

Long Island State Veterans Home



AT STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY

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December 29, 2020

Dear LISVH Family Member:

As we complete day 294 in the battle against the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), we want to take this opportunity to update you on current events at the Long Island State Veterans Home. We remain committed to providing you with information on a timely basis.

Today, we have 28 residents who are currently positive for the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). Eighteen are here at the Home, all properly cohorted and quarantined, while ten of the residents are being actively treated at Stony Brook University Hospital. We appreciate the expertise of our clinical colleagues at the hospital, as they bring the latest treatment protocols to our most deserving veterans. We appreciate all they do, especially during this recent surge in COVID-19 cases in our region.

With COVID deaths rising, both nationally and locally, we have not been immune to this wicked and elusive virus. Since we wrote to you on Christmas Eve, four of our oldest and frailest veterans, all having multiple comorbidities, sadly succumbed to the virus. Sorrowfully, we lost: a 98-year old World War II Army veteran, who was the recipient of 3 Bronze Stars; a 94-year old World War II Navy veteran; a 90 year old Korean War Army veteran; and last, but certainly not least, an 88-year old Korean War Air Force veteran. All four of these veterans remind us that bravery and valor are special traits that tirelessly preserve the freedoms we continue to enjoy today. We were deeply honored to care for these soldiers, sailors and airmen. The LISVH family mourns with the families of these heroes and honors their loved ones' deep commitment to our great nation. May they all rest in peace.

Thus far, "V-Day" is going exceptionally well. A team from CVS Pharmacy has been with us since Monday administering vaccines to residents and staff. By this time tomorrow, we will have administered the first dose of the Pfizer vaccine to all eligible residents and one third of all our employees. We are extremely pleased to report that we have had no adverse reactions from the vaccine. The CVS team will be returning on January 18, 19, and 20, 2021 to administer the second dose of the Pfizer vaccine to residents and staff. They will also administer a first dose to any newly eligible residents as well as to the second third of our employees. The vaccine has been a real morale boost, as we look forward to a better 2021 and getting back to normal.

With New Year's Day fast approaching this Friday, we will write to you on Thursday of this week. Subsequently, we will return to detailed letters on Tuesdays and Fridays. In the meantime, please know that we are here to answer your questions.

Sincerely,
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