

Township of



West Caldwell

**Mayor's Message of May 8, 2020**

This is West Caldwell Mayor Joe Tempesta with a special announcement.

Please be advised the West Caldwell Health Department has informed us that since the beginning of the corona virus outbreak, West Caldwell has had 104 confirmed cases. Of the 104 cases, 84 cases are closed meaning that all appropriate protocols were taken; the isolation period is over and completed according the NJ State Department of Health guidelines. There are still 20 open cases and 7 of the 20 are hospitalized. The remaining 13 cases remain home quarantined. Sadly we report that there have been 5 fatalities in West Caldwell due to the coronavirus.

In our two skilled nursing facilities combined we have an additional 110 cases and tragically we report 37 deaths. In Crane's Mill we have 9 Covid-19 cases in the memory care an assisted living units, and 6 reported deaths. In the Skilled Nursing and sub-acute section of Crane's Mill, we have 20 current cases of Covid-19 and 11 reported deaths. In the Hackensack Meridian Health WC Care Center, we report 81 cases of Covid-19. Tragically we report 20 deaths at the facility. We ask that you pray for those who have the virus and to pray for those families that have lost their loved ones.

We ask that you continue patronize our local businesses by using technology to make your purchases on line as well patronize our restaurants by using their takeout and delivery services.

I remind you that our parks are open for walking, jogging, and biking and our tennis courts are from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. every day with the following rules to be followed: West Caldwell and Caldwell residents only, Singles play only meaning only 2 players per court, social distancing rules must be followed, and the wearing of masks and gloves are suggested.

I also ask that you join me in thanking all of our first responders and a special thanks to all of our teachers in our community who have had to make the quick transition to distance learning. We thank them for all of their hard work.

Starting next week I will still do our Tuesday and Friday calls however I will only

report the Covid-19 cases on the Friday call. The numbers have leveled off and new Covid-19 cases have slowed dramatically. I hope by next week I can report some further good news with relation to some businesses starting to re-open even if in a limited fashion.

For additional information regarding the corona virus call the NJ COVID-19 Information Public Call Center at 1-800-962-1253 or

Call NJ 211 or text NJCOVID to 898-211 to receive text information and to stay informed.

To receive live text assistance, residents can text their zip code to 898-211.

The NJ Department of Human Services operates a toll free “warm line” which is a resource for people seeking mental health services. (877) 294-HELP (4357).

Thank you.