

Mayor's Update

Current Cases and Losses

After months of so much difficult news, I'm happy to report that for the first time since April 1, we had no reported additional deaths this week among Newton residents who have tested positive for COVID-19.



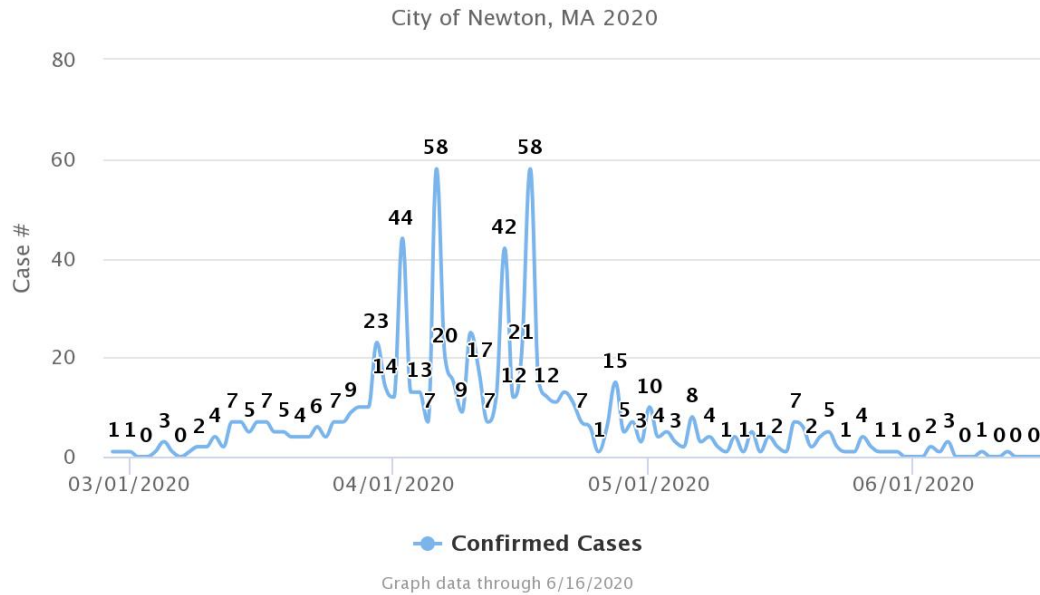
But this news does not mean we can let up. Rather, we must continue to prevent the spread of COVID-19:

- Wear a face covering. Not everyone who has COVID-19 is symptomatic. Wearing a face covering reduces the chance of transmitting the virus to another person and vice versa. Learn more [here](#).
- Stay 6 feet apart from anyone outside your household.
- Clean hands frequently. Wash them thoroughly with soap and water and carry hand sanitizer for when you're not near soap and water.
- Stay home if you're feeling sick and contact your healthcare provider for next steps

We also have good news on the total number of positive cases in Newton. The total case count through Tuesday, June 16 remains at 765 Newton residents who have tested positive for COVID-19, according to preliminary reports. Of those cases, approximately 42 percent are among people in Newton nursing homes or assisted living facilities.

Additional Newton data on cases by age, by sex, by post-isolation and by positive tests is reported in a new Newton periodic update available [here](#). The updated symptom onset graph for Newton shown below can also be found there.

Newton Cases by Symptom Onset Date



COVID-19 cases in our area are stabilizing because of what public health experts call “community mitigation.” These are things all of us do to protect ourselves and others from COVID-19. These measures (face coverings, distancing, hand hygiene, staying home if not feeling well) remain incredibly important until we have a reliable treatment or a COVID-19 vaccine.

“Pop-Up” Testing Tomorrow

The Baker-Polito Administration announced the availability of pop-up COVID-19 testing at 50+ sites throughout the Commonwealth for individuals who have recently participated in large gatherings. The second and last day of free tests is tomorrow, Thursday, June 18th.

