



Fun Times in Assisted Living

May 14, 2021 Edition

COVID STATUS

We are blessed to remain COVID free amongst both staff and residents in our Assisted Living.

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

www.oddfellows.com/covid-19



“Why do they call it rush hour when nothing moves?”

~Robin Williams



RUSH HOUR

I learned to pull a trailer in rush hour traffic. It was my Dad’s brand new 22’ boat. We were driving through road construction on I-5 in Portland, OR and we were grid locked. I was 16 and TERRIFIED! I had never pulled a trailer before and looking in my mirrors, that boat looked huge and the lane I was trying to keep it in so incredibly small. But in the end, it all worked out. I learned to pull a trailer and managed not to hit any other cars in the process!

The legislation changes and restrictions during the past year have often felt like grid lock traffic during rush hour. In the beginning of the pandemic, things changed so fast. Regulations and restrictions almost seemed to change by the hour. Then the Governor followed the Federal recommendation to restrict all in person visitation and things slowed down. It not only slowed down; it didn’t move. For a year we stayed in grid lock where nothing moved.

If you’ve ever been in rush hour you know that once you get to the point where traffic starts moving again the speed goes from 2mph to 70mph within a couple hundred feet. Things go from standing still to zooming. I feel like we’re zooming. We were grid locked for so long and now the changes are almost coming by the hour again. Not only is traffic zooming, but it’s zooming at different speeds in different lanes. There are changes to mask mandates, vaccine recommendations, travel restrictions, you name it. The changes are coming fast. So fast I feel like that cartoon traffic cop blowing my whistle with no one listening and cars zooming everywhere.

Change terrifies me, but change is good. If I hadn’t tried something new, I wouldn’t be able to pull a trailer or deal with rush hour traffic. But what all this means in real life is that we’re getting the changes out to you as fast as we can. But just like different lanes of traffic go at different speeds, so do our restrictions. They announced the rolling back of the masking requirement today, but long-term care facilities aren’t included in that group, so we have to stay masked. Instead of honking our horns at each other and getting impatient. Please, let’s keep our hands off the horns and understand that we are each doing what we’re required to do. Remember that our cars are going in the same direction, just at different speeds.

Blessings,
Kari Randall, MSW
Assisted Living Director

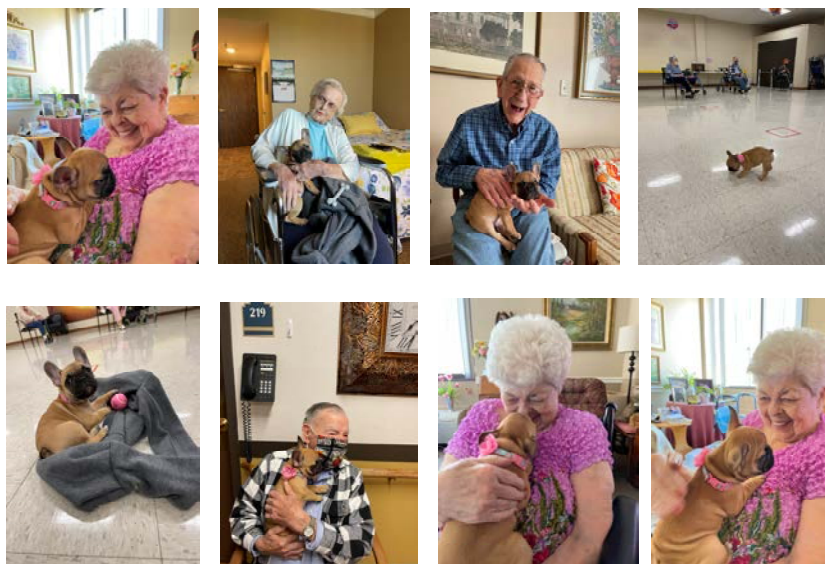


LET'S KEEP IT COVERED

I hinted at this in my letter, but I want to be very explicit. MASK ARE REQUIRED FOR VISITATION. This does not change with the Governor's new proclamation. Please don't call and ask or argue about the fairness of it. We were simply excluded from being a mask free area. This is not our choice, but the choice of our Governor. Masks will be required at all times while visiting until further notice. This means both your nose and mouth need to be covered. It also means that masks are required for indoor AND OUTDOOR visitation. The only visits where you can unmask are virtual or window visits. I'm sorry to be so direct, but we've had numerous visitors disregard the mask mandate. Even as these restrictions are lifting, the cases in our county are growing. The removal of masks does not mean the removal of danger. I personally have a friend who has been hospitalized for over a month with COVID and still may not survive. Please don't let that happen to you or anyone you love. Let's do this! Let's mask up for visits!

PUPPY LOVE

I would like for you all to meet Miss Nutmeg. Miss Nutmeg is the newest member of our Social Worker, Gina's family. She is just a squeak over 2 months old and one of the cutest little balls of fur you've ever seen. She doesn't run, she bounces. It's precious. You may see Miss Nutmeg if you stop by for a visit as she likes to come to work with Mom when she can. She's just a baby and still learning so much. She has a precious heart and has loved everyone she's met so far. If you're in need of a little puppy love, stop by Gina's office here on 2nd floor and snuggle a minute. It'll brighten your whole day!



A SONG FOR OUR MOTHERS

Chris Anderson is a definite favorite here at The Odd Fellows Home. This young man is incredibly talented. He has a voice that soothes the soul. Monday Chris joined us for our first outdoor concert of the season. It was a raging success. Warm summer sun combined with Chris's gentle vocals made for a beautiful morning. The concert brought the campus to life as the breeze floated through the air. If you look closely, you'll see the twinkle in a few of our residents' eyes with the memories triggered from Chris's beautiful lyrics.

