

Dear Quogue Residents,

Another week on semi-lockdown, and happily there have not been any reports of major problems in the Village. People are generally keeping the appropriate distance from others and are suitably masked. The cumulative total of confirmed Covid-19 cases in the Village remains at 6, where it has been for a while. People are out and about walking or running on the streets on nice days, and the Quogue Wildlife Refuge continues to attract a good number of trail walkers as a refuge for people as well as the animals that inhabit it.

The Village Beach remains available for people to visit and walk or just gaze at the ocean. Pat McChesney is hard at work constructing new stairs, and they should be available for use soon. Unfortunately, there is not too much I can say about the use of the beach this summer. I have little doubt that the approach will be a regional one. County Executive Steve Bellone is a member of the Governor's Downstate Task Force charged with making recommendations on the reopening. Steve has also formed a summer committee for the County that has advice on the use of beaches in the coming months high on its priority list.

Given the uncertainty concerning beaches, we will continue to delay the acceptance of applications for beach stickers for at least another week or two. We will also extend for Quogue residents the date by which a parking sticker is required past May 15 until a reasonable time after stickers have begun to be issued.

You may have heard that New York has cancelled the presidential primary scheduled for June 23 since the nominees are effectively set. There will still be primary elections on that day, however, for the seat in the House of Representatives currently held by Lee Zeldin and for the NY State Senate seat currently held by the retiring Ken LaValle. An application for an absentee ballot will automatically be sent by the Suffolk County Board of Elections to registered voters. But remember that you must return the application in order to receive the ballot and vote. You also will be able to vote in person at the Quogue Fire House.

The nominating process for Village elections was suspended by Governor Cuomo a number of weeks ago. The offices of the Mayor and two Trustees are up for grabs this year at our election scheduled for June 19th. In the absence of guidance, we are on hold at the moment, but we will continue to watch it, and I am sure things will work out.

Lastly, the Quogue Village Police Department is strongly encouraging residents who have or wish to get a Ring doorbell or other security camera system to download the free Neighbors by Ring app from Apple or the Google Play Store. It will enable you to share video with the police department or your neighbors and is a very good method of investigating and tracking the perpetrators of criminal activity. More on this app can be found in the Police Department's recent press release on the topic, which can be found on the Announcements page of the Village website: <http://www.villageofquogueny.gov/polAnnouncements.cfm>

Stay safe, everyone.

Peter Sartorius
Mayor