



Kentmere Gazette

May 2021

Happy May! Here is the latest edition of the Kentmere Gazette

Staff Changes

Welcome to Rebecca Koreck, the new Director of the Social Services Department. Some of you may recognize Rebecca, as she worked in that same position 5 years ago. She is back and ready to serve you. Our interim Director of Nursing (DON) is Brandi Wilson. The Assistant DON is Shadrack Rotich. There will be a new Director of Nursing beginning on June 14th. His name is Chad Golden. He has many years of health care experience and will be a great asset to Kentmere. Brandi will continue overseeing Nursing Operations.

Vaccinations, Testing, and COVID-19 Infections

Kentmere continues to administer vaccines for staff and residents. Currently, 98% of all residents have been vaccinated and 81% of all staff have been vaccinated. The Kentmere Administrative team continues to strongly encourage all staff and residents to become vaccinated.

Fully vaccinated staff and residents are no longer being tested on a routine basis. The term fully vaccinated refers to any individual that is two weeks past their second dose (of a two-dose vaccination series) or two weeks past their single dose (of a single dose vaccination). The fully vaccinated are only tested if they become symptomatic. Unvaccinated staff or partially vaccinated staff continue to be tested weekly.

Unvaccinated or partially vaccinated residents are being tested monthly. This is in compliance with state and federal mandates for testing. While

the testing requirements have changed for both staff and residents, all staff are still required to complete a health screening upon the start of every shift worked; residents are also screened every shift to ensure any symptom is caught early.

The above-described testing protocol would change if there were to be an outbreak of COVID 19 infection. Remember one staff or one resident who tests positive for COVID would be considered an outbreak.

Outbreak testing would include immediate rapid testing of all the staff and residents that were potentially exposed to the virus, and weekly testing thereafter, until there has been 14 days with no new identification of cases. We have been fortunate and our infection-control efforts have been very successful. There have been no cases among residents in approximately eight weeks. There have been no cases among staff in approximately four weeks.

Indoor Visitation

Indoor visitation has been taking place, successfully. Residents are limited to two visitors in their rooms for two hour periods of time. Visitors must be sixteen or over and must sign in at the front desk between 10:00am and 4:00pm. We are happy to report that most visitors are abiding by the rules---completing the visitation form, taking their temperature, properly wearing a mask, and staying in their loved one's room during the visit. We encourage all visitors to abide by these rules as we strive to keep all residents safe. As always, outdoor visits in the courtyard or near the building are encouraged as virus transmission is steeply decreased in outdoor settings. Residents are also free to go out with their family.

Group Activities

Bingoooo! Happy Hour! Arts & Crafts! Board Games! Kentmere has always offered great opportunities for residents to socialize and get to know one another. Group Activities such as Bingo and Happy Hour were previously conducted on the first floor to large crowds, often with refreshments and live musical entertainment. We had our first group Bingo game on May 21! (See photos, below!) While, we're not totally back to all group activities yet, the Activities Staff is continuing to hold smaller group activities on each floor. Happy Hour carts come around on Wednesdays, but are limited to each floor. If everyone in a group activity is vaccinated (staff and residents), masks are optional for residents who are participating in the activity. If anyone in the group is not vaccinated, masks would be required in the group activity for all participants. (Staff would always be required to wear masks during these activities.) Check your calendar for the lists of other activities that are held throughout the week on your floor. So, feel free to come out of your rooms and join in the individual or group activities on your floor, while we carefully take steps to expand these activities to larger spaces on the first floor.

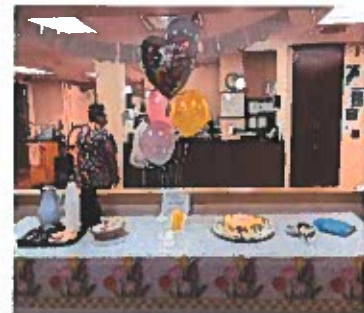


Mother's Day Celebration



On Mother's Day Sunday, it was a little cold and damp outside, preventing the Mother's Day Tea that was scheduled to take place in Kentmere's Courtyard. However, that didn't stop the celebration! The Activities staff was

busy all weekend carting beautiful floral arrangements, sent by grateful family members, throughout the facility. On Sunday, there were decorative tables with delicious pastries to honor the cherished mothers among us.



Hopefully, a memorable day was had by all.

First Floor Dining Rooms

In the past, the first floor dining room provided residents throughout the building with a vibrant and elegant dining experience. We are getting closer to recreating that ambiance. In the very near future, the first floor dining room will be open to residents from the first and second floors as long as all diners are vaccinated. We will be able to seat more than one person at a table under these conditions. Stay tuned for further developments.

Outside Appointments

Medical Appointments outside of the facility are allowed. However, telemedicine visits are encouraged.

Indoor renovations



The indoor renovations are just about done. We have finished the final floor, the ground floor. Next comes wall painting, new furniture for every floor and artwork on the walls.

Resident rooms will eventually receive new furniture also. This work is scheduled to begin in the September/October timeframe. Stay tuned!

Jokes of the Month

A husband and wife were driving through Louisiana. As they approached Natchitoches, they started arguing about the pronunciation of the town. They argued back and forth, then they stopped for lunch. At the counter, the husband asked the cashier, "Before we order, could you please settle an argument for us? Would you please pronounce where we are very slowly?" The cashier carefully leaned over the counter and said, "Burr-gerrr Kiiing."



