# Local COVID-19 loan fund expands

With Grant County's work force and businesses continuing to be affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Grant County Economic Growth Council announced on Tuesday, April 14, that its COVID-19 Loan Fund has partnered with County's Convention and Visitor's Bureau to expand its funding capacity.

The revolving loan was

initially funded with \$75,000 from the Growth Council's revolving loan program established in 2004, but the CVB contributed an extra \$20,000 to provide more assistance to Grant County retail, restaurants, and other tourism-centric businesses in an effort to survive the economic impact of the pan-

The first round of applica-

tions closed on April 3, and six businesses will receive a loan up to \$7,500 with payments deferred for the first six months.

"It is more important than ever for the CVB to support our business community and ensure that our favorite restaurants and shops remain open for future visitors and our local community," CVB Executive Director John Lightle said.

While the extra \$20,000 is a major boost for Grant County businesses, Growth Council is still seeking additional funding to ex-

pand the COVID-19 Loan Fund's capacity, as well as additional equity partners. If you would like to contribute to the COVID-19 Loan Fund, contact a Growth

Council member or donate directly through PayPal at https://www.grantcounty.co m/covid19-loan-fund.

# Eight businesses to receive assistance

Eight Grant County businesses are receiving \$7,500 in financial assistance through the First Round of the Growth Council's COVID-19 Loan Fund. The funded businesses range from retail to restaurants to professional services; each of these businesses are facing significant financial stress due to forced closure to the public or a decline in product or service demand. Altogether, the First Round of the COVID19 Loan Fund has helped to retain a total of 80 local jobs between the eight businesses.

"I cannot even begin to express what this means to all of us right now! I can immediately give my employees some financial assistance and pay

2

6

3

some bills... Thanks again so much, from all of us!" wrote one of the loan fund recipients, an owner of a retail business in Marion.

In response to the COVID-19 crisis, the Growth Council revamped its revolving loan fund to create the COVID-10 Loan Fund to provide immediate financial assistance to Grant County businesses economically affected by the pandemic. The COVID-19 Loan Fund specifically aims to serve businesses that cannot receive federal funding from the Small Business Association's (SBA) Economic Injury Disaster Loans or Paycheck Protection Program.

To continue to meet the de-

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5

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9

3

Level: Intermediate

2000000

mands of the Grant County business community, the Growth Council has applied for two federal grants—the US Department of Agriculture's Rural Business Development Grant and the Office of Community and Rural Affair's COVID-19 Rapid Response Grant—to increase the funding capacity of the COVID-19 Loan Fund.

Applications for the Second Round of the COVID-19 Loan Fund are due Friday, May 1st, 2020. All Grant County businesses with less than 30 employees are encouraged to apply for this financial assistance. Learn more and apply at https://www.grantcounty.com/c ovid-19-loanfund.

Fun By The

Like puzzles?

sudoku. This

mind-bending

square off, so

sharpen your

your sudoku

pencil and put

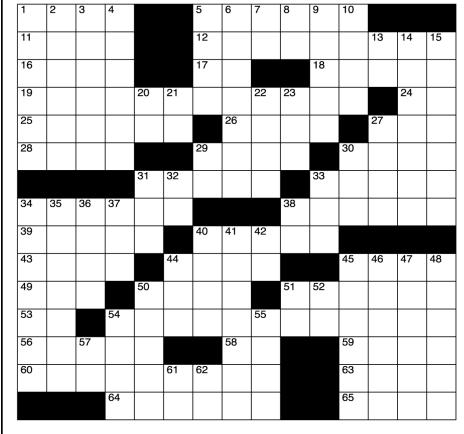
savvy to the test!

Then you'll love

puzzle will have

you hooked from the moment you

Numbers



#### **CLUES ACROSS**

- 1. Curved symmetrical structure 39. Rare Hawaiian geese
- 5. One's partner in marriage
- 11. Male admirer
- 12. Spend in a period of dormancy 44. Measures speed of an
- 16. Popular Easter meal
- 17. Doc
- 18. Bearing a heavy load
- 19. Gratitude
- 24. The Mount Rushmore State
- 25. Driving
- 26. Girl
- 27. British thermal unit
- 28. Makes a mistake
- 29. A defined length of time
- 30. Lions do it
- 31. Large quantities
- 33. Become less intense
- 34. Famed peninsula
- 38. Emerges

- 40. Dance style
- 43. Drove
- engine (abbr.)
  - 45. Yankee hero Bucky
- 49. Midway between west and northwest
- 50. Monetary unit of Samoa
- 51. Makes clothing
- 53. Spielberg's alien
- 54. Agreeable to the taste
- 56. Injury treatment protocol
- 58. Cools your house
- 59. Imaginary line
- 60. New convert
- 63. Some do it to their windows
- 64. Wore away
- 65. Work units

### Here's How It Works:

9

900000

4

7

8

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!



## **CLUES DOWN**

- 1. Remove body tissue
- 2. Harvester
- 3. Roadside living quarters
- 4. Excessive self-confidence
- 5. Lapp
- 6. Bicycled
- 7. Entrance to a passage
- 8. Western U.S. state
- 9. Grain towers
- 10. "Westworld" actress \_\_ Rachel Wood
- 13. Commercial
- 14. One who left a will
- 15. Makes it through
- 20. Within (prefix)
- 21. Sea patrol (abbr.)
- 22. Cigarettes (slang)
- 23. A doctrine
- 27. Constrictor snakes
- 29. Atomic #73
- 30. Baseball stat
- 31. Female sibling 32. A soft gray metal (abbr.)

- 33. Southern constellation
- 34. Belgian city
- 35. Go in again
- 36. In a different, more positive way
- 37. A place for sleeping
- 38. Blood type
- 40. Syrian news agency (abbr.)
- 41. A salt or ester of acetic acid
- 42. Millihenry
- 44. Populous Israeli city \_\_ Aviv
- 45. Widen
- 46. Magical potion
- 47. Acknowledging
- 48. Private romantic rendezvous
- 50. Cavalry sword
- 51. Terabyte
- 52. Artificial intelligence
- 54. Bullfighting maneuver
- 55. Breezed through
- 57. Santa says it three times
- 61. and behold
- 62. 36 inches (abbr.)