

Opinion

The new great generation

The Greatest Generation saved the world for democracy and humanity during World War II. They lived through and survived The Great Depression. Now their descendants are living through a challenge just as big.

We all know that the coronavirus (COVID-19) has upended the globe. The virus is reaching into the remotest areas. Oregon is under a shelter-in-place order as well as an order for all non-essential businesses to close to assure social distancing. Yet, there is more traffic than one would think necessary.

We have to buy groceries while we hunker down, non-elective medical appointments need to be kept, there are prescriptions to be picked up.

From the beginning of the pandemic experts have told the public that the spread of the virus can be slowed if everyone follows the directives regarding washing hands and keeping at least six feet from others. Unfortunately, not everyone heeds that and the country is

now facing what could be the worst weeks of the crisis.

At press time, Congress and the Trump Administration had agreed to a \$2 trillion economic package to help businesses, the health care industry and citizens. The proposal provides \$1,200 in direct payments to taxpayers with incomes up to \$75,000; families would receive an additional \$500 per child. This would create a safety net for those whose employment and businesses are affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Economists expect the nation to shed millions of jobs as businesses of all sizes close their doors or reduce their operations. The economic package would extend unemployment benefits by 13 weeks.

The \$2 trillion economic package will alleviate some of the nation's suffering but it won't make COVID-19 dissipate. The president says we are in a war against the coronavirus. We all have our part to play in slowing the virus, though it will call for sacrifice—this is nothing less

than our collective struggles during The Great Recession or World War II.

Society must look out for each other. What assistance can we offer to those less fortunate? For those less mobile? Offering to make grocery store runs would be a valuable service to shut-ins or the elderly.

For those who bought hundreds of rolls of toilet paper, consider sharing some with neighbors who were not so lucky to get what they need.

Consideration, patience and tolerance are just as important to society now as distancing and washing hands.

One thing we do know is that nothing lasts forever. No one knows when the pandemic will end. We must not lose hope that medical experts will eventually develop a vaccine. We must not lose faith in the systems that are designed to protect us.

While we all live through this it is important that we stayed informed, remain vigilant and look out for our fellow man. The heirs of the Greatest Generation are fighting this new battle with the same fervency as their forebears. —LAZ

zaitz writes

Must we kill the economy to kill the virus?

By PATRICK J. BUCHANAN

"We cannot let the cure be worse than the problem itself," tweeted the president on Sunday night, adding that, after the current 15-day shutdown, "we will make a decision as to which way we want to go."

President Trump is said to be privately expressing a deepening concern at the damage the coronavirus shutdown is doing to the U.S. economy and debating whether it can be safely reopened.

Though castigated for his remark, Trump has a point.

The U.S. is rightly using extreme measures to meet the threat and control the virus that threatens the lives of millions of Americans, with the elderly sick foremost among them. And we need to do so without killing the economy upon which scores of millions of other Americans depend.

Clearly, America was unprepared for this pandemic.

And there will be time enough to assess responsibility for the lack of surgical masks, medical gowns, rubber gloves, respirators, ventilators and hospital beds.

The immediate imperative is to produce those beds and that equipment and get it delivered to doctors, nurses and hospital staff, the front-line troops in the battle to control the virus.

However, during this shutdown, all "nonessential businesses" are be-

ing closed and their workers sent home to shelter in place and to keep "social distance" from friends and neighbors to minimize the risk of spreading this easily transmissible virus.

Unfortunately, what is "nonessential" to some—bars, restaurants, hotels, stores, cruise ships, tourist sites, shops, malls—are places of employment and indispensable sources of income for millions of other Americans.

Close the businesses where these Americans work and you terminate the paychecks on which they depend to pay the rent and buy the food and medicines they and their families need to shelter and live. And if the salaries and wages on which workers depend are cut off, how are these millions of newly unemployed supposed to live?

How do those who follow the instructions of the president and governors to remain in their homes get their prescriptions filled and buy the food to feed their families?

How long can the shutdown be sustained if the necessities of life for the unemployed and unpaid begin to run out? Is it necessary to create an economic and social crisis to solve the medical crisis?

"We had to destroy the village in order to save it," was a remark attributed to a U.S. Army officer in the Vietnam War. Must we cripple or destroy the economy to res-

cue the American nation from the coronavirus crisis of 2020?

Then there is the matter of time. Many Americans can survive on what they have on hand for two or four weeks. Far fewer can survive without income for two or four months.

If we shut down the economy, what will we have when the medical crisis passes, be that in May, June, July, August or September?

Will all those nonessential businesses we put to sleep come back to life?

The free market system that is the legacy of Hamilton and the Founding Fathers is the world's best design for the distribution of goods and services and ensuring prosperity. And in a population where life expectancy is decades beyond what it was in the early 20th century, there are government programs to provide the necessities of life for those who can no longer access or afford them.

But businesses are needed to deliver the goods.

