



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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(Today)

(Tomorrow)

A Symbol of Hope ***Heath Village recognizes Arbor Day***

Washington Twp, NJ – April 24, 2020 marks the 148th anniversary of the first Arbor Day observance. Due to the Coronavirus, Heath Village had to cancel its 46th annual celebration. However, some time-honored traditions are too important to be overlooked.

Since 1974 Heath Village has planted more than 50 trees in honor of Arbor Day. Despite the inability to gather, Heath Village moved forward with the planting of its annual tree. This year a Ruby Falls Weeping Redbud (*Cercis canadensis* 'Ruby Falls') was selected. This tree represents a symbol of hope; a sign that things will get better; that we will heal. While it may not look like much now, we know it will grow big and strong. Its resilience reminiscent of our residents who are weathering this pandemic with strength and fortitude.

We look forward to resuming our tradition of planting our Arbor Day tree with the students from the Friendship Center, the Intergenerational childcare center located on the Heath Village campus, next year.

An Arbor Day map identifying the locations of each tree is available on our website at <https://heathvillage.com/news-publications.php>.

Heath Village is a full-service retirement community located at 430 Schooley's Mountain Road in Washington Township, Morris County. For further information, please call 908-852-4801 or visit us on our website at www.heathvillage.com. Like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/heathvillage.