A New Chapter for Saint Francis Home

It’s always sad to say goodbye to staff members with whom we have developed close relationships. It’s particularly hard when an administrator leaves, as we tend to think of them as the captain of our ship. Such is the case as we say farewell to Jeff McInnis this month. I know that many of us will miss his easygoing, friendly manner, his open-door approachability, and his flexible, human method of leadership.

Rest assured, we will not flounder in the face of Jeff’s departure. Jeff has vowed not to leave us in a lurch, making himself available to advise our team throughout the transition process. The search for a new administrator is already underway, and our leadership will carefully screen candidates, selecting a replacement who will truly serve our community’s best interests.

In the meantime, please remember that we are in good hands! Executive Director Bruce Slough, himself a licensed administrator, will be stepping in in the interim to guide our department directors. With his support, we will be able to continue to provide the best possible services to our residents.

Jimmy Newborn 11/8
Warren Williams 11/19

We’re so sorry to have said farewell to these residents, who relocated in October:
- Lucille Connell
- Benny McMillian
- Shelton Webb
- George Reid

Our prayers go out to the family of Sheridan Besosa. Mr. Besosa, a longtime Saint Francis Home resident, recently passed away. He will be sorely missed.

Alberta White recently moved in on the second floor of our Sullivan building. Please help us make her feel at home!

The Informer
November 2020

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COVID–19 and Social Visits Over the Holidays

COVID-19 is on the rise once again throughout many parts of the world. In fact, local retirement communities similar to our own have recently experienced serious coronavirus outbreaks. This is a sobering reminder that, as much as we might be experiencing restriction fatigue, it is not time to become lax about safety guidelines!

You may find yourself needing the comfort of friends and neighbors as we enter a challenging holiday season. Visiting with other residents is fine, just as long as you remain six feet away, wear your mask correctly and resist the urge to hug or shake hands. The same rules apply to visiting with family on our front porch. As a reminder, you must schedule your visit in advance with the concierge desk to ensure that there will be room to accommodate you. These rules are difficult for all of us, but they’re essential in determining whether we are able to keep infection at bay within our community.

Remember, we are still urging you NOT to leave Saint Francis Home, except for essential medical visits. Your every need is provided by our staff—food and hydration, and treats in the vending machine. If, for some reason, you must leave our building, please remember to always wear your mask properly, to sign out and back in, and to use hand sanitizer upon leaving and entering the facility.

If you are considering leaving campus overnight during the holidays, please discuss your plans with Frances Robinson, Director of Nursing. We can’t stop you from leaving to spend time with family, but your doing so may necessitate a 10 day quarantine upon your return, during which you would not be allowed to leave your room.

November Programs

Participation in all programs listed below are contingent on residents’ compliance with the following guidelines. If you should refuse to comply, you may be asked to leave for the sake of others’ safety.

- A mask must be worn over the nose, mouth and chin
- Hand sanitizer should be used before and after programs
- Maintain a 6-foot distance between yourself and others

Cycling Without Age will continue on Wednesdays and Saturdays through November 21, weather permitting. Please remember that you must sign up for a specific time in advance and you must be able to board the bike independently. Also, volunteers have asked us to remind you to dress warmly for November rides—due to COVID-19, no blanket will be provided.

Mary Stella will continue her 2 p.m. Wednesday concerts in the David Cran Courtyard through November 18, weather permitting. No sign-up is necessary to attend, but all members of the audience must adhere to safety precautions. Although we have enjoyed dancing to her joyful music, we must be sure to dance at a distance from one another. The last thing we want is for enjoyment of her music to cause the spread of illness!

Pet Therapy visits will continue, Wednesdays 3-4:30 p.m. on the front porch through November 18. Please be sure that you have signed up for a time slot and do not assume that you have an appointment because you are a “regular!” Call or go by the front desk prior to the day in question to find out if your name is on the list and what time you will be expected for your visit.

Hair Appointments will be taken for Kim Bradby’s November 21st visit to our salon. If you would like to receive her services, please contact Sarah Griffin as soon as possible, as time slots are limited. You may call Sarah at 237-5604 or email her at sgriffin@saintfrancishome.com to schedule your appointment. No walk-ins or waiting will be permitted.