



1155 East Springfield Avenue
Reedley, CA 93654

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Essential Elements . . .

Sierra View Homes has an effective Quality Assurance/Performance Improvement Program that reviews and monitors our services continually. The program is focused on improved quality of care and resident safety. Although we concentrate on certain issues at any given time, the attempt is to ensure all systems are interwoven and working properly. The areas of concentration right now are: Food as Medicine, Emergency Preparedness, Unnecessary Medicines, Antibiotic Stewardship, and Infection Prevention. The interdisciplinary team monitoring includes physicians, dietician and pharmacist.

Sierra View Homes Retirement Community
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In the Company of Friends

November 2019



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S NOTE . . .

Recently, a couple moved on campus and they were willing to share a little of their experience of “moving” in with us. If anyone understands moving it should be this couple. They have moved several times during their marriage both long distances and short distances. They have moved from coast to coast, from one border state to another and even from within the same town several miles away. So their experiences should just allow the process to go smoothly with few hiccups, or so you would think.

The problem with that is the process itself. He is of the mind to pack the boxes, bring it to the new place, open all boxes within the first two days and have everything in place, more or less in a jiffy. Oh no, says she, you have to put all the boxes in one place and open one at a time, unwrap carefully and think out each location for each precious item.

He says that there's always a little breakage; she says there should be absolutely no loss. He figures that you find a place for the item temporarily and you can always move it later. After all, that's part of the adventure in moving yourself according to U-Haul's motto. She considers moving to be an art form. She creates the desired image in her mind and ever so slowly fills in the gaps. And if it takes two months to open every box, then so be it.

You can see the two consider that there are multiple ways of doing things. Well, not so fast says she, there is only one way, “the smart, right way and that's my way”.

Needless to say, you can easily see some very definite differences in approach. Of course, we have all heard that even in marriages opposites attract. God has a sense of humor when He watches and He forces us to compromise even at a primal stage. We should be grateful for differences in making our lives more interesting and never boring.

Have a great Thanksgiving; thank you God for life!

Vito Genna

Rate Setting 2020 . . .

Sierra View Homes administration and the Board of Directors have been working on next year's budget for a couple of months.

Our planning focuses on services and programs, as well as anticipated operational expenses for 2020. The State of California minimum wage goes up from \$12.00 to \$13.00 an hour, an 8 percent increase effective January 1, 2020. This mandated increase, together with significant increases in the city and state license fees make a modest rate increase necessary. In light of the anticipated cost increases, the Board of Directors has approved a slight increase of approximately 3 percent for room rates for all levels of care and services effective January 1, 2020.

Sierra View Homes Retirement Community strives to give outstanding service and keep our campus environment well maintained and inviting. Some areas of development, such as the dining hall expansion project, happen through contributions, sponsorship, and capital investment through the years. It does not affect current rates. Sierra View Homes is committed to the prudent use of our financial resources in the operation of our community to ensure its viability in the future.

Our goal is to continue services and accommodations that provide satisfaction and fulfillment for all our residents. Any suggestions or comments you might have that would enhance your living experience at Sierra View Homes are always welcome.

Something Old, Something New . . .

Rehabilitation in nursing facilities has changed dramatically for Medicare A residents due to new rules from the Centers for Medicare Services. The old system had a bias and dependence on the registered therapist's work and charting. The new Patient Driven Payment Model (PDPM) system attempts to level the diagnosis categories so that acute nursing has a bigger role in coverage and payment. In order to deal with these changes, we have added to our Restorative Nursing Program, both staffing and equipment.

ACTIVITY HAPPENINGS

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2019 at 12:00 P.M.

VETERAN'S DAY LUNCH

Kings Canyon Room

Sign up in the office

Cost - \$6.25

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2019 at 12:00 P.M.

THANKSGIVING DAY LUNCH

Kings Canyon Room or Founder's Room

Sign up in the office

Cost - \$8.00

The Race is On . . .

Ready.....Set.....Crawl! Sierra View Homes hosted Reedley Fiesta Diaper Derby on Friday October 11. There were 18 crawling babies! (This is the most we can remember.) The Diaper Derby made its debut at Sierra View Homes about 35 years ago. It was held in the East Dining Room the first year Sierra View hosted the event. The Diaper Derby is a community event in conjunction with the Reedley Senior Center and kicks off the Reedley Fiesta. It has spanned over three generations. Early participants are now moms, dads, and grandparents. Watching the crawling babies make their way from start to finish filled the room with smiles and laughter. It was a great day!!

Thin Spaces . . .

We put a lot of pressure on ourselves to “experience God” in church on Sunday mornings. Everything from the visuals to the music to the thoughtfully composed sermons and prayers are designed to nurture and accentuate this experience. This is a good thing, but what about those Sundays where you just aren’t feeling it?

Limiting the window of our spiritual encounters with God to Sunday morning leaves us feeling like we have somehow failed. Yet the more we try to control or create these experiences on our own the more elusive they become!

Celtic Christianity uses the term “thin spaces” to describe those times when the space between heaven and earth grows thin and the sacred and the secular seem to meet. We all have stories like this. Most of these experiences come when we least expect them and often outside of church walls in the most ordinary of circumstances.

Let us put no limits on where and when we connect with God but let us resonate with Jacob, who after encountering God while sleeping under the stars exclaimed, “Surely the Lord is in this place and I was not aware of it.” (Genesis 28:16)

Caley Ortman, Chaplain