

November 17, 2020

Dear Speculator Residents:

Since early March of this year we have all faced a health-related crisis never experienced before. COVID-19 has necessitated lock downs, business closings, loss of normalcy, and an unsettling concern for the well-being of ourselves, our family and our friends. In spite of all we are dealing with, I am so proud of the way this community has responded. Our individual carefulness and concern for others has had a direct impact on limiting the transmission of this disease in our community. This carefulness shows concern for yourself, your families, friends and neighbors. As a destination location, we have also been very fortunate that our summer visitors have exercised similar care while safely participating in the activities of summer and fall seasons in this beautiful part of the Adirondack Mountains.

Unfortunately with the advent of cooler weather, there is a troubling resurgence of this virus and regrettably we have now experienced an increasing number of positive cases within our own area. Accordingly, I respectfully suggest that it is now time to double down against COVID-19 by continuing the practices recommended by the CDC and our Hamilton County Department of Public Health . We all must protect ourselves and others by wearing wear masks in public, washing hands frequently and practicing appropriate social distancing. During the upcoming holiday season consider exercising due caution. We love our family and friends and find great joy spending time with them during the holidays but doing so poses risks especially to the elderly and those with underlying health conditions.

Since Speculator has more than its fair share of high-risk residents it remains important to maintain human connections, not only for physical wellness, but to help maintain emotional and mental wellbeing. Consider reaching out to your family, friends and neighbors, especially the elderly as we head into the cold, and often isolating, winter months. Be aware of your own health and those close to you. Please seek medical attention if you are experiencing signs and symptoms of COVID-19 infection that include fever, loss of taste, dry cough, fatigue, and chills. We are in this for the long haul.

I know that Speculator will get through this second wave of the pandemic. We are a close community and that's why we love living here so please keep any eye out for each other and have a Happy Thanksgiving.

God bless each of you and God bless America.

Mayor Jeannette Barrett