And if, by government command, America's free economy is partly shut down as unessential in this medical crisis, the government could be responsible for imposing the conditions that lead to social disorder.

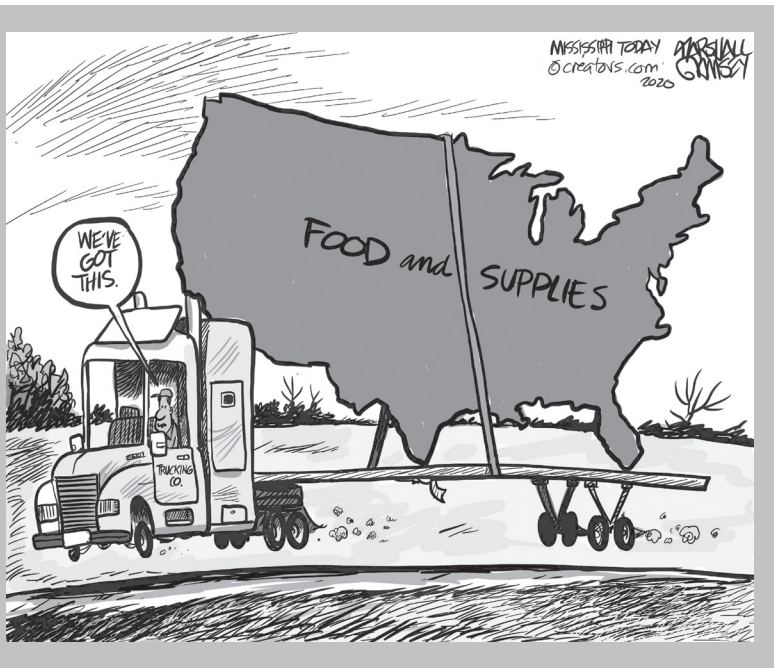
At some point, the country is going to have to open up the supply chains and take the risks to let the market work to provide food—or people will engage in panic buying, hoarding and using any means to get what they need for themselves and their families.

Reports of folks in this heavily armed nation stocking up on guns and ammunition suggest a widespread apprehension of what may be coming.

If the medical crisis is allowed to induce an economic crisis that leads to a social crisis, the American political system, our democratic system, may itself be severely tested.

Lest we forget: In the greatest crisis in this nation's history, in which the issue was whether the American Union would be severed into two nations, Abraham Lincoln suspended the right of habeas corpus, shut down state legislatures, closed newspapers, jailed journalists and was prepared to arrest the chief justice. And for the dictatorial measures he took, and for waging the bloodiest war in U.S. history, against fellow Americans, Lincoln is now regarded by many as our greatest president. (Creators Syndicate)

other voices



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letters

The power of prayer

To the Editor:
Keizer residents: I am forming a "virtual" club. It is called P.A.C.C.T., People Against Climate Change (and Coronavirus) Today. We can't gather, but we can do what this club requires.

We can join in spirit and in prayer to call on the God that makes all things new. I hope you will join me in earnest and humble prayer and I look forward to the day that we may meet in person.

Nancy Vowell
Keizer

Be wary of pandemic scams

As the COVID-19 takes a growing toll on people's pocketbooks, there are reports that the government will soon be sending money by check or direct deposit to each of us. The details are still being worked out, but there are a few important things to know, no matter what the financial injections total.

1. The government will not ask you to pay anything up front to get this money. No fees. No charges. Not anything.

2. The government will not call to ask for your Social Security number, bank account, or credit card number. Anyone who does is a scammer.

3. The checks aren't yet a reality. Anyone who tells you they can get you the money now is a scammer.

No matter what this payment winds up being, only scammers will ask you to pay to get it.

Some examples of scams already linked to COVID-19 include:

Testing scams: Scammers are selling fake at-home test kits or going door-to-door performing fake tests for money.

Treatment scams: Scammers are offering to sell fake cures, vaccines, and advice on unproven treatments for COVID-19.

Supply scams: Scammers are creating fake shops, websites, social media accounts, and email addresses claiming to sell medical supplies currently in high demand, such as surgical masks. When consumers attempt to purchase supplies through these channels, fraudsters pocket the money and never provide the prom-

ised supplies.

Provider scams: Scammers are contacting people by phone and email, pretending to be doctors and hospitals that have treated a friend or relative for COVID-19, and demanding payment for that treatment.

Charity scams: Scammers are soliciting donations for individuals, groups, and areas affected by COVID-19.

Phishing scams: Scammers posing as national and global health authorities, including the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), are sending phishing emails designed to trick recipients into downloading malware or providing personal identifying and financial information. Scammers often employ addresses that differ only slightly from those belonging to the entities they are impersonating. For example, they might use "cdc.com" or "cdc.org" instead of "cdc.gov."

App scams: Scammers are creating and manipulating mobile apps designed to track the spread of COVID-19 to insert malware that will compromise users' devices and personal information.

