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Thursday, March 26, 2020

Denton County issues stay-at-home order



Denton County has issued a stay-at-home order that went into effect Wednesday, March 25. The order means residents can leave their homes only to shop for food and other needs, while nonessential businesses must be closed, to reduce spread of COVID-19.

The mandate will last for seven days unless ratified or extended by the county Commissioners Court, Denton County Judge Andy Eads said. The move was announced jointly with the city of Denton during a press conference Tuesday afternoon at the Courthouse on the Square.

Eads urged residents to stay home and limit their interactions because community spread of the new coronavirus has been confirmed in Denton County.

"Each individual has the responsibility to stay at home and [limit] their actions to the necessities of getting supplies, handling medical issues, and for some, going to work to keep essential businesses in operation," Eads said.

The mandate follows Dallas County's shelter-in-place order, which began Monday, and Collin and Tarrant counties' "stay at home" mandates, issued on Tuesday.

For Denton County's mandate designates specific criteria for which businesses are considered essential.

"Essential businesses," according to the mandate, include health care operations, such as dentists, health care suppliers, clinics, and veterinary care and welfare services for animals. Grocery stores and convenience stores are also allowed to keep their doors open. Elective medical procedures are not included in the mandate.

Without commonsense measures to re-

duce the spread of COVID-19, such as staying home and practicing social distancing, Eads said Denton County hospitals and the Dallas-Fort Worth health care system risk becoming overwhelmed with coronavirus patients.

"We are asking people to reduce our impacts and the surge of anticipated cases," he said. "Hospitals, the places that help us in our greatest hour of need, are now asking us to help them. We must ensure the health and safety of medical professionals and first responders, who are on the front lines working to help those when needed most."

"It's going to depend on staying in our homes and only going out when it's absolutely essential," Denton Mayor Chris Watts said during Tuesday's press conference. "That's why we made sure that essential businesses stayed open, so that we can continue to stay in our homes as much as possible. If not, the hurt, pain and sickness is going to be prolonged."

Matt Richardson, director of Denton County Public Health, said there are "a number of individuals" the county department is planning to test in the coming hours and days. Richardson said COVID-19 testing is available at area hospitals, but that facility testing will expand once supplies and clinical staff can be deployed.

While access to COVID-19 testing has been limited due to availability, he said that frustration has been

(Continued on pg. 10)

First Day of ONLINE SCHOOL



Governor Abbott mandated the closing of all school districts in Texas until April 3 and UIL has suspended all extra-curricular activities until May 4th. "Sanger ISD will continue to support parents and our students regardless of how long our district is closed," said Superintendent Dr. Tommy Hunter.

Monday was a big day!!! It was like the first day of school again as 'distance learning' was implemented. "Our goal is to ease into online education and find a routine in this new norm," said Hunter. School Work Packet Pick Up was held on Monday from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. at each Campus.

SISD started the meal program last week handing out over 400 meals to family members. SEE PHOTOS ON PAGE 6: On Monday, March 23, they

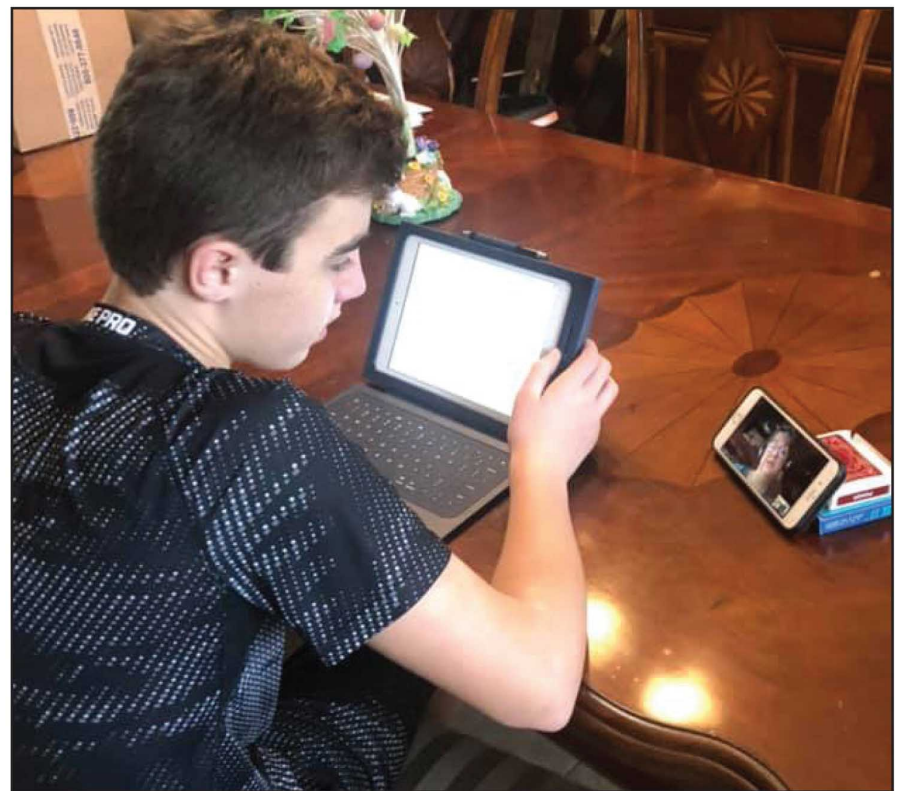
relocated the pick up location to the high school campus at 100 Indian Lane. They will continue with the "curbside" pick up service on the south side of the building. The hours for meal pick up will remain from 10:00 a.m. to noon. As a reminder, anyone under the age of 18 is eligible for a free meal.

