# Note from the editor: The Friends of Hart Park wanted to get this important info out ASAP, and soon will follow Part 2, which should be a lot more fun!

# First, the bad news…

## Message from the Mayor (of Santa Clarita):

Please check with local, State and Federal authorities for up-to-the-minute information, including a very informative message from our Mayor at <https://santaclaritaemergency.com/>, but what follows is the latest we received as we went to press…

## Message from the President (of the Friends of Hart Park):

As of March 14, the Natural History Museum, La Brea Tar Pits Museum, and William S. Hart Museum was closed until further notice. Also, the City has decided to cancel this year's “Cowboy Festival”. Governor Gavin Newsom has declared a “State of Emergency” for the State of California. The Department of Public Health expects most events with more than 250 attendees to be postponed or canceled. Government at all levels meaning City, County, State and Federal are being asked to work in unison to deal with the Coronavirus Crisis. It will take everyone doing their part to deal with this health crisis and we expect the list of closures and cancelations will be growing daily.

Most importantly we dearly love and appreciate our dedicated volunteers and want each of you to be safe and healthy out there. Please take care of yourselves, your family and loved ones and we will all get through this health crisis together.

## Message from the Governor (of the State of California):

“Each of us has extraordinary power to slow the spread of this disease,” said Governor Newsom in announcing the state’s new policy last night. “Not holding that concert or community event can have cascading effects — saving dozens of lives and preserving critical health care resources that your family may need a month from now. The people in our lives who are most at risk – seniors and those with underlying health conditions — are depending on all of us to make the right choice.”

## Regarding the Trading Post Gift Shop:

The Gift Shop will also be closed. See the Trading Post update in part 2 for more details.

## Regarding the Park and the Barnyard Areas:

As of March 15th , the Barnyard was still open.  However, we will not be doing group tours or animal presentations until further notice, due to the threat of Coronavirus.  And, we do request that guests who are sick to not visit the park  - for the health of our other guests and staff. As for volunteers, LA County has suspended the volunteer program, due to the virus.  This means that, unfortunately, we aren’t able to have any volunteers report to the park thru at least March 31.  This timeline may get extended, as well – time will tell.  We THANK all our volunteers for their service and look forward to a speedy end to the threat of Coronavirus, so everyone may resume their normal duties.

# Now, following in part 2, as you hunker down and socially –distance, we’ll send some good, or at least interesting news to read, from the Friends of Hart Park! Stay tuned….