

COVID: Trinity County sees its third, fourth deaths this past week

Continued from page 1

and nurses. Pharmacy technicians are participating under a recent waiver by the Board of Pharmacy that requires appropriate supervision under California law and specialized training.”

The next phase, called 1B Tier One, is still under consideration but proposes to vaccinate those over 75, educators and child care workers, and those in emergency services, food and agriculture. Phase 1B Tier Two will vaccinate those over 64 with underlying health conditions, those working in transportation and logistics, industrial and residential, critical manufacturing, incarcerated citizens and the homeless.

Phase 1C was discussed further after press time, but Newsom said it's hoped that legislators will improve some areas of Phase 1B before locking it in Wednesday.

Phase 1C aims to vaccinate those in the 16-64 age range who have underlying medical conditions. Also included are those who work in water, waste management, defense, energy and financial services.

A full priority list of vaccination priority categories is not yet available.

Newsom said nothing underscores the challenge of combatting COVID more than those lives that have been lost to it. Some 3,228 in the past week, he said, after noting that reporting of numbers will often have a lag. He noted that 80 percent of those admitted to ICU beds who died of COVID since October are in the over-61 age range.

On the way

“The Moderna doses in California, we anticipate that by the end of this week, that we will receive all 904,900 doses of the Moderna vaccine,” he said. “We received the first allocation of 672,000 doses and we anticipate 232,000 by the end of this week.” He said 858,000 Pfizer doses are anticipated to be in California by the end of the week. Total doses come to over 1.76 million, he said, later noting that the number was lower than originally anticipated.

Newsom thanked all involved with Operation Warp Speed for the heroic effort to get vaccines into the state and its hospitals and the public.

He said more than 261,000 of the Moderna and Pfizer vaccines have been administered as of Dec. 26.

He said a goal that unites political ideals is getting financial help to those who need it most and noted that President Donald Trump recently signed the COVID relief bill, which will offer \$600 to qualifying individuals, \$600 per child for eligible families, \$300 additional weekly unemployment enhancements and more.

He said billions will come to the state to provide critical relief and added that he will work with the state to get that funding out to people.

“The Paycheck Protection Program, that gets reopened for small business, fundamental, critical, is on top of the half-billion dollars that small business grants the state just put out, \$100 million of hiring tax credits, we put out billions of dollars of abatement and extension on sales tax collection and all those other small business grants and loan programs that we also stood up at the California IBank Center.”

Newsom encouraged small business

owners to research what grant and funds may be available on the covid19.ca.gov site.

Newsom said the holidays have become anxious times for health officials and workers around the state, due to the prediction that numbers will again take off in a couple weeks. He advised Californians to be ready for “a surge on top of a surge” in COVID cases because of the Christmas and New Year's holidays. He encouraged all residents to maintain COVID precautions and said that low ICU bed availability in Southern California will likely mean extensions of current stay-at-home orders there.

State numbers

COVID-19 data as of Monday:

- ▶ California has 2,155,976 confirmed cases to date. Numbers may not represent true day-over-day change as reporting of test results can be delayed.

- ▶ There were 33,170 newly recorded confirmed cases Sunday.

- ▶ The 7-day positivity rate is 11.6% and the 14-day positivity rate is 12.5%.

- ▶ There have been 32,128,516 tests conducted in California. This represents an increase of 301,820 over the prior 24-hour reporting period.

- ▶ As case numbers continue to rise in California, the total number of individuals who will have serious outcomes will also increase. There have been 24,284 COVID-19 deaths since the start of the pandemic.

The California Department of Public Health also announced Monday the most recent data on intensive care unit (ICU) capacity across the state. Based on ICU data, four regions, San Joaquin Valley, Southern California, Greater Sacramento and the Bay Area continue under the Regional Stay at Home Order. The Regional Stay at Home Order shall continue until ICU capacity projections are sustained above or equal to 15 percent.

The earliest dates that regions may be eligible to exit are:

- ▶ San Joaquin: 4-week ICU projections TBA

- ▶ Southern California: 4-week ICU projections TBA

- ▶ Greater Sacramento: Jan. 1

- ▶ Bay Area: Jan. 8

Current available ICU capacity by region:

- ▶ Bay Area: 9.5%
- ▶ Greater Sacramento: 16.6%
- ▶ Northern California: 29.3%
- ▶ San Joaquin Valley: 0.0%
- ▶ Southern California: 0.0%

Due to high rates of COVID-19 hospitalizations impacting the health care system, California is under a Limited Stay at Home Order. The order applies to all counties that are currently under the Regional Stay at Home Order and those in Tier One (Purple) of the Blueprint for a Safer Economy. The Limited Stay at Home Order will expire after the Regional Stay At Home Order has been terminated in all regions of the state.

