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Personal Journals

Documenting COVID-19 in Central Illinois

5-2020

Klepzig, Logan - Covid-19 Journal

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3/23/2020

<https://wgntv.com/news/coronavirus/covid-19-pandemic-march-23-updates/>

<https://chicago.suntimes.com/news/2020/3/22/21189866/pritzker-trump-twitter-cnn-illinois-medical-supplies-coronavirus-fema-governor-tweet-mayor-lightfoot>

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3/25/2020



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3/29/2020



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3/31/2020

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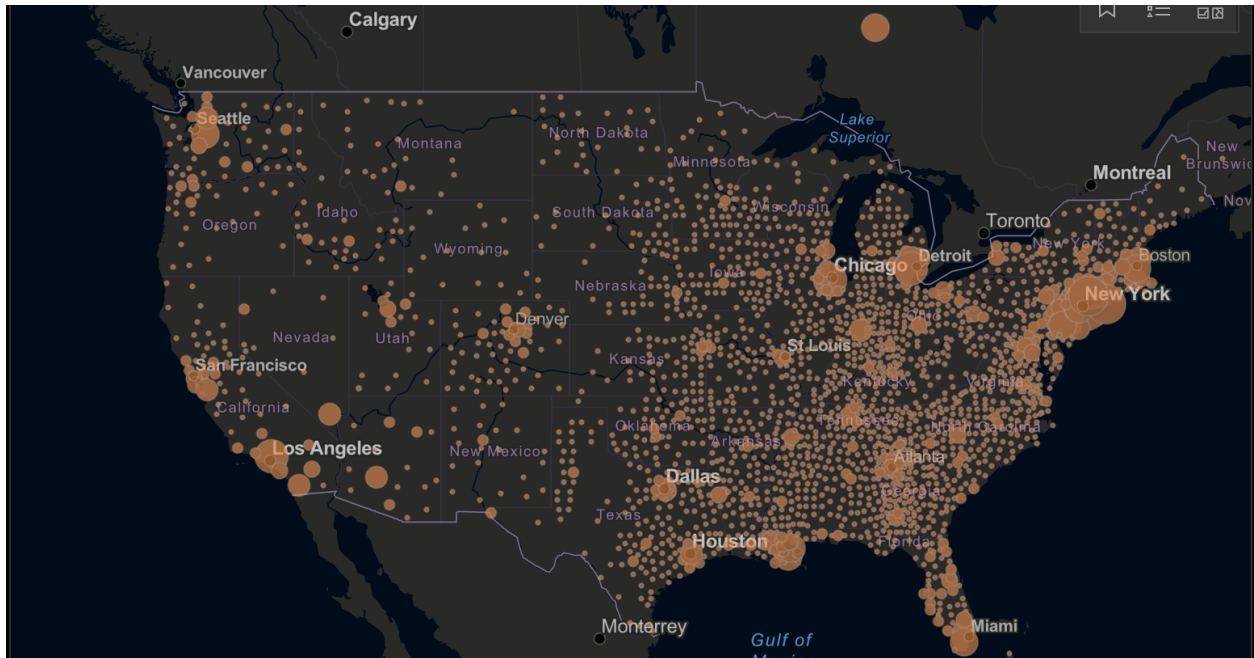
4/02/2020

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04/03/2020

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04/04/2020



04/05/2020

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04/06/2020

Today is my 21st birthday, which I share with my triplet siblings, Mason and Maddie. Yesterday, we celebrated Mom's 55th birthday, but we saved the cake and ice cream for a four-way birthday celebration today. We had a low-key celebration with a Sam's Club cake, angel food cake, and ice cream. I celebrated with my parents, my younger sister Gretchen, and my brother Mason. Mason came to Charleston from Champaign to join us. Unfortunately, Maddie is still under lockdown in her group home in Springfield. For the protection of her and the other residents, my parents are not allowed to take her home and bring her back. If they do, Maddie has to stay at home with us indefinitely. As that is not an option, we have not seen Maddie for some time. Maddie is usually brought home every two weeks, but that will not happen until this crisis is over. I miss Maddie very much, and I know my family does as well. A day like today is a difficult reminder of her absence, and I am reassured by the fact that she is well. My brother and I didn't get to buy my first drink at the bar. Still, we had a fun celebration, and I am mindful of how blessed we are to be healthy and safe.

04/07/2020



04/08/2020



04/09/2020

<https://www.rev.com/blog/transcripts>

04/10/2020

<https://www.cnn.com/2020/04/10/world/coronavirus-newsletter-04-10-20-intl/index.html>

