

March 16, 2020

Dear Fellow Villagers,

I'm sure you're as worried as I am about how the coronavirus will impact the village and our daily lives. Our businesses are already experiencing a sharp decline, Southern Cayuga and Peachtown are closed, and as of today Wells College has suspended residential living on campus and sent students home until further notice. The declaration of a countywide State of Emergency is not a statement about how bad things are in Cayuga County, but a wise recognition that they will get worse and that our local government is preparing for that. On directives from Albany, the Cayuga County Health Department and the Office of Emergency Management have been communicating with the Aurora Fire Chief who is in charge of any needed action, short of declaring State of Emergency in the Village. I have confidence that the precautions they are advising are in our best interests and that they are on top of the problem.

You are all aware of the basic precautions that we should all take – wash your hands, practice social distancing, avoid large groups. Sources of further information have been posted on the Village website. Peachtown School has posted great information on their site, as well as information about discussing the issue with children. The Citizen has just begun a Coronavirus daily update newsletter that you can sign up for on their site. I'm sure you're all following national news as well.

I'm also pleased to see that Aurora is still Aurora and residents have been on email all weekend to figure out how to take care of those of us who may need some help as we cut back on face-to-face interactions with one another. I urge you to check on neighbors, offer to pick up some groceries if you're going out, cut back on trips to the store, and, in general, remember that your goal is to not transmit this virus as well as not contract it.

Please feel free to call me or the office with questions or issues, take care of each other – from a practical distance – and stay well,

Bonnie Bennett, Mayor