For updated information, visit www.sangerisd.net



SANGER ISD

COVID-19 UPDATES



Sanger Middle School seventh grader Kason Peebles listens to his teacher online on Monday.

Crisis Center continues to serve the community, churches serving to-go dinners

The Sanger Bargain Depot (thrift store) will be closed due to the coronavirus pandemic, but the Sanger Crisis Center will continue serving the community. They will still be available for food boxes and financial assistance.

If you are needing food, please call 940-312-3772, leave your name and number and someone will call you back and give you specific instructions as to when to come and pick up your food box. If you are calling for financial assistance,

leave your name and number and you will be called back for a phone interview. Everything will be discussed over the phone. Donations are not being accepted during this time.

The following churches are serving dinner on a TO GO basis:

- Church of Christ 400 Locust St. Sanger 940-458-3145a Thursdays 6:00-6:30pm
- First Baptist Church

708 S 5th Street Sanger 940-458-7416 Mondays 6:00-6:30pm

Phone calls only to take information and schedule appointments: First Refuge Ministries-Sanger 940-484-4384

Sanger Crisis Center 940-312-3772
Our Daily Bread 940-566-1308
300 W. Oak St. Suite 100 Denton

(Continued on pg. 3)

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OBITUARIES

Sally Joanne (Smith) Fonda

September 30, 1935 - March 17, 2019

Sally Joanne (Smith) Fonda, 84, of Decatur (formerly of Sanger) went to be with the Lord on Tuesday, March 17, 2020, at her home surrounded by her loving family. Born on September 30, 1935, in Kountze, Texas, she was the daughter of Odis Franklin Smith and Gracie Amber (Coon) Smith.

Sally managed the offices for the Sanger Mobile Home Park for several years and was a member of the Pilgrim's Way Baptist Church. She loved Jesus and loved to tell others of His love. Sally loved to sing. She was part of a gospel group called the Spiritualettes. They sang for nursing homes, the elderly, and their church. As other members of the group began to move on or pass away, the group disbanded.

Sally loved all six of her children. Many others were not her children, but she loved as though they were her own. To this day, most of them still call her, Momma. She loved her grandchildren and having fun with them.

A visitation for Sally was held on Friday, March 20, 2020, from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm at Coker Funeral Home in Sanger. Funeral services were held at Pilgrim's Way Baptist Church on Saturday, March 21, 2020, at 11:00 am with Marion Coon officiating the services. Serving as pallbearers were Jonathan Davis, Harris Nelson, Victor Castorena, Brian Richardson, Charles Choate, and Ray Crane. Interment followed in the Bolivar Cemetery.

Sally was preceded in death by her parents; sister and brother-in-law, Edith Correne (Smith) and Andrew Percy Moss; brother, Baby T. J. Smith; brother and sister-in-law, Otto Clifton and Lilly Mae Smith; son-in-law, James Doyle Yandle, and granddaughter, Juliett LaShey Yandle. She is survived by her four daughters, Kim Crane of Sanger, Cindy Fonda of Decatur, Julie Snyder of Longview and June Seyfer of Dangerfield; two sons, Billy Fonda and Mike Fonda both of Decatur; eight grandchildren and one honorary grandchild, 12 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild with two more on the way.

Online condolences may be made to www.cokerfuneralhome.com.



Financial FOCUS

By Allen Chick, Edward Jones



Know the Four Uses of Cash

It's important to have cash available for your everyday spending and the inevitable rainy day. However, you also need to develop a cash strategy that can contribute to your long-term financial success. But just how much cash do you need? And in what form?

To answer these questions, it's useful to look at the four main uses of cash:

- **Everyday spending** – Your everyday spending includes the cash you use for your mortgage, utilities, groceries and so on. As a general guideline, you should have one to two months of living expenses available during

your working years, and perhaps a year's worth of living expenses when you're retired. (The latter can be adjusted higher or lower based on your income from Social Security or a pension.) You'll need instant access to this money – and you need to know your principal is protected – so it may be a good idea to keep the funds in a checking or cash management account.

- **Unexpected expenses and emergencies** – If you needed a major car repair or a new furnace, or if you incurred a big bill from a doctor or dentist, would you be able to handle the cost? You could – if you've set up an emergency fund. During your working years, this fund should be big enough to cover three to six months of living expenses; when you're retired, you may be able to get by with one to three months' worth of expenses, assuming you have additional sources of available cash. You'll want your emergency fund to be held in liquid vehicles that protect your principal, such as savings or money market accounts or short-term certificates of deposit (CDs).

- **Specific short-term savings goal(s)** – At various points in your life, you may have a specific goal – a new car, vacation, wedding, etc. – that you'd like to reach within a year or two. Your first step is to identify how much money you'll need, so think about all the factors affecting

the final cost. Next, you'll need to choose an appropriate savings vehicle. You could simply put more money in the accounts you use for everyday cash, or even in your emergency fund, but you would run the risk of dipping into either of these pools. Instead, consider opening a separate account – and tell yourself this money is for one purpose only.

- **Source of investment** – You can use cash in two ways as part of your overall investment strategy. First, cash can be considered part of the fixed-income allocation of your portfolio (i.e., bonds and CDs). Because cash behaves differently from other asset classes – such as stocks and bonds – it can help diversify your holdings, and the more diversified you are, the less impact market volatility may have on your portfolio. (However, diversification can't guarantee a profit or protect against all losses.) The second benefit of cash, in terms of investing, is it's there for you to purchase a new investment or to add more shares in an existing investment. In any case, you probably don't want to be too cash heavy, so you might want to keep no more than 10% of your fixed-income assets in cash.

