



COVID-19 UPDATE

For Residents, Family Members, and Staff

Thursday, July 23rd, 2020

With the global community eagerly awaiting the start COVID-19 Phase 3 vaccine trials in the next few days, the logical follow up question is the status of pharmaceutical research and development of therapeutics designed to treat a broad spectrum of conditions presenting in those who have contracted the virus.

Good news on the near horizon: The National Institutes of Health expect to begin large scale trials on several potential therapies very soon. So far, the antiviral Remdesivir and the steroid dexamethasone, both of which are in late stage trial studies, have demonstrated positive outcomes in patients receiving them. The new therapies slated to begin advanced trials include antiviral monoclonal antibodies designed to block the Covid-19 virus and blood thinners that would treat Covid-19 patients susceptible to problems caused by blood clots.

NIH is leading these new trials with the cooperation and direct involvement of the coalition ACTIV -- Accelerating CCOVID-19 Therapeutic Interventions and Vaccines, which is a public-private partnership of government agencies, research universities, bio-pharmaceutical companies and philanthropic organizations.

Cumulative Active COVID-19 Cases at The Pines as of: 7/23/20

Health Center (Assisted Living) Resident: 1 case

Independent Living Resident: 1 case

Non-Health Center Staff: 1 case

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Fifth Third Bank Update

The Pines was recently informed by Fifth Third Bank that it is closing its branch office in our Community Center. We understand that the bank plans to call its Pines' clients directly. The

Pines is actively seeking to find an alternative bank that would be willing to provide on-site services.

Visiting Our National Parks Virtually

There are many ways you can experience America's national parks through your computer. View great photos here: [Share Your Park](#). Listen to sounds from the National Park Service's Natural Sounds and Nigh Sky Division by clicking here: [Parktracks](#). For a complete list of ways to enjoy our national parks from your home, visit here: [Virtual Visit](#).

Crossnore Volunteer Superstars!

With the help of a team of volunteers who engaged in some "heavy lifting," Sue McFarland, co-chair of the Residents' Association's Community Outreach Committee, recently orchestrated the donation of the *many* items in our Crossnore Closet to the Crossnore School and Children's Home. This charitable organization operates a thrift store that helps fund its work.

Bob Millikin (pictured right) packed up the donated items into more than 75 boxes and along with Ron Zerkle, brought these boxes down from the second-floor closet to a site near our loading dock. Bob, George McFarland and staff later loaded the Crossnore truck when it arrived early. Thank you, also, to the additional resident volunteers who arrived to help – the loading process went so smoothly and swiftly! To learn more about the organization these donations will benefit, click here: [Crossnore](#).



Collection Closet

As you may know, The Pines has been trying to separate staff workplaces so they can work at safe distances during COVID-19. To accommodate this, the collection closet and the activity department closet in the Arts and Crafts Room need to be used as temporary staff offices at this time. Other staff offices are also being vacated due to the construction process.

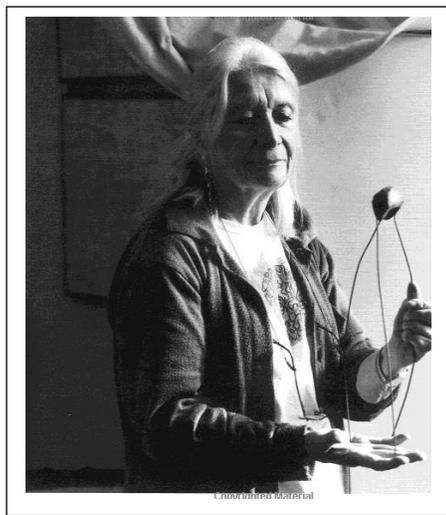
The shredder will be located on the counter next to the sink in the Arts and Crafts room for residents' use. Various other items (batteries, ink cartridges, pill bottles and light bulbs) that were already in the collection closet will be properly disposed of or distributed to appropriate sites by the Activity staff. The collection bins have been labeled and will be packed in a storage unit off campus temporarily. We appreciate your patience as we try to respond to current COVID-19 and construction related needs.

Divas, Dames and Dolls



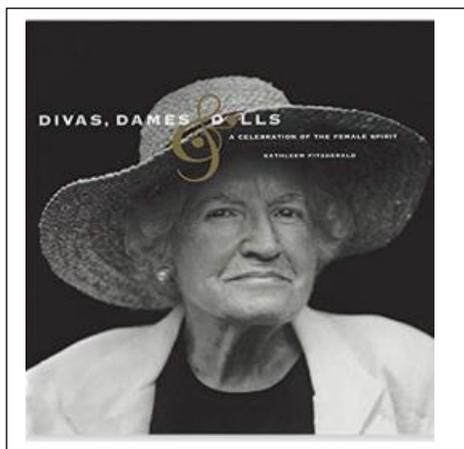
The Pines was the recipient of an extraordinary gift as well! Portrait photographer and author Kathleen Fitzgerald, who lives in Davidson, (pictured left with her husband John) donated to The Pines 100 copies of her book *Divas, Dames and Dolls*. On the next page is a sampling of the photos, each of which includes (in the book) a brief biography and short reflection by the individual featured.

Kathleen notes, “At this stressful and chaotic moment in time, I want to share something inspirational. (The book) profiles the lives of fantastic older women: 60 to 106 from across our country. Many live in North Carolina.”



She adds, “The book is a celebration of the female spirit. It took me seven years to complete this tribute to the ordinary, yet extraordinary older woman. Each of these women are unique, but what unifies them is the indelible strength shown in their response to the highs and lows of everyday life. The women in this collection shared their wisdom, humor and most of all, their humanity. I hope you find peace and inspiration in their stories.”

There are still some copies available for residents. Please call Motria at ext. 1489 or email her at Motria if you would like a copy.



Closing Image

Thank you, Bill Reinke, for taking the photo below of an extraordinary crape myrtle in Azalea Court.

