



COVID-19 UPDATE
AND OTHER HELPFUL INFORMATION

For Residents, Family Members, and Staff
Thursday, December 3, 2020

We learned today that a non-Health Center staff has tested positive for COVID-19 on 12/2. This individual is being treated in a hospital at this time.

Two staff members who had tested positive for COVID-19 earlier have recovered and have now met the return-to-work requirements.

Due to the staff member cases of COVID-19 in our Health Center, The Pines is listed along with 20 other CCRCs, in the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) COVID-19 Outbreak in Congregate Living Settings Report, which can be read on our website or by clicking here: [DHHS Outbreak Report](#)

Routine indoor and outdoor visitations in our Schramm Health Center will restart on 12/13 if there are no more positive COVID-19 cases among our Health Center staff or residents before that date.

New COVID-19 Case at The Pines (12/3/2020)

Non-Health Center Staff: 1 Case

Cumulative Active COVID-19 Cases at The Pines (12/3/2020)

Health Center Staff: 2 Cases

Non-Health Center Staff: 1 Case

A Note from Heather McKee, Interim Executive Director and CEO

Over the last four days, I have had a remarkable introduction to the richly varied and complex life of this community. Meetings (mostly virtual) with members of your Board of Directors, Residents' Council, medical staff, future Poplar Hill Villa residents, construction supervisors and the senior leadership staff have provided me with a deeper understanding of both immediate and long-term needs of this organization.



But it has been my visits with residents, informally thus far, that have been especially rewarding – I have enjoyed meeting many of you while walking on campus or visiting with moviegoers in the Living Room. Seeing you as you engage in the life of The Pines is essential for me to understand both your current experience and hopes for this community. I am looking forward to formal opportunities to meet with many of you, which are being arranged, either near your residence or via Zoom.

With the special insights I have gained this week, I would like to commend Steve Jewell for his leadership of The Pines over the last 5 and half years. His tenure here has been filled with challenging circumstances, and we are grateful for his dedicated service. Tomorrow morning, I hope you will join me in watching a special video tribute, led by Board Chair Harrison Marshall, which recognizes Steve for his commitment to this organization. The following is a link to this video, which will go “live” at 10:00am on Friday, 12/4: [Tribute to Steve Jewell](#).

On behalf of everyone at The Pines, we wish Steve and his wife Beth our warmest best wishes for their future in Virginia.

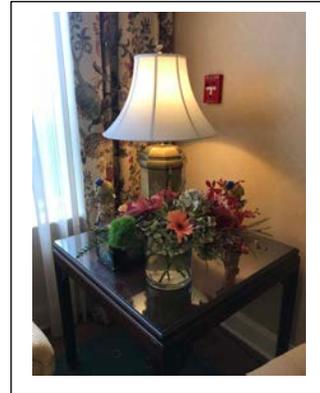
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Temporary Pause on Waited Service Dining

Due to increasing community spread of COVID-19 in our region, and out of abundance of caution to protect staff and residents, waited sit down dining will be put on a temporary pause beginning this coming Monday, December 7th. Our staff is prepared for all residents to be using our meal delivery service at this time. Thank you for your understanding regarding this temporary pause of services.

Decorative Holiday Colors

December's signature poinsettias have arrived, decorating our Jetton Community Center lobby. Thank you, Carol Cook (pictured left), chair of the Resident Association's Flower Committee, for helping to distribute these decorative holiday plants as well as several lovely flower arrangements (top photo right) donated to The Pines by Rodgers Builders.



COVID-19: C.D.C. Quarantine Guideline Change

You may have heard in the news yesterday that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (C.D.C.) shortened the quarantine periods for those who may have been exposed to the coronavirus, depending on local circumstances and resources. Please click on this link to read the C.D.C. recommendation change: [Guidelines](#). The Pines' management is examining these guideline changes and considering how these new recommendations may alter current resident and staff quarantine policies.

During their announcement, the C.D.C. also urged all individuals to avoid travel during the holidays. Dr. Henry Walke of the C.D.C. noted yesterday, "The best way to protect yourself and others is to postpone travel and stay home."

Helpful Visual Regarding Masks

Sheila Englehardt, co-chair of the Resident Association's Health Services Committee, shares this useful winter analogy/image related to mask wearing.

Unfortunately, COVID-19 is both invisible and increasingly present in our region. Please remember to wear a mask to help protect yourself and your neighbors.

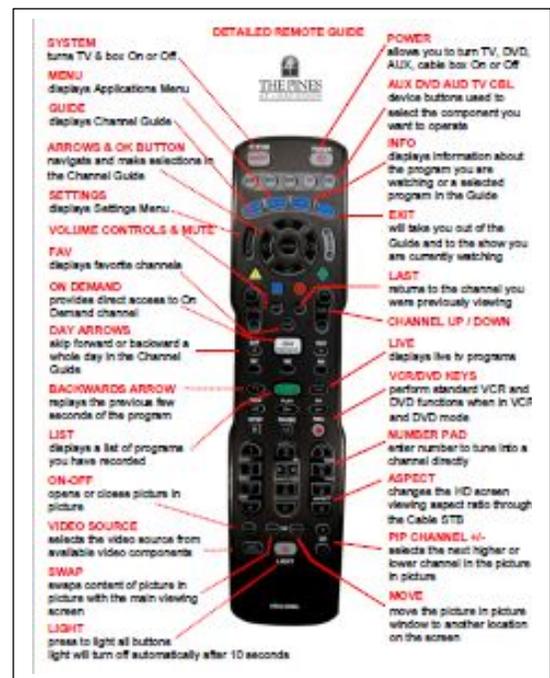


Continuum Update

Technicians from Continuum should have completed all their initial visits with residents in the Main Building by the end of today (Thursday). If a resident was not home and Continuum was not able to verify or update their devices, a resident can choose one of the following options to complete or verify their upgrade:

1. Meet with the Continuum Customer Representative on Monday, December 7th between 9:30am to 1:30pm in the Community Center Living Room. A technician can then accompany the resident to their home and complete the upgrade.
2. Call Continuum Customer Service number to set up an appointment on a day that works best for your schedule at 704-235-6325.

Continuum has also provided residents with detailed remote guides (photo right). Click here to see these again: [Remotes](#)



Landscaping Additions



Earlier this week, crepe myrtles trees were lined up, ready to be planted along the path between the employee parking lot and the new Poplar Hill Villas.

Deciduous magnolia trees and large holly bushes are being added to this area as well.

Closing Image

Many thanks to Ginger Johnston for sharing her latest oil painting. She writes,

“This abandoned phone booth sits on our Dunes State Park beach road in Vermont. Back in the 60's and 70's, kids called their parents to come pick them up. Now they all have phones!”

