

APRIL 2021



RIDGE REPORTER



From the desk of . . . Doug, Executive Director

Happy Spring!!!

It's wonderful seeing so many people out and about enjoying the beautiful weather. Our community is coming to life with beautiful flowers. Our grounds team is doing an amazing job sprucing things up and soon the bees will be buzzing. Spring is nature's reminder of "resilience."

Thank you to everyone who helped to make me feel so welcome during these past four months. This really is a great community and there are so many wonderful people who live and work here! I will be back in Colorado this month and am confident you are in very good hands.



Your Word - Seth Goden is an author I follow. In one of his recent blogs he spoke about "resilience". I really like the excerpt below:

"Resilience is a commitment to a design, an attitude and a system that works even when things don't turn out the way we planned. Especially then.

Instead of designing for the best case scenario, we make the effort to consider how [we can thrive] when the best case doesn't arrive. Because that's far more likely.

Flexibility, community, and a sense of possibility can go a long way. That doesn't make it easier, but it's our best path forward."



As you continue to ponder your "word" and as we start the second quarter of the year, how can each of us demonstrate flexibility and community this year? I encourage each of you to continue fostering our culture of neighbors helping neighbors.

Staffing - Since the beginning of the year we have focused on adding key people to our team who exemplify the values we hold dear in our community. You've already met Lara on our Sales and Marketing team. Last month you met Mark on our Maintenance team. This month you will get to meet Scott who joined our Landscaping team just in time for spring. I am also very pleased to introduce Heather to you later in this newsletter as the new executive director. She brings 15+ years of senior community executive leadership experience with her. We had many strong candidates that applied for the role and the board of directors unanimously agreed that Heather is our best choice! You will love her. Please give both Scott and Heather a warm community welcome.





Office Closed for Easter
The Offices will be closed on Friday, April 2.



***We'd like to welcome
Heather*** Please join us in welcoming
Heather as our newest staff member!
Heather is our new Executive Director and
will be starting in April.
She sent a short note to include in the newsletter.

Hello, my name is Heather Kessler and I am honored and looking forward to being the new Executive Director at both Sanatoga and Buchert Ridge Communities. For over the last 20 years, I have dedicated my career to working in non-profit Senior Living Communities and building successful teams. I have a heart dedicated to service.

For the last 15 years, I have held Executive leadership roles in both skilled nursing facilities and Continuing Care Retirement Communities in both Pennsylvania and Florida. I am very passionate about working in Senior Living and look forward to meeting and building relationships with every one of you. I also look forward to working with the great team at SRC and BRC and will continue to build upon the great work that the team has been doing.

A few fun facts about me include: I am a wife and a mother! I am married to my husband Mark and we have two children. My husband also has dedicated his career to leading Senior Communities as well (he currently is working at Luther Acres in Lititz, PA). We have two cats who rule the house; their names are Pineapple and Curly! We love the outdoors and enjoy going to the beach as frequently as we can. I love playing and coaching sports. Though I have retired from playing field hockey, I enjoy helping coach my kids' sports teams.

Again, I look forward to getting to know all of you and I look forward to continuing the mission of SRC and BRC.

Heather



We'd like to welcome Scott

*Please join us in welcoming Scott to our staff
as the newest member of the Landscaping Team!*

Originally from Quakertown, Scott comes to us from Boyertown where he lives with his wife of 10 years and his 3 children.

Scott has a lifetime of experience working the land and is highly skilled in maintenance. He is a sixth-generation farmer currently working his own farm where he raises bulls and chickens.

We are grateful for his service to our nation in the United States Navy where he trained as an airplane mechanic working specifically on P-3 Orions.

Scott is a man of multiple talents! He plays the drums - anything from classic rock to church praise and worship music. He was also a bull rider! These days, he trains other people at his own farm to ride the bulls.

You will find that Scott has an easy-going, pleasant personality. His life experiences have taught him the value of taking the time to help people.

*Please take the time introduce yourselves to Scott and
give him a warm welcome to the Community!*

Contacting the Office

Our office phones have been ringing off the hooks these last several weeks with people interested in our community. We are asking for your patience and cooperation. If you call the office and your call is not answered, we are either on another phone call or assisting someone at the window. There have been several times when 3 or 4 of us are answering phone calls at the same time! Rather than hanging up and dialing back immediately, we ask that you leave a detailed message instead. We will then return your call.

Bulletin Board with Information

Please remember to take a look at the bulletin board Garden and Rec Center. This bulletin board contains various types of information from gentle reminders, upcoming events, or important information.

Salt Bins

Please place your salt bins out with your trash for collection.

Uninvited Visitors

As the temperatures rise and rain falls, you may be receiving some unwelcome visitors inside your doors. When it rains profusely, worms leave the dirt to avoid drowning, and often try to find a temporary home under a doormat or something of the like. This, plus a gap in the weather seal or frequent passing through the door, allows them in your home.



To make your doormat less welcoming to our slimy companions, place some salt under your doormat! Not only will it dry it out some, but the increased salinity of the mat will keep the worms at bay. Just remember – due to their aeration and fertilization of the ground, we have worms to thank for all of the beautiful spring flowers!

Penn Outdoors

Penn Outdoors is contracted again this year to perform:

- Clean-up of mulch beds
- Spraying the beds for weeds (*Preen will be applied before mulch is placed*)
- Placement of new mulch
- Grass cutting (to be done on Thursdays)
- Application of grass fertilizers

We have asked Penn to provide at least a few days' notice before the start of any of the above activities so that we can notify residents accordingly.

We understand some residents will not want mulch in certain areas, may not want weed killer sprayed and/or will be concerned with the lawn fertilizers with respect to their pets.

Please call the office if you would like to be put on the list for the below items if you:

- Do not want mulch.
- Do not want weeds sprayed or any other chemical done.

However, if you are on the lists for no mulch or chemicals, YOU will be responsible for the items that Penn Outdoor was contracted to perform (edging, cleanout, weeds, maintenance of beds).

SRC/BRC can provide buckets or piles of mulch for you to place in your beds.

As we receive the information from Penn, we will place announcements on the US Mailbox information bins as well as how to address individual resident concerns (e.g. use of flagging to mark areas where mulch is not desired).

Friendly Pet Reminder

Please be courteous to your neighbors and do not allow your dog(s) to “relieve” themselves on buildings, shrubbery/mulch or lawn ornaments. Thank you for your cooperation.



Power Washing and Window Cleaning

Power washing (porches, patios, and siding) and patio enclosure window cleaning are truly cleaning items and not maintenance items. BRC is aware that there are certain areas where mold, mildew, and heavy dirt build-up does occur on the siding, etc. We will continue to monitor these areas and will take care of them accordingly.

In order to complete these items in a timely manner, the power washing and window cleaning services will be performed during the month of May by our subcontractor (Dan). Power washing and individual window cleaning will be performed beginning the week of May 17. If you would like to have your house power washed or windows cleaned, we are requesting you call the Office by Friday, April 30 to be placed on the list.

- Power washing will not clean everything off your siding and concrete. Stains and artillery spores (little black dots) will most likely not clean off.
- Power washing will not stop mildew from coming back later in the summer.
- If you live in a house that has a basement under the front porch, we strongly suggest that you do not have your porch power washed. The high pressure water may find its way into the basement causing damage.
- It doesn't happen often, but as a precaution, place a towel at your front door when you see that the contractor has arrived. Because of low profile entrance doors, the high power spray sometimes will leak in.

You will be invoiced directly from the Contractor. Payment for services rendered should be paid directly to the Contractor at the address listed on the invoice. Do not bring payment to the SRC office. The fees for power washing will be as follows.

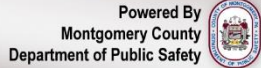
Carpeted porches will get wet.

- \$55 front porch including concrete
- \$60 back patio
- \$60 gable end of houses
- \$45 garage side of houses

The fees for patio enclosure window cleaning (inside and outside) will be as follows:

- \$75 vinyl windows within the enclosure
- \$65 glass windows within the enclosure

Please be ready for when they come by having all items removed from the porch area. If you are physically unable to move your items, the contractor will move them for you. You may be charged a minimal fee if the number of items to be removed is above the norm.



