

**Association of Public Historians New York State**

**COVID-19 HISTORY SURVEY**

**TOWN OF FORESTBURGH**

We are living in a historic moment in time! The COVID-19 crisis is reshaping our daily lives and our community. In the future, others will look back and learn from our experiences. This is why it is so important to begin recording the history of the pandemic and its effects on people in our community. What is happening to us right now must not be forgotten! We need to document our experience so that they can inform the response to future crises.

Town historians want to record your witness-to-history experiences during the COVID-19 pandemic. Please use this form to tell us what you are experiencing. How you are feeling, what you are hearing and seeing around you, what you are doing, and what effect this is having on you, your family, neighbors, friends, community. How is your life different now than it was before the pandemic?

Please answer only those questions that are pertinent to you and that you wish to answer on this form. Send the completed form as an attachment to [sintheforest@gmail.com](mailto:sintheforest@gmail.com) or mail the completed form to Sabina Toomey, Town Historian, 332 King Rd., Forestburgh, NY 12777. We are also asking for photographs of what is happening around you, in your home and our community.

With your permission, your responses will be preserved in our archives where they will be shared with researchers and the public now and in the future.

If you have any questions, please contact me at: (845)794-2702 or email [sintheforest@gmail.com](mailto:sintheforest@gmail.com)

Thank you for taking the time to share your experiences. Remember, you are an important part of history.

Sincerely,

*Sabina Toomey*

Sabina Toomey, Town of Forestburgh Historian

**SURVEY QUESTIONS**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

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Please grant us permission to include your answers and images in a publicly accessible archive. Yes \_\_\_\_\_ Use my name \_\_\_\_\_ Anonymously \_\_\_\_\_  
No \_\_\_\_\_ (Answers will be kept in Deerpark Historian archives)

1. What were your thoughts when the first COVID-19 cases were being diagnosed in China? Did you expect it to spread to the USA?

Your answer:

2. What were your thoughts when the first COVID-19 case was diagnosed in the United States?

Your answer:

3. What were your thoughts when the first COVID-19 case was diagnosed in New York State? In Orange County? Town of Deerpark?

Your answer:

4. How has your behavior changed since the media first started reporting the spread of COVID-19? Did you continue your everyday activities? Did you start stockpiling groceries and toilet paper? Did you start washing your hands or using sanitizer more frequently? how have you practiced social distancing?

Your answer:

5. How have things changed for you and/or your family since the outbreak? Are you or people you know working from home? Do you have/know children who need to do schoolwork from home? How are you/they dealing with that?

Your answer:

6. Are you a business owner who had had to close or an employee who has been laid off? If your business/employer is still open, how have you had to adjust how you and/or your business operates? If you are still working, what precautions are being taken?

Your answer:

7. How have your local government and community organizations responded to the crisis? What have you noticed has changed in your community since the outbreak? What has surprised you most?

Your answer:

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8. What is the worst thing about this? Are there any "silver linings" in what has happened (spending more time with family, catching up on tasks around the house, reading, doing projects, playing games, etc.)?

Your answer:

9. Pretend it is the year 2050 and another pandemic is looming--what would you tell someone who has just asked what it was like to live through the 2020 pandemic? How would you suggest they handle what is about to come? What did officials/community/you do (or not do) in 2020 that those in 2050 might consider doing differently?

Your answer:

10. Is there anything else you would like to add that hasn't already been discussed above?

Your answer: