

## DISTRICT 17 • SPECIAL COVID-19 UPDATE 7

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# COMMUNITY WATCH

From Suffolk County Legislator

# TOM DONNELLY

## SPECIAL COVID-19 UPDATE

### 5/8/2020



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**#StayHome except for essential needs. Residents are urged to only go out to get food, receive necessary health care or go to an essential job**

### Senior Net: For Your Cyberlife Survival During the Covid-19 Crisis

Award-winning SeniorNet is a not-for-profit organization that provides computer and technology training to adults 50 and over with affordable classes taught by friendly and patient volunteers. A program of Family Service League based in Huntington and serving all of Suffolk County, even during this difficult time of lockdown and quarantining, SeniorNet continues to guide senior residents on how to use their services and enhance their “cyberlives” to stay in touch while they stay at home. Full information, including a link to their newsletter, is available at [www.seniornetli.org](http://www.seniornetli.org) or via email at [seniornet@fsl-li.org](mailto:seniornet@fsl-li.org). If you are unable to open the website or prefer to contact them by phone, call (631) 470-6757 and leave a message. A trained office volunteer will return your call. For assistance from Family Service League call (631) 437-3700. Everyone at SeniorNet remains eager to serve and help you.



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## New York State Updates

### Tenant Rights Update

Amid the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, Governor Andrew Cuomo extended the state's moratorium on COVID-related residential or commercial evictions an additional 60 days until August 20. The Governor also announced the state is banning late payments or fees for missed rent payments during the eviction moratorium, allowing renters facing financial hardship due to COVID-19 to use their security deposit as payment and repay it over time.

### Local Elections Postponed

Pursuant to Governor Andrew Cuomo's executive order dated May 1, school board elections in New York State will now be held on June 9, 2020 by absentee vote only. All registered voters will be mailed ballots. In addition, fire, sewer and water district elections have been rescheduled to September 15, 2020 with the voting process still to be determined. For more information please visit [www.elections.ny.gov](http://www.elections.ny.gov).

### Contact Tracing

As we enter the contact tracing phase, NYS is looking for people to apply to be a part of their paid NY contact tracing initiative. Contact tracers, community support specialists and team supervisors are all needed. More information and applications can be found at [coronavirus.health.ny.gov/get-involved-how-you-can-help](http://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/get-involved-how-you-can-help).

### Reopening NY

New York State on PAUSE is scheduled to expire on May 15. For more information about New York State's five-phased approach to reopening, you can visit the following webpage: [www.governor.ny.gov/new-york-forward/regional-guidelines-re-opening-new-york](http://www.governor.ny.gov/new-york-forward/regional-guidelines-re-opening-new-york).

### Enforcement Hotline

The New York State on PAUSE Enforcement hotline remains active. Individuals can report complaints regarding the operation of non-essential businesses or gatherings 24 hours a day, 7 days a week through an online form or by calling 1-833-789-0470. The online form can be accessed by visiting [mylicense.custhelp.com/app/ask](http://mylicense.custhelp.com/app/ask).

## Free Mental Health Resources

**Family Service League (FSL)** is providing free 24/7 mental health resources to support first responders, veterans, essential workers and long-term care workers who are affected by COVID-19. Medical and human service professionals and others on the front lines are especially likely to experience compassion fatigue, complex grief, and possibly post-traumatic stress, as they work to balance the provision of supporting patients and clients, while also managing numerous personal stressors. Please call (631) 952-3333 to access FSL's hotline.