Are you ReadyMontco?

Did you know Montgomery County has an **alert system** for notifying residents of emergencies, severe weather, and more? Based upon your preferences, the system can alert you of important events in Montgomery County by delivering

- email
- text messages
- push notifications
- phone calls

How does it work?

It's easy! Visit the county's website at <https://www.montcopa.org/3311/ReadyMontco> to learn more about the program. Be sure to watch the video and read through the list of FAQs. You can register for your account by going to this web address: <https://member.everbridge.net/index/453003085612338#/signup>.

Don't Forget

- Download the Everbridge app. 
- Search for *ReadyMontco*
- Sign into your account to receive notifications on your smartphone or tablet.

Be alert... Be Informed... Be ReadyMontco!



Pottstown Hospital

TOWER HEALTH

Advancing Health. Transforming Lives.

***An Evening with the ER
Tuesday, May 18
at Pottstown Hospital***

Pottstown Hospital Emergency Department will be having an outdoor socially-distanced event where one of their fabulous ER physicians will host an interactive educational presentation. You will learn about:

- What to expect when you visit the Emergency Department
- When should you visit the Emergency Department
- Urgent Care vs. Telehealth vs. Emergency Department vs. Primary Care Office
- How the Emergency Department is keeping you safe during the COVID-19 pandemic

Seating is limited. Registration is required at the below link:

<https://pottstown.towerhealth.org/classes-events/search-results-detail/?eventId=3b326a71-4378-eb11-a83c-000d3a61151d#RelatedEvents>

Happy Birthday!

- 2 - Rozanne
Pat
- 5 - Carolyn
- 22 - Rich
- 26 - Kay
- 28 - Cleo



*The
Flower of
the Month
is the
Daisy*



Daisies are associated with innocence. The gerbera daisy has large colorful blooms, which has made it a favorite with flower lovers. There is a legend that a nymph wanting to escape unwanted attention, transformed herself into the daisy. Ever after this, the April birth flower has the flower meaning of implicitness and modesty. An alternate birth flower for April is the sweet pea.



SAVE THE DATE

Start saving your items to sell at the Buchert Ridge Yard Sale. More details to follow. Mark your calendar for Saturday, September 25.



Imagine the Sugar Rush!

Tosca (Italy) created the largest chocolate Easter egg ever, weighing a whopping 7,200 kg (15,873 lbs 4.48 oz) and with a circumference of 19.6 m (64 ft 3.65 in) at its widest point. It was measured at Le Acciaierie Shopping Centre, in Cortenuova, Italy, on 16 April 2011.

<https://www.guinnessworldrecords.com/>



We are slowly phasing the opening of the SRC Community Center, events and activities. Please follow the guidelines regarding masks, social distancing, and wiping down equipment. See the following pages to see what is happening!



Save the Date & Your Personal Papers!

Shred event on Saturday, September 18 at SRC.
Watch the Ridge Reporter for more information.



Fitness Room is OPEN!

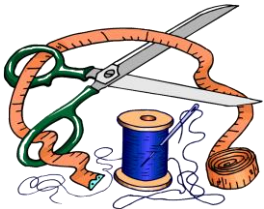
Please follow the posted guidelines.

This room is open 24/7. If you have not already done so, you may obtain the access code from the Office.

Chair Exercise

We are currently taking a small survey to see if you would be interested in resuming chair exercise in the Garden & Rec Center. We are limited on space and are looking to see the number of interested participants.

Then watch the US Mailbox information bins for more information.



SRC Sewing Club beginning May 7!

Starting in May, the SRC Sewing Club will resume meeting the 1st & 3rd Fridays of the month from 9 – 11 AM in the sewing room on the 2nd floor of the Community Center .

Are you already a pro? New to the Community?

Or maybe just interested in trying out sewing?

No experience needed! Come out and join us!

We will even teach anyone interested in learning a new skill!

We have a great time, talking, sewing, making lap robes for nursing homes & hospitals. Start gathering your materials and get ready to start stitching!

Can't wait to see you!



SRC Singers from Vivian

Happy Spring to all of you! Oh, how I have missed you. It seems like forever since I saw all of you and, more than that, heard your musical voices!

