, teams from federal, state and local agencies descended to contain the case. Sixty-eight people — the ride-share driver at the airport, the lunchmates at the seafood restaurant, the other patients at the clinic where the man was first seen - were monitored for weeks. To everyone's relief, none ever tested positive for the

But if the story ended there, the arc of the coronavirus's sweep through the United States would Continued on Page A8

SENATE APPROVES MORE AID TO FUND SMALL BUSINESSES

Democrats Win Concessions, Including on Testing, in \$484 Billion Plan

By EMILY COCHRANE and JIM TANKERSLEY

WASHINGTON — The Senate approved a \$484 billion coronavirus relief package on Tuesday that would revive a depleted loan program for distressed small businesses and provide funds for hospitals and coronavirus testing, breaking a partisan impasse over the latest infusion of federal money to address the public health and economic crisis brought on by the pandemic.

The measure was the product of an intense round of negotiations between Democrats and the Trump administration that unfolded as the small-business loan program created by the \$2.2 trillion stimulus law quickly ran out of funding, collapsing under a glut of applications from desperate companies struggling to stay afloat.

But it was only a fraction of the amount of money that Congress will most likely consider in the weeks to come, as lawmakers contemplate spending another \$1 trillion or more on yet another sweeping government response to the pandemic, and Democrats vow to revisit items that the administration and Republicans insisted on leaving aside for a future bill.

At the insistence of Democrats, the measure would provide \$25 billion for testing and a mandate that the Trump administration establish a national strategy to help states and localities, which are required to outline their own plans for testing. It is a step that public health experts and governors have said will be crucial to allowing states and sectors of the economy to safely reopen in the weeks and months to come, although economists and health researchers say the funding is a fraction of what will ultimately be necessary to deploy the kind of testing and tracing that will be needed to restart large amounts of activity by the summer.

That provision — which the White House and Republican leaders had initially resisted was one of a host of concessions that Democrats won during more



Senator Mitch McConnell, the majority leader, spoke Tuesday.

than a week of intense negotiations in which they demanded that the money for the small-business loan program be coupled with funds for other urgent needs.

The resulting deal would bring to \$2.7 trillion the amount of federal aid that Congress has approved in the past six weeks - including jobless aid, direct payments to individuals, a corporate bailout and other help for strapped businesses - in an unprecedented effort to respond to the pandemic and the economic chaos it has wrought.

It came as Southern states took their first tentative steps toward Continued on Page A11

'I'm Just Living a Nightmare': U.S. Oil Industry Grinds to Halt

By CLIFFORD KRAUSS

HOUSTON - Workers at Marathon Petroleum's refinery in Gallup, N.M., are turning off the valves. Oil companies in West Texas are paying early termination fees to contract employees rather than drill new wells. And in Montana, producers are shutting down wells and slashing salaries

and benefits. Just a few months ago, the American oil industry was triumphant in its quest for energy independence, having turned the United States into the world's biggest petroleum producer for the first time in decades. But that exhilaration has given way to despair as the coronavirus has kneecapped the economy, destroying demand for gasoline, diesel and jet fuel as cars sit parked in driveways and planes are consigned to remote fields and runways.

The oil industry has lived through many booms and busts,

From Texas to Montana, Facing an Epic Bust

but never before have prices collapsed as they have this week. On Monday, one closely watched price fell below zero, meaning some traders had to pay others to take crude oil off their hands. That price — for May delivery — recovered on Tuesday, but not nearly to levels where oil companies can make a profit. At the same time, the price of oil for June delivery fell by about half to roughly \$10 a

barrel. "I'm just living a nightmare," said Ben Sheppard, president of the Permian Basin Petroleum Association, which represents companies in the area of Texas and New Mexico that became the world's most productive oil field last year.

In Midland, Texas, the epicen-Continued on Page A17

They Amplify Fight Against Lockdowns, Quietly

This article is by **Kenneth P. Vogel**, Jim Rutenberg and Lisa Lerer.

WASHINGTON — An informal coalition of influential conservative leaders and groups, some with close connections to the White House, has been quietly working to nurture protests and apply political and legal pressure to overturn state and local orders intended to stop the spread of the

The Conservative Force Behind the Rallies

The groups have tapped their networks to drive up turnout at recent rallies in state capitals, dispatched their lawyers to file lawsuits, and paid for polling and re-

search to undercut the arguments behind restrictions that have closed businesses and limited the movement of most Americans.

Among those fighting the orders are FreedomWorks and Tea Party Patriots, which played pivotal roles in the beginning of Tea Party protests starting more than a decade ago. Also involved are a law firm led partly by former Trump White House officials, a Continued on Page A20

Steve Eder and David Enrich. President Trump's signature

hotel in the nation's capital wants a break on the terms of its lease. The landlord determining the fate of the request is Mr. Trump's own administration.

Trump International Hotel, just a few blocks from the White House, had been a favored gather-

Family's Business Asks U.S. About Its Lease

Trump Hotel Seeks Help From a Familiar Source

This article is by Ben Protess,

ing place for lobbyists, foreign dignitaries and others hoping to score points with the president. But like most hotels, it is now nearly empty and looking to cut costs because of the coronavirus

In recent weeks, the president's family business has inquired about changing its lease payments, according to people familiar with the matter, which the federal government has reported amount to nearly \$268,000 per

The Trump Organization owns and operates the luxury hotel, but it is in a federally owned building Continued on Page A10



NATIONAL A19-26

Earth Day, 50 Years On

The demonstrations helped shape an environmental movement. But what's gotten better, and worse, since? PAGE A22

Trump's Bias Claim Is Undercut

A Republican-led Senate report backs intelligence findings that Russia interfered in the 2016 election. PAGE A21

INTERNATIONAL A16-18

U.S. Enters South China Sea

The move by U.S. warships into disputed waters near Malaysia comes as tensions intensify with China over the coronavirus pandemic. PAGE A16

North Korea Health Rumors

Speculation raged over the accuracy of reports that Kim Jong-un was recovering from heart surgery. PAGE A18

SPORTSWEDNESDAY B8-9

Gronkowski Back With Brady

Rob Gronkowski, an All-Pro tight end planning his N.F.L. return, was traded by the Patriots to the Buccaneers. PAGE B9

BUSINESS B1-7

Dirge for Department Stores

Shuttered flagships. Empty malls. Canceled orders. Risks of bankruptcy. As the outbreak hits the economy, "the genre is toast," an expert says. PAGE B1

OBITUARIES A27, B10-11

Science's 'Real Spider-Man' Norman Platnick had 48 species of

spiders, other arachnids and a millipede named after him. He was 68. PAGE B10

Those We've Lost

A children's TV host, an exiled writer and a beloved store greeter are among the recent coronavirus victims. PAGE A27

An Unplanned Intermission

Michelle Lie and other members of the Tesla Ouartet were winning applause, if not riches. Then came Covid-19. PAGE C1

Climate Change Page-Turners

Want to educate yourself about the environment? Have we got a book actually 10 of them — for you. $\,\,$ PAGE C4

FOOD D1-8

Delectable Words

Our writers have picked out 11 cookbooks that could brighten up your kitchen in a time of quarantine. PAGE D1

Lactose and Latkes

In Poland, the Communist-era cafes known as milk bars provide affordable food and a dose of nostalgia. PAGE D1

EDITORIAL, OP-ED A28-29

Thomas L. Friedman PAGE A29



