



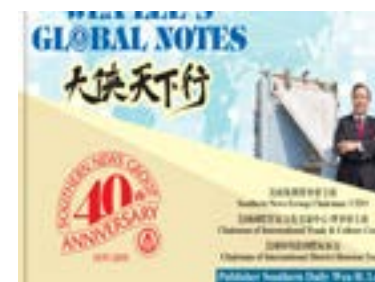
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Mr. Lee's Commentary and Dairy



Inside C2

# Southern DAILY

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Southern Daily News is published by Southern News Group Daily

Thursday October 08, 2020 | [www.today-america.com](http://www.today-america.com) | Southern News Group

## Trump's illness puts more focus on Pence, Harris showdown in VP debate



SALT LAKE CITY (Reuters) - President Donald Trump's battle with COVID-19, his age and the age of his Democratic challenger Joe Biden provide an unusual backdrop to Wednesday's debate between Vice President Mike Pence and Democratic vice presidential nominee Kamala Harris.

Pence and Harris are set to take the stage at the University of Utah in Salt Lake City separated by plastic barriers for a 90-minute debate, a reminder of how the coronavirus pandemic has affected the race ahead of the Nov. 3 election.

The Republican president announced last Friday that he had tested positive for the novel coronavirus amid a White House outbreak and was hospitalized in Maryland for three days receiving a variety of treatments. His doctor said on Wednesday Trump had no COVID-19 symptoms in the past 24 hours.

Either Pence, 61, or Harris, 55, would be a heartbeat away from assuming the presidency, depending on the election's outcome. How they handle themselves during the debate may be scrutinized even more closely than usual given Trump's health and the age of both presidential candidates.

Now 77, Biden would be 78 upon taking office in January, which would make him the oldest U.S. president in history. Trump is 74, making his COVID-19 particularly dangerous considering his age and underlying health issues. Trump already is the oldest president to seek re-election.

Biden is leading Trump in national polls, including an ad-

vantage of 12 percentage points in the latest Reuters/Ipsos survey of likely voters. Polls show the race to be closer in some of the election battleground states that could determine the winner, although a Reuters/Ipsos poll on Wednesday showed Biden leading Trump in pivotal Florida.

Harris, who will be on the biggest stage of her political career, is a U.S. senator from California picked by Biden in August as his running mate. The daughter of immigrants - her father from Jamaica and her mother from India - Harris is the first Black woman nominated by a major party for vice president as well as the first person of Asian descent.

### RELATED COVERAGE

U.S. women organize watch parties for historic VP debate Pence, who debated then-Democratic vice presidential nominee Tim Kaine in 2016, is a former U.S. congressman and Indiana governor who has steadfastly defended Trump during his tumultuous presidency.

Their debate is unlikely to match the chaos of the first presidential debate last week in which Trump repeatedly interrupted Biden and the two traded insults. Pence, more even-tempered than Trump, and Harris, a former prosecutor known for sharp questioning during Senate hearings, are seen as polished communicators.

### 'A FORTRESS'

The two campaigns have squabbled over installing barriers on stage between Pence and Harris to guard against coronavirus infection. On Wednesday, television images of the debate stage

showed two plexiglass barriers, one adjoining each lectern. Pence and Harris also will be placed more than 12 feet (3.6 meters) apart on stage.

Harris had requested plexiglass shielding. Pence spokeswoman Katie Miller on Monday mocked Harris, saying if she "wants to use a fortress around herself, have at it." An aide to the vice president on Wednesday said Pence had agreed to the barriers to facilitate the debate.

Both Pence and Harris tested negative for the coronavirus on Tuesday. Current U.S. government guidelines call for anyone exposed to a person with COVID-19 to quarantine for 14 days regardless of test results.

In a statement, Harris spokeswoman Sabrina Singh said, "If the Trump administration's war on masks has now become a war on safety shields, that tells you everything you need to know about why their COVID response is a failure."

The pandemic is likely to dominate the debate. Biden and Harris have made Trump's handling of the public health crisis a central theme of their campaign, blaming Trump for downplaying the health risks and failing to endorse mask-wearing to combat the spread of the pathogen.

Pence, who has headed the administration's coronavirus task force, can be expected to defend Trump's response to the pandemic, which has killed more than 210,000 Americans and battered the U.S. economy even as other wealthy nations have managed to get it under better control.

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# WEA LEE'S GLOBAL NOTES

10/07/2020

CORONAVIRUS DIARY

## Chinese American Pioneer Uncle Art Ping Lee



Uncle Art Ping Lee was laid to rest in peace last week in Washington, DC. He was born in 1914 and has lived to the age of over one hundred years and he is a true pioneer in our community. He was the founder of the America Lee's Family Association and the An Leung Association and was a leader in the promotion of our civil rights in America.

