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This message is going to associates, and to residents and family members on our community distribution list.

July 1, 2020

Dear Residents, Family Members & Associates,

As we officially enter summer and head into the July 4th holiday, it's a time of transition here at Asbury Solomons. The CDC, as well as state and local health authorities, are lifting some of the restrictions due to COVID-19. We have shared previously how we are handling phased-in reopenings (you'll find some of that detailed info below as a reminder), and in anything we do, we remain committed to minimizing exposure of the virus to residents, families and associates.

We continue many of the measures we've had in place throughout this pandemic, such as the screening stations, requiring masks and physical distancing when moving about the community, and reminding and encouraging good health and hand hygiene. In recent weeks we've also announced some opportunities for visitation that vary by level of care. And, in collaboration with the Asbury Communities COVID-19 Command Center, we continue to follow state and local direction in seeking safe ways to reopen or restart certain services. It is important to keep in mind, if we experience new positive COVID-19 cases, we will need to reverse direction and limit visitation again.

Our ask for patience and understanding remains consistent! Thank you for working with us as we find our way through this challenge together.

I wish you a very happy and safe (and physically distanced!) July 4th!

#### July 4th: Independence Day

Residents are invited to start the holiday weekend with our own local Chesapeake Orchestra River Concert Series, "A Traditional 4th in an Unconventional Way!" This series will be broadcast on Friday evening at 7 p.m.

Coming up on Saturday, July 4th, channel 970 programming includes a music and spoken word Fourth of July Special: "Defending Independence" at 7:30 p.m. featuring The Mormon Tabernacle Choir, Orchestra at Temple Square Strings, and the United States Military Academy Band at West

Point. In the evening, a pre-recorded fireworks show from the National Mall will be broadcast at 8 p.m. on channel 970, and residents will also be invited to tune into the 40th Anniversary special edition of PBS's "A Capitol Fourth," airing at 8 p.m. on channel 22.

### Lifting up some of the good work happening here

**Associates continue to find unique ways to serve residents. Here's a fun story to share:**

Our new Wellness Assistant, Alexia Smith, listened intently as resident Bill Rochow talked about his time as a researcher at Cornell University, particularly when he started talking about the graduate students he worked with each year. He mentioned there was one student from China with the last name Hu with whom he used to correspond but had lost touch. So Alexia put her skills to work.

"I tried to look at the Cornell alumni list - no luck. I then searched different social media outlets - no luck. Finally, I went to the database of published research I used for school and typed in Mr. Rochow's last name, the student's last name, and Cornell, and that is when I found John Hu."

Alexia then contacted John, now a professor at the University of Hawaii, and scheduled a Zoom video meeting. Thanks to Alexia's tenacity, know-how, and commitment to person-centered care, Bill's wish to see his former student again was granted! #AsburyStrong #AsburyHeroes #HeroesWorkHere

### Messages of appreciation

More than 170 messages of thanks from family members and residents have come in for associates across the Asbury system in recent weeks. We are so appreciative of those messages, like the one below from resident Courtenay Wilson:

***"Having moved here, I have just come to know how nice the residents are and the staff and employees. How the kitchen folks can get our meals to us efficiently and on time. Absolutely amazing! Thanks to all where I now feel at home in this challenging time. It is a good place to be. Thanks to all who make it this way."***

If you'd like to share a note of thanks, [please click here to launch a form](#) where you can type in your note of appreciation. We will take your submissions and find creative ways to share with associates. Thank you!

### Updates and reminders

- **Asbury's "Longest Day"** events are held on the summer solstice, and honor people who work as caregivers for those with Alzheimer's, and participants raise money to fund

research for the disease. Asbury Solomons had great involvement in its awareness walk around the community and blew past its 2020 goal! In 2019, we raised just over \$2,100. The bar was set this year at a stretch goal of \$5,500, and through our community-wide daylong event held last Monday, a grand total of \$7,177 was raised (*a 30% increase over the goal and a 230% bump over last year!*)! All told there were 88 individual donations made, and 30 walk participants logged a combined 58 miles.



- **Housekeeping services are set to resume this week.** Services will again be provided for residents who had retained housekeeping services prior to COVID-19 limitations. More opportunities may be offered in the future.
- **We have reorganized our COVID-19 Communications Hub to provide more information.** You can still get to our information from our “View our COVID-19 Updates” link in the top navigation bar on our website and via [Asbury.org/COVID19](https://Asbury.org/COVID19). On the revised page, you can find the daily status charts in the first blue button on the side bar. We hope you’ll take a moment to view messages of thanks that residents and family members have been sending in.
- **Want to drop something off?** Items may be left for residents at our Community Center entrance. Please coordinate a drop off time with your loved one.
- **Assistance with Communication:** FaceTime and other video conferencing services in quiet community spaces is available by appointment. We provide an iPad, stand, and will set up the call. Please contact Katie Demers in our Marketing Department at 410-394-3029 or by email to [kdemers@asbury.org](mailto:kdemers@asbury.org) to schedule.

- **We continue to work closely with the Asbury Communities Command Center** on the phased plans for reopening, including some services in the near future.
- **Lastly, I'd like to reference something that Asbury President & CEO Doug Leidig previously shared because I think it's important to remember. He said: *"Reopening is not like turning on a light switch. Think of it as slowly turning up a dimmer switch."*** I want to remind you that senior communities such as ours lag for good reason behind these phased-in reopenings. It's a slow turn of the "dimmer" switch, if you will, and for good reason: we are guided by the many different plans and requirements placed upon us by numerous federal, state and local agencies.

Thank you to all visitors for so carefully following all elements of our visitation policy. We hope to see you soon. We are all in this together. Thank you for your continued understanding and cooperation. We are #AsburyStrong!

Sincerely,

**Kelly Smith Friedman, LNHA**  
Executive Director



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