

# Home Times Monthly

*A newsletter for Pond Home residents with  
all the news that's fit to print*

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**August 2021 volume 162**

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To My Dear Residents,

If you watch the news, you are aware that Covid-19 cases are picking up all over the country. It is believed many of these stem from loosening of restrictions, July 4<sup>th</sup> gatherings, and a Delta variant that appears to be more easily transmitted.

Here in Massachusetts, the increase in cases on Cape Cod has prompted the Massachusetts Department of Public Health to issue updated guidelines for testing and visitation in long term care facilities throughout Barnstable County. They are testing staff and residents more frequently and requiring all visitors, regardless of vaccination status to wear masks when inside the building. Locally, we have learned of several long-term care facilities who are experiencing Covid outbreaks, requiring the reintroduction of restrictions to curb the spread.

I bet it is an understatement to say none of us want that to happen at Pond Home. We need to continue to make smart decisions and remain cautious, but we have reason to be hopeful too.

100% of you residents are fully vaccinated. In late July, it was reported that of the individuals being treated in hospitals for Covid more than 97% were unvaccinated. The vaccinations you have all received continue to provide protection for most from serious illness and complications. Those who are vaccinated carry a lower viral count if they do get Covid-19, making them less likely to spread it further.

In response to the news about Barnstable County, we at Pond Home have asked employees to have rapid Covid tests done here when they return from vacation or whenever they have an exposure concern. This is in addition to the requirement for all those employees who are unvaccinated or not fully vaccinated (less than two weeks out from their final vaccine shot) to be tested weekly.

Everyone wants to be able to live life and enjoy all that summer in Massachusetts offers. We can do this by making *safer* choices. On the next page you will find our recommendations for doing just that. We can make safer choices and still have fun with each other. We have proven that for months now!

Thanks for reading,



Becky Annis , Administrator

## **What can residents do to help keep all at Pond Home safe?**

- In this home, wear a mask when in the hallway or when staff need to enter your room to provide care.
- Make sure you are wearing your mask properly – covering your nose and mouth and changing them at least daily.
- Consider safer outings with family and friends – choose to gather outside, with a small number of people where you know all are vaccinated.
- When you do need to be inside, in a large gathering or with those who are not vaccinated, wear a mask.
- When going into stores wear a mask.
- Remember that children under 12 cannot get vaccinated at this time, so it is safer to wear a mask around them.

## **NATIONAL DAY FOR AUGUST**

**2<sup>ND</sup> Ice Cream Sandwich Day**

**6<sup>th</sup> Beer Day**

**13<sup>th</sup> Left Handers Day**

**15<sup>th</sup> Lemon Meringue Pie Day**

**16<sup>th</sup> Tell a Joke Day**

**17<sup>th</sup> Massachusetts Day**

**19<sup>th</sup> Bow Day**

**21<sup>st</sup> Senior Citizen Day**

**27<sup>th</sup> Just Because Day**

**28<sup>th</sup> Thoughtful Day**

**29<sup>th</sup> Chop Suey Day**

**31<sup>st</sup> Trail Mix Day**



# CONGRATULATIONS!

Few more graduates of 2021

Mayra Vaz - East Providence High School-entering  
the military

Alisha Guisti - Tri County (LPN)

Sarah Egan -St. Joseph's College of Maine (BSN)



**Saint  
Joseph's  
College  
of Maine**



# LEE'S CORNER

The day I thought would never see has finally arrived. Thursday, August 26<sup>th</sup>, will be my last day.

I am looking forward to my new life of leisure, but of course, it is a very emotional to me because all of you have given me joy. I am a little saddened by the thought of not seeing all of you every Thursday.

I am truly grateful for all the experiences I have gained by meeting each and everyone of you. I will forever remember my time here at the Pond Home.

I wish everyone well, to find joy, and remember to DANCE!

Lee



## Staff Spotlight

### **Joanne Lohan, RN/BSW**

I started at the Pond Home in 2012 as a staff nurse. After taking a hiatus, I returned in 2017 as the Nurse Manager and Staff Developer. I enjoy working at the Pond Home because of the team of people who work here, the residents, and their wisdom! The life experience that they share and knowing that I help elderly is very important to me. The environment and home are beautiful and a wonderful place to come each day! I currently live in Plainville; it makes it a convenient

commute to work. I have 3 children; 2 sons, John and David, and one daughter, Julia (who works in the kitchen). I love my dog "Patch" who is my shadow. I enjoy reading, movies, and the beach, as well as walking trails in nature! I am the youngest of 6 siblings. I grew up in Jamacia Plain, 4 miles from Fenway Park! Love my Boston roots, the four seasons of New England, and the East Coast! I couldn't imagine living anywhere else! My dream someday is to travel to Ireland, Italy, and Greece. I hope to make that a reality in the next few years taking a few weeks for each country! Life is short - Live it!



Julia, my daughter



My son John (oldest child)



My middle son David

Patches our dog



**“What are you grateful for”**

**“And end in sight to covid”**

**“Gorgeous sunshine”**

**“For everything”**

**“Seeing another day”**

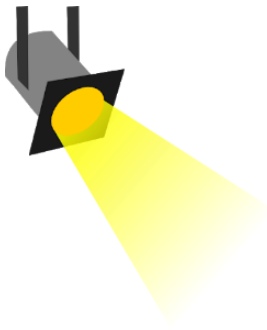
**“Waking up”**

**“Socializing”**

**“A place to rest my head”**

**“Air conditioning in the hot days”**

Thank you to the residents and staff who submitted “what they are grateful for”!



## Activity Highlights for August

Weekly shopping Stop & Shop and Target Wednesday's at 10:00

Mystery rides Thursdays leaving at 1:30

**Exercise daily at 9:15**

**Movies and manicures Mondays at 1:15, LR**

**08/02 Operation Dumbo drop**

**08/09 Dreamer**

**08/16 March of the Penguins**

**08/23 Dream Girls**

**08/30 For the Love of the Game**

**6<sup>th</sup> Entertainment, Doug Robinson, CY – 4:00**

**(weather permitting)**

**8<sup>th</sup> Entertainment-Nick saxophone player, CY - 4:00**

**(Weather permitting)**

**11<sup>th</sup> Farm animals, CY (weather permitting) – 2:30**

**19<sup>th</sup> Resident council, LR – 10:15**

**20<sup>th</sup> Entertainment, Gary Lenus, CY – 4:00**

**(weather permitting)**

**25<sup>th</sup> Art Matters, LR – 2:00**

**26<sup>th</sup> Goodbye-Welcome social, LR - 11:30**

**29<sup>th</sup> Concert on the common, 5:15**

**(sign up with Fran)**



## AUGUST Birthdays

**Alice Hassell 7<sup>th</sup>**

**Stuart Nall 23<sup>rd</sup>**