
WESTMINSTER CANTERBURY WEEKLY SUMMARY – MAY 6, 2021 – 3 P.M.

John Burns

Welcome to our first Westminster Canterbury Weekly! We are excited to introduce this continued format of meeting with you regularly. Westminster Canterbury Weekly will continue to include the latest information related to the pandemic, but it's also much more than that. We are shifting from the past year of isolation and protection to slowly, carefully becoming a newly vibrant community in some of the same, familiar ways but also in new and different ways. Meeting weekly like this has become part of our rhythm together. We are committed to this format as one of the ways we stay in touch with residents, employees, family members and the broader community.

Please watch weekly on Thursdays at 3 p.m., on TV970, and encourage your friends and neighbors to do the same. This is where we will bring answers to your questions and the latest news. This will include information about upcoming renovations, the *Vibrancy!* project, coronavirus updates and other news from various teams throughout Westminster Canterbury. If you miss us live, please watch when it reairs on TV971 at 10 a.m., 2 p.m. or 6 p.m. daily.

We have done 162 Live Updates since March 17, 2020. If there is pressing news that we need you to know sooner than the next edition of Westminster Canterbury Weekly, we will let you know if we are holding a special Live Update to be broadcast at a different time.

COVID-19 Updates

Overall, our community has stayed healthy. The COVID-19 positivity rate in Henrico County has improved to 4.4%. This is great news for the region and allows those on our Mary Morton Parsons Health Center team who must be tested regularly to be tested once each month. We have no new cases of COVID-19 in our residents. The reduced positivity rate indicates that people continue to follow guidelines to stay safe, such as mask wearing and social distancing, and that the vaccine is working.

Yesterday, we learned that a fully vaccinated employee of our Child Development Center tested positive for COVID-19 through a rapid test, then received a negative PCR test. We are working to determine whether this is a false positive result. One classroom in our Child Development Center was closed temporarily based on guidance from the Virginia Department of Health (VDH).

Today, we learned that a Dining employee tested positive via a PCR test. The risks of exposure are low as this employee does not interact with residents. This employee is fully vaccinated and previously recovered from COVID-19. There has been an increase in recent cases around the region in people who have had COVID-19 previously and are fully vaccinated. This employee is recovering in quarantine. VDH recommends that you stay vigilant even if you are fully vaccinated as there is still risk of testing positive or being exposed to variants of the virus.

Vibrancy! and Other Construction Updates

While portions of *Vibrancy!* won't begin until 2022, there is a lot of work happening now to prepare for the Parking Deck construction and Promenade renovation that will begin in June. The details of how that will

impact you and the specific dates that certain areas will be closing are being finetuned now. In the next week or so, we will be sharing those details, looking out six to eight weeks to offer plenty of notice about the changes.

There will be some changes to where employees and visitors park while the Parking Deck is being constructed. Portions of the Ellipse and the Tower will be closing to accommodate the Promenade renovation. In addition to sharing these details as soon as plans are finalized, we are also meeting with smaller groups who are directly impacted by the work to come.

Scott Jonté

Promenade Dining Renovation

Scott shared an overview of the plans for the upcoming Promenade Dining Room. Watch the recording to see images of the new space and to learn more.

Center to Dining's culinary ideology is that no venue or menu should be the same. Ingredients should be the freshest available and sourced locally. Our residents' passion for food is our passion as Dining has strategically committed to achieving excellence in all we offer. Many of the project ideas that will be implemented originated from residents' feedback including space layout, service elements and menu offerings.

The Coffee Bar and Lounge areas promote social interaction over a cappuccino and croissant in the morning or cocktails and light hors d'oeuvres in the evening. The Flexible Seating area was designed for floor dinner parties with an eye for unique, culinary inspiration within the backdrop of the new Ellipse.

The Promenade's tableside service in a county club casual environment will focus on food. Menus will feature modern, regional cuisine and classic nightly specials. The theme of "old favorites with new twist" will be enticing yet provide a wide range of options with seasonal menu changes.

The Small Venue, which is for the adventuresome eater, will feature a unique dining experience in an eclectic environment. Small plates will be served, which are described as large appetizers or small entrées, with suggested food and wine pairings supported by an extensive wine list.

