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NEWSOM UNVEILS PLAN FOR LIFTING SHUTDOWN

- 6 conditions must be met before altering stay-at-home order
- Trump says he will speak with all governors to provide guidance
- Ability to closely monitor, track potential cases is among them
- San Diego County confirms 6 new deaths, 83 additional cases



NELVIN C. CEPEDA U-T

BY ADAM BEAM

SACRAMENTO

Gov. Gavin Newsom on Tuesday outlined a complex set of circumstances for the state to lift coronavirus restrictions and then described a possible startling new normal: temperature checks for restaurant customers, staggered start times for public schools to keep students separated and no crowds at sporting events, fairs or concerts.

It was a reality check for the state's 40 million residents after days of encouraging reports about the slow growth in new cases that had many hopeful for a reset of public life after a depressing early spring spent mainly indoors.

But Newsom, who has joined a coalition with his counterparts in Oregon and Washington, said he won't consider loosening the

state's stay-at-home orders until hospitalizations, particularly those in intensive care units, "flatten and start to decline" for at least two weeks. Even then, the governor listed six conditions that must be met, including expanded testing, more protective equipment for health care workers, better treatment and an improved ability to track and isolate those who have been infected — all things the state has struggled with.

SEE CALIFORNIA • A4

MORE COVERAGE INSIDE

- **A6** • Temporary homeless shelter at convention center set to expand this week.
- **B1** • Charter school in Escondido is delivering food to families directly.
- **C1** • Sellers are taking their homes off the market at fast pace in San Diego County.

SIRENS OF GRATITUDE

Medical and administrative workers at Sharp Chula Vista Medical Center are treated to a visit Tuesday from personnel from the Chula Vista Police Department and the Chula Vista Fire Department who displayed their lights and sounded their sirens in tribute to medical workers fighting the pandemic.

NAVY: 589 ROOSEVELT SAILORS POSITIVE FOR VIRUS

4,000 removed from carrier in Guam; 4 hospitalized, 1 in ICU

BY ANDREW DYER

Four sailors on the San-Diego based aircraft carrier Theodore Roosevelt are in the hospital with COVID-19, the Navy said Tuesday. One is in intensive care.

The hospital admissions come the day after a member of the crew died of complications of the virus after four days in the ICU. The Defense Department has not released the name of the sailor.

The Navy also said Tuesday that 589 of the Roosevelt's crew have tested positive for the novel coronavirus. More than 4,000 of the crew have moved off the ship into housing on Guam, either in private homes or hotels.

The San Diego-based carrier has a total crew of roughly 4,845 service members, including its embarked air wing and command staff.

The Roosevelt pulled into Guam March 26 after several sailors on board tested positive for COVID-19.

A letter written by the ship's commanding officer, Capt. Brett Crozier, asking the Navy for more assistance for its sailors was leaked and broadly publicized, resulting in Crozier's firing on April 2.

Days later, then-acting Navy Secretary Thomas Modly flew to the western Pacific island, and in a profanity-laced speech over the Roosevelt's public address system he said the carrier's crew will be hit.

SEE ROOSEVELT • A3



Comfort Cubs, weighted teddy bears for families suffering from traumatic loss, are also being sent to medical workers dealing with the coronavirus crisis.

JOHN GIBBINS U-T

THE NEW NORMAL

THERAPEUTIC TEDDY BEARS WILL HELP SOOTHE MEDICAL WORKERS

Local nonprofit, The Comfort Cub, answers hospital requests

BY JOHN WILKENS

Marcella Johnson planned to mark the 20th anniversary of her Encinitas-based nonprofit, The Comfort Cub, by handing out 1,000 therapeutic, weighted teddy bears to families suffering from traumatic loss.

Now some of them are headed to front-line medical workers dealing with the coronavirus pandemic.

"Hospitals are asking for the Comfort Cubs, not for their patients, but for their staff," said Johnson, who started making the bears after her son George died from a rare genetic bone disorder minutes

after he was born. In the days that followed, she couldn't understand why her arms ached.

She had what is now known as Takotsubo cardiomyopathy, or Broken Heart Syndrome, a physiological reaction to trauma and grief. Hers was eased unexpectedly when she picked up a terracotta flower pot left at George's grave, clutched it to her chest, and felt comforted.

