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TOWN OF KINGSTON

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www.kingstonmass.org

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Advisory #54

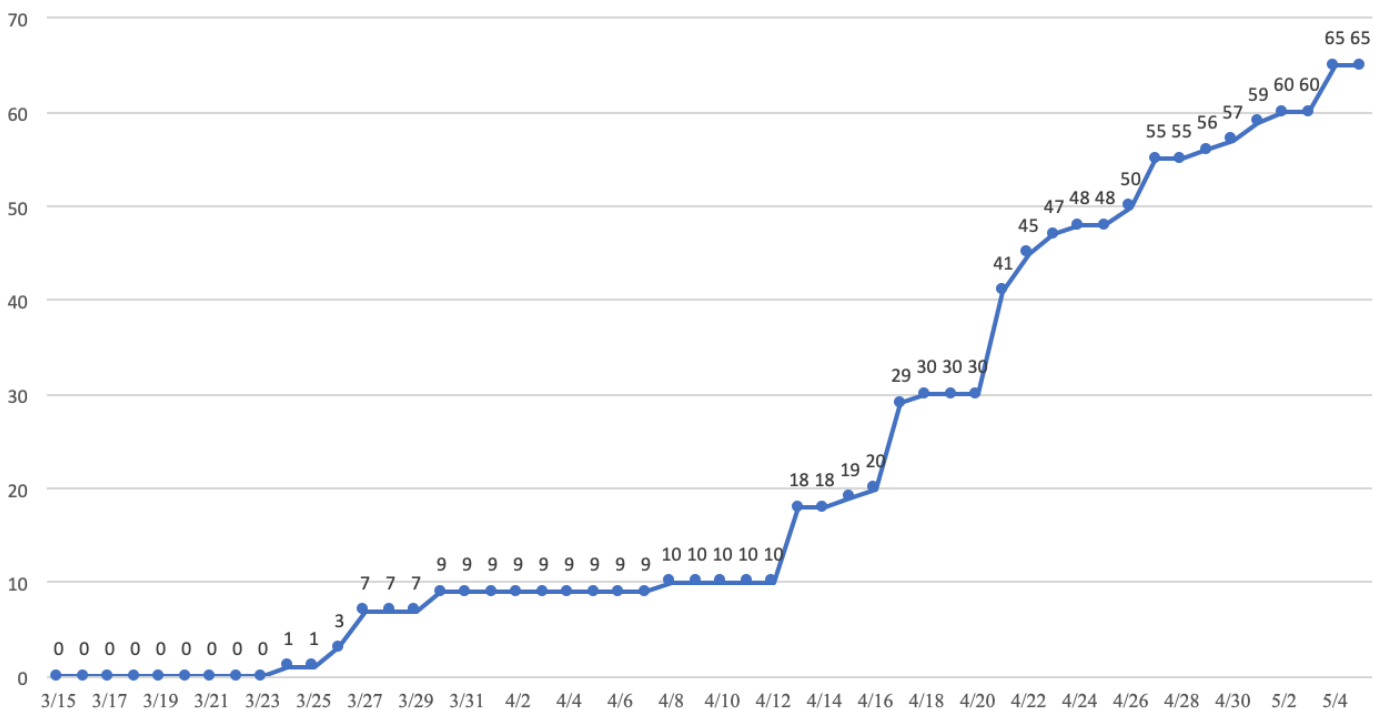
Tuesday, May 5, 2020

To the Residents of Kingston,

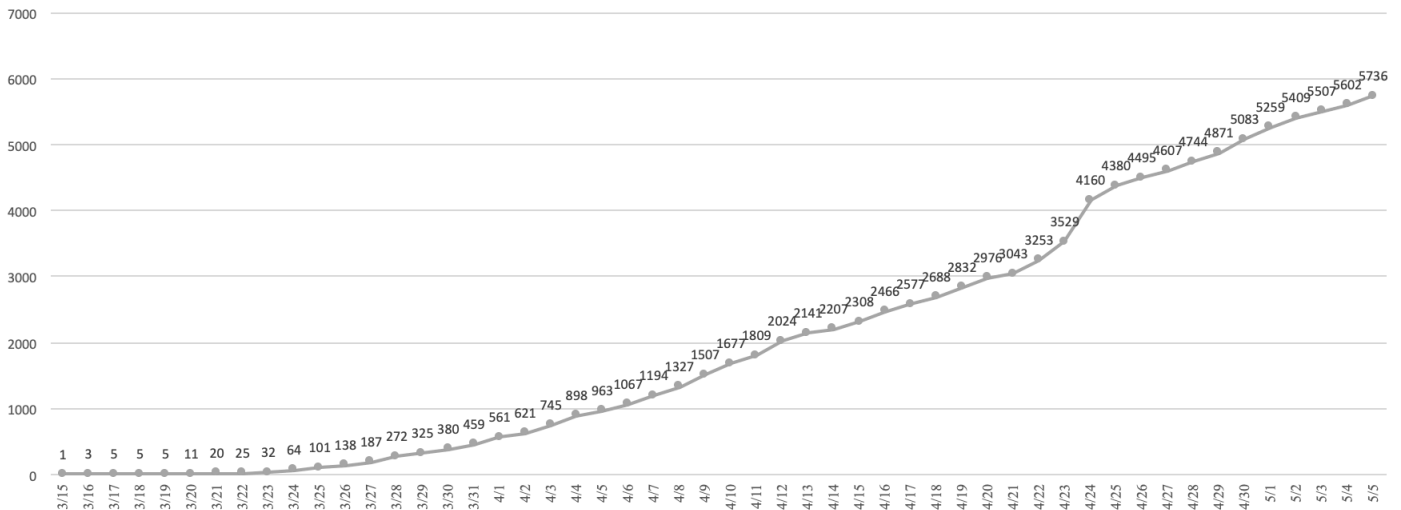
This afternoon the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) announced that there were 5,736 confirmed positive cases of COVID-19 in Plymouth County. This represents an increase of 134 from yesterday's count of 5,602. **The Town of Kingston's total number of confirmed positive cases remains at 65.** Of the Town's total number of confirmed positive cases, 33 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 each day.

Kingston Cases



Plymouth County Cases



Kingston’s Emergency Management Team met today to discuss the Town’s ongoing response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Team continued its discussion on how to responsibly reopen Town buildings and services once it is safe to do so. Today’s discussion was largely focused on what personal protective equipment (masks, hand sanitizer, etc.) will be needed. Working in concert with department heads and elected officials, the group will assess the Town’s needs and will place bulk orders in the near future, as PPE is currently on backorder.

