



VALLEY FORGE TOWERS SOUTH *NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS*



The VFTS Newsletter for News, Reminders, Tidbits and Updates

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Emerging from lockdown

Does anyone else feel like a cicada emerging from a 17 year hibernation? Masks are now optional for vaccinated residents and guests. We can breathe barrier free for the first time in 15 months. This pandemic has impacted every facet of our lives and we all hope we are seeing its decline if not demise.

In the last 15 months VFTS has had 12 different Council members and 3 different managers. Yet every decision that was made regarding COVID was made in earnest, balancing health, safety, convenience and expense, all while following Pennsylvania and CDC Guidelines. These decisions were not without controversy or detractors. For each person who supported a decision, there was one who opposed it. Yet, with overwhelming compliance, we prevailed and reported cases were low. It is time to recognize the help we had along the way.

THANK YOU to the volunteers who carried groceries and packages up to shut ins.

THANK YOU to residents who checked in on seniors or other vulnerable neighbors, who offered to run errands and shop.

THANK YOU to the guards who monitored compliance and staff who did extra cleaning and installed sanitizing stations.

And THANK YOU to every resident and guest for understanding that we have vulnerable people among us who may still wear masks, social distance or ask to ride alone on the elevator.

Security Issues

A noteworthy attraction of VFTS is our 24 hour security. The security staff welcomes visitors, accepts deliveries, answers phone calls and responds to complaints. Periodically, the guard makes "rounds" to check exit and stairwell doors. Sometimes they have to go to the resident floors to respond to a complaint or problem.

This means that the front desk is not always staffed. There may be an occasion when a resident calls 911 for assistance and the guard is away from the desk when police arrive and therefore cannot give the resident's key to the officers. Keys are kept for maintenance emergencies and not everyone leaves a key in the office. Staff will always try to help but access assistance in a medical emergency is not guaranteed. This is a dilemma we are trying to address. Thanks to Greg Waks we learned of a township program, LOCK for LIFE. A brochure will be placed in mailboxes with this newsletter and will be posted on the bulletin board. The name of the officer in charge is written on the brochure as well as the phone number and web site for more information.

Security is a group effort. Anyone with an entrance FOB can use the front or back entrances, but please ask your visitors or guests to use the front entrance via the call box or sign in procedure.

Balcony update

Many residents continue to struggle hiring someone to remove the carpeting from their balcony and the replacement tiles that allow free flow of water are nowhere to be found in stores or online. Maybe we should check with a cargo ship stuck in the Suez Canal. ☺ The deadline for removal has been extended to September 30. If you have had success with a vendor, please share that with Kathy at kathyn@vftsouth.com and we will post it.

To learn more about balcony restrictions check out page 7 of the Rules and Regulations section of your condo documents.

Elections

Nominations for VFTS Council closed on May 15, 2021 and nominations for the Community Association Council ended May 20, 2021. Candidate information will be out soon.



Overheard in the lobby,

Woman #1 – “I am fully vaccinated but I will still wear a mask.”

Woman #2 – “Oh my, are you that worried about the virus?”

Woman #1 – “No! I just look so much younger with half my face covered.”