Vaccinate All 58

The first doses of the COVID-19 vaccine are being administered to health care workers and residents of long-term care facilities. This is Phase 1A of the state's vaccine plan. The Drafting Guidelines Workgroup is working with the Community Vaccine Advisory Committee to recommend prioritization of other

COVID-19 REGIONAL NUMBERS

According to the Johns Hopkins University Coronavirus Resource Center, these are the numbers of cases in counties around Trinity County as of Monday, Dec. 28, and compared to last week.

COUNTY	CONFIRMED CASES	UP FROM LAST WEEK	CONFIRMED DEATHS	UP FROM LAST WEEK	TIERS
TRINITY COUNTY	269	7	4	2	WIDESPREAD
HUMBOLDT COUNTY	1,584	197	18	3	WIDESPREAD
SHASTA COUNTY	7,641	420	70	4	WIDESPREAD
SISKIYOU COUNTY	1,067	57	8	0	WIDESPREAD
DEL NORTE COUNTY	709	66	2	0	WIDESPREAD
MENDOCINO COUNTY	2,382	223	25	0	WIDESPREAD
TEHAMA COUNTY	3,017	276	34	2	WIDESPREAD
GLENN COUNTY	1,413	127	14	2	WIDESPREAD
BUTTE COUNTY	6,968	850	83	5	WIDESPREAD
COLUSA COUNTY	1,240	144	8	0	WIDESPREAD
LAKE COUNTY	1,710	272	23	2	WIDESPREAD
LASSEN COUNTY	4,180	319	8	1	WIDESPREAD
MODOC COUNTY	307	36	0	0	WIDESPREAD
TOTAL:	32,487	2,994	297	21	

WIDESPREAD
SUBSTANTIAL
MODERATE
MINIMAL

The full map of known and active cases can be found at <https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/map.html>

NUMBERS COMPILED BY TONY REED

GRAPHIC BY TRACY REINER

vaccine recipients for Phase 1B and 1C, and the state is working closely with community partners and stakeholders to help ensure the vaccine is distributed and administered equitably across California. For more information, visit this CDPH webpage and Vaccinate All 58.

Testing Turnaround Time

The testing turnaround dashboard reports how long California patients are waiting for COVID-19 test results. During the week of December 13 to December 19, the average time patients waited for test results was 1.6 days. During this same time period, 51% of patients received test results in one day and 81% received them within two days. The testing turnaround time dashboard is updated weekly. At this time, all four tiers in the Testing Prioritization Guidance have equal priority for testing.

Crisis Care Continuum

Today, CDPH released an All Facilities Letter (AFL) on implementing the Crisis Care Continuum Guidelines issued in June. With the current surge in the pandemic, many hospitals are stretched to capacity.

The guidelines support facilities that are adapting their operations and space, including staff and other resources, to handle the surge as best as possible.

In addition to this support, it's critical that all facilities are prepared for crisis care, during which times medical professionals may have to make hard choices

about allocating treatments. The state does not determine when a hospital implements crisis care standards: that's determined by the on the ground conditions, hospital capacity and available resources. The state's role is to ensure all hospitals have done appropriate planning to make difficult decisions and to help hospitals remain in crisis care mode for as brief a period as possible.

For more information, see the AFL issued today, and the Crisis Care Continuum Guidelines issued in June.

New Health Equity Dashboard

The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted existing inequities in health that are the result of structural racism and poverty, and the disproportionate prevalence of underlying conditions such as asthma and heart disease among Latinos and African Americans. The state has launched a Health Equity Dashboard on www.covid19.ca.gov that tracks California's health equity measure and data by race and ethnicity, sexual orientation and gender identity.

Federally speaking

According to the Associated Press, the U.S. House of Representatives voted Monday to increase relief checks from \$600 to \$2,000 per person. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi announced “Republicans have a choice; Vote for this legislation or vote to deny the American people.” The vote was scheduled to go before the Republican-led Senate Tuesday.

Your New Year's Resolution Trinity County

Support the good work of the TASA volunteers and TC Animal Control with a tax deductible donation. Email acochristine@yahoo.com or call 623-5025 to help.

And if you can, adopt a new dog or cat into your family for a very **HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

from Petunia Pup and my pal Callie



CANNABIS:

Continued from page 1

lative impacts and opt-out continue as time goes on.”

Lisa Wright of Lewiston requested amendments to the urgency ordinance that precludes new applications for licenses and renewals from being accepted by the county during the time of transition if they can show they already meet all required standards.

Senior Planner Margie DeRose responded that the urgency ordinance has put new applications on hold so staff can focus on the transition plan, but that new applicants can help speed up the future process by reviewing and understanding the mitigation measures they will be required to comply with.

She added that of 185 renewals considered eligible for extension under the urgency ordinance, approximately 75 have been reviewed by staff so far, and only 20 are actually eligible. Some were not submitted for renewal this year, meaning they were operating without a county license and are out of compliance.

Applications are being processed if the fees have been paid, a state license has been applied for and there are no outstanding issues of non-compliance.

Special Counsel Derek Cole emphasized that nothing in the EIR certification of adoption of the new regulatory ordinance un-does anything adopted in the separate urgency ordinance granting the time extension.



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