

SANTA MARIA TIMES



Time is running out

Top player focuses on college with season in jeopardy. **SPORTS, B1**



Solvang reports budget hit from COVID-19

City used \$1.1M from reserves over past year. **CENTRAL COAST, A3**

MOSTLY SUNNY 73 • 51 FORECAST, B6 | **WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13, 2021** | santamariatimes.com



RANDY DE LA PEÑA PHOTOS, CONTRIBUTOR

Six brand-new pickleball courts at the Hagerman Sports Complex in Santa Maria were used for the first time this week after the complex reopened for local sports teams.

Hagerman Sports Complex reopens for local sports training

Competitive games still prohibited, sanitation guidelines in place

LAURA PLACE
lplace@santamariatimes.com

Santa Maria sports teams can now make reservations at the Hagerman Sports Complex for conditioning and training after a six-month closure due to COVID-19.

The complex, located at 3300 Skyway Drive, is open to baseball, softball and pickleball teams for conditioning only. Competitive games still are prohibited and spectators are discouraged from attending practices, according to city spokesman Mark van de Kamp.

This is the first time the new pickleball courts at the complex are available for use since being completed in late November, van de Kamp said. The six courts were



Ball fields and pickleball courts at the Hagerman Sports Complex in Santa Maria are now open for training and conditioning for local teams. The complex closed in June 2020 and is now available by reservation only.

funded by the Santa Maria Pickleball Club and the Recreation and Parks Department, with the club participating in a "soft open" for the courts Monday.

Courts are reserved by the pickleball club from 8 a.m. to noon on weekdays, and are avail-

able for community reservations from 1 to 9 p.m. on weekdays.

According to Recreation Supervisor Gabriel Velasco, teams using the sports fields and courts will have to follow COVID-19 guidelines to prevent the spread of illness.

The guidelines restrict the sharing of equipment between players, and require sanitation of softballs, baseballs and pickleballs between games, he said.

Hand sanitizer stations also have been set up for players to clean their hands prior to play, and masks must be worn at all times, he said.

Those wishing to make reservations at the complex must contact the Recreation and Parks Department at 805-925-0951, ext. 2260, to discuss required COVID-19 safety guidelines and to pay a reservation fee.

Daily fees include \$12 for team use plus \$14 for sanitization of high-touch surfaces by department staff, depending on the number of people practicing, Velasco said.

Those practicing at night and using the facility's lights will have to pay an additional \$13 fee, he said.

House races to oust Trump; he blames accusers for US 'anger'

LISA MASCARO, ZEKE MILLER AND MARY CLARE JALONICK
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The U.S. House rushed ahead Tuesday toward impeaching President Donald Trump for the deadly Capitol attack, taking time only to try to persuade his vice president to push him out first. Trump showed no remorse, blaming impeachment itself for the "tremendous anger" in America.

Already scheduled to leave office next week, Trump is on the verge of becoming the only president in history to be twice impeached. His incendiary rhetoric at a rally ahead of the Capitol uprising is now in the impeachment charge against him, even as the falsehoods he spread about election fraud are still being championed by some Republicans.

The House convened Tuesday night to vote on urging Vice President Mike Pence to invoke the 25th Amendment to the Constitution to remove Trump with a Cabinet vote. But shortly before that, Pence said he would not do so in a letter to House Speaker Nancy Pelosi.

He said that it would not be in the best interest of the nation or consistent with the Constitution and that it was "time to unite our country as we prepare to inaugurate President-elect Joe Biden."

Meanwhile, three Republican lawmakers, including third-ranking House GOP leader Liz Cheney of Wyoming, announced they would vote to impeach Trump on Wednesday, cleaving the Republican leadership, and the party itself.

"The President of the United States summoned this mob, assembled the mob, and lit the flame of this attack," said Cheney in a statement. "There has never been a greater betrayal by a President of the United States of his office and his oath to the Constitution."

As lawmakers reconvened at the Capitol for the first time since the bloody siege, they were bracing for more violence ahead of Democratic President-elect Joe Biden's inauguration, Jan. 20.

"All of us have to do some soul

Please see **ANGER**, Page A6

As pandemic worsens, most US states resist restrictions

JULIE WATSON AND TERRY TANG
Associated Press

PHOENIX — As the U.S. goes through the most lethal phase of the coronavirus outbreak yet, governors and local officials in hard-hit parts of the country are showing little willingness to impose any new restrictions on businesses to stop the spread.

And unlike in 2020, when the debate over lockdowns often split along party lines, both Democratic and Republican leaders are signaling their opposition to forced closings and other measures.

Some have expressed fear of compounding the heavy economic damage inflicted by the outbreak. Some see little patience among their constituents for more restrictions 10 months into the crisis. And some seem to be focused more on the rollout of the vaccines that could eventually vanquish the threat.

The most notable change of tune came from New York

Please see **RESTRICTIONS**, Page A6

County explains rollout of COVID-19 vaccine



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors Chairman and 4th District Supervisor Bob Nelson asks Public Health Department Director Van Do-Reynoso, appearing via Zoom, a question about the COVID-19 vaccination process during Tuesday's meeting in this screenshot from CSBTV.

First round nearly complete; next round could begin in February

MIKE HODGSON
mhodgson@santamariatimes.com

Individuals eligible to be vaccinated against COVID-19 in Santa Barbara County's next phase of inoculations could begin receiving injections in early February, depending upon how well the current first phase progresses and the availability of doses, according to a report delivered Tuesday to the Board of Supervisors.

Van Do-Reynoso, director

of the County Public Health Department, told supervisors the department is closing in on vaccinating all those prioritized to receive the initial vaccinations.

"We're on the cusp of finishing up Phase 1a. We're not there yet," Do-Reynoso said, adding the department will be increasing the number of those delivering the vaccine to individuals.

She said the California Public

Please see **VACCINE**, Page A6

■ New chairman elected
Nelson assumes the gavel to lead Board of Supervisors.
For more, see page A3.

State lifting stay-home order for Sacramento region

KATHLEEN RONAYNE AND DON THOMPSON
Associated Press

SACRAMENTO — California lifted a stay-at-home order in the 13-county Sacramento region on Tuesday as hospital conditions improved, a rare turn of good news as the state pushes through what Gov. Gavin Newsom called "its most intense surge" in the coronavirus.

The order that banned gatherings, shuttered restaurants and churches even for outdoor gatherings, and closed hair salons has been lifted effective immediately, Newsom said in a Twitter video. While the stay-at-home order is lifted, the counties will still be under restrictive orders that limit most business activity and personal gatherings.

Several counties, including

Sacramento, need to adjust their own public health orders to reflect the change but can now resume outdoor dining and worship services, reopen hair and nail salons, increase retail capacity and allow gatherings of up-to-three households. The 13-county region was placed under the order on Dec. 10.

"While this is a move in the right direction, we thank those who are working hard to reduce

the spread of COVID-19, which protects our health care system," Butte County said in a press release asking that people still wear masks, keep distance from others and avoid mixing with other households.

The news came as California surpassed 30,000 coronavirus deaths, as hospitals in Southern

Please see **ORDER**, Page A6



News+ offers exclusive digital content for our members, such as the "Sunday Extra," a weekly special edition.

AT.SANTAMARIATIMES.COM

ASTROGRAPH	A2	OBITUARIES	A5	COMICS	B3
CENTRAL COAST	A3	SPORTS	B1	PUZZLES	B4
OPINION	A4	LOTTERY	B2	CLASSIFIED	B5

