





# Praying the Headlines

---

*"The prayer of a righteous person is powerful in what it can achieve." —James 5:16*



Let us pray.

---



“

*May the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ be blessed!  
He is the compassionate Father and God of all comfort.  
He's the one who comforts us in all our trouble  
so that we can comfort other people  
who are in every kind of trouble.  
We offer the same comfort  
that we ourselves received from God.*

*2 Corinthians 1:3-4*





*Compassionate God,  
as we consider the brokenness  
of the world around us,  
we acknowledge our great need for you.  
Lord, in your mercy,  
hear our prayer.*





We pray for the world.





WORLD

# Some States Ease Lockdowns as Virus Cases Near 3 Million

A handful of U.S. states are reopening but some residents and business owners are skeptical that it is safe to return to stores as U.S. infections near one million. [378](#) [1 hour ago](#)





## Coronavirus closes in on Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh's cramped, unprepared camps

April 20, 2020 2:05pm EDT

Nary a mask in sight at a market area in Bangladesh's Kutupalong refugee camp for Rohingya, Ukhia, March 24, 2020. Suzauddin Rubel/AFP via Getty Images

Email

Twitter

Facebook

LinkedIn

Print

7

30

Coronavirus is spreading quickly in densely populated Bangladesh, despite a nationwide shutdown put in place a month ago.

This preventive measure has proven challenging to implement due to lack of awareness of the coronavirus and the absence of a social safety net. Extreme poverty also forces many Bangladeshis to keep working and looking for food despite the risks. Bangladesh had 2,948 confirmed COVID-19 cases as of April 20.







April 24, 2020

## **Mass graves for coronavirus victims shouldn't come as a shock – it's how the poor have been buried for centuries**

*Vicki Daniel, Case Western Reserve University*

From burial sites targeted by grave robbers to disposing of ashes at sea, the job of disposing of the unclaimed dead has a rich history. Sadly, it still goes on today and is on the rise.





We pray for the Church.



# Prepare now for post-pandemic ministry, church professionals urge

Dennis Sadowski Apr 20, 2020  
CATHOLIC\_NEWS\_SERVICE



# Can Social Distancing Reinvent Youth Ministry?

During this pandemic, youth leaders have the opportunity to reexamine discipleship models and measurements.



**KARA POWELL**



Image: Illustration by Mallory Rentsch / Source Images: Peter Dazeley / Halfpoint / Pollyana Ventura / Mayur Kakade





April 16, 2020

## How to build community while worshipping online

Heidi A. Campbell, *Texas A&M University*

Churches have moved online. But to be able to properly connect with people, they need to find a way to build community, says a scholar who studies digital religion.





We pray for the helpers.



# They lived in a factory for 28 days to make millions of pounds of raw PPE materials to help fight coronavirus



# Community comes to aid of hospital



PHOTO PROVIDED

Health care workers at Southwestern Vermont Medical Center wear some of the masks and surgical caps donated by members of the community.







Dominic Mercado of Vineland invited the community to celebrate his 12th birthday by donating pasta and sauce to the Vineland Soup Kitchen. They delivered and helped him restock the nonprofit's Landis Avenue pantry. DEBORAH M. MARKO/DAILY JOURNAL

# Birthday gifting

Just what he wanted – a stocked Soup Kitchen pantry

Deborah M. Marko Vineland Daily Journal  
USA TODAY NETWORK - NEW JERSEY

*"Three things in human life are important: the first is to be kind; the second is to be kind; and the third is to be kind." – Henry James*

VINELAND – Deciding how to mark his 12th birthday, Dominic Mercado opted to celebrate by filling plates.

The Sgt. Dominick Pilla Middle School sixth-grader hosted a weekend birthday party that stocked the Vineland Soup Kitchen pantry and got a shout from Gov. Phil Murphy.

"This is just something how our community comes together," said Matt Milam, a soup kitchen board of trustee. "We are blessed."

See HELPERS, Page 3A



Dominic collected donations in front of his house. COURTESY OF CARLOS MERCADO

## About this series

This is part of The Helpers, a new series shining light on those in the community who are sharing resources and stepping up to help others during the COVID-19 pandemic.





We pray for our community.





COURTNEY TALAK, THE DAILY NEWS

Winlock senior Bryce Cline sits on a loafing shed at home Tuesday.

# Class of 2020 seniors mourn their lost year

Sports, graduation, routines disrupted by viral outbreak

MARISSA HEFFERNAN  
marissa.heffernan@tdn.com

Robbed, disappointed and uncertain.

However they describe it, students from the graduating class of 2020 feel cheated by COVID-19, which has scotched classes, commencements, proms, spring sports, school plays and passels of other rite-of-passage activities.

The 2020-21 academic year was supposed to be Kelso senior Kaylee Woods' best year, she said, after struggling through four school changes.

"Senior year was the year I came back to Kelso and was happy again," Kaylee said. "I started really strong. I loved going to all state for choir and doing the national anthem for the school and finding myself again."

Kaylee said she brought her grades up, and this year was her chance to be recognized. Without walking at commencement, she said she won't have closure.

"It's really hard, knowing that

this year is how I wanted it be and was so important — and it's being taken away from me," Kaylee said.

Isabella Cueto, Clatskanie senior, also said she was supposed to be recognized for turning her grades around.

"My freshman and sophomore years, I didn't try. My GPA was 2.2," Isabella said. "I didn't think it mattered until I switched it around junior year. And this year I started to think I'll actually be wearing a cap and gown."

But she takes pride in knowing that if there had been a graduation ceremony, she would have

walked across the stage.

Kelso senior Allie Gaston said she thinks she'll miss high school more than she would have otherwise, because she won't get to participate in ceremonies like scholarship night and the grad walk through her old middle and elementary schools.

