

Dear Quogue Residents,

1. For those of you who are not devout watchers of the Governor's press conferences on Covid-19, he has made it clear that when it comes to opening up the economy in New York State, a staged approach will be taken, and regions will be treated differently based on multiple metrics. Among those measures are a steady decline in Covid-19 hospitalizations, availability of hospital and ICU beds and the presence of a 90-day supply of PPE and the rate of testing. Long Island presently meets two of seven of the Governor's metrics (New York City meets three). As a consequence, pretty clearly NY Pause will be extended past May 15 in our area, but I am hopeful that there will be some relaxation of rules regarding the designation and operation of essential businesses. Another one of the criteria to determine whether a region may begin to open up is whether there is a team of contact tracers in place to follow up with the contacts of a person having a positive test for the presence of Covid-19. The program is being developed in New York along with Bloomberg Philanthropies and other organizations. Anyone who is interested in having such a position can go to the following link in order to apply: <https://careers-pcgus.icims.com/jobs/search?searchKeyword=Community&searchLocation=12781-12816-New+York&ss=1>.
2. Governor Cuomo's nightly letter released last evening (to which anyone can subscribe at <https://now.ny.gov/page/s/coronavirus-updates>) led with the following statement on masks: "We all saw pictures from the weekend of people out and about in parks and in public spaces — some were not wearing masks. Let me say this as clearly as possible. If you are out in public, and especially if you are in a crowded area — you must wear a mask (or face covering). It is the smart and responsible thing to do and it is also the law." One can argue over whether that statement represents perfect clarity, but the intent is plain: have a mask with you whenever you are outside on any public streets or other areas and put it over your mouth and nose whenever you are in the vicinity of other people. That certainly includes all walkers, joggers and cyclists.
3. Here is a tip concerning UPS that will help assure that your packages get delivered directly to your house while at the same time relieving pressure on our local post office. It is courtesy of Quogue resident John Bick. Sign up for UPS My Choice for home (Google it—you'll get there). Spring for a premium membership, which will cost you a fairly modest amount. Then select UPS SurePost Packages to UPS Ground. That will help assure that packages addressed to you will stay within the UPS system and be delivered to your home notwithstanding a shipper's selection of final delivery through the US Postal Service. Good luck. There are no warranties with this tip.
4. The New York State program to test a sampling of New Yorkers in order to determine how much of the population has been infected with Covid-19 reveals that approximately 11.4 % of the population in Suffolk County has been infected.
5. There is a new Covid-19 testing facility in Southampton. You will have to be screened in advance and given an appointment. See <http://www.villageofquogueny.gov/polAnnouncements.cfm> for details.
6. Village elections have been postponed by the Governor from June to September.
7. School Board elections and school and library budget voting will be held on June 9<sup>th</sup>. The process will be conducted solely by mail, and the Quogue School District will soon be sending out voting materials.
8. The Quogue Market expects to reopen on May 22<sup>nd</sup>. **Patronize it and the other Quogue stores vigorously.**

9. Walk and jog on the left side of the road. Cycle on the right. Have a mask with you and make sure you are wearing it at least whenever you are in the vicinity of other people.
10. Clean up after your dog. There is a lot of room for improvement, unfortunately.
11. When driving your car in Quogue, **slow down**. Most of us have a lot of time on our hands these days. No need to hurry to get somewhere.
12. Suffolk County is revising its federally-mandated Hazard Mitigation Plan, in which Quogue is included. Citizen input is desired. Spend a few minutes, which you surely have, filling out the survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Suffolk2020>.
13. We expanded our email list. If you have not received earlier ones sent over the past few weeks, you can see them on the Announcements page of the Village website (see #5 above for a link.).

Stay safe, everyone.

Peter Sartorius, Mayor