



Mayor's Monthly Newsletter

Written by Mayor Andrew Mitcham

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Mayors Newsletter April 2020

Hello Friends and Neighbors,

I find myself struggling to find the words to put to paper that properly encapsulate everything we're experiencing right now. Needless to say, I did not expect April 2020 to be one of the most challenging months of my lifetime. But, as the saying goes—tough times never last, but tough people do.

We will have many months and years to work through the wreckage of this pandemic and mitigate its impact on our health, our economy, and our government. I'll save that for my remaining 12 Mayor's newsletters. Instead, I want to focus on what I'm grateful for.

I'm grateful for the front-line healthcare workers who selflessly risk their own health for the sake of others. My neighbor is a talented nurse who returns each night to an empty home. Her daughter is living elsewhere to eliminate her risk of exposure. It'll be months before she can even hug her daughter, and it breaks my heart.

I'm grateful for our stellar JV emergency services and the leadership in place. They understood the gravity of the situation early and took immediate steps to minimize the risk to their departments, preserving the vital functions of police, fire, and EMS.

I'm grateful for our local businesses and their remarkable ability to grind and adapt almost overnight to a total shift in commerce.

I'm grateful for our educators, who are adapting to virtual classrooms and teleconferencing. I know they all miss their students dearly and I can assure them our kids miss them just as much.

I'm grateful for our big backyards, sidewalks, and open spaces that allow a daily escape from quarantine cabin fever.

I'm grateful for the zip-line I bought a couple months ago that has kept my daughters occupied for hours while my wife and I handle the various crises of the day.

I'm grateful my wife accidentally double-purchased toilet paper in February.

I'm grateful for the faith-based and secular organizations stepping up to help the community and especially those most vulnerable to infection and complications.

I'm grateful that we, as a country, are putting our trust back in experts.

I'm grateful that I'm surrounded on City Council by experienced first responders, law enforcement, business owners, legal minds, and parents who have given me guidance and made sure all our bases are covered.

Most of all, I'm grateful for YOU, the strong and resilient community of Jersey Village. I'm honored to be the "Chairman of the Board" for the best town, in the best state, in the greatest country that has ever existed. This crisis, in its current state, produces more questions than answers, but I am certain the question of "Will Jersey Village be ok?" will be answered with a resounding "YES!".

Please continue to look after one another, support your local businesses, and stay prepared. And if you need anything at all, please let me know.

Best Wishes,

Andrew Mitcham
Mayor