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## May 12th is International Nurses day

By Becky Bartlett

EASTON - Northampton County continues to do everything possible during the Covid-19 pandemic to limit exposure to the residents and staff at Gracedale.

"May 12th is International Nurses day," says Lamont McClure. "We honor those Gracedale Heroes who have been caring for their residents throughout this pandemic. They've been doing backbreaking, heartbreaking work all while being scared of a novel virus. The citizens of Northampton County are in their debt."



As of May 11th, 159 residents have tested positive for the virus. Thirty-five residents have recovered; sixteen are in the hospital. Unfortunately, thirty-nine residents have passed away.

Out of the 700 employees which work at Gracedale, forty-three have tested positive for the Corona-virus. Thirty-four have finished their quarantine periods and are back at work.

Gracedale is the largest nursing home under one roof in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. There are approximately 600 residents living at Gracedale with 700 employees tasked with caring for them.

Northampton County encourages everyone to continue to practice social distancing, to wear a mask when they are out in the community and to get tested for Covid-19 if they have symptoms.

Northampton County is sponsoring a drive-thru testing site for Covid-19 located at the main parking lot at Easton Hospital, 250 S 21st Street, Easton, PA 18042. It will be open from 10:00AM – 4:00PM on May 11 and 12th or until supplies run out. Only residents from Northampton County will be accepted for testing and they must show at least one of the following CDC recognized symptoms of Covid-19 to be eligible: fever, dry cough, shortness of breath, chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat or loss of taste and/or smell. A prescription from a doctor is not required. Although insurance is not required to be tested participants should bring their insurance card and a photo ID with them.



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