

## LATEST DEVELOPMENTS IN CORONAVIRUS

### TRUMP: OPEN BY EASTER

President Trump said he is hoping to have the country's economy reopened by Easter as he contemplates how to end federal social-distancing guidelines and put U.S. workers back on the job. - AP

### SUMMER OLYMPICS POSTPONED

The International Olympic Committee postponed the 2020 Tokyo Summer Olympics, bowing to the realities of the coronavirus pandemic that is shutting down daily life and travel around the globe. - AP

### MARKETS

The Dow was up 11.4% on news that Congress neared a deal to inject nearly \$2T of aid into the economy. The S&P 500 was up 9.4% as a wave of buying interrupted what has been a month of nearly nonstop selling. - AP

### HISTORIC LOCKDOWN

PM Modi warned India's 1.3B citizens to stay inside or risk exposure acknowledging that the 21-day lockdown would be a major blow to the economy, but insisting that the alternative could set the country back 21 years. - WP

### WORLD DEATHS OVER 18,000

More than 400K people worldwide have been infected and over 18K have died. On Monday, the U.S. saw its biggest jump yet with more than 650 American deaths now attributed to COVID-19. - AP

### MEDICAL GLOVE SHORTAGE

Three of four medical-grade gloves sold worldwide are made in Malaysia, but factories there are operating at half capacity to reduce the risk of transmitting the COVID-19 virus. - AP

### MICHIGAN

# Government sends state COVID-19 supplies

Two shipments of pharmaceuticals, medical equipment have been received

By Mark Cavitt  
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The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has distributed thousands of critical medical supplies to Michigan. So far, the state has re-

ceived two shipments from the Strategic National Stockpile, a supply of pharmaceuticals and medical equipment for public health emergencies. Both shipments were sent without the state having to make a formal request, and represent 50% of the state's

allotment based on population.

Lynn Sutkin, spokeswoman for the state health department, said the equipment will be delivered to high-risk health care workers, nurses, and doctors.

The first allotment was sent to the state's 45 local health departments and healthcare providers across the state based upon population. Initial shipments

of the second allotment were sent to regions with the highest numbers of COVID-19 cases.

### Shipment one

- N-95 respirators (approximately 95,000)
- Surgical gowns (approximately 35,000)
- Non-sterile gloves (approximately 125,000 pair)
- Face shields (approximately 43,000)

### Shipment two

- N-95 respirators (approximately 95,000)
  - Surgical gowns (approximately 35,000)
  - Non-sterile gloves (approximately 125,000 pair)
  - Face shields (approximately 43,000)
  - Surgical face masks (225,000)
- Gov. Gretchen Whitmer said even with the federal

government's assistance, the state does not have a sufficient amount of medical supplies, including masks, gowns, gloves, and personal protection equipment needed to protect health care workers and the general public.

She said some of the items most in need include: hospital gowns, ventilators, sanitizer (hand/wipe),

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### NATION

## Governors reject Trump timeline

President's time frame referred to as an 'Imaginary clock'

By Paul J. Weber and Jonathan J. Cooper  
The Associated Press

AUSTIN, TEXAS» Governors across the nation on Tuesday rejected President Donald Trump's new accelerated timeline for reopening the U.S. economy, as they continued to impose more restrictions on travel and public life in an attempt to curb the spread of the coronavirus.

The dismissal of Trump's mid-April timeframe for a national reopening came from Republicans and Democrats, from leaders struggling to manage hot spots of the outbreak and those still bracing for the worst. Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan, the head of the National Governors Association and a Republican, called the messaging confusing since most leaders are still focused on enforcing the restrictions, not easing them. He accused the White House of running on a schedule made of some "imaginary clock."

The pushback suggests Trump's talk of an early reboot is unlikely to gain traction. In most cases, it's state leaders — not the federal government — who are responsible for both imposing and lifting the stay-at-home orders and other restrictions intended to stop

TIME FRAME » PAGE 4

### STATE

# COMMODITY ODDITY



STEPHEN FRYE — MEDIANEWS GROUP

## Psychology behind hoarding toilet paper: We're not that different from squirrels

By Anne Runkle  
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When it comes to toilet paper and a pandemic, we're not that different from squirrels.

There are explanations for the toilet paper hoarding that has made the commodity one of the most coveted items in the country, said Stephanie Preston, professor of psychology at the University of Michigan.

Our brains are not wired that differently from a squirrel's brain, or any other mammal that needs to save food or other needed items for later, she said.

A squirrel has only a few

months of the year that it can collect nuts from trees, and yet the animal has to make its food source last all year. Hence, it has the capacity to remember all the places where it hides them.

Similarly, when a pandemic puts humans under stress, a common response is to clean and to hoard. "Toilet paper is the perfect storm of the two," Preston said, because of its association with cleanliness.

But why not hoard milk or bread or some other food?

Preston said if a food item is in short supply, people can make some reasonable substitution for it. There are few good substitutes for toilet paper. And people can

hoard it without fear that it will go bad.

And when nobody can find it, it becomes even more important, she said.

"It's not something we're particularly interested in until we see the shelves are empty," Preston said. "And then you think if there isn't any, it must be something really good."

It's similar to the phenomenon of toys that become the most popular at Christmastime. Remember the Cabbage Patch doll and Tickle Me Elmo?

Adding to all this fixation with toilet paper is that "it's kind of taboo and gross and funny," Preston said. Just check out all the toilet paper memes going around on social media.

Why aren't people thinking that if they buy the last pack-

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### STATE

## Officials confirm 24 COVID-19 deaths

Statewide cases surpass 1,700

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Michigan health officials have confirmed 24 deaths due to COVID-19 and a total of 1,791 cases statewide.

On Tuesday, state health officials reported 493 new cases and nine new deaths. There are 428 confirmed cases in Oakland County, 563 in Detroit, 310 in Wayne County and 225 in Macomb County. The state's updated totals are from cases tallied Monday up to midnight and include positive test results confirmed by state, commercial, and hospital labs.

To date, 52 percent of the confirmed cases have been male while 58 percent of the cases have been between the ages of 40 and 69.

On Monday, Gov. Gretchen Whitmer issued a statewide stay-at-home order to help slow the spread of COVID-19, which is now a global pandemic. The order, which takes effect at 12:01 a.m. Tuesday and lasts 21 days, directs all "non-essential" Michigan businesses and operations to temporarily suspend in-person operations, which includes those not needed to sustain or protect life.

On Tuesday, state health officials issued an emergency order to maximize COVID-19 sampling and testing capacity and ensure timely reporting of critical resources and needs. The Michigan Department of

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### OAKLAND COUNTY

## Shelters try to keep homeless healthy

Hope Warming Center finds a way to isolate sick, promote social distancing

By Natalie Broda  
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During the COVID-19 pandemic, homeless shelters have the same charge as always — To keep their

residents safe and healthy.

But that looks a lot different now with the added responsibility of protecting one of the most vulnerable populations from a contagious virus.

At Pontiac's Hope Warm-

ing Center, large whiteboards now separate the bunk-style beds to promote social distancing. Staff members take the temperature of anyone who comes into the building, new sanitation stations have been built and two weeks ago, Oakland University medical students taught residents at the shelter proper

hand-washing techniques.

"I suspect most of them haven't washed their hands this much in their entire life," Elizabeth Kelly, director of the center, said.

There's 62 people staying at the shelter as of Tuesday, March 24, the day Michigan's statewide stay-at-home order went into ef-

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NATALIE BRODA — THE OAKLAND PRESS

A group of men eat lunch outside the Hope Warming Center in Pontiac on March 18.