Key points from leaders on COVID-19:
Mike Cooper, St. Tammany Parish President has declared a State of Emergency in St. Tammany Parish.
- Initiated a reduced work force, asked residents to adhere to the Governor’s declaration and to avoid large crowds.
- He has asked recreational districts to postpone scheduled activities for the next four weeks.
- Tammany Utilities, the Parish-owned utility company, will restore water service to any resident who has been shut off, and they will refrain from shutting water off for the coming weeks until this emergency is over.
- Starting Monday, March 16, 2020, St. Tammany Parish Department of Animal Services will limit the intake of stray animals and pet adoptions to the hours of 9am to 12pm daily.
Trey Folse, Superintendent of St. Tammany Parish Public School System, addressed the Governor’s proclamation regarding school closures for the next four weeks, stressing the importance of taking the proper time to evaluate the situation, review the Governor’s proclamation, and work with BESE to make the best decisions for our St. Tammany community.
DA Montgomery announced a partial shutdown of the courthouse, and that a number of Assistant DAs will work remotely.
- The 22nd Judicial District has suspended civil and criminal jury trials in both St. Tammany and Washington parishes and will not admit people into court rooms who fall into several categories, including having contact with known COVID-19 patients.
City of Slidell, Louisiana Mayor Greg Cromer assured residents that the City is in full operation to continue to provide services, some staff will work remotely, and they are taking full CDC precautions to protect staff.
St. Tammany Fire Protection District #1 Chief Chris Kaufmann stressed the importance of residents being forthcoming with first responders with regards to any symptoms they may be experiencing when they call 9-1-1, so that first responders can dispatch the appropriate responding agency, and the appropriate number of responders, so that they limit their exposure to COVID-19, and are able to continue to serve the public.
St. Tammany Parish Sheriff’s Office Deputy Chief George Cox said all inmates and employees are screened at the St. Tammany Parish Jail, they have restricted access from vendors and visitors, and limited trustees leaving the jail to do outside service.
Leslie Landry, Vice President of the Northshore Community Foundation announced the Northshore Emergency Relief Fund.
Julie Agan, Director of COAST - Council on Aging St. Tammany announced that in adherence to orders from the Governor, Senior Centers are closed until April 13th. COAST is working to make sure that current clients have meals delivered to their homes, and plans to announce finalized details soon at coastseniors.org.
Dr. Jacques Guillot, Chief Medical Officer for Lakeview Regional Medical Center advised residents to continue to follow CDC guidelines regarding wearing of protective masks, and spoke to COVID-19 testing.
From St. Tammany Parish Library Due to the COVID-19 national emergency, all St. Tammany Parish Library branches will be closed for the week of Monday, March 16, while we make adjustments to serve our patrons safely.
When we reopen, all library programs, outreach, and meeting room use will be suspended.
Library fines will not be charged for the next 30 days. During the week the library is closed, we ask that patrons do not return any library items that are checked out.
The library offers online library resources to check out e-Books (OverDrive, CloudLibrary and hoopla), downloadable audiobooks (OverDrive, CloudLibrary and hoopla), digital magazines (RBdigital), and downloadable movies and television shows (hoopla). The resources can be
accessed at any time with a library card. Mary Martiny DuBuisson, Louisiana State Representative, assured residents the legislators will be working, and are there for our residents.

Larry Frieman, Louisiana State Representative, District 74 said he was encouraged by the leaders of our state who are working on action plans and working to keep legislators informed and keep citizens as safe as possible.