A man was driving and saw a truck stalled on the side of the highway that had ten penguins standing next to it. The man pulled over and asked the truck driver if he needed any help. The truck driver replied, "If you can take these penguins to the zoo while I wait for AAA that will be great!" The man agreed and the penguins hopped into the back of his car. Two hours later, the trucker was back on the road again and decided to check on the penguins. He showed up at the zoo and they weren't there! He

headed back into his truck and started driving around the town, looking for any sign of the penguins, the man, or his car. While driving past a movie theater, the truck driver spotted the guy walking out with the ten penguins. The truck driver yelled, "What are you doing? You were supposed to take them to the zoo!" The man replied, "I did and then I had some extra money so I took them to go see a movie."

Meet Joseph Andrews -- Resident



Joseph has been a resident at Kentmere for close to three years. He is a first floor resident. He is a native of Delaware, growing up in the Brandywine Hundred section of Wilmington. He graduated from Concord High School. Between his junior and senior year at Concord High, he, along with one other Concord student, was selected to represent the high school at the Delaware Governor's Program for Excellence, at the University of Delaware for six weeks. This program brings together academically and artistically talented students for an enriching and dynamic experience. After high school, he attended Delaware Technical Community College and received an Associate Degree in Accounting. He worked at various jobs before settling on his career path. He worked at Foulk Manor North nursing home doing maintenance work for a brief period. He also worked at Rite Aid as a cashier and at the Brandywine YMCA. One of his favorite early jobs was working at the former Wilmington Hilton hotel, checking in guests and doing an internal audit each night. This position prepared him for his eventual career at PNC Bank. He worked for PFPC Incorporated, a subsidiary of PNC. He worked as a mutual fund accountant. Among his duties, he wrote macros (little computer programs) that were used by other accountants to save them time in doing their daily duties. He enjoyed this job very much. He

worked there for 16 years until he left to care for his elderly mother in 2006.

Joseph is a devout Catholic. He was named after his Uncle, Brother Joe Andrews, who was a Brother of the Holy Cross, stationed in Connecticut. Brother Joe played an influential role in Joseph's life. Joseph attended all twelve years of the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD) program at the Church of the Holy Child to learn more about his Catholic faith.

When Joe was a young boy, age 6, his parents gave him a tape recorder as a gift for taking swimming lessons. While this was a large clunky device in that day, he mastered it and used it to record music. He developed a love of music and even made mixtapes for his girlfriends. His tastes in music varies, but classic rock music and new wave music are at the top of his list. He subscribes to SiriusXM radio and regularly listens to ten of their music stations. Joseph also enjoys watching C-Span, a practice he began long ago as a result of a spending time with his Uncle, Brother Joe.

Joseph is happy for the care he received from Kentmere staff, at all levels, during the pandemic. He believes Kentmere made great decisions to keep everyone safe and protected. He believes that staff has been brave and compassionate during this trying time in American history.

Meet Kenyal Clayton – Certified Nursing Assistant



Meet Kenyal Clayton. Kenyal has been working at Kentmere for over 14 years. She is a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) who works mainly on the second floor. She has also worked at Kentmere as a nursing scheduler. Kenyal grew up in Wilmington Delaware. Prior to starting work at Kentmere, she worked for a brief time at Wilmington Hospital in the Dietary

Department. She took a CNA class in high school and shortly thereafter began her career at Kentmere. Her typical day involves coming in, checking on her residents, getting them up, washed, dressed, and fed. She also gives extra care in doing her residents' hair and nails. Her goal is to make sure that her residents are doing well for the day. She has coped working through the pandemic by acknowledging that this challenging era is simply a fact of life and that one must adjust to things as they are and persevere. Her energetic and friendly personality has served her well in this regard. She enjoys the staff and residents at Kentmere and considers it a great place to work.

In her leisure time, Kenyal is busy with her three children, ages 17, 15 and 2. She loves being a Mom. She is also currently going to school. She is majoring in Behavioral Science and is also taking nursing classes. In the future she intends to start her own practice as a youth counselor. Kenyal has been accepted into the nursing program at the Delaware Skills Center and will begin classes on August 30th! In the very near future, Kenyal will be marrying her fiancé, Joel! Their special day is June 12, 2021.

Congratulations to the soon-to-be newlyweds and good luck to Kenyal on all her endeavors!

Meet Abigail Ferrier – Kentmere's Receptionist



Meet Abigail Ferrier, who has been Kentmere's Receptionist for the past four years. You may have seen her at the front desk, especially busy nowadays, due to the return of indoor visitation. Her position description includes multiple duties besides just answering the phone and welcoming visitors to the facility.

She schedules residents' doctor appointments, does clerical duties for the front office, orders supplies, prepares account payables, etc. She likes

meeting the new and different challenges of each day. She enjoys getting to know residents and their families. She also enjoys answering questions and concerns of new residents and family members and helping them as they adjust to their transition into a rehabilitation stay or into long term care.

Prior to her position at Kentmere, she worked for seven years as a cashier and then a manager at the Black Lab Breads Bakery. She's a lifelong resident of Wilmington and was a cheerleader during her High School years. When not working, she enjoys spending time with her friends and family. She also enjoys tending to Emmie, her rescue mixed terrier that she has had for seven years. She enjoys watching documentaries, dining out and swimming. She plans to take up golf with her father, as her next sports adventure.

While, she acknowledges the challenges that the previous year presented, she credits her generally positive outlook with helping her make it through the difficulties. She really came to appreciate the preciousness of life during this time. She recollects how she and her fellow workers came together and rose to the occasion for the daily challenges that confronted the facility during the worse of the pandemic. Her hope for the future is that everything will continue to get better, people will continue to be able to visit their loved ones, and that the world will be a more peaceful place to live in.

Passing of Fellow Residents

Our condolences to the friends and family of Dorothy Calhoun who passed on 05/13/2021.