

# ***Newsworthy Notes***

## ***Coronavirus/COVID19 – Shelter-in-Place Order***

The coronavirus has radically changed the course of our lives in the short-run and its long-term effects remain to be seen. Nowhere is this more evident than here at home. This is community living, and in this situation, how I behave affects your health and how you behave affects my health. Never have we been so dependent on each other, as residents of BCCA, we must do what is within our power to stay safe. To protect ourselves we must accept the reality of the situation.

### **Reality #1:**

***We house a large at-risk population at BCCA.*** Nonessential trips to get an emissions test or to return a book to the library etc. only serve to expose yourself to the virus and therefore down the road the rest of us. For your own safety please only venture out for essential items; food, medical care, etc. Self-isolation can be alleviated by phone and internet communications. Please practice social distancing in the common areas.

### **Reality #2:**

***No one can guarantee a germ-free environment.*** The BCCA cleaning staff cleans each building twice each day. They wipe down all high-contact areas on the ground floor; railings, doorknobs, elevator buttons, etc. and wipe down the laundry room equipment.

Proactive measure – wash/sanitize your hands when you get in your unit or to your destination. Better yet, wear gloves.

Proactive measure – in the laundry room make your first load of wash whites in HOT water and bleach. Wipe down flat surfaces where you fold clothes. Better yet, fold clothes upstairs in your unit.

### **Reality #3:**

***The less interaction among residents the safer we all will be.*** Spend as little time in the common areas as possible staying 6 to 10 feet away from others.

Proactive measure -- Don't crowd into the elevator with others. Wait for an empty elevator. Better yet, take the stairs.

Proactive measure -- Take turns in the vestibule when getting your mail.

Proactive measure – Set your time and promptly collect your wash from the laundry rooms to avoid backups.

**Reality #4:**

***This is a very risky time for BCCA employees.*** There is no backup staffing available. More time spent at home is the ideal time to organize and develop your to-do lists. Let's not make this a more difficult time for our workers.

Proactive measure -- Please limit maintenance requests to emergencies.

Proactive measure – ***Please wrap ALL garbage;*** double-bag heavy bags or those containing glass.

Proactive measure – Please do not put **ANY** cardboard down the garbage chute.

Proactive measure – ***Please do not place ANYTHING outside the buildings. THERE IS NO RECYCLING***

Proactive measure -- 100% of all business conducted with the Association Office can be accomplished by phone or email. There is a drop box in the vestibule at 2300 Windsor if you find the need to drop off documents. Please don't ask to come into the office.

**Reality #5:**

***This is a stressful time.*** With the uncertainty of the events which are rapidly unfolding and the abrupt changes in our schedules and routines, let's all take a cleansing breath before responding to any situation. Rudeness and complaints do nothing to improve this already challenging experience.

Stay safe; stay healthy; stay home.

Marianne Sachs, President BCCA