

CITY OF PORTSMOUTH



UPDATE from the City Manager for Sunday, July 19, 2020

**Governor Sununu's "Stay At Home 2.0" order replaced by "Safer At Home."
Portsmouth Protection Plan: Do your part. Wear a mask.**

Deaths to date from COVID-19 in the US, 142,879.

Deaths in New Hampshire, 396. In Rockingham County, 92.

Cumulative cases in Rockingham County: 1,551.

Current cases in Rockingham County: 137.

For the complete, new NH Department of Health & Human Services dashboard,

<http://www.nh.gov/covid19>

This week I'm sharing a tanka, one of the oldest Japanese forms. While it is syllabic (31 or fewer), it isn't as rigid a form as the haiku. It is more personal and metaphorical. With a turn, or volta, expected in the third line, it is often compared to the English sonnet. Traditionally titles and punctuation are omitted.

The bramble extends
a thorny cane offering
perfect raspberries
while everywhere else I look
an imperfect world festers



-- Tammi J Truax

Portsmouth Poet Laureate 2019-2021

Maine Beat Poet Laureate 2018-2020