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Sunday World-Herald

Plot to blow up pharmacy sounds like Hollywood script

Small town of Auburn was setting for Nebraska's alleged plan to hit rival with help of Virginia drug dealer

By TODD COOPER
WORLD-HERALD STAFF WRITER

A plot involving a small-town Nebraska pharmacy sounds like it's straight out of the Netflix series "Ozark."

It's got allegations of a computer wizard disguising financial transactions on the Internet's shadowy cousin, the Darknet. It includes accusations of money laundering and drug dealing. And, oh, yeah, a purported plot to blow up a rival in

order to hide the illicit activity. However, the violent part of this nationwide drug scheme was supposed to take place in a state-ly town in southeastern Nebraska, not the lakes of southern Missouri. Arrested Friday: Hyrum Wilson, 41, owner of Hyrum Family Value Pharmacy in Auburn. He is charged with conspiracy to use fire and explosives, conspiracy to

distribute controlled substances and a weapons offense. Possible penalty: up to life in prison. Arrested last week: William Anderson Burgamy IV, a 32-year-old Maryland man who is the alleged mastermind of the scheme. Their alleged target: Cody's U-Save Pharmacy, which sits five minutes from Hyrum Family Value in Auburn, a town of 3,200 on

U.S. Highway 75 about 20 miles south of Nebraska City. The reason federal prosecutors say the two men wanted to take out Cody's U-Save: The Hyrum pharmacy's increased drug sales, stemming from Burgamy's Internet sales, would seem less suspicious to federal regulators if Hyrum's was the only pharmacy in town. See Pharmacy: Page 9

THE HELPERS

Shining a light on those who serve as beacons amid pandemic

By JEFFREY ROBB
WORLD-HERALD STAFF WRITER

This is what Nebraskans do. When floodwaters rise, Nebraskans rise with one another to meet the challenge. When tornadoes rip apart what we have, Nebraskans pull together to rebuild what was lost. When a pandemic threatens

our health, tests our hospitals, limits our contact, cancels schools, closes businesses, puts tens of thousands out of work, endangers our very sources of food and alters our every routine, well, we can be excused for taking some time to figure out what just hit us. But then, as Nebraskans do, we step forward to help. In the weeks since the world-

wide crisis hit home, Nebraskans have sewn face masks by the thousands for health care workers, fired up specialized printers, organized food distribution lines, assembled virtual classrooms, watched over seniors in need and delivered groceries to neighbors. The helpers are emerging, as they do in Nebraska. In this new occasional series,

