

Friday, April 30, 2021  
To: New York Community Banks

## FROM ICBA

### **NOTE:**

The lead story in yesterday morning's Newswatch *Today reported* that **Rebeca Romero Rainey's Capital Summit interview with Senator Joe Manchin**(D – WV) was posted on the ICBA Website and available for download. Since ICBA received many positive comments as well as inquiries into getting a copy of this recording, they have uploaded the video to the Advocacy & Resources section of the State & Regional Partnership page: (<https://www.icba.org/srp/resources>)

### **Capital Summit grassroots continue today**

While this week's ICBA Capital Summit concludes today, ICBA is urging community bankers to continue engaging their elected officials with grassroots messages on social media.

**Grassroots:** Community bankers can use auto-populated tweets on ICBA's [Be Heard grassroots action center](#) to contact their lawmakers, complementing this week's meetings with congressional offices.

**Event:** The Capital Summit also featured remarks from Senate Banking Committee Chairman Sherrod Brown (D-Ohio) and Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee Chairman Joe Manchin (D-W.Va.), whose conversation with ICBA President and CEO Rebeca Romero Rainey [can be viewed online](#).

**More:** In addition to [tweeting](#) members of Congress, community bankers can continue the conversation on social media via the [#CapitalSummit](#) hashtag.

## **TWEET CONGRESS NOW**

### **IRS reporting plan would increase burdens: ICBA's Merski**

ICBA's Paul Merski told Bloomberg that additional IRS reporting being floated this week by the Biden administration would increase compliance burdens for community banks.

**Report:** In [the article](#), ICBA's group executive vice president of congressional relations and strategy said community banks already conduct substantial reporting, including currency transaction and suspicious activity reports.

**Background:** President Joe Biden's \$1.8 trillion American Families Plan would require financial institutions to report to the IRS on account flows related to investments and business activity, according to statements from the [White House](#) and [Treasury Department](#).

### **GDP rises 6.4% in Q1**

The gross domestic product increased at an annual rate of 6.4 percent in the first quarter, according to the Commerce Department's [advance estimate](#). The department cited the continued economic recovery, reopening of establishments, and government response to the pandemic. The second estimate will be released May 27.

### **Pending home sales drop on low inventories**

Pending home sales declined for a second straight month in February due to record-low inventory, the National Association of Realtors [reported](#). The index decreased 10.6 percent and was down 0.5 percent from a year ago, with each of the four major U.S. regions experiencing month-over-month declines.

## FROM OTHER SOURCES

- [“Why Biden's next 100 days are pivotal for the Covid fight,”](#) by Joanne Kenen and Dan Goldberg: “Containment, not eradication, is the most realistic goal: Public health experts say the coronavirus is here for the long-haul. Now, the challenge for Biden, his response team and state health officials will be managing the rolling series of outbreaks possibly driven by more dangerous virus variants.
- 100 million fully Americans are now fully vaccinated against COVID-19, [according to the CDC's tracker](#). That's 38% of the country's adult population — and 55% of the adult population has had

at least one shot. All told, the U.S. has administered nearly 240 million shots. Moderna is planning to [dramatically expand](#) its manufacturing capacity, both to keep up with the extreme global demand and to start making booster shots to address [COVID-19 variants](#).

- The stock market closed out President Biden's first 100 days in office on Thursday with its best start to a presidential term since the days of Franklin D. Roosevelt. The S&P 500 has risen 11% since the January 20 inauguration.
- A burst of growth put the U.S. economy just a shave below its pre-pandemic size in the first quarter, extending what is shaping up to be a rapid, consumer-driven recovery this year. Gross domestic product, the broadest measure of goods and services made in the U.S., grew at a 6.4% seasonally adjusted annual rate in January through March, the Commerce Department said Thursday. [https://www.wsj.com/articles/us-gdp-economic-growth-first-quarter-2021-11619658605?mkt\\_tok=ODUwLVRBQS01MTEAAAF8wa29zV8XU-0H7V0c07Q9NgA8pM0xMT3RxZ2nb8rgamoDTPSGhqfv9WRI3z-fZ3C0dPmDSVCQbkjWrgPpUyxui38dNN9TgNstxUlcXLnZdo5e](https://www.wsj.com/articles/us-gdp-economic-growth-first-quarter-2021-11619658605?mkt_tok=ODUwLVRBQS01MTEAAAF8wa29zV8XU-0H7V0c07Q9NgA8pM0xMT3RxZ2nb8rgamoDTPSGhqfv9WRI3z-fZ3C0dPmDSVCQbkjWrgPpUyxui38dNN9TgNstxUlcXLnZdo5e)
- Jobless claims fell again to the lowest level since the pandemic took hold more than a year ago, another sign the labor market is rebounding this spring. Initial unemployment claims, a proxy for layoffs, fell by 13,000 last week to a seasonally adjusted 553,000, the Labor Department said on Thursday. The previous week's figure was revised up to 566,000. [https://www.wsj.com/articles/weekly-jobless-claims-coronavirus-04-29-2021-11619647721?mkt\\_tok=ODUwLVRBQS01MTEAAAF8wa29zcTg5iziD1GLXoM8jOpDt42OhiDfPAb9l-KGBdLG4Z5UNNvXrCSRE6mA8uRnHNrKLUsxQEr3uLTqWetiuRMBxk3Gh8vQdwrdaO3LXLvm](https://www.wsj.com/articles/weekly-jobless-claims-coronavirus-04-29-2021-11619647721?mkt_tok=ODUwLVRBQS01MTEAAAF8wa29zcTg5iziD1GLXoM8jOpDt42OhiDfPAb9l-KGBdLG4Z5UNNvXrCSRE6mA8uRnHNrKLUsxQEr3uLTqWetiuRMBxk3Gh8vQdwrdaO3LXLvm)
- Part of the funding for President Biden's \$1.8 trillion American Families Plan hinges on a beefed-up reporting requirement for banks designed to identify unreported income. The proposal would require banks to report annual account inflows and outflows to the Internal Revenue Service. [https://www.wsj.com/articles/biden-tax-plan-leans-on-banks-to-help-find-unreported-income-11619701380?mkt\\_tok=ODUwLVRBQS01MTEAAAF8wa29zQZNy60qL7GwXo9vjYLA0hb8jRSD9tuMOedcBtB-aUh5GGSiMxRblz9qL05eJnOOASYSYl65sxejgPvxrzUfvGX4jYJtVlEntmVsNBJQ](https://www.wsj.com/articles/biden-tax-plan-leans-on-banks-to-help-find-unreported-income-11619701380?mkt_tok=ODUwLVRBQS01MTEAAAF8wa29zQZNy60qL7GwXo9vjYLA0hb8jRSD9tuMOedcBtB-aUh5GGSiMxRblz9qL05eJnOOASYSYl65sxejgPvxrzUfvGX4jYJtVlEntmVsNBJQ)
- President Biden laid out [his ambitious vision](#) for a post-pandemic America on Wednesday night. Now it is up to Senator Chuck Schumer to make it a reality. Joe Biden has the vision. Now Chuck Schumer has to bring it to life: <https://nyti.ms/3nzyLg8>
- After a year of early-morning Zoom calls, the specter of a deadly virus and soaring stock and real estate values, working American baby boomers who can afford it plan to get out while the getting's good. About 2.7 million Americans age 55 or older are contemplating retirement years earlier than they'd imagined because of the pandemic, government data show. Many cite robust retirement accounts and Covid-19 fatigue for their early exit. [https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2021-04-30/more-americans-are-considering-retirement-because-of-covid?mkt\\_tok=ODUwLVRBQS01MTEAAAF8wa29zUBAZ-hl5hv4FA8Tv\\_HtyldPh0lRpTo2uZlgyCK20NU3erwubZ-TDBfkmYXTaOmERpWb5L6xPvV945UkY2Oz1lI0ArgYh\\_IuV-j5SZPx](https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2021-04-30/more-americans-are-considering-retirement-because-of-covid?mkt_tok=ODUwLVRBQS01MTEAAAF8wa29zUBAZ-hl5hv4FA8Tv_HtyldPh0lRpTo2uZlgyCK20NU3erwubZ-TDBfkmYXTaOmERpWb5L6xPvV945UkY2Oz1lI0ArgYh_IuV-j5SZPx)

#### FROM NEW YORK

- COVID hospitalizations dropped to 2,934, falling below 3,000 for the first time since November 24. Of the 226,068 tests reported yesterday, 4,073, or 1.80%, were positive. The 7-day average positivity rate was 1.98 percent. There were 691 patients in ICU yesterday, down 21 from the

previous day. Of them, 425 are intubated. 38 New Yorkers lost their lives to the virus. <https://www.governor.ny.gov>

- 45.6% of New Yorkers have completed at least one vaccine dose. New York has administered 15,170,850 total doses with 33.4% of New Yorkers completing their vaccine series. See data by region and county on the State's Vaccine Tracker: <ny.gov/vaccinetracker>.
- Larry Schwartz, one of Cuomo's most trusted advisers, unexpectedly stepped down as "vaccine czar" about five months after he was recruited by the Governor to spearhead the state's vaccine rollout, [the Times reports](#). His resignation Wednesday came as the Legislature restored provisions that would have required him to file financial disclosure forms and be banned from lobbying for two years after his state service.
- [The Capital Region is the first region](#) of the state to have half of its residents be vaccinated.
- [The vast majority of COVID cases](#) in Onondaga County are among people who are under the age of 59.
- New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio announced that the city aims to fully reopen on July 1 and allow businesses, including restaurants, shops and stadiums, to operate at full capacity, [The New York Times reports](#).
- Governor Cuomo mocked de Blasio's plan to have New York City "fully open" from coronavirus restrictions on July 1, saying that if it were a matter of wants, he'd reopen the city next week, [the New York Post reports](#).
- While much of New York City springs into hopeful reopening, buoyed by widespread vaccination, survivors at the pandemic's epicenter are dealing with ongoing economic and emotional traumas, [The City reports](#).
- Consumer groups are applauding a bill that is meant to keep debt collectors from garnishing the stimulus payments and other direct aid approved by the federal government to offset the financial strain created by the pandemic. [Read More](#)
- The \$212 billion state budget adopted this month contains record spending and represents a missed opportunity to reduce borrowing and improve long-term finances, state Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli said in a new analysis, [Newsday reports](#). New York's new state budget boosts aid for schools and health care as well as rental assistance at a time when the state's residents are still reeling from the COVID-19 pandemic, though the economic conditions are steadily improving. [Read more](#).
- Governor Cuomo said that he has not been interviewed as part of state Attorney General Letitia James' investigation into allegations that he sexually harassed multiple women, though he added that he is "eager" to tell his side of the story, [Politico New York reports](#).

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**IBANYS will continue to provide updates as additional information becomes available. Thank you all for your continued participation and support.**

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