Additional free mental health resources:

- NYS Emotional Text Support for Frontline Workers: Text NYFRONTLINE to 741-741
- NYS COVID-19 Emotional Support Line/Reach Out: 1 (844) 863-9314
- Crisis Text Line: anonymous texting service available 24/7: Text GOT5 to 741-741
- SAMHSA Disaster Distress Helpline: 24/7 crisis counseling: 1 (800) 985-5990
- Psychiatric ER at Stony Brook (631) 444-6050
- Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault 24-hr. Hotline: (631) 360-3606
- Suicide Prevention Lifeline: (800) 273-8255
- Adult Protective Services: (631) 854-3195
- Child Protective Services: (800) 342-3720
- Veterans Crisis: (800) 273-8255 / Northport VA Medical Center: (631) 261-4400



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## School Grab and Go Programs for Students and Families

The following school districts are working very hard to support the community in these challenging times:

- **Deer Park School District – Deer Park High School, 1 Falcon Place, Deer Park:** Providing meals for all Deer Park students with a drive-thru service at the main entrance circle, 7 am – 10 am, Monday through Friday
- **Half Hollow Hills School District – Half Hollow Hills High School East, 50 Vanderbilt Parkway, Dix Hills:** Distributing Grab-and-Go breakfast and lunch for all household members under the age of 18 with curbside pickup, 11 am – 1 pm, Monday through Friday
- **South Huntington School District– Stimson Middle School, 401 Oakwood Road, Huntington Station:** Grab-and-Go breakfast and lunch meals provided for all household members under the age of 18, Curbside pickup, 11 am – 1 pm, Monday through Friday
- **North Babylon School District – North Babylon High School, 1 Phelps Lane, North Babylon:** Offering Grab-and-Go meals for all North Babylon students, West entrance on Phelps Lane, 10 am – 12 pm, Monday through Friday

## Plant the Pantry

On May 9, North Babylon Lions Club and Girl Scout Troop 2780 will be planting the pantry garden at St. Paul's Reformed Church, 158 Phelps Lane, North Babylon. Members of the North Babylon Lions Club and Girl Scout Troop 2780 are generously growing plants or donating plants to the garden. The garden is a great project and will provide the pantry with much needed healthy vegetables for local residents.



## Wildcat Athletic Department Food Drive for St. Hugh's Pantry



The coaches from Walt Whitman High School and Stimson Middle School in the South Huntington School District have been holding food drives for the St. Hugh of Lincoln Pantry on Saturdays from 9 am – Noon. Donations can be brought to the garage next to the North Gym at Walt Whitman High School, 301 West Hills Road in Huntington Station. Please wear a mask and make sure your donation is bagged or in a box left in your car. Volunteers will take the donation out of your car. Thank you for your help!

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## North Babylon Lions Club Charter Unit Cub Pack

In support of the community in these trying times, North Babylon Lions Club Charter Unit Cub Pack 112 held food drives on April 26 and May 3 to benefit the North Babylon Community Food Pantry. Thank you Cub Scouts!



## Great Job Tuxedo Hills!

The Melville community of Tuxedo Hills held a food drive last weekend organized by Cathy Fox Raphaelson. All of the generous donations of food and personal care items were personally delivered to the Gerald Ryan Outreach Center Food Pantry in Wyandanch. What an amazing neighborhood! Thank you Cathy Fox Raphaelson and all of our Tuxedo Hills neighbors!

## American Flags in Honor of Front Line Workers

As a thank you to all the Front Line Workers, the North Babylon Lions Club put up American Flags along Deer Park Avenue.



## Need a Mask? Our Office is Here to Help!

Governor Andrew Cuomo's Executive Order dated April 15 requires that all New Yorkers wear face coverings in public if social distancing cannot be maintained. I understand many constituents may not have access to face coverings or the required materials to make their own. That is why I am happy to announce my district office is offering face masks to constituents who need them. Please call us at (631) 854-4433 for more information.

To read past issues of our Special COVID-19 Updates please visit [www.scnylegislature.us/1141/COVID-19-Newsletters](http://www.scnylegislature.us/1141/COVID-19-Newsletters)

Know of a "Hometown Hero" doing special acts throughout our community? Send an email to [Karen.Klafter@suffolkcountyny.gov](mailto:Karen.Klafter@suffolkcountyny.gov) and let us know!

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