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TOWN OF KINGSTON

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Advisory #27

Thursday, April 9, 2020

To the Residents of Kingston,

This afternoon the Massachusetts Department of Public Health announced that there were 1,507 confirmed positive cases of COVID-19 in Plymouth County. This represents an increase from 1,327 cases yesterday. **The Town of Kingston remains at ten 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 www.kingstonmass.org 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. Director of Elder Affairs, Paula Rossi-Clapp, reported that there has been an increase in requests for Meals-on-Wheels and special meal deliveries Kingston. Paula and her dedicated team stands at the ready to respond to requests from Kingston seniors and is available at 781-585-0511.

The Council on Aging is currently accepting cards, notes, and drawings of inspiration and hope from members of the community. They ask that you bundle your letters, cards, and pictures, and leave them unsealed in the designated box outside the front door to the COA. Please include your name, or the name of your group and associated contact information. If you would prefer to donate blank note cards for COA staff to use to send special messages to seniors, those too are welcomed. All donated pieces will be reviewed and disinfected by COA staff before being sent to seniors.

In addition to addressing the immediate public health challenges posed by COVID-19, members of the Emergency Management Team have been paying close attention to how the ongoing pandemic is impacting Kingston's local businesses. Town Administrator, Tom Calter, reported to the group that tomorrow at 1:00 PM the Executive Office for Housing & Economic Development (EOHED) will be holding their weekly call to address how COVID-19 is impacting housing and economic development projects across the Commonwealth. Interested residents and local businesses are encouraged to join the phone call by dialing 888-455-9373, passcode 3848325. The EOHED expects to have Lt. Governor Karyn Polito and Executive Office of Labor & Workforce Development Secretary Acosta on the call as well.

As shared in yesterday's "Advisory #26," the Executive Office of Health and Human Services announced that they have launched a Nursing Home Family Resource Line – a dedicated phone line to connect family members of nursing home and rest home residents with the information and resources they need. This new

phone line provides one central contact for families and community members who have questions about the nursing home or rest home care their loved one is receiving during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Nursing Home Family Resource Line is staffed from 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM, 7 days a week, and can be reached at 617-660-5399. We have provided this information on the Town's website.

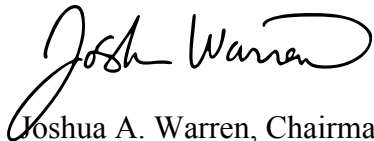
The Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women is reaching out to women across the Commonwealth to learn how the COVID-19 pandemic is affecting them. The survey is not confidential. They will compile and share the data with our legislators and the administration to influence recommendations regarding 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 today, 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Josh Warren". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "J".

Joshua A. Warren, Chairman
Board of Selectmen