



May 4, 2020

Dear St. John's Meadows and Brickstone by St. John's Residents,

It certainly has been awhile since we have had a **Coffee with Paul** on Monday mornings and I, for one, miss you all. Because we are still unable to meet in person, I wanted to send along some community updates.

While our community has been in a holding pattern, you may have noticed some work being done to continue the updates we began last year. The following are currently being addressed at St. John's Meadow's in the community and around the grounds.

- Roof repair at Chestnut Court
- New lighting and ceiling tiles being replaced in the Cafe
- Roadways will be repaired with new black top and striping done once the weather cooperates
- The pool has been emptied and thoroughly cleaned and will hopefully be opened soon
- Winter grounds repair is underway with reseeding, mulching, and trimming
- Cottage gutters are in the process of being cleaned

Here is the latest on the Briarwood renovation:

- The old concrete patio at Briarwood has been removed and the new concrete will be poured, weather permitting
- New patio furniture has been ordered
- Work in the multi-purpose room/ private dining room is on hold pending a fire inspection
- Work on the art studio (old club room) has begun

COVID-19 Updates:

- On Friday, May 1, the Monroe County Department of Health was at Hawthorne to inspect the precautions that have been put in place for the residents and staff since March. DOH's comment was that the Hawthorne team has done a great job keeping and enacting all DOH precautions. There were only a few minor recommendations offered to our team.

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- **Everyone is wondering when our community will return to normal.** The management team and I have developed a phased plan to re-open amenities, common spaces, and social recreation programming. However, I will not release the phased plan until the New York Department of Health advises that it is safe to do so. The current date Governor Cuomo has set to begin the process of opening is on May 15. This will be a slower process and does not mean everything will immediately re-open. We will do our best to reintroduce opportunities for all to gather safely and enjoy each other's company again.
- **We have considerations to weigh prior to the reintroduction.**
  - A. The first is the recognition that many of us are an "at risk population," which may mean the May 15 date could be delayed.
  - B. If residents become ill with the COVID-19, the risk for cross contamination is too great to allow opening the community to group activities.
  - C. NYS could rescind the May 15 date and push the date out to the end of May or beyond.
  - D. There can always be another unknown factor that will change our phased plan to re-open.
- **The screening system at Briarwood and Chestnut Court continues to be the best method to minimize the exposure of COVID-19 in the community.** Many of our team members have stepped up to fill in shifts on the evenings and weekends to assure safety for residents. Please remember to share a "thank you" with our team.
- **We are preparing for a second wave of COVID-19.** According to the experts, it is predicted that there will be another wave during flu season of COVID-19. We have created a second wave *Plan of Action* so that we will be able to swiftly and efficiently put all measures in place to protect residents and staff. This plan includes having enough PPE on hand for staff protection, screening kits ready for use, placement of precaution signage throughout the community, and a community-wide communication plan.
- **Remember not to drop your guard.** Our "army" of staff members continues to work diligently with safety measures to keep our community virus free. With that being said, we have observed several staff members and residents with a mask either loosely hanging from their neck or not on their face at all. There have also been social distance infractions as our community's workers are unnecessarily too close. We are receiving more calls from family members requesting permission for in-person visitation. Because the risk of exposure has not lessened, we must emphasize the continuation of all precautionary measures.

During day-to-day activities please be mindful of taking these measures:

1. The CDC recommends washing your hands regularly with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, and/or sanitizing with an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that is at least 60% alcohol. .
2. Frequently clean common surfaces — such as counters, kitchen seats, door knobs, light switches, and anything you and others may touch on a frequent basis with a disinfectant.
3. When going out in public, avoid crowded areas and remain at a six foot distance from others.
4. Continue to avoid close proximity to those showing flu-like symptoms such as coughing, shortness of breath, and sneezing.
5. When in public make sure to wear a mask or facial covering.

I must commend you all for your unwavering patience throughout this significant health threat to our community. I know you are all missing the physical connection with loved ones and also longing to rejoin social programs and activities. Your cooperation has been extremely helpful while we keep each other safe. We are incredibly blessed to have such a wonderful residents and a community that protects one another.



Remember, if you do not comply Oliver will visit you in your apartment and give you a big muddy hug!

With the deepest respect,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Paul Bartlett". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Paul Bartlett