

## Taking Steps Toward a Brighter Tomorrow

When more than 200 UR Medicine Thompson Health frontline workers were some of the first in the region to receive a COVID-19 vaccine on Dec. 19, several staff members from Thompson's senior communities were among them.

"This is one of those times when being a part of the health system is a huge advantage for us," said Director Aimee Ward. "We have an entire, wellconnected organization advocating on our behalf as we continue doing everything we can to keep our staff and our residents healthy."

It was expected that more staff members would soon be vaccinated, with residents not far behind as the vaccine



Clark Meadows LPN Care Coordinator Theresa Edwards received her vaccine at the Dec. 19 clinic.

was anticipated to become more widely available.

"While Ferris Hills has been a wonderful safe haven during the pandemic, we are very much looking forward to the day when we can welcome our friends, family and the community at large back in and when we can resume the many fun outings we've come to enjoy," Ward said. "The vaccine represents the first step toward that day." **FERRIS HILLS & CLARK MEADOWS** *Independent and Enriched Senior Living* One Ferris Hills, Canandaigua, NY 14424

## **New Executive Chef Arrives at Ferris Hills**



Matthew Laurence

Ferris Hills at West Lake recently named Matthew Laurence of Fairport as its executive chef.

A Rochester native and graduate of the Western Culinary Institute in Portland, Oregon, "Chef Matt" worked his way up from intern to executive chef at the four-star Harbor Court Hotel in Baltimore, Md. After returning to Fairport, he purchased the Green Lantern Inn, opening the Cellar Door Restaurant in its lower

level and continuing restaurant and banquet operations there for 10 years.

Chef Matt, who later served as a chef at both SUNY Geneseo and the New York Wine and Culinary Center (now New York Kitchen) most recently served as the executive chef for Woodcliff Hotel & Spa in Fairport.

He now oversees food service operations for both Ferris Hills, which has 84 apartments, and the adjacent enriched living community of Clark Meadows, which has 48. Between cooks, stewards and wait staff members, his staff includes approximately 30 people.

Xerox retiree Harvey Simmons, who has lived at Ferris Hills at West Lake since 2012, said Chef Matt has already met many of the residents and seems receptive to feedback and to changing things up a little as he raises a high bar even higher when it comes to dining experiences.

"He's been very, very well-received," Harvey said. "The response has been very positive."

One thing Harvey has noticed recently is that the menu is featuring some new desserts but as always, he noted, there is something for everybody, no matter what their likes and dislikes or any allergies or dietary restrictions they might have.

For his part, Chef Matt said he is enjoying getting to know the residents and learning more about their individual tastes. Currently, there are two socially-distanced seatings for dinner each night and no big events but, he said, "I look forward to creating a lot of fun food experiences once we can all gather together again."

> For more information visit www.FerrisHills.com or call (585) 393-0410.

## **Feeling Festive**

Residents helped decorate our community for the holidays in December and it looked beautiful!

