

Dear Quogue Residents,

The next month or so will certainly be unprecedented and likely an adventure as well. Let's hope that it will not be chaotic.

If you have not registered to vote yet, the rest of us have not given up on you, but you are definitely testing our patience. You have until **this Friday, October 9<sup>th</sup>**. Voter registration in Suffolk County is through the Suffolk County Board of Elections. Here is the link to give you the Voter Registration Form and all the necessary information: <https://www.suffolkcountyny.gov/Departments/BOE>. At the same site, you can find the form and information necessary to apply for an absentee ballot. To vote by absentee ballot, you do not actually have to be absent or sick. Early voting at the Stony Brook campus in Southampton and other sites will begin on October 24<sup>th</sup>.

To reiterate a point recipients of these emails have already read possibly more than once, political signs are not permitted in the right of way. For a single family dwelling in Quogue, the only signs that are permitted are (a) a name or name and number sign up to two square feet in size, (b) a street number sign up to one square foot in size (this is **required** for emergency response reasons so do not remove it), (c) a single small sign indicating that the property has an alarm system, (d) a single realty sign not exceeding four square feet in size located within four feet of the front of the main building, and (e) a single temporary construction sign not exceeding four square feet in size in a similar location setting forth the names of the contractors and others involved with the project. For First Amendment reasons, an owner is permitted to substitute a noncommercial message (such as a political message) for the foregoing permitted signs as long as the size and location restrictions are observed. As a practical matter, you will probably have to keep your Biden/Harris or Trump/Pence lawn sign back within four feet of the front of the house.

Last week Governor Cuomo announced the availability of a new app (Covid Alert NY) for your phone that will notify you if you come in close contact with other users who have downloaded the app and tested positive for Covid-19. Created by the NY Department of Health and developed in partnership with Google and Apple, the app is free and available for download in the Google Play Store and Apple App Store. The app does not track locations or movements, share personal information or identify users. Instead, it uses Bluetooth proximity-enabled exposure notification technology and assigns anonymous keys to protect users' identities and personal information. More information and links to download the app can be found at <https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/covid-alert-ny>. It is definitely worth a look.

Our natural gas provider, National Grid, has asked us to remind you that nationally every nine minutes an underground utility line is damaged because someone didn't call 8-1-1 to confirm the location of underground utilities before digging. Striking a single underground utility line can cause injury, repair costs, fines, and inconvenient outages. Please remember the importance of calling 8-1-1 prior to digging and confirm that your contractor has done so.

Nothing screams "I'm not home" like a few newspapers stacked up at the end of the driveway. There are a few of those situations around the Village. So if you are not going to be here, suspend your newspaper delivery or make arrangements for someone to pick it up each day.

Peter Sartorius  
Mayor