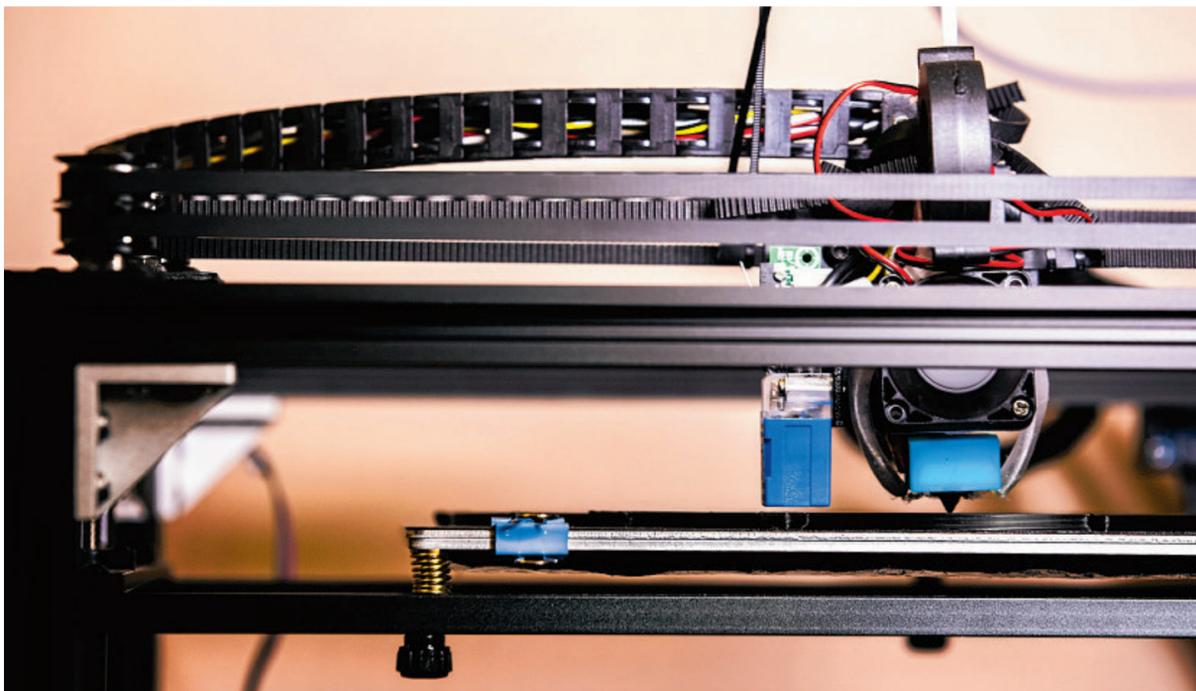
The World-Herald shines a light on The Helpers as beacons of hope through the pandemic. The title is a reflection of Mister Rogers' calming advice to children during times of catastrophe: Look for the helpers. It's advice his mother gave him: "If you look for the helpers, you'll know that there's hope." Take heart, Nebraska. Hope springs anew.

Grand Island wrestles with complexities of outbreak

The area's coronavirus surge has tested the community: 'Our normal activities have changed'

By RICK RUGGLES
WORLD-HERALD STAFF WRITER

GRAND ISLAND, Neb. — Firefighters in Grand Island expressed regret about failing to tell relatives of coronavirus patients that these might be their final words with their loved one. So Battalion Chief Scott Kuehl last week talked with his firefighters, all of whom are paramedics or emergency medical technicians. If they have a bad feeling about a coronavirus patient as they work on him, they should feel free to tell loved ones: "You might want to say goodbye right now," Kuehl said Friday. The coronavirus surge has challenged standard practices in Grand Island and Hall County. Seven have now died of COVID-19 in the county. And this part of Nebraska has a virus rate per capita that's much higher than any other Nebraska county and is similar to that of some of the most intensely hit states in the nation. The contagious disease has created dread among many in Grand Island. To be cautious, some say, treat everyone as though they carry the virus. Others believe the problem has been exaggerated. The disease also has tested the strings that hold Grand Island together as a community. About one-third of the city's 51,500 residents are Latino. Hall County Sheriff Rick Conrad had strongly recommended his deputies wear masks, gloves and protective eyewear when working in public. But Conrad said he issued a mandate last week that See Grand Island: Page 2



3D PRINTING EFFORT QUICKLY TAKES SHAPE TO FILL NEED

By JEFFREY ROBB
WORLD-HERALD STAFF WRITER

They're like magic, these 3D printers. Seemingly out of nowhere, a creation will appear. At first, just a little bit takes form, but then it grows, and builds, and takes shape until a virtual concept uploaded into this amazing piece of technology is made solid and real. Generosity is like that. Kindness. Compassion. It can start small — just a thought, an idea, a willingness to help. When someone acts on that, it tends to grow, and build, and take shape until its presence is unmistakable. When 3D printing combined with a desire to help this time, the result has been powerful. See 3D printing: Page 8



CHRIS MACHIAN/THE WORLD-HERALD
Matthew Van Zante with a face shield he helped make for area health care workers. He is part of a group that uses 3D printing, at top, to make the much-needed equipment.

Still Spinnin'

A tiny college in Wahoo was the UConn before UConn in women's college hoops. Sports

Weather

High: 61 Low: 41
Sun, some clouds Details: 12A

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