State plans $9 billion in aid

Newson and lawmakers agree on stimulus deal with money for businesses, low-income residents

By Alexei Koseff

SACRAMENTO — Gov. Gavin Newsom and legislative leaders have agreed to a $9.6 billion coronavirus aid package that would provide $600 checks to millions of low-income Californians, as well as grants and tax deductions to businesses struggling through the pandemic.

The plan is even larger than the stimulus spending that came Californians, as well as businesses struggling through the economic toll of the pandemic.

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The plan is even larger than the stimulus spending that came to new data from the United States Postal Service showing departures rising, but most remain in Bay Area.

San Francisco and San Jose plummeted in the Milken Institute's annual ranking of U.S. cities' economic performance.

It’s been a long time since San Francisco has hosted a radio show on its own. That could change soon, with talk host Rush Limbaugh's return.

RUSH LIMBAUGH 1951-2021

Fiery radio talk show host fueled the rise of right-wing media in 37-year career. A6

By J.R. Dicen

San Francisco residents abandoned the city during the first eight months of the pandemic, but they generally did not venture very far, according to new data from the United States Postal Service.

The postal service analyzed change-of-address requests during an eight-month period between March and November, which shows that the influx of new residents coming into the city remained constant between March and November, and the number of house­holds­holding­skept­addressed­moving­continues­on­A4.

By Aidin Vaziri

California’s coronavirus numbers continue to show signs of improvement.

The percentage of coronavirus tests that came back positive over the past seven days — a closely watched indicator for reopening the economy — has dropped to 3.1%. That’s down from over 11% a month ago.

Hospit­alizations for coronavirus­­infected­patients have dropped 38% over 14 days, and the rate of infection in the state has fallen to 0.65 — meaning each infected person infects fewer than one other person.

That’s the lowest I’ve seen it,” California Department of Public Health Director Dr. T­om­Arangio said at a meeting of a state vaccine advisory committee on Wednesday. “That’s really good news.”

A falling transmission could help more counties move from California’s purple — or most­restrictive — reopening tier to the slightly­less­restrictive red tier, in which indoor dining­­are­allowed.

As of 9:45 p.m. Wednesday, 9,491 California schools were closed. By Wednesday, Santa Clara County Health Of­ficer Dr. Sara Cody said she expects the coun­ty to move into the red tier soon, though she said, “We’re nearly a year into this pandemic to bring students back safely, she said in the Stimulus continues on A4.

By Jill Tucker

For weeks, the pressure has been building on San Francisco school officials to reopen classrooms, with national media coverage and parents and politicians threatening a shakeup of the school board over what they say is dysfunctional leadership.

Superintendent Vincent Matthews helps lead a tour of one of the few San Francisco schools that’s ready to reopen, but most remain in Bay Area.

Sunny school reopening PR ignores many clouds

By Jill Tucker

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