October 2020

Neighborhood News



Flu Season is back!

October 1 is the official start date of the influenza ("flu") season. Most cases of influenza occur in January & February but can occur even as late as May. Symptoms of influenza include: fever, cough, sore throat, headache, chills, muscle aches, and fatigue. Influenza is highly contagious, and coupled with potential COVID-19 during this pandemic, it is imperative that everyone takes precautionary measures both at work and at home. These measures include: getting the vaccine, covering your mouth when you cough/sneeze, and frequent hand washing. By taking extra precautions during the "flu" season, you can help with the prevention of the transmission of the influenza virus.



FAMILY UPDATE

As required, we must notify residents, families and staff if there are any positive COVID tests. On (09/23) we were alerted that two staff members tested positive from our Monday (09/21) testing. One staff member is a direct care worker (without symptoms) on the Dogwood Pavilion (Please note, all residents including those on Dogwood unit have tested negative). The other positive result came from an on-call staff member who has not worked since 07/31. On Wednesday(10/07) we were also made aware that two Dietary staff members tested positive from the COVID testing that took place on Monday (10/05).

In response to the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, notification of the Governor's orders for all nursing homes to test their staff and residents for COVID-19 the most recent weekly testing was completed on Monday, October 5th. Nearly 600 staff and Pavilions residents were tested.

Due to the most recent test results the Pavilions is required to resume testing of the resident population on a weekly bases until we achieve the desired status of "With two weeks of no positive COVID-19 cases confirmed in the resident population, it is no longer required to test the residents". Therefore, resident testing will be conducted again next week in an effort to achieve the desired two weeks of no positive cases.

As a reminder, the current protocol for all new admissions, readmissions is to confirm a negative COVID test 72 hours prior to admission, and to quarantine for two weeks (14 days) once admitted. Additionally, those residents who leave the facility for external appointments, will also need to quarantine for two weeks (14 days) and be tested regularly for COVID-19. Weekly employee testing will continue until further notice, as mandated, due to the regions Medium-High Risk COVID status per the States Safe Map.

Additionally, while the Governor's orders since April were declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court. This does not negate the practices that we as a facility have to follow. The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Department has authority over nursing facilities in the event of a pandemic. State MDHHS Director Gordon has reissued the current restrictions on facilities including no visitation. We are still required to follow this mandate. We are also aware that CMS has provided direction to the State agencies on indoor visitations; however, we have been informed that we are not to allow this until directed by our State agency.

As always, if you have any questions or would like to schedule a virtual or window visit with a resident please contact the pavilion Assistant Director of Nursing (ADON) or social worker. For the cottages, please contact the director or the cottage nurse.



This Halloween may not look like past years but we would like to showcase your past costumes to our residents. Please send us a photo of an individual your loved one will recognize in their Halloween attire to jweir@gtpavilions.org

Submissions will need to be received by October 26. Photos collected will be broadcast over our Osborn Pavilions Channel on the resident televisions throughout Halloween day October 31. If you have any questions please call 231-932-3018 or e-mail iweir@gtpavilions.org



October 1- December 31



Policy on Supplying Homemade Foods and Purchased Foods for Loved Ones



We understand that bringing in homemade foods for your loved ones is a way to stay connected and something to look forward to during these difficult times. We wanted to share with you important policy and food safety information so we can ensure safe handling and consumption of goods. When planning to transport food please have a plan to maintain a safe temperature while in transit.

- Residents have the right to obtain foods from outside sources such as takeout and foods provided by family and friends.
- Before serving, staff will check for any suspicious or obviously contaminated food or beverage and discard.
- Foods brought in from the outside will be labeled with the resident's name, room number and dated by staff for a discard date.
- Foods purchased must be received as the manufacturer packed it. Restaurant foods shared from another person will not be accepted.
- Food will be discarded within 72 hours of receiving or opening, or by manufacturer's 'best by' date after opening. Foods beyond the manufacturer's date will be discarded.
- Fresh fruits and vegetables should be supplied in small amounts to prevent spoilage or premature discard.
- Foods must abide by any ordered texture modification, i.e. pureed or ground.
- Food or beverage may be stored in facility pantry refrigerators, freezers, or resident's personal room refrigerator, if applicable. Storage space may be limited.
- Foods that don't require refrigeration may be stored in a resident's room or in the pavilion pantry. Storage space may be limited.
- No home-prepared food items that are canned or preserved will be permitted.

Main Building - 1000 Pavilions Circle Traverse City, MI 49684 (231) 932-3000

Evergreen Cottage - 521 Cottageview Drive (231) 932-3600 Hawthorn Cottage - 523 Cottage Arbor Lane (231) 932-3620 Willow Cottage - 525 Cottage Arbor Lane (231) 932-3640 Grand Traverse Pavilions Foundation Office (231) 932-3018

Website - www.gtpavilions.org

