
COVID-19 UPDATE

TO: WESTMINSTER VILLAGE RESIDENTS
FROM: MATT RIEHLE
DATE: JULY 2, 2020

It has been another wonderful summer week here at Westminster as we continue to remain free of any new cases of the Coronavirus. Even more touching was the ceremony today for the one resident who had previously tested positive. Staff gave the resident a rousing ovation as she left her private wing since two negative tests after 14 days and being asymptomatic has allowed this person to return to a “normal” room! The resident was doing so well that the biggest concern, after thanking staff with an emotional speech, was what time therapy was starting today! This a great story and a testament to all of the staff who are doing an amazing job.

The outside visits continue to go extremely well, and we are so appreciative of the comments, feedback, and understanding from residents and their families. We also wish to thank the volunteers who have helped make these visits happen. As Barb has stressed many times, we have been waiting for this next step and it is so good being able to see people reconnect in person. There is no substitute for the human element so we will work diligently to keep this happening in a safe and responsible manner.

As we are slowly adding additional in-person activities and programming, while adhering to safe distance and capacity guidelines, we appreciate everyone’s continued understanding and patience. Having beautiful weather has made things easier; however, as has been seen in several states that were quicker to “open up,” they are now facing a sharp uptick in cases. This is exactly why we have been deliberate in our process to advance group gatherings and dining. We need to be very cautious as we balance that need for social interaction with personal well-being. Now that we are seeing some of the challenges that these states are facing following an aggressive reopening, we believe it will help us make better decisions regarding our campus and how we move forward during this unprecedented time.

As a reminder, site work for the Assisted Living building, along with the resurfacing of the campus ring road between the old main entrance on Lincoln Street and the brown shed located behind Building 3, will begin on **Monday, July 6th**. On that morning, the Lincoln Street entrance (old main entrance) and a portion of the ring road between that entrance and the brown shed near Building 3 will be temporarily closed. We anticipate this work to last through the month of July. To access Martin Health Center, vehicles will need to utilize the newer

Lincoln Street entrance closest to the employee parking lot. To access Building 3, vehicles will need to utilize the Mercer Street main entrance.

Given the holiday weekend there will not be any construction workers on site this Friday. This will obviously be a unique Holiday weekend given all of the COVID uncertainties, but may we take time to keep each other supported and in our thoughts. Although we might not be able to gather or celebrate as we have in the past, it may give us the opportunity to truly think about what things we can change for the betterment of everyone.

Please do not hesitate to let us know if there is anything else that we can do!