

Good evening, this is Martha Seed your Public Health Program Coordinator for the Board of Health giving you a weekly update on Covid-19 in the community. From March 7th to March 13th we had a total of 38 new positive Covid-19 cases.

The VA of Central Western MA Healthcare system Covid 19 Clinic on March 16th at the Ludlow Lodge of Elks is full. All 300 doses have been reserved. There will be no vaccine left over for walk ins.

As many of you know the Town of Ludlow has been in the red due to increased cases of Covid 19. This has been due in part to a few cluster outbreaks that involved several people causing our numbers to increase. Some of the cases were local and some were residents working in other Towns but residing in Ludlow.

We also had school vacation in February and with some families traveling out of State, which resulted in some new cases of Covid 19.

Currently these cluster outbreaks are under control. We have had very few cases coming from the Hampden County Correctional Facility. This facility is not involved in causing Ludlow to remain in the red.

It is very important for us all to keep vigilant and not let our guard down. The vaccines do cover the new Covid 19 variants. However, for those not currently vaccinated the new Covid 19 variants have been found to spread much faster.

As of March 9th, 13% of the Town of Ludlow has been fully vaccinated with 22% having only 1 or more doses. Vaccines are safe and are one of the best ways to protect yourself and those around you from getting sick from COVID-19.

Even after you are vaccinated it is important to continue to stop the spread by protecting yourself and others. Continue to practice social distancing of 6ft; wear a face mask or covering when in public places and around others not in the same household as yourself; limit social gatherings; follow the States Travel Orders and isolate if you are sick.

Everyone in Phase 1: individuals age 65 and up, individuals with 2+ certain medical conditions, residents and staff of low income and affordable senior housing; & Educators, Child Care workers and School Staff can get the COVID-19 vaccine now.

To schedule your Covid19 vaccine please register for a clinic at www.mass.gov/covidvaccine

The new process for vaccine registration is much faster and easier than before. Once registered you are placed in a que and when an availability opens you will be contacted and you will have 24 hours to reply.

Thank You & Good night