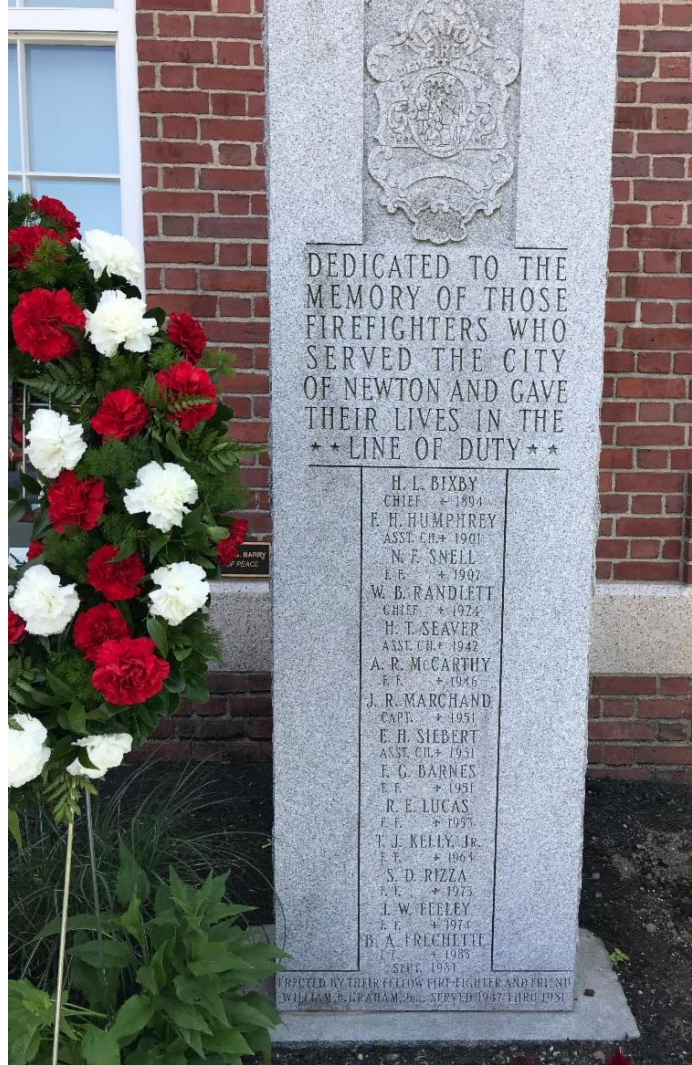
Governor Baker is urging anyone who has attended a large gathering in the past two weeks to get tested for COVID-19 at one of these sites. Test results will be provided to each participant confidentially, and participants are encouraged to share these results with their doctors. Find more information and a full list of testing sites at mass.gov/gettested.

Honoring Our Firefighters

Each June, we normally come together at Newton Fire Department Headquarters. We gather to solemnly honor the memory of all firefighters, and especially those Newton firefighters who made the ultimate sacrifice and died in the line of duty; firefighters who gave their lives to keep us safe. Because of

COVID-19, we couldn't pay our respects in person this year and hear the mournful playing of taps. Our gratitude to those who wear or have worn the uniform of the Newton Fire Department, though, is deep, strong and enduring.

Warmly,
Ruthanne



P.S. Many thanks to Artur Andronic from Moldova Restaurant in Nonantum for so generously delivering lunch to City Hall staff today. (That's Sam Nighman from the Mayor's Office in the photo with Artur.)

P.P.S. The monthly Food Bank at American Legion Nonantum Post 440 is Friday, June 19 at Post 440, 295 California Street, from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. During COVID-19, the food bank is "drive-through" in the parking lot of Post 440.

P.P.P.S. The weather is perfect for a paddle along the Charles River. The kayak/boat rentals at Nahanton Park, 455 Nahanton St. (Kendrick St.), is up and running. The only caveat, because of COVID-19, guests need to pre-register for a rental this year. You can pre-register [here](#).

