



July 7, 2020

Hi everyone,

Happy Tuesday! Our Friday Ice Cream social (while distancing!) was super fun! I hope you all enjoyed it. I haven't had coffee ice cream in ages. It was very tasty! We are hoping to have a few more pop-up surprises around campus in the next few weeks. Stay tuned. We are only limited by our own creativity so I'm excited to see what we will imagine!

This Thursday starts our summer Farmers Market! Don't forget that Jesse is on vacation, so the Wake Robin table offerings will be limited. He's back next week so more will be available then. I hope you enjoy the chance to get some fresh produce right here at home and support our local farmers and food crafters.

Thanks also for some great feedback on my Friday message. It must have felt rather stern to you all because it was a quiet email weekend! A few questions were sent my way that I can answer right now. A few issues that were raised (grocery shopping and eating/drinking together on campus and off campus) will be discussed by my leadership team later this week and we may (no promises) have some updates to share in the coming days.

So just for clarity:

- On Mondays, Wednesday and Fridays during visiting times on campus, **you are welcome to invite family or friends**. It does not have to be just one person. It can be two or three or four if you want. Just make sure you are still able to physically distance and mask at all times. And outdoor meeting only please.
- If you are asked to quarantine for whatever reason, you are still able to walk your dogs. We just ask that you be task oriented about it, and not socialize or get near other people. Get out and get home please.
- Also if you are asked to quarantine for whatever reason, and you live in an apartment, you are free to take your trash and compost to the Green Room on your own. You don't need to find a neighbor to do that. Again, please be task oriented. Go and come home.

Cup of Conversation:

Don't forget that we will be having **our first community-wide Zoom Cup of Conversation on Thursday from 9:30-11:00!** Fingers crossed it won't be too unruly.

So far, the agenda includes:

- Welcome from Martha; Staff Spotlight
- Update on the status of the Firearms Policy
- Update on End of Road set up
- Updates from the Directors (5 minutes each)
- Jena - Updates
- Gentry Lectureship update
- Program Committee update
- Gift Shop update (tentative)
- Shelburne Food Shelf

Send me any other agenda items as soon as possible. Also if you have any questions for the directors, please send them along. I won't be able to facilitate a free flow question and answer session because there will be too many of you (I hope!) on the call. So I'll need questions ahead of time, or you will need to use the "Chat" feature in Zoom to type in questions.

We will be recording this virtual Cup of Conversation to share later on WRTV!

Tag Sale:

Thanks so much to the Tag Sale Committee. I know that this year has been difficult to manage with all the restrictions we are under, but the staff are very excited. The sign-up sheet for slots is almost full! So kudos to all of you who are assisting to make this a reality even though we will all miss the community inclusion of years past.

Staff and Resident COVID testing:

I have been asked several questions about COVID testing our staff and residents. We do continue to look for spontaneous ways to test staff. So far, 45 have tested at pop-up sites, and 21 were tested either for exposure or illness symptoms. All results were negative.

Residents are also getting tested - 7 tested at pop up sites and 29 in total tested either for exposure or illness symptoms. So far we have done approximately 45 swabs here at Wake Robin on residents. All results were negative.

We are eagerly awaiting some further guidance and resources from Vermont Dept of Health about testing our staff on a more regular basis. CDC is now recommending it, but VDH is an important resource for testing kits and possibly staff capacity to conduct the tests. So, we continue to wait and hope we hear more information from them soon.

Miscellaneous:

I was sent these two articles from the New York Times by a resident today. I found both to be quite interesting and helpful.

Why You're Probably Not So Great at Risk Assessment:

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/30/smarter-living/why-youre-probably-not-so-great-at-risk-assessment.html>

People Fearful About Coronavirus Don't Need Cheering Up:

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/07/03/smarter-living/coronavirus-fears-empathy.html>

Today's Chuckles:

- I was thinking about old age and decided that old age is when you still have something on the ball, but you are just too tired to bounce it.
- When people see a cat's litter box they always say, "Oh, have you got a cat?" Just once I want to say, "No, that's for company!"
- Employment application blanks always ask who is to be called in case of an emergency. I think you should write, "An ambulance."
- The older you get the tougher it is to lose weight because by then your body and your fat have gotten to be really good friends.
- The easiest way to find something lost around the house is to buy a replacement.
- Eventually you will reach a point when you stop lying about your age and start bragging about it.
- Some people try to turn back their "odometers." Not me. I want people to know why I look this way. I've traveled a long way and a lot of the roads were not paved.
- Ah! Being young is beautiful but being old is comfortable.

Have a good week. Stay safe and well.

Martha



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