

From: Maurice Jones
Sent: Friday, June 19, 2020 8:32 PM
To: Town Email Users
Subject: Town Manager's Weekly Message 6-19-20
Attachments: [Exposure Response Team FAQ.docx](#); [W@W Advice on Safe Summer Travels](#)

Hello Everyone,

For the past two messages I have shared my feelings and reactions to the deaths of George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery and Breonna Taylor. We have encouraged folks to spend time discussing our feelings and how we are all coping with these challenging times as we seek fundamental change in our country. In an effort to support these discussions we are offering 3 virtual dialogue and listening sessions around racism starting the week of June 29th. Please look for an email from Rae Buckley and Shakera Vaughan about how to participate. And please let us know what else we can do to support open dialogue and meaningful action in our organization and community.

Today is Juneteenth, the holiday that honors the emancipation of the last African-American slaves from the former Confederacy after the Civil War. It is a day of great joy for African-Americans and proved to be a long overdue victory in the struggle for basic human and civil rights in our country. The Town Council issued a proclamation on Wednesday to observe this crucial moment in our nation's history. You can read the proclamation [here](#). You can also view the reading of the proclamation at chapelhill.granicus.com/player/clip/4141?meta_id=230946.

COVID-19 Update

Last Saturday marked the third full month we've been responding to the COVID-19 pandemic. Every week seems to present us with a new challenge, and you haven't missed a beat for each challenge. Thank you for sticking with it and for your efforts to continue to provide excellent core services to our community.

Unfortunately, the COVID-19 numbers in North Carolina are not trending in the right direction. The main concern, and a major factor in recognizing that the situation is deteriorating, is the increase to coronavirus patients in hospitals. We've been in close contact with UNC Health, and their staff remain confident that they are able to provide the necessary health care to those in need.

Orange County Face Covering Mandate

Orange County officials enacted a mandate requiring everyone to wear a face covering in public places where physical distancing is not possible. This is an effort to promote safety for everyone through education about one of the newest Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines. As stewards of our community, I am asking each of you to be conscious of your actions while in public. Please remember to wear your face covering and keep your distance between you and the next person.

Traveling Outside your Home?

Our Wellness Nurse Liska Lackey shared a comprehensive email with us today about important steps you should take if you plan to travel, even if that's locally and different from your normal routine (work, home, the grocery store or pharmacy). As we head into summer, more of us will want to take trips, get outdoors, and have visitors. While this is possible, the virus remains active, and there are important steps you need to consider to keep yourself as healthy as possible and not contribute to the spread of the virus. I've attached Liska's email, and I hope you'll read it if you haven't yet had a chance.

Electronic Attacks

Another trend we continue to see is an increase in attacks against computer networks through malware and other viruses. Please let this be a reminder to be cautious with your clicks and when opening attachments. If you aren't expecting something from a sender, it's best to confirm another way that what they sent you is legitimate before opening it. If you need any assistance, staff from Technology Solutions is available to you through the Boss Desk or by dialing 2020 on your desktop phone.

What is the ERT?

The Exposure Response Team (ERT) is responsible for contact tracing when a Town staff member is possibly exposed to COVID-19. I've attached a list of questions and answers the ERT has developed to help you understand its mission. The team has done an outstanding job of keeping up with possible exposures and ensuring that our employees who may have been exposed take the appropriate steps to keep themselves and their families safe. I'm thankful that we have this resource at our disposal.

I hope you all have a nice, restful weekend. Thank you for all your hard work and constant attention to our mission to serve this community. You are doing it very well.

All the Best,
Maurice

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