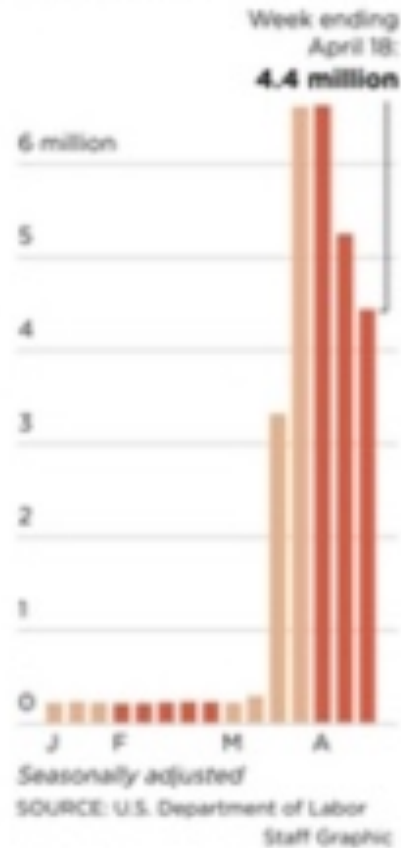
"I was looking forward to seeing all my past teachers," Allie said. "It's like our 12 years all lead up to this point and it's not really like we get an official end. It just stopped.... I feel like I've been almost robbed of a third of my year"

Please see SENIORS, Page A9



## CORONAVIRUS

### U.S. jobless claims



# 1 in 6 U.S. jobs have been lost

Unemployment may be over 15%, worse than during Great Recession

By **CHRISTOPHER RUGABER**  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — More than 4.4 million laid-off workers applied for U.S. unemployment benefits last

week as job cuts escalated across an economy that remains all but shut down, the government said Thursday.

Roughly 26 million people have now filed for jobless aid in the five weeks since the coronavirus outbreak began forcing millions of employers to close their doors. About 1 in 6 American workers have lost their jobs in the past five

weeks, by far the worst string of layoffs on record. That's more than the number of people who live in the 10 largest U.S. cities combined.

Economists estimate that the national unemployment rate sits between 15% and 20%, much higher than it was during the Great Recession in

See **JOB** Page 15A



# PORCH DAY

Saturday is a social distancing community event

BY MIKE CONLEY  
mconley@mcdownews.com

**S**aturday will be a day for people in McDowell County to step outside on their front porches or lawns, wave to their neighbors and share their fun experiences and photos on social media.

The Marion East Community Forum is sponsoring McDowell Porch Day from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday for all of McDowell County. It is a time when folks are encouraged to get out of the house, sit awhile on their front porches or lawns. You are encouraged to smile and wave at your neighbors. You can sing a song or dance or show off your spring flowers. The goal is for everyone to have some outdoor fun during this time of "stay-at-home" orders because of the COVID-19 restrictions.

Debora Workman, coordinator of the Marion East Community Forum, said the main objective is to connect everyone who is staying at home and may feel bored or sad during this time of social distancing.

"It's a time where neighbors can talk from afar, laugh and smile a little," she said to The McDowell News.

Their videos or photos can be posted to the Marion East Community Forum's Facebook page or sent to them via e-mail at marioneastcommunityforum@gmail.com and the forum

See **EVENT**, Page 4A

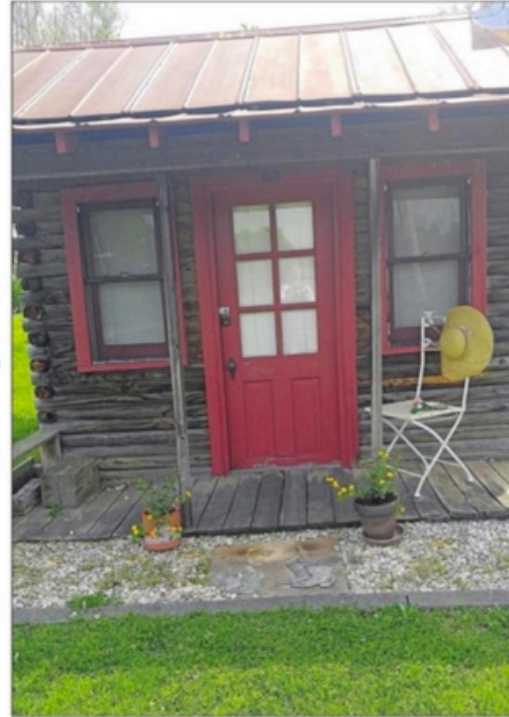


PHOTO SUBMITTED

The Marion East Community Forum is sponsoring McDowell Porch Day from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday for all of McDowell County. It is a time when folks are encouraged to get out of the house, sit awhile on their front porches or lawns. You are encouraged to smile and wave at your neighbors. You can sing a song or dance or show off your spring flowers. The goal is for everyone to have some outdoor fun during this time of "stay-at-home" orders because of the COVID-19 restrictions. You can also post your videos or photos on social media for McDowell Porch Day. This photo shows a cabin in East Marion but it is for everyone in McDowell.



On Saturday, the community is invited to participate in McDowell Porch Day. It's easy. Spend time on your porch, wave to neighbors and share photos and videos online.





We now invite you to offer your personal prayer requests to the Lord.





*We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed;  
perplexed, but not in despair;  
persecuted, but not abandoned;  
struck down, but not destroyed.*

*Remind us, Lord, that what is seen is temporary,  
and what is unseen is eternal.*

*2 Corinthians 4:8, 18*



Go in peace.

---







*“Give thanks to the Lord, because he is good,  
because his faithful love endures forever.”*

*—Psalm 107:1*



