

THE WORLD ON HOLD

This spread was supposed to cover fourth-quarter sports, but like so many things in March, plans changed as the coronavirus spread. Students left for spring break thinking they'd be back to school in two weeks, but just a few days later they had no idea when they'd see their friends and teachers again. As people stayed in their houses for social distancing, events were canceled and learning moved online, and all anyone could do was wait it out. (Reporting by Oro staff)

DEC. 31

First cases reported in Wuhan, China. Officials don't know what the virus is yet.



JAN. 1

A seafood market in Wuhan closes because animals sold there could be the source of the virus.

JAN. 7

The virus is identified as a novel coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2.

JAN. 21

First case reported in the United States, in Washington state. About 500 cases reported in China.

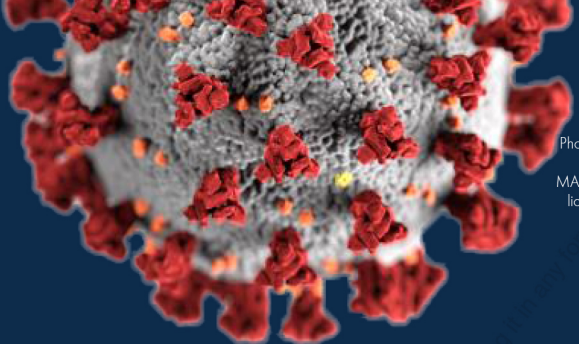


Photo by Alissa Eckert, MS; Dan Higgins, MAMS via CDC/PHIL licensed under Public Domain.

JAN. 22

Lunar New Year celebrations canceled in Beijing.



JAN. 29

White House announces a task force to monitor the spread of coronavirus in the U.S.



JAN. 31

President Donald Trump announces the U.S. will deny entry to anyone from another country who has traveled to China in the last 14 days.

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FEB. 4

The Diamond Princess cruise ship - the 3,700 people on board - is quarantined in Japan after 10 people test positive for coronavirus.



BB I miss school because I like to interact with my teachers and friends. I don't like this online school at all. **DD**

- Jayden Myers (7)

FEB. 11

The World Health Organization names disease caused by the virus COVID-19.

HEALTHY Habits

- 1 Wash your hands often and for at least 20 seconds.
- 2 Don't touch your face.
- 3 Cough into the bend of your elbow.
- 4 Stand six feet away from people.

FEB. 25

Towns and villages in Italy begin to go on lockdown.



FEB. 29

Washington state declares a state of emergency; several other states do the same over the next few days.

MARCH 1

Stores begin to report shortages of toilet paper and other important supplies.



Photo by T. Hutcheson

MARCH 3

The Federal Reserve lowers interest rates by one-half percent to boost the economy.

MARCH 9

The entire country of Italy goes on lockdown.

MARCH 11

The WHO declares COVID-19 a pandemic. President Trump restricts travel to the U.S. from Europe for 30 days.

The NBA announces it will suspend its season after members of the Utah Jazz test positive for the virus. The NHL suspends its season the next day.

BB I am missing the NBA the most because I am a basketball fan and it feels weird when there's no basketball. **DD**

- Jacob Goldsberry (7)

MARCH 12

Ohio announces all schools will be closed for at least three weeks. Other states make similar announcements in the following days. Schools and colleges begin to move instruction online.



Major League Baseball cancels spring training and announces the delay of its season. The NCAA cancels the men's and women's basketball tournament (March Madness). Almost all sporting events, as well as Broadway shows, are postponed or canceled over the next week.

MARCH 13

President Trump declares a national emergency.

MARCH 15

The Centers for Disease Control recommends no gatherings of 50 or more people. The next day, President Trump recommends avoiding groups of more than 10 people.

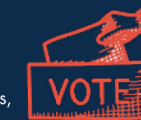
Arizona Governor Doug Ducey and Superintendent Kathy Hoffman announce all schools will be closed from March 16-March 27.

Photo by Gage Skidmore via Wikimedia Commons licensed under CC BY-SA 2.0.



MARCH 16

Ohio postpones the primary election scheduled for the next day. Elections in Arizona, Illinois, and Florida go on as planned.



Kansas becomes the first state to close schools for the rest of the year.



Apache Junction cancels all Parks and Recreation programs, senior transportation, and fitness programs. AJ Chamber of Commerce postpones music festival. Hot lunches for senior citizens offered by drive-up at Multi-Generational Center.

BB I wanted to cut my own hair for the longest time, but I never did it because I was always scared of what people were going to think the next day at school but I thought, 'Just do it, no one's going to see you anyways.' That's exactly what I did and I don't regret it. **DD**

- April Flores (8)

MARCH 18

Border between U.S. and Canada closes



MARCH 19

California, Illinois, and New York governors order all residents to stay home. Exceptions are made for buying groceries and medicine, as well as people who work essential jobs such as health care.

MARCH 19

AJ Public Library closes but opens a drive-through window. Books can be requested online or over the phone.

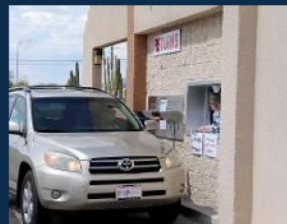


Photo by T. Hutcheson

MARCH 20

Gov. Ducey and Superintendent Hoffman announce an extension of Arizona school closures through April 10.

MARCH 20

Following similar actions by other states, Gov. Ducey orders all movie theaters, bars, and gyms to be closed. Restaurants are allowed to take orders for pickup or delivery only.



Mayor Jeff Serdy declares a state of emergency for the city of Apache Junction.

MARCH 23

AJUSD begins curbside meal pickup for all students 18 and under.



Photo by T. Hutcheson

VIRUS Vocabulary

Coronavirus A family of viruses named for the spikes on its surface that look like crowns. Corona is Spanish for "crown." They can cause colds and respiratory illnesses. A new strain is called a novel virus.

COVID-19 The disease caused by the virus, it is short for coronavirus disease 2019. The virus is named SARS-CoV-2

Flatten the Curve To spread out the number of cases over a longer period of time because too many cases at once can overwhelm the health care system and lead to shortages of hospital space, medical equipment, and doctors and nurses.

Novel Virus Pandemic - A sudden rise in the number of cases of a disease that takes place all over the world.

PPE - Personal protective equipment worn by health care workers to lower their risk of infection.

Quarantine - To separate people who may be infected, but don't show symptoms of sickness. When healthy people separate themselves, it is called a self-quarantine.

Social Distancing - To avoid large gatherings and, when being around others is necessary, stay at least six feet away from other people.