

Dear Family and Friends,

New guidance as of April 1<sup>st</sup>, from the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) released updated recommendations on the most effective way to be protected against COVID-19 for anyone aged 65 years and older is to receive a twice dose of the 2023-2024 COVID-19 vaccination. Individuals 65 years and older are eligible if they receive their first dose a minimum of 4 months prior. Our primary vaccination day at Maryhill for COVID-19 was on December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023, so any resident over 65 could be eligible after April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024, per guidance for a second dose of the 2023-2024 COVID-19 vaccination. At this time, anyone under 65 is good with only the first dose of the 2023-2024 COVID-19 vaccine based on research. We will reach out to see if any residents or families are interested in the second dose and gather consents. Feel free to call and ask any additional questions to our nursing team.

**Resident Outings with Family Members:**

Before you take your loved one out of the building, will you please make sure to inform a staff member that you are leaving. As many of you know, we have the clip board in the main nurse's station for signing residents in and out (our tracking form) but just making sure someone is unaware you are leaving for a period of time. It is also a good time to make sure no medications are needed to be sent on your outing for your loved one as well. Thank you so much!

**Upcoming Event – Maryhill Celebrating 60 years in Operation:**

On May 1<sup>st</sup> from 2pm to 4pm we will be having an open house to celebrate 60 years of being able to serve the community and surrounding area. Getting to be a part of your family and your loved one's life is truly a blessing as we really get to create impactful relationships. We will have treats to enjoy throughout the event. If you are available, we would love for you to swing by Maryhill.



**Clothing and Personal Possession Reminder:**

SMP Health – Maryhill staff make every effort to prevent loss, breakage, or damage of your personal possessions. If we damage something when providing care or cleaning, we will adjust the loss. However, we do not replace items that are damaged through unknown circumstances or items that are lost or misplaced for which we have no responsibility. Please attempt to protect eyeglasses, dentures, hearing aids, and other personal items by having them marked and using a locked drawer. These items may also be turned into nursing staff and stored in the med cart nightly per request. Staff members will be more than willing to assist you with this.

With the change in season if you plan to switch out your loved one's clothes, please make sure they are marked/labeled to ensure they are returned after laundry services. If there is anything in your loved one's closet they don't wear or are too big/small feel free to take them home to create additional space for new items.

**Infection Control Update:**

Maryhill continues in routine status (COVID Free) from an infection control perspective. Just for informational background CDC and CMS issued new COVID-19 infection control recommendations for the general public but that does not apply to long-term care/skilled nursing facilities. So, each time we go into outbreak status which means having one positive case, we need to mask for a minimum of 14 days from the last positive case. We appreciate the support and corporation to be flexible and understanding of the regulations built around routine and outbreak status. Our infection control and disinfectant process is extremely important that we focus on daily to try to keep everyone as healthy as possible. Masking is optional currently but please wear a mask if you are symptomatic with any respiratory illness such as runny nose, coughing or sneezing. Masks will continue to be provided at all entrances. We also have hand sanitizer outside each room that we encourage you to utilize to help us keep everyone healthy. Please continue to check in to obtain a visitor badge prior to entry on the screening machine at the front entrance. Just a friendly reminder that you only need to screen in once a day.



***In Our Memories***

We extend our sympathy to the families and friends of this special person who had become part of our Maryhill family and has died in the past month. We treasure our memories with them and pray that God will be with their loved ones at this time of loss. We will remember....

***Arnold Schnell, 1944 – 2024***

***Robert Knecht, 1937 – 2024***

Stay healthy and God bless,  
***Bailyn Walz, CEO/Administrator***

