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**WESTMINSTER CANTERBURY WEEKLY SUMMARY – AUGUST 26, 2021 – 3 P.M.**

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**John Burns**

*COVID-19 Updates*

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) positivity rate for Henrico County is currently 8.5%, a slight increase from last week. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the level of community transmission in our area is high. Virginia's positivity rate is 9.2%.

This week, two fully vaccinated Assisted Living employees tested positive for COVID-19. A total of three employees are recovering in quarantine at home. Anyone who was exposed to these individuals has been contacted directly. Most people who were exposed were fully vaccinated, so they do not have to quarantine but are being tested and wearing masks.

Two fully vaccinated residents tested positive for COVID-19. Last week, a Tower Eighth Floor resident tested positive. This resident is doing well. Everyone who was exposed was tested for COVID-19, and we are pleased to report that all the results were negative.

On Tuesday, a resident temporarily residing in Mary Morton Parsons Health Center tested positive for COVID-19 after returning from the hospital.

There are several ways we are working to keep our community safe and healthy. Westminster Canterbury Richmond follows the latest guidance from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and works closely with Virginia Department of Health (VDH).

Based on guidance from VDH, all new admissions to Parsons Health Center will be placed in quarantine with additional contact precautions upon entry, whether they are being admitted from the hospital, Independent Living or Assisted Living. New admissions will be tested for COVID-19 and remain under these precautions until a negative test result is received.

Everyone who enters our campus is required to wear a mask except for residents. It is highly recommended that residents wear a mask, especially when in close proximity to others, but it is optional. While visitors are welcome to join residents in the dining rooms and at the Sara Belle November Theater, they are required to wear a mask in public areas. Visitors are also encouraged to be fully vaccinated. If you are visited by unvaccinated guests, please take personal responsibility for avoiding public areas to help protect your fellow residents.

There is a lot of interest in additional doses of COVID-19 for immunocompromised individuals and booster shots. A few residents have already received a third COVID-19 dose from their doctor's office or other places in the community due to qualifying medical conditions. If you have received a third dose, please bring the card to the Clinic or email the details to Laurie Youndt so it can be added to your medical record.

Receiving a third dose due to being immunocompromised is different than getting a booster shot. Booster shots are scheduled to be available for all adults starting September 20. Currently the CDC position is that individuals are eligible for a booster no earlier than eight months from receiving the last dose.

Conversations are underway regarding how the booster vaccine will be provided for residents and employees of Westminster Canterbury. Details have not been finalized, but it is unlikely to happen before September 20. We will update you when we know more. If you feel you need an additional COVID-19 vaccination sooner because of your medical history, consider making an appointment with CVS, Walgreens and other retail pharmacies.

#### *The Westminster Canterbury Tales*

Today's issue of *The Westminster Canterbury Tales* newsletter includes important updates on Dining changes in the Marketplace and Kathleen's. It also includes details on signing up for transportation to cultural arts performances downtown including the Richmond Symphony, Richmond Ballet and Virginia Opera. The deadline to sign up is approaching.

#### *Other Updates*

Due to a scheduling issue, the Wrappers-D Lite Food Truck will not be on campus tomorrow. Southern Spud truck will be here on Tuesday, August 31, for the lunch hour.

In anticipation of high heat on Monday, the Latin Jazz Messengers concert planned for outdoors will instead be in the Sara Belle November Theater at 7 p.m. Tickets are not required.

#### *Westminster Canterbury Weekly*

On Thursday, September 2, at 3 p.m., *Westminster Canterbury Weekly* will take place live on TV970 and in the Sara Belle November Theater. Residents are invited to attend in person. In addition to our usual updates, we will address comments sent to the Resident Suggestion Box and answer your questions live. Please join us. If you have questions or comments, we encourage you to submit them ahead of time.

#### *Vibrancy! and Other Construction Projects*

As we continue with our planned improvements, we are excited to introduce you to our project partners who can share details of the progress you will see around the community.

### **Austin Burch**

#### *Gilbane Building Company*

Austin Burch is the Project Manager for the Parking Deck and Promenade renovation projects. Mark Hillard and Ed Pinkerton from Gilbane are also working onsite for these projects. They were also part of the Spiritual Center project.

Safety is the project teams and overall company's top priority for all projects. Each trade contractor brought onsite goes through the Gilbane/Henderson safety orientation prior to starting work. The Westminster Canterbury code of conduct is also included within each safety orientation. While onsite, full personal protective equipment (PPE) must always be worn, consisting of a hard hat, safety glasses, a reflective vest, gloves and steel toed shoes.

