Advisory #77

Friday, May 29, 2020

To the Residents of Kingston,

This afternoon the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) announced there are 7,766 confirmed positive cases of COVID-19 in Plymouth County. **This afternoon the Town of Kingston was informed of 5 additional confirmed positive cases of COVID-19, bringing our total number to 93.** Of the Town’s total number of confirmed positive cases, 50 are from one facility. Our Health Agent and Public Safety Officers will continue to monitor these local cases. Due to privacy requirements, the demographics of these cases will remain anonymous.

These graphs are a visual companion to the numbers that we have been reporting in our advisory letters to residents.
Kingston’s Emergency Management Team met today to discuss the Town’s ongoing response to COVID-19. Director of Elder Affairs Paula Rossi-Clapp reminded the team that transportation services at the Council on Aging (COA) will resume on Monday, June 1\textsuperscript{st}. Working closely with Fire Chief Mark Douglass, Paula has created a series of new standard operating procedures to ensure the safety of passengers and drivers. Starting Monday, passengers will be asked a series of pre-screening questions before boarding the vehicles. All drivers will wear face coverings, and will have access to N95 masks if need be. Drivers will also sanitize vehicles and touch points between rides.

Paula also shared that since the COA closed its doors to the public, her staff have delivered 3,158 meals to Kingston seniors as well as first responders and essential personnel. They have delivered an additional 314 bags of nonperishable food items to seniors, which were provided by South Shore Community Action Council.

Fire Chief Douglass provided an update regarding the reopening task force’s efforts to safely and responsibly reopen Kingston’s building and facilities. The Town of Kingston is on track to welcome Animal Control, Library, Recreation Department, and Town House staff back to their offices on Monday, June 1\textsuperscript{st}. Below, please find additional information regarding the Town’s planned reopening. This information has also been posted on the Town’s website.

**Animal Control:** Kingston’s Animal Control offices remain on-call throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, with limited on-site services. Staff are scheduled to return to their offices on Monday, June 1\textsuperscript{st}, and volunteers are tentatively scheduled to return on Monday, June 8\textsuperscript{th}. Please contact Animal Control at (781) 585-0529 with any questions.

**Council on Aging:** Kingston’s Council on Aging has remained open for outreach services and meal deliveries throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. Transportation services are scheduled to resume on Monday, June 1\textsuperscript{st}. The building and related programming will remain closed, pending further guidance from the Commonwealth. Please contact the Council on Aging at (781) 585-0511 with any questions.
**Kingston Harbormaster:** The Ah Dee Nah is open for limited use. Rules for use have been posted throughout the property. The parking lot is closed at 9:00 PM. Shellfishing is open for the season. Additional information regarding shellfishing licenses can be found online at [https://bit.ly/3eqDOJU](https://bit.ly/3eqDOJU). Please contact the Kingston Harbormaster at (781) 585-0519 with any questions.

**Library:** The Kingston Public Library has maintained digital services and programming throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. The building will remain closed to the public through June 29th, with curbside pickup services beginning on Monday, June 1st. Please contact the Kingston Public Library at (781) 585-0517 with any questions.

**Recreation Department:** Staff are scheduled to return to their offices on Monday, June 1st. Gray’s Beach Park is currently open with restrictions and limited amenities. Rules for use have been posted throughout the property. Athletic fields will remain closed, pending further guidance from the Commonwealth. Please contact the Kingston Recreation Department at (781) 585-0533 with any questions.

**Schools:** Please visit [www.slrsd.org](http://www.slrsd.org) for information relating to the Silver Lake Regional School District.

**Town House:** Staff are scheduled to return to their offices on Monday, June 1st. The building will open to the public by appointment on June 8th. If you would like to schedule an appointment to meet with staff in the building, please call the appropriate department to make those arrangements. Department phone numbers will be posted on the doors, and can be found at [www.kingstonmass.org](http://www.kingstonmass.org). If visiting the Town House, please adhere to the posted rules and traffic flow signage.

This information will be posted on the Town’s website. All dates are subject to change, so we ask for your continued patience.

Today at 10:30 AM PACTV aired a COVID-19 Update for the Town of Kingston. The program featured Dr. Elizabeth Ryan, of Integrated Counseling Centers in Plymouth. Dr. Ryan, who is a senior citizen herself, spoke about what seniors can do to identify and combat anxiety and depression, along with ways, tips, and strategies to maintain their mental health. The program will be rebroadcast on Kingston’s Government channels (Comcast 15 and Verizon 42). We will link the program to the Town’s website as soon as it becomes available online.

As stated in Wednesday’s “Advisory #76,” as Kingston’s Emergency Management Team shifts its focus from responding to the initial impacts of COVID-19 on the Town of Kingston, to supporting the efforts of the reopening task force in reopening Town buildings and facilities, we will be shifting to releasing advisory letters such as this on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Thank you for your continued efforts to mitigate the spread of COVID-19,

[Signature]

Joshua A. Warren, Chairman
Board of Selectmen