

# WEEKLY NEWSLETTER FOR FAMILIES & RESIDENTS

## *A Message from Your Executive Director*

Dear Residents and Families,

It has been wonderful to see residents in the dining room this week! I know we all appreciate this step toward normalcy. Our first week operating in Phase 1 has been successful and we appreciate everyone's patience as we take these steps forward. It has been a joy to see families gathering for Garden Visits in Greenough Garden. We are looking forward to residents and families enjoying their days a bit more as we are able to move forward with reducing the restrictions that have been in place for the past few months.



Last week's survey focused on dining and while most responded favorably, we heard clearly that families would like to know more about what their loved ones are eating day-to-day and we are working to create a system to communicate this better. We have added a link below for both our weekly specials and our 'always available' menu.

For more on dining - please join this week's Talk Time Zoom with Jodi and Chef Adam at 2pm on Friday to talk about activities at The Village.

This week we have added two new elements to our newsletter:

- Introducing The Ladybug Program! Inspired by the joy of a ladybug landing nearby, we are introducing a weekly themed project to engage families and residents. In each week's newsletter we will include the Ladybug of the week as a simple way of adding some fun to our resident's lives. This week we ask families to drop off a pint of fresh farm berries and a short note which we will deliver to each resident on Saturday, July 4th. Please make your drop off with the concierge this Thursday or Friday. We'll be sure to include photos each week of residents enjoying their Lady Bug! Please reach out to Sam at [traceysamantha@thevillageatwrj.com](mailto:traceysamantha@thevillageatwrj.com) if you need any help.



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## *...continued*

- We've heard that families often don't know who to talk with when they have questions. To make it easier, we've added a staff contact list as a part of our newsletter. If you are unsure of whom to speak with, reach out to our concierge and they will make sure your question gets to the right member of our team.



As we enter the second week of Phase 1, we are grateful that The Village remains COVID-19 free and continue our vigilant adherence to all safe and sanitary procedures as outlined below. We continue to consistently monitor the situation, evaluate information, and consider next steps. We pledge to communicate with you each step along the way as we continue to ease the restrictions as permitted by the Governor's Office and follow best practices guided by the C.D.C.

Warmly,

Jodi Egger  
Executive Director

# COMMUNITY UPDATES/ACTIVITIES



Summer is in full swing so don't forget to schedule your Garden Visit or Zoom/FaceTime/Skype calls! Reach out to Sam to schedule or for questions. [traceysamantha@thevillageatwrj.com](mailto:traceysamantha@thevillageatwrj.com).

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This past week residents were delighted to be reunited with their family and friends through Greenough Garden visits and small, socially-distanced activities. Our assisted living residents enjoyed group yoga led by our resident Anne who has been a yoga instructor for many years, as well as mindful meditation led via Zoom. In memory care we held an afternoon social and served fruit salad prepared with fresh, seasonal fruit provided by our culinary team, and took a virtual tour of The Vatican. We are all so happy to see everyone reconnect and engage in the events happening in our community.





## WEEKLY TALK TIME

***Topic: Dining Services***  
***Friday, July 3 at 2pm***

We're excited to continue our weekly TALK TIME – an open forum with Executive Director, Jodi Egger and additional guest department heads for a round-table discussion with family members on a selected topic each Friday at 2pm.

This week's topic is dining services. Bring your ideas, suggestions and creativity! Join the conversation with Jodi and Chef Adam via Zoom via the link.

Please email Jodi at [eggerjodi@lcsnet.com](mailto:eggerjodi@lcsnet.com) if you have topics you want to suggest for the weekly TALK TIME zoom.

**<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85761220670>**



## WEEKLY SURVEY

Last week survey respondents asked for a way to be more informed about dining options, so we've added a link to the newsletter with the coming week's menus.

As restrictions begin to lessen, our team is focused on creative ways to bring back life enrichment activities to The Village and we'd like to hear from you!

**Complete the survey:**

**<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/7ZRTPQ3>**



## ***New Team Member Spotlight:***

Please join us in welcoming new team members to The Village. Sheila has come aboard and will provide great consistency to the concierge desk. She brings with her a wealth of experience in the hospitality industry. Reach out to her with any questions or needs and she can get you pointed in the right direction. Additionally, please welcome Katie to our wait staff team. Katie brings an energy and enthusiasm for our residents that was immediately evident as our dining room reopened this past week.

