

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Eleventh Update
Saturday, March 21, 2020

Dear Guilderland residents:

The Albany County Department of Health (DOH) reported that there are 89 confirmed cases, and now 386 persons in mandatory quarantine and 571 persons in precautionary quarantine. County Executive Daniel P. McCoy announced that the County was able to deliver 5,000 N95 masks, a necessary respiratory protective device for emergency health care workers, to local hospitals and EMS crews in the County. County Executive McCoy reminded everyone that persons dealing with stress and anxiety due to this health crisis can call (518) 269-6634, every day from 8am to 5pm. Please remember that if you are experiencing or are aware of a psychiatric emergency, you should immediately call the County's Mobile Crisis Team at (518) 549-6500.

Starting at 7am on Monday, March 23rd, the Capital District YMCA is providing daycare for school-aged children of emergency health care personnel and first responders at nine branches including the Guilderland YMCA. More information, including registration and fees, is available at www.CDYMCA.org/EmergencyChildcare or at (518) 869-3500.

You hopefully don't need another reminder that the Thruway's complete removal and replacement of the East Old State Road Bridge over the Thruway will start on Monday, March 23rd. Fair warning: there will be multiple 24 hour reminders tomorrow to avoid problems.

I had the chance today to visit Town facilities, including Dispatch, EMS, Police, and Transfer Station, and found that Town employees are providing essential services, under strict health guidelines, without incident. As announced last week, Town buildings remain closed to the public until further notice and public meetings are cancelled through April 1st. The Governor's Executive Orders allow public meetings with the public's participation by telephone and also ban nonessential gatherings of any size for any purpose. We are awaiting more details from the Governor and Attorney General's office on which boards and matters should proceed under the Executive Orders.

We accelerated the spring opening of Town parks for social distancing enjoyment. As of today, Town parks and Vosburgh open space are open every day from dawn to dusk. Please check the Parks Department's [web page](#) for COVID-19 guidelines and *Hike Guilderland*, which provides interactive maps and information about the Town trails and other hiking options. The opening of Western Turnpike Golf Course will require more time (hopefully brief), consistent clear weather, and warmer ground temperature to prevent damage to greens. Please check out [WTGC's website](#) for more information. The Albany Pine Bush Commission's entire 20 mile trail system in the 3,350 acre preserve is also open. Please check out the [Pine Bush's website](#) for important information about ticks and periodic trail closures.

Spring's recent arrival should also have brought outdoor team sports but, with the COVID-19 crisis, there is an unfortunate (and hopefully short) delay. But let's rejoice in a rare happening. As a life-long-New York Mets fan, I can confidently and gleefully predict that the Mets will be in first-place (albeit tied) well into April. So there's no need for concern, and no need to report

to local authorities, if you should see blue and orange clad fans reveling in a once-in-a-generation experience while, being Mets fans, of course following appropriate social distancing.

Thank you again for remaining safe and calm. We will get through this together.

Sincerely,

Peter G. Barber
Town Supervisor