



1155 East Springfield Avenue  
Reedley, CA 93654

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### Staff at Sierra View Homes . . .

Thank you so much for the wonderful care received by my Aunt Lissie Orange. Your facility is a truly wonderful place for loved ones to be. Aunt Sis, loved and appreciated all, even though at times she may not have showed it. Thank you again. Jesus Christ' promise at John 5:28,29 is very comforting, to know that our loved ones are sleeping with Jesus resurrects them back to life again. "Do not be amazed at this, for the hour is coming in which all those in the memorial tombs will hear His voice and come out....." John 5:28

Regards, Lorna Reynolds

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# In the Company of Friends

## October 2019



## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S NOTE . . .**

We welcome October's promise of cooler temperatures as we prune back the overgrown bushes and trees. Recently, Adriana and I had the opportunity to attend a church camp weekend retreat at Whispering Winds near Julian.

The retreat was a way to push back and reset. One of the speakers, Terry Hershey, an Episcopalian Minister, writer and inspirational speaker, discussed the need to make time for "pause;" not just a once in awhile idea but a must for every day. Take time to enjoy, savor Gods gifts surrounding you; and allow God to talk to you.

Hershey goes on to say that we need to practice "the sacrament of the present moment" and rid our lives of the distractions. So many of us are on the go all the time. He attributes to modern life a real loss, with its premium for speed. Our internal motors are set on rush, therefore we have no time for reflection or pondering or allowing impressions of the day to sink into our hearts. Speed becomes its own priority.

The author gives the example of a landscape and a garden. A landscape is done for others to admire. A garden suggests something about oneself. It also becomes a powerful place to pause and refuel, hence a sanctuary.

We tend to take so much for granted and not notice the beauty around us. As discussed, our society suffers from gross stimulation and the craving for newer and faster. Buddha had it right: "If we could see the miracle of a single flower clearly, our whole life would change."

It was once heard from the mouth of a child that the "wonders of the world" were not places, but seeing, tasting, hearing, feeling, be-friending, loving and being loved. I'm sure so many of our residents would agree with this.

So as we go through October, pause often and reflect on the ordinary yet spectacular environment and people around you.

Have a great October!

*Vito Genna*

## **"Outstanding Service". . .**

In our vision and mission statements, Sierra View Homes commits itself to delivering an "outstanding" experience in living on campus. We strive to present that kind of service all the time. We just completed resident satisfaction survey's that measures how we are doing.

**Nursing Care Center:** Both residents and family members are happy and feel good about our care. They are pleased to be able to participate in the plan of care for each resident. Over 90% of residents and family would recommend Sierra View Homes to others. The only item that comes up for improvement is a desire to have more activity choices on weekends and evenings.

**Residential Care - Assisted Living and Marden's Place:** Both residents and family members are happy with care and service and believe that all services are provided in a timely manner. 98% of the residents and 95% of family members would recommend Sierra View Homes to others. Residents here also would like to see an improvement in activity choices.

**Residences - Independent Living:** Residents are happy with their apartments and appreciate the safe environment and the friendly staff. 92% feel that Sierra View Homes is a great value for the money and would recommend Sierra View Homes to others. Some would like to see more food choices on the menu.

Much appreciation to all those who participated in the formal satisfaction survey. The above summary was meant to be a quick glimpse only. There were many who made comments on the forms. Most comments were helpful in seeing where our strengths are and how we can improve. And even some had a few suggestions in the form of "It would be nice if ...". Every survey and the comments were logged and reviewed for our further study. Thank you again? We are always interested in feedback so if you have suggestions don't wait for the formal survey.

## ACTIVITY HAPPENINGS

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2019 at 9:45 a.m.

### REEDLEY FIESTA DIAPER DERBY

Kings Canyon Room

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2019 at 11:00 a.m.

### OKTOBERFEST

Kings Canyon Room

German Sausage Lunch and entertainment by  
Bluegrass Brethren. Sign up in the office.

Cost - \$6.25

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2019 at 9:45 a.m.

### SING-A-LONG WITH SUZANNE EWY

Kings Canyon Room

#### Church Bulletin Board

The following appeared in church bulletins or were announced at church services:

The sermon this morning: *Jesus Walks on the Water*. The sermon tonight: *Searching for Jesus*.

Don't let worry kill you off - let the Church help.

For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

This being Easter Sunday, we will ask Mrs. Lewis to come forward and lay an egg on the altar.

## Abundance out of Scarcity . . .

We are not our best selves when we are convinced there is not enough to go around. Despite living in a culture of excess and abundance, fear abounds that what we have is not enough or that something out of our control might happen and leave us with nothing.

Our four gospel writers all share different stories and perspectives on the life of Jesus but one story they all made sure to tell was Jesus feeding the multitudes (in Mark he does it twice!). The disciples carry the anxiety that we so often do: "It's not going to be enough!" "Send some of them home!" Jesus responds by breaking the bread that was available and giving thanks.

We can debate exactly how many people were fed or how the food distribution worked, but the message we should come away with at the end of the day is that Jesus provides abundance out of scarcity. Let us put aside our worst tendencies to seek excess with the mentality of "me first" and instead seek to be content with the abundance of Christ, which seeks the good of the community and is achieved when *all* have enough.

Caley Ortman, Chaplain