



EMILE DUCKE FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

A high school in northern Germany. Students are told to dress warmly because windows and doors are kept open for air circulation.

Germany Reopens Its Schools, Inviting Both Relief and Risk

By KATRIN BENNHOLD

NEUSTRELITZ, Germany — It was Lea Hammermeister’s first day back at school after almost two months at home and she was already preparing for a test. Not a math or physics test. A coronavirus test — one she would administer herself. Ms. Hammermeister, a 17-year-old high school junior, entered the tent erected in the schoolyard along with some classmates — all standing six feet apart — and picked up a test kit. She inserted the swab deep into her throat, gagging slightly as instructed, then closed and labeled the sample before returning to class. It took less than three minutes.

The results landed in her inbox overnight. A positive test would require staying home for two weeks. Ms. Hammermeister tested negative. She now wears a green sticker that allows her to move around the school without a mask — until the next test four days later. “I was very relieved,” she said happily. In addition to feeling safe around her classmates and teachers, who all tested negative, she feels like less of a risk to her grandmother, who eats with the family every day. The self-administered test at the high school in Neustrelitz, a

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Questions of Bias in Virus Care Haunt Mourning Black Families

By JOHN ELIGON and AUDRA D. S. BURCH

Long dissatisfied with the doctor treating his diabetes, Reginald Relf decided to fight through whatever was causing his nagging cough. But then his temperature spiked and his breathing became so labored that he reluctantly took his sister’s advice to visit a doctor. The staff at an urgent care clinic in suburban Chicago sent him home, without testing him for Covid-19 but after advising him to quarantine. So Mr. Relf, a 50-year-old African-American engineer, settled into his mother’s basement. A week later, after he was found dead, his sister, Ami Relf, was left

shaken. “When I finally get him to go to seek help, he’s turned away,” she said. “If he was a middle-aged white woman, would they have turned her away? Those are questions that haunt me.” The coronavirus has left tens of thousands of grief-stricken American families struggling to make sense of the seemingly random terror it inflicts, sickening many but taking only some lives. But for many black families, mourning coronavirus deaths brings an added burden as they wonder whether racial bias may have played a role.

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Biden’s Lessons From the Time He Faced Palin

By MATT FLEGENHEIMER

Joe Biden was getting the hang of being overshadowed. It was not a bad life. Less than a week had passed since Barack Obama, the Democratic supernova of 2008, had announced Mr. Biden, a recent presidential also-ran, as his running mate. And after a well-turned nominating convention in Denver in late August — “This is his time,” Mr. Biden told the crowd, pumping his fist on the key word, “this is our time” — the two were jetting off on a joint campaign swing

THE LONG RUN Making the Right Choice

when the patter of breaking news consumed their plane. John McCain, their Republican opponent, had made his selection for vice president. Mr. Obama’s chief strategist, David Axelrod, briefed the front of the cabin. Mr. Biden scrunched his face a bit, searching his mental database: “Sarah Palin, Sarah Palin,” he repeated, thinking aloud. He had nothing to add. “He couldn’t even place the name,” Mr. Axelrod recalled. Neither of these things would happen again. Twelve years later, with Mr. Biden the presumptive 2020 Democratic nominee, the frenetic final

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IN HARM’S WAY

Meet health care workers from around the world who are risking their lives to fight the coronavirus pandemic, even as some countries ease restrictions on public life. The Times has started a collection of their stories and reflections from the front lines, which will appear every Monday. **PAGE A13**

ESCALATING CRISIS PUTS DEEP STRAINS ON KEY INDUSTRIES

At Iowa Meat Plant, It’s Worker Safety vs. Food Supply

This article is by Ana Swanson, David Yaffe-Bellany and Michael Corkery.

On April 10, Tony Thompson, the sheriff for Black Hawk County in Iowa, visited the giant Tyson Foods pork plant in Waterloo. What he saw, he said, “shook me to the core.” Workers, many of them immigrants, were crowded elbow to elbow as they broke down hog carcasses zipping by on a conveyor belt. The few who had face coverings wore a motley assortment of bandannas, painters’ masks or even sleep masks stretched around their mouths. Some had masks hanging around their necks. Sheriff Thompson and other local officials lobbied Tyson to close the plant, worried about a coronavirus outbreak. In an April 14 phone call, county health officials asked Tyson to shut down temporarily, Tyson said. But Tyson was “less than cooperative,” said the sheriff, who supervises the county’s coronavirus response, and Iowa’s governor declined to shut the facility.

“Waterloo Tyson is running,” the company said in a text message to employees on April 17. “Thank you team members! WE ARE PROUD OF YOU!” Five days later, the plant was closed. Tyson said the reason was “worker absenteeism” as well as a spike in cases and community concerns. As of Thursday, the county health department had recorded 1,031 coronavirus infections among Tyson employees — more than a third of the work force. Some are on ventilators. Three have died, according to Tyson.

