Dear Friends and Neighbors,

As we navigate these unprecedented times together, it's important that we stay diligent; wash hands frequently, practice social distancing, stay home except for essential needs, and help your neighbors. Stay home if you are sick or if you think you've been exposed to COVID-19.

Governor Lamont is allowing manufacturing businesses to stay open. Along with this privilege to continue to operate comes the huge responsibility to do everything we can to keep our employees safe. If you are able to, please allow older employees or employees whose health may be compromised, to work from home or take sick time. Please be sure you do everything you can to accommodate your staff.

Updates:

**Governor Lamont signed his tenth executive order pursuant to his emergency declaration, taking further actions to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in Connecticut.**

This order provides broad relief for municipalities regarding procedures, notice requirements, and deadlines for various proceedings and decisions.

In addition, it enacts several necessary changes related to Medicare Part D and HUSKY B costs, student privacy, visitation in Department of Children and Families facilities, pharmacy regulations, and corporate meetings.

The Department of Economic and Community Development is preparing guidance to Connecticut businesses for implementation of the governor's executive order issued
yesterday directing the statewide closure of all non-essential, in-person business functions. It plans to release the guidance prior to the order going into effect tonight.

Since Saturday, an additional 104 Connecticut residents have tested positive, bringing the statewide total to 327. More than 3,600 tests have been conducted among the state and private labs to date and approximately 51 people are hospitalized. There have been 8 deaths. Businesses are working hard to enable employees to work remotely where possible, and residents are diligent about social distancing and hand washing.

The State of CT has created a link for members of the public, businesses, and philanthropic organizations to donate vital Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for healthcare workers and first responders. Click here for information.

Please be aware of new email scams concerning government payments to people unemployed due to the virus. These emails may ask for your Social Security Account Number (SSAN) and other private information or they may ask you to click on links. The government will NOT ask for your SSAN and any other requests for personal information should be met with caution. Verify any request. There are ways to verify information through the Town's website, the 2-1-1 Info Line, the DEMHS website, www.ct.gov/demhs, FEMA.gov, and ready.gov to name a few.

The Essex Town Hall, although closed to the public, remains open Monday - Friday, 9-4. Please call 860-767-4340 x 145 for an appointment.

Helpful Links

- **How To Be Safe & Resilient**
- **COVID-19 Information & Resources**
- **Governor Lamont's FAQ's**
- **Practice Safe Grocery Shopping**
- **How to Protect Yourself**
- **ct.gov/coronavirus**

Distance Learning

- **Region 4 Distance Learning Plan**

Church Schedules
Community transmission of Coronavirus is occurring, and people are becoming ill. Most people can manage their symptoms AT HOME with fever reducing medications, cough medicine, and lots of rest. Tracking your symptoms helps you gauge illness progression and resolution, potential severity, and also helps track illness among household members. Print the symptom tracking sheet for each
member of your household and if needed, give your symptom tracking sheet to your physician or first responder. Click here for the Tracking Sheet.

**Economic Relief for Businesses and Workers**

Please see the following information regarding small business relief and SBA Working Capital Loans due to COVID-19. Please share with businesses, friends and employees that are effected by COVID-19: SBA Disaster Assistance

New Instructions have been issued for workers who have been laid off or furloughed: Layoffs and Furloughs

**Taxes**

The deadline for filing state and federal personal income tax returns has been extended from April 15 to July 15, 2020. You can file anytime before July 15 - and are encouraged to do so if you are owed a refund. For more information, visit the state Department of Revenue Services and the IRS.

**Tri-Town Youth Services**

For information and links to COVID-19 information, Food Pantry locations, counseling services, distance learning site for Region 4 Grades K-12 and more click on the link below.

http://tritownys.org/

**2020 Census**

Your 2020 Census is now available online at my2020census.gov. Please note that you can complete the questionnaire with or without a code. Responding early will help ensure that no one will come knocking on your door in May.

**Register for Essex News**

Encourage your friends and neighbors to receive this newsletter. Simply send an email request to the First Selectman's office at essexnews@essexct.gov to be added to our distribution list.

**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 and search "Safer Essex" or call 860-760-4340 x112. The list
gets updated periodically. If you no longer have a landline then you need to update/register your cell phone.