

August 7, 2020



Greetings,

Last week was our first week of testing with the new testing process through the state of New Hampshire. Although we experienced a few hurdles we managed to test each staff member and designated residents, all tests returned as negative! Due to the scheduling cycle we will not be tested during the week of August 10 and our next test will be on August 18. We will then have a rotating testing schedule of every 10 days thereafter. This timeline varies from what we have grown accustomed to and we will announce testing updates in our weekly letter when we receive the results.

Last week we reintroduced communal dining and this week we re-introduced small group activities. It was reported that a few residents wondered why we were doing small group activities, they were very excited to participate in an activity with other individuals! Candy O'Neil, Activity Director, explained the slow re-opening process we are experiencing and the allowance for these small group activities. Residents stayed 6 feet apart from one another, wore masks and were excited to participate in additional activities. The challenge we face is maintaining strict infection control practices as well as balancing the other tasks within the Activity Department. We look forward to entering Phase 2 of re-opening and what that will convey for allowances from DHHS.

We understand the desire and crave for human touch and how this pandemic has stripped that basic human need away, we are incredibly happy to announce the introduction of our hugging booth, build by our Maintenance Department so hugs can finally return. We are we completing our policy and procedure for use and ensure infection control, once completed the station will be ready for use during outdoor visitations. There is an option to sit or stand depending on necessity and preference, to assist in the promotion of infection control both parties will be wearing disposable gloves that go from the fingers to the shoulder. We are excited to have and this opportunity with all of you.

In addition to the hugging station Jeff Girouard, Culinary Director, is instituting another round to the menu cycle. Historically, there were two menu cycles and by adding a third into the rotation Jeff is hopeful to adjust the season food offered. If you assist in meal planning, please be on the lookout for the new menus and return at your earliest convenience.

Thank you,

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