The plant didn’t stay closed for long. As meat shortages hit grocery stores and fast-food restaurants, political pressure built to get the dozens of plants across the country that had shut down because of virus outbreaks up and running again. After an executive order by President Trump declared the meat supply “critical infrastructure” and shielded the companies from certain liability, Tyson reopened its Waterloo facility on Thursday. New safety precautions have been added, like plexiglass barriers along the production line, infrared temperature scanners to

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Losing Millions Each Day, Airlines Face a Bleak Future

By NIRAJ CHOKSHI

Delta Air Lines started 2020 celebrating what it said was the most successful year in company history. Not long after, it shared a record \$1.6 billion in profits with its 90,000 employees. But with air travel nearly shut down by the coronavirus, the airline is now bleeding money and will drop 10 more airports from its already skeletal network on Wednesday. Even as Delta and the other major airlines in the United States dramatically slash schedules, they are averaging an anemic 23 passengers on each domestic flight and losing \$350 million to \$400 million a day as expenses like payroll, rent and aircraft maintenance far exceed the



RICK BOWMER/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Airlines have made major cuts to every imaginable expense.

money they are bringing in. Passenger traffic is down about 94 percent and half of the industry’s 6,215 planes are parked at major airports and desert airstrips, according to Airlines for America, a trade group. Yet, devastating as the downturn has been, the future is even more bleak. With much of the world closed for business, and no widely available vaccine in sight, it may be months, if not years, before airlines operate as many flights as they did before the crisis. Even when people start flying again, the industry could be transformed, much as it was after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. And airline executives need only look in the not-distant past to see how lesser crises sank carriers that were household names like Pan Am and Trans World Airlines. The current crisis could push some airlines, especially smaller ones, into bankruptcy or make them takeover targets. Consumer

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Wary Paramedics in Hot Spots Avoid CPR for Covid Patients

By RUKMINI CALLIMACHI

NEWARK — The calls for patients in cardiac arrest came in one after another. A 39-year-old man, followed by a 65-year-old, whose neighbor called 911 after getting no response when he rang the doorbell. Then a 52-year-old woman’s heart stopped, as did that of a 90-year-old, who had collapsed on her bedroom floor. The ambulances turned on their sirens and screamed through red lights. But what the paramedics did after rushing to the victims — or more precisely, what they did not do — is a window into how a deadly virus has reshaped emergency medicine. After confirming that the patients’ hearts had flatlined, they declared each of them dead at the scene, without attempting CPR. Before coronavirus cases hit hard a few weeks ago, John

McAleer, a paramedic who responded to the call for the 90-year-old woman, would have begun chest compressions. His partner would have started an IV to administer epinephrine, which acts as a stimulant. They might have used the defibrillator to try to shock her heart back to life. He would have done this even though studies have found that only about 1 to 3 percent of people found in her condition can be resuscitated. For that is what emergency workers have been trained to do: make every possible effort to save every life. “It’s unsettling because it does go against everything we’ve been taught,” said Mr. McAleer, 51. Around the country, in cities and counties in the grip of the pandemic, emergency medical tech-

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The Olympian Down the Street
Allyson Felix, a six-time gold medal sprinter, talks about having to train in her Los Angeles neighborhood. **PAGE D2**

A Mission Amid Empty Seats
With no competitions, sports centers have been enlisted in the battle to save lives. A photo essay. **PAGES D4-8**



TRACKING AN OUTBREAK A4-17

Hackers Target Research
The U.S. will accuse China of seeking vaccine and treatment data, part of an uptick in state-run attacks. **PAGE A7**

NATIONAL A20-23

Sharing Details of Divorce
A court rules that nondisparagement orders that prevent estranged spouses from discussing their cases on social media are unconstitutional. **PAGE A23**

Georgia Jogger’s Best Friend
Ahmaud Arbery and Akeem Baker saw each other as brothers. Mr. Baker now struggles to cope with his loss. **PAGE A21**

INTERNATIONAL A18-19

Lebanon in Turmoil
Poor planning, corruption and the shock of a pandemic have caused its currency to crash and consumer prices to jump. Hunger looms. **PAGE A18**

BUSINESS B1-8

Coffee Filter, Reimagined
Melitta, the German maker of the original paper coffee filter, has retooled its production line to make masks. **PAGE B1**

Unlocking Pretax Care Funds
If you’re stuck with dependent-care money you can’t use, you’ll lose it — so you may have to get creative. **PAGE B1**

ARTS C1-8

The Pure Joy of Little Richard
Jon Pareles looks back at the career of the star who died this past Saturday, and lists some of his best songs. **PAGE C1**

A Story of Determination

Daniel Dae Kim discusses a documentary on Asian-American history. Below, a scrapbook seen in the film. **PAGE C1**



OBITUARIES A24-25

Rapper Turned Music Mogul
Andre Harrell founded Uptown Records and gave Sean Combs, a.k.a. Diddy, his first break. He was 59. **PAGE A24**

Fun-Loving Restaurateur
Ben Benson helped invent singles bars and drew a tony crowd to his New York steakhouse. He was 89. **PAGE A25**

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Charles M. Blow **PAGE A27**



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