As you can see, cash can be valuable in several ways – so use it wisely.

Allen Chick is a Financial Advisor with Edward Jones in Sanger. He can be reached at 940-458-7866.

Colton Landon Ryan

February 14, 1990 - March 19, 2020

Colton Landon Ryan, 30, of Sanger, peacefully slipped into the arms of Jesus, on Thursday, March 19, 2020, in Dallas, Texas. Born on February 14, 1990, in Denton, Texas, Colton was the son of Richard Alan and Diana Kay (Kaufman) Ryan.



Colton was a graduate of Sanger High School. He was a fun-loving guy who loved and served his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. His greatest passion was music and serving in youth ministry. Colton was loved by all who knew and will be greatly missed.

He is preceded in death by his dad, Ricky, and his grandparents. Those who remain to cherish his memory are his mother, Diana Ryan Swinscoe and husband Mark of Sanger; his sister and brother-in-law, Brandie Shumate and husband Kyle of Sanger; his brother and sister-in-law, Chad David Ryan and wife Britni of Cypress; his nieces and nephews, Garick Ryan and Kaylee Ryan both of Cypress, Kambrie Shumate, Kollin Shumate, and Korbin Shumate all of Sanger.

Services for Colton will be held privately with family only.

Services are under the direction of Coker Funeral Home. Online condolences may be made to www.cokerfuneralhome.com.

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Pastor: R.S. Davis • 940-443-0245

First Baptist Church
708 S. 5th Sanger • 458-7416
Grant Bowles, Pastor

Bolivar Baptist Church
Hwy 455 • Sanger • 458-3082

Christ the Great Shepherd Church
4799 Belz Rd. • Sanger • 458-GROW

Church of Christ
101 N. 4th • Sanger • 458-3145

Freedom Life Church
1609 Duck Creek Road - Sanger
Pastor - Gary Sweatman
- 940-300-6169

First Assembly of God
103 Freese • Sanger • 458-7376

First United Methodist
115 No. 5th • Sanger • 940-458-7423
Pastor - Phillip Stobaugh

Ridin' For the Brand Cowboy Church
5926 FM 455 West, Pastor:
Dr. Roger Marsh, 940-458-3076

NT Trinity Cowboy Church
9901 FM 2164, Sanger
Pastor Ken Peterson

Blue Mound United Methodist
I-35 @ Milam Rd exit 473 • Sanger
940-382-0825
Rev. Jacob Fields, Pastor

Galilee Baptist Church
300 E. Willow St. • Sanger
Reginald Logan, Sr.

Gribble Springs Baptist
Sanger • 458-3274 • 6933 FM 2164
Pastor - Bro. Scott Finley
gribblesprings.com

Grace Bible Church
311 N. 4th Street, Sanger
Pastor Tommy Bosworth
gracebiblesanger.com
940-268-3243

New Life Church
1350 Milam Rd East • Sanger
458-3310 • Lead Pastor Jim Mann

Hope Chapel
Pastor - Jay Parr
313 North 4th • Sanger • 458-5003

Cornerstone Baptist Church
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14007 S. I-35, just north of Sanger

Our Lady of Fatima
Roman Catholic Church
3rd & Peach • 458-7344

Pilgrims Way Baptist Church
806 N. Keaton Rd. • Sanger
• 458-4729

Seventh Day Adventist Church
Saturday • 458-3679

Landmark Baptist Church
Pastor Larry Driver, 4th & Cherry
Sanger • 458-7771

Victory Baptist Church
207 Kathryn Dr. • Sanger
940-300-1147, Pastor Robert Graf

Trinity Chapel Church
2000 Cowling Rd. • Sanger •
Pastor - John Bullock • 458-5563

Iglesia Bautista Reino de Dios
Pastor - Genaro Guzman,
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Weekly Police Report

SANGER DEPARTMENT CALLS

Below is a selection of calls for service that the Sanger Police Department responded to during the period from March 2nd, to March 10th, 2020

- 135 @ 482 – CALLER STATED VEHICLE WAS WEAVING BACK AND FORTH IN LANE OF TRAVEL AND INTO SHOULDER. FOLLOWED VEHICLE INTO DENTON, NO VIOLATIONS OBSERVED
- 100 BLK PINTAIL – CALLER CALLED PD TO ADVISE THAT THERE WAS A CAMPING TENT IN HER SIDE YARD. TENT CHECKED AND DETERMINED TO BE EMPTY. NO SIGNS OF CRIMINAL ACTIVITY
- 900 BLK 5TH – TRAFFIC STOP RESULTED IN ARREST FOR POSS

- OF MARIJUANA
- 800 BLK CARMEN CRT – DCSO REQUESTED CONTACT BE MADE WITH JUVENILE VICTIM FROM AFV CALL ON 3/1. CONTACT MADE WITH AUNT WHO HAS CUSTODY OF JUVENILE VICTIM AN ADVISED SUSPECT IS BEING RELEASED
- 700 BLK STEMMONS – CALLER WANTED TO KNOW WHY THE REPO SERVICE WOULD NOT LET HER GET INTO HER CAR IN THEIR YARD WITHOUT BEING SUPERVISED. CALLER ADVISED THAT THE RULES OF THEIR COMPANY ARE THEIR OWN AND THAT WE COULD NOT MAKE THEM CHANGE THE RULES
- 500 BLK STEMMONS – CALLER STATED HE HAD BEEN DRINKING AND WANTED

