

Lifting protocols

By Lande Simpson
Staff Writer

Earlier this week, Donald Trump decided to leave the lifting of self-quarantine and social distancing protocols up to each governor of all 50 states. To many (including myself) this was extremely unsettling. It came across that Trump does not care about the well-being of the country and he's done helping (which isn't surprising).

If states lift these protocols too quickly, they risk the spread of the virus still more. COVID-19 won't just magically disappear once states start opening back up. If anything, it could increase the spread, skyrocketing the number of cases and deaths.

Once malls, boutiques and restaurants get the "go ahead" to open back up and an employee or customer comes in feeling under the weather they risk the possibility of spreading the virus to others around them and worsening the pandemic. If this happens, it could make everything fall back to square one, and bring us back exactly to where we are now.

I do understand that small and local businesses and restaurants need a source of income just like the rest of us, but it just seems too risky, especially right now, to start taking steps to return to our new normal.

It seems as if Trump only cares about the economy and not the general well-being of the public. I simply do not understand how he thinks it is alright to just step back and leave it all up to the governors. Especially when the number of cases are still increasing in many states.

Yes, the economy is taking a hard hit from this pandemic, but there are far more things to be worrying about than getting the economy back up and running. Think about the nursing homes being hit hard from this virus, people with autoimmune deficiencies, the elderly not in nursing homes or the first responders exposed to this virus each and every day.

Consider the well-being of others, especially if protocols are lifted sooner rather than later.

Notre Dame rebuild on back-burner

By Eli Goodhew
Staff Writer

Since the pandemic of COVID-19 has flooded our lives, it has affected a lot more than we realize. Notre Dame's rebuilding is now on hold due to this.

This 850-year-old beautiful church that is also a historical landmark unfortunately burned to the ground. It is currently not able to be worked on to further the process. The start of the fire is still unknown for sure, but there are plenty of theories as to what happened.

Disasters like these that have happened have been put on hold until further notice—causing a lot of upheaval within a lot of different environments. The Notre Dame is a historical landmark that is loved and cherished by many, and now patrons have to wait even longer to look at their beautiful church again.

I myself have visited this incredible place,

and to see that it has been destroyed and will not be rebuilt for a long time is heartbreaking.

Many architects have been slaving over the rebuild. Now they must wait even longer to re-enter what some call home. "To spend time over the past year inside Notre Dame was both awe-inspiring and deeply moving," stated director Joby Lubman.

A lot of funding has been put into the rebuild, making this stressful for many patrons. Design competitions even went into play. This was a big deal for a lot of people and still is to this day.

The religious and historical aspects of this are what caused everything to be in limbo, especially considering the COVID-19 pandemic.

Our hopes are that once everything settles down, which could be a while, they will get rebuilding back up and running and continue to try and restore what was once the most breathtaking sight. During these tough and trying times, things like this happen, but keep your head up and stay strong.



Photo from The Wall Street Journal

The reconstruction of Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris has been halted due to COVID-19.