



Town of  
**North Castle** Westchester County, NY  
Supervisor Michael J. Schiliro

Dear Neighbors and Friends,

This is our next **COVID-19 update** installment. ([Click here](#) for our previous emails). There is now some light at the end of this long COVID-19 tunnel. "NY on Pause" is slowly converting to a re-opening, called "New York Forward" via a "Phased Re-Opening" program as provided by Governor Cuomo. Regardless, it is critical to stay diligent and do not get complacent!!!

When you are out, **wear a mask!** Wear gloves when needed! Wash your hands for 20 seconds!! Based on the Governor's phasing program, continuing to **Model Good Behavior** is absolutely critical to our phased re-opening, as if we get complacent, the phase-in process can be halted and reversed very quickly. It's based on data and metrics, and Good Behavior helps insure progress.

And as always, please continue to Be Decent and Civil to each other as you all have been. Part of Being Decent is wearing a mask. The Governor said it well, as below, and we agree.

*Governor Cuomo on **masks**: "Why wear a mask? Out of respect. When you wear a mask you are saying, I respect my neighbors. When you wear a mask you are saying, I respect nurses and doctors. When you wear a mask you are saying, I respect other people. We all need to show respect to one another in difficult times. Wearing a face covering is a small inconvenience to protect others. We have gotten through this crisis by standing together and doing the right thing. The right thing - the respectful thing - is to wear a mask."*

#### TRIBUTE - William "Bill" Richardson

In this update, we will remember Bill Richardson, a local business owner, Town employee, and volunteer, who passed away last week at the age of 68 due to the corona-virus. [Click here](#) for his obituary.

Bill, or Billy as some called him, lived in Greenwich his whole life but was a part of our Town's fabric forever. He owned Babco Automotive in Banksville for 20 years before he worked for our Town's building department for another 25 years, and specialized in fire inspections as our Fire Marshal. He volunteered an incredible 53 years for our Banksville Independent Fire Department, among other volunteer efforts. Many of you may have met Billy through the years because of building department inspections, but perhaps never realized it was him. He retired from the Town in 2017, but continued to work for us on a part-time basis. Our thoughts and prayers go out to him and his wife Jinny and their family. If you wish to make a donation, the family asks that you donate to a charity of your choice.

Eight bells: The sound that the shift has ended and it's time to go home. The end of the watch. Bill has answered his final call.



Westchester County remains on Pause **until May 28<sup>th</sup>**, Governor Cuomo has outlined a plan to re-open New York State, called [New York Forward](#). (The website says May 15<sup>th</sup> but NY Pause is extended to May 28<sup>th</sup> for those regions not qualified for Phase I).

The phased plan focuses on getting people back to work and easing social isolation without triggering renewed spread of the virus or overwhelming the hospital. Here are the basics:

- **Regions:** The New York Forward Plans organizes the State into [10 Regions](#). Westchester County is in the Mid-Hudson Region. Each Region has a Regional Control Group that is responsible for monitoring the numbers of new positive cases, hospitalizations and other vital statistics. The Regional Control Group can slow or quicken the opening depending on the results. The [website provides a live dashboard](#) of specific metrics on how each region can qualify for re-opening, and where they currently stand.
- **Phases:** The phased reopening has [Four Phases](#) that reopen particular sectors of the economy once 7 metrics are met. Click on the Four Phases link above for the specific info on industries in each phase.
- **7 - Metrics:** The [seven metrics](#) include a sustained decline in hospitalizations and fatalities, fewer new hospital cases, availability of hospital beds and ICU beds, and a robust program of diagnostic and contact-tracing testing. As soon as a region satisfies the 7-Metrics, it can begin to re-open in Phase I immediately.
- **More Information:** For more information visit any of the links above or click on or download [NY Forward - Guide to Re-Opening NY](#).

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**COVID-19 TRACKER WEBSITE:** The NYSDOH is maintaining their 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 still the site and is updated often.

**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 188 positive cases reported in North Castle, [but only 14 active!](#) 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. North Castle is still running well below the average of cases per municipality as a percentage of their population. Below average is good! **Our Model Behavior is working! Stay The Course!**

**ANTIBODY TESTING:** There is antibody testing rolled out throughout the County, including Northern Westchester Hospital. The initial phase is for first responders and essential workers. As this plan evolves, we will advise further.

