MICHAEL HART
Columnist

How decades of prudence positioned county for this

Divided to learn a thing or two about the county finances, I called
the chief of staff to a previous meeting.

“It was a pretty bleak situation,” Hart said, “but...”

“I don’t think so,” he said.

“I named the department chief of staff to a previous meeting,”
Hart said.

“I don’t think so,” he said.

“The county’s sorry finances,”
Hart said, “has a $6.2 billion budget with:

“...the county’s trash system and public works department on the brink of bankruptcy,”
Hart said.

“The division will continue to re-

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changed, services they need.

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Using fear as an excuse for racism during times of crisis

Coronavirus: Teri Figueroa

Behind the U-T’s daily virus summary

This novel coronavirus is not as virulent as its reputation suggests. Over 10,000 have died worldwide, but the fatality rate of this illness is only 2%. Those who are most vulnerable to this disease are elderly or have chronic health issues.

Despite the high number of cases, the community can generally feel secure in daily activities. The safest activities in this time are ones that require social distance, such as the grocery store.

As a community, we need to be cautious, but not fearful. The best way to protect ourselves is to be vigilant when going out in public places and to practice good hygiene at all times.

The daily case numbers and new information will continue to be monitored, but the community should not be overly concerned with each day’s numbers. It is important to stay informed and take precautions, but to also maintain perspective on the overall picture.
**Carlsbad**

Libby’s Friends group offers scholarships

The Friends of the Carlsbad Library’s Libby’s Friends group, which is raising money for scholarships for Carlsbad students, has announced it is fundraising through April 30 to create scholarships for students who are graduating high school in 2020 and who are the children of library staff or who have a library card. The application packet and information on how to apply are available at libbysfriends.org or at the Carlsbad Library website.

**Encinitas**

Blood drive at Carlsbad

The Carlsbad Blood Donor Center, 1883 Coast Highway, will host a blood drive from 1 to 4 p.m. April 3 at the Del Mar Plaza. The drive is being held in California. For more information, visit the blood donor center’s website.

**Escondido**

Children’s art show in April postponed

The Escondido Art Association’s 36th annual spring show, Art in the Garden, scheduled for April 3-5 at 141 W. Grand Ave., Escondido, is temporarily closed. The show, which was scheduled for April 3 has been postponed until further notice. Work submitted for the 2020 spring show closure will remain on the Art in the Garden Gallery until new dates are set. Work will be picked up by the artists;

**North County**

Goodwill not accepting at-door donations

Goodwill Carlsbad will not be taking community members’ donations at its stores until the nonprofit reopens. Donations to Goodwill can be dropped off at Goodwill donation centers, donation centers at Goodwill retail stores, or by scheduling an appointment through the Goodwill Employment Center. Donations cannot be accepted at any Goodwill online store (shopgoodwill.com). La Jolla Goodwill’s online store (shopgoodwill.com) today.

**Oceanside**

Nonprofit offers nature programs for homebound

The San Diego River Valley Center, 1018 N. El Camino Real in Oceanside, is offering nature programs for homebound people through the drive-thru food distribution in Ramona. The drive-thru food distribution in Ramona.

**San Marcos**

Housing and Community Development Center's programs are postponed due to COVID-19

The San Marcos Housing and Community Development Center has postponed all in-person programs, which will now be offered virtually. Visit the city’s website, sanmarcostx.gov, for more information.

**Solana Beach**

Feeding San Diego

Feeding San Diego is increasing the food supplied at drive-thru food distributions at its central warehouse in Vista, the third Monday of every month. The operation happens from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. April 6. For more information, visit feedingsandiego.org or call 888-444-2000.

**Valencia**

Cal State University of North County plan for Community Development Center, 819 W. Ninth Ave., 6:30 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday. In addition, the college offers free online education for all students, regardless of their level of education. Visit csun.edu/extension/onlineeducation/ for more information.

**Vista**

Free online palliative care courses offered

The California State University of North County, which has closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, will offer free online palliative care courses to help those who are caring for people with serious illnesses. Visit csun.edu/extension/onlineeducation/ for more information.

**Escondido**

Art Gallery.

When the shelter reopens, all dogs and cats will need homes. Pet Feeding San Diego (PFD) will provide food for the shelter and in foster care. PFD is able to pick up shelf-stable pet food, such as wet or dry food, and to deliver it to the shelter.

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ESCONDIDO

Assistance League provides new clothes, shoes for students

The Assistance League of Inland North County provided new clothes and shoes for students in need from schools in Escondido, Fallbrook, Poway, Ramona, San Mar- cenary, students and their families to help them access the programs and services provided by the Assistance League of Inland North County. Students in need of clothes and shoes and other essentials can access the Assistance League of Inland North County’s programs through the assistance league’s website, assistanceleagueinc.org, or by calling the Assistance League of Inland North County’s office at (760) 728-7712.

**Oceanside**

The Escondido City Council will not meet in April.

The Escondido City Council will meet in special session Thursday at noon. The meeting will be held via teleconference to hold a vote to extend the month ban on residential and commercial gatherings.

**Fallsbrook**

The Oceanside Unified School District board met in special session Thursday and voted to extend the month ban on residential and commercial gatherings.

**San Marcos**

The Vista Unified School District board met in special session Thursday and voted to extend the month ban on residential and commercial gatherings.

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