



Fun Times in Assisted Living

July 2, 2021 Edition

COVID STATUS

Our residents and staff are all covid free. We continue to test routinely and remain vigilant.

Please check our website for the most up-to-date information:

www.oddfellows.com/covid-19



*“One flag,
one land.
One heart,
one hand.
One Nation,
evermore.*

*~ Oliver
Wendell
Holmes*



PATRIOTISM

They say you should never talk about politics, religion or money at the dining room table. I try to follow that advice, particularly with this newsletter. It reaches out to so many of you. There are so many different opinions amongst us, it’s with a little trepidation that I write to you this evening.

There is much fear, anger, distrust, and frustration in America today. We differ in much of our political beliefs and there is a great deal of tension as a result. Even my own daughter used her 8th grade graduation as a platform to make a statement about her beliefs. I know when I was in the 8th grade I wasn’t thinking about politics. People have their beliefs and they want to be heard.

I believe that is what this holiday is about. We celebrate the founding of our great nation. Yep, I’m a teensy bit patriotic. I won’t lie, when I’m at an event and our flag comes out and the national anthem is sung, I tear up every single time. Some might ask why. Because I’m proud of our country! I live in a country that allows me to express my beliefs, even if my neighbor might not agree with them. Are we perfect? Absolutely not. But we have the freedom to come together and make changes. Hopefully changes for the better.

I was in Pendleton one fall, watching the Westward Ho parade. It was the 100th year of the round up. That year they had 100 flags carried by horse and rider through the parade, one for every year of the Round-Up. Each one of these flags had flown over a US Military base somewhere. I remember standing in the middle of the block and looking to my left and then to my right. As far as I could see in either direction were flags. I stood there and sobbed, my heart bursting with pride. Those flags were flown because of our brave soldiers fighting every day to keep us free. I think it was the first time in my life I realized just what it took to protect the freedoms of our country.

This holiday as you celebrate, remember what you celebrate. Remember that you don’t have to agree with what the people down the street believe, because of our freedoms we all get to decide what we believe. But we do need to respect each other. It’s why our country exists. So happy 4th of July friends! Stay safe, stay cool, stay hydrated, make good choices, but most of all remember

Blessings,
Kari Randall, MSW
Director of Assisted Living

AL TSA: AFH #2021-034
AL TSA: ALF #2021-034
AL TSA: CCRSS #2021-030
AL TSA: ESF #2021-030
AL TSA: ICF/IID #2021-031
AL TSA: NH #2021-049
LONG-TERM CARE FACILITIES TO FOLLOW SAFE START PLAN BEYOND JUNE 30, 2021

Dear Administrator/Provider/Superintendent:

The *Safe Start for Long-Term Care Recommendations and Requirements Document* (Safe Start Plan) is independent of the *Healthy Washington Roadmap to Recovery*, thus, all long-term care settings are required to follow the recommendations and requirements outlined in the *Safe Start Plan*, even after June 30, 2021. The opening of other programs in Washington under the *Healthy Washington Roadmap to Recovery* does not apply to Long-Term Care facilities/homes.

The *Safe Start for Long-Term Care Recommendations and Requirements Document* (Safe Start Plan) establishes criteria for long-term care facilities to permit visitation. The plan also offers guidance on trips outside the facility, communal dining and group activities, testing and screening, source control and personal protective equipment (PPE), and staffing.

- o Click [here](#) to view the *Safe Start for Long-Term Care Recommendations and Requirements Document for AFH, ALF and ESF*
- o Click [here](#) to view the *Safe Start for Long-Term Care Recommendations and Requirements Document for CCRSS*
- o Click [here](#) to view the *Safe Start for Long-Term Care Recommendations and Requirements Document for NH and ICF/IID*

The impact of COVID-19 vaccines on community transmission rates may allow for future changes to the recommendations and requirements in the *Safe Start for Long-Term Care Recommendations and Requirements Document*.

Thank you for your continued commitment to resident health and safety. If you have any questions, please contact RCSPolicy@dshs.wa.gov.

Sincerely,


Mike Anbesse, Director
Residential Care Services

DSHS: "Transforming Lives"

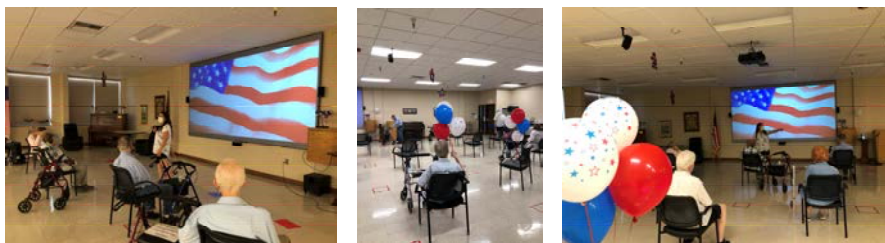
VISITATION

The good news is that we will be open for visitation this weekend, including Monday! We will be open Saturday, Sunday and Monday from 8a-2pm for visitation. Please be patient with the screeners, some of them are new to the task. But please, come and see the people you love. Celebrate together.

Along with visitation I feel like I need to share something with you all. So many of you have been **so incredibly supportive**. But as we go forward with visitation, I need you to know that these ARE NOT OUR RULES. You can see in the Dear Administrator letter to the right in the last sentence of the first paragraph. We are subject to an entirely different set of regulations than people in the general population. Why? Because we care for those most at risk of dying from this virus. No one, not even our Governor, is trying to punish our elders. We are trying to protect them. And while it is a painful process, it is where we are at. Like it or not, we must face it and deal with each day. So please, even if you don't agree with the restrictions, please try to be kind when talking with staff and residents. Gentle words are vital to us all!

PATRIOTIC TRIBUTE

Those that call Odd Fellows home are some of the most patriotic people I've come to know. Hats off for the flag and our national anthem, gratitude shared toward our veterans. This beautiful and amazing group of people saw the wars. They sent sons and daughters off to fight. They fought themselves. This week we took some time away to celebrate that.



DAD LOVE

We have 18 unsung heroes that reside in our home. We have 18 treasured Dad's, Uncles, Brothers, Sons, and Friends. Sunday, June 20th was their day to celebrate. And just like the fact that you don't have to be a mom to mother someone, the same rings true with our dads. I was raised with a biological Dad and a bonus Dad. Besides never getting away with anything, I had the amazing chance to grow up with two strong men. I have the work ethic (and the temper) of my biological dad and I drive a car (and cuss) like my bonus Dad. Each taught me much (maybe more than they should). Just like the men who live here. Whether they had children or not, they have been mentors to us all. Teaching and guiding us

along the way. What does one do when your Dad Party has to be cancelled because of COVID? One takes the party on the road and celebrates our dads anyway! Because our dads deserve all the love and celebration, we can pour out to them.



IT'S A PARTY IN THE GARDEN OR A GARDEN IN A PARTY

Okay, really it was a garden party. It was our first group party after we were able to reopen for visitation and groups activities. So many smiling, happy faces!! We had tea cups full of succulents, flowers popping up everywhere, yummy snacks to enjoy and best of all were the quilts on display. Each quilt hand made with love and pride. And each resident filled with wonder and excitement. Laughter and friendship are stitches that bind us. Those were definitely celebrated as we surrounded ourselves with flowers and quilts.

