



1155 East Springfield Avenue
Reedley, CA 93654

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Sierra View Staff . . .

“Thank you for your care of my mom, Adeline Schellenberg, over the past years and especially the past few months. Thank you for the lovely plant, also.

Sincerely, Jeanette Warkentin

Sierra View Homes Retirement Community
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In the Company of Friends

March 2020



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S NOTE . . .

As I sit down to write this, I am thinking about how far Sierra View Homes has come in the past 60 years. At our corporation meeting on February 23, 2020, Dorothy Boldt, Board chair, reminded us of the people who worked hard on the vision and creation of this place and how far we have come in the past 60 years. In 1960 a group of people had a vision to create Sierra View Homes and established the Sierra View Homes Corporation to create a home for the elderly people of the First Mennonite Church and the community. This group worked hard because by 1968 the first residents moved in. We started with a small skilled nursing building and a few apartments. I know this because as Vito and I exchanged offices I found records of the first residents. Fast forward to today, we have grown in the levels of care. We now have Nursing Care, Assisted Living, Assisted Living Memory care and Independent Living Apartments and we are able to house 200 plus people here. I am awestruck by what our past leaders have been able to accomplish with each new adventure in growth.

We now call ourselves the Sierra View Homes Retirement Community and have clung to the Mission and Vision statement created many years ago. I am quite sure our previous leaders would be pleasantly surprised to learn how we have kept true to our motto "in the Company of Friends," even as we grew in size and ability to care for people. I have given visitor tours on campus and quite often people have commented on how comfortable, friendly, and warm everyone seems to be.

Now, as I take the responsibility to carry on what our past leaders set in motion I am filled with awe and excitement. There are big expectations and a culture that needs to be nourished and encouraged. I look forward to working with our staff as we care for our residents and create the warmth and friendship that is the culture of Sierra View Homes.

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Sierra View Homes Auxiliary Board . . .

New officers have been elected to the Sierra View Homes Auxiliary Board during the Annual meeting. Irvin Isaak, Chair; Kathy Hayes, Vice-Chair; Denny Mason, Secretary; Treasurer, Stella Bohn; Membership Chair, Louise Auernheimer; Publicity Chair, Yvonne Turner; Members-at-Large, Sandra Reimer, Joyce Klippenstein, Joanne Kalafut, and Joe Halpen.

New Officers . . .

New officers have been elected at the first Board of Directors meeting after our Corporation meeting. Bill Braun, Chair; Lance Zimmerman, Vice-Chair; Irvin Isaak, Vice-President of Finance; and Joann Kalafut, Secretary.

Sierra View Homes will celebrate St. Joseph's Day with a lunch on March 19, 2020 at 11:00 A.M.

This celebration is in honor of St. Joseph, the husband of Mary and stepfather of Jesus. This holiday is celebrated all over the world but it has special meaning in Italy, particularly in Sicily. St Joseph is credited to having saved Sicily's residents during one of their devastating droughts. Tradition has it when the rains came there needed to be a celebration. Tables were spread with a wide variety of food and everyone was invited to eat. On March 19, Sierra View will open its doors to anyone who would like to come and eat an Italian meal.

Donations given at this meal will go to Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) to continue the work of feeding the hungry. Last year we gave MCC a little over \$400.

ACTIVITY HAPPENINGS

THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 2020 at 5:30 P.M.

REEDLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY DINNER

Kings Canyon Dining Room

Residents sign up in the office - cost \$10.00. All other guests ticket required - cost \$20.00.

SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 2020 at 5:30 P.M.

KIWANIS CRAB FEED

Kings Canyon Room

Residents sign up in the office - cost \$25.00. All other guests ticket required - cost \$50.00.

FRIDAY, MARCH 27, 2020 at 2:00 P.M.

SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE

Kings Canyon Room

This service is in memory of residents of Sierra View Homes Retirement Community who passed away during the last several months

And the Greatest of These is Love . . .

If February seems to be known for anything it is Valentines Day. Love should indeed be celebrated. Yet, outside of an excuse for retailers to sell anything pink or chocolate, most people seem to be divided between those who are stressed about not meeting their loved one's expectations and those who feel left out and alone.

Love is such an overwhelmingly broad thing to talk about that the Greeks wisely broke it down into four different words to better capture the types of love we experience. While 1 Corinthians 13, famously referred to as the "love chapter," is commonly used at weddings, the love described is actually not the romantic love of couples, but of *agape* love, which is the unique quality of God's love for us.

Paul's writing reminds us that love is not just for romance, nor is it to be celebrated only once a year. We are all active participants in the call to respond to God's love for us, by embodying it in our lives every day with each other. Love is for everybody. Whatever chapter of life you are in, may you experience it fully this year. For faith, hope, and love abide, and the greatest of these is love.

Caley Ortman, Chaplain