04/11/2020

Today was a welcome break in the routine. Given that my maternal grandparents are 80 years old, they have been self-isolating at home, and have not gone out grocery shopping. Instead, Mom shops for them here in Charleston, and her or someone else drops the groceries off at their home. I was inching to leave Charleston, and the opportunity was finally granted when Mom allowed me to take supplies to them. I made sure to pick-up a Papa Murphy's pizza (grandma's favorite) in Mattoon, then I embarked on the hour drive to Mahomet. This visit though would be different from the norm. I was to maintain social distance at all times, and not go inside the house. I debated where to stop to use the restroom before arriving at their house. I ultimately decided to stop at a gas station in Mahomet instead of the rest stop on Interstate 57 or somewhere in Champaign. I finally arrived at my grandparent's house, and I instantly felt more at ease. My siblings and I are very close to our grandparents, and their home is really a second home to us. They live in the country outside of town, among endless farmland with sight lines that stretch for miles. I think the farmland and sight lines are breathtaking at any time of year, and I appreciate the beauty of it. I know many others prefer the beauty of the beach or the mountains, but we have unbeatable beauty in our backyard. I always enjoy that natural beauty at my grandparents' house. I sat with my grandparents on their deck for several hours, with ample room to maintain distance from them. At 5pm, Mason came out to work on his 'junk-yard car' that he stores in my grandpa's shed. He's a gearhead, and works at Napleton's Auto Park in Urbana as an oil tech. Today, he was repainting the blue, and I hung out with him in the shed while he was doing that. As always, it was windy, but today the wind was particularly strong. I left for Charleston later on, but it was a great day overall.

04/12/2020

We had a low-key Easter celebration today. I stayed at my apartment the night before, and went over to my parent's house at around 10am for an Easter brunch. I joined my parents, Gretchen, and Mason, who came down to Charleston from Champaign last night. We had homemade cinnamon-rolls and sausage, and Mom gifted us with Easter baskets and Playdough playsets. It was a sort of gag gift, a fun thing catered to each of us. In my case, it was a restaurant kit, complete with tools to make a complete burger platter. I had fun with that, and then I went down to the TV room in the basement for a while. I couldn't help but fall asleep because I didn't sleep much last night. I ended up napping for three hours, and then I joined everyone for a family dinner. After that, I got to work on homework assignments due by the end of the day.

04/13/2020

<https://www.npr.org/local/309/2020/04/13/833306196/for-j-b-pritzker-a-governor-on-war-footing-there-s-no-end-of-the-day>

4/14/2020



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4/15/2020

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4/16/2020



4/17/2020



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4/18/2020

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4/19/2020

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The Coronavirus
Outbreak >

LIVE Latest Updates Maps and Tracker

Driving and Travel Restrictions Across the United States

Across the 48 contiguous states, authorities have put in differing rules for travel. Here is a comprehensive guide to the current rules.



Texas state troopers parked along I-10 on April 6 at the Louisiana border. People arriving from Louisiana have been ordered to quarantine themselves. David J. Phillip/Associated Press

By Karen Schwartz

Published April 10, 2020 Updated April 16, 2020

The restrictions across the United States are

4/21/2020

Today I made a second trip to grandma and grandpa to deliver supplies. Even though the weather was nice, we sat inside the house. They sat at one end of the table, and I sat at the other. We talked for a few hours, and we ended up getting McDonald's for dinner. This visit was more normal, but challenges persist. I still stopped at the gas station so that I wouldn't have to use the restroom at the house. I had to keep many things in mind, such as not venturing in the house, or to let grandma get me a soda from the fridge instead of getting it myself. This way, I avoided touching the fridge and any food inside. I enjoyed my visit today, but I certainly cannot wait for things to return to normal.

4/22/2020



4/23/2020

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4/24/2020

<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/coronavirus-trump-injecting-disinfectant-covid-19/>

4/25/2020

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4/26/2020



4/27/2020

<https://www.nbcchicago.com/news/coronavirus/pritzker-lightfoot-blast-trump-over-comments-criticizing-illinois-as-poorly-run-state/2262588/>

4/28/2020



4/29/2020

<https://chicago.suntimes.com/essential-coronavirus-news/2020/4/29/21240972/latest-coronavirus-news-live-updates-chicago-illinois-2020>

4/30/2020

Today I received great news! I have been selected to interview for a position with the Illinois Legislative Internship Program. In the program, college graduates are appointed to 11 month, full-time positions on the partisan staff of the Illinois General Assembly. The interviews are postponed until further notice to allow for interview planning to continue. The interviews may be conducted online, and I think that is all but certain. But they seem to still be holding out the hope of conducting in-person interviews in Springfield. I am excited to be interviewing for a position with the House or Senate Democrats. I am very happy about this opportunity, but I am hoping that the Dunn Fellowship application process resumes soon. This fellowship is still my top choice opportunity. The fellowship would allow me to return to work in the Governor's Office of Constituent Affairs. My internship there last semester was a favorite professional experience, and one of my greatest life experiences so far. I completely understand, but it is unfortunate that the fellowship opportunity is on hold. I do very much hope to know the status of this opportunity before being forced to make a decision regarding the legislative internship. Either way, I am lucky in that I have several plans to lean on. I am also interested in pursuing a public administration master's at the University of Illinois Springfield. I can pursue my degree while working in state government. And the MPA program has been offered fully online for several years now, along with the traditional in-person option. So if those opportunities in state government do not work out and/or coronavirus forces the cancellation of in-person classes, I can still begin my graduate studies. My future is still uncertain, and that is crippling. But I am very fortunate to have a solid plan for any scenario, and that avenues are available to pursue my professional goals no matter the circumstances in the world.

5/1/2020