In the early 1970's when I arrived in San Francisco, I had the opportunity to edit Lee's monthly newspaper and I knew all of the Lee elders and leaders in San Francisco, Washington, DC, New York, Los Angeles and all the major cities because I was his editor who reported and wrote the news for all of them.

In the late 1980's, my brother Dan and I went to

DC on a snowy day and we met with my classmate CC Hu in Chinatown. He asked us, "what are you guys doing here?"

We replied that we wanted to publish a weekly newspaper here and he was so surprised. From his expression, you knew he thought it was mission impossible. We then went to visit Uncle Lee at the Chung Hwa Association. He greeted us with a warm welcome and introduced us to Mr. Chow who later became our community reporter. Because of Uncle Lee's

support, we were able to expand our connections and we gradually started to publish a weekly paper in Washington, DC.

About five years ago, Uncle Lee came to Houston to visit. We hosted his one hundred year birthday party at our Houston headquarters. Many of our friends got together to cut the cake and enjoyed the party.

Speaking to all the guests, I said, "I just want to express my appreciation to Uncle Art Ping Lee again and again. Because of your

guidance and assistance, we were able to start our journey in the nation's capital."

Uncle Lee, you have fully enjoyed your life because your kindness and contribution will always be remembered by all of us. Please Rest In Peace.

By Wea H. Lee

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Honorary Consul of  
Houston, Texas



Southern News Group Chairman / CEO  
Chairman of International Trade & Culture Center  
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Publisher Southern Daily Wea H. Lee

Stay Home!

## BUSINESS

Wear Mask!

### COVID-19 Dashboard 10/08/20

### White House Physician Reports

### Trump Has No COVID-19 Symptoms



Illustration: Eniola Odetunde/Axios

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor

President Trump was not experiencing coronavirus symptoms Tuesday and is doing "extremely well," according to a memo released by White House physician Sean Conley.

**The state of play:** Trump was discharged from Walter Reed Medical Center on Monday evening and returned to the White House to continue his treatment. Conley said in a briefing on Monday that while the president's condition is improving, he "may not be entirely out of the woods yet" and the next few days will be critical to the course of his recovery.

Upon his return, Trump said he was feeling "real good", according to a pool report by a journalist covering his return on behalf of other media. In a tweet, the President urged people to not let the virus "dominate your life".

**Trump, still infected with the coronavirus, said: "Maybe I'm immune."**

**What they're saying:** "This morning

the President's team of physicians met with him in the Residence. He had a restful first night at home, and today he reports no symptoms," Conley wrote in the memo.

• "Vital signs and physical exam remain stable, with an ambulatory oxygen saturation level of 95-97%. Overall he continues to do extremely well. I will provide updates as we know more." (Courtesy axios.com)



U.S. President Donald Trump has returned to the White House. Maskless on the White House balcony.

### How COVID-19 Is Affecting The World



1. **Global:** Total confirmed cases as of 10 a.m. ET: 35,536,634 — Total deaths: 1,044,949 — Total recoveries: 24,785,728 .
  2. **U.S.:** Total confirmed cases as of 10 a.m. ET: 7,459,146 — Total deaths: 210,195 — Total recoveries: 2,935,142 — Total tests: 108,831,227.
  3. **Politics:** Trump, still infected with COVID-19, says: "Maybe I'm immune" — With Trump's return, risks rise in the West Wing — Trumpworld coronavirus tracker.
  4. **Health:** CDC acknowledges airborne COVID-19 spread.
  5. **Business:** Exxon to slash up to 1,600 jobs in Europe — Companies behind Trump's COVID-19 drugs draw attention.
- Confirmed cases of COVID-19 have now passed 35.4 million globally, according to the Johns Hopkins Coronavirus Resource Center. The number of confirmed deaths stands at over 1 million.
- Mexico** has reported a record daily rise in cases and deaths - 28,115 and 2,789, respectively. The sharp increase is due to a change in methodology, according to the government.
- Confirmed cases in **India** have risen by 61,267 to 6.69 million. Deaths have risen by 884 to 103,569.
- Victoria, Australia** - the epicentre of the country's outbreak - has reported a slight increase in new cases. But authorities said they could link most to known outbreaks.
- A combination of antiviral drugs normally used to treat HIV has no beneficial effect in hospitalized COVID-19 patients, according to the results of a

peer-reviewed study and large-scale randomized trial.

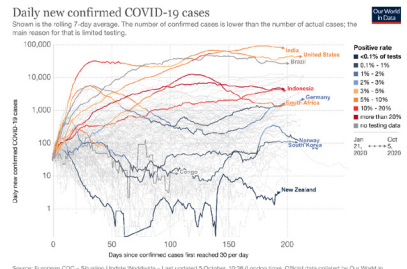


**Ireland** has increased its restrictions to Level 3, meaning indoor dining is banned, and pubs can only serve a limited number of customers outside. The National Public Health Emergency Team had called for the highest level of restrictions.

