

gical mask before coming in close proximity of others—in a vehicle, in a room—and before entering a medical facility. Those in health care should wear the more refined N95 mask.

But *most* people *don't* need them; that's according to both the CDC and BCPH, who say that healthy folks can go about their lives per usual.

"Just the general population, to wear a mask wherever they go, that would be going above and beyond," York said.

In any case, masks needn't be worn 24/7 nor stockpiled. Dr. Jerome Adams, the U.S. surgeon general, recently tweeted that Americans should stop buying them because demand among citizens jeopardizes the supply for hospitals and other health care providers. That's not York's prime rationale.

"There's a concern that if [coronavirus] becomes widespread in the United States, we'll not have a large enough supply of masks [for everyone] once they're needed," she said, "if everyone uses them now, when they're not needed."

Keep it clean

Throw away used facial tissues and disinfect surfaces, such as tables, where someone sneezes.

Scientists still don't know everything about COVID-19, which comes from the same virus family

Stay updated:
Visit [cdc.gov](https://www.cdc.gov) for the latest information on the coronavirus outbreak from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

as SARS and MERS (see "Going viral," Healthlines, Feb. 27). The illness spreads via droplets of breath, and other coronaviruses can survive on surfaces anywhere from a few hours to a few days. According to the WHO, researchers haven't determined the viability of COVID-19.

Our best friends

Another area under study is transmission between species.

Both animals and humans have contracted COVID-19. According to BCPH, there's been no confirmed instance of a person getting this coronavirus from their pet, or vice versa—nor evidence this categorically cannot occur. The World Organization for Animal Health is investigating a weak-positive test in a Hong Kong dog that authorities there attributed to human-to-animal transmission. Thus, Hong Kong officials warned against kissing pets.

BCPH proposes more modest safeguards: If sick, or caring for someone who's sick, wear a mask while near a pet or service animal. Better still, if possible, have someone else care for it.

"I'm sure that will be a concern," York said. "Everybody loves their animals." □

WEEKLY DOSE

Kill it with the chorus

In its efforts to educate the public on how long to wash hands to protect oneself from the coronavirus, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, or CDC, advises singing the "Happy Birthday" song twice to reach the requisite 20 seconds' worth of scrubbing time. Of course, having that sing-songy melody stuck in your head might in itself make you queasy after a couple of days. As an alternative, the Los Angeles Times recently posted a handful of pop songs with memorable choruses that also hit the mark—including "Heaven on Earth," by Belinda Carlisle, "Raspberry Beret," by Prince, and "Truth Hurts," by Lizzo. It works with so many hummable tunes—just clock your favorite. ("Paradise City," by Guns 'N' Roses, is a sink-side banger!) The most fun tune on the Times' list was probably "Karma Chameleon," by Culture Club. Let the earworm infect you: "Karma, karma, karma, karma, karma chameleon / You come and go, you come and go / Loving would be easy if your colors were like my dreams / Red, gold and green; red, gold and green."



COMMUNITY SUPPORTED



Donate to **IN&R's Independent Journalism Fund**
Show your support at www.independentjournalismfund.org

Congregate Senior Meal Program

Come Enjoy a Healthy Lunch & Meet New People!



Locations

Chico • Lakeside Pavilion • 2565 California Park Dr.
Oroville • Feather River Senior Citizens Ctr • 1335 Myers St.
Gridley • Gridley Recreation Dept • 194 Washington St.

To reserve a lunch call 530-898-4224

Reservation required 48 hours in advance!

For More Information Call
530-898-5923

PASSAGES

\$10,000 REWARD



Help us seek justice!

Jacob McArthur was murdered December 21, 2019 on Craigs Access Road in Oroville.

Jake's family and friends know he is the kind of person worth fighting for. He had a passion for life, constantly worked on himself, and sought friendships with an open heart and generosity that caught people off guard. Jake loved Nature and Nature loved him back. He grew plants with a green thumb, discovered hidden crystals effortlessly, and earned the singular devotion of his animals. His beloved dog Bruce still faithfully awaits Jake's return.

We will never stop seeking Justice. Anyone with information about his murder please come forward, so we can all find peace sooner than later. Everyday without answers is torture for his loved ones.

Thank you to the residents and business owners of Chico and Oroville that have met us with compassion and kindness through the last few months. The McArthur family is forever grateful.

You give us HOPE.

To provide information leading to an arrest and conviction:

818-433-0279

Secret Witness at
Butte County Sheriff's Office:

530-532-6648