Dear Neighbors and Friends,

This is our next COVID-19 update installment. (Click here for our previous emails). Please read until the end; there are numerous helpful links on this one. And please continue to Be Decent and Civil to each other.

Happy Passover (Chag Sameach) and Happy Easter (Buona Pasqua) for those celebrating.

## STOP THE SPREAD

**CRUSH THE CURVE**: How do we make a huge impact? <u>Act Like You Have The Virus!</u>Think how you would act. Then go with it. Simple.

**#STAY HOME FOR** (You fill in the Blank): It's the new hashtag. Make it personal. If you need a suggestion, how about staying home for "Our Greatest Generation". Double down on your commitment to stopping the spread. **Social-Isolation** is the key! Mask-up if you do go out. Ask yourself what's the downside of wearing a mask. Gloves too. Here's how to wear a mask properly. Some people have asked me what to do if they don't have a mask or gloves. Here's a link to make a simple fabric mask. For gloves, be creative, you can use a newspaper bag after you disinfect it, a pet waste bag, Ziploc, etc.

AS ALWAYS, IF YOU THINK YOU HAVE THE VIRUS: The County number is (888) 364-3065. They walk you through questions, and progress from there. Do not visit your doctor or the hospital first, just call the number or call your doctor. If they determine testing or medical attention is needed, they will direct you to where they know capacity exists. The County and all of our medical facilities are doing an excellent job of staying ahead of the caseload.

**CHANGE TO OUR PARKS ACCESS:** We were forced to remove our basketball hoops, lock our tennis courts and paddle tennis court, and prevent access to our playgrounds. You can still access the parking lots and the common areas. <u>Social Distancing</u> folks!

LITTERING USED MASKS AND GLOVES: I covered this in our <u>last email</u>. Stop doing it! If caught, we will recommend the maximum fine (\$1000), and be aware the Town Code allows for jail time. If you're doing this, you're putting lives at risk. Knock it off!!! We're serious.

MASKS STILL URGENTLY NEEDED!!: If you have them (new and homemade), I am still collecting at my house in 2 bins on my front lawn, 14 Orchard Drive (first house on right off Main St). If you can sew, here are the directions. Residents continue to make masks - I'm really blown away by the response to this. We're up to over 600 homemade masks!!! The front line doctors and medical staff are so grateful. THEY STILL DO NOT HAVE ENOUGH MASKS!!!! See below for one of our local seamstresses. Lillian Rolfs (pictured below) and her mom have been busy making several batches of masks. Below that, see a picture of the latest batch of masks, mostly homemade. Incredible! Thank you North Castle!!!



## LIFE, HELP, DISTRACTIONS, and GENERAL INFO

**TO ALL THE PEOPLE KEEPING US SAFE, HEALTHY, AND FED:** Thank you!! Don't forget to say thank you to them, or honk your horn, etc. We are eternally grateful to them all.

WHY ARE OUR FLAGS AT HALF-STAFF: We are honoring all those that have lost their life to this terrible virus. Pray for them.

**RV's FOR MD's:** A moving story of how our nation is coming together to help our front-line medical workers. Watch this <u>quick video</u>.

**COVID-19 TRACKER WEBSITE**: The NYSDOH set up a comprehensive data-driven website to provide various in-depth statistics, like cases by age group, etc. If you're interested in the data around this virus, this is the site.

**TOWN CAMP AND POOL THIS SUMMER?:** The answer is, right now we just don't know for obvious reasons. No one can predict the future right now. We will wait as long as we can to determine if either or both will be a reality. We will keep you posted.

**TOWN / COUNTY TAXES**: See <u>our last email</u> for this update. A reminder of our appeal: For those who do not have an escrow, and <u>can pay in April, please do!</u> By doing so, you help your Town, your County, and your fellow residents who are suffering through a true hardship. And if able, please pay sooner than later. That will help us manage our weekly cash flow needs for May and beyond.\_

**INORMATION SITES**: <u>Town</u>, <u>Federal</u>, <u>Governor</u>, <u>CDC</u> and a link to the Chamber restaurant list.

