



### **COVID-19 UPDATE:**

There are **14** confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Essex and one death.

On Saturday morning, R&R Freight Service is planning a "roll by" of tractors in front of 46 Woodland Drive in Centerbrook in honor of their late colleague, Jeff "Muzzy" Muzljakovich, who died on April 17, 2020 as a result of COVID-19. We send our most sincere condolences to the friends and family.

The "roll by" will begin at Bokum Plaza and will travel north across Rte. 153 on Westbrook Road, then take a left onto Woodland Drive in Centerbrook. Everyone has been advised to remain in their vehicles and not congregate in the parking lot. This is anticipated to start at approximately 11:00 am.

For everyone's safety, please continue to follow the rules for social distancing, wearing masks in public, washing hands, staying home, etc. It's important that everyone takes this seriously. Lives are at stake.

Stay safe,

*Norm*

[Town Website](#)

### **From the Director of Health**

The number of cases in Essex is still very low and, to maintain confidentiality, I cannot report on number of hospitalizations. I can say that the majority of residents in Essex who have tested positive for the 2019 novel coronavirus are managing their symptoms at home. Some residents have very mild symptoms while others have more obvious symptoms. Regardless of the number of cases shown above, it is imperative to take social distancing seriously and wear a cloth face covering or mask if you must go to public places. Remember to shop alone and be especially considerate of the workers on the front lines who strive to meet the needs of our community.

*Lisa Fasulo, MPH, REHS/RS  
Director of Health / Sanitarian  
Town of Essex*

## Online Extortion Scams Increasing During the COVID-19 Crisis. [Click Here](#)

### Governor Lamont signs 30<sup>th</sup> executive order to mitigate the spread of COVID-19

Governor Lamont signed another executive order (4/21) - the 30<sup>th</sup> since he enacted the [emergency declarations](#)- that builds upon his efforts to encourage mitigation strategies that slow down transmission of the virus. [Executive Order No. 7CC](#) enacts the following provisions, among others:

- Applicability of Executive Order No. 7S, Section 7 to additional critical and time-sensitive municipal fiscal actions: Expands Section 7 of Executive Order No. 7S, permitting a municipality's legislative body and budget-making authority to jointly authorize certain actions by a majority vote of each body to include additional time sensitive and essential actions among which such bodies may authorize.
- Clarification of time periods regarding suspension and modification of non-judicial tax sales pursuant to Executive Order No. 7S, Section 11: Clarifies the calculation of time frames to redeem certain interests in property after a municipality has sold the property to recoup unpaid taxes. Executive Order No. 7S extended those time frames.
- Exclusion of federal stimulus payments in evaluating eligibility for state or local programs financed in whole or in part using state funds: Modifies state statutes to provide that individual stimulus payments under the federal CARES Act will not be counted as income or resources when determining eligibility for state benefits or services.
- Alternative to physical presence in court for finding of irretrievable breakdown of marriage: Modifies state statutes requiring the physical presence in court of a party to a dissolution or legal separation prior to a finding that a marriage has broken down irretrievably to permit the court to accept not-in-person testimony from such parties sufficient to make such finding. However, this does not apply in any case where a restraining order or a protective order between the parties is in effect or an application for such an order is pending before the court.
- Revised financial protections for people covered by insurance who receive out-of-network health care

services during the public health emergency: Repeals Sections 2(a) and 2(b) of Executive Order No. 7U.

## **Connecticut Office of the Arts announces grants available for Connecticut artists impacted by pandemic**

Two grant programs have been created to help local artists negatively impacted by COVID-19:

- The [Connecticut Artists Relief Grant](#) program will provide \$500 grants to over 100 individual artists and teaching artists who live in the state and whose creative practices and income are being adversely impacted by the safety measures put into place to prevent the spread of the virus. The grant is partly funded by the [New England Foundation for the Arts](#).
- The [Connecticut Artists Respond Grant](#) program helps artists translate and present their art virtually. Individual or collaborative artists who create or have created projects that respond to the needs of the times by presenting art activities, classes, or other creative experiences online at no cost to the public will be eligible for \$1,000 or \$2,000, respectively.

[Applications](#) will be accepted for both programs through May 4, 2020. For specific questions, artists should contact Tamara Dimitri at [tamara.dimitri@ct.gov](mailto:tamara.dimitri@ct.gov) and teaching artists should contact Bonnie Koba at [bonnie.koba@ct.gov](mailto:bonnie.koba@ct.gov).

**Governor Lamont announces payment relief for student loan borrowers. [Click Here](#)**

**DEEP Urges Safe Boating Social Distancing Practices at State Boat Launches in CT. [Click Here](#)**

**SNAP participants receive second round of emergency food benefits . [Click Here](#)**

### **Cloth Face Coverings or Masks:**

- Wearing of cloth face coverings or masks in public places is required wherever close contact with others is unavoidable. [Executive Order 7BB](#),
- [CDC: How to Wear a Cloth Face Covering](#) Cloth face coverings can be made at home using cotton fabric, bandana or a t-shirt. Purchase face coverings and masks from local stores or online retailers such as Amazon, Walmart or WB Mason. [www.antidotegear.com](http://www.antidotegear.com) is a company in California, and [www.shopvida.com](http://www.shopvida.com) also sells replacement filters for their masks.

- Essential employees are required to wear masks in the workplace. [Safe Workplace Rules for Essential Employers](#)

### Drive-thru COVID-19 Testing:

- [CVS HEALTH](#) opened a drive-thru test site on Friday, April 17, 2020 at 60 Sargent Drive, New Haven, CT. Eligible Individuals who meet CDC criteria must [pre-register in advance on-line at CVS.com](#)
  - Frequently Asked Questions ([FAQs](#))
- [Yale-New Haven Health](#) offers drive-thru testing but you must have an order from your healthcare provider to receive the test.
- [Hartford HealthCare](#) offers drive-thru testing but you must have a referral through the Hartford HealthCare Clinical Command Center. Call 860-972-8100 or toll-free 833-621-0600

### LATEST COVID-19 FACTS

- [COVID-19 Self Checker](#)
- [Center for Disease Control](#)
- [State of CT Coronavirus Information](#)
- [Governor Lamont Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [Emergency Orders Issued by Governor Lamont](#)

**FOR INFO ON COVID-19 CALL 2-1-1**

**STAY HOME. STOP THE SPREAD. SAVE LIVES.**

#### Sign up for Safer Essex Emergency Alerts

Receive alerts about critical community information directly to your cell phone or email. Go to [www.essexct.gov](http://www.essexct.gov) and search "Safer Essex" or call 860-760-4340 x112.

#### Sign up for Essex News

Encourage your friends and neighbors to receive this newsletter. Simply send an email request to [essexnews@essexct.gov](mailto:essexnews@essexct.gov) to be added to our distribution list.

#### Sign up for Weekly Check-In Call

Residents age 62+ are encouraged to sign up for a weekly check-in call from a volunteer. Please call Essex Social Services Department at 860-767-4340 x 201.

