

UPDATE FROM NORTH ELBA SUPERVISOR JAY RAND

JUNE 14, 2020

Dear Citizens of North Elba,

Lots has happened this past week as we moved into **Phase 3, or 3rd base** as I like to use. The North Country Region is standing solidly on 3rd and poised to go to the **home plate of Phase 4** of returning to normalcy, whatever that may be!

Our region has made it to Phase 3 because **we have been doing things right** (adhering to the new guidelines for businesses, no group gatherings, wearing masks, washing hands and socially distancing), so let's keep it up to reach home plate!

PHASE 4 is scheduled to begin **Friday, June 26**, but as we have seen these timelines are not fixed. This would include the reopening of **Arts, Entertainment, Recreation and Education**. The announcement from the Governor's Office should be forthcoming soon if the metrics are sustained. The Regional UnPause Dashboard (<https://forward.ny.gov/regional-unpause-dashboard>) provides real-time updates and data on our health metrics. As the pattern has been with other businesses, restrictions are anticipated. However, it will be great to have all businesses back in action.

Phase 3 included some major items such as the ability for **restaurants to add indoor dining**, including restaurants within hotels. I know many people have anxiously been looking forward to dining at one of their favorite local restaurants. I personally took my wife out for dinner and had an enjoyable time while adhering to the restrictions; such as **wearing a mask at all times other than when seated at your table, staff masked at all times, tables spaced with 6' of clearance on all sides**. We found these guidelines easy to follow and very sensible at this time. While it's a different experience than we are used to, everyone was having a relaxed and good time. I encourage you to go enjoy a meal in support of those restaurants making the effort to get things safely reopened. Of course most restaurants are still offering take-out as well.

On Friday, in spite of cool temperatures this weekend the North Elba Park District Staff got things splashing at the **Lake Placid Municipal Beach**. Specific directives and guidelines are applicable for the beach area and restroom and changing facilities. The capacity for these spaces is limited to **50% of our allowable maximum occupancy**. Proper spacing is also mandatory; **6' must be maintained between individuals and masks must be worn in situations where 6' is not possible, a distance of 10' is also required between beach blankets and chairs**. Exceptions apply for members of the same household/family.

The beach area is now fenced off with a **designated entrance/exit to control access**. This will be attended by lifeguards and /or other park district staff. Please make every effort to learn and follow beach rules for everyone's safety. Remember to have all family members bring masks to wear when needed (unless they are under 2 years old or have a medical condition that prevents them.) Of course – never to be worn in the water while swimming.

Playgrounds have reopened, a reason for children (and parents alike) to celebrate! Swings, slides, teeter totters, etc. got the green light. It was nice to see the barrier tape removed. However, it is recommended that kids are spaced at least 6' apart, wear masks whenever possible and always when within 6' of one another, and wash or sanitize hands thoroughly before and after use. Please keep in mind **that park benches, picnic tables and playground equipment are not regularly sanitized**.

Again, it's not the same experience we are used to, but **enjoying the parks, sun, sand and water is still possible while remaining safe**. We appreciate your patience and acceptance of the new rules!

Indoor & Outdoor Pools may open and are subject to the operating conditions defined in the NYS Sanitary Code, and adhering to applicable Executive Orders and listed NYSDOH restrictions; 6' spacing, wearing of masks at all time when not in the water, limit maximum size of any group to 10 or fewer, however there may be more than one group on premise or in the water so long as they are able to be spaced by 6'. Additional guidance can be found at:

https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2020/06/doh_covid19_pooladvisory_061120_0.pdf

Personal Care Services were also allowed to open. This includes non-hair-related personal care businesses and services, including tattoo and piercing facilities, appearance enhancement practitioners, massage therapy, spas, cosmetology, nail specialty, UV and non-UV tanning, or waxing. Additional guidance can be found at:

https://www.governor.ny.gov/sites/governor.ny.gov/files/atoms/files/Personal_Care_Summary_Guidelines.pdf

Congratulations to all who are following the guidelines and have made it possible to get this far along without another pause. Please continue with your efforts, and **those industries in phase 4 – thank you for your patience**. I understand your frustration and need to get up and running.

The requirements as to how businesses may reopen are provided on the **New York Forward** (<https://forward.ny.gov/>) website including advice on drafting mandatory safety plans. The **North Country Community Chamber** (<http://www.northcountrychamber.com/>) also offers industry specific information as well as webinars.

Testing is still a critical part of the requirements to keep us moving forward to additional phases. For further information see below. It is best and/or required to call ahead to make an appointment.

Adirondack Health's Lake Placid **mobile testing location will be at Northwood School** on Wednesday **June 17** from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Demand is high, so please call 518-897-2462 to make an appointment.

Adirondack Health Locations (518-897-2462)

AMC Center Covid 19 Clinic (Mon-Fri) 12pm-5pm ***Extended hours on Tuesday, open until 7 p.m.**

Keene Health Center (Tue) 1pm-4pm

Mobile Testing (sites vary) (Mon-Fri) 11am-3pm

Congratulations to "**THE MIX**" for organizing the **First Drive-In Movie** ever (no charge) at the Town of North Elba Horseshow Grounds. It appeared to be a healthy crowd when I drove in, approximately 180 vehicles. A special thanks to the Lake Placid Volunteer Fire Department (**LPVFD**) for staffing the parking in return for donations to this worthy cause. Many of the same faces you see during emergency situations. The LPVFD member with the donation pail was very good at his job. I made a donation on the way in and on the way out – the only way the gate would open – chuckle!

The **June Town Board Meeting** was held on Tuesday, June 9, at 6 p.m. Board members and selected staff were present at the Town Hall Meeting Room, and interested citizens were able to call in to participate. A recording of the meeting is available by contacting the Town Clerk's Office at 518-523-9516.

The **Mirror Lake Sidewalk Replacement Project** continues. Work is commencing near the intersection of Northwood School Road & Mirror Lake Drive. The entire project is expected to continue into September. Please follow flagman's instructions when walking or driving by.

The **Craig Wood Golf Course** is seeing a record number of new memberships, a testament to the excellent condition of the grounds and the care the staff puts into the facility. And of course, the amazing deal of a [2020 Craig Wood Golf Course Club Membership](#) for **only \$199!**

Donation drop off time for the **ECUMEMICAL FOOD BANK** is Thursday (June 18) 5 p.m. – 7 p.m. For a detailed list of what is needed please visit the Lake Placid Rotary Club's link at <https://clubrunner.blob.core.windows.net/00000001980/en-ca/files/sitepage/lake-placid-rotary-food-drive/food-drive-needs/Ecumenical-Food-Bank--Flyer---June-2020.pdf>.

Additional information and daily postings may be found on the [Town of North Elba Website](#), the [Town of North Elba Facebook](#) page, the [Lake Placid Village Facebook](#) page and [Friends of Jay Rand Facebook](#) page.

Relevant local information updates, including outdoor restaurant openings, restaurants offering take-out, retail stores opening and/or offering curbside pick-up, and all new developments as well as this newsletter can be received by subscribing to the [Lake Placid Insider](#).

STAY SAFE AND BE SMART

FOLLOW NYS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH GUIDELINES, AND THE GOVERNOR'S EXECUTIVE ORDERS.

NO GROUP GATHERINGS, WASH HANDS OFTEN WITH WARM WATER AND SOAP OR HAND SANITIZERS WITH AT LEAST 60% ALCOHOL, WEAR MASKS IN PUBLIC, ETC.