- TO GO TO THE HOSPITAL. SANGER FD TRANSPORTED
- 1100 BLK PRIMROSE – CALLER STATED SHE RECEIVED A CALL FROM A MALE WHO LEFT A VOICE MAIL STATING HE WAS FROM DCSO. SEEMED SUSPICIOUS SO SHE CALLED DCSO TO CONFIRM. DCSO STATED THAT THEY DID NOT CONTACT HER. POSS SCAM,. CALLER ADVISED TO BLACK NUMBER
- 100 BLK PARKER DR – OFFICERS CONDUCTED FOLLOW UP WITH VICTIMS. OFFICERS TOOK PHOTOGRAPHS OF BOTH VICTIMS AND HAD VICTIM FILL OUT A WRITTEN STATEMENT TO ADD TO THE CASE FILE. OFFICERS ALSO MADE COPIES OF MEDICAL PAPERWORK FROM THE HOSPITAL FOLLOWING THE ASSAULT
- 400 BLK 1ST – OFFICERS WERE DISPATCHED TO THE AREA IN REFERENCE TO A SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE. CALLER STATED THE VEHICLE WAS PARKED OUTSIDE THE RESIDENCE OCCUPIED BY 2 PEOPLE WHO WERE TALKING QUIETLY AND THEN DROVE AWAY. UTL
- WILLOW AT 5TH – OFFICER OBSERVED A VEHICLE THAT MAY HAVE BEEN REPORTED. IT WAS TRAVELING ON BOLIVAR ST AND MADE A LEFT TURN ONTO 5TH. OFFICERS CHECKED

- THE LICENSE PLATE AND IT CAME BACK WITH A REGIONAL HIT OUT OF FORT WORTH'S MARSHALLS OFFICE. OFFICERS STOPPED THE VEHICLE AND IDENTIFIED THE DRIVER. OFFICERS FOUND THE DRIVER TO BE THE BROTHER OF THE WANTED PERSON. OFFICER RELEASED THE VEHICLE AND DRIVER WITH OUT FURTHER ACTION
- 100 BLK 7TH – OFFICERS WERE DISPATCHED TO ADDRESS IN REFERENCE TO A THEFT THAT OCCURRED THROUGH FACE BOOK MARKET PLACE. UPON ARRIVAL TO THE DISPATCHED ADDRESS NO ONE ANSWERED THE DOOR. OFFICERS THEN CALLED THE COMPLAINANT AND FOUND THAT SHE LIVED AT THE UNT DORMS IN DENTON. OFFICERS THEN REFERRED HER TO THE UNT POLICE DEPARTMENT TO MAKE A REPORT DUE TO HER RESIDENCE BEING IN DENTON AT UNT
- 200 BLK FIFTH ST – COMP WANTED TO REPORT MISSING/STOLEN FIREARM FROM HIS VEHICLE APPROX 3 WEEKS AGO. NO SERIAL NUMBER FOR THE GUN
- 900 BLK STEMMONS – ASSISTED SANGER FD WITH DUMPSTER FIRE IN THE PARKING LOT OF GAS STATION. NO INJURIES. NO KNOWN CAUSE OF FIRE
- 2000 BLK STEMMONS – CLOSE PATROL WALMART DC CHECKING PARKING LOTS. NO SIGNS OF CRIMINAL ACTIVITY
- 135 @ 478 – DRIVER LOST CONTROL OF CAR AND WENT INTO DITCH BETWEEN SERVICE ROAD AND HIGHWAY STRIKING PILLAR TO OVERPASS. SANGER EMS TRANSPORTED DRIVER

BACK PAIN?



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(Continued from pg. 1)


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Area Churches Contacts:
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Reginald T. Logan- Pastor logpastor@aol.com
Grace Bible Church 940-268-3243
Tommy Bosworth-Pastor twbosworth@gmail.com
Paul Hines Paulhines8@gmail.com
Freedom Life Church 940-300-6169
Gary Sweatman- Pastor Pastorgarydon@yahoo.com
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2020 Census mailed across the country

This month, invitations to participate in the 2020 Census started arriving in households in Denton County and across the country.

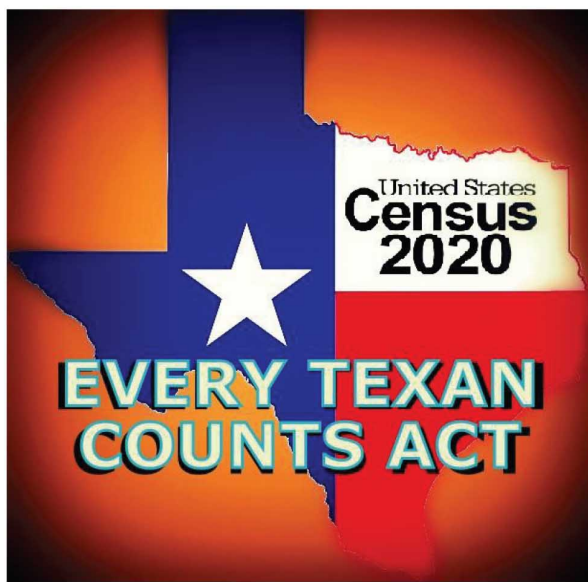
"The Census Bureau is ready for the nation to respond," said Census Bureau Director Steven Dillingham. "Millions of Americans are applying for 2020 Census jobs, more than 270,000 local and national organizations are engaged, and in less than 30 days the majority of U.S. households will receive an invitation to respond to help ensure that every person in the U.S. is counted."

