## Some Matawan Businesses Remain Open During Pandemic

During this difficult and uncertain time Matawan businesses allowed to stay open are getting creative in their method of operation. They are providing a number of services that range from counseling to car repair, from meals to medical teleconferences, and from grocery shopping to garden shopping.

In an effort to help get the word out and remind residents to support the local businesses, the Borough had compiled a list of open businesses under the image on the Borough website's front page - Matawan Open for Business. We update the listing as much as possible to reflect the latest information we received from the business community.

We urged residents to consider ways to support your local businesses so that all of us remain strong, resilient, and ready to go once we are all able to get out more and experience fully all that Matawan has to offer. Here were some of the suggestions:

- 1. Order online take-out, curbside pickup or delivery from local restaurants and grocery stores.
- 2. Purchase gift cards from businesses that can be used at a later date
- 3. Shop local websites making online purchases
- 4. Take virtual or video classes from your local dance, yoga, gym instructors
- 5. Share your favorite local places to shop and eat using social media
- 6. Write a great review when you have a great experience with the local business or restaurant.
- 7. Send an encouraging message or email to your favorite places letting them know that you are thinking about them.

The restrictions were implemented back in March for the sake of public health and safety, and continued through much of May before the first phase of reopening of businesses were announced by the governor. We are now in the first week of June and Governor Murphy continued to move us into the second phase when he announced the addition of more businesses reopening dates. Now child care, outdoor dining, camps, sport competitions, graduations, nail salons, hair salons and indoor retail shopping can occur. There are some other businesses still awaiting their opening date but all should be open by the 1<sup>st</sup> week of July.

All of these openings however, come with social distancing restrictions, the wearing of masks, and capacity restrictions too. Nonetheless, we are anxious and excited to see familiar faces back in action as offices, restaurants, and retails shops begin to open their doors once again.