Lastly, Westminster Canterbury Richmond will have a new addition to our Dining offerings with a new bakery. Fresh baked pastries, breads and desserts will be featured throughout all our dining venues, bringing the resident dining experience full circle.

Gayle Haglund

Vibrant Vision Kickoff Concert

Westminster Canterbury Foundation has a special invitation for all residents. On Thursday, May 20, the Foundation will host two concerts to start the outdoor summer concert series. One will be held on the Ellipse, featuring the Bellevue Rhythmaires. The other concert will be in the Wright Courtyard Garden West featuring Gallatin Canyon.

Though donors to the Foundation make all performances possible, this one will be extra special. There will be fun music, treats (not dinner, please eat first!), champagne and some other fun items. We will take a few moments when the bands take a break to tell you about the *Vibrant Vision* fundraising campaign we have been pursuing the last couple of years and which is still underway. This will be a very fun evening to enjoy together as we kick off the summer season. Our rain date is June 1.

Tickets are available for residents to pick up on the information table near the Tower Desk or near the Post Office boxes in the Center Lobby. Please fill out the ticket and return one half to the Tower or Center Desk.

Bring the other half with you to the concert. 150 tickets are available for each location. There is no charge for this special concert. Read more details in today's edition of *The Westminster Canterbury Tales*.

Beverly Beck

Employee Christmas Fund Update

Beverly shared the following comments.

While it is the best kept secret who contributes to the Employee Christmas Fund (ECF), on behalf of the ECF Committees, thank you to all who have already made 2021 contributions to the ECF. You can contribute anytime – monthly, yearly, as a memorial gift or as a gift in honor of a resident or employee. Remember your contribution is in lieu of tipping. While the contributions are not tax deductible, it is our way of letting our employees know how much we appreciate them. One of the special moments of each year is at Christmastime when we give the employees their Christmas checks.

Extraordinary Times Require Extraordinary Employees. In this pandemic time, I am sure you have seen how our employees have been extraordinary. Thank goodness they have stood by us this past year! Do not forget them in your giving. Most of all, thank them!

All of our employees have been STARS throughout the pandemic. Therefore, ECF is encouraging all residents to participate in a Westminster Canterbury Stars Campaign. You can participate by:

- Personally thanking every employee you meet in your daily activities and telling them that they are a Westminster Canterbury Star.
- Contribute to the ECF to provide another outstanding Christmas for our great employees.
- On a clear day near the end of May, we will have an outside morning greeting for the employees as they come to work and leave work. Get your pots, pans and posters ready. More on that event will be available later.

The ECF Committee has created cards that include a red star for placement on the ID badges of each employee. Since there are almost 600 employees, this will be quite a task. Beginning Friday, May 7, thank you cards with red stars will be located wherever you see the ECF brochures in the Tower, Courtyard and Garden Apartments. Pick up a few and when you see an employee without a red star on their ID badge, thank them for being a Westminster Canterbury Star and give them a thank you card. To stay within social distancing guidelines, only the employee can place the star on their ID badge. Let's make sure every employee has a red star on their ID badge. Remember: there can only be one red star on an ID badge.

To start the campaign, I will thank our biggest Star, John Burns, and give him a card with his red star.

On behalf of the Employee Christmas Fund Committees, thank you for supporting our employees with your participation in this campaign and your continuing support of the Employee Christmas Fund!

Vanessa Perry

Pastoral Care

Upcoming Pastoral Care events are listed in today's edition of *The Westminster Canterbury Tales*.

Proverbs 31:25-28

She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come. She speaks with wisdom, and faithful instruction is on her tongue. She watches over the affairs of her household and does not eat the bread of idleness. Her children arise and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her.

Motherhood by Helen Steiner Rice

The dearest gifts that heaven holds,
The very finest, too,
Were made into one pattern
That was perfect, sweet, and true;

The Angels smiled, well-pleased, and said:
“Compared to all the others,
This pattern is so wonderful
Let’s use it just for Mothers!”

And through the years a mother has been
All that’s sweet and good
For there’s one bit of God and love,
In all true Motherhood.