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Advisory #25

Tuesday, April 7, 2020

To the Residents of Kingston,

TOWN OF KINGSTON

Office of the Board of Selectmen Town House 26 Evergreen Street Kingston, Massachusetts 02364 www.kingstonmass.org

Board of Selectmen Joshua Warren, Chairman Elaine A. Fiore, Vice Chairman Sandra D. MacFarlane, Clerk Tammy Murray Jessica Kramer

Town Administrator/ Chief Procurement Officer Thomas J. Calter III

This afternoon the Massachusetts Department of Public Health announced that there were 1,194 confirmed positive cases of COVID-19 in Plymouth County. This represents an increase from 1,067 cases yesterday. **The Town of Kingston remains at nine confirmed positive cases of COVID-19.** 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.

Please continue to visit <u>www.kingstonmass.org</u> for daily updates from Kingston's Emergency Management Team, as well as links to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) websites.

Kingston's Emergency Management Team met today to discuss the Town's ongoing response to the COVID-19 pandemic. All members of the team were pleased to hear that Kingston's number of confirmed positive cases of COVID-19 has remained at 9 since Monday, March 30th. During that period of time, Plymouth County's numbers have increased by 814. Although it is impossible to quantify if or how the Town's proactive approach to closing public buildings, parks and playgrounds weeks ago has contributed to our number of cases remaining at 9, we are confident that everybody's ongoing efforts to stay at home unless it is absolutely necessary, and to maintain social distancing guidelines and proper sanitation practices has only helped to keep Kingston's number of confirmed cases at 9.

This morning at 10:30 AM, Kingston aired a live COVID-19 Update on PACTV. The program featured Director of Elder Affairs Paula Rossi-Clapp and Town Administrator Tom Calter. Paula spoke to the Council on Aging's ongoing efforts to support Kingston's seniors during the COVID-19 pandemic, and Tom spoke to how COVID-19 is impacting local businesses and the implications that will have on the Town. The program will be replayed on Kingston's government channels (Comcast 15 and Verizon 42), and will be linked to the Town's website once PACTV posts the program online.

With older adults at a higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19, the Emergency Management Team delivered 600 face masks to the residents of Conifer Green, Town & Country, and Meadowcrest yesterday afternoon. Distribution is being handled locally within the communities.

Additional masks are available at the COA for Kingston seniors who are in need. Supplies are limited, so please call the COA at 781-585-0511 if you would like to request a mask. Please visit the COVID-19 section of the Town's website, <u>www.kingstonmass.org</u>, for further guidance from the CDC on the proper use of face

masks, as well as instructions on how to make face coverings from household items or from common materials at a low cost.

The Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women is reaching out to women across the Commonwealth to learn how the COVID-19 pandemic is affecting them. The survey is not confidential. They will compile and share the data with our legislators and the administration to influence recommendations regarding policies that address issues women and their families are facing during this time. We've provided a link to the survey below for residents who would like to participate. The deadline to complete the survey is Thursday, April 9, 2020.

COVID-19 Survey: https://bit.ly/2wlRTrK

With confirmed cases of COVID-19 on the rise, Kingston's Emergency Management Team and Board of Health would like to remind you that this is a crucial time for infection control. Maintaining social distancing, limiting exposure to others, avoiding crowded places, and vigilant hand washing are vital steps in slowing the spread of this disease.

We are all in this together.

Sincerely,

Josh Warren

Goshua A. Warren, Chairman Board of Selectmen