Director of Elder Affairs Paula Rossi-Clapp shared that earlier today Kingston’s K9 Officer Mike LaNatra prepared a special meal for seniors at the Council on Aging. These meals were delivered, across town in the COA’s continued effort to reach as many seniors as possible during this public health emergency. Paula also reported that earlier today multiple residents came to the COA to drop off homemade face masks for distribution to seniors.

The COA is actively pursuing local crafters and sewers who would like to make and donate face masks. If you would like to fabricate and donate masks to the COA for distribution to Kingston seniors, please contact (781) 585-0511.

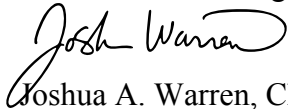
The Special State Senate Election is scheduled for Tuesday, May 19, 2020. Poll hours will be from 7:00 AM – 8:00 PM. The Town Clerk’s Office has asked that we take this opportunity to communicate the following announcement to precinct 4 voters, also delineated in the attached notice: Due to challenges presented by COVID-19, the Town House will not be open for voting. All Precinct 4 voters who plan to vote in-person will be able to cast their ballots at the Kingston Elementary School (100 Main St., Kingston, MA). As of now, this change of venue only applies to the Special State Senate Election. **All voters are asked to wear face masks or similar coverings to protect themselves, their neighbors, and all of our poll workers.**

