

VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2020

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Village of Aurora, 456 Main St. Aurora, NY 13026

www.auroranewyork.us

315-364-7293 (office) 315-364-6857 (fax) 315-364-5239 (DPW)

villageclerk@auroranewyork.us

VILLAGE HOURS

THE VILLAGE OFFICE IS CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

(The Clerk, Treasurer and Code Enforcement Officer are available by office phone/email)

Monday

Clerk: 4:00pm – 6:00pm

Code: Enforcement Officer 4:00pm - 6:00pm

Tuesday

Clerk: – 10:00am – 2:00pm

Thursday

Treasurer: 9:00am – 1:00pm

Clerk: 11:00am – 4:00pm

Code Enforcement Officer: **2:00pm - 4:00pm**

There are no public office hours on Wednesday or Friday

Message from the Mayor

Dear Fellow Villagers,

You probably find yourselves wondering, as I have in the last few weeks, when this tiny village ever faced a spring as uncertain as this one. But, Aurora being Aurora, we've stepped up, recognized the importance of watching out for one another, and followed the advice from the CDC. Through the efforts of so many of you, we are staying informed and making sure that those of us in the Village who need help, or might need help, are not forgotten.

There's so much information out there that I won't give you guidelines that you've either already read, or that will change within hours. But there are three important messages I need to convey. Ann and Debbie made an informal survey of the Village and, of the approximately 200 residents here at this time of the year, about 170 of us are over 60 years of age. Given the profile of the coronavirus we are right to be as cautious as possible.

- Please remember that the threat of the virus doesn't replace all the other things that can go wrong. We need to keep our EMTs and ambulance crew, as well as our fire department, healthy. Heart attacks and car accidents are still with us. So, please, if it's possible that your emergency could be a case of the coronavirus, call the Covid-19 hotline in Cayuga County, or your own doctor, before you dial 911. If our volunteers are exposed they will be in quarantine for two weeks.
- Through sheer luck we have no cases in the Village at the moment. If we adhere to the idea of no unnecessary travel, no contact with individuals outside our residences, we greatly reduce our risks of infection. Recently several people have returned to Aurora from warmer winter locations, and several families have moved to their second homes in the Village. We welcome them, but remind them that it is extremely important that they self-isolate for a full 14 days before using local public spaces such as the post office etc.

Those who use Aurora homes for AirBNB and other short-term rentals should either cease activity while we wait out this New York in Pause or make very sure that their clients remain in quarantine for 14 days before visiting local food stores, gas stations and other public spaces. Other communities are also aware of this issue and many, such as Village of Lake Placid, Town of North Elba, Block Island, North Haven, and even Hoboken, have stopped all such activity. I'm sure this is not necessary in the Village, but everyone must recognize that the village has limited resources and must understand the necessity of adhering to the "shelter in place" guidelines.

- Ann has been very diligent in updating the village website, auroranyork.us, at least once a day so that all local bulletins from the Health Department and Office of Emergency Management are available. Please visit the site also for village information now that the office is closed to the public.

Normal activities in the village office are continuing to the best of our abilities, but many things remain uncertain. We are planning for the Summer Swim Program but recognize it may be delayed in opening and we do have information for lifeguard applications posted on the Summer Youth Program page of the village website. We continue to go forward on the funding for a new water plant but have no assurance that the money that has been put aside by the State for such projects will actually be there. Necessary Village meetings will be kept to a minimum and held by teleconferencing. We will let you know how you can join when each meeting is scheduled. Again, stay up to date on the website.

I'm sure you join me in wishing the best for our hard-hit village businesses and their employees, as well as Wells College and their many students facing hard decisions with their dreams on hold. Aurora will get through this – how I would love to see an Aurorafest on the other end! Stay well.

Bonnie

AURORA HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

The Aurora Historical Society/Village History Center, in line with the Village of Aurora, is suspending public hours for the present. The current show, "Scoundrels & Scamps," began as an online serialized story on Wednesday, March 18, and will continue publishing on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, with as much enhanced content as possible - more old photos, more about the scenes as they are today.

So please look up "Village of Aurora Historical Society," using the full name in quotes. The Facebook page is the first entry; click on it. (You don't have to "be on Facebook" to visit - it's a public page.) Bookmark and return often. If there is a fourth-grader in your life, please enjoy the content together (physically or on line); local and State history are required for that grade. Comments and memories always welcome!

More than five hundred people have stopped by already; this is a crowd it's safe to join. Maybe you'll connect with a friend from years ago.

Leaf and Brush Pick-Up

The DPW will have the leaf truck available April 27-May1 but for the time being, please bag your leaves for collection.

And remember, per the NYSDEC, NO BURNING March 15-May 15 and there is never ANY burning allowed within the Village.