

BIDEN HIGHLIGHTS LOCAL BOUTIQUE OWNER

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CHURCH OF THE WEEK ST. JUDE BAPTIST CHURCH

► RELIGION



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Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute for Allergy and Infectious Diseases on Friday on Capitol Hill in Washington. — ERIN SCOTT/POOL VIA AP

Vaccine in U.S. likely early 2021, Fauci says

There will be a priority list based on recommendations from scientific advisers, according to the White House coronavirus adviser

Ricardo Alonso-Zaldivar
Matthew Perrone

WASHINGTON — Dr. Anthony Fauci said Friday that he remains confident that a coronavirus vaccine will be ready by early next year, telling lawmakers that a quarter-million Americans already have volunteered to take part in clinical trials.

But if the future looks encouraging, public health alarms are still going off in the present. Officials testifying with Fauci at a contentious House hearing acknowledged that the U.S. remains unable to deliver all COVID-19 test results within two or three days, and they jointly pleaded with Americans to comply with basic precautions such as wearing masks, avoiding crowds, and washing their hands frequently.

Those simple steps can deliver “the same bang for the buck as if we just shut the entire economy down,” said a frustrated Dr. Robert Redfield, director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, adding that he has studies to back that up.

Looking ahead, Fauci said he’s “cautiously optimistic that we will have a vaccine by the end of this year and as we go into 2021. I don’t think it’s dreaming ... I believe it’s a reality (and) will be shown to be reality.” As the government’s top infectious disease expert, Fauci heads the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

Under White House orders, federal health agencies and the Defense Department are carrying out a plan dubbed Operation Warp Speed to deliver 300 million vaccine doses on a compressed timeline. That will happen only after the Food and Drug Administration determines that one or more vaccines are safe and effective. Several candidates are being tested.

Don’t look for a mass nationwide vaccination right away, Fauci told lawmakers. There will be a priority list based on recommendations from scientific advisers. Topping the

VACCINE ► 6A

Mail-in Worries



Voters wait in line to cast ballots at Washington High School while ignoring a stay-at-home order over the coronavirus threat to vote in the state’s presidential primary election in Milwaukee. — AP PHOTO/MORRY GASH, FILE

Despite virus threat, Black voters wary of voting by mail in this year’s election

Corey Williams

DETROIT — Despite fears that the coronavirus pandemic will worsen, Victor Gibson said he’s not planning to take advantage of Michigan’s expanded vote-by-mail system when he casts his ballot in November.

The retired teacher from Detroit just isn’t sure he can trust it. Many Black Americans share similar concerns and are planning to vote in person on Election Day, even as mail-in voting expands to more states as a safety precaution during the pandemic.

For many, historical skepticism of a system that tried to keep Black people from the polls and worries that a mailed ballot won’t get counted outweigh the prospect of long lines and health dangers from a virus that’s disproportionately affected communities of color. Ironically, suspicion of mail-in voting aligns with the views of President Donald Trump, whom many Black voters want out of office.

Trump took it a step further Tuesday, suggesting a “delay” to the Nov. 3 presidential election — which would take an act of Con-

gress — as he made unsubstantiated allegations in a tweet that increased mail-in voting will result in fraud.

“I would never change my mind” about voting in person in November, said Gibson, who is Black and hopes Trump loses. “I always feel better sliding my ballot in. We’ve heard so many controversies about missing absentee ballots.”

Decades of disenfranchisement are at the heart of the uneasy choice facing Black

MAIL ► 6A

Uncle Bobbie’s Coffee & Books vandalized days after burglary

Michael D’Onofrio
TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER



On Friday two windows of Uncle Bobbie’s Coffee & Books, at 5445 Germantown Ave., were boarded up following a burglary last weekend and an incident of vandalism on Wednesday night. — PHILADELPHIA TRIBUNE PHOTO/MICHAEL D’ONOFRIO

The popular bookshop Uncle Bobbie’s Coffee & Books was vandalized days after the Germantown shop was burglarized.

A glass window of the shop at 5445 Germantown Ave., was broken into around 11:45 p.m. on Wednesday, according to police reports. Police did not report anything stolen from the bookstore.

The vandalism incident came after the bookstore was burglarized on Sunday around 1:30 a.m. The bookshop is owned by academic, author and activist Marc Lamont Hill.

A glass window was broken, and \$650 and an iPad were stolen from inside, according to police reports.

Police said the investigation into the burglary was ongoing.

Hill did not respond to requests for comment. Sarah Bianco, 30, said she came upon the busted out window at the Germantown bookstore early Thursday morning.

While smoking a cigarette outside the store on Friday, Bianco said broken glass covered the outside bench and interior of the store located at the corner of Germantown Avenue and Church Lane.

VANDALIZED ► 7A

Booker: Biden’s plan more than economics, it’s racial justice

Jamyra Perry
TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER

Senator Cory Booker (D-NJ) outlined on Friday presumptive Democratic presidential nominee Joe Biden’s plan to not only restore the economy but to make it better.

The “Build Back Better” economic recovery plan for working families was reintroduced during a roundtable hosted by local Senator Sharif Street.

During the one-hour event, Booker outlined Biden’s plan to get the economy back on its feet in a post-coronavirus world and listened to Philadelphia-area Black and Hispanic business owners give

their thoughts on the Presumptive Democratic Presidential Nominee’s plan.

Booker said Biden’s plan is more than economics and also about racial justice.

Curve Conscious clothing boutique owner Adrienne Ray and La Mega Radio CEO and President Victor Martinez joined to represent Black and Brown businesses across the country.

Earlier this week Philadelphia businesswoman Jenea Robinson was featured in social media videos for Biden’s campaign.

“We see a vacuum world leadership in this time and a colossal failure making this economic crisis worse,”

Booker said. “We know that this virus is also exposing the fragility of our society where we fall short of being who we say we are as a nation of liberty and justice for all.”

The senator said communities of color are most often the hardest hit during times of economic crisis.

“We know that Black and Brown Americans are more likely to have been laid off and had their hours slashed during this crisis,” he said. “We know that Black-owned and Brown-owned businesses have been more likely to close.”

BIDEN’S PLAN ► 7A



Sen. Cory Booker (D-N.J.) outlined on Friday, presumptive Democratic presidential nominee Joe Biden’s plan to not only restore the economy but to make it better. — THE NEW YORK TIMES/DANIEL ACKER

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