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**WESTMINSTER CANTERBURY WEEKLY SUMMARY–SEPTEMBER 30, 2021–3 P.M.**

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**John Burns**

*Coronavirus Updates*

No residents are known to be currently infected with COVID-19. Two employees who tested positive continue to recover at home in quarantine. The remainder recovered and returned to work.

Through partnership with Common Share pharmacy, we have delivered third doses of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine to immunocompromised residents in Mary Morton Parsons Health Center and Assisted Living.

Last Friday, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommended a Pfizer booster shot for certain populations, including those in high risk occupational and institutional settings. The CDC now recommends booster shots for segments of the Westminster Canterbury Richmond population, including people 65 years and older, residents in long-term care settings, and people aged 18–64 years at increased risk for COVID-19 exposure and transmission because of occupational or institutional setting including healthcare settings. Since that risk can vary across settings and based on how much COVID-19 is spreading in a community, this group may get a booster shot after considering their individual risks and benefits. This recommendation may change in the future as more data becomes available. A booster shot is recommended at least 6 months after the completion of the primary series of Pfizer vaccination.

On Tuesday, 123 vaccine boosters were administered in Parsons Health Center and 39 in Assisted Living. Booster shots for the remainder of Parsons Health Center and Assisted Living are planned for next week.

Our team is also working on the plan for boosters for Independent Living residents and staff. A clinic with Walgreens is scheduled for Tuesday, October 26, in the Cochrane Commons. We will share more details about the schedule and registration process in the coming days and weeks.

Boosters are also widely available at local CVS and Walgreens locations. If you would like to receive your booster sooner, you may check the pharmacy websites for availability and make an appointment. If you have already 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. Boosters are strongly encouraged for everyone who achieved full vaccination status more than six months ago.

The CDC positivity rate for Henrico County is currently 7.11%, a slight decrease from previous weeks. Our area is still considered to be in a high level of transmission.

For residents, if you have traveled away from home, been in close contact with a group of people, or think you may have been exposed to someone with COVID-19, you are encouraged to reach out to the Clinic to take a rapid test for COVID-19. Even if you are not experiencing symptoms, this can be a helpful way to ensure you have not been exposed and keep you from unknowingly exposing others. To schedule a rapid test, please call the Clinic at 264-6231. If you are experiencing symptoms, please contact your physician or the Clinic for testing and next steps. We are entering the season where respiratory infections are common. It is possible to have the flu and COVID-19 at the same time. Please monitor your symptoms carefully.

### *Flu Shots*

The Clinic shared dates and more information about flu shots for Independent Living residents in the most recent issue of the *Tales*. Consent forms for flu shots will be put in resident mailboxes so that residents can complete them ahead of time. Please include your insurance information and bring the form with you to get your annual flu vaccine.

### *Vibrancy! and Promenade Renovation updates*

Promenade renovations continue. If you are in the Tower, you likely hear sounds of progress as the construction teams continue with wall and ceiling layout, installing framing for walls and beginning to install concrete footers that will allow the expansion of the dining space into the Ellipse. We are working with our project partners to limit construction noise to the hours of 9 a.m.-5 p.m. If you hear construction noise outside of these hours, please notify Resident Services.

For the Parking Deck, the special equipment that will assist with installing underground piers has arrived on site. You can see this progress on the construction camera available on Touchtown.

We will share progress photos of both projects at future updates as the new spaces take shape.

Residents are reminded to stay out of the construction areas for your safety. All areas are marked with signage and most are locked to prevent anyone from accidentally entering them. Please stay aware and avoid these areas.

### *Westminster Canterbury Weekly*

On Thursday, October 7, 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 usual updates, we will address comments sent to the Resident Suggestion Box and answer your questions live. We will also introduce project partners from Gilbane and JLL. Please join us. If you have questions or comments, we encourage you to submit them ahead of time.

## **Kendra Spencer**

### *Alzheimer's Walk*

Kendra Spencer, Recreation Therapist for Parsons Health Center Second Floor and Sara Merchant, Recreation Coordinator for Monticello, are coordinating this year's Walk To End Alzheimer's at Westminster Canterbury. It will take place on Friday, October 1, at 10:30 a.m. in the Wright Courtyard Garden West. There will be live entertainment, great weather and a path to walk in support of Alzheimer's awareness and research. It is the kickoff to Alzheimer's Awareness Week.

From Monday, October 4, to Thursday, October 7, we will feature our Medical Director Dr. Jim Wright, a speaker from the Alzheimer's Association, a movie and brain games. Please see the flyers throughout campus and Touchtown for times and locations.

These events are open to Westminster Canterbury residents and staff only.

## **Jason Collins**

### *Underground Storage Tank Work*

On Tuesday, October 5, starting at 9:45 a.m., weather permitting, we will pump fuel from an old Underground Storage Tank in the Campbell Garden, located outside of the November Gallery. Hoses will run through Foundation Hall. For approximately 1.5 hours, we will reroute foot traffic around this work. The foot traffic from the south end of the Courtyard will be rerouted near the Center Entrance through the Canterbury Room,

outside to the Campbell Garden, and reenter the building outside the Rehab Center. Foot traffic from the Tower will be rerouted towards the Clinic, to Rehab, outside to the Campbell Garden and into the Canterbury Room. We chose this time of day because there will be some noise associated with the pump truck that we did not want to impact residents during the early morning. Escorts at several locations will help guide you around the impacted area.

### *Shops on Main*

The Shops on Main renovations are moving along ahead of schedule, expected to be completed by mid-October. Debra Jacobsen will work with Shops chairs on next steps and a potential reopening date.

### *Robotic Vacuums*

We are working with a local company to determine if semi-autonomous, battery-operated vacuums would be a viable solution to assist with cleaning our primary hallways. Residents may have seen this equipment on your floor over the past several weeks. We are researching effectiveness and potential opportunities that this technology may offer. This technology is currently in use at airports, hotels, office buildings and other commercial properties. We anticipate a report soon on the overall effectiveness and cost for this service. More details will be shared soon.

### *Landscaping Updates*

Landscape enhancement projects led by horticulturist Kathleen Pender around The Gables are going well. Two ash trees were removed due to disease. We always try to save trees when possible. The Courtyard West project is proceeding with an extensive amount of work rerouting irrigation lines and making drainage improvements. Plant installations will follow. We expect these projects to be completed in October. Thank you to Kathleen for sharing her expertise on the type of plantings that lead to beautiful landscaping that is the right fit for the Central Virginia climate.

## **Logan Augustine**

### *Pastoral Care Update*

The next Music in the Sanctuary concert featuring the concert pianist Maria Yefimova will be Thursday, October 7, at 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Please pick up a ticket from the Tower Desk or Center Business Center by Friday, October 1. The Sara Belle November Theater's Low-November Box Office does not handle Music in the Sanctuary series tickets.

Rev. Rebecca Weaver will lead a service of Celtic Communion on Sunday, October 3, at 4 p.m.

On Thursday, October 7, join us for worship and Holy Communion in the Sanctuary with Rev. Bob Friend from St. James' Episcopal Church.

Residents are invited to bring their animals or photos of their animals to the Dog Park, located between the Avalon Entrance and Cochrane Pond, on Monday, October 4, at 4 p.m. Rev. Rebecca Weaver, Anne Freeman and Rev. Dr. Lynn McClintock will lead a short Blessing of the Animals Service.

*The following comes from Rev. Dr. Malcom Guite, poet, priest, and chaplain of Girton College Cambridge:*

“Now for the harvest! All is rich and full;  
the swelling grape is ripe upon the vine,  
so may his blessing sanctify your fall,  
and old love be remembered in new wine.  
Now may your ears be open to God's call.  
You stand on holy ground, look up and see:  
God's love burns red and gold in every tree.”