

# The Phyllis Siperstein Tamarisk Assisted Living Residence

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## Giving Thanks

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This year, we are all feeling **extra** thankful at Tamarisk. As we head into the Thanksgiving holiday, it is a wonderful time to reflect.

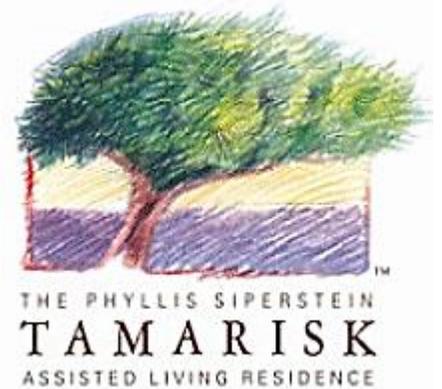
Mynde Siperstein, whose mother lives at Tamarisk, reflected on what makes her thankful. "I am thankful that the Tamarisk staff have become like family during the challenging times of this pandemic and have created a wonderful bubble for my mother. Keeping my mom healthy, safe, happy, entertained, well fed and able to socialize with residents is what I am most thankful for," she said.

Residents have been thankful that during this pandemic we have had regularly scheduled activities within the guidelines set forth by the Rhode Island Department of Health. Exercise, entertainment, discussion groups and much more are available to them daily and we are thankful our residents have had these opportunities!

Irma B, a resident of Tamarisk, is quite thankful herself. "I am thankful that I feel safe at Tamarisk. I enjoy the friendships that I have made since I moved in. It is comforting that my children are able to visit me here at Tamarisk," she said.

One of the areas that Tamarisk does particularly well in is combatting loneliness and helping residents forge relationships with one another and staff. This is a key component that makes residing in an assisted living like Tamarisk so successful. Our residents are thankful for the new friendships they have developed, along with reminiscing about those from their childhood.

For further information about Tamarisk, Director of Marketing and Outreach Susan Adler can be reached at (401) 732-0037 or [susana@tamariskri.org](mailto:susana@tamariskri.org).



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# Message From Our Executive Director



## Roberta Ragge, MS ALA Executive Director

As I sit here writing my message for the November issue of the Tamarisk newsletter, I am struck by how fast the year is flying by. November has always been one of my favorite months. When the weather is changing, we get to break out our cozy sweaters and look forward to all the amazing flavors of Thanksgiving!

As the Executive Director at Tamarisk, I am thankful for my extraordinary staff and residents. My favorite hour of the day is early in the morning when I see the residents walking around, breakfast being prepared and our team providing extraordinary care.

I am thankful that I have the opportunity to help our residents find the “silver lining” in what they are thankful for during this pandemic. I tell them all the time that it is because of them I love my job and am able to lead my staff. I thank them every day for their example that has guided me through my career. I look back on the sacrifices this great generation has made over the course of their lives and I am inspired. I am thankful for being their student. I am thankful for how they motivate me every day. I am thankful for their guidance and wisdom. I am thankful for the opportunities that this great job has afforded me.

Elie Wiesel sums up my feeling of gratitude for my great fortune of being part of our senior’s lives. “For me, every hour is grace. And I feel gratitude in my heart each time I can meet someone and look at his or her smile.”

Wishing all of you a Happy Thanksgiving!

Sincerely,

**Roberta Ragge, MS ALA**  
**Executive Director**

# Spotlight On Staff

## Director of Plant Operations

### David Poole

The most frequently heard name over the last seven years in the hallways of Tamarisk is, “David Poole.” As the Director of Plant Operations, David is responsible for maintaining both the inside and outside of the building. His wealth of knowledge ranges from operating the HVAC system, fire safety systems, plumbing, electrical and grounds maintenance.

Over the years, David has developed professional relationships with our vendors. He helps to coordinate our landscaping, snow plowing and all the inspections that are required in an assisted living residence. With his Tamarisk phone always at his hip, David is very easy to get in contact with!

David’s sense of responsibility for Tamarisk is the utmost of his importance. He walks the hallways and grounds daily with his keen eye and clipboard in his hand, always looking to find a way to better the appearance of Tamarisk. David is known for keeping the building in top shape!

The residents marvel at how David always has a smile on his face while doing his job. Seena D, a resident of Tamarisk, had the following to say about David. “David is 100% qualified to be the Director of Plant Operations. He is one of the best in his field. I know if I call to have anything fixed in my apartment, he and his team can get anything done,” she said.

David comments that the smile on his face is always there because of the love he has for the residents. He says that he feels blessed to have all the residents feel like grandparents to him.

We thank David for his knowledge, enthusiasm and willingness to always be a team player. Both the staff and residents are lucky to have an employee like David Poole as the Director of Plant Operations.



# The Many Faces Of Our Maintenance Team



David, Jim and Miguel, better known as the maintenance trio, are busy the minute they walk into work. From setting up the front entrance to delivering papers and packages in the morning, they greet each resident with a big Tamarisk smile!

David also assists with our transportation program. He provides comfort and confidence driving our residents to doctor's appointments.

Jim, who is from Tennessee, is a true southern gentleman. He is our go to maintenance man fixing many different things in resident apartments. From changing light bulbs to fixing televisions and phones, Jim is a very knowledgeable individual.

Miguel is our in-house painter and designer. He takes an astounding amount of pride in his work. With the stroke of his paint brush, he transforms apartments into masterpieces. When setting up an apartment for a respite stay, Miguel is the best interior decorator around.



The maintenance team works together when someone is planning to move into Tamarisk. From painting, cleaning carpets, setting up the television and hanging pictures, they make each new resident and their family members feel welcome.

During a snowstorm, the maintenance team clears off all vehicles on the property, works with our plow contractor, and clears pathways for staff. They are hardworking individuals, but as a team they make Tamarisk shine.

Bertha F, a resident of Tamarisk, reflected on when she moved in. "The maintenance team provided me with excellent service. They helped me with all of my move-in needs. Whenever I called them, they arrived promptly. They made my transition to Tamarisk quite easy," she said.



Rest assured, if you are thinking about moving into Tamarisk, our maintenance team will be with you each and every step of the way.

We thank David, Jim and Miguel for all of their hard work!

Call us for a tour! (401) 732-0037

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