Pursuant to Governor Baker’s Executive Order, effective tomorrow, Wednesday, May 6th, everyone in the Commonwealth is required to wear a face mask or similar covering in public. This order includes those entering businesses, spending time outdoors, or traveling on public transportation, if they are unable to socially distance themselves from others. The Department of Public Health, local boards of health, and authorized agents pursuant to G. L. c. 111, § 30 are authorized to enforce this Order and if necessary may do so with the assistance of State or municipal police. Violation of the terms of this Order may result in a civil fine of up to \$300 per violation. Please see the attached announcement regarding Governor Baker’s Executive Order from the Kingston Board of Health.

At 10:30 AM PACTV aired a new COVID-19 Update for the Town of Kingston. The program featured State Representative Kathy LaNatra and Detective Sergeant Michael Skowyra. State Rep. Lanatra discussed how this pandemic is impacting residents and businesses in the 12th Plymouth District and how residents can voice their thoughts or concerns on reopening the Commonwealth. Detective Sergeant Skowyra addressed Governor Baker's Executive Order requiring the use of face masks in public, and spoke to how the Kingston Police Department will approach enforcement of this Order. The program will be replayed on Kingston's government channels (Comcast 15 and Verizon 42). A link to the program has been posted on the Town's website.

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.

We are all in this together.

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

Joshua A. Warren, Chairman
Board of Selectmen



KINGSTON BOARD OF HEALTH

26 EVERGREEN STREET
KINGSTON MASSACHUSETTS 02364
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On May 1, 2020, Charles D. Baker, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, issued an order effective 12:01 am, Wednesday, May 6, 2020, requiring individuals to wear masks in public places. This guidance is issued pursuant to that Order to further clarify who is required to wear masks and any exceptions.

Any person who is in a place open to the public in the Commonwealth, when unable to maintain a distance of approximately six feet from every other person, shall cover their mouth and nose with a mask or cloth face-covering. Masks are required at all times when:

- Inside or waiting in line outside of grocery stores, pharmacies, and other retail stores;
- Providing or using the services of any taxi, car, livery, ride-sharing, or similar service;
- On any form of public transit, including train or bus; and
- In an enclosed or semi-enclosed transit stop or waiting area.

The use of a mask does not replace important social distancing measures. All individuals must continue to maintain more than 6 feet of distance from other people; wash hands regularly with soap and water for at least 20 seconds; and stay home when sick.

Children under the age of 2 years should not wear face coverings or masks. For children 2 years of age and older, a mask or face covering should be used, if possible. Mask use by children 2 years of age and up to the age of five is encouraged but should be at the discretion of the child's parent or guardian at this time. Parents and guardians should ensure that the mask fits snugly and does not obstruct a child's ability to breathe.

The fit of face coverings should be as follows:

- Fit securely and comfortably against the side of the face;
- Be secured with ties or ear loops;
- Allow for breathing without restriction; and
- Be able to laundered and machine dried without damage or change of shape.

Exceptions for wearing face masks include situations that may inhibit an individual from wearing a face-mask safely. These may include, but are not limited to:

- Those who cannot breathe safely;
- Those who, due to a behavioral health diagnosis, are unable to do so;



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- Those communicating with people who rely upon lip-reading;
- Those who require supplemental oxygen to breathe; and
- Those who are exercising outdoors and are able to keep physical distance from others.

Masks and face coverings should be routinely washed depending on the frequency of use. When possible, masks should be washed in a washing machine. If a washing machine is unavailable, masks should be washed with soap and water and allow drying fully before using again.

The Department of Public Health, local boards of health, and authorized agents pursuant to G. L. c. 111, § 30 are authorized to enforce this Order and if necessary may do so with the assistance of State or municipal police. Violation of the terms of this Order may result in a civil fine of up to \$300 per violation.

Thank you for helping keep Kingston safe and healthy during this Public Health Emergency.