

Dear Quogue Residents,

Welcome to March! Only 18 days to go until the official start of Spring and about 30 more after that until the weather consistently gets to be fairly good. (Okay, I know that might be a little optimistic.)

Professional car thieves seem to be back in the area. Over the past couple of weeks, there has been a spate of thefts of high-end vehicles from driveways. There is a special preference for Audis, apparently. Keep your car in the garage if you can, but at the very least keep it locked and remove the key fob. Also, if you see a vehicle cruising the neighborhood that looks suspicious, call 911 and report it so that the police can check it out.

Some residents have observed that tied and filled bags of dog poop have returned to the streets of Quogue in force, mostly south of Quogue Street. Bagging feces is a good first step but hardly solves the problem if people do not take bagged feces with them. The bags cannot get reintegrated into the ecosystem easily, and leaving them is probably worse than not bagging them at all. Now, carrying around a bag of poop on a long walk may not be the most pleasant thing in the world. So, if you must, tie up the bag and leave it near a hydrant or utility pole where you can easily find it again but ALWAYS walk or drive back to that spot to grab the bag and throw it out when you get home.

Many Quogue residents have advised me that they have been successfully vaccinated. The locations have varied greatly, but many people went through Barth's Pharmacy in Westhampton Beach. Thank you, Barth's. That's all good news, but this is still no time to let our guard down even among the vaccinated—you can still possibly spread the virus even if you do not get sick. We have all read or heard about the variants that are present on Long Island. Also, the cumulative reported case count in Quogue is up to 60 vs. 48 a few weeks ago. If you are still looking to get an appointment for a vaccination, the Suffolk County website contains a variety of links. Try <https://suffolkcountyny.gov/vaccine>.

This is a reminder that the special meeting to receive public input on the draft police reform plan will be held via Zoom on Friday afternoon at 4:00 pm. If you wish to attend, call or email the Village Office on or after Wednesday, March 3 to get the Zoom log in information sent to you.

Peter Sartorius
Mayor