"The 2020 Census is on mission, on schedule and on budget to promote an accurate count," Dillingham said. "Response is important because statistics from the census are used in distributing where hundreds of billions in funding for school lunches, hospitals, roads and much more. The invitations will remind respondents to include everyone living in the household, whether they are related or not. This includes young children. Your response will impact communities for the next decade."

The invitation will include instructions on how to respond to the 2020 Census online or by phone. By April 1, most households will have received an invitation delivered either by mail or by a census taker. In areas of the country that are less likely to respond online, a paper questionnaire will be included in the initial mailing to households. Reminder mailings will be sent to households that do not respond, and in the fourth mailing every household that has not yet responded will receive a paper questionnaire.

Once households receive invitations, residents should respond to the 2020 Census by using the provided Census ID. If a household is unable to enter the Census ID, people can still respond, by providing an address. Whether people respond online, by phone or by mail, it is important to respond right away.

Every 10 years, the U.S. Census Bureau carries out a constitutionally mandated count, or Census, of the nation's residents. The U.S. population count is used to determine how much funding local communities and states receive for affordable housing funding, such as the Housing Tax Credit program (HTC), HOME, and CDBG. Stated by CPPP, "billions of dollars in federal aid depends on the accuracy of the Census, including significant support for health care, housing, transportation, food, and more. Being undercounted by even one percent in 2020 could result in a significant loss in federal funding for Texas – at least \$300 million a year." Additionally, the population count determines how many seats each state gets in Congress and state and local officials use the cen-



sus counts to draw boundaries for congressional, state legislative, and school districts.

Over the last decade, Texas' population grew an estimated 18% by the end of 2019. Looking forward, the Texas population is projected to grow another 18% by 2030. This translates to a need for an increase in the number of jobs, and funding for in-

fracts Texas, see CPPP's 2020 Census Blog.

Census timeline

March 16-24: Reminder letters will be delivered.

March 26-April 3: Reminder postcards will be delivered to households that have not responded.

April 8-16: Reminder letters and paper questionnaires will be delivered to remaining households that have not responded.

April 20-27: Final reminder postcards will be delivered to households that have not yet responded before census takers follow up in person.

If a household does not respond to any of the invitations, a census taker will follow up in person sometime between May 13 and July 31.

The 2020 Census questionnaire is available online and by phone in English and 12 additional languages: Spanish, Chinese, Vietnamese, Korean, Russian, Arabic, Tagalog, Polish, French, Haitian Creole, Portuguese and Japanese.



frastructure and services to accommodate the expected influx of new residents. One way to ensure the state receives the proper amount of funding for public programs is by an accurate population count via the U.S. Census.

It is important for every Texas resident to fill out the U.S. Census to ensure programmatic funding and governmental representation is determined properly.

To understand more on how the U.S. Census

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White House, Senate reach deal on massive \$2 trillion coronavirus spending bill

WASHINGTON — The White House and Senate leaders reached an agreement early Wednesday on a massive \$2 trillion coronavirus spending bill aimed at alleviating the economic impact of the outbreak.

"At last, we have a deal. After days of intense discussions, the Senate has reached a bipartisan agreement on a historic relief package for this pandemic," Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., announced from the Senate floor shortly before 2 a.m. Wednesday. "In effect, this is a wartime level of investment for our nation."

McConnell said he expected the Senate to pass the legislation later Wednesday after it returns at noon ET. Treasury Secretary Steve Mnuchin told reporters that President Donald Trump would "absolutely" sign it if Congress passes it.

Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., said on the Senate floor early Wednesday: "We have a bipartisan agreement on the largest rescue package in American history. This is not a moment of celebration but one of necessity."

"Like all compromises, this bill is far from perfect, but we believe the legislation has been improved significantly to warrant its quick consideration and passage, and because many Democrats and Republicans were willing to do the serious and hard work, the bill is much better off than where it started," he added.

Although the full text of the bill is not yet known, lawmakers indicated Tuesday that it would include the initial GOP proposal for direct cash payments to Americans.

Under the plan, people making up to \$75,000 a year are expected to receive checks for \$1,200. Couples making up to \$150,000 would receive \$2,400, with an additional \$500 per child. The new agreement removed the phased-in provision that would have excluded lower-income Americans from receiving the full benefit.

The payments would decrease for those making more than \$75,000, with an income cap of \$99,000 per individual or \$198,000 for couples.

The bill is also expected to include

roughly \$100 billion in assistance for hospitals; \$350 billion in assistance to small businesses; \$500 billion in aid for corporations, including airline companies and cruise lines, that have been hurt by the outbreak; and about \$150 billion for state and local stimulus funds.

Unemployment insurance would also be significantly bolstered for four months by increasing payments and extending the benefit to those who typically do not qualify, such as gig economy workers, furloughed employees and freelancers. Specifically, the bill would increase the maximum unemployment benefit that a state gives to a person by \$600 per week and according to Schumer, "ensures that laid-off workers, on average, will receive their full pay for four months."

The agreement also would prohibit businesses controlled by Trump, Vice President Mike Pence, members of Congress and heads of executive departments from receiving loans or investments from Treasury programs.

The White House first pitched a stimulus plan to Senate Republicans early last week and then McConnell introduced the Republican proposal last Thursday, giving lawmakers less than a week to negotiate a deal, draft legislative text and vote on a package.