Johnson made the first teddy bear herself, filling it with enough split peas to simulate the heft of a newborn. She and her husband, Matt, paid to have more manufactured and gave them to hospi-

SEE CUBS • A8

PANDEMIC WILL MEAN BILLIONS IN TAX REVENUE LOSSES, SANDAG SAYS

Plummeting sales will have big impact on agencies, cities

BY JOSHUA EMERSON SMITH

Government services funded with sales-tax revenue could be hit hard as San Diegans continue to cut

back on retail spending amid the coronavirus pandemic.

The region could lose more than \$7 billion in annual sales-tax revenue this year if the economic upheaval continues through the middle of May, according to a new report by the San Diego Association of Governments.

"We still don't know how long this is going to last," said SANDAG Executive Director Hasan Ikhtrata. "We could go anywhere from a mild recession to a depression."

All of the region's 18 cities are now staring at sizable budget deficits. San Diego Mayor Kevin Faulconer tried to partially patch his city's losses by furloughing

800 workers but rescinded the move after labor officials filed an official grievance.

SANDAG's report — potentially the first in a series — is intended to help local governments plan for such tough budget decisions in the coming months. The agency analyzed sales data by industry so that cities can try to anticipate just

how hard they will be hit. Specifically, cities that rely on tourism, hospitality or auto sales could be in for a tough year. All three industries are currently facing a 75 percent drop in sales.

This situation could be particularly troubling because city budgets have relied so heavily on taxing re-

SEE SALES • A9

S.D. COUNTY FAIR CANCELED; DEATH TOLL EXCEEDS 50

Health officials can't say when stay-home orders will be lifted

BY GARY WARTH

The San Diego County Fair has been called off until 2021 in an effort to stop the spread of the coronavirus, which has claimed an additional six local lives, bringing to 53 the number of area residents who have died from the virus.

The Del Mar Fair Board made the unanimous decision to cancel the fair on Tuesday following the announcement of additional

state prohibitions on mass gatherings.

Gov. Gavin Newsom had said earlier in the day that the prospect for mass gatherings was "negligible at best" until there is a vaccine for the coronavirus and herd immunity.

"So large-scale events that bring in hundreds, thousands, tens of thousands of strangers, all together across every conceivable difference, health and otherwise, is not in the cards based upon our current guidelines and current expectations," he said.

Fair Board President Richard Valdez said the de-

SEE COUNTY • A6

AIRPORT EXPERIENCING HUGE DROP IN REVENUE

\$3B plan to expand facility's Terminal 1 could be delayed

BY LORI WEISBERG

With less than half the scheduled flights taking off here in early April and more of the same anticipated as the coronavirus scare plays out across the world, San Diego's international airport is facing a deep dive in monthly revenues that is forcing it to slash expenses and possibly delay the start late next year of a \$3 billion

project to expand its aging Terminal 1.

The airport's largest airline, Southwest, has already cut by half the number of flights scheduled across its system in June, and by today, all three of San Diego's once-popular overseas flights — to London, Frankfurt and Japan — will have ended.

Even more startling are stats released by the Transportation Security Administration, which reported that officers screened just 102,184 people at U.S. airport checkpoints on Monday — a nearly

SEE LINDBERGH • A9



FOOD

PUT A STAMP ON IT

Corzetti — flat, round pasta coins that boast a medieval past — pay tribute to Italian heritage. E1

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CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

CONVENTION CENTER SHELTER TO EXPAND

About 800 homeless are already being housed at the facility

BY GARY WARTH

SAN DIEGO

The temporary homeless shelter at the San Diego Convention Center is set to significantly expand beginning this week, as people living on the street and encampments join those already inside the venue.

The city in recent weeks has shuffled hundreds of homeless people to different facilities, shuttered its large tented bridge shelters and opened and then closed a temporary shelter in Golden Hall, all steps to protect a population seen as among the most vulnerable to COVID-19.

Most of the actions so far have focused on keeping safe the hundreds of people already in city-run shelters, which include tented shelters run by the Alpha Project and Veterans Village of San Diego and a shelter for single women and families Father Joe's ran in Golden Hall in downtown San Diego.

Public health officials were concerned conditions weren't safe at those facilities, which are called bridge shelters because they are intended to serve as a bridge between living outdoors and being housed, and all people inside have been moved into more-spacious areas in the convention center.

The second phase of the convention center temporary shelter began Friday, when five people who had been living outside were screened and brought to the convention center.

Ashley Bailey, senior press secretary for San Diego Mayor Kevin Faulconer, said 15 moved in Saturday, followed by 26 more Sunday, 25 on Monday and 21 by mid-



NELVIN C. CEPEDA U-T

Keith King plays a game on a smartphone while staying at the temporary homeless shelter set up at the San Diego Convention Center. The city began relocating men and women into the temporary shelter last week.

day Tuesday.

