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NOVEL CORONAVIRUS EFFECT IN THE U.S.

MARCH MADNESS

The NCAA canceled all its men's and women's basketball tournaments Thursday. The news came after the Big Ten and other college athletic conferences had ended their respective tournaments. **PAGE B1**

NO BALLS, PUCKS

The NHL postponed the remainder of its regular season on Thursday. The NFL also announced it would suspend its season. Meanwhile, MLB said it is delaying the start of its season by two weeks. **PAGE B1**

NO STATE TOURNEYS

The MHSAA canceled postseason games. Ice hockey, gymnastics, and swimming and diving championships had been scheduled for this weekend. Basketball tournaments were already underway. **PAGE B1**

STOCKS SLIDE

On Wall Street, stocks fell so fast at the opening bell that they triggered an automatic, 15-minute trading halt for the second time this week. Until this week, the so-called circuit breaker hadn't been activated since 1997. **PAGE A10**

FIGHTING VIRUS

Michigan's Legislature passed a \$25 million spending package to combat the spread of the infection. The bill allocates \$10 million to state agencies for preparedness and response to COVID-19. **PAGE A5**

STAGES GO DARK

All Broadway theaters have been closed Thursday just as New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo banned gatherings of 500 people or more in New York City. Shows are expected to resume April 13. **PAGE A8**

Uneasy Americans lurch into COVID-19

Surreal reality: Seriousness of virus 'finally sinking in' for everybody

By **Ted Anthony**
The Associated Press

So this is where we are: Major League Baseball's opening day postponed. Broadway and Hollywood grinding to a halt, and March Madness canceled. Universities from Harvard to UCLA telling students to stay away. Most travelers from Europe banned. Tom Hanks, Hollywood's embodiment of everyday American-ness, felled by the

new virus. And the speaker of the House of Representatives taking this question Thursday morning: "How prepared is Congress to work from home?" This, in mid-March 2020, is now the very abnormal normal in the new United States of Purell — a nation that watched for weeks as the coronavirus erupted in China, South Korea, Iran and Italy before starting down the path of figuring out how to encounter this threat itself.

REALITY » PAGE 4

INSIDE

Virus effects: Most who will contract novel coronavirus will recover. But anxiety, fear remain **PAGE A7**
Carriers: Virus can survive inside body of patients for five weeks **PAGE A7**
Community: News of local events canceled **PAGE A6**
In brief: White House emphasizes pandemic "China Made"; bipartisan anger over lag in testing **PAGE A2**

More infected: Michigan health officials confirm 10 new cases

By **Mark Cavitt**
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Michigan health officials have confirmed 10 new cases of Coronavirus, bringing the statewide total to 12. All of these new presumptive positive cases were tested in Lansing by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services Bureau of Laboratories. The specimens will be sent to the Cen-

ters for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for confirmation testing. The new cases include:
■ An adult female from Ingham County with history of travel on a cruise.
■ Two adult females from Kent County and one adult male, all with history of international travel.
■ An adult female from Montcalm with history of international

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ROYAL OAK

ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE CANCELED



ROYAL OAK TRIBUNE FILE PHOTO

The St. Patrick's Day Parade in Royal Oak, scheduled for Saturday morning, has been canceled in the wake of guidelines set by county and state health agencies trying to slow the spread of the coronavirus, which causes the COVID-19 illness.

Coronavirus concerns prompt officials to call off event

By **Mike McConnell**
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Royal Oak officials and the Ancient Order of Hibernians-O'Brien Division have canceled the St. Patrick's Day Parade this weekend over novel coronavirus concerns. The annual parade was set for Saturday morning in downtown Royal Oak. The decision to call off the parade, which typically attracts a

few thousand people, came late Thursday morning. Royal Oak Police Chief Corrigan O'Donohue said the move was made "out of an abundance of caution" over the spread of the coronavirus that causes the COVID-19 illness. "The decision was based on (emergency) regulations from the governor's office and daily updates we get through Oakland County Homeland Security," he said, adding the county's Homeland Security interfaces with the

county health division. Among the concerns police and the AOH have about the parade are the large number of people who attend it. "There are a significant number of (people) who attend the parade" who are among those at risk for COVID-19, O'Donohue said. Those most at risk, according to the Centers for Disease Control, are adults 60 and older, and people with heart disease, diabetes, and lung disease. Statewide, two people — in-

cluding one identified as an Oakland County resident — have tested positive for COVID-19, 91 people have tested negative, 28 are awaiting test results out of the 520 who have been referred for assessment, according to the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. During a talk Tuesday declaring a state of emergency over the coronavirus pandemic, Gov. Gretchen Whitmer recommended against conducting events with

PARADE » PAGE 4

ROYAL OAK

Court makes changes, no plans to close

44th District Court adjusting policies for case scheduling

By **Mike McConnell**
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The 44th District Court in Royal Oak is making some policy changes after Gov. Gretchen Whitmer declared a state of emergency over the novel coronavirus this week. "Anyone who has a case scheduled at (the court) can contact the court and request a 30-day adjournment," Chief 44th District Judge Derek Meinecke said in a news release Thursday. The only exceptions to the new policy are in cases where a person is in custody, or for cases such as probation or bond violations. All jury trials scheduled for March 23 at the court will be handled as final pre-trials, Meinecke said, and no jurors will be required to appear for jury service. People who have to report to probation through the court can contact their probation officer to set up alternate reporting arrangements. "At this time there are no plans to close the courthouse," Meinecke said. "However, we are actively monitoring this situation." He added that the 44th District Court will continue to work with the Michigan Supreme Court and the

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