

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER FOR FAMILIES & RESIDENTS

A Message from Your Executive Director

Dear Residents and Families,

This week we shared a number of memorable moments with residents and staff. From day time drives to a BBQ on the fifth floor terrace we saw glimpses of normalcy.



Chef Adam and team grilled up hot dogs, hamburgers and veggies for all to enjoy on Cantore Terrace. Our team members had a chance to share in conversation with residents as we all enjoyed the beautiful weather.

Now that families and friends are able to come visit inside the community, we are going to be sending out our newsletter every other week and starting in September it will be sent monthly.

Additionally, we are discontinuing weekly Talk Time Zoom events and have brought back weekly Fireside Chats with Jodi. Keep your eyes on the activity schedule for dates and times.

In last week's survey many of you expressed some concerns about reducing restrictions inside The Village, while many of you are clamoring for more freedoms. We understand each step of the transition toward a more normal lifestyle at The Village is a balancing act. We want to assure everyone that the team is continuing to clean, sanitize and take every precaution to keep us all safe.

We appreciate your mindfulness as you are visiting the community in this effort. When traveling from out of state please remember to refer to the Vermont guidelines and make decisions to travel based on this information. In order for us to continue to have these eased restrictions and remain Covid free we need your help!

Warmly,

Jodi Egger
Executive Director



Ladybug Program

Our resident's delight in each week's surprise Ladybug! Covid or not, this program is a big hit, so please keep playing along!

This week, we ask you to email photos of favorite family pet. Please email your photos to Sam at traceysamantha@thevillageatwrj.com by Thursday and she will get them printed out for residents.

Good News:

Last week at The Village Assisted Living residents enjoyed playing board games in Teddy's Pub, an ice cream social in Edson Bistro and our Thursday afternoon cookout on Cantore Terrace. Chef Adam fired up the grill and served burgers and dogs while residents enjoyed the pleasant sunny afternoon. We served iced cold lemonade to keep everyone hydrated and ice cream sandwiches for dessert! Memory care residents enjoyed making beaded bracelets, painting on canvas, and answering trivia questions.

This week we'll host Wednesday afternoon BINGO, Happy Hour with Geoffrey Tuller, Director of Plant Operations on Thursday, and a Friday night Western film in Lyric Cinema.

Going Global:

Last weekend our dear resident Bob Dodson approached Business Office Manager, Nikki Fortier, with a request. He wanted to reach an old friend in Switzerland but did not have her phone number. The two of them pieced together bits of information that Bob had, like the name of his friend and the name of the small town in which she lived. Bob knew he would be able to communicate in whichever language he needed to if we reached someone in the town during our search – French, German, or even the local dialect. Instead of phoning on a Saturday evening, together they found a website for the tourism board in Chateau d'Oex and sent off an email. The very next day someone from the tourism board emailed back with the phone number of Bob's friend! It was a really nice moment showing how small this world is and how people are still willing to help a stranger. So fun!



COMMUNITY UPDATES/ACTIVITIES





WEEKLY TALK TIME

Since family members are able to come into The Village for visits, we are suspending our weekly Talk Time Zoom sessions. For residents, we are now able to start up weekly Fireside Chats in person with Jodi. Look for this in the weekly activity schedule.



WEEKLY SURVEY

In response to past responses regarding communication, we'd like to know how we're doing.

Complete the survey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BBYTTK3>



Team Member Spotlight:

Marybeth Cook Server

Marybeth has been with The Village since before we even opened our doors. She has been serving our residents with a smile and an excellent memory since Day 1. This week she was enjoying the absolutely perfect weather during our cookout on the 5th floor terrace. When Marybeth is not busy serving meals to our residents, she enjoys old cars, watching the Patriots, and spending time with friends and pets.

Please say hello next time you see her in the Community.



NATIONAL UPDATES

ADVOCATING FOR SENIOR LIVING

Standing with Seniors Campaign:

From a little closer to home comes Tens of thousands of senior living advocates have already participated in the campaign, helping to advance our priorities in the House-passed HEROES Act. And while we continue to make progress educating lawmakers on the needs of senior living communities, we know that as a final compromise bill is crafted, lawmakers will be looking to hear from constituents who can help share with them the on-the-ground needs locally in their communities.



Taking part in these campaigns only takes a few minutes. Participants only need to enter their contact information to match with their lawmakers and click “send message.” These campaigns are mobile-friendly, so you may consider asking your community members to take action from tablets, cell phones, or other devices. Even if you have participated previously, you can still take part in this campaign by sending this new revised letter to Congress.

Take action: <https://standingwithseniors.com/help/>



Eddie Adam's Story: Motivated to Make Music

Eddie Adams grew up in a life of poverty. One day in grade school his teacher introduced him to the cello and his life changed. Eddie couldn't afford cello lessons, so he turned to YouTube tutorials to teach him how to play. His dedication to learning the instrument would eventually earn him a full-tuition scholarship to George Mason University.



If you want to learn more about Eddie's story – here is the Washington Post article about him. here is the Washington Post article about him (<https://www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/2019/04/24/ive-been-crying-all-dayhappy-tears-young-cellist-with-tormented-past-is-disbelief-donations/>)

Check it Out:

<https://youtu.be/VD25RjXCW-8>

Gold Shaw Farm with Morgan Gold Peacham Vermont

Peacham, VT farmer Morgan Gold has become an internet sensation with his series of YouTube videos – and feature story in the New York Times this past weekend. Twice a week, like clockwork, he posts a short video about his exploits as a neophyte farmer, often highlighting failures or pratfalls. He started his farm 2 years ago with no previous farming experience. Get ready to laugh along with his adventures!



Watch Online:

<https://youtu.be/YX8GZpj9Bfk>

COVID-19 IN OUR COMMUNITY



The Village continues to remain COVID-free. We are committed to keeping you informed of how COVID-19 is impacting The Village at White River Junction. We continue our robust commitment to following the guidelines 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
- Monitoring 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

From the Vermont Department of Health:

Wondering what rules to follow if you visit Vermont? Or, if you're returning home to Vermont after a trip out of state? In brief, all visitors coming to or residents returning to Vermont, will need to quarantine in their home for 14 days before doing any activities outside the home like grocery shopping or getting together with friends or family. Visit the link below for full information:

<https://www.healthvermont.gov/response/coronavirus-covid-19/traveling-vermont>



HELPFUL LINKS & STAFF CONTACTS

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

- www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/prevention.html
- www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/index.html

LCS COVID-19 website

- 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>

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