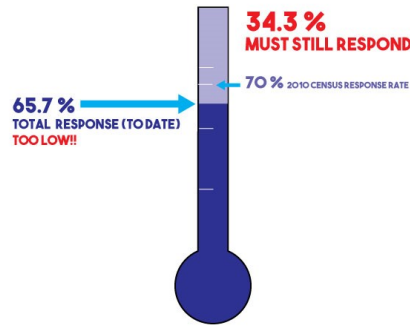
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## LIFE, HELP, and GENERAL INFO

**CENSUS:** Critical, critical, critical, that you respond to the Census! [Click here](#) to connect to our website. We are at a 65% response rate. We need to be at 100%! Everyone must be counted otherwise we risk forfeiting adequate representation in Congress, and losing out on Federal dollars.

**TOWN OF NORTH CASTLE  
2020 CENSUS STATUS  
AS OF MAY 11, 2020**

**WE NEED TO REACH 100 % GOAL**



**COMPLETE YOUR CENSUS 2020 SURVEY TODAY!**

North Castle and Westchester County  
Federal Money \$\$\$ Depends On It!!!

**BUILDING DEPARTMENT: PERMITS, C/O's, ETC.**

Just a reminder, the Governor through his Executive Order authorized certain construction work to be essential and therefore allowed to continue. If you have received approval for essential work, please make sure you are in compliance with your permit. Please reach out to the Building Department at (914) 273-3000 ext. 44 or visit the department's [website](#) for further information. Thank you.

**APRIL TOWN/COUNTY REAL ESTATE TAXES:** We want to thank you all for paying your taxes on time, even though the County Executive George Latimer and the County Board of Legislators providing relief in case you could not pay by April 30<sup>th</sup> due to hardship. We collected approximately 93% of the total taxes. Although we usually collect about 98%, we honestly thought that the actual percentage might be well below 90%. We appealed to you all to pay if you can, and we truly appreciate the response.

**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.

**MASKS:** As of now, we can pause on donating homemade masks. We are truly floored by the response to this call to action. I collected over 1000 homemade masks at my home and the frontline workers are so grateful! Here is another picture of the most recent contributions from our North Castle Seamstress Brigade.



**LITTERING USED MASKS AND GLOVES:** We are incredulous. Gloves and masks are still seen around Town. If we catch you, we'll recommend the maximum fine and jail time. What else is there to say? Knock it off.

**IMPORTANT SEWER AND SEPTIC INFO - You're toilet is not a trash basket !!!:** Don't flush wipes! Even if they say "flush-able", they are causing an issue. We continue to have sewer line clogs due to this. Please **DO NOT FLUSH** wipes!! Let me repeat, **DO NOT FLUSH** wipes!

**OUR PARKS, TENNIS, ETC.:** Our parks remain open for socially-distanced

outdoor activity, like walking, hiking, etc. We did reopen the tennis courts and paddle court, with strict instructions posted on all. Adherence is not optional.

**BEACHES:** You heard correctly that some State and County beaches are open, like Croton Point and Rye Beach, as long as you practice social distancing.

**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.

**TOWN CAMP AND POOL THIS SUMMER?** We can tell you definitively that the pool will not be open for Memorial Day. All municipalities are still in a holding pattern. Our Parks and Recreation Department is preparing in case we can open the pool, have some type of camp, etc. We will keep you posted.

**INFORMATION SITES:** [Town](#), [Federal](#), [Governor](#), [CDC](#) 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 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! And if you need food assistance, all municipalities are working with [Feeding Westchester](#) - just click the link or visit our [website](#) - it is very discreet.

**RESTAURANTS, DELI'S, ETC:** Thank you for continuing to support [our local businesses](#) 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 LIBRARY:** The North Castle Library's website continues to provide terrific offerings. Watch movies, take out a book, get a library card, etc. [Click here](#) to check it out. The Library is not open as of yet. We will continue to advise.

**TOWN OPERATIONS:** We continue to run at approximately 50% staffing levels. We are fortunate to have a committed group of employees who continue to do the Town's business and provide services, despite the crisis. Thanks again to all of our employees!!

**MASK DELIVERIES:** County Executive George Latimer delivered masks to our Town for use of our employees and local businesses. Councilwoman Barbara DiGiacinto took it upon herself to deliver many of those masks (3000!!) by hand. Here she is in action. Thanks Barb!






Thanks for reading! We must Stay the Course. There is daylight ahead, but as we said, Modeling Good Behavior must remain for us to Re-Open. You must keep your foot on the pedal, as Dr. Fauci says.

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 are getting through this together, as we have said, **We Are Alone...Together.** And continue to Be Decent and Civil to each other,

Be safe and smart!

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

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Town Hall  
914-273-3000  
townclerk@northcastleny.com

*Give us a call today!*