Homeless people are being contacted by San Diego Police Department's homeless outreach teams, who are working with public health nurses to screen people for signs of the coronavirus. A greater push to move people from the street and into the convention center is expected to start this week.

By midday Tuesday, Bailey said about 800 homeless people were at the convention center, which is ex-

pected to hold up to 1,500 people.

Bailey also said the city has revised its earlier plan to use the vacant bridge shelters as an intake and holding center for homeless people who want to move into the convention center shelter.

The initial idea was to screen and possibly quarantine people at the tents, where they might have stayed for a few days to be watched for symptoms as a safeguard against them

spreading the disease in the convention center.

Recently released data shows the virus has not had a strong impact on the unsheltered homeless population, however.

At Monday's daily county press briefing, Supervisor Nathan Fletcher released the first numbers showing how many homeless people had COVID-19.

The numbers were unchanged Tuesday, with only 13 homeless people among

the 1,930 San Diego County residents who had tested positive for the coronavirus. Of those 13, nine were unsheltered and four had come from existing shelters, but not the convention center.

Bailey said that even without using the bridge shelters as quarantine sites, there still will be precautions before moving people from the streets and encampments into the convention center.

Screenings will be done in

locations away from the convention center, and only people who are healthy will be moved into the convention center.

On Tuesday, Fletcher announced that a donation of an unspecified amount from the Lucky Duck Foundation will provide coronavirus testing to all people sheltered in the convention center.

The testing will be done in partnership with Family Health Centers of San Diego and will start on Thursday, with 150 tests a day, and will ramp up to 250 tests a day, until they have tested everyone in the convention center, Fletcher said.

Not all people receiving health screens on the street will be offered a cot at the convention center. People who do have symptoms or are seen as vulnerable to catching the virus may be offered hotel or motel rooms.

The county has 1,582 rooms available for people who show symptoms of the virus or have health issues that make them vulnerable to catching it. Of those, 201 are occupied with 213 guests as of Tuesday.

The county also has provided the Regional Task Force on the Homeless with 447 rooms for homeless people who may be vulnerable to catching the virus because of their age or health. Of those rooms, 194 are occupied with 322 people.

Father Joe's Villages also is providing beds in its Paul Mirabile Center interim shelter for 135 men and 40 women who may be vulnerable to the disease.

The city of Encinitas also is offering homeless people motel rooms during the health crisis. The City Council voted to provide about 80 vouchers for motels, which have been used to get more than 100 people off the street.

gary.warth@sduuniontribune.com

COUNTY • Firefighters, others working to help those in need

FROM A1
cision to cancel this year's fair was in part made out of consideration of the event's many vendors.

"Our vendors are relying on our decision for determining whether they can go forward," Valdez said. "There is a tremendous amount of preparation and expense involved."

The event, which was scheduled for June 5 through July 5, will move to about the same dates next year with the same theme that was planned for this year — "Heroes, Unite!" — fairgrounds General Manager Tim Fennell said.

Looking ahead, other traditional summer events that could be put on hold include San Diego Padres baseball games, Comic-Con International, the San Diego Symphony's Summer Pops series, Tiki Oasis, the Pride Parade, the Over the Line Tournament, the U.S. San Diego Sculpting Challenge and Dimensional Art Exposition as well as various street fairs and concerts.

At a daily briefing held by county officials, Supervisor Nathan Fletcher could not say when there might be a light at the end of the tunnel, but he urged people to continue practicing physical distancing, staying inside except for essential trips and wearing facial coverings whenever going outside.

"We want to encourage you to continue on the path that we're on because it is laying the foundation for us to begin to think about, to contemplate, to prepare the next steps," he said.

But the reality is nobody knows when those next steps may be taken, he added.

"We will make progress," he said. "We will rebuild. But it's really important that we do it the right way."

Fletcher also gave an update on the number of county residents who have tested positive for the coronavirus, including 83 new



NELVIN C. CEPEDA U-T

Chula Vista police and firefighters celebrate health care workers at Scripps Mercy Hospital in Chula Vista on Tuesday.

cases for a total of 1,930.

In all, 27,048 county residents have been tested for the virus, including 919 tests that were reported to the county Monday, he said.

In new data presented Tuesday, Dr. Eric McDonald, medical director of the county epidemiology and immunization branch, shared a state website that showed how many people are hospitalized on any date in non-federal hospitals throughout the state.

