



# FAIRLEE NEWSLETTER

## COVID-19 SPECIAL ISSUE

March 2020

### ADJUSTING TO COVID-19

On CNN, Dr. Sanjay Gupta stated, “How I behave affects your health. How you behave affects my health. Never, I think, have we been so dependent on each other, at least not in my lifetime, and we should rise to that occasion. How many people get sick and how many people die, is very much dependent on what we do right now. Not even tomorrow, certainly not next week, *right now.*”

From a public health perspective and an ethical point of view, it is essential that every one of us modifies our behavior to stop the spread of the coronavirus. **THIS IS REAL.** We are in a state of emergency.

If you are sick or concerned about your health, **contact your health care provider by phone.** Please avoid going to the hospital, except in a life-threatening situation. Otherwise, remain at home. Wash your hands frequently. And please – **regularly check in with your neighbors by telephone.**

“How I behave affects your health. How you behave affects my health.”<sup>i</sup>

Together, let’s escalate what we already do so well. **We look out for each other.** This newsletter provides information about outreach and support to Fairlee residents and businesses.

### FAIRLEE OUTREACH & ASSISTANCE

Fairlee has created a special outreach program to provide services to Fairlee residents needing assistance and to coordinate those offering to volunteer.

Email [help@fairleevt.org](mailto:help@fairleevt.org) to request assistance and offer volunteer services.

All requests are confidential. The Fairlee Outreach desk will match your request with volunteers and provide you with information about other local support services that match your need.

### STATE & FEDERAL ASSISTANCE

Reach out to the State for information and assistance:

- Go to [www.healthvermont.gov/covid19](http://www.healthvermont.gov/covid19) or call the **Vermont Department of Health** at 802.863.7240 for the most up-to-date information and guidance, including information from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC).
- Call **Essential Community Services** at 211. 211 is a free, confidential referral to essential health and human services, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. 211 can be accessed by phone or computer. It provides referrals for basic human needs; physical and mental health resources; work support (including financial assistance); access to services in non-English languages; support for older individuals and those with disabilities; children, youth and family support; and suicide prevention.
- In particular, for Essential Community Services **aid with bills, rent and food**, dial 866.211.9966.

### FAIRLEE/ORFORD FOOD SHELF

The food shelf is currently available by appointment only. Contact the Town Clerk’s office at 802.333.4363 extension 1 or by email ([townclerk@fairleevt.org](mailto:townclerk@fairleevt.org)) to make an appointment. If you need food shelf assistance during hours when the offices are closed, call Georgette Wolf-Ludwig at 802.333.0187.

During the period when the food shelf remains stocked, boxes of food will be pre-packed for distribution. However, for public safety and health during the COVID-19 pandemic, it is preferable to distribute Wing’s food cards that can be used for all items other than alcohol, tobacco products, and gasoline. The Food Shelf will also have gift certificates to D&D Country Supply for pet food.

**Fairlee welcomes cash contributions** made payable to the Fairlee/Orford Food Shelf for the purchase of food cards and pet food certificates. Checks should be mailed to Fairlee/Orford Food Shelf, PO Box 95, Fairlee, VT, 05045.

### LOCAL BUSINESSES

The Agency of Commerce and Community Development (ACCD) is asking any Vermont business impacted by the response to the COVID-19 virus to

share these impacts with the Agency through a dedicated email address: [commerce.covid19@vermont.gov](mailto:commerce.covid19@vermont.gov)

There are a variety of ways to **directly contribute to the health of our local businesses** during a period when fewer customers are walking through their doors.

- Consider **take-out** from Wing's and The Lunch Box. (Leda's and Samurai Soul have closed their doors for the time being.)
- Purchase **gift certificates** from local businesses including Barnyard Quilting and The Hair Shop. Gift certificates serve effectively as "short-term loans" during these uncertain times.
- You may be driving less; perhaps it is a good time to have **your car or truck serviced** at Lakeside or Moonlight. Both will pick up and deliver your auto should you be unable to leave your household.
- Chapman's is closed yet will **take telephone orders** for wine and gifts. Call 802.291.0644.

"Never, I think, have we been so dependent on each other, at least not in my lifetime, and we should rise to that occasion."<sup>1</sup>

#### PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Fairlee Public Library is closed until April 7<sup>th</sup>. Regardless, the building is staffed on most days (check the website [www.fairleelibrary.com](http://www.fairleelibrary.com)) and telephoning (802.333.4716) or emailing ([fairlee.library@gmail.com](mailto:fairlee.library@gmail.com)) for a particular book or resource will allow for curbside pickup. The Library's wifi is available 24-7 and can be accessed from its parking lot.

#### TOWN HALL & MUNICIPAL SERVICES

The Fairlee Town Hall is closed to the public until further notice. All non-essential meetings and events have been removed and cancelled from the Town Hall calendar for the months of March and April. At the end of April, the Town will assess the environment and determine whether the Town Hall should remain closed or be re-opened.

However, **Town Office staff remain available to assist you by phone, email, and appointment.** Office hours are Monday-Thursday from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. A variety of services can be completed by appointment, such as access to the vault and notary services. The following Town business can be completed by email, snail mail, or telephone, including

- Tax payments and getting copies of tax bills
- Dog licensing (deadline extended to April 30)
- Marriage, birth and death certificates
- Zoning applications and follow up
- Questions for the Listers
- Real estate questions, such as lister cards
- Dump/beach passes

Residents can use the Drop Slot adjacent to the front door of the Town Hall for any payments you wish to make such as taxes, dog license fees, etc.

The Transfer Station remains open on Saturday mornings, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM, until further notice.

#### Comments or questions?

Peter Berger: [peter.berger@fairleevt.org](mailto:peter.berger@fairleevt.org)  
Cathy McGrath: [cathy.mcgrath@fairleevt.org](mailto:cathy.mcgrath@fairleevt.org)  
Josh Hickman: [josh.hickman@fairleevt.org](mailto:josh.hickman@fairleevt.org)  
Tad Nunez: [townadministrator@fairleevt.org](mailto:townadministrator@fairleevt.org)

<sup>1</sup>Dr. Sanjay Gupta, CNN, March 17, 2020

#### THIS IS IMPORTANT

To ensure that you receive all emergency information from Fairlee, please update/confirm your contact information. Click on "Update My Contact Information" on the lower right side of the Fairlee web site ([www.fairleevt.org](http://www.fairleevt.org)).