Everything is looking a little bit better and I am anxious to get together with all of you. My plan is for us to test our voices in a casual way. Maybe a sing-a-long sometime this summer but not before June. The pavilion in “N” section will be roomy enough for us to follow COVID protocol and there is an electrical outlet there for the keyboard.

Further details will be in the May Ridge Reporter. Be safe and see you soon!!!



Water Aerobics at Sanatoga Swim Club

Nancy (SRC) will be conducting Water Aerobics at Sanatoga Swim Club on Mondays and Wednesdays starting Wednesday, June 2 at 7 PM. Please contact Nancy (484-624-3877) for additional questions and to reserve your spot. *You must be a member of the pool to participate.*

Let's Get Out and Walk!

There is more to walking than just taking steps.

Walking has numerous physical and mental health advantages. You would be surprised how easy and far you can walk when you have someone to chat with along the way!

We are currently taking a small survey to see what time would work best for most people. Please call the office by Friday, April 16 to let us know if you prefer walking mid-morning, mid-afternoon, or early evening.

Then watch the US Mailbox information bins for more information.

Bus Trips are Back!

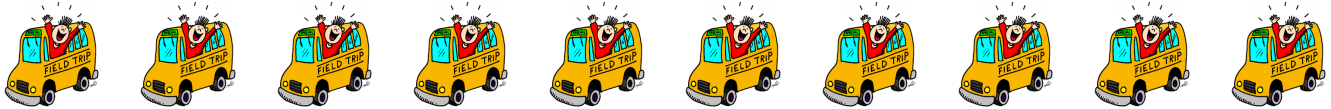
Trips are through Perkiomen Tours

A few changes on the bus trips:

- Mask must be worn
- RSVP by deadline a must
- Limited seating
- Sign up at SRC Office
- Payment is by Check Only (Payable to SRC)



LEGEND FOR AMOUNT OF WALKING
? = Very Little Walking
???? = Plenty of Walking



Thursday – May 20 – Susquehanna Sweet Trips

Our first stop will be Le Jeune Chef which is a teaching restaurant from The PA School of Technology in Williamsport. We will learn about the school's culinary program and enjoy a delicious lunch.

Next stop will be a narrated Susquehanna River Cruise. The last stop before heading home will be the Purity Candy Company where we will see the candy being made and have time to shop.

Payment and RSVP to the Office by Friday, April 30.

LEAVE BEREAN PARKING LOT: 8 AM

Cost: \$109.00



Friday – June 25 – Annapolis Tour

Enjoy a scenic cruise around Annapolis. Choice of box lunch included. There will be free time after the cruise to enjoy the area.

Lunch choice:

- Craisin chicken salad on wheat
- Roast beef and cheddar on knot roll
- Turkey and provolone with lettuce on croissant
- Fire roasted veggie vegan

(grilled zucchini, yellow squash, portobella mushroom, red pepper and hummus on focaccia bread)

Payment, lunch choice and RSVP to the Office by Tuesday, June 1.

LEAVE BEREAN PARKING LOT: 9 AM

Cost: \$102.00

Sign Me Up for the Community Email Group

Here is my information.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email address (one letter per block):

I understand I will be contacted with Community information or events.

***Please complete and return the form to the Office In-Box,
Attn: Patty***

On-Call System

On-Call System

For medical or fire emergencies, it is always best to dial 911 directly.

In an effort to make the “emergency” response system less intimidating and to clarify the use, the “emergency response system” will now be called the “On-Call System”.

You can reach the on-call staff by dialing the on-call phone number directly at **610-326-4043** OR pushing the buttons that were provided to you.

If the office is open, please do not use the on-call system to report routine maintenance/landscape items. When a call comes in and displays “EMERGENCY” it makes our hearts skip a beat. The office phone number is 610-326-6282.

The on-call system is a direct connection to the staff every minute of every day. The on-call system should only be used when the office is closed or if you have an emergency and cannot reach your phone.

In order for you to feel comfortable and know what to expect should you have to use your on-call system, you can test it with the office any time between the hours of 10 AM to 2 PM. All you need to do is call the office and inform them that you want to test your on-call system. It’s that easy!