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WINCHESTER, KENTUCKY

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Database predicts Kentucky's virus peak, preparedness

BY WHITNEY LEGGETT
Sun Editor

According to data from the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME), Kentucky is well equipped for its peak of the novel coronavirus, but still, hundreds more are likely to die from the virus.

IHME is an independent global health center at the University of

Washington.

The center created a database detailing COVID-19 projections, including demand for hospital services and deaths per day, in the U.S. assuming full social distancing through May 2020.

"Our model is designed to be a planning tool, and is informed by the shape that other

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Local leaders offer resources guide, 'stimulus messaging'

BY RANDY PATRICK
Sun Reporter

Those \$1,200 stimulus payments that will start arriving in bank accounts and mailboxes this month are not for big screen TVs or Amazon shopping sprees. They're to help people who are out of work or experiencing hardship because of the coronavirus pay their bills and buy necessities.

This week, local leaders in Winchester and

Clark County who are involved in the twice-a-week Zoom meetings to address needs and services during the COVID-19 crisis, rolled out a messaging campaign about the stimulus checks, as well as a community resources guide to show people where they can get help.

Stephen Berry, the city and county GIS

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City discusses approach to meetings amid outbreak

BY FRED PETKE
Sun Reporter

The Winchester Board of Commissioners was scheduled to meet next Tuesday afternoon for its first of two regular monthly meetings.

The meeting was canceled this week, and city officials are discussing a plan for the April 21 meeting.

"The mayor and I have talked about it a little," Winchester City Manager Matt Belcher

said. "We're kicking some things around. We may have an in-person meeting. We may have a virtual meeting or online on the 21st."

A decision will be made closer to April 21, he said.

Earlier this month, Kentucky Attorney General Daniel Cameron issued an opinion that during the state of emergency

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James Nisbet and his son, Pearce, 20, and daughter, Elizabeth Ann, 17, at Bald Head Island in 2015. James Nisbet was the first person in Clark County to be confirmed having the coronavirus. (Photo submitted)

'It happened to me'

First Clark person to have coronavirus recovering

BY RANDY PATRICK
Sun Reporter

James Nisbet marked his half-century milestone at home, not alone, but separated by a glass windowpane from those he loves — his children.

While he was quarantined inside his home, his son and daughter gave him a surprise birthday party March 19 by dropping off a birthday cake at his doorstep, singing "Happy Birthday," and talking with him by video on a smartphone.

He could see them and talk with them, but he couldn't hug them or sit with them.

"I turned 50 in isolation. It was a great day, but it was a really tough day too. Isolation really does take its toll on you," Nisbet said.

Having the coronavirus also takes its toll, even for those who live through it and whose health isn't severely affected.

"I've been fortunate that I was on the better side of things. But

at the same time, I had the coronavirus. Was I scared? Yeah, I was concerned," he told The Sun in an interview Thursday. "It happened to me, you know?"

Nisbet, a divorced dad who lives

"I had a really traumatic spike in fever" and experienced "a chill," he said.

He went to a local urgent treatment center and tested negative for strep and flu, so he went home,

"I've seen God at my doorstep. God has showed up and delivered."

alone and who sells medical equipment for hospital operating rooms, contracted the often deadly illness about a month ago while on a ski trip with friends to Vail, Colorado, for an early birthday celebration. They were aware of the virus at the time and were concerned when some started showing telltale signs.

Nisbet began to feel sick when he got home on March 4.

got some rest and plenty of fluids, took cough medicine and antihistamine and decided to "lay low a bit."

"The rest of the week, my fever subsided, and I had a little cough," he said.

As a precaution, he decided not to go to church that Sunday.

"I was supposed to have served

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