

# 'Walk Around the World' starts in your kitchen B2

**Bakery on Food Network tonight** B2

**Who was state's first COVID death?** A7



## POSTBULLETIN

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### COVID-19 hospitalizations at lowest level since May 1

Downward trend continues as testing volume increases

BY JOHN MOLSEED  
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The number of Minnesotans hospitalized due to the novel coronavirus is at its lowest level since May 1, according to state health reports.

According to Minnesota Department of Health reports released Sunday, 369 people were hospitalized for COVID-19, with 186 of them in intensive care units.

That's the fewest people hospitalized on a given day since May 1, when 369 people were hospitalized for the virus.

MDH confirmed 311 new cases of the virus Sunday, which continues an overall downward trend of new cases since May 23. That trend is occurring alongside the growing number of completed tests for the virus.

COVID-19 case numbers		
COUNTY	NEW CASES	TOTAL CASES
Dodge	0	59
Fillmore	0	20
Goodhue	1	94
Houston	0	5
Mower	11	650
Olmsted	4	778
Wabasha	0	21
Wisconsin	0	84
<b>STATE TOTAL</b>	<b>311</b>	<b>30,471</b>

Updated: 11:00 a.m. Sunday  
Source: Minn. Dept. of Health

More than 410,000 tests for the virus have been conducted since the outbreak began. Sunday was the sixth consecutive day in which the seven-day average for new test results was above 10,000.

Of the 14 COVID-19 deaths reported by MDH on Sunday, all of them were over 50 years old, and 11 of them were residents in long-term care or assisted-living facilities.

Overall, 30,471 Minnesotans have tested positive for the coronavirus, with 1,298 having died of the illness, and 26,090 having recovered and no longer needing to be isolated.



Kaliah Harden, 11, pleads for no more black lives lost to police brutality during a "Power to the People" march, rally and "die-in" on Saturday in Rochester.

Traci Westcott / twestcott@postbulletin.com

### 'WE WANT TO LIVE'

'Die-in' honors lives lost to police brutality

BY MATTHEW STOLLE  
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Near the end of Saturday's protest against police brutality, the marchers held a "die-in" at Rochester's Mayo Park in memory of the lives lost to police brutality, as Rochester native Deshaun Whitehorn spoke George Floyd's last words.

"They are going to kill me. I can't breathe. Please, sir. Please, please, please. I can't breathe," Whitehorn

spoke as sobs and crying could be heard from the audience.

Only moments before, an equally heartrending moment occurred when 11-year-old Kaliah Harden was handed the mic by her great-aunt. Before the march, Harden had been asked by a reporter why she wanted to march. She struggled to speak, overwhelmed by emotion. But standing before an estimated 200 people, she found her voice.

"When I speak, I speak for all the children around the world. We want to live," Kaliah said. "They want to feel equal. Sometimes people can't even walk in a store without someone saying in their mind, 'Oh,

they're going to steal.' We're good people."

Saturday's march, "Power to the People," was held to focus on and honor the lives lost to police brutality, as the death of George Floyd three weeks ago while in Minneapolis police custody continues to reverberate across the country. Participants wearing black gathered at Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Park, then marched and chanted their way to Mayo Park along Fourth Street Southeast.

It was an entirely youth-run event. No elected or community leaders were invited to the march.

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### Visiting downtown Rochester? You'll be a-mazed

Construction project adds confusion, frustration for business owners, visitors

BY JOHN MOLSEED  
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The timing could have been better when Saram Alwanan opened Almadina, a Mediterranean-American restaurant, Feb. 12. About the time foot traffic outside the prime North Broadway Avenue and First Street Northwest corner would pick up, restaurants across the state were ordered closed due to the coronavirus pandemic.

When restaurants were given the OK for outdoor and limited indoor seating, Alwanan was ready to hit the ground running.

Unfortunately, that ground gave way to deep



A portion of North Broadway Avenue is closed between Center Street and Civic Center Drive for construction Friday in downtown Rochester.

excavation construction.

Three blocks of Broadway Avenue from Civic Center Drive to First Street North are expected to be closed until Aug. 8 for a sanitary sewer expansion.

Alwanan said he understands the work needs to be done, but said the closure has further hurt business in what has already been a tough year.

"It's affecting our business big time," he said, adding that some customers aren't sure

if the restaurant is still open.

"They don't know how to get here," he added.

The city permitted Almadina outdoor seating along Broadway, but the tables are unusable during the day while work is being done and dust is kicked up.

"Who's going to want to sit outside during construction?" Alwanan said.

Downtown visitors are greeted from all directions with detours,



Photos by Joe Ahlquist / jahquist@postbulletin.com

Signs direct motorists around a portion of North Broadway Avenue that's closed between Center Street and Civic Center Drive for construction Friday in downtown Rochester.

lane closures and an array of confusing signage signaling where they can access businesses.

Taso Psomas, owner of Hollandberry Pannekoeken, said he and his tenants at the plaza he owns where the restaurant sits were given just four days' notice about the project and closure.

"We were completely blindsided; we didn't know it was happening," he said. "We weren't told anything about it."

Calling the detours, loss of access and closure a "headache" would be an understatement, he added. He said his exact words for it would probably not be fit for print.

The project will expand sanitary sewer capacity for downtown, which requires deep excavation under road. Closing the road will cut the project time in about half, compared to keeping some of the lanes open, according to the

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**OBITUARIES** PAGE A6 - 7  
Vanice Bakko, Wanamingo  
Cathleen Mary Cain, Rochester

James N. Sands, Kasson  
Darleen Mensing, Rochester  
Irvin G. Asp, Spring Valley

Nancy Ann Martin, Lakeville  
Georgina Stole, Ostrander

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