Murphy focused on vaccine distribution

By DAVID NABNEN
Cape May Star and Week

With the potential to have vaccines for COVID-19 arriving in New Jersey within the next month, the governor said Monday that a state is pushing to ensure that all three million doses that will be available can be so as there are no holdups on federal supply for vaccine distribution.

“We’re back at a place where we haven’t seen in many days,” Murphy said. “I know we have a long way to go on this and there’s a lot of anxiety about what is to come. But let’s celebrate the fact that let’s not what we’re about in New Jersey.”

“We need the federal government to make sure it gets here for us,” he added, which is why he and state Health Commissioner Judith Persichilli sent a letter to General Services Administration Administrator Emily Murphy, imploring her to allow the transition continue uneventfully. Trump-Administration and President-elect Joe Biden’s transition team are in a standoff over the matter.

Part of the transition is allowing vaccine to access to plans for the administration of COVID-19 vaccines as soon as they are available.

Murphy said the concern is that if the next president brings further holdups on the vaccine distribution.

He said the state began planning for a vaccine plan going back to March and that the federal government has approved on its plan, the governor said the state could receive its first 300,000 doses for the first wave of vaccinations. While another 130,000 doses the state would receive in the second wave. DJJ Moderna has its vaccine approved, there could in another 100,000 doses in New Jersey before the end of the year.

“We are ready to move today, to get the moment that COVID vaccine get to us,” Murphy said.

He and Persichilli said next week, workers would be the first to get the vaccine. Persichilli said she will be releasing a plan on how who, specifically, would be getting there. There are 400,000 front-line health care workers in New Jersey and not enough doses to cover them immediately. She noted that the state expects to get 1 million doses a month on a rolling basis by the end of January.

Mothers rising

“We can’t let our guard down,” Murphy said. “The state Department of Health is working to make sure those who need to remain at a height and the highest risk.”

The state Department of Health counted 11,439 new positive COVID-19-related tests bringing the total to 1,496,890 with another 1,821 prob poolable COVID-19-related fatalities. There were another 3,592 new positive tests among the vaccinated.

On Monday, Murphy said, “We will be releasing a plan this week.”

Study on mask mandates

Persichilli said the Center for Disease Control had a study of counties in Great Basin and without mandates. Those with a mask mandate saw an 8 percent decrease in a COVID-19 rate, while without a mandate, a 100 percent increase. The state spent $1 billion on our masks. This study demonstrate how effective masks can be in reducing the spread of the virus,” she said. She noted the mask also will help prevent the spread of the flu.

Testing available

In southern New Jersey, testing is available at St. Michael’s Church, 93 S. Mississippi Ave., Atlantic City, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday of this week, at the Atlantic City Convention Center, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday and Saturday of this week, from Dec. 5 to Dec. 7, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

There also will be testing available on the campus of Cape May Community College, noon to 5 p.m. Dec. 5 and 7 at Lakeside Towne Hall.

Mental health support

After reiterating the recommendation that Thanksgiving gatherings are limited to immediate family, the governor noted that stress levels rise, there is a resource for mental health support.

We know that the holidays in a normal year can be stressful, but this year even more so as so many of you are making arrange ment that don’t include family and friends who you plan to see this year. If you need a talk, we’ve got a plan, to talk to, read out and make calls,” Murphy said.

Call (609) 292-HELP or text “HELP” to 51644 for free, confidential sup port from MD Anderson Health Care. Dear or hard-of- hearing residents can call (973) 870-0677 from their video phone.

Leaves, branches, and grass may be dropped off at the Recycling Yard on 5th Street and Haven Lane, Cape May. For more information, call the Cape May Beach and Parks at 609-884-6970.

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LEAF COLLECTION SCHEDULE

Leaves raked to the curb will be collected on weeks of scheduled residential trash collection.

Leaves placed in plastic bags will not be collected

ZONE 1
All streets north of Broad Ave. Between Broadway & Bramwood Ave. Between Bramwood & Jefferson St. Nov. 16th to 20th

ZONE 2
North. South & East of Between Beach Ave. & Old York Road, from Delaware Ave. to Washington Ave. Maud Road, Maud Road Sessionsville Road Between Phillipsburg & Pennsylvania Ave. & Lopatcong St. Nov. 2nd to 6th and Nov. 22nd to 25th

ZONE 3
North. South & East of Between Beach Ave. & Old York Road, from Delaware Ave. to Washington Ave. Mullica Ave., Willards Ave. Between Phillipsburg & Pennsylvania Ave. & Lopatcong St. Nov. 2nd to 6th and Nov. 22nd to 25th

ZONE 4
North. South & East of Between Beach Ave. & Old York Road, from Delaware Ave. to Washington Ave. Willards Ave., Horner Ave. & Water St. Nov. 2nd to 6th and Nov. 22nd to 25th

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