## Old Saybrook Life During COVID-19...So Far

We would like to know how you are making it through this historic time in Old Saybrook. We would like to document this time to make it available for future generations. We do understand that we are not through with COVID yet, but please tell us how you are doing so far. Please answer as many of the question that you can. If you have any questions email us at <a href="mailto:actonlibrary@actonlibrary.org">actonlibrary.org</a>

What is your connection to Old Saybrook?

I live and work here.

When, where, and how did you quarantine?

I was fortunate in that I could still go to work. Other than that, I saw just a few friends now and then.

Did you feel prepared for the pandemic? How did you navigate the shutdown of services and shortage of supplies, such as hand sanitizer and paper products?

Definitely not prepared and cannot imagine one could be. Thankfully, I was able to buy tp before they ran out. My biggest concerns were the shortages of food at the supermarkets, and the projected meat shortages that never really materialized.

How did the pandemic affect you and your family?

Life and work was quieter. Definitely had more dinners in which led to more conversation. I baked a dessert for the first time ever. I did not enter my mother's house for two months and learned how to shop with Peapod. I had more frequent conversations with friends that live in other states. I tried meditating for the first time. And surprisingly, I learned that meetings conducted virtually can be a lot more productive than I thought they could be. Did you learn anything about yourself during this experience that surprised you?

I learned that I could grow facial hair (since removed).

Did you require help or social services during the shutdown and how did you navigate that?

no.

How do you feel the Town of Old Saybrook responded to the COVID-19 crisis?

Very well. I also think our demographic serves us well as we are an older population that is likely to be careful, therefor less cases in our community.

What will be the experiences and stories you will share with people in the future when you talk about the pandemic?

Going through the supermarket and seeing bare shelves and picked over meat and no frozen vegetables; Never quite fully understanding the toilet paper shortage; the eerie quiet walking down Main Street and barely seeing one vehicle. The prohibition on hugging loved ones that live outside your house. The best thing I hope to tell people: "Before Covid 19, people used to actually shake hands when they greeted one another." Never shaking another hand will be the best thing to come out of this pandemic.

Is there anything else you would like to share?

General Demographics	
Adult (18+)	
Teen (13-17)	
Child (12 and under)	

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