

Elected Officials come together for a Declaration of Unity and encourage calm

Good afternoon, I'm City of Yuma Mayor Douglas Nicholls. I would like to begin by thanking everyone for their participation and mutual support. Yuma County Chairman, Tony Reyes; City of San Luis Mayor, Gerardo Sanchez; City of Somerton Mayor Jerry Anaya; and Town of Wellton Mayor, Cecilia McCollough. Chairwoman Cordova of the Cocopah Indian Tribe has expressed her support, but could not be here today.

Currently, there are no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Yuma County, however it is likely there will be cases in our area.

First, we encourage everyone to remain calm. COVID-19 is serious, but it is similar to other illnesses that run through our Country. We need to continue with normal life while keeping precautions in mind.

We are here today to talk less about COVID-19, and more about the uncertainty surrounding the virus. We are here for a Declaration of Unity and to encourage calm.

In order to protect ourselves from the virus we all need to follow the recommended frequent handwashing and

03/14/2020

social distancing recommendations. We all agree civility and calm must rule the day!

This virus itself will not deplete our food sources or disrupt our water supply. And it shouldn't impact our purchase of toilet paper. Self-induced panic is likely to cause more problems than the virus itself.

The cure lies within each of us and the normally generous community that is the greater Yuma area.

Stockpiling is an action driven by fear and it is not beneficial. Stores do not need to have empty shelves.

We should buy what we need for the normal course of life.

Some events have been cancelled, and others have not. Those decisions are made with a large variety of input by those holding the events.

We should carefully consider which events to participate in and take the recommended precautions.

Our restaurants and stores work hard to stay clean in everyday situations, and even more so given the current conditions. Supporting our economy will help to reduce the potential impact from this situation.

03/14/2020

There is extensive ongoing coordination with all the health care providers, the cities, Yuma County Health Department, the State of Arizona Health Department and the federal agencies in managing the virus part of the situation.

We, the people of the greater Yuma area, need to address our part by remaining calm, acting rationally and treating each other with respect and kindness.

We will get through this together.

Our President has called for tomorrow (Sunday, March 15) to be a National Day of Prayer. We hope every house of worship, regardless of denomination, and every individual, regardless of personal belief, will focus and pray for peace and wellness in our country and our world.