



July 31, 2020

Hi everyone,

It's hard for me to say this, but I actually have very little to tell you today! Can't believe I am at a loss for words. My husband would tell you that happens VERY rarely. But alas, after yesterday's great Cup discussion, there's not much more to report. Thank to everyone who joined us for Cup and shared committee updates. It makes me so happy to see so many activities starting and continuing in new ways on campus. I hear last evening's concert was a "sold out" crowd. The Farmer's Market continues to be a hit! Was I ever a celebrity when I walked in last evening with a chocolate éclair, turtle brownie and small raspberry crumb pie. Nothing says "I love you" in my house like sweet treats!

I expect to have some new updates early next week. But in the meantime, we are continuing to look at the status of COVID in Vermont and Chittenden County to determine if and when we can loosen some restrictions. We are also wanting to be as transparent as possible about what changes might lead us to tighten up again. Here is a terrific website [www.covidactnow.org](http://www.covidactnow.org) which is tracking 5 indicators nationally, by state, and by county.

These indicators are:

- **Indicator 1: Daily new cases** How many new cases are confirmed daily?
- **Indicator 2: Infection Rate** Is the number of infections going down?
- **Indicator 3: Test Positivity** Is COVID testing widespread enough to identify new cases?
- **Indicator 4: ICU Headroom** Do hospitals have capacity to treat a surge of COVID hospitalizations?
- **Indicator 5: Contacts Traced** Are we finding and isolating most new cases before COVID spreads?

We are considering looking at these as well to determine if/when we might loosen or tighten restrictions. We will let you know. For the moment, we as a state and as a county, look to be in good shape. Fingers crossed that will continue.

**The Dining Advisory Committee** has been meeting to plan for when and how we might open up communal dining in the future. Be on the lookout for a survey that will be sent next week looking for feedback about different options.

### **Do Masks really work?**

Interesting video on the efficacy of wearing a mask. If you weren't a believer before, this might change your mind!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=66XaaFIJLFQ>

### **Absentee voting:**

Just a reminder the primaries are almost upon us. If you haven't already, don't forget to request an absentee ballot.

To get an absentee ballot, it is not necessary to call the town clerk. It can also be done online.

Go to <https://sos.vermont.gov/elections/voters/early-absentee-voting/> Then click on the blue Online box to go to <https://mvp.vermont.gov/>. Then fill in the requested information. Or, you can always call Diana Vachon at the Shelburne Town Clerk's office at 985-5116. She's happy to take your info and send you one.

### **Finally, some music to end the week.**

Sheku Kanneh-Mason was the cellist who played at Prince Harry's wedding. He comes from a family of *fantastic* musicians. This clip is from YouTube. His sister, Isata Kanneh-Mason was due to play Beethoven Piano Concerto no.3 at the Royal Albert Hall on the 18th of April with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Moritz Gnan. The concert was cancelled due to the coronavirus. The family (Bramah, Aminata, Jeneba, Sheku) decided to do a version at home on Facebook Live (Sheku Kanneh-Mason page)." Enjoy! If you are on Facebook, check out Sheku's Facebook page. There are a series of amazing home concerts to enjoy.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Syhm27w68no>

Have a nice weekend everyone. Stay safe.



Martha

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