In San Diego County as of Monday, there were 243 hospitalized patients who had tested positive for the coronavirus and 107 suspected of having the disease. Among those who were hospitalized, 101 were in intensive care and had tested positive and 24 were in intensive care and were suspected of having COVID-19.

Cumulatively, 450 county residents have been hospitalized, with 164 in intensive care units.

San Diego County had the third-highest number of people hospitalized in the state on Monday, behind

Los Angeles and Riverside counties.

Of the county residents who have died, McDonald said all but two had an underlying medical condition, and 27 of the 53 fatalities were people older than 80. The six latest deaths include three men ages 63, 79 and 85 and three women ages 81, 98 and 100.

Of the 53 fatalities, 22 were white, 16 were Hispanic, two were Asian and one was multiracial, according to data released from the county. Race was not available in 12 cases.

About 55 percent of all patients were between the ages of 30 and 59. About 49 percent were female, and about 50 percent were male. Gender was not known in about 1 percent of cases.

Among the most recent county residents to test positive for the virus are five bus drivers and two trolley maintenance workers employed by the San Diego Metropolitan Transit System.

The agency, which employs nearly 2,750 workers,

reported its first case about a week ago.

Of the five drivers, one had been on vacation for the last two weeks and had no contact with riders or other MTS workers, officials said. The other drivers had been working routes 7, 8, 9, 10, 13, 14, 25, 215 and 944.

Also on Tuesday, San Diego firefighters launched a campaign to give away \$57,000 to community organizations that are helping San Diegans during the coronavirus pandemic, according to union leaders.

San Diego City Firefighters International Association of Firefighters Local 145 is giving away \$3,000 a day over 19 days. The giving campaign began Friday and will continue until April 28.

So far, the firefighters have awarded money to Serving Seniors, Feeding San Diego, Unite Here Local 30, the San Diego County hotel and food service workers union, and Jacobs Center for Neighborhood Innovation, which serves southeastern San Diego.

The money being do-

SAN DIEGO COUNTY UPDATE

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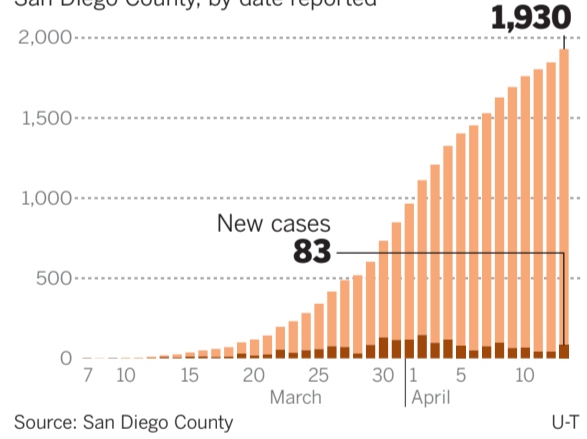
Total deaths

450

Total hospitalized

COVID-19 cases

San Diego County, by date reported



Source: San Diego County

U-T

nated comes from the union's Community Responsibility Fund, which was established nearly 50 years ago.

To learn more, visit the San Diego City Firefighters IAFF Local 145 website.

In another effort to help people affected by the outbreak, the civil rights nonprofit People's Alliance for Justice and the San Diego Food Bank announced Tuesday that they are teaming up to help feed household seniors.

"We heard that seniors were in need of food and various resources but they couldn't get to (food) distributors and local churches that were providing some home essentials," said the Rev. Shane Harris, president of the People's Alliance for Justice. "... We felt seniors should not have to go to distribution sites — we should bring the distribution sites to them."

In addition to food, the organization is also offering to pick up and deliver household essentials such as cleaning supplies and toiletries.

To get assistance, sen-

iors are asked to call the People's Alliance for Justice at (619) 354-8051.

To learn more about available food distribution sites, visit sandiegofoodbank.org/gethelp.

During the county briefing on Tuesday, McDonald reflected on comments he had heard from his grandmother, who had lived through the 1918 flu epidemic, the Great Depression and World War I.

"She said, 'We all knew people who were in the Army,'" he said about her memories of World War I. "Nobody knew anybody who died in the war, but everybody knew somebody who died in the epidemic."

McDonald said people should continue the sacrifices they are making to flatten the curve and keep the virus from spreading.

"It's so our kids aren't going to be telling that kind of story to their grandkids at a future date," he said.

Staff writers Joshua Emerson Smith, Alex Riggins and Lyndsay Winkley contributed to this report.

gary.warth@sduuniontribune.com

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