

Dear Quogue Residents,

1. Good luck to everyone who has kids going back to school this week, whether in-person or virtual. Either one will be a challenge, I am sure. Governor Cuomo gave you a new tool on Tuesday with the announcement of the "The COVID-19 Report Card," an online dashboard which tracks real-time COVID-19 infections and testing operations of every New York school and school district. The Governor acted by Executive Order (naturally) directing schools, local health departments, labs and all testing sites properly to collect and report COVID-19 testing data for students and staff at each school in New York State, ensuring this information can be accurately presented on the online COVID-19 Report Card. As schools reopen and districts, local health departments, and labs begin reporting this data to the NYS Dept. of Health, the COVID-19 Report Card will be live at: <https://schoolcovidreportcard.health.ny.gov>. I hope all the data is positive.
2. If you want more light reading, Suffolk County posted last week a draft of its 2020 update to its Multi-Jurisdictional Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan. The purpose of this plan is to identify vulnerabilities to a variety of hazards and to develop plans to help minimize losses if disasters should occur. The intent of the plan is to provide a comprehensive document that considers the wide diversity of communities, businesses, and services which are an integral part of Suffolk County and the region as a whole. In addition to its value as a hazard mitigation plan, the development of this document is also required under federal law to ensure eligibility for federal mitigation funding. You can find the entire Plan at <https://fres.suffolkcountyny.gov/respond/Default.aspx>. The whole document is pretty massive, but there is a shorter Executive Summary, and the 37 page annex dealing specifically with Quogue appears in Section 9.38. Thanks is due to Chief Building Inspector Bill Nowak who manned the principal laboring oar on this project. You can comment directly to the County on the plan until September 30.
3. No sooner had I accused the US Census Bureau last week of not having door knockers in Quogue than I received an email from former Quogue resident Florence Jones, who told me that during the previous weekend she had indeed been knocking on doors of non-responders in Quogue on behalf of the Census. Apologies to the Census Bureau and to Florence. Thank you for trying to get the count correct.
4. A shout-out is due to Quogue resident Aidan Murray, age 12, who, while riding his bike toward the Village Dock about 6:00 pm a week ago to try to catch a fish or two, witnessed a significant traffic accident at the intersection of Montauk Highway and Jessup Avenue. Recognizing (correctly) that some people might be hurt, he booked it as fast as he could go on his bike to the police station, where he was the first to report the accident to Officer Barbara Tiedemann. Way to go Aidan!
5. A reminder: The Village election for Mayor and two Trustees will be next Tuesday, September 15, at the Quogue Fire Department between 12:00 Noon and 9:00 pm.

Peter Sartorius
Mayor