The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said yesterday that COVID-19 can spread by the virus lingering in the air.

The International Monetary Fund has called on members to take advantage of low interest rates to invest in infrastructure as a means to drive the economic recovery and a shift towards greener energy.

**France** has reported a slowing of new cases, but hospitalizations increased by more than 300 for first time since April. Research suggests that the COVID-19 virus can survive for up to 9 hours on human skin - but is completely inactivated in just 15 seconds by hand sanitizer containing 80% alcohol. The study was published in *Clinical Infectious Diseases*, and its authors say it's a reminder of the importance of proper hand hygiene.



### COVID-19 Hitting Mental Health Services Hard

The COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted or halted critical essential mental health services in more than 9-in-10 countries,

according to a World Health Organization (WHO) survey.

"Good mental health is absolutely fundamental to overall health and well-being," said Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General of the WHO. "COVID-19 has interrupted essential mental health services around the world just when they're needed most. World leaders must move fast and decisively to invest more in life-saving mental health programmes - during the pandemic and beyond."

The survey looked at 130 countries from June to August of this year, with 93% reporting some sort of disruption. Services for vulnerable people, counseling and psychotherapy, harm reduction and school and workplace programmes were hardest hit, according to the survey. Some 89% of countries reported that mental health and psychosocial support is part of their national COVID-19 response, but less than 20% of these countries have full additional funding for these activities. (Courtesy weforum.org)



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Editor's Choice



People line up to cast their ballots for the upcoming presidential election as early voting begins in Cincinnati, Ohio. REUTERS/Megan Jelinger



A demonstrator clashes with a barricade of police officers during a protest against the government's proposed labor reforms outside the Regional Parliament building in Bandung, West Java province, Indonesia. Antara Foto/ Arie Nugraha/ via REUTERS



Scientist Emmanuelle Charpentier, director of the Max Planck Institute for Infection Biology in Berlin holds a Swedish themed puppet after winning the 2020 Nobel Prize in Chemistry for the development of a method for genome editing, in Berlin, Germany. REUTERS/Fabrizio Bensch



Stand-ins for the candidates sit between freshly installed protective plexiglass panels put in place as a coronavirus disease precaution between the candidates seats for the 2020 vice presidential debate between Vice President Mike Pence and Democratic vice presidential nominee and U.S. Senator Kamala Harris on the campus of the University of Utah in Salt Lake City,



Israelis protest against a new law that curbed demonstrations against Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, as it bans protesters from holding demonstrations more than 1 km (0.6 miles) from their homes, tightening a second-wave of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) lockdown in Tel Aviv, Israel. REUTERS/Ammar Awad



A couple enjoy sunny autumn weather in a park in Moscow, Russia. REUTERS/Maxim Shemetov



A worker is seen through an opening in a school door as he carries a sack of flour distributed by UNRWA to be delivered to a Palestinian family in Gaza City. REUTERS/Mohammed Salem



A worker is seen through an opening in a school door as he carries a sack of flour distributed by UNRWA to be delivered to a Palestinian family in Gaza City. REUTERS/Mohammed Salem



White House reporters are increasingly anxious and angry about the Trump administration’s handling of COVID-19 cases within its own building. **State of play:** Several White House reporters have tested positive and many are trying to figure out whether they and their families need to quarantine.

*“My wife has now tested positive for COVID. The collateral damage is going to be pretty significant I think.”*  
— *N.Y. Times White House correspondent Michael Shear*

**Driving the news:** White House Press Secretary Kayleigh McEnany announced Monday that she tested positive for coronavirus, sending White House reporters scrambling to figure out whether they had been exposed.

• McEnany briefed reporters without wearing a mask at the White House, a practice that speaks to the overall dismissal of White House officials around COVID-19 safety protocols.

• On Monday, one of the reporters at the briefing confirmed to Axios that they would be quarantining for the next two weeks.

• White House communications aides Chad Gilmartin and Karoline Leavitt tested positive for the coronavirus over the weekend, Axios’ Alayna Treene confirmed Monday after a report from ABC News.



Typical White House news briefing in the White House Press Room prior to the COVID outbreak.

**What they’re saying:** Members of the press corps have expressed frustration that they’ve been directly exposed to officials with the virus without being warned.

• They cite being on flights with Hope Hicks, as well as last week’s presidential debate and the press briefing Sunday with McEnany, as events deserving more precautions.

• “What frustrates me is that the White House could have and should have taken steps to mitigate or minimize the risk if they had just done simple things like wearing masks,” said Shear, who believes he contracted the virus aboard Air Force One on September 26th, following the White House nomination event for Amy Coney Barrett.

