



September 15, 2020

Greetings,

Another quiet day with just a few things to report. As some of you may have heard, Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, joined Gov. Phil Scott this morning at the Governor's press briefing.

According to VTDigger:

Dr. Anthony Fauci had two main messages for Vermonters on Tuesday: great work so far, and don't let up.

"The message that I'd like all of the citizens of the state to hear is that this virus is a formidable foe, you give it an opportunity to reemerge its ugly head, whether you're in the beautiful rural area of Vermont or in the middle of Manhattan or the Bronx, that virus is going to take advantage of that," Fauci said.

"This becomes particularly important as we enter the colder season of the fall in the winter so good question," he added. "Let's everybody keep our guard up and not be complacent."

[Read the full story here.](#)

It was wonderful to have Dr. Fauci commend Vermont for its success containing the spread of COVID. He was clear that this success was not uniquely due to our rural/low population density, but rather in large part to the steps we all took to stay safe. Well done everyone!

COVID-19 testing options expand in Vermont

Health Commissioner Mark Levine, MD, announced last week that Kinney Drugs will begin offering COVID-19 testing at 11 locations in Vermont in the next few weeks.

Kinney Drugs, which is partnering with UVM Medical Center in the new effort, joins Walgreens in Essex Junction in testing options offered by pharmacies. These locations will be added as they become available to the Test Site Finder at the bottom of the Health Department's Testing page. <https://www.healthvermont.gov/response/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-covid-19#other-testing>

The Health Department is also using a new online system for its test sites that makes it easier for people to receive their results. Those who get tested at one of the pop-up sites listed can now receive their results by email, which is more easily accessible while still protecting patient privacy. Just like pop-ups, testing is totally free at the pharmacy sites. You may be asked for insurance information when you register for testing, but that is only so the state can be reimbursed for the costs by the insurer.

Flu Shots

We are on Day 2 of administering staff flu vaccines. As soon as we get the remaining doses for high dose vaccine for IL residents, we will communicate out the plan to get you all shots.

Just a reminder, if you are getting the flu shot from your primary care provider or a local pharmacy, please provide a copy of your receipt indicating vaccine type and vaccine date to the Wellness Center for our records. Thanks!

And now some fun!

Driver Reaction Time Test

This simulates you in the driver's seat of a car. You're driving down a road, when you see a big red hand flash in front of you. You have to put on the brakes. Then, the Reaction Time Test tells you how old you are, when it comes to driving. The test is based on reaction times of 2,000 people ages 18 and over. The Reaction Time Test plotted their reaction times by age; it matches your reaction time to those averages. Some of their results may surprise you. The Reaction Time Test found that left-handed people and men have slightly better reaction times than the average person. Bet you try it more than once! <https://www.justpark.com/creative/reaction-time-test/>

And finally...

- I used to have a fear of hurdles, but I got over it.
- Did you know they won't be making yardsticks any longer?
- I used to be allergic to soap but I'm clean now.
- The patron saint of poverty is St. Nickeless.
- What did the man say when the bridge fell on him? The suspension is killing me.
- Do you sing a weight loss tune? Fat chants!
- My tailor is happy to make a new pair of pants for me. Or sew it seams.
- What is a thesaurus's favorite dessert? Synonym buns.
- A relief map shows where the restrooms are.
- There was a big paddle sale at the boat store. It was quite an oar deal.
- How do they figure out the price of hammers? Per pound.

Enjoy your lobsters tomorrow! Have a good week.

Sincerely,

Martha



Martha E. Maksym
President and CEO