Negotiations, however, came to a head over how much additional unemployment insurance should be extended, as well as aid for distressed corporations. Democrats, specifically, opposed what they called a \$500 billion "slush fund" for big corporations, but the final deal includes oversight measures for that money. Schumer said the initial Republican plan would not have dedicated enough money to hospitals, and he called for a "Marshall Plan" for the health care system.

Legislation rarely moves this rapidly in Washington, especially a bill of this size. But both parties appeared motivated to act quickly as unemployment numbers continue to rise and more businesses are forced to close their doors.

COVID-19 RESPONSE MANDATORY STAY-AT-HOME ORDER

On March 24, Denton County Judge Andy Eads issued a Mandatory Stay-at-Home Order for all of Denton County. Lewisville City Council has previously voted to abide by orders from Denton County or the State of Texas during the current disease outbreak response related to COVID-19.

The Mandatory Stay-at-Home Order takes effect at 11:59 p.m. Wednesday, March 25, and continues for seven days unless extended by Denton County. All residents of Denton County are encouraged to stay home as much as possible, making only necessary trips as described in the order and shown below.

The order also requires nonessential businesses to close temporarily. Essential businesses are defined in the order and are described below. Any business not listed in the order as essential must close to the public, and Denton County residents working for a nonessential business are required to stay home and not travel to their place of employment.

Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 418.173, failure to comply with the order is an offense punishable by a fine not to exceed \$1,000, confinement in jail for a term not to exceed 180 days, or both. Any other lawfully available enforcement measures may be taken including, but not limited to, revocation of a certificate of occupancy.

The intent of the county's order is to slow the spread of COVID-19 infection and minimize loss of life related to the disease.

ONLY LEAVE HOME TO:

- ▶ Visit a doctor
- ▶ Visit a dentist
- ▶ Visit a healthcare provider
- ▶ Go to a grocery store
- ▶ Pick up food from restaurants
- ▶ Go to work at an essential business
- ▶ Go to store to buy pet supplies
- ▶ Go to home improvement stores to buy items essential for well-being at home
- ▶ Engage in outdoor activities (walk, jog, ride a bike)
 - Use social distancing of six feet of space
- ▶ Care for family members or pets at another household

PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES

- ▶ All public and private gatherings regardless of size
- ▶ Visiting nursing homes
- ▶ Use of public playgrounds
- ▶ All elective medical procedures
- ▶ In-person religious services - only allowed by video or teleconference

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Texas Education Agency cancels STAAR Testing for the Remainder of the School Year

The Texas Education Agency (TEA) continues to work with the Office of the Governor, Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS), and the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) to coordinate and plan the state's response to COVID-19.

Given the impact of COVID-19, Governor Greg Abbott is using his statutory authority as the governor of Texas under Texas Government Code, §418.016 to suspend annual academic assessment requirements for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year. TEA will work with the United States Department of Education to request waivers from federal testing and accountability requirements for the 2019-2020 school year.

According to the TEA website, The Texas Assessment Program serves as an invaluable tool to accurately and reliably diagnose how well students have learned their grade-level and course content. Parents use this information to support the academic growth of their children, and educators use the assessment data to adjust how they approach teaching to maximize student learning. While the typical state assessment data will not be available this year due to the cancellation of testing, TEA will continue to support schools by making other tools available to diagnose student learning. More information will be provided as these tools become available.

STAAR Grades 3-8 Assessments

All State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR®) administrations scheduled for April, May, and June 2020 are cancelled. Student Success Initiative promotion/retention requirements found in the Texas Education Code (TEC), §28.0211 are waived for the 2019-2020 school year. Districts will have local discretion on whether students in grades 5 and 8 should advance to the next grade, just like stu-

dents in all other grades. In alignment with TEC, §28.021, criteria that should be considered include the following:

The recommendation of the student's teacher,

The student's grade in each subject or course, and

Any other necessary academic information, as determined by the district.

STAAR End-of-Course (EOC) Assessments

Most students have already completed courses that have corresponding EOC assessments before their senior year. Normally, a student who has not passed up to two of his or her required STAAR EOC assessments may graduate through the individual graduation committee (IGC) process. For students who are still working to meet assessment graduation requirements as seniors in the 2019-2020 school year, required performance on academic assessments to graduate under TEC, §28.025(c) and §39.025(a) are being waived for spring 2020. Effectively, this means that current seniors may graduate through the IGC process regardless of the number of EOC assessments they still need to pass.

Districts will need to determine if a student has met all other graduation requirements under TEC, §28.025(c), including successfully completing curriculum requirements or successfully completing an individualized education program.

In waiving the required performance on academic assessments under TEC, §28.025(c) and §39.025(a) for spring 2020, the following applies:

If a student is on schedule to complete instruction in the entire curriculum in spring 2020 for a course that has a corresponding STAAR EOC assessment, the student is not required to pass that specific test to fulfill graduation requirements.

If a student is on schedule to complete graduation requirements



Sanger ISD board and administrators hand out meals last week.

in spring 2020 but does not have the opportunity to retake a STAAR EOC assessment prior to graduation, the student is not required to pass that specific test to fulfill graduation requirements but will need to complete the IGC process.

For students graduating in future years but taking one of the five courses with a corresponding STAAR EOC assessment this year, those students will not be responsible for meeting that EOC assessment graduation requirement if they earn course credit this year.

STAAR Alternate 2

The STAAR Alternate 2 administration window required under TEC, §39.023(b) and scheduled for March 30 through April 21, 2020 is cancelled. For all students receiving special education services, the admission, review, and dismissal committee will continue to make educational decisions, including decisions related to required performance on academic assessments.