• “I felt safer reporting in North Korea than I currently do reporting at The White House. This is just crazy,” tweeted CBS News White House Correspondent Ben Tracy.

**The other side:** Ben Williamson, a White House official who works in the communications department and is also an aide to White House chief of staff Mark Meadows, tweeted Monday that McEnany “briefly removed her mask at the mic to answer questions, was there for two questions and only 58 seconds (would not constitute ‘sustained contact’ per the CDC), and was socially distanced from reporters in the area.”

**One reporter’s experience: Paula Reid @PaulaReidCBS**  
I sat in close proximity to two maskless, now COVID positive, White House staffers at last Thursday’s briefing. So I am now working from home & getting regular COVID tests.



**Critics argue that White House officials** have engaged in reckless behavior by exposing members of the press corps, as well as other staffers, while knowingly carrying the virus, or having come in contact with those who test positive.

## White House Coronavirus Outbreak Hits The Press Corps



Illustration: Annelise Capossela/Axios

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor

• On Friday, White House Correspondents Association (WHCA) president Zeke Miller said in a letter to colleagues that at least three members of the White House press corps had tested positive for the virus.

• In his note, Miller confirmed that the White House Medical Unit is beginning the process of contact tracing for these cases, but that they do not yet have an estimated time of completion for that process.

• The WHCA said in a statement Sunday: “We strongly encourage everyone else who was on the White House grounds from 9/26-10/2 to avail themselves of testing options, through their local health department, personal physician, employer or other accommodation before returning to the White House complex.”

**The big picture:** Administration officials have long downplayed the seriousness of the virus.

• “Most officials don’t wear masks,” a White House reporter told Axios. “They don’t socially distance with each other.”

• Shear said that as of Monday evening, he still hadn’t heard from the White House at all about any sort of contact tracing efforts, but that the WHCA has been good about implementing their own contract tracing procedure.

• In response to the news about McEnany,

situation also puts in jeopardy coverage of the White House at a time when facts and accurate information have never been more muddled.

• CBS News digital White House reporter Kathryn Watson tweeted: “Even though there isn’t a high likelihood of contracting the virus outside at a bit of a distance, some reporters will have to quarantine. It upends the entire workflow of the White House press corps at a time when coverage has never been more critical.” (Courtesy axios.com)

### Related

**Trump’s Return Means More Stress For White House Reporters**  
*President Donald Trump’s return to the White House to continue his recovery from the coronavirus seems certain to increase the anxiety level for journalists*  
NEW YORK -- President Donald Trump’s return to the White House to recover from the coronavirus seems certain to raise the already heightened anxiety level of the journalists assigned to follow him. Three reporters have tested positive for COVID-19 in recent days while covering a White House described as lax, at best, in following basic safety advice like wearing masks. Discomfort only increased Monday with news that press secretary Kayleigh McEnany had

the WHCA said, “We wish Kayleigh, the president and everyone else struggling with the virus a swift recovery.”



White House Press Secretary Kayleigh McEnany has tested positive for the coronavirus.

**The bottom line:** The

tested positive. After McEnany’s announcement Monday, Fox News chief White House correspondent John Roberts spent part of his afternoon waiting outside an urgent care center for his own test. He had attended McEnany’s briefing last Thursday.

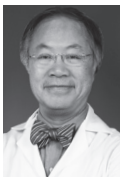
She didn’t wear a mask, and neither did one of her assistants who later tested positive, and Roberts sat near both of them.



**A member of the cleaning staff sprays The James Brady Briefing Room of the White House, Monday, Oct. 5, 2020, in Washington. (AP Photo/Alex Brandon)**  
He tested negative. He called it an inconvenience, but stronger emotions were spreading. American Urban Radio Networks correspondent April Ryan said she found it infuriating that Trump and his team had risked the health of her colleagues. CNN’s Kaitlan Collins said it was “irresponsible, at best.”

“It’s frustrating,” said Jonathan Karl, ABC News White House correspondent. “Frankly, it makes you angry.” Trump takes the health and safety of those who work for and cover him very seriously, spokesman Judd Deere said. The White House works to incorporate current CDC guidance and best practices to limit COVID-19 exposure to the greatest extent possible on the grounds and when the president is traveling, he said. Yet Trump clearly dislikes masks, and it is a message that has filtered down through much of his staff. The White House Correspondents Association has placed signs on the door to the press briefing room saying that masks are required for admittance. (Courtesy <https://abcnews.go.com/>)

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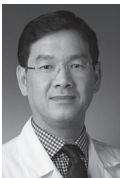
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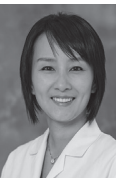
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