

Dear Quogue Residents,

We're about a week into Phase One and well on our way to Phase Two, which is expected to occur in about another week assuming that all of the coronavirus statistics behave themselves between now and then. Phase Two will allow office-based jobs, real estate services, retail in-store shopping, vehicle sales, and barber shop and hair salon services, all subject to the many safety and other criteria set forth on the NY Forward website: <https://forward.ny.gov/>. So the time during which you will have an excuse for looking shabby is quickly diminishing.

But even before Phase Two comes, there was some recent good news. In a surprise announcement last Sunday, dentists were permitted to open the following day. So there are no more excuses for putting off that root canal procedure you need. After you schedule that, consider contacting the DMV, which is starting to crank up again. Check out the details at <https://dmv.ny.gov/press-release/press-release-05-30-2020>.

Restaurants are still down the road mired in Phase Three, although there is a lot of pressure being exerted on the Governor on behalf of Long Island shore communities to open up some outdoor dining in advance of Phase Three. We'll see.

On Tuesday, Governor Cuomo announced that day camps can open on June 29th, with additional guidance to be forthcoming. Also, low-risk, outdoor recreational activities are permitted (to be defined in additional guidance). No decision on sleep-away camps yet, and it does not sound like one is imminent.

Hopefully, anyone that was looking for an extension to pay the Town of Southampton second-half taxes found out that a 21-day extension was granted. However, anyone paying the taxes must now send the payment not to the Town of Southampton but rather to : Suffolk County Comptroller, 330 Center Drive, Riverhead, NY 11901.

We are all disinclined to answer phone calls from numbers we do not recognize, but if you get a call from a covid-19 contact tracer, it is in your interest to answer it because you may have been exposed to someone who has the virus. The call is confidential. It should show up on your screen as "NYS Contact Tracing" (518-387-9993).

Here are a few more local items:

1. Please continue to wear a mask or other face covering when in the post office or a local store. Under a recent executive order from the Governor, shopkeepers have the right to refuse entry to anyone not having a suitable mask.
2. Remember that dogs are not permitted at the Village Beach from May 15 to September 15. That rule applies whether or not the Beach is staffed.
3. There are a lot of young bikers in town, which is good. Parents should remember that children under age 14 are required by New York law to wear a helmet.
4. Apparently, does (read female deer) are having their fawns but in a couple of recent incidents have left their newborn in the open during the day. Please leave the fawn alone. Mom will come back when it gets dark according to recent experience and the Quogue Wildlife Refuge.
5. If you do not get *At Quaquanantuck* on your phone on Thursday mornings, you should. Written by 2019 Quogue Person of the Year, Andrew Botsford, it is full of good writing, fine photographs and Quogue news. Write Andrew at AtQuaq@gmail.com to get on the mailing list.

Peter Sartorius
Mayor