**PLEASE NOTE** – Just for the photos we asked them to remove their masks so you could see their smiling faces!



## ***Community Connection:***

It was a delight to host Garden Visits! Bright umbrellas, decorations and smiling faces made our long-awaited visits pure joy for all.





A positive result of the current social distancing has been the creation of extraordinary performing arts and cultural content now available on the web. Never-before-seen videos of significant performances, special one-time “live from the living room” shows and lots of “a peak behind the scenes” content is delighting us!

## ***Boston Pops: Salute to Our Heroes***

It’s 4th of July week and the 2020 Boston Pops Salute to Our Heroes, under the direction of Keith Lockhart celebrates the everyday heroes among us through music, shout-outs and a pre-recorded fireworks display. The tribute to healthcare workers, first responders and other essential service providers who are the heroes of the COVID-19 pandemic features performances by Brian Stokes Mitchell singing America The Beautiful, Rita Moreno sings The Dream of America from the Broadway musical Ellis Island, and songs from The Civil War will be sung by Leslie Odom, Jr. The show will be simulcast locally on Boston’s WHDH-TV July 4th at 8pm.



<https://bostonpopsjuly4th.org/salute-to-our-heroes-details/>

## ***The Getty Museum Challenge***

The Getty Museum Challenge has taken the world by storm. During COVID-19 quarantine, when cultural institutions were (and many still are) closed, the at-home art project has inspired people to recreate iconic paintings with things they have on hand. This boredom-busting activity appeals to kids and adults alike—including the residents at the Amenida Seniors Community in Surrey, British Columbia, Canada. They have accepted the Getty Museum Challenge and rocked it by dressing up as paintings by Paul Gauguin, Pierre Renoir, Mary Cassatt, and more.



<https://mymodernmet.com/senior-citizens-getty-museum-challenge/>



## ***Do Not Miss!***

Soon the room where it happens will be your living room! Shout it to the rooftops that the Broadway sensation Hamilton will be available for home viewing this summer! Look around, look around to see how lucky we are to be alive in a world where Hamilton is coming to Disney+

The 11-time Tony Award winning musical was filmed over 4 days at Broadway's Richard Rodgers Theatre and features the original cast. You'll need a subscription to Disney+ to watch the show, but it's a fraction of what a seat in the theater would have cost – IF you could have gotten a ticket! The show premieres on July 3rd but there's no rush as it will be available, on demand for months to come.



**Watch the trailer here:**

**<https://youtu.be/DSCkfxpAGHc>**



We are committed to keeping you informed of how COVID-19 has impacted The Village at White River Junction. Our community continues to be COVID – free and we remain steadfast in our commitment to follow the guidance from both the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and local health authorities by:

- Requiring employees to wear face masks and adhere to additional screening processes
- Increasing the frequency and rigor of cleaning and sanitizing common community areas
- Restricting visitors inside the community
- Reviewing our emergency preparedness and response program
- Asking residents and employees to communicate any travel plans
- Coordinating best practices across our large partner network
- Making the CDC’s COVID-19 prevention resources and recommendations available to all residents

## NATIONAL UPDATES

### ADVOCATING FOR SENIOR LIVING

Your voice is important for the support of senior living communities. Under the leadership of Argentum, the leading national trade association serving companies that own, operate, and support professionally managed senior living communities, we are calling on Congress to take swift action to ensure the safety and wellbeing of residents and staff of the communities as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Please consider writing your legislators to voice your support of our most vulnerable and precious seniors by prioritizing senior living communities for personal protective equipment, testing and federal financial support. The following links can assist you.

#### **Take action:**

**Residents** - <https://www.votervoice.net/Argentum/campaigns/73634/respond>

**Family Members** - <https://www.votervoice.net/Argentum/campaigns/73633/respond>

**Community Staff** - <https://www.votervoice.net/Argentum/campaigns/73635/respond>

**General Advocates** - <https://www.votervoice.net/Argentum/campaigns/74049/respond>



# HELPFUL LINKS & STAFF CONTACTS

## Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

- [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/prevention.html](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/prevention.html)
- [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/index.html](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/index.html)

## LCS COVID-19 website

- [www.lcsnet.com/covid-19-update/](http://www.lcsnet.com/covid-19-update/)

## Local health department website

- <https://www.healthvermont.gov/local/white-river-junction>

## From the Governor

- <https://governor.vermont.gov/covid19response>

## STAFF CONTACTS

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