



1155 East Springfield Avenue  
Reedley, CA 93654

[ ]

**Dear Sierra View Homes . . .**

Thank you for sending the beautiful plant to my mother, Manuela Jaramillo's funeral. Your thoughtfulness meant so much to us.

Sincerely,  
The family of Manuela Jaramillo

**Sierra View Homes Retirement Community**  
1155 East Springfield Avenue, Reedley, CA 93654  
1245 East Springfield Avenue (Apt. 1-56)  
1140 East Evening Glow Avenue (Apt. 57-65)  
1079 East Springfield Avenue (Apt. 101-319)

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# In the Company of Friends

## August 2019



## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S NOTE . . .

The hot summer days are upon us. Ever think about how fortunate we are in living in this century and in our standard of living with our air conditioners and instant water supply . . .

Recently, I witnessed something wonderful and mysterious. Ro was beginning a familiar religious song in the Marden's Place dining room. Residents at first seem to just listen. Then some started mouthing the words and sang along with her. These same residents were often the most quiet and had blank stares. Somehow it reached into their memory, and you can see the words and the feeling of the song come back to them.

I have often discussed topics of memory with residents. So many fear memory loss. Not so much the details of different happenings, but the fear of losing the memory of the most significant events in their lives.

I have heard it said that "the engine that draws us toward hope or despair is the power of memory and memories." Our ability to retain and retrace facts, images and feelings is a great force in our life and brings about our outlook on life.

Most of us experience hope through our spiritual and religious experiences. Imagine the sense of emptiness in the forgetfulness caused by dementia and brain trauma. So if Ro, Ron and others can bring even a few moments of hope through their singing, what a powerful comfort.

But, what about the people that do not suffer from memory loss or sickness, why are so many even with the high standard of living we have today in so much despair. If memory is the engine that chooses hope or despair, why do so many "choose" despair. Perhaps society in all its sophistication missed something. Tied to the choice, however, is the way the individual views human dignity including his or her own.

May God give you the grace of a good memory and powerful memories to stay ever hopeful.

*Vito Genna*

## Blessings . . .

You are amazing people who put the needs of others before your needs, knowing God takes care of you as you care for others. Your devotion and endurance are admirable. Thank you for tending to mom's (Ginny Sweet) needs after her fall, and during my absence. I had peace of mind and spirit knowing she was attended by loving people. Thank you for your ministry.

Darleen Stukey and Family  
Daughter of Ginny Sweet

## Feedback . . .

Sierra View Homes is conducting its biennial satisfaction survey throughout August for all of our service lines and all staff. To you who sent them in already, thank you. To those that have not, please forward as soon as possible.

The questions or comments were made to be easy to fill out; but as we analyze the combination of answers and the additional notes some of you added, it gives us a roadmap of what we are doing well, and what needs to be improved. Thank you for participating. The results will be summarized in our September newsletter.

## Alarms . . .

Our fire alarms have been giving us some trouble of late. Sorry it has been taking so long to clear it up. With minor issues like alarms going off for no reason it is often a process of elimination. The alarms are fully operational, but quite a few false readings on trouble lights. So far, we have installed new alarm heads, found a short or two, new wiring in a section and a new circuit board. There's not too many other things to eliminate, so we think we are in the clear.

## Donation . . .

You will notice a new 14 foot Cargo Trailer on the side of the maintenance shop. We want to thank Linda Penner, garden apartment resident, for donating the trailer as well as catering goods that included china dinner plates, stainless silverware, glassware goblets, tables and chairs. All of these items come in handy for catering events and to add to our inventory for loss and broken items. Thank you Linda.

## **ACTIVITY HAPPENINGS**

### **THURSDAYS IN AUGUST - 4:30 P.M.**

#### **THAT PIANO GUY--MUSIC WITH BILL RUDY**

**Kings Canyon Room**

**Come enjoy some music along with dinner**

**Sign up in the office**

**Cost - \$6.25**

### **TUESDAY, AUGUST 13 and 27, 2019 - 5:00 P.M.**

#### **TICKETS GO ON SALE FOR THE SENIOR PROM**

**A representative from the Reedley Senior Services will be here selling tickets for the Senior Prom that will be held on our campus Friday, September 20, 2019.**

**Entertainment by Ron Surabian.**

**Tickets costs - \$10.00 (paid to RSCI)**

### **WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14, 2019 - 2:00 P.M.**

#### **HOMEMADE ICE CREAM SOCIAL**

**Kings Canyon Room**

#### **Dear Sierra View . . .**

**Thank you for the care you provided for my mother during her final years. We truly appreciate all that you did. Thank you also for the very nice potted plant.**

**Jackie Nakamichi, Daughter of Michiko Nakamichi  
The Niino Family**

## **The Fear of Fear is Community . . .**

**I had the opportunity to take our youth group to our biennial church conference in Kansas City several weeks ago. Dustin Gaylon, one of our speakers speaking during a morning worship session, made the comment that “the fear of fear is community.”**

**In the Gospel of John, as the end of his time on this earth nears, Jesus promises his disciples that he will not leave them comfortless. Before he is taken up into the sky the disciples receive the power of the Holy Spirit. But we should also not forget that as Jesus hung on the cross in John 19:25-27 he also instructs his followers to care for each other.**

**While the disciples were initially paralyzed with fear cowering and barricaded in a room following the crucifixion, they were soon empowered, not just by the Holy Spirit, but through the community they shared with each other as they spread the Gospel and planted new communities of faith.**

**The things we fear most, when brought before God and shared with our community of faith, become much more bearable. Community is a gift of comfort from God. Let us embrace it with open arms.**

**Caley Ortman, Chaplain**