

Dear Quogue Residents,

As we hit Phase Two tomorrow, the guidance from Albany keeps on coming. Last week, the Governor announced that outdoor dining would be permitted when we reach Phase Two subject to compliance with a myriad of restrictions, including a requirement that tables be six feet apart and wait staff wear masks. Yesterday, brought the guidance on low risk outdoor activities, and some things that you probably did not know were restricted are now explicitly allowed, such as frisbee and croquet (but still no miniature golf). Also, swim instruction is now permitted, and in the nick of time the Suffolk County Health Department has advised some local pools such as the one at the Surf Club that they can open. Just this morning came the guidance on summer day camps, which can open on June 29<sup>th</sup>. All the details on these items can be found at <https://forward.ny.gov/statewide-guidelines>. The gathering restriction (not more than 10 people) remains in place, and so we are still working out how all this fits together. The main thing to remember is that the coronavirus remains a serious threat, and people have to be responsible for their own safety and be respectful of the safety of others. Wear a mask when you are around others not in your own family unit and keep six feet apart whenever possible.

There have been a number of protest demonstrations in the area over the past couple of weeks, including in Bridgehampton, Southampton, Sag Harbor and, last weekend, Westhampton Beach. Happily, all have been peaceful. Law enforcement from throughout the east end has been dispatched to these areas as a precautionary measure including members of the Quogue Police. For example, in Westhampton Beach our officers handled normal calls to the Westhampton Beach Police Department to free up its officers to handle the protest.

On the subject of police, I would like to share with you an email that I and the other members of the Board of Trustees received last week from Chief Chris Isola. It should give you confidence in our Department:

“If I may, I would like to express on behalf of myself and the entire police department, that we are all appalled, angry and ashamed by what those officers did in Minneapolis. Those officers do not represent law enforcement in this country. Our department is dedicated to serving and protecting all of the public with respect and dignity. Our officers receive advanced training in anti-bias crimes, implicit bias, proper use of force, de-escalation techniques, and community outreach. We will continue to work hard to reassure the public that this police department is here to protect and serve them and we will embrace the changes that may be needed to regain the public’s confidence. Thank you.”

Lastly, over the past month or two, we have relaxed enforcement of our sign laws to allow the Class of 2020 to honor its graduates. More recently, Black Lives Matter and similar signs have appeared in our right of way in support of the nationwide movement. In view of these times, we will continue the policy of relaxation until the end of this month but thereafter continue our policy to keep an uncluttered village.

Please continue to walk and jog on the left, ride on the right and clean up after your pets.

Enjoy the summer.

Peter Sartorius  
Mayor