**AS ALWAYS, IF YOU NEED HELP, ASK:** let us know. Groceries, health issues, conversation, just reach out. Remember, **We Are** 

Alone...Together. Just call or text my cell (830-6061) or our tireless Town Administrator Kevin Hay at 273-300 x191. If an **emergency - call our Police Dept (273-9500) or 911**. If you know of residents or neighbors that may be lonely or may need something, please call them!

**OUR FIRST RESPONDERS AND POLICE**: Our brave women and men are facing this dangerous environment every day, so they are taking every precaution for you and themselves on every call they make. As is the case in most or all police departments in the County, we do have positive cases in our PD. It would be a rarity if we didn't. But they continue to practice the strictest protocols to keep themselves and our residents safe. And if you were wondering why the PD sent a Nixle message and email asking positive cases to notify them confidentially, the suggestion and request was initiating by our hospital community, to allow for improved care for all. Be assured that our first responders (Fire, Police, etc.) are fully functioning and able to respond and have been to all calls, and taking strict precautions

**RESTAURANTS, DELI'S, ETC**: Thank you for continuing to support <u>our local businesses</u> that are still open. Continue to be safe when you do, and continue to buy gift cards if you can. And remember that revenue is critical for these businesses, so if you think of redeeming your own gift cards, please consider doing so at another time or only if absolutely necessary.

NORTH CASTLE POSITIVE CASES: NYS establishes specific protocols via each county. We are advised confidentially. We can report that we have been advised that there are now 59 positive cases in North Castle. That is all that we can and will report, thus please understand and appreciate that due to confidentiality laws, emails to us asking for any further info regarding details will not be responded to. The average municipality in Westchester has 0.5% positive cases of their population. North Castle is still 0.3%, so below the average, which is good.

NORTH CASTLE DEPARTMENT HEADS: All of our employees are so committed in these trying times, but I want to recognize those who lead all of those employees, our department heads. They are all working through this crisis to insure that our local government is still providing the services that you need. And special recognition for our new Town Administrator Kevin Hay, who is leading all of these department heads, maintaining a safe work environment, and insuring that your essential services are provided. A big thank you to all of them.

HELP OUR TOWN, HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT, THE ENVIRONMENT, AND YOUR WALLET......START COMPOSTING!: We often promote composting, but now may be the perfect time for you to start. Our Town staff is running at 50% of our normal levels, including our Highway Department. Couple that with so many more people sheltering in place, warm weather, and <u>vard work is happening</u>. That's great news, but there is an alternative to putting your yard debris to the curb.....Compost. It's much easier than you think. All of your yard waste and biodegradable kitchen waste can be kept right in the corner of your yard, and once fully processed (6 weeks to 6 months), you have FREE material (BLACK GOLD) for your yard, garden, and lawn. . In 2009, as a Councilman, I made a composting and leaf video for the Town; here's a relevant portion of it. (Now you'll see how 13 years on the Board has aged me!!) Also, here is a <u>link to our website</u> on great tips to compost. Below are pictures of one of two open-air composters in my yard. On the left is fully processed compost and on the right is my spring yard waste. It's about a yard of compost - FREE! It's simple: take a corner of the yard, hammer in 3 thin posts, connect 4 ft. chicken wire, and you're in business. And you don't even need the chicken wire if you don't have it! Call me, I'll help you. The second picture is me with my pitchfork emptying the ready compost.





Thanks for reading! We all have a Collective Purpose...Crush the Curve! We and the Town Board continue to urge you to stay safe, be smart, practice **Social Isolation**, Social Distancing if you must go out, and use common sense. We will all get through this together. And Be Decent and Civil to each other, it makes this real life Twilight Zone much more bearable.

Be safe and smart!

Sincerely, Michael Schiliro - Supervisor Town of North Castle Kevin Hay - Town Administrator

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Give us a call today!