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WASHINGTON WATCH



April 2020

Fed Rolls Out \$2.3 Trillion to Backstop 'Main Street,' Local Governments

The U.S. Federal Reserve announced a broad, \$2.3 trillion effort to bolster local governments and small and mid-sized businesses in an effort to keep the U.S. economy intact.

Read more [here](#)



Antibody Tests on the Way, Dr. Fauci Says

The top U.S. infection disease official says coronavirus antibody tests are just days away.

Read more [here](#).



16.8 Million Americans Have Filed for Unemployment Due to COVID-19 Outbreak

In the past three weeks, 16.8 million Americans have filed for unemployment aid.

Read more [here](#).



U.S. States Share, Get Creative in Hunt for Medical Supplies

With the federal stockpile drained of protective gear, states are turning to each other, private

industries and anyone who can donate.

Read more [here](#).



OPEC and Allies Agree to Pact Cutting Nearly 10 Million Barrels of Oil Per Day

The OPEC oil cartel and nations including Russia have agreed to boost oil prices by cutting nearly 10 million barrels a day in production.

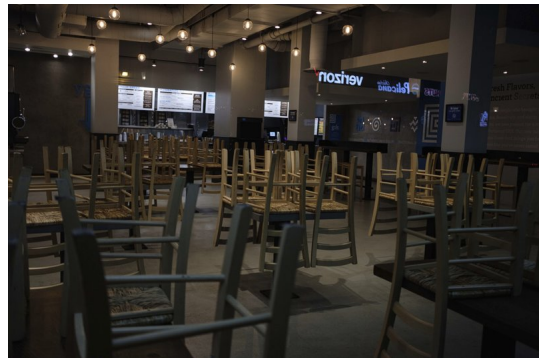
Read more [here](#).



Why Relief to Small Businesses Has Lagged

Problems range from the technical to the bureaucratic as many small businesses are waiting for the cash infusion necessary to stay alive.

Read more [here](#).



Businesses Preparing to Bring Back Their Workforce

Businesses are planning out how and when to bring back their workers when the COVID-19 pandemic wanes.

Read more [here](#).



MIT: Local Governments Working to Produce COVID-19 Contact Tracking App

Three U.S. local governments plan to sign deals to become the first to adopt a location tracking app aimed at preventing new outbreaks of COVID-19.

Read more [here](#).



Manufacturers Shift to PPE Production

As hospitals beg for personal protective equipment, manufacturers are shifting gears and churning out PPE.

Read more [here](#).



U.S. Economy Unlikely to Recover As Rapidly As It Collapsed

There are emerging signs that any recovery will fail to match the speed and severity of the economic collapse that occurred in just a few weeks.

Read more [here](#).



Virus Outbreak Delivers Tech Darlings a Harsh Reality Check

Just as the COVID-19 outbreak has boxed in society, it has also squeezed high-flying tech companies.

Read more [here](#).



Wholesale Prices Fall 0.2 Percent in March, Led by Big Drop in Energy Prices

Wholesale prices fell for a second consecutive month in March, led by a big decline in energy prices.

Read more [here](#).



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