Construction barriers and boundaries have been created for the Parking Deck and Promenade. These are put in place for the safety of workers, as well as Westminster Canterbury staff and residents. Residents should avoid walking and biking in the project areas, including the Employee Parking Lots and the Parsons Health Center and Child Development Center Entrance.

Gilbane will work with the Westminster Canterbury and JLL teams to provide a safe means of showing progress. Westminster Canterbury has retained a vendor that tracks construction progress photos and videos. This vendor works directly with our construction team to ensure critical and unique portions of the construction progress are documented and will be shared with the Westminster Canterbury communications team. Updates will be provided at future *Westminster Canterbury Weeklys*.

*Watch the video to see images of a unique feature of the project – Soil Improvements via Rammed Aggregate Piers.* This piece of machinery was not a requirement for the Spiritual Center structure but will be utilized for the Parking Deck. It is necessary for the Parking Deck project to ensure the foundations are properly supporting the weight of the precast Parking Deck. The machine will drill down into the ground with a hollow bit, and as it is pulled up, grout will fill the location voided pier which allows for the required foundation support. Mobilization of this equipment will be mid-September, and our team will share photos and videos of the process.

## **Gayle Haglund**

### *Communications Update*

Thank you to the nearly 200 residents who responded to our Communication Survey. This will be available for one more week.

We are losing a valuable member of our Communication Team. Eric Price is leaving us for a new job. Eric helped grow our communication efforts in many ways, and the breadth of his top-quality work has made a very positive difference. He managed our TV Studio and everything related to TV970 and 971, along with all of our digital media, which is a big part of our overall effort of sharing news and happenings. Thank you to Eric for his terrific work and for being such a great team member. We will miss him very much and wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

Until we can find a new team member, there will be many limitations on what we can provide in all areas of our communication efforts. Rebecca Hatch and Gayle are working together to determine what can continue and what will need to be on hold.

Your response to our Communication Survey is especially important. We will make decisions largely based on your input, with the understanding that there are many functions that were strictly part of Eric's job that will not be possible to continue during this interim period. The survey is available through Touchtown and is the first item on the Tales tab. The paper version is available at the information tables near the Tower and Center Desks or mailboxes.

Thank you for your patience as we go through this period. Thank you to Rebecca Hatch for the excellent work she always provides. We will do our very best to keep you informed and ask you to take advantage of *The Tales*, the digital signage throughout campus, notices on TV971 and the Touchtown App. If you are not already using Touchtown, we are happy to help you get set up.

## **Jason Collins**

### *Landscape Capital Projects*

Over the next month, we will begin a few Landscape Capital Projects including areas surrounding The Gables, the Child Development Center and Parsons Health Center Entrance, West Courtyard and Westbrook Avenue. The scope of these projects includes removal of overgrown plant material, drainage improvements and new plant installations. The new plantings will include plants that require low maintenance and provide seasonal interest. Please be aware of these projects as you move through our campus and understand that there will be additional landscape crews onsite, noise at times during work hours, and additional equipment and trucks on

site. Thank you in advance for your understanding as we work on getting these projects completed this fall. If you have any questions regarding this work, please contact Kathleen Pender, Horticulturist.

### *Charging Stations*

Three electric vehicle charging stations were installed this week. They are not fully up and running yet, but we will tell you more about them at a future update.

### **David Curtis**

### *Pastoral Care Updates*

Please join us on Sunday at 4 p.m. in the Sanctuary for a hymn sing, led by Rev. Dr. William Blake and Nancy Bain. On Thursday, September 1, at 10:30 a.m., Rev. William Nichols from Bon Air Presbyterian Church will be with us for worship and communion. Evening Prayer takes place Monday through Friday, at 4:45 p.m., in the Montague Chapel. All of these services are also broadcast on TV970.

### *Psalms 143:1*

Hear my prayer, O LORD;  
give ear to my supplications in your faithfulness;  
answer me in your righteousness.

### *St. Teresa of Avila*

May today there be peace within. May you trust God that you are exactly where you are meant to be. May you not forget the infinite possibilities that are born of faith. May you use those gifts that you have received, and pass on the love that has been given to you. May you be content knowing you are a child of God. Let this presence settle into your bones, and allow your soul the freedom to sing, dance, praise and love. It is there for each and every one of us.

Amen.