STAAR Interim Assessments

The second testing window for the STAAR Interim Assessments is currently open and will continue to be open through May 29, 2020, for districts to use as a resource to monitor student progress. As a reminder, the interim assessments are available at no cost to districts and charter schools, and they are not tied to accountability.

"The decisions outlined in this communication are based on the state's commitment to our districts and students, with the priority of ensuring that those impacted by this virus can make instructional decisions that are in the best interest of students," - TEA Website.



Cafeteria workers hand out meals at SHS this week.

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Mayor's Statement Regarding Coronavirus Disaster Preparedness:

I want to personally thank all those in our community who have been working tirelessly to prepare for the potential impact of coronavirus on our community and region. This especially includes our front-line police and fire responders, city staff, school district leadership, teachers, community organizations and churches.

As we all work together to blunt the possible impact of this threat, please take all precautionary measures that have been outlined by the federal, state and local governmental entities. As Mayor, I have issued a disaster declaration that is in alignment with both Denton County and Governor Abbott. You are encouraged to stay abreast of guidelines as they continue to be updated.

Although we have not seen the health impact arrive on our doorstep here in Sanger just yet, we do expect it will certainly do so in the coming days. As citizens of Sanger, each of us need to do our part, especially in the next few weeks, to mitigate the impact of the virus by adhering to the guidelines set out in the governmental declarations.

While this means refraining from many social interactions, it does not prohibit our citizens from checking on those individuals we know personally who may be more vulnerable than ourselves. It will be best to do this via a phone call, text or other social media to minimize direct physical contact. We must continue to rally together as a community to best meet the needs of those around us, while still exercising proper protocols to protect those we are trying to help.

I am thankful for the caring community in which we live. We are a community that pulls together in difficult times. I have seen it in the past and it is evident during these challenging times. Please bear with any inconveniences that may arise as we all come together to overcome this risk.



Sanger Mayor Thomas Muir

Mayor Thomas Muir

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UIL extends suspension of play or practice to May 4

In a press release issued Thursday, March 19, the UIL announced an extension on its suspension of all UIL sanctioned activities due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The new suspension will last until at least May 4 and comes less than a week after the UIL announced its first suspension that was slated to last



until March 29. All practices, contests, workouts and rehearsals will remain suspended until further notice.

Before May 4, the UIL said it will allow its member schools a, "reasonable acclimatization period," for rehearsals and practices to occur.

Nearly every spring sport, including softball, baseball, track and field, tennis and golf, remain in limbo. Boys basketball also remains unfinished.

The UIL indefinitely suspended the boys basketball state tournament last Thursday after completing Class A and 3A semifinals. Argyle was scheduled to play in the Class 4A semifinal against Stafford last Friday.

"We are working diligently on contingency plans

to conduct state championships in each of the activities that have been suspended," UIL Executive Director Dr. Charles Breithaupt said in the release. "While the immediate future is unclear, we are committed to providing these much-desired activities to all Texas students and will prepare for all possible outcomes, including extended school closures."

The UIL issued a revised calendar last week for spring sports, including new playoff dates for soccer that pushed the bi-district round of the playoffs back to April 14. The state tournament was scheduled to conclude May 2.

Now, none of that will happen.

A Letter from Steve Ford (Head Baseball Coach, SHS)...

Dear Sanger Baseball Family and Community... With our 2020 season postponed indefinitely and potentially cancelled, I wanted to take a moment to share my thanks for the people who mean so much to me and this program. *(inspired and motivated by friend and colleague Billy Jordan)

To our families- thank you so much for your support during this brief season- from the very beginning with the unique "make up" of the rosters, the limited numbers, coordinating so many spring events involving your boys, your great attitudes and personalities, and just being great fans with your support for our players, coaches and school.

To the athletic department- thank you for helping me navigate this unusual season. Thanks for your adaptability to the numerous schedule changes and adjustments, cancellations/changes, admin on duty, support for the team at our "lone" home game, and much, much more, your encouragement does not go

un-noticed. I appreciate all of you.

To our training staff- thank you for working tirelessly to have our players ready to compete. I can't imagine there is a better, more efficient and caring Sports Medicine program in the state. You always find a way to make players feel important, but more than that, you go above and beyond to ensure they are healthy and able to perform. There is a special place in heaven for you.

To the Sanger community- you have always been loyal to us and your desire to see us succeed and your willingness to support us is huge! We play this game in a different way in hopes of honoring you and bringing a smile to your face when you are in attendance, knowing that our effort is motivated by our representation of you.

To my coaching staff, Coaches Holt and Holzer- you guys outwork everyone (in every season). Thank you for outlasting the weather, being flexible and coaching on the fly wherever we can find a dry space - the AF, the football turf, cages and on a rare occasion the actual baseball field. Thank you for working to build, prepare, store, arrange, plan... and more than all of that, thanks for pouring life and relationship into every player.

To the players- I know you're "down" right now with the uncertainty of the season and life as we have known it. You all have really "bought in" and honored everything I've put on you. We do things different and expect so much more than most programs and you have accepted that as a badge of honor and embraced it as an opportunity. You never turned down the work or new and unusual ideas. You're dedicated to the program and leaving a legacy for those to come along after you. I am proud of each of you and am a better man for the experience I have shared with you.

To the seniors- Ben and Hollis, thank you for your leadership. You two are special men with special futures. You both will no doubt impact our society amazingly!

I don't know what is going to happen regarding this season but I promise you, I will be ready to "honor" all of you as you have me. I can't wait to get back at it with you all again!

