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Kim named to panel on virus response

TODAY, 3A

CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

NJ's death rate in April nearly double average

Another 1,608 people die in state last month

Christopher Maag NorthJersey.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - NEW JERSEY

The coronavirus pandemic has brought more death and suffering to the suburbs of New York City than anyone alive has ever experienced.

Last week in New Jersey, another 1,608 people were reported to have died from COVID-19, state officials said. That capped a deadly month in which

Inside

Pooling their money

Northeast states form PPE supply chain in hopes of gaining supplies. **7A**

6,663 people died from COVID-19 and brought the statewide total to 7,538 deaths from COVID-19 since the pandemic first appeared in the region in February.

See **DEATH RATE**, Page 2A

MONDAY 05.04.20

app

ASBURY PARK PRESS

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

How Spanish flu faded at the Jersey Shore

Dan Radel Asbury Park Press
USA TODAY NETWORK - NEW JERSEY

During the peak of the Spanish flu pandemic, in October 1918, the natatorium on the Asbury Park boardwalk was reopened.

An Oct. 18, 1918, article in the Asbury Park Press reported the indoor pool wasn't meant to be closed with the state quarantine order. And so, in one of the most lethal months of a pandemic that killed 675,000 Americans, people swam.

"It was a different philosophy back then. 'If you're healthy you go to work, if you're sick you stay home.' We didn't work so hard at saving lives," said Hugh

See **SPANISH FLU**, Page 8A

Red Bank adapts to lockdown life



Stephen Catania puts out a sign at The Cheese Cave in Red Bank. PETER ACKERMAN/ASBURY PARK PRESS

States ignored virus signs at nursing homes

David Robinson, Stacey Barchenger and Kelly Powers
New York State Team
USA TODAY NETWORK

On March 29, as New York and other states began ordering nursing homes to admit medically stable residents infected with the coronavirus, national trade groups warned it could unnecessarily cost more lives.

The health directives put "frail and older adults who reside in nursing homes at risk" and would "result in more people going to the hospital and more deaths," the American Health Care Association and affiliates said at the time.

A month later, it appears government officials should have heeded the dire call to pursue different

See **DEATHS**, Page 5B

'We are trying to find ways to survive'

David P. Willis and Alex N. Gecan Asbury Park Press
USA TODAY NETWORK - NEW JERSEY

RED BANK - It is hardly a silver lining. But with all the hardships local residents and businesses are facing in the face of the novel coronavirus crisis, one chronic problem here, at least, has completely disappeared.

Finding an open parking spot is not an issue right now.

On April 24, the normally bustling downtown was so quiet it seemed like an empty Hollywood set.

Restaurants that line the street are in take-out and delivery mode, with small signs out front asking people to reserve those parking spaces for customers. Schools are closed as students' learning is piped to their homes through the internet.

The town's two large hotels, the Molly Pitcher Inn and its sister, The Oyster Point Hotel, are closed too,

See **RED BANK**, Page 7A



Erich Reulbach of Fair Haven, husband of owner Courtlyn Crosson, delivers a coffee order to Stan Hordych of Middletown curbside at Coffee Corral. TANYA BREEN/ASBURY PARK PRESS

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