Keep up to date with the latest Coronavirus-related scams at www.ftc.gov/coronavirus or by signing up to get these consumer alerts. If you or someone you know believe you've been the target or victim of an outbreak-related fraud scheme, please contact the FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3) by visiting www.IC3.gov.

police scanner

SUNDAY, MARCH 15

- 5:04 p.m. - Arrest for shoplifting on 3800 block River Rd N.
- 10:33 p.m. - Criminal mischief and crime damage on 4400 block River Rd N.

MONDAY, MARCH 16

- 1 a.m. - Criminal mischief and crime damage on 4000 block Arleta Ave NE.
- 12 a.m. - Theft by deception/false pretenses on 4900 block Rickman Rd NE.
- 3:15 p.m. - Traffic accident on Verda Lane NE and Wiessner Drive NE.
- 5:02 p.m. - Sudden death on 3800 block 3rd Ave N.

TUESDAY, MARCH 17

- 12 a.m. - Theft from vehicle on 5900 block Trail Ave NE.
- 12:51 a.m. - Physical harassment on 900 block Koala Street N.
- 11:15 a.m. - Arrest for assault on 700 block Chemawa Road N.
- 5:21 p.m. - Sudden death on 700 block Lockhaven Drive NE.
- 5:24 p.m. - Arrest for unlawful possession of methamphetamine and restraining order violation on 5000 block Briarwood Circle N.
- 8:30 p.m. - Arrest for unlawful possession of methamphetamine, identity theft and tampering with drug records on 5000 block River Road N.
- 9:05 p.m. - Criminal trespass on 5100 block Bailey Court NE.
- 9:44 p.m. - Arrest for warrant and unlawful possession of methamphetamine on 4300 block River Road N.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18

- 10 a.m. Physical harassment on 1800 block Drexler Lane NE.
- 6 a.m. - Criminal trespass on 5800 block Keizer Station Blvd.
- 6 a.m. - Theft from vehicle on 3600 block River Road N.
- 9:34 a.m. - Physical harassment on 6900 block Ridgetop Drive NE.
- 11:31 a.m. - Bench warrant on 800 block Foothill Court NE.
- 11:47 a.m. - Telephone harassment on 4200 block Tiffany Place NE.
- 2:16 p.m. - Assault on 500 block Rose Park Lane NE.
- 2:53 p.m. - Menacing use/display weapons, resisting arrest and disorderly conduct on 800 block Manbrin Drive NE.
- 8 p.m. - Theft from vehicle on 400 block Hornet Court N.

THURSDAY, MARCH 19

- 1:23 a.m. - Shoplifting on 4300 block River Road N.
- 8:04 a.m. Felon in possession of weapon on Russett Drive N and Birchwood Court N.
- 8:25 a.m. - Unlawful entry in vehicle and attempt crime on 6900 block Pierce Drive N.
- 10 p.m. - Fraudulent use of credit card on 7600 block Wheatland Road N.
- 3:08 p.m. - DUII and failure to perform duties of driver when property is damaged on River Road N and Chemawa Road N.
- 5:31 p.m. - Shoplifting on 3800 block River Road N.
- 8:30 p.m. - Stolen vehicle on 1100 block McGee Court NE.
- 10:43 p.m. - Strangulation on 3400 block Cherry Ave NE.

FRIDAY, MARCH 20

- 10 a.m. - Arrest for assault on 100 block Delta Court N.
- 11:44 a.m. - Theft from vehicle on 4400 block Thorman Ave NE.
- 4 p.m. - Burglary residence on 800 block Plymouth Drive NE.
- 8:10 a.m. - Theft from vehicle on 5000 block Joan Drive N.

SATURDAY, MARCH 21

- 10 a.m. - Arrest for assault on 100 block Delta Court N.
- 1:29 a.m. - Arrest for assault on 3600 River road N.
- 11:26 a.m. - Bench warrant on Lockhaven Drive NE and Kafir Drive NE.
- 3:25 p.m. - Criminal trespass on 5800 block Keizer Station Blvd.
- 4:21 p.m. - Shoplifting on 5400 block River Road N.
- 5:02 p.m. - Warrant served on 6800 block Jerdon Court N.
- 5:40 p.m. - Shoplifting on 6000 block Ulali Drive.
- 11:54 p.m. - Traffic accident on 4900 block Elizabeth Street N.

SUNDAY, MARCH 22

- 3 a.m. - Theft from vehicle on 4000 block Brooks Ave NE.
- 9:29 a.m. - Violate release agreement on 1200 block Clearview Ave NE.

MONDAY, MARCH 23

- 3:15 a.m. - Unlawful entry vehicle with intent to commit theft on 1500 block Alder Drive NE.

sudoku

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Enter digits from 1-9 into the blank spaces. Every row must contain one of each digit. So must every column, as must every 3x3 square.