"Ships don't sink because of the water around them; ships sink because of the water that gets in them. Don't let what's happening around you get inside you and weigh you down."

Miss and Love you ALL,
Coach STEVE Ford - C2T!!!



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GRADE: 10th, Jersey #: 1, Position(s): Pitcher, OF
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SIBLINGS' NAMES: Chelsea, Hannah and Josh
HOBBIES: Hanging out with friends
YEARS YOU LIVED IN SANGER: All my life
FAVORITE COLLEGE TEAM: UNT
FAVORITE MOVIE: Step Brothers
FAVORITE MUSIC: Drake
FAVORITE PRO TEAM: Texas Rangers
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INFLUENTIAL H.S. COACH: Coach Ford
INFLUENTIAL YOUTH COACH: Coach Stevens
INFLUENTIAL SPORTS FIGURE: Clayton Kershaw
BEST THINGS ABOUT PLAYING BASEBALL: Hanging out with friends.



PLAYER'S NAME: Tallyn Welborn
GRADE: 11th, Jersey #: 23, Position(s): 1B, Pitcher
PARENTS' NAMES: Tammy and Casey Welborn
SIBLINGS' NAMES: Ryan (27), Dylan (24), Griffin (19)
HOBBIES: Hanging out with friends
YEARS YOU LIVED IN SANGER: All my life
FAVORITE COLLEGE TEAM: Texas Longhorns
FAVORITE MOVIE: Invincible
FAVORITE MUSIC: Lil Tjay
FAVORITE PRO TEAM: Texas Rangers
INFLUENTIAL TEACHER: Mr. Knight
INFLUENTIAL H.S. COACH: Coach Donaldson
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BEST THINGS ABOUT PLAYING BASEBALL: Playing with my brothers.



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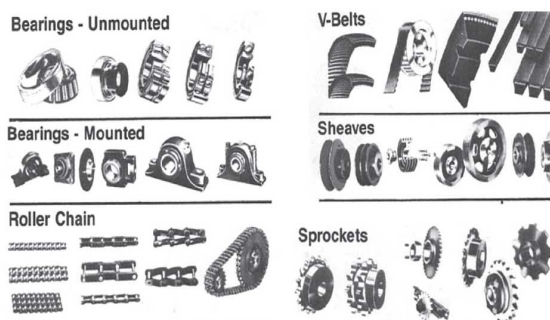
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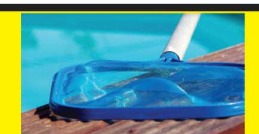


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Denton County

(Continued from pg. 1)

common.

"There's frustration for patients and families and any part of our communities in the county," he said. "There's frustration from providers who do not have access to the supplies or testing capacity. There's frustration in public health that we have not been able to activate that type of response. But we don't know how many negative tests [the county has seen]."

Richardson said testing is provided in Denton County via local doctors, urgent care centers and hospitals.

With the stay-at-home mandate taking effect Wednesday night, residents outside of essential employees may be subjected to fines and penalties for disobeying the mandate, according to Jody Gonzalez, Denton County Emergency Services coordinator. Gonzalez said enforcement includes a fine of up to \$1,000, or up to 180 days in jail.

Gonzalez said that while the directive is authorized, officers will be looking for compliance before enforcement is implemented. He said officials will be contacting essential businesses to in-

form them about the mandate.

While Tuesday's directive is an escalation from the county's first disaster declaration on March 13, which restricted public gatherings to 250 people or fewer, Eads said local officials are hopeful but bracing for the worst.

"When you listen to the health care professionals, their statisticians and researchers that are

modeling what's happening in Seattle and New York City, and other outbreaks across America, I believe North Texas can do it right," Eads said. "If we buckle down and make these sacrifices in a timely manner, and for the foreseeable future, we will have a more positive outcome and hopefully not have headlines like we see in Italy and around the world."

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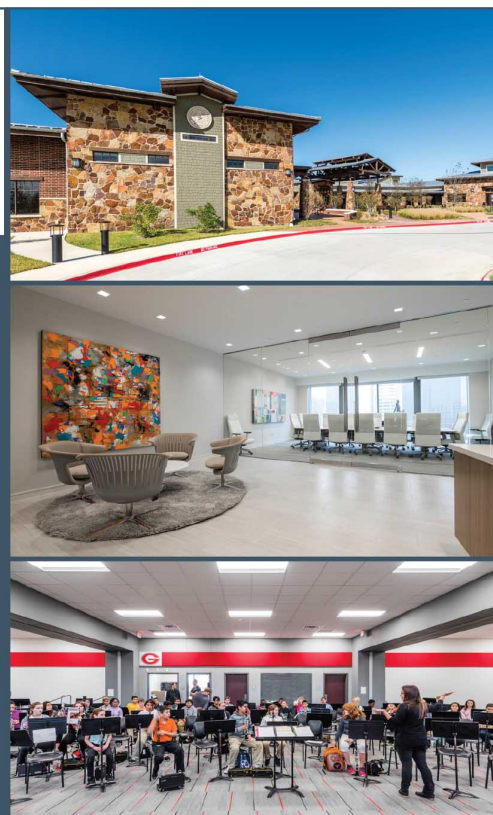
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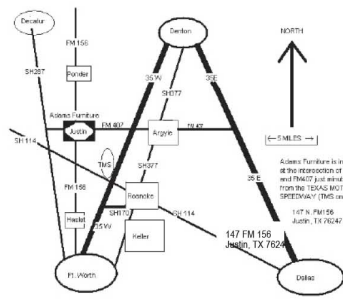
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