



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Washington Veterans Home • 1141 Beach Drive E • Port Orchard, Washington 98366 • (360) 895-4700

Dear Resident Family or Representative,

With the 4th of July approaching, we want to let you know how we're planning to celebrate and give you a few ideas for how to safely connect with or honor your resident this year. These are certainly unprecedented times and we appreciate everyone's creativity as we look for ways to keep our residents engaged and active!

If you'd like to drop off something special for your resident, or if you want to schedule a delivery from a local business, you can do so by dropping off items to our checkpoint.

As you know, our State Veterans Homes have been incredibly blessed by the generosity of our families and our communities at-large. Donations of meals, masks, gowns, snacks, hand-written cards, and other items have helped to lift the spirits of the staff members who are serving your residents each day. Thank you!

On June 22, we were fortunate to have the Olympic Vintage Auto Club drive through in a vehicle parade for our residents! We are very thankful for this group that comes each year to do a car show. Usually the residents are treated to a talk and visit with car owners. This year's program looked a little different, but the weather was beautiful and it was a perfect day to enjoy a parade of vintage cars! You can see photos of the parade on the back of this letter.

As our communities begin loosening Stay Home restrictions, it is tempting to believe that we are past the COVID-19 crisis. However, we know that as communities open and testing resources become more widely available, we may see infection rates increase. We continue to communicate to our staff members that the COVID-19 virus is still out there and it is just as dangerous now as it was when we first learned of it. We're asking everyone to please remain vigilant. Stay home if you're sick, wash your hands often, wear a mask when you are in public and help keep COVID-19 from spreading in our community. By working together, we hope we will see the day soon when we can welcome you to our Home for an in-person visit with your loved one!



GRATITUDE, BY THE NUMBERS



Lastly, to comply with Governor Inslee's budget reduction directive requiring state employees to take four mandatory furlough days by the end of July, WDVA Offices and Cemetery will be closed on the following days:

Monday, June 29
Monday, July 6
Monday, July 13
Monday, July 20

In addition, some personnel in all four State Veterans Homes will also be furloughed on these days, although our Home will remain operational and continue to provide all required direct care services to residents. If you need assistance on one of these days, please call 360-895-4700.

Your phone calls and emails are important to us, and we will respond to your requests as soon as possible following the furlough day.

During August, September, October and November, we will have one furlough day per month. Information on these closures will be posted as soon as it is available.

As always, if you have questions or concerns, please let us know at 360-895-4700.

Sincerely,



William McElya, BSNS MBA LNHA
Administrator
Washington Veterans Home
Department of Veterans Affairs

