6-12-2020

To Our Residents and Family Members:

Governor Cuomo reported in his daily briefing that New York State has achieved the lowest transmission rate of COVID-19 of all states in the U.S. Throughout the pandemic, New York had the highest infection rate in the country, but now, we have the lowest transmission rate in the country. The number of new cases, hospitalizations, and COVID-19 related deaths in New York State is steadily declining. Because of this steady progress, the Governor has reduced the mandatory diagnostic testing requirement for nursing home staff from twice weekly to once a week. We will continue to report positive staff and resident results on this site, as needed. Unfortunately, he also indicated that NYS nursing home visitation restrictions will remain in place until health officials determine they can be safely lifted.

I am pleased to report that since our last weekly update, there have been NO new positive cases in our resident population. One resident that is still testing positive continues to isolate in our designated COVID-19 section. LCC has had no COVID-19 related deaths to date.

Staff testing produced one new positive result this week. The staff person was informed and instructed to isolate at home, per DOH guidelines.

Our "drive-by parade" scheduled for tomorrow, 6/13, will begin <u>10:30 a.m.</u> It's another way to connect with your loved one, so please help us make this a memorable event for our residents—there's still time to sign up by contacting Carolyn at 845-235-8230, or our Nurse Manager, Cherie, at 845-235-8161. This event will be in lieu of window visits on **Saturday**. During your visit, please take a moment to view the display of painted rocks on the hill of the front parking lot. Each rock in the "LCC Gratitude Rock Garden" was individually painted by a resident or staff member with things for which they are thankful. We have also designated every Thursday as "Thankful Thursdays! This week our residents and staff celebrated the day by sharing root beer and creamsicle floats.

While we are not permitted to resume visitation, our residents will be pleased to know that we will be **reopening our newly disinfected Beauty Salon on Thursday, 6/18!!** There will be some noticeable changes, however, including limiting service to two residents at a time to allow for social distancing; salon staff will be screened upon entry to the facility and will be subject to diagnostic testing; salon capes will be cleaned and disinfected between residents; and masks will be worn by the stylists while providing services to the residents. The salon will be open four days per week with a designated day for each unit.

Our Podiatrist will also be returning next week. In order to protect our residents, screening, diagnostic testing, and donning of a mask will be required while providing care.

Our Window Visits" will resume on Sunday, 6/14 between the hours of 1 p.m. – 4 p.m. 24hour advance notice is required, masks are strongly encouraged, and no resident contact is permitted. "Virtual visits" with your loved ones via SKYPE and FaceTime can be facilitated by Carolyn and our Unit Managers, as necessary. Please use these opportunities to stay connected with our residents.

As usual, I will take this opportunity to publicly and proudly thank the LCC staff for all they do for our residents each and every day! Please join me in applauding LCC's masked "health care heroes!"

Our Unit Managers, Social Workers, and the Director of Nursing are here to provide you with clinical updates and to discuss any resident concerns you may have as they arise. Please visit the CDC and/or the NYS Department of Health websites for general information on the virus.

We are New York Strong, we are LCC Strong--wear your masks, get tested, and respect social distancing recommendations. We miss you!

Patricia Ludington, RN Administrator