

21 May 2020

## **COVID -19 COMMUNICATION No. 12**

Dear Residents

### **COVID Testing Update**

The 14 man team from the Gauteng Department of Health arrived punctually at 10am on Monday morning. They set up shop in the Secret Garden behind Fleming House and proceeded to test the Frail/MidCare night shift nurses, all other staff and all the Residents from Frail and MidCare. On Tuesday they started at Resthaven and then proceeded to Raleigh, Wesley, East and West Blocks and all 4 Rotary Park blocks. By the end of Tuesday they had done 226 tests. The Senior Sister advised us that this depleted their stock of test kits. They are sourcing more test kits so they can come back and test the rest of our Residents. I will be given an update on when this will be as soon as they have the tests. I will also share any results we get as and when we get them.

### **Paying tribute to our essential workers**

We have had limited success with the nightly 6pm pot banging/noise making initiative. Thank you to those Residents who did participate! We have had a few Residents suggest that we do this in a more co-ordinated/organized way – namely Ann & Ed Brunette and Sue Wides. Their suggestion is that we set a specific time during the period when you are all out and about on the Estate to bang/clap and cheer the incredible staff who have been working throughout the lockdown. So here goes:

**Days:** Tuesdays and Fridays  
**Time:** From 10h30am to 11h30  
**Where:** In front of Fleming dining room – nursing/cleaning/catering/Zelda  
Main gate – security staff  
Resthaven Spaza Shop & laundry – nursing/catering/cleaning staff  
Rotary Park Library – library staff Rose & Mike Crouch

**Our external cleaning and gardening staff will also benefit from all this celebrating wherever they are working on the Estate at the time.**

We truly believe that paying tribute to others is as uplifting to the givers as it is to the receivers as it is a selfless act of love and gratitude!

Which leads me to say a huge and heartfelt thank you to all of you for the fabulous acts of kindness you are doing every day.....whether it is making masks for our staff and Residents, collecting & delivering meals on behalf of others, making daily calls to those who need to hear a friendly voice, taking the time and trouble to send thank you notes/cards/emails/whatsapps of thanks and appreciation to the Randjes Team, doing shopping for your fellow Residents or taking them to a doctors appointment.....and so on.

This is what makes Randjes the special community that it is. I know many of you feel like the world is upside down and out of control, and of course it is right now. I find that it is more resourceful and useful to focus on what is in our control and to focus on the beauty around us – and there is so much beauty if you just look for it.



### **FNB Debit Order Problem**

We process the monthly debit orders in two batches every month. Unfortunately FNB experienced a glitch this month with our second batch. This means that 94 of you have not yet had your Randjes debit order deducted from your accounts. FNB are working on resolving the problem. We ask that you please ensure that these funds remain available in your account in the meantime.

### **Jocelyn Colombick Retiring**

At a time when so much has, and is, changing, we sadly have to announce a staff change. Jocelyn, our longest serving staff member, is retiring and will be leaving Randjes at the end of May. Although this may seem like short notice, we started discussions with Jocelyn in November 2019 and again in February in this regard and at that time agreed on the 3 month notice period of Mar/Apr/May. In her role as our OT/Art Therapy Teacher, Jocelyn has brought so much joy to so many of our Residents over the 29 years she has been with us. Her infinite patience, compassion and amazing ability to bring out the very best in her students are just some of the reasons why she will be deeply missed. The COVID restrictions mean that we will not be able to hold a formal farewell for Jocelyn when she leaves but we know that she has contacted her students personally to say her goodbyes. We know how sad Jocelyn's students will be at this news.

I am sure that you will all join us in sending Jocelyn much love and an abundance of luck and good wishes as she enters this next phase of her life.

Please be assured that Randjes will continue to offer OT/Art Therapy. We will start the search for a suitable teacher as soon as we are able to conduct personal interviews. This will be an outsourced position going forward.



**May Board Meeting**

We will be holding our next Board Meeting on the 26<sup>th</sup> May. The meeting will be a virtual meeting. The Chairman will provide a written feedback report during the course of the week following the Board Meeting.

**Our COVID-19 communication is put up on our Website under COVID-19 updates. Please let your family know so that they can read all updates that are sent out.**

Warm regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Gail', written in a cursive style.

**Gail**