



## **COVID-19 UPDATE**

***For Residents, Family Members, and Staff***

**Monday, April 27, 2020**

Dogs, cats and COVID-19 – information ALL of us need to have...

Over the last several days, different stories have appeared that have raised questions about whether pets can contract COVID-19 and whether we – the humans – can get COVID-19 from our furry friends. In today's UPDATE introduction we'll explore this relatively new question about the virus and suggest additional information resources should you want to dive deeper into this subject.

First and foremost, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Services (CDC) and the World Organization for Animal Health have issued advisories stating there is no evidence at this time that companion animals can spread the COVID-19 virus to people. The World Small Animal Veterinary Association, an organization representing more than 200,000 veterinarians, takes a similar position, but advises there is much we are still learning about this virus and caution is prudent at this time.

A very small number of animals, including dogs and cats, and a small number of zoo animals at one location have tested positive for the virus and a fraction of those exhibited mild respiratory symptoms. In each of these situations, a person in close contact with the animals had tested positive for COVID-19 and likely passed the virus to the animals.

So, what precautionary actions should we take at this time? At the top of the list is careful hand-washing after handling a pet (and its food or supplies) and after picking up and disposing of pet waste. The CDC also encourages pet owners not to let their pets interact with people or other animals outside the household, and when walking dogs on a leash maintain that all-important six feet of physical distance from other people and other animals. If you are not a pet owner, but enjoy petting other people's pups, the experts strongly advise that we enjoy those dogs from at least a 6-foot distance. It is possible that droplets from an infected individual can get on the coats of a pet, and then touching the pet could spread the virus.

For those of us who are pet owners, our pets are terrific company and a great comfort. We encourage you to follow these guidelines for your safety and for your pet's safety just as we are heeding the personal guidelines in our own daily practices. For more information about COVID-19 and pet safety, the CDC has posted related information at this link: [Animals](#)

## HELPFUL INFORMATION

### Campus Colors

Resident Nancy Griffith shares the following photos taken at The Pines. Such color and beauty!



### Identifying Plants on Campus

George Gabel, President of The Pines Nature Organization (PNO), shares the following link that provides a list of apps which help a person identify plants: [Gardening](#). This online list notes which apps are free and which require a fee. Mr. Gabel has found these helpful to identify flowers, plants and trees at The Pines, since our residents are enjoying our campus more than ever. He has also discovered that wearing a mask helps with his pollen allergies!

***Important note regarding the Gardening link above or any other link: please never feel compelled to sign-up for a newsletter, survey or any other request from the hosting website.***

### Housekeeping Services

We are well into our planning process to begin offering a limited level of housekeeping services through a phased process, to begin in May. Because of pent-up desire for these services, the first phase will be significantly limited so that we can provide all residents “the basics” in a timely manner. We will have more to share about this soon.

## Construction Corner

Our renovation and expansion project continues to progress! Here are some highlights of Rodgers Builders' work planned for this week:

- New Nursing Wing: the team continued to hang hard ceilings, finish the drywall and prime paint throughout the first floor; framing of hard ceilings and drywall hanging continues on the second floor.
- Villas: weather barrier and window installation continues in Villa #1; preparation for exterior brick installation is taking place in Villa #2.
- Phase Two Dining: design team is working off punchlist items.
- Davidson Room addition: Rodgers is continuing to frame interior walls.
- Fitness Center: exterior wall framing will begin.

(Photos clockwise from left: Phase Two Dining area; new Nursing Wing Room; new Nursing Wing corridor)



## Scam Warning

Thank you, resident Art Englebardt for sharing the following important information:

*The IRS has issued a scam alert on a scam involving the money the government has been giving out because of the Coronavirus-19:*

- They will not call you.
- They will not ask for your Medicare number.
- They will not ask for your social security number.
- They will not ask you for your bank information.
- JUST HANG UP.
- There have also been a few calls about winning a contest.
- Don't be surprised if they know your name and even your apartment number.
- JUST HANG UP.

## Prescription Pick-up Clarification

Wendy Tobin shares the following note: prescriptions are picked up on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at CVS Davidson **AND** Harris Teeter Antiquity **AND** Walgreens near Antiquity. When you make your request for a pick up please give us your pharmacy and date of birth. Please have your charge card on file at CVS and Walgreens. We can use our Harris Teeter card for the HT prescriptions. Finally, if you wish for us to get any essential over-the-counter health items such as band-aids, mouthwash, etc., please tell the pharmacy and they will have it bundled with your items. Thank you and I hope this has cleared up any confusion from a previous communication.

## Closing Image



Resident John Williamson sent this photo and writes,

*“This is an iris, about two weeks ago, from a friend on Dogwood Lane. To me, it is an example of exquisite beauty in white. I brought this specimen from my mother’s garden in Bladen County, NC. She obtained it from her mother, my grandmother. One of my all-time favorites.”*

John shared this iris with his neighbor on Dogwood Lane, where he lived for 22 years, having bought Claude McConnell’s house. Interestingly, irises are cloned by rhizomes, which need to be “repotted” in their soil every few years. When replanted, there are often more than enough to make new plantings or share. Irises also reproduce by seed, but do not breed true. Thank you, John, for both this lovely photo and marvelous biology lesson!