

Dear Quogue Residents,

1. We hit Phase 4 today. You can be forgiven for not celebrating wildly. Industries included in Phase 4 are low-risk outdoor and indoor arts & entertainment (museums, historic sites and gardens) at reduced capacity, media production, professional sports (without fans) and higher education. Please note that other places you might wish to go such as bowling alleys, amusement parks and gyms/fitness centers are currently **NOT** eligible for reopening in Phase 4. The limit for social and other gatherings also increases from 25 to 50 people (caution—limits inside other guidance could be applicable; it's confusing and not always completely rational). Continue to wear your masks and keep a social distance (6 feet). Guidance can be found at <https://forward.ny.gov/phase-four-industries>.

The news from east end hospitals continues to be good. Earlier in the week there were only five Covid-19 patients in the hospitals, and none of those were in intensive care units.

On Tuesday, Delaware, Kansas and Oklahoma were added to the list of now 19 states from which people coming to New York are required to quarantine for 14 days. See for details <https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/covid-19-travel-advisory>.

2. The daily line at the Quogue Post Office provides evidence that it continues to handle many hundreds of packages every day. The Quogue Post Office staff requests that landlords, realtors, the Village Office and others advise tenants and longer-term visitors that Quogue does not have street delivery of mail. If people expect to get mail in Quogue, they should rent a post office box, which are available, and tell mailers to use it or have mail sent c/o another person who has a post office box. Otherwise, the people are simply not recognizable to the post office, and packages are sent back to the sender in a day or two to the great consternation of the intended recipient.

You are also reminded to adhere to the signage limiting the number of customers in the small lobby to two. If you came to the post office with a companion, leave him or her outside when you go into the small lobby. Going into the lobby as a pair simply confuses the flow of customers.

A way to avoid the post office for your packages was in my email of May 6 and is repeated here:

“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. “

3. Cards for the 2020 Census were in post office boxes this week. Please make sure you respond whether you are a resident of Quogue or somewhere else. It is crucial that everyone in New York is properly counted.
4. This paragraph is not very pleasant. Dog waste continues to be a problem that generates a lot of resident complaints. Some people fail to pick up after their dog. Others bag the waste but then do not take it home or put it in a proper waste receptacle. They leave it on the ground, throw it into the nearest hedge, hang it on snow fence at the beach, throw it in a storm drain where it clogs the drain or washes into the bay or in one instance place it into the Village-supplied box for dispensing new pet waste bags. Come on, people. I know it is not pleasant to tote a bag of dog waste, but you can put it in a larger container. Or here is a novel idea. Use your own back yard until the dog does its business. I have asked our police department and code enforcement

officer to enforce this law. I do not think you would want pay a substantial fine for a violation or be named in 27East and the Southampton Press. This is a quality of life issue, and we